

Lauren Calloway, [Central Virginia Community College Workforce Development Team](#)

Elizabeth Narehood, [Future Focus Foundation](#)

Susan Cash, [XLR8 STEM Academy](#)



"Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Educational Opportunities in Virginia's Region 2000

A Joint ASME and VA-ANS Meeting

December 5, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. ([RSVP](#))

At AREVA Office Building - 3315 Old Forest Road, Lynchburg, VA

Virginia's Region 2000 is a close network of four counties and one city with one primary goal – providing opportunities for stakeholders to participate in society as productive citizens. Each of the three groups today; Future Focus Foundation, XLR8 STEM Academy, Workforce Development Team at Central Virginia Community College has a slightly different approach to helping the patrons of Region 2000 achieve this goal but all agree that education and training are two of the most important keys to make this goal a reality.

The Future Focus Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization developed to sustain and expand STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) educational opportunities for Region 2000 youth in grades K-12, through the public education system, community involvement, and industry engagement. The Foundation's programs build a solid platform for future sustainability and ensure that area youth have knowledge of STEM careers and exposure to the underlying skills and thought processes necessary for success in these careers. The Foundation also works to partner and promote other STEM opportunities with local higher education institutions and STEM focused industries.

XLR8 STEM Academy is located on the campus of Central Virginia Community College. XLR8 has been a joint effort by the Region 2000 Technology Council, Future Focus

Foundation and Workforce Investment Board; Central Virginia Community College; the school divisions of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, Campbell and Lynchburg; and area business partners, including AMTI, AREVA, The Babcock and Wilcox Company, Centra, Delta Star, Sweet Briar College, Successful Innovations, Inc., WegmannUSA and Wells Fargo. XLR8 dovetails with current regional K-12 STEM activities and workforce development initiatives. The goal of this institution is to help close the gap between education and industry, furthering the economic vitality of this region.

Central Virginia Community College's Workforce Development Team focuses on providing career pathways and training opportunities beginning as early as fifth grade. In working with area school divisions and businesses, Workforce Development is has offered Career Summer Academy experiences for middle school students grades 6-8 and high school students grades 9&10, Summer Apprenticeship opportunities for high school juniors and seniors. These high-quality career exploration academies play an essential role in the educational continuum, the "Grow Your Own" concept of CVCC's Workforce Solutions Division; priming the pipeline with skilled workers in Region 2000.

Speaker Biographies



Lauren Calloway, M.Ed. Workforce Development and Community Education
Coordinator for Workforce Solutions and Community Education at Central Virginia
Community College

The vision of CVCC's Workforce Solutions & Community Education division is to be the resource of choice to deliver comprehensive employment, workforce and community education solutions throughout Region 2000. In her role as Workforce Development Coordinator, Calloway is responsible for finding and creating career pathways programming and specialized classes to assist businesses obtain and retain quality staff. These efforts in some instances begin as early as fifth grade by visiting elementary schools. As the Community Education Coordinator, Calloway leads a team in providing non-credit classes in areas of personal interest, from Microsoft Office

course to cooking. Calloway has spent 13 years of her career as a public school educator serving in a variety positions including teacher and administrator and understands the importance of education and the difference it can make in one's life. She has an undergraduate degree in Child Development and a Master's degree in Educational Leadership with a Supervision and Administration emphasis both from Lynchburg College (<http://www.cvcc.vccs.edu/workforce/>)



Susan Cash, XLR8 STEM Academy Director

Susan Cash is the first director of XLR8, the new Governor's STEM Academy in Region 2000 opening its doors for the 2013-14 academic year. Cash has spent the last twenty years in various educational positions, most recently with Lynchburg City Schools. She has served as the division-wide career counselor and as a school counselor at Heritage High School. She holds an undergraduate degree in psychology with a minor in special education from James Madison University. Cash graduated from Lynchburg College in 2001 with a master's of education degree in school counseling and earned a master's of education in education leadership from Lynchburg College in 2012. She received the 2006 "Creating Excellence Award" from the Virginia Department of Education. (<http://www.xlr8academy.com/>)



Elizabeth Narehood, Managing Director, Future Focus Foundation Virginia's Region 2000 Technology Council

Building on the vision of the Technology Council, Elizabeth assists with providing leadership, strategy, fund raising, and direction to the Tech Council's educational non-profit foundation – the Future Focus Foundation. The Foundation was developed to sustain and expand STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) educational opportunities for youth in grades K-12, both through the public education system and community involvement. The foundation's programs build a solid platform to ensure that all area youth have knowledge of STEM careers and exposure to the underlying skills necessary for success in these careers. (<http://www.futurefocusfoundation.us/> <http://www.techcouncil.us/>)

Schedule:

- Social Hour - 5:30 p.m.
- Dinner - 6:00 p.m.
- Presentation and Discussion - 6:45 p.m.
- Adjourn - 8:00 p.m.
- Directions to AREVA Office building:
 - 3315 Old Forest Road, Lynchburg, VA 24501

COST: \$20 (\$10 for students) includes dinner. Alcohol is not provided, nor allowed on premises.

Reservations for the meeting must be made by 4 p.m. on Monday, December 2, 2013. Please fill out the registration form below. Please address any questions to [Caleb Tomlin](#) or [Eugene Brown](#) .