



**2025**

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# WITA TRADE & TECH SUMMIT

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**DECEMBER 8, 2025 • 9:00 AM – 1:30 PM(EST)**  
**Via Zoom and In-Person**

Pavilion Room, Ronald Reagan Building and  
International Trade Center



# WELCOME

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Welcome to the 2025 Trade and Tech Summit!

Whether you are joining us in-person or online, we are delighted to welcome you to WITA's inaugural Trade & Technology Summit, where we are joined by guests from 29 different countries! With an international reach that now spans every major trading region, WITA serves as the trusted platform for convening the global trade community to discuss critical trade issues impacting workers, firms, and nations.

Special thanks to our sponsors for their support of this year's Summit: Amazon, Consumer Technology Association, Coupang, Information Technology Industry Council, National Foreign Trade Council, Silverado Policy Accelerator, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and the World Trade Center DC. It is through their support, and the sustained support of all our sponsors, that we have been able to grow and adapt to the ever changing trade climate that has faced the WITA membership in recent years.

From the sextant to the telegraph to the modern Global Positioning System, global trade has always been driven by innovation. This virtuous circle of innovation, trade, and access to new technologies, is essential for economic development around the world. At WITA's first-ever Trade & Technology Summit, we will hear from industry leaders and policy experts on key technology and trade issues driving economic growth, and address key challenges to development, adoption and use of technologies by businesses, workers and firms around the world.

A decade ago, WITA launched an Initiative called NextGenTrade™ to look at the new technologies driving business and trade policy. Today, those issues are front-and-center in trade policy for every country in the world. The technologies of the future are no longer "nextgen" they are here today, and in the months and years to come WITA will continue to dive deeply into these essential issues driving global trade and development.

Thank you for joining us at the 2025 Trade and Tech Summit. Whether you are joining us online or in-person, we are delighted for you to take part in this important conversation.

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# SPONSORS



U.S. Chamber of Commerce



# AGENDA

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

*In-Person with Livestream (all times are U.S./Eastern Time)*

**8:30 – 8:45 AM: Breakfast & Networking**

### 9:05 – 9:30 AM: Fireside Chat – The New Digital Trade Framework

**Ambassador Rick Switzer**, Deputy United States Trade Representative, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative

**Moderator: Gary Shapiro**, CEO and Vice Chair, Consumer Technology Association

### 9:30 – 9:55 AM: Fireside Chat – The U.S. Role in Global Tech Leadership

**Brandon Remington**, Deputy Under Secretary for Policy, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce

**Moderator: Arrow Augerot**, Head, International Policy, Americas, Amazon

### 9:55 – 10:35 AM: Panel 1: The U.S. Role in Global Tech Leadership

**Whitney Baird**, President and CEO, United States Council for International Business

**Jason Oxman**, President and CEO, Information Technology Industry Council

**Robert Porter**, Chief Global Affairs Officer, Coupang

**Moderator: Jordan Heiber**, Vice President, International Digital Economy Policy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce



# AGENDA

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

*In-Person with Livestream (all times are U.S./Eastern Time)*

### 10:35 – 11:15 AM: Panel 2: Working with Partners: Trade, Innovation, and the AI Stack

**Emily Benson**, Head of Strategy, Minerva

**Amy Morgan**, Vice President, Trade Compliance, Altana

**Matthew Schruers**, President and CEO, Computer and Communications Industry Association

**Moderator: John Corrigan**, Senior Director, Trade and Industrial Strategy, Silverado Policy Accelerator

### 11:15 – 11:55 AM: Panel 3: The Trade, Tech, and Security Nexus

**Rob Atkinson**, President, Information Technology & Innovation Foundation

**Geoffrey Gertz**, Senior Fellow, Center for a New American Security

**Dr. Alina Polyakova**, President and CEO, Center for European Policy Analysis

**Moderator: Hon. Nazak Nikakhtar**, Partner, National Security Chair, Wiley Rein LLP

### 12:00 – 12:30 PM: Armchair Conversation – Via Zoom

**Representative Suzan DelBene (D-WA-1)**, U.S. House of Representatives

**Representative Darin LaHood (R-IL-18)**, U.S. House of Representatives

**Moderator: Josh Kallmer**, Chief Global Affairs Officer, Zoom Communications Inc.

### 12:30 – 1:30 PM: Networking Luncheon

**Monday, December 8, 2025**

# **FIRESIDE CHAT**

## **9:05 - 9:30 AM**

### **The New Digital Trade Framework**



**Ambassador Rick Switzer**  
Deputy United States  
Trade Representative,  
Office of the U.S. Trade  
Representative



**Moderator:  
Gary Shapiro**  
CEO and Vice Chair,  
Consumer  
Technology  
Association

# AMBASSADOR RICK SWITZER



## **Deputy United States Trade Representative, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative**

Ambassador Rick Switzer is the Deputy United States Trade Representative. Prior to his appointment as Deputy USTR, he was the founder and principal of ProjX Technology Consulting. During Rick's 20 year career as a member of the Foreign Service he served as the State Department visiting professor at the National Intelligence University teaching graduate courses on China's economy and innovation system, as a member of the Secretary of State's Policy Planning Council, and a Senior State Department Advisor to the Department of Defense working with the Air Force and the Army.

Other highlights include serving as the Environment, Science, Technology and Health Counselor at Embassy Beijing, the largest science section in the world. While on sabbatical from State, he also spent a year as a Senior Fellow at the Special Competitive Studies Project (SCSP), a non-profit founded by former Google CEO Eric Schmidt. Before his government service, Rick co-founded a wireless technology start-up and also conducted innovation policy research at the University of California.



# GARY SHAPIRO



## CEO and Vice Chair, Consumer Technology Association



Gary Shapiro is Vice Chair and CEO of the Consumer Technology Association (CTA) which represents over 1200 consumer technology companies and owns and produces CES.

Over a more than 30-year tenure as head of CTA, Shapiro expanded the association's influence and impact alongside the growth of the technology industry. He has also transformed CES, expanding its reach globally.

