Ruth G. Hidalgo-Hernandez is a Technical Leader and Project Lead at the Department of Defense, where she manages multi-agency initiatives in advanced microelectronics development, qualification, and reliability. With over 15 years of experience in national security, materials science, and hardware engineering, she brings a diverse background that includes prior roles as a Research Mechanical Engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and as a Patent Examiner at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Mrs. Hidalgo-Hernandez holds a B.S. and M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez, and is a committed mentor dedicated to developing the next generation of STEM professionals and fostering technical excellence across the defense community.