NSF SWIFT/NewSpectrum PI Meeting 2025

September 11–12, 2025

Virginia Tech
3625 Potomac Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22305

Keynote

Title: Bridging the Gap: Translating Academic Spectrum Research into National Impact

Speaker: Andrew Clegg (Valo Analytica LLC)

Abstract: Academic research on the radio spectrum has significantly advanced wireless systems and services, benefiting America's economic competitiveness, national defense, and scientific discovery. Programs from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and other agencies have funded important work in this area. However, a disconnect often exists between academic research and the practical needs of the country. As demand for spectrum access grows and the research funding landscape evolves, it's more crucial than ever to bridge this gap. This talk will explore promising research areas, drawing lessons from large-scale commercial spectrum-sharing implementations. We will also discuss actionable steps that wireless researchers can take to stay connected with industry and regulatory communities, ensuring their work is both grounded in real-world challenges and poised for practical application.

Biography: Andrew Clegg has nearly 35 years of experience in radio spectrum management across industry and the private sector. He is currently the CTO of Valo Analytica, a startup specializing in spectrum data and analytics. In addition to this role, he serves as a senior research scientist at Baylor University and as the CTO of the Wireless Innovation Forum.

For over a decade, Andy was the spectrum engineering lead at Google, where he played a substantial role in the creation of the U.S. Citizens Broadband Radio Service (CBRS), a groundbreaking initiative for shared spectrum access. Prior to his work at Google, he served as the program director for electromagnetic spectrum management at the National Science Foundation (NSF), where he established the Enhancing Access to the Radio Spectrum (EARS) program, the first U.S. government grant program dedicated to radio spectrum research.

His professional experience also includes positions at Cingular Wireless (now AT&T), Comsearch, and the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory. He has been a member of the U.S. delegation to two ITU World Radiocommunication Conferences.

Andy holds a Ph.D. in radio astronomy from Cornell University.