A Georgetown Law graduate, Shapiro worked on Capitol Hill and served as an associate at the Squire Sanders law firm before joining CTA in 1982. This legal experience and a passion for policies that empower entrepreneurs and unlock technology innovation earn him regular recognition as a Washingtonian Tech Titan and Washington Life magazine's most influential people in Washington. In 2021, Shapiro was recognized by French President Emmanuel Macron with the prestigious Legion of Honor Award.

Shapiro is the New York Times bestselling author of "Pivot or Die: How Leaders Thrive when Everything Changes" (HarperCollins, 2025), "Ninja Future: Secrets to Success in the New World of Innovation" (HarperCollins, 2019), "Ninja Innovation: The Ten Killer Strategies of the World's Most Successful Businesses" (HarperCollins, 2013) and "The Comeback: How Innovation will Restore the American Dream" (Beaufort, 2011).

Shapiro is active in policy, thought leadership, government, and community development alongside his position at CTA. In October 2025, he received The Media Institute's Freedom of Speech Award, honoring leadership in technology and advocacy for free expression. He sits on boards and advisory councils including the Northern Virginia Technology Council, CEO Update Roundtable, Council of Manufacturing Associations board, and Focused Ultrasound Foundation board.

Shapiro holds a JD from the Georgetown University Law Center and a BA in economics and psychology from Binghamton University.





**Monday, December 8, 2025**

# **FIRESIDE CHAT**

## **9:30 - 9:55 AM**

### **The U.S. Role in Global Tech Leadership**



**Brandon Remington**  
Deputy Under  
Secretary for Policy,  
International Trade  
Administration, U.S.  
Department of  
Commerce



**Moderator:**  
**Arrow Augerot**  
Head, International  
Policy, Americas,  
Amazon

# BRANDON REMINGTON



## **Deputy Under Secretary for Policy, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce**

Brandon Remington serves as the Deputy Under Secretary for Policy at the International Trade Administration. In this role, he advises Under Secretary Kimmitt on matters of investment, commercial diplomacy, trade, global competitiveness, and technology priorities, including supply chains, investment, and AI.

Brandon was the Chief Strategy Officer at the Office of Strategic Capital where he helped create the first federal credit program in the Department of Defense. Brandon held several roles developing AI capabilities in the Pentagon, including as the Chief Innovation Officer at the Chief Digital and AI Office (CDAO) for the Secretary of Defense, and as an AI integration officer at Project Maven, the inaugural AI program in the U.S. military. Brandon was also an AI project leader at John Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory.

Prior to his service in Washington DC, Brandon was an attorney at Kirkland & Ellis LLP in New York City, focusing on M&A, corporate governance, and capital markets. He previously clerked at the Delaware Court of Chancery. Brandon served in Afghanistan as an infantry officer in the U.S. Marine Corps and continues his service in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves.

He holds B.A, M.B.A, and JD degrees from Brigham Young University. He and his wife, Kimi, reside in Vienna, Virginia with their seven children.





## **Head, International Policy, Americas, Amazon**

Arrow Augerot is the Director of International Policy, Americas, at Amazon, where she leads a team that advocates on a broad range of international and economic issues with the U.S. Government facing Amazon in Canada and Latin America. Previously, she was the Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Congressional Affairs and a U.S. Trade Negotiator focused on the Asia Pacific region, electronic commerce, and telecommunications.



**Monday, December 8, 2025**

# **PANEL ONE**

## **9:55 - 10:35 AM**

### **The U.S. Role in Global Tech Leadership**



**Whitney Baird**  
President and CEO,  
United States Council for  
International Business



**Jason Oxman**  
President and CEO,  
Information Technology  
Industry Council



**Robert Porter**  
Chief Global Affairs  
Officer, Coupang



**Moderator:**  
**Jordan Heiber**  
Vice President of  
International Digital  
Economy Policy, U.S.  
Chamber of Commerce



# WHITNEY BAIRD



## **President and CEO, United States Council for International Business**

Whitney Baird is President and CEO of the United States Council for International Business (USCIB), the leading voice of American business in global economic policy. An accomplished diplomat with a distinguished career in international affairs, Baird is a passionate advocate for open markets, trade, and the role of business in promoting economic prosperity and social progress.

Baird's extensive experience in government and business has fostered a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing the global economy. Prior to joining USCIB, Baird served as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs at the U.S. Department of State, leading efforts to promote American economic interests abroad in close collaboration with U.S. businesses, foreign governments, and international organizations. Baird also led the U.S. Mission to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) as Chargé d'Affaires from 2020-2022, representing American interests in this key forum on economic policy, trade, and development.

During her diplomatic career, Baird was appointed Minister Counselor for Economic Affairs at U.S. Embassy London, Director of Multilateral Trade, Director of European Union Affairs, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for West Africa and Security Affairs, and Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Western Europe and European Union and Regional Affairs. She also served at U.S. Embassies in Madrid, Dakar, Lome, and Yaoundé, earning distinction as the recipient of the Secretary's Career Achievement Award and multiple Superior Honor Awards.

Baird holds a Master's degree in International Security Studies from the National Defense University and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of North Carolina.



## **President and CEO, Information Technology Industry Council**

Jason Oxman is president and chief executive officer of the Information Technology Industry Council (ITI), the global trade association for the tech sector, representing the world's most innovative companies. Jason brings more than 25 years of experience as a globally recognized leader in technology policy and serves as the leading advocate for technology during a consequential time for the industry.

Washingtonian named Jason one of its 500 Most Influential People Shaping Policy and a Tech Titan given his key role in advocating for innovation. Under Jason's leadership, ITI has been recognized by its peers, including as the Trade Association of the Year by the Reed Awards. ITI was awarded the American Society for Association Executives (ASAE) Power of Associations' Silver Award for advocacy on the U.S. CHIPS and Science Act of 2022.

Jason serves as a member of the Board of Directors of ASAE; the American National Standards Institute (ANSI); and the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF). He also chairs ASAE's Association Coalition for AI, which advances the understanding, adoption, and responsible implementation of AI technologies within the association community.

Before joining ITI, Jason served as CEO of ETA, the international trade association of the payments technology industry, for seven years. In that role, Jason led ETA and its 500 global financial and technology member companies through unprecedented industry transformations and represented the payments industry before policymakers around the world.

Previously, Jason was Senior Vice President of Industry Affairs at the Consumer Technology Association, which he joined in 2006, leading multiple departments. Previously, he served as general counsel of an ICT industry trade association and as vice president of a Silicon Valley-based technology company. Earlier in his career, Jason developed and implemented technology policy for broadband and related communications services at the Federal Communications Commission. Jason began his career as a law clerk for the Maine Supreme Court. He received his B.A. cum laude from Amherst College, and his M.S. and J.D. from Boston University. Jason lives in Virginia with his wife and their two sons.



# ROBERT PORTER



## Chief Global Affairs Officer, Coupang

Robert Porter is Chief Global Affairs Officer at Coupang, a Fortune 150 U.S. technology company providing e-commerce, advanced logistics, video streaming, food delivery, fintech, and intelligent cloud services in markets throughout Asia and around the world. Previously he served as Assistant to the President for Policy Coordination and White House Staff Secretary under President Trump, helping oversee the administration's policy development process and advising the President on a wide range of issues. Prior to his time at the White House, Porter served as Chief of Staff to Senator Orrin Hatch, as Chief Counsel and Staff Director of the Senate Antitrust Subcommittee, and as a judicial clerk on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. Porter is a summa cum laude graduate of Harvard College and holds graduate degrees from Oxford University, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar, and Harvard Law School, where he was editor-in-chief of the Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy.



# JORDAN HEIBER



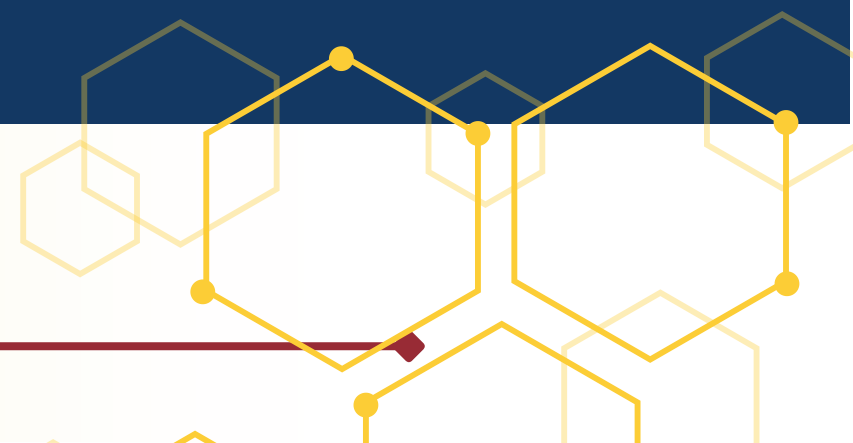
## **Vice President of International Digital Economy Policy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce**

Jordan Heiber is vice president of International Digital Economy Policy at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. He leads the Chamber's international privacy and data flow policy portfolio and manages a team responsible for the full suite of international digital policy issues, including cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and other emerging technologies.

In addition, Heiber oversees the work of the Chamber's Center for Global Regulatory Cooperation (GRC), which seeks to align trade, regulatory, and competition policy in support of open and competitive markets.

Before joining the Chamber, Heiber ran the D.C.-based government affairs and policy analysis operations of a multinational bank and spent a decade as a U.S. trade negotiator and diplomat with the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative and the Department of State.

He holds an undergraduate degree from Northwestern University and a master's degree from The George Washington University.





**Monday, December 8, 2025**

# **PANEL TWO**

## **10:35 - 11:15 AM**

**Working with Partners: Trade, Innovation, and the AI Stack**



**Emily Benson**  
Head of Strategy,  
Minerva



**Amy Morgan**  
Vice President, Trade  
Compliance, Altana



**Matthew Schruers**  
President and CEO,  
Computer and  
Communications  
Industry Association



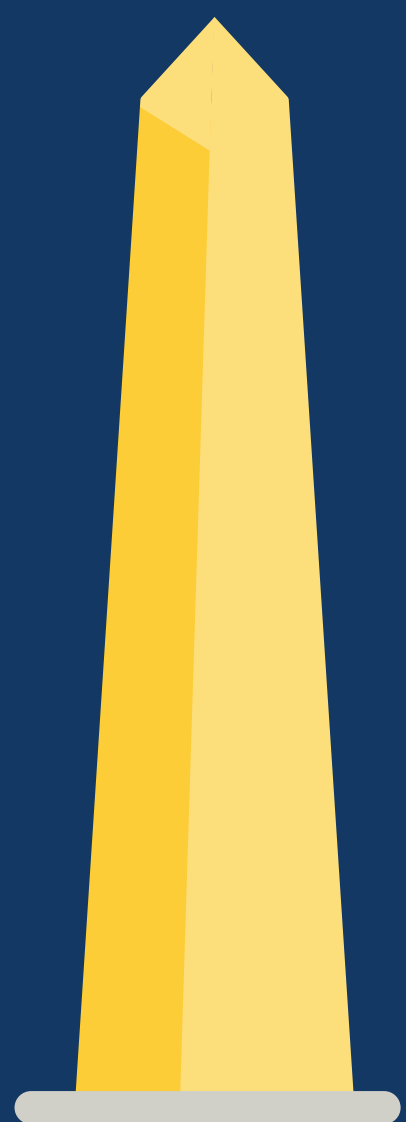
**Moderator:**  
**John Corrigan**  
Senior Director, Trade and  
Industrial Strategy,  
Silverado Policy  
Accelerator

# EMILY BENSON



## Head of Strategy, Minerva

Emily Benson is head of strategy at Minerva, leading the company's work on technology statecraft. She joined Minerva from the US Department of Commerce Supply Chain Center, where she helped shape the US government's approach to technology supply chain resilience. Previously, as director of the Project on Trade and Technology at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Emily established herself as a leading voice on policy issues at the intersection of the tech sector, geopolitics, and national security. Her insights have been featured in major publications including the New York Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, Foreign Policy, and Politico. Emily is a non-resident fellow at CSIS.



