

**Marla E. Pérez-Davis, Ph.D.**

Dr. Marla E. Pérez-Davis serves as Director, Center for Advanced Air Mobility at the College of Aeronautics and Engineering, Kent State University in Ohio. The center is a multidisciplinary community of researchers and practitioners addressing one of the most emergent, disruptive technologies in both aeronautics and engineering: the incorporation of small, autonomous aircraft into the national airspace and the global economy.

Previously, she served as the director of NASA John H. Glenn Research Center in Cleveland. In this position, she was responsible for planning, organizing, and directing the activities required in accomplishing the aeronautics and space missions assigned to the center. Some key milestones completed at Glenn during her tenure include the construction of the new Research Support Building, testing on the Orion spacecraft for the Artemis I Moon mission, demonstrated technologies critical to a new generation of small core engines to improve fuel efficiency and enable hybrid electric aviation, and testing for the X-59 QueSST quiet supersonic aircraft.

She serves in several national and state Board and Advisory Councils, such as, member of the National Space Council's Users Advisory Group, member of the Advisory Committee for the STEMM Opportunity Alliance American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a member of the Girls Scouts of Northeast Ohio Board of Directors.

Pérez-Davis is the recipient of numerous NASA awards including the prestigious Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Executives and the NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal; a recipient of the Women in Aerospace (WIA)'s 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award, the Great Minds in STEM 2021 HENAAC Engineer of the Year Award and many others.