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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

31st Annual Emerging Issues Forum Announces Keynote Speakers

One week remaining to register for Feb. 8-9 FutureWork Forum

RALEIGH, January 25, 2016—**The Institute for Emerging Issues (IEI)** at NC State University announces keynote speakers for the 2016 Emerging Issues Forum, scheduled for February 8-9, 2016, at the Raleigh Convention Center in Raleigh, North Carolina. The 31st Annual Emerging Issues Forum, “Future**Work**,” will focus on helping North Carolina companies and communities prepare for increasing job automation, and for a more diverse and technologically-advanced workforce.

“North Carolina State University remains dedicated to real and meaningful engagement with its public and private partners across the state,” said NCSU Chancellor Randy Woodson. “The annual Emerging Issues Forum is an excellent opportunity for leaders to make those critical connections necessary for results-driven collaboration.”

This year, Day 1 of the Forum will be broadcast live on the **North Carolina Channel**, a new service of UNC-TV focusing on civic affairs and other non-fiction content relevant to the state.

Starting February 1, 2016, the North Carolina Channel can be viewed over-the-air on the following channels:

Asheville 33.4/ 25.4	Linville 17.4	Triangle 4.4/ 25.4
Lumberton 31.4	Concord/Charlotte 58.4/ 44.4	Roanoke Rapids 36.4
Edenton/Columbia 2.4/ 20.4	Wilmington 39.4/ 29.4	Greenville 25.4/ 23.4
Winston-Salem 26.4/ 32.4	Jacksonville 19.4	Canton/Waynesville 27.4

The North Carolina Channel can also be seen on Time Warner Cable channel 1276 and on other select cable systems throughout the state.

IEI will host local and national industry experts who will speak on the imminent convergence of job automation and rapidly changing demographics in North Carolina. Featured speakers include:

- **Governor Pat McCrory**, *Governor of North Carolina*
- **Martin Ford**, Silicon Valley Entrepreneur and *New York Times* Bestselling Author of *Rise of the Robots*
- **Vivek Wadhwa**, Nationally Syndicated Columnist

John F.A.V. Cecil, *Chair* | Anita Brown-Graham, *Director*

- **Dambisa Moyo**, International Economist and Futurist, and named by *Time Magazine* as one of 100 Most Influential People in the World
- **Jaylen Bledsoe**, Youth Entrepreneur and National Tech Prodigy

“We’re particularly excited that for the first time in history, the Forum will be live televised,” said IEI Director Anita Brown-Graham. “For the past few years, we have engaged many more people through livestream than the 1,200 in the Convention Center. This year, we will expand the remote audience by many more thousands.”

Day 1 of the Forum will be held at the Raleigh Convention Center, and will explore how North Carolina can prepare today to create enough good jobs for tomorrow. **Day 2** will relocate to Hunt Library on NC State University’s Centennial Campus, and will feature simultaneous industry sector hackathon sessions designed to help identify, address and define next steps towards resolving the “Future**Work**” challenge within North Carolina.

Day 2 Forum Sessions will feature topics in five key sector areas: **Banking & Finance, Education, Energy, Healthcare, and Government/Smart Communities.**

As with every Forum, attendees collaborate to identify critical action items that can be implemented to enhance North Carolina’s economic competitiveness and prosperity. Following each Forum, IEI works across North Carolina to assist leaders at all levels as they implement Forum priorities in their industries, businesses and communities.

There is one week left to register for the 2016 Future**Work** Forum. Limited tickets remain for Day 1 of the Forum. The Day 2 Hackathons have sold out. Visit emergingissues.org/futurework for more information and to register.

About the Emerging Issues Forum and the Institute for Emerging Issues:

Every February since 1986, the Emerging Issues Forum has attracted leaders in business, education and public policy to discuss an issue with profound implications for North Carolina’s future prosperity. For more than three decades, the Forum has helped catalyze the policy reforms, public investments and other proactive responses required to build an enduring capacity for progress in North Carolina.

In 2002, the UNC Board of Governors established the Institute for Emerging Issues (IEI) to lead and expand this important work. IEI is a non-partisan public policy organization that exists to enhance North Carolina’s economic competitiveness. Today, the Forum stands as the signature element in IEI’s diverse program of year-round civic engagement work across the state. Please visit emergingissues.org for more information.