Artificial Intelligence in Alabama Higher Education
The University of Alabama in Huntsville
Student Services Building (SSB)
301 Sparkman Drive, Huