

## Homaifar Named N.C. A&T's Langley Professor

**Greensboro, NC – February, 2019** – Dr. Abdollah Homaifar, professor in N.C. A&T's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, is the newly appointed Samuel P. Langley Distinguished NASA Langley Chair Professor at the National Institute of Aerospace.



The Langley Professorship, funded by NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia, is dedicated to an N.C. A&T faculty member who works at the institute and leads university-based research and technology thrusts of substantial interest to NASA. Under this prestigious award, Homaifar will continue to focus his attention and research on the development of tools for Autonomous Unmanned Systems, bringing together top researchers to address grand challenges and investigate problems of significant national interest.

The Samuel P. Langley professorships were conceived and implemented by NIA's member universities to serve as the foundation for its unique academic research program that directly supports NASA Langley Research Center. Today there are Langley professorships at NIA representing The Georgia Institute of Technology, North Carolina State University, the University of Maryland, the Virginia Institute of Technology and the University of Virginia in addition to N.C. A&T.

In addition to his Langley Professorship, Dr. Homaifar is the Duke Energy Eminent Professor and Director of the Autonomous Control and Information Technology (ACIT) Institute, which was established by him in 2015. He is also the Director of the Testing, Evaluation, and Control of Heterogeneous Large-scale Systems of Autonomous Vehicles (TECHLAV) Center at N.C. A&T.

Dr. Homaifar's career spans over three decades, during which time he has built a symbiotic support structure to train future engineers and leaders in the field. To date, Dr. Homaifar has graduated more than 26 PhD and 90 MS students and supported over 300 graduate students and 1000 undergraduate students, many of whom were the students of collaborators from various departments and colleges within the university. He has developed and taught 11 graduate and undergraduate courses, and was one of the main contributors to the creation of N.C. A&T's PhD program in electrical and computer engineering.