Ryan Fitzgerald

MITRE

Intelligent Autonomous Systems Mission Outcome Lead
Naval Program Division

Ms. Ryan Fitzgerald joined MITRE in April 2019 as the Autonomous Systems Domain Capability Area Lead for the Army Program Division. In 2020, transitioned to the Naval Division at MITRE where she is the Intelligent Autonomous Systems Outcome Lead. She is thought leader in autonomous systems strategy and policy, developing ideas, innovative direction, and novel opportunities to increase warfighting effectiveness with use of autonomy and autonomous systems. To date, Ryan has led MITRE in cultivating its autonomy expertise for the Army Program Division, leading the development of the Army Autonomous Systems Materiel Enterprise Strategy, and defining the vision and strategy for Intelligent Autonomous Systems for MITRE's Naval Division. She endeavors to realize the positive contribution advanced and applied autonomy can provide to the warfighter, leveraging DoD engagement and industry/government collaboration to expand into cross and multi-domain operations.

Prior to joining MITRE, Ryan was a Department of Navy civil servant for 17 years. Most recently, she was the Director of Unmanned Systems, Autonomy, and Artificial Intelligence in the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation. She was also detailed part-time to the Office of Naval Research where she supported the Portfolio Manager for Autonomy. Ryan led a large coalition of unmanned systems and autonomy stakeholders, addressing gaps in the areas of strategy and policy of unmanned systems, particularly in applying autonomy and artificial intelligence to these systems. Her work focused on charting future employment and integration of unmanned and autonomous systems for the distributed force of the future.

Previously, Ryan was the Director of Technology for the DASN (Unmanned Systems) office, where she led the development of the DoN's Strategic Roadmap for Unmanned Systems and the follow-on Implementation Plan. In the four years prior to her transfer to the Pentagon, she worked in development of Unmanned Air Systems at Patuxent River Naval Air Station, most notably on the MQ-25 Stingray (previously named UCLASS). Her previous positions included systems engineering roles in PMA-265 on the F/A-18 A-F and E/A-18G; and in PMA-231 on the E-2D. She began her tenure at NAWCAD as a flight dynamics engineer in the Air Vehicle Department.

Ms. Fitzgerald presented a TEDx talk in 2019, is a sailor, cyclist, and private pilot, and holds a BS in Aerospace Engineering from Virginia Tech and an MS in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Maryland. She also holds a Systems Engineering

Certificate from Johns Hopkins University and a Certificate in Artificial Intelligence from MIT Sloan and Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory.