

B202 – Designed, Wheeled, Delivered II: Scaling Up Automated Delivery Vehicles & Devices



Joshua Cregger

U.S. DOT Volpe Center

Mr. Cregger is a technology policy analyst in the Technology Innovation and Policy Division at the U.S. DOT Volpe Center, where he supports multiple operating administrations with a variety of work related to automated vehicles. Recent research topics have included producing a state of the industry scan on automated delivery vehicles and devices, assessing the market for automated transit buses and shuttles, and monitoring of industry test activity announcements. Prior to joining Volpe five years ago, he worked for the Center for Automotive Research (CAR) in Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he co-authored numerous studies on a range of topics related to the automotive industry. He holds a Master's degree in policy and planning from the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources and Environment and a Bachelor's degree in economics and political science from the University of Michigan.



Mélanie D'achon

Waymo

Mélanie D'achon is a Strategic Partnerships Manager at Waymo, an autonomous driving technology company with a mission to make it safe and easy for people and things to get where they're going. In her role, Mélanie oversees strategic partnerships for Waymo's emerging business lines with a primary focus on delivery for Waymo Via. Prior to Waymo, Mélanie was part of the Strategic Relationships and Deals team for Google's Consumer Hardware business lines working on Google's Pixel phone. Before that, she was a Business Development Manager for Google's Ads business unit focusing on the EMEA market. Mélanie holds a Masters in Management from London School of Economics and a Bachelor's in Economics and Political Science from McGill University



Kevin Dopart

U.S. DOT

Kevin is the USDOT's Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Joint Program Office's Program Manager for Vehicle Safety and Automation. His research program aims to enable safe, efficient, and equitable integration of automated vehicles into the transportation system. Previously, Kevin worked for Noblis, Inc. and the (now defunct) Congressional Office of Technology Assessment, and began his career flying P-3 Orion aircraft worldwide for a U.S. Navy oceanographic research squadron.



Amy Kessler

North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission

Amy Kessler, holding a Bachelor Degree from the University of Pittsburgh, is the Director of Community Development and Regional Planning for the North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission, a 6-county Local Development District serving Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean and Potter counties - and which serves as one of PennDOT's Rural Planning Organizations (RPOs). For the past 20 plus years, she has been responsible for regional transportation planning, project and program development, community outreach, environmental justice, and intermodal and transportation research. She serves on numerous state and national committees and most recently was selected to the Washington, DC based National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) Board of Directors.



Suman Kharbanda

FedEx

Suman Kharbanda is Director, Advanced Technology & Innovation at FedEx Corporation, a \$79B global transportation service provider. As a leader of the FedEx Corporation, Ms. Kharbanda is responsible for accelerating operational efficiencies and customer experience through advance technology innovations including business applications in the autonomous vehicle and robotics space. Ms. Kharbanda is an experienced leader with more than 20 years of experience in emerging technology R&D, Quality, customer experience measurement, strategic planning and analysis, Marketing and Sales functions. Her recent notable accomplishment is leading the development of Roxo, the FedEx SameDay Bot, the latest company innovation in autonomous delivery space. Suman also oversees key robotics and autonomous vehicle initiatives at the enterprise level, evaluating emerging technologies on a regular basis to inform R&D investments to improve operational efficiency, safety, and customer experience. Additionally, she was instrumental in strategic planning and execution of integration of Sales & Marketing functions of acquired companies at FedEx. Prior to joining FedEx, Suman worked as an Economist at the NY State Division of the Budget where she developed models and analyses for forecasting NY state revenue. Suman has also taught business courses at University of Louisville, Vanderbilt University, and Austin Peay State University. Suman holds M.S. in business from University of Delhi and Ph.D. in economics from Vanderbilt University. She is a board member and FedEx representative in TennSMART, a consortium of automotive and trucking industries, municipalities, and research institutions to accelerate the development and deployment of new intelligent mobility innovations in Tennessee.



Daniel Laury

Udelv, Inc.

Daniel Laury is the co-founder and CEO of Udelv, a company pioneering autonomous delivery. In January 2018, with his team of engineers, he spearheaded the world's first public road autonomous delivery in California. From 2019 to date, after releasing its second generation vehicle, Udelv successfully completed more than 30,000 automated deliveries on behalf of a variety of retailers in California, Arizona and Texas. Prior to Udelv, Daniel founded and ran several companies, including Geary LSF, the 4th largest US independent digital marketing agency according to Advertising Age in 2013, with \$120M in media under management and 240 people worldwide. Prior to Geary LSF, he founded Luckysurf.com, the world's first free online lottery, and 17th most visited site in the world by December 2000, raised \$40M in funding and successfully sold it in 2008. He started his career at the prestigious investment bank, Brown

Brothers Harriman in New York and Paris. Laury is also an investor in high tech through his VC fund, The Explorer Group and Chairman of Halt Homelessness, a nonprofit organization he created to combat homelessness in San Francisco. He holds an MBA from top French business school ESSEC and was Co-Chair of SEMPO San Francisco. He is a patron of the San Francisco Opera and the Symphony.



Cosimo Leipold

Nuro

Cosimo Leipold is head of partner relations at Nuro and is responsible for new business development and ongoing partner management. Cosimo has managed Nuro's business strategy and partnerships discussions to bring the first zero-occupant, on-road vehicle for local deliveries to market. His leadership has resulted in partnerships with Domino's, CVS, and other iconic consumer brands.



