

A ***Lunch and Learn*** opportunity for Congressional Representatives and Staff discussing modeling and simulation technologies was held on Capitol Hill on Thursday, June 27, 2019. Modeling and simulation (M&S) affect each of us in most everything we do in our daily lives – from using “apps” on our phones, to watching the nightly news, to designing the next aircraft carrier. While it touches each of our lives in many ways each day, it is often difficult to capture the breadth of this industry, and the impact that growth in this industry has on Congressional Districts nationwide. The session held described the breadth of the modeling and simulation industry, and the ways in which modeling and simulation is applied in defense, healthcare, workforce development and education.

Hosted by NTSA, the event included remarks by two of the Co-Chairs of the M&S Congressional Caucus, Representative Bobby Scott (D-VA) and Representative Stephanie Murphy (D-FL). It was attended by over 50 Congressional Staff representing 41 districts and a number of Committees. Congressman Scott and Congresswoman Murphy provided remarks on the importance of modeling and simulation. A panel of experts across disciplines, hosted by RADM (Ret) Jim Robb, President of NTSA, discussed the application of M&S and its importance in healthcare, the department of Defense, education, and research. Speakers included:

- Dr. John Giannini/Ms. Diane Walker, Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Mr. George Cheros, National Center for Simulation
- Mr. Jesse Citizen, Defense Modeling and Simulation Coordination Office
- Dr. Eric Weisel, Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center
- Mr. Michael Madden, NASA Langley Research Center

Questions and open discussion followed, and attendees delved deeper into the application of these technologies. The session served as a great opportunity for staff to learn and take back to their offices and Committees an understanding of what might be happening in Congressional districts today. NTSA’s objective is that Congressional Representatives better understand the role and benefits of M&S and the way in which M&S can support solutions to our Nation’s greatest problems.