



FAMU-FSU  
College of Engineering

## A WELCOME MESSAGE FROM ASTRO AMERICA

Greetings!

Thank you for attending our Advancing Additive Manufacturing Technologies (AAMT) workshop at Florida State University's Panama City campus. **"Expanding the Northern Florida Ecosystem,"** formally launches AM Forward FL (AMF-FL), a first-of-its-kind statewide consortium supporting small and medium sized suppliers' transition to additive manufacturing (AM).

Inspired by the potential of AM (or 3D printing) to address critical supply chain challenges and create a new generation of technicians, engineers, and technologists, AMF-FL seeks to establish Florida as a hub for small, medium, and large companies to thrive and continuously innovate. Our focus is to catalyze ground-breaking research and technology transition, particularly in communities previously viewed as less competitive in the advanced manufacturing sector.

To do so, ASTRO America is leveraging a \$1 million NSF Regional Innovation Engine Development grant to create connections and discern appropriate stakeholders across the State. Ultimately, we are seeking to develop a team that will prepare a winning project proposal to the National Science Foundation for a \$160 million Regional Innovation Engine..

More information on the federal program may be found [here](#).

Through the upcoming Panama City workshop, ASTRO America is looking forward to gathering insights and input from stakeholders for effective deployment of AM technology into the Florida supply chain. We hope to identify committed partners that are equally interested in establishing a powerful advanced manufacturing ecosystem in Florida.

To this end, we are thrilled that you are joining us in Panama City.

We look forward to working together to create opportunities across Florida.

Sincerely,

**Neal Orringer**  
President, ASTRO America