Tracy Lennertz

U.S. DOT - Volpe Center

Dr. Tracy Lennertz is the Co-Chief of the DOT Volpe Center's Transportation Human Factors Division, within the Safety Management and Human Factors Technical Center. Tracy has over ten years of experience as an Engineering Psychologist leading and conducting applied human factors research in transportation, including a multi-year portfolio examining the complexities of pilot-controller communications. She has over 40 publications, spanning topics in human factors and research in experimental psychology. Tracy received her PhD in Psychology from Northeastern University and her undergraduate degree from the University of Toronto.



Touraj Parang

Serve Robotics

Seasoned executive, investor, entrepreneur and former corporate attorney with over 20 years of experience in Silicon Valley. Touraj is currently the Chief Operating Officer at Serve Robotics, an innovative robotic delivery startup in Silicon Valley and an Operating Partner at Pear VC, a top-tier early-stage venture capital firm, where he provides strategic guidance and operational advice to passionate world-class entrepreneurial teams. Previously he served as VP of Corporate & Business Development at GoDaddy, where he led M&A and partnerships for several business units. He has founded and sold several startups and has actively participated in evaluation, negotiation and execution of hundreds of M&A, strategic partnership and venture financing transactions valued over \$5 billion. He earned his JD from the Yale Law School and his AB in Philosophy and Economics from Stanford University.



Prashanthi Raman

Cruise

As an established attorney and public policy executive, Prashanthi Raman has 15 years of experience navigating challenging, highly charged, and complex political environments. Honing her skills in both the public and private sector, Prashanthi has earned the reputation of building trust quickly and utilizing her political astuteness to shape policies and legislative affairs for multiple organizations.

Prashanthi currently serves as the head of global government affairs for Cruise, an all-electric autonomous vehicle company, where she oversees global public policies and regulatory issues. Previously, Prashanthi was the head of state and local government relations at Lyft. For over five years, she was a critical voice in negotiation and in creating, expanding and removing operational barriers to the ridesharing industry across North America. Prashanthi started her career as a healthcare attorney, leading to an appointment as associate chief of staff for healthcare and human services by Illinois Governor Pat Quinn. As reflected by industries like healthcare and transportation, giving back has always been a guiding force in Prashanthi's life. She presently serves on the National Domestic Violence Hotline board, Soledad O'Brien's PowHerful foundation and the Silicon Valley Leadership Group Foundation board. These boards are dedicated to providing opportunities in areas of education and social justice, areas of passion for Prashanthi. Prashanthi earned her undergraduate degree from Northwestern University. She holds a joint Juris Doctorate and Master of Public Health degree from the Chicago-Kent College of Law and the University of Illinois at Chicago.



David Rodriguez

Kiwibot

David Rodriguez is Director of Strategy & Business Operations for Kiwibot, a robotic last-mile delivery startup based out of Los Angeles. David has experience in Philanthropy, Diplomacy, and Finance. David has worked side-by-side with multiple cities to create robot regulations, and large companies to build interesting robotic business models. David participated at UC Berkeley Skydeck Acceleration program as part of Kiwibot after graduating with a Bachelor's degree in Economics from the Universidad de Los Andes, Colombia. David is building a career advancing both SDG's + ESG's from the ground up

and is seeking to build a market for 1 million robots in the U.S. by 2023.



Rich Steiner

Gatik

Rich is a policy professional and people leader with over 10 years' experience in the public and private sectors, focusing on advanced technologies, specializing in government relations, policy development and contract management. Rich leads the policy, regulatory and communications portfolios for Gatik, the industry leader in autonomous Middle Mile delivery. Prior to working in the AV sector, Rich spent 7 years working for Ontario Health, applying emerging technologies in healthcare to meet community needs. Rich also worked on behalf of a number of major energy-from-waste technology companies in the UK, leading community consultations, and holds a Master of Public Policy from King's

College London.



Kristin White

Minnesota Office of Connected and Automated Vehicles

Kristin White is Executive Director of Minnesota's Office of Connected and Automated Vehicles (CAV-X), a public sector tech startup and idea incubator that researches and deploys transformational technology and policy. Kristin is a lawyer, policy strategist and innovator who brings empathy and leadership into the transportation sector, challenging us to harness revolutionary technologies and grow new partnerships to build tomorrow today. The CAV-X program is one of the leading CAV programs in the nation, with its projects, research and partnerships winning the National Cronin Award, WTS Innovative Solutions Award, and AASHTO America's Transportation Award. Kristin has a B.A. from St. Olaf College, law degree from Hamline University School of Law and global arbitration

certification from Queen Mary University of London. She began her career as a Fulbright Fellow with the U.S. State Department and has since represented Fortune 500 companies, cities, and states.

Daniel Yeh

Iowa Department of Transportation

Daniel Yeh is the Director of the Central Programs Bureau in the Iowa DOT Motor Vehicle Division. He has served in management positions in Iowa since late 2019. He has held previous positions with the Maryland DOT Motor Vehicle Administration and the Wisconsin DOT with a combined 30 years at the three agencies. He has been involved in policy, legislation and program development for automated vehicles in all three states and is a current member of the AAMVA Subcommittee on Autonomous Vehicles.