

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
36<sup>th</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT  
GAEL TARLETON

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Washington  
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Representatives



HIGHER EDUCATION  
RULES  
TECHNOLOGY & ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
TRANSPORTATION

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Dr. Mark Haselkorn  
Professor, Human Centered Design & Engineering  
Director, Collaborative Systems for Safety, Security and Resilience (CoSSaR)  
University of Washington  
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Dear Professor Haselkorn,

Congratulations to you, your colleagues and partners on the official launch of the Center for Collaborative Systems for Safety, Security, and Regional Resilience (CoSSaR)! It is especially rewarding to celebrate this new chapter for the University of Washington's Department of Human-Centered Design and Engineering (HCDE) at the College of Engineering. In the truest traditions of a research university where teaching, research and public service are integral to the educational experiences for all students, the University of Washington is the place where CoSSaR belongs.

I am honored to serve on CoSSaR's Board of Advisors and support its strategic initiatives, such as the proposal to establish the Center of Excellence in Infrastructure Resilience for the Department of Homeland Security. It was ten years ago that you and I first started discussing regional security and resilience. During the past decade, you and your colleagues have helped define and advance new fields of study in resilience, regional security, and collaborative information-sharing environments at sea and across borders. It is appropriate that these paths have led to CoSSaR, which will explore what safety, security, and resilience look like in the decade ahead.

My own career parallels the revolutions in information technology, systems integration, and disruptive change that have been the foundation for CoSSaR's work. As a U.S. intelligence research analyst in the 1980s, my job was to understand how to degrade Soviet strategic command, control and communications networks while protecting critical U.S. infrastructure in the event of a war between the superpowers. Throughout the 1990s, I led Russian, East European and American scientists and engineers in interdisciplinary programs to support U.S.-Russian cooperative threat reduction and Freedom Support Act objectives.

The terrorist attacks on the United States on 9/11/2001 jolted the U.S. national security community, requiring new methods for collaborating across intelligence, defense, and law enforcement agencies. Port security was one of my highest priorities as an elected Port Commissioner at the Port of Seattle from 2008 through 2012. The U.S. Coast Guard's Puget Sound Sector command and U.S. Navy Northwest command were and are critical Port partners. Washington State is the most trade-dependent state in the nation, with nearly 40 percent of the state's annual economic activity related to international trade and commerce.

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The Port of Seattle is the largest port in the Pacific Northwest. A catastrophic event, whether natural or man-made, would close down the Port of Seattle and Seattle's working waterfront and cause chaos in the dozens of communities bordering the Port of Seattle, including the many I now represent as a Washington State legislator. Hundreds of thousands of jobs would be in jeopardy. The nation's largest public ferry system carrying 12 million people a year would lose its terminals and repair facilities. The North Pacific fishing fleet would be at risk, along with the 40 percent of the nation's seafood catch provided by this fleet.

I look forward to working with your team as we advance the work of the legislative task force addressing the economic resilience of maritime and manufacturing industries, which I co-chair. Also, as the founder of the economic and community resilience legislative caucus, I know that CoSSaR's work will help inform our efforts to build resilience into critical infrastructure serving Washington State, the Pacific Northwest, and the national economy. CoSSaR's many partners around the state and nation, including the U.S. Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, will bring essential expertise to help us address and mitigate risks to energy, communications, transportation, and water infrastructures.

As Vice Chair of the Washington State House Technology and Economic Development committee and a member of the Higher Education and Transportation committees, I know how critical it is that we pursue interdisciplinary strategies to solve complex problems facing our communities and economy. CoSSaR will build on the traditions of collaborative research that have done so much good for our people and our nation. Best wishes to the whole team.

Representative Gael Tarleton  
36<sup>th</sup> Legislative District