Joel Grimm earned a B.S. in Optical Engineering from the University of Rochester, and joined MIT Lincoln Laboratory in 1986. Since then he has been involved in diverse projects from laser radars and airborne systems to large software development efforts. He joined the MIT Beaver Works team in 2019 to increase collaboration between MIT and Lincoln Laboratory by bringing real-world projects for students to develop solutions. MIT Beaver Works not only brings projects to MIT students but also developed AI and engineering courses to middle and high school students that are taught by Lincoln Laboratory staff and MIT faculty.