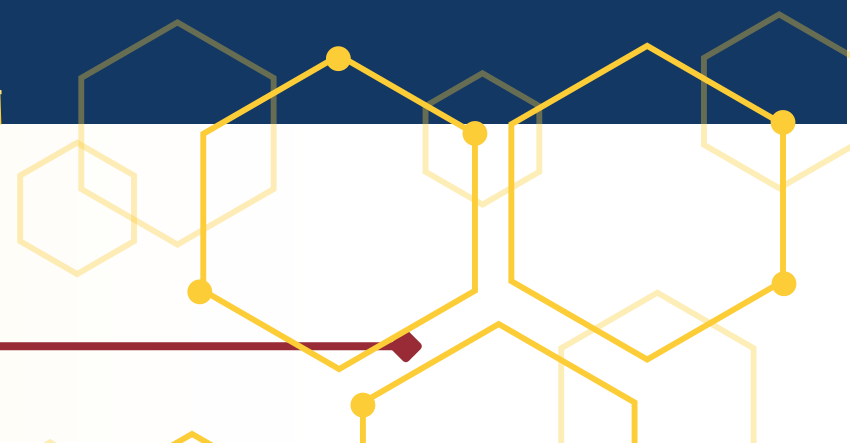
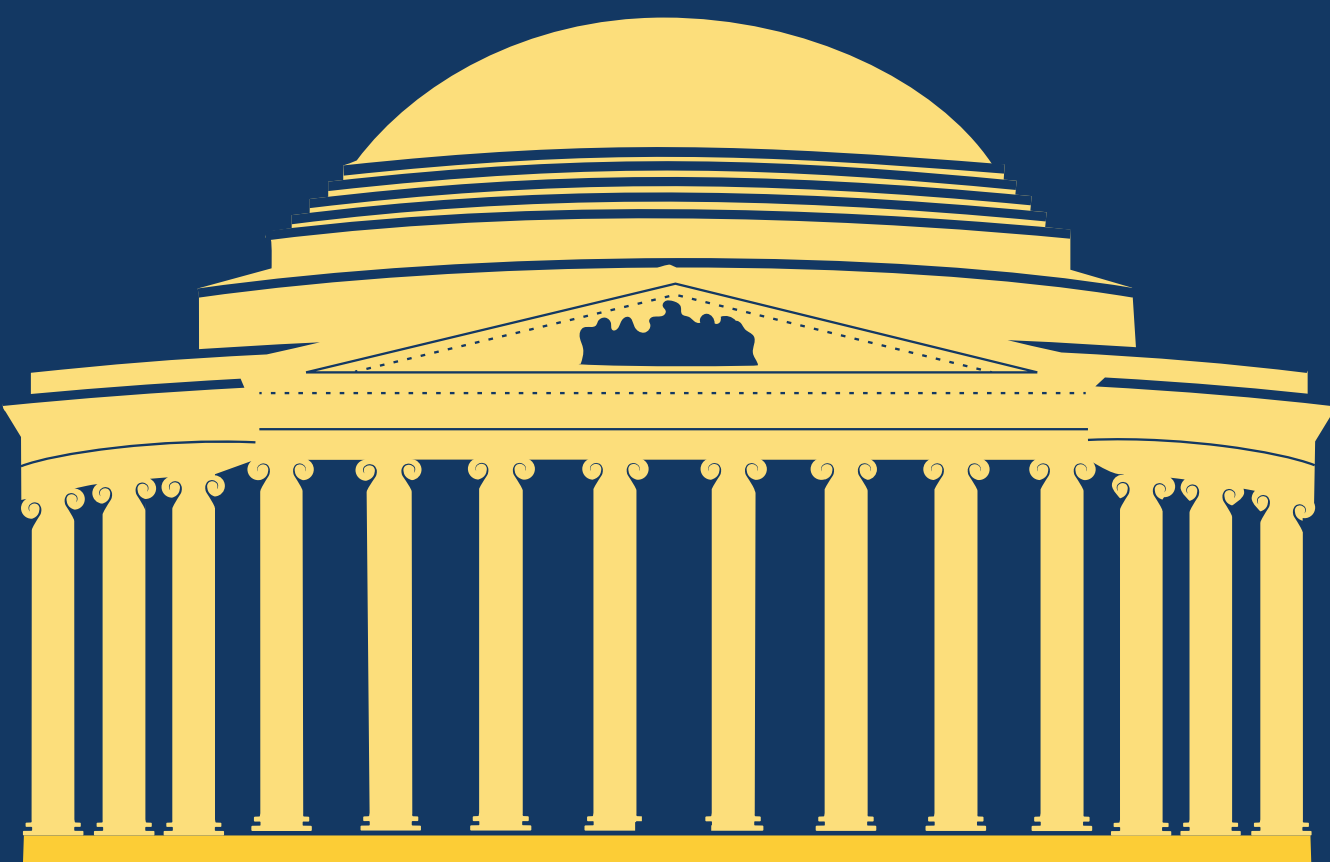


# AMY MORGAN



## **Vice President, Trade Compliance, Altana**

Amy Morgan is Head of Trade Compliance at Altana Technologies. Prior to Altana, Amy was Vice President, Cross-border at Avalara responsible for developing technology solutions to automate landed cost calculation and cross-border tax compliance. Previously, Amy managed global trade and customs compliance operations for Amazon, Costco Wholesale, Nordstrom, and Microsoft. Amy is a Licensed US Customs Broker based in Seattle, Washington where she was recognized as one of the Puget Sound Business Journal's Innovators of the Year in 2019 for using her “big trade” background to pursue progressive solutions to compliance challenges for companies of all sizes.

