Advances in manufacturing such as automation, robotics, and artificial intelligence have led to a skills gap in our 21st century workforce. The panel will discuss the emergence of higher education training programs and public-private partnerships that are helping Connecticut address this phenomenon.
THE FUTURE OF WORK: CLOSING THE SKILLS GAP

Thursday, October 3, 2019
10:30 PM – 12:00 PM
Konover Auditorium, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center

Join UConn’s Global Training & Development Institute for a look at how advances in manufacturing such as automation, robotics, and artificial intelligence have led to a skills gap in our 21st century workforce. The panel will discuss the emergence of higher education training programs and public-private partnerships that are helping Connecticut address this phenomenon.

10:30 AM WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
Jack Barry, Ph.D., Academic Director, UConn YSEALI (U.S. State Department program administered by Global Training and Development Institute, Office of Global Affairs)

10:40 AM OPENING REMARKS – “TRENDS IN ADVANCED MANUFACTURING (AUTOMATION, ROBOTICS, & AI): THE NEXUS OF THE SKILLS GAP”
Hadi Bozorgmanesh, Ph.D., Executive Director of Enterprise Solution Center; Associate Director, Werth Institute; Board of Directors, CTNext; former Chairman, Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) Europe Ltd

10:50 AM PANEL DISCUSSION
Panelists will discuss this recent phenomenon from a variety of perspectives (education, private sector, workforce development), and share insights on how the Connecticut workforce development ecosystem is developing innovative public-private educational/training solutions to close the skills gap.

Mark Hill, Chief Operating Officer, Eastern Connecticut Workforce Investment Board; Founder, Eastern CT Manufacturing Pipeline Initiative

Kelli-Marie Vallieres, Ph.D., President Emeritus and Talent Development, Eastern Advanced Manufacturing Alliance; Advisory Board Member of Eastern CT Manufacturing Pipeline Initiative

Mary Bidwell, Interim Dean of the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center, Asnuntuck & Tunxis Community Colleges

Kathy Saint, President, Schwerdtle Inc.; Member, UConn MSE Industrial Advisory Board; President, Manufacturers Education and Training Alliance

Cliff Thermer, Ed.D., Assistant Vice President for Strategy and Business Development and Dean of Business, Management, and Advanced Manufacturing/ Economic and Strategic Development, Goodwin College

Moderator: Jack Barry, Ph.D., Academic Director, UConn YSEALI Program (Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative, a U.S. State Department funded grant program)

11:45 AM AUDIENCE Q & A WITH PANELISTS