



# AUIX NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025



## Stanford's Hoover Institution "Next Frontier Seminar"



NEXT  
FRONTIER  
SEMINAR

AUIX recently participated in Stanford's Hoover Institution's Next Frontier Seminar, where they mentored fellows from prestigious institutions, including Stanford, Oxford, and Yale University. The seminar focused on critical research areas such as satellite resilience, AI risks, and challenges in infrastructure related to data and semiconductor production.

During the event, AUIX engaged with distinguished thought leaders from technology, defense, academia, and policy sectors, facilitating valuable discussions that aligned with national security priorities. Additionally, AUIX collaborated with Stanford faculty from the Gordian Knot Center for National Security Innovation to explore potential future programming partnerships that will help advance Air University's mission in 2025.

Taking advantage of their proximity to Stanford, the AUIX team also visited Travis AFB, where they met with Col "Scotty" Bynum, Deputy Wing Commander, Mr. Joe Dingman, 60 AMW Executive Director, and the "Phoenix Spark Cell." Discussions covered a range of topics and initiatives designed to accelerate innovation within the defense and technology ecosystems.

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## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT VIA EAKER CENTER'S VIRTUAL LDC AND A39/AUIX PRESENTATIONS

Maj Angela Ferreira attended the 25E virtual session of LDC, facilitated by Lt Col John Everage and SMSgt Kira Cox. Hosted by the Eaker Center, LDC offers essential training in leadership, communication, and other critical “soft skills” vital for successful squadron command. This session featured valuable curriculum and fostered meaningful discussions among future squadron leaders, reinforcing its importance as a key offering from the Eaker Center.

LEADER DEVELOPMENT COURSE

Additionally, AUIX's Deputy Director, Lt Col Nathan Opie presented at the Education with Industry (EWI) Mid-Tour event, held January 14-16 in Orlando, FL. EWI, an AFIT/CI program, embeds Air Force officers, enlisted personnel, and civilians in industry for 10 months to gain experience applicable to their follow-on assignments. An EWI alumnus, Lt Col Opie delivered an A39/AUIX Mission Brief and led workshops to guide Fellows in refining their industry papers into actionable insights for their respective organizations or the Department of the Air Force. His presentation and workshops were well-received and provided EWI Fellows with seasoned/mature insights into how to produce a first-class industry paper.





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## Innovator Development Course (IDC)

The second iteration of the Innovator Development Course (IDC), hosted in partnership with the Eaker Center's Leadership & Innovation Institute led by Mrs. Megan Allison, Director, took place 27-30 Jan with 27 participants from scores of Air Force organizations, as well as a civilian participant from the State of Alabama Securities Commission.



Local USAF participants included the Air Force Accessions Center's Holm Center, the LeMay Center, and the AU Library. CONUS operational units included 1st Air Force, the 60th's Phoenix Spark Cell, the 59th Test and Evaluation Squadron, the 3D Combat Weather Squadron, and the 55th Aerial Port Squadron. IDC successfully highlighted the power of interdisciplinary collaboration, and featured exposure to the full spectrum of innovative tools, programs, and proven strategies attendees will be able to employ to drive transformative change in their respective organizations. The next IDC will take place on 5-8 May with over 120 people on a waitlist for future offerings.

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AIR UNIVERSITY STEM

AIR & SPACE  
STEM Outreach



## MSFRIC: Partnering on employing DRADIS AI for article indexing

In partnership with AUIX, AU Librarian Jessica Everingham is exploring how DRADIS AI can enhance the process of indexing articles for the AU Library Catalog. The cross-functional team is evaluating development of a custom GPT model designed to efficiently analyze content, identify key topics and themes, and generate accurate tags for improved searchability. By streamlining administrative tasks, this initiative aims to free librarians to focus on advancing research and building partnerships that support AU's academic mission.

## TechMGM's I-85 STEM First Quarter Stakeholders Meeting

The Eagle Institute at the Historic Kress Building hosted TechMGM's I-85 Regional STEM Ecosystems First Quarter Stakeholders Meeting. The stakeholders were members from AUIX, EdFarm, CAP, Starbase, Governor Kay Ivey's Alabama STEM Council, Central Alabama Works, BESPIN, and TechMGM. This critical meeting was designed to plan/develop the draft strategic communication plan for parents, educators, and lawmakers. The program is intended to address Alabama's critical skills gap and increase labor force participation by creating targeted, regionally driven strategies. With AUIX, CAP, Starbase and BESPIN as key local military and government partners, I-85 seeks to expand career exposure opportunities through organizing career fairs, industry panels, and military/government/business tours to give youth and adult learners direct insights into career paths and industry expectations.