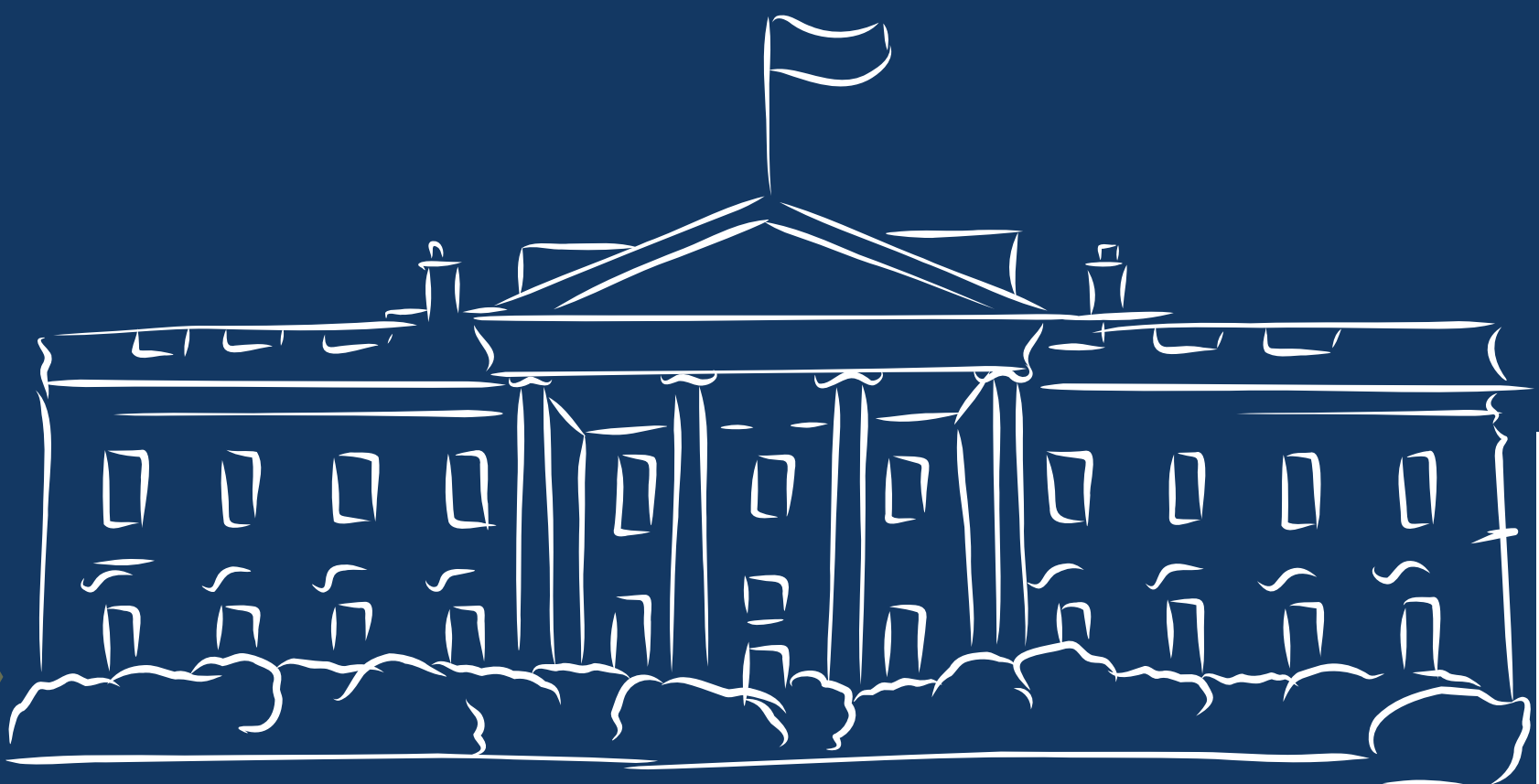


# MATTHEW SCHRUEERS



## **President and CEO, Computer and Communications Industry Association**

Matt Schruers is President & CEO of the Computer & Communications Industry Association (CCIA), where he leads its advocacy on behalf of internet, communications, and technology companies. He is also the co-founder and Board Chair of the Digital Trust & Safety Partnership (DTSP), a first-of-its-kind partnership to assess and improve industry best practices to foster a safer and more trustworthy internet. Matt has also taught intellectual property and internet law as an adjunct professor at Georgetown and American University Washington College of Law for over 10 years. He is a graduate of Duke and the University of Virginia School of Law.



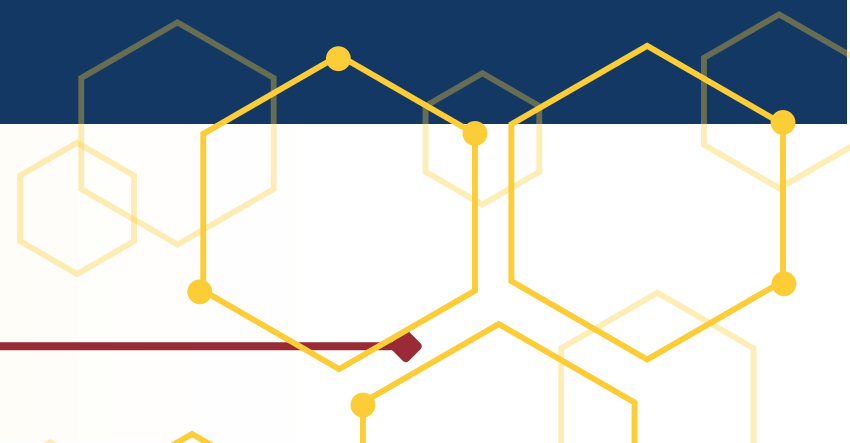


# JOHN CORRIGAN



## **Senior Director, Trade and Industrial Strategy, Silverado Policy Accelerator**

John Corrigan is the Senior Director for Trade and Industrial Strategy at Silverado Policy Accelerator. In this role, Mr. Corrigan develops Silverado's net-zero trade policy proposals to maximize broad-based U.S. growth and employment, including through border carbon measure design and complementary initiatives to decarbonize traded goods and services. Prior to joining Silverado, he served as Senior International Economist at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, where he contributed strategic guidance and analysis to U.S. trade initiatives to combat climate change including the Global Arrangement for Sustainable Steel and Aluminum. At USTR he also conducted economic and statistical analyses to advance U.S. negotiations and enforcement actions, often with a focus on trading partners' industrial policies. Prior to joining USTR, John conducted trade remedy investigations involving metals and other industrial products at the U.S. Department of Commerce and advanced U.S. business interests in Southeast Asia at the US-ASEAN Business Council. He holds a bachelor's degree in English and Spanish Literature from Lafayette College and master's degrees in Global Economy and Strategy from Yonsei University and Public Policy from the University of Chicago.



