

Faculty Invited to Listen to Virgin Galactic Space Engineer and Celebrity

Oct. 8, 2021 – Sirisha Bandla, who recently flew on Virgin Galactic’s Unity 22 space mission, will present a zoom talk for UCF faculty today at noon.

She is the latest guests to be part of the College of Engineering and Computer Science’s Faculty Research Talks Virtual Series.

Bandla is the vice president of government affairs and research operations at Virgin Galactic, through their work with the [Federal Aviation Administration’s \(FAA\) Center of Excellence for Commercial Space Transportation](#). UCF is a member of the center. The seminar organizing team led by Engineering Associate Professor Subith Vasu Sumathi and Michael Georgiopoulos, the dean of CECS, invited her to speak.

Bandla, who has been with Virgin Galactic since 2015, will discuss Microgravity Opportunities Through Virgin Galactic’s Suborbital Capabilities at noon Friday, Oct. 8.

The College of Engineering and Computer Science has been hosting the “Faculty Research Talks Virtual Series since shortly after the pandemic started in 2020. One of the primary purposes of the one-hour sessions is to expand collaborations amongst CECS faculty, faculty from other Colleges, other units at UCF, and with industry, government, and alumni. [The sessions are recorded and available to the UCF community](#). More than 225 speakers have presented as part of the seminar.

Friday’s second speaker is Paul Gazzillo, an assistant professor of computer science, who is a recipient of the prestigious NSF CAREER and DARPA YFA awards. [He will be speaking about research he is conducting under a new grant: Tracking Corporate Relationships at Scale with Automated Reasoning](#).

To get the Zoom link, contact Jennifer Sutton: Jennifer.Sutton@ucf.edu