



**International Technology and Engineering  
Educators Association**

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## **NEWS RELEASE For Immediate Release**

### **Purcell to Discuss “Preparing the Next Generation Workforce” at ITEEA Long Beach General Session**

**RESTON, Virginia, January 10, 2012** – The International Technology and Engineering Educators Association (ITEEA) is pleased to announce Christine Purcell as its Long Beach Conference Teacher Excellence General Session keynote speaker. Purcell is currently employed by Salient Federal Solutions, providing process optimization, engineering strategic planning, manufacturing, quality, supply chain and technical workforce development support to the USAF Space and Missiles Systems Center at LAAFB in El Segundo, CA. She has over 30 years of experience implementing and supporting technology, people, and process systems in highly technical industries, including aerospace, communications, and electronics.

Her corporate clients include Boeing, Northrop Grumman, Space Systems Loral, Aerojet, and others, with focus on design, engineering analysis, manufacturing, quality, supply base, and logistics. She led Department of Labor technical workforce development, manufacturing, and supply base programs for the California Space Authority. These programs supported the current workforce and exposed young people to engineering and manufacturing-related careers by working closely with Government, Industry, High Schools, Community Colleges, and Universities. Christine has also been an independent contractor to several California school districts and private schools, delivering hands-on integrated science supplemental education based on her industry experience.

Christine will be joined by Tom Fitzgerald, Director, Engineering Directorate, at the Space and Missile Systems Center, LAAFB, El Segundo, CA. He has over 40 years of operational, engineering, and program management experience with the USAF and has been the System Program Director on several large Air Force aircraft and space programs.



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At the ITEEA General Session they will be giving their perspective on the need to promote careers in manufacturing and engineering, and the importance of educators understanding the requirements of employers who are looking to them for the next generation workforce—systems, problem solving, innovation, and technical skills are all critical for success in the 21st century.

ITEEA's 74th Annual Conference will take place in Long Beach, CA, March 15-17. Complete conference information can be accessed at: [www.iteea.org/Conference/conferenceguide.htm](http://www.iteea.org/Conference/conferenceguide.htm).

For more information about ITEEA or its annual conference, go to [www.iteea.org](http://www.iteea.org) or email [iteea@iteea.org](mailto:iteea@iteea.org).