**Monday, December 8, 2025**

# **PANEL THREE**

## **11:15 - 11:55 AM**

### **The Trade, Tech, and Security Nexus**



**Rob Atkinson**  
President, Information  
Technology & Innovation  
Foundation



**Geoffrey Gertz**  
Senior Fellow, Center for  
a New American Security



**Dr. Alina Polyakova**  
President and CEO,  
Center for European  
Policy Analysis



**Moderator:**  
**Hon. Nazak Nikakhtar**  
Partner, National Security  
Chair, Wiley Rein LLP



# ROB ATKINSON



## **President, Information Technology & Innovation Foundation**

Robert D. Atkinson is founder and president of the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF), the world's leading think tank for science and technology policy. He is an internationally recognized scholar, a widely published author, and a trusted adviser to policymakers around the world, with expertise in the broad economics of innovation and specific policy and regulatory questions around new and emerging technologies. Rob's most recent book, co-authored with Michael Lind, is *Big Is Beautiful: Debunking the Myth of Small Business*.

Before founding ITIF, Rob's was Vice President of the Progressive Policy Institute and Director of PPI's Technology & New Economy Project. He received his Masters in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Oregon and was named a distinguished alumnus in 2014. He received his Ph.D. in City and Regional Planning from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1989.

# GEOFFREY GERTZ



## Senior Fellow, Center for a New American Security

Geoffrey Gertz is a senior fellow with the Energy, Economics, and Security Program at the Center for a New American Security (CNAS) and co-host of the Derisky Business podcast. His research focuses on economic tools for protecting and promoting critical technologies; digital policy and data governance; and geoeconomic competition.

Prior to joining CNAS, Gertz served as director for international economics at the White House, jointly appointed to the National Security Council and the National Economic Council, where his portfolio covered emerging technology and digital policy. He also served as senior advisor at the State Department's Bureau of Cyberspace and Digital Policy, where he covered U.S. diplomatic engagement on digital economy regulations and cross-border data flows.

Before entering government, Gertz was a fellow in the Global Economy and Development program at the Brookings Institution, a non-resident research associate at the University of Oxford's Global Economic Governance Programme, and an adjunct professor at George Washington University. He has published widely in both policy and academic publications, including The New York Times, Foreign Affairs, The Washington Quarterly, Foreign Policy, The Washington Post, the Review of International Political Economy, International Studies Quarterly, and World Development, and is frequently cited by major media outlets including, The Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, Reuters, PBS, and The Guardian.

He received a DPhil (PhD) and MPhil in international relations from the University of Oxford, and a BA in economics from DePauw University.





# DR. ALINA POLYAKOVA



## **President and CEO, Center for European Policy Analysis**

Dr. Alina Polyakova is President and CEO of the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA) as well as the Donald Marron Senior Fellow at the Henry A. Kissinger Center for Global Affairs at the Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS).

Dr. Polyakova is a recognized expert on transatlantic relations, European security including Russia and Ukraine, tech policy, and populism. She is the author of the book, *The Dark Side of European Integration*, which examines the rise of far-right political movements in Europe, as well as dozens of major policy reports and articles in outlets such as *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Foreign Affairs*, and *The Atlantic*, and others. She is a frequent commentator in major media outlets, such as Fox News, CNN, and BBC.

Dr. Polyakova is an experienced leader with previous roles as the Founding Director for Global Democracy and Emerging Technology at the Brookings Institution, Director of Research for Europe and Eurasia at the Atlantic Council, among others. She has also held numerous prestigious fellowships, including at the National Science Foundation, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and the Fulbright Foundation, among others. She serves on the board of the Free Russia Foundation and is a member of the Leadership Council for Women in National Security (LCWINS) and the Scientific Council of the Elcano Royal Institute.

Dr. Polyakova holds a Ph.D. and MA in Sociology from the University of California, Berkeley, and a BA in Economics and Sociology from Emory University.

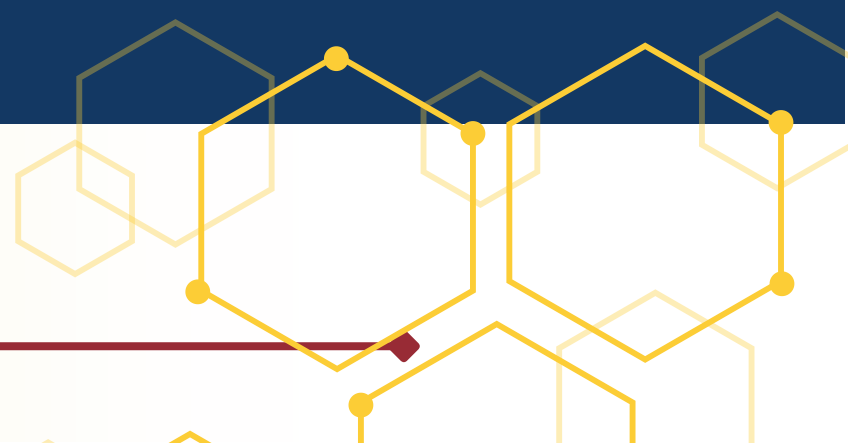
# HON. NAZAK NIKAKHTAR



## Partner, National Security Chair, Wiley Rein LLP

The Honorable Nazak Nikakhtar brings over two decades of experience in international trade and national security to help clients succeed in the domestic and global marketplace. Through leadership roles in the U.S. government and private sector, Nazak has leveraged her valuable insights into the expansive range of U.S. and international laws, regulatory and policy processes, and federal agency resources to achieve clients' business objectives.

