



Old Dominion University

Department of Physics

Colloquium

Tuesday, November 1, 2022

"At the triple point intersection of Science, Policy, and Leadership"

Dr. Hai Nguyen

Enterprise Modernization & Future Capabilities Branch Chief – US DOD

Abstract:

At the triple point intersection of Science, Policy, and Leadership, there are exceptional challenges and opportunities that traditional physics programs do not adequately prepare our next generation scientists to confront the challenges and capitalize the opportunities for both scientific and career advancement. I detail my approach to the triple point intersection from a career in academia to a new career in the federal government from my time as a physics professor, an AAAS S&T fellow, and a federal employee. In this talk, I will communicate how I find the right triple point balance to further my current work.

Short Bio:

Dr. Nguyen has 15 years of Physics teaching experience. At the University of Mary Washington, where he was chair of the Department of Physics, Dr. Nguyen taught a very popular freshman seminar course "Physics for Future Presidents and World Leaders." The course's objectives aligned significantly with The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) objectives as it seeks to "advance science, engineering, and innovation throughout the world for the benefit of all people."

Because of this close alignment, in 2018, Dr. Nguyen was selected to be an American Association for the Advancement of Science's Science & Technology Policy Fellow, working at the Pentagon. Then, in 2020 because of his effectiveness in using his physics training to address the most important and pressing challenges of our day, Dr. Nguyen was hired to a position in the Pentagon in Nuclear Command, Control, and Communications Future and Cross Cutting Integration, in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, OSD. Further, he is a liaison with the Office of Science and Technology of the President (OSTP) in the White House.

Presentation: OCNPS SCALE-UP 142 @ 3:00 pm

Refreshments: OCNPS First Floor Atrium @ 2:30 pm

All interested persons are cordially invited to attend.