



The University of Texas at San Antonio™

**DATE:**  
**Friday,**  
**September 25, 2020**

**TIME:**  
**2:00-3:00pm CST**

**LOCATION:**  
**via Zoom (Click**  
**HERE to Join)**



# RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES

## NASA MIRO CAMEE

CENTER FOR ADVANCED MEASUREMENTS IN EXTREME ENVIRONMENTS



CAMEE

**PRESENTS:**

**Dr. Ahsan Choudhuri**, Associate Vice President for Strategic Initiatives, Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and Director of NASA MIRO Center for Space Exploration & Technology Research at the University of Texas at El Paso. Dr. Choudhuri is also a member of the CAMEE External Advisory Committee.

**Title:** *Connecting Research Preeminence with Student Success: Building an Aerospace Research and Education Program from Scratch*

**Abstract:**

The U.S. aerospace workforce must reflect the 21<sup>st</sup> Century demographics to sustain America's new era of space exploration, global competitiveness, and technical superiority of the aerospace and defense (A&D) industry. Aerospace problems have become increasingly complex, and solutions to these problems need innovation driven by diversity. U.S. A&D workforce has an acute and stubborn issue of diversity and must attract, develop, and retain a diverse workforce to ensure the continued success of the aerospace and defense industry. UTEP Aerospace Center/Center for Space Exploration and Technology Research (cSETR) started in 2009 with a \$5 million investment from NASA. Within a decade, it became one of the most prolific aerospace research and education programs in the nation. cSETR serves a crucial role in meeting the demand for Hispanic engineers in aerospace and defense industries and NASA Centers where they are currently critically underrepresented. cSETR has already proven to be essential to the production of Hispanic Engineers with a focus on aerospace careers. The primary underpinning of UTEP Aerospace Center's aspiration is to allow students, especially those from El Paso Zip codes, to have unprecedented aerospace career opportunities and upward social mobility. A significant differentiating aspect of cSETR in comparison to other national aerospace research programs is its continued focus on student success. It exists for students. In the last decade, cSETR has trained and placed more than 400 engineering graduates in NASA and aerospace defense industries.

The Aerospace Center/cSETR is a NASA funded center of excellence in aerospace, defense, and exploration. cSETR supports NASA's Artemis program and Moon to Mars vision by focusing on strategic capabilities in propulsion and robotic lander, lunar surface exploration, and small spacecraft technologies. Aerospace Center's Aeronautics and Defense Division supports the research and development of unmanned aerial systems, missile systems, and hypersonic technologies. Energy Engineering Division provides capabilities in sub-pilot scale to commercial scale fossil and nuclear energy technology development; prototype to commercial product demonstration as well as test and evaluation.

**More details on NASA MIRO cSETR:** <https://volt.utep.edu/csetr/>

**Phone:**

**(210) 458-4924**

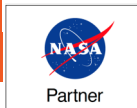
**Fax:**

**(210) 458-4469**

**Email:** [camee@utsa.edu](mailto:camee@utsa.edu)

**Website:**

[www.utsa.edu/NASA-CAMEE/](http://www.utsa.edu/NASA-CAMEE/)



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