From 2018 to 2021, with unanimous confirmation by the U.S. Senate, Nazak served as the Department of Commerce's Assistant Secretary for Industry & Analysis at the International Trade Administration (ITA). Nazak also served the duties of the Under Secretary for Industry and Security at Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS). In these roles, Nazak was the agency's primary liaison with U.S. industry and trade associations, and she shaped major initiatives to strengthen U.S. industry competitiveness, promote innovation, and accelerate economic and job growth. As one of the key national security experts in the U.S. government, she developed and implemented innovative laws, regulations, and policies to safeguard strategically important technologies, strengthen the U.S. industrial base, and protect the national security and foreign policy interests of the United States. As the Department's lead on the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), she played a key role in shaping U.S. investment policy. As the head of the agency's trade policy office, she advised the U.S. government on legal and economic issues impacting critical technologies, advanced manufacturing, financial services, e-commerce, data privacy, cybersecurity, critical minerals/rare earths, and energy competition. Finally, as the federal agency's lead on supply chain assessments, Nazak spearheaded the United States' first-ever whole-of-government initiative to evaluate and strengthen supply chains across all strategic sectors of the economy.





**Monday, December 8, 2025**

# **ARMCHAIR CONVERSATION 12:00 - 12:30 PM**



**Rep. Suzan DelBene**  
(D-WA-1),  
U.S. House of  
Representatives



**Rep. Darin LaHood**  
(R-IL-18),  
U.S. House of  
Representatives



**Moderator:**  
**Josh Kallmer**  
Chief Global Affairs  
Officer, Zoom  
Communications, Inc.



## U.S. House of Representatives

Congresswoman Suzan DelBene represents Washington's 1st Congressional District, which includes parts of King and Snohomish Counties.

First sworn into the House of Representatives in November 2012, Suzan brings a unique voice to the nation's capital with more than two decades of experience as a successful technology entrepreneur and business leader.

Suzan takes on a wide range of challenges both in Congress and in the 1st District. She is a leader on issues of technology, health care, trade, taxes, and environmental conservation, and is a champion for working families.

She serves on the House Ways and Means Committee, which is at the forefront of creating a more equitable tax code, health care reform, trade deals, and lasting retirement security. She serves on the Select Revenue Measures and Trade Subcommittees.

Suzan also serves as Co-chair of the Women's High-Tech Coalition, Kidney Caucus, and MedTech Caucus. She is also a member of the Pro-Choice Caucus. Suzan is Chair-emeritus of the forward-thinking New Democrat Coalition after chairing the coalition in the 117th Congress.

Suzan spent part of her early childhood in Newport Hills and Mercer Island before her father lost his job. After fourth grade, her family moved all over the country in search of work. Through hard work and financial aid, she earned her BA in biology from Reed College.

She started her career in immunology research before earning an MBA from the University of Washington and embarking on a successful career as a technology leader and innovator. Over more than two decades as an executive and entrepreneur, she helped start drugstore.com and served as CEO and President of Nimble Technology, a business software company based on technology developed at the University of Washington. Suzan also spent 12 years at Microsoft, most recently as corporate vice president of the company's mobile communications business.

Before being elected to Congress, Suzan served as Director of the Washington State Department of Revenue. During her tenure, she proposed reforms to cut red tape for small businesses. She also enacted an innovative tax amnesty program that generated \$345 million to help close the state's budget gap while easing financial burdens on small businesses.

Suzan's real-world experience in both the private and public sectors gives her a deep understanding of how to build successful businesses, create jobs, implement real fiscal accountability, and adopt policies that provide individuals with access to opportunity.

Suzan and her husband, Kurt DelBene, have two children, two grandchildren, and a dog named Reily.





## U.S. House of Representatives

Congressman Darin LaHood, born and raised in Peoria, serves the constituents of the 16th District of Illinois. Originally sworn into the US House of Representatives on September 17, 2015, after winning a special election, he won re-election to serve his fourth full term in Congress on November 8, 2022. From 2015 to 2023, LaHood represented the 18th Congressional District, serving much of central and west-central Illinois. Following a redistricting process, LaHood was drawn into the new 16th Congressional District.

The 16th District spans 21 counties across central and northwestern Illinois, ranging from McLean County (Bloomington-Normal) and Peoria County (Peoria) to Winnebago (Rockford) and Jo Daviess (Galena). LaHood serves over 725,000 constituents.

Prior to his election to Congress, LaHood served four years in the Illinois State Senate, beginning in 2011. LaHood spent more than nine years as a State and Federal Prosecutor. From 2001-2006, he worked for the U.S. Department of Justice as an Assistant United States Attorney in Las Vegas, Nevada and was selected as the Chief Terrorism Prosecutor. LaHood has also served as an Assistant State's Attorney in Cook County and Tazewell County. From 2006 up until his election to the House of Representatives, he practiced with the Peoria law firm of Miller, Hall & Triggs.

LaHood currently serves on the powerful House Ways and Means Committee after being selected by his colleagues in January of 2018. The Ways and Means Committee is the House's oldest committee and has jurisdiction over all taxation and other revenue-raising measures, trade and tariffs, healthcare, and Social Security. LaHood serves as the Chairman of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Work and Welfare and is a member of the Subcommittee on Trade.

In March of 2021, LaHood was appointed to serve on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. The committee oversees the nation's intelligence agencies including components of the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security, Justice, State, Treasury and Energy.

In January of 2022, LaHood was appointed to serve on the House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party. The Committee will examine the threats posed by the Chinese Communist Party, including economically and militarily, and work to strengthen American competitiveness.

