



**Webinar, Wednesday August 19th, 7:00 PM ET**

**Margaret Mullins**

***The Myths of the Last Supper: The Lessons of History and the Future of Defense Procurement***



The boardroom scene above reimagines Leonardo da Vinci's *The Last Supper* as the notorious 1993 Pentagon dinner that came to symbolize the reshaping of the defense landscape. Facing a post-Cold War "peace dividend" and a plummeting defense budget, Secretary of Defense Les Aspin and Deputy Secretary William Perry sat down with the nation's top aerospace executives to deliver a grim message: consolidate or go under. Norm Augustine, then-CEO of Martin Marietta, famously dubbed the meeting "The Last Supper," signaling that many of the firms at the table would not survive the decade.

Please join the AIAA Niagara Frontier Section this month when our guest Margaret Mullins will challenge the conventional wisdom surrounding this historic event. Bringing a unique blend of civilian and military expertise, Mullins is the Director of Public Options and Governance at the Vanderbilt Policy Accelerator. She previously served as a senior advisor to the Deputy Secretary of Defense, senior advisor for national security to the Chair of the U.S. Export-Import Bank, and as a U.S. Army intelligence officer and U.S. Senate staffer. Drawing from her recent research, she will explore how broader economic forces, decades of privatization, and a hollowed-out government acquisition workforce – rather than just consolidation after The Last Supper – created the defense procurement challenges we face today, and what it means for the future of national security.

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Pre-registration is required. Go to upcoming events at [nf-aiaa.org](https://nf-aiaa.org) to register and receive your Zoom invite to