During his time in Congress, LaHood has a strong conservative record of leadership for his constituents in Illinois, promoting economic development, fiscal responsibility, protecting American jobs, and support for our nation's law enforcement community and America's national security interests. LaHood has been an outspoken advocate for creating a better business climate, reducing our federal deficit, advocating for better international market access for Illinois farmers, lowering taxes for working families, and supporting the needs of rural healthcare providers and patient access. He believes strengthening America's national security is essential to combat foreign threats from China, Russia, and Iran and making America more competitive globally.

LaHood also serves on the House Democracy Partnership and currently co-chairs the bipartisan US-China Working Group, Digital Trade Caucus, U.S.-Lebanon Friendship Caucus, and Congressional Soccer Caucus.

LaHood, a third-generation Peorian, graduated from Spalding High School. He earned a B.A. from Loras College and holds a J.D. from the University of Illinois-Chicago John Marshall Law School. An enthusiastic athlete, he has completed five marathons and enjoys hiking, biking, and backpacking. Congressman LaHood and his wife Kristen currently reside in Peoria and are the proud parents of three sons, McKay, Lucas, and Teddy.

# JOSH KALLMER



## **Chief Global Affairs Officer, Zoom Communications, Inc.**

Josh Kallmer is Chief Global Affairs Officer for Zoom Communications, Inc. (Zoom). In this capacity, he oversees the development and execution of Zoom's global public policy and government relations strategy and serves as the company's chief representative before governments around the world.

From 2015 to 2020, Josh was Executive Vice President of Policy for the Information Technology Industry Council (ITI), a business association of more than 70 of the world's most innovative companies. Before joining ITI, Josh was counsel in the International Trade and International Dispute Resolution teams at Crowell & Moring LLP, where he advised multinational companies on navigating regulatory and market access challenges, protecting their rights in foreign markets, and managing the policy and geopolitical risks of operating globally. From 2007 to 2012, Josh served as Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Investment, where he was responsible for developing and implementing U.S. international investment policy. From 1999 to 2004, Josh was an associate in the Washington, D.C. office of Hogan & Hartson LLP, where he practiced in the areas of international litigation and arbitration and international trade.

Josh is a life member of the Council on Foreign Relations and speaks and writes frequently on global economic and technology policy issues. He graduated with honors from Stanford University and received his law degree, cum laude, from Georgetown University.





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# SAVE THE DATE

## WTO MATTERS: THE WTO IN TODAY'S GLOBAL ECONOMY AND A PATH FORWARD TUESDAY DECEMBER 16, 2025 10:00 AM ET VIA ZOOM

As WTO Members prepare for the 14th Ministerial Conference (MC14) in Cameroon this March, WITA International is launching a new global webinar series: 'WTO Matters'. The series will explore the core functions of the WTO, reforms needed to keep the institution effective and relevant, and the key policy issues shaping debates.

The series will kick off on December 16 with a high-level discussion on the state of the multilateral trading system, the role of the WTO in today's global economy, and key issues Members are considering as they look toward the future of the global trading system.

### Featured Speakers:

- **Angela Ellard**, former Deputy Director General of the World Trade Organization
- **Ignacio Garcia Bercero**, Non-resident fellow, Bruegel; former Director, Directorate for Trade at the European Commission
- **Jennifer Hillman**, Co-Director, Institute of International Economic Law, Georgetown University Law Center; former Member, WTO Appellate Body; former Chair, U.S. International Trade Commission
- **Jonathan Fried**, Senior Advisor (non-resident), Albright Stonebridge Group; Chair, Canadian National Committee of the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council; Former Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Canada to the WTO

To register click here  
[wita.org/wtomatters](https://wita.org/wtomatters)

# SAVE THE DATE

## CONGRESSIONAL TRADE AGENDA

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6 2026**

**9:30 AM – 11:00 AM ET**

**Via Zoom and In-Person**

Congressional Trade Leaders share their perspectives at WITA's annual overview of the Hill's Trade Agenda.

This event is OFF-THE-RECORD and will be in-person at the Pavilion Room of the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center. A networking coffee reception will precede the event. Doors will open at 9 AM for a networking breakfast.

### Featured Speakers:

- **Virginia Lenahan**, Chief Counsel, International Trade, U.S. Senate Committee on Finance, Democratic Staff
- **Molly Newell**, Chief Counsel, International Trade, U.S. Senate Committee on Finance, Republican Staff
- **Josh Snead**, Republican Chief Trade Counsel, Trade Subcommittee, House Ways and Means Committee
- **Alexandra Whittaker**, Democratic Chief Trade Counsel, Staff Director, Trade Subcommittee, House Ways and Means Committee

**[wita.org/events/2026-congressional-trade-agenda/](https://wita.org/events/2026-congressional-trade-agenda/)**





# SAVE THE DATE

## WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL TRADE CONFERENCE

**Monday, February 23 and Tuesday 24, 2026**  
**Via Zoom and In-Person**



The Washington International Trade Conference brings together leaders in international trade from across the U.S. and around the world to explore the trade landscape and look toward the future of trade.

**To sponsor the 2026 Conference ,  
email Diego Anez at [danez@wita.org](mailto:danez@wita.org)**

**For more Information click here or go to**  
**[wita.org/2026-witc/](https://wita.org/2026-witc/)**

# SAVE THE DATE

## 2026 WITA ANNUAL DINNER

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2026

The WITA Annual Dinner (a/k/a *The Trade Prom!*), is held each summer, and is WITA's signature event. The Dinner attracts hundreds of top decision makers, policy shapers, and trade experts from D.C. and around the world.

Organized and hosted by WITA's sister organization, the 501(c)(3) Washington International Trade Foundation (WITF), the Annual Dinner is the biggest trade event of the year in Washington, DC. The event is a fundraiser to support WITA and WITF's trade education activities throughout the year.

### Table Sponsorship Levels:

- **Diamond** - Investment: \$20,000
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- **Gold** - Investment: \$12,500
- **Gold Half Table** - Investment: \$7,500
- **Silver** - Investment: \$10,000
- **Silver Half Table** - Investment: \$6,500

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**To reserve a table, email Diego at  
[danez@wita.org](mailto:danez@wita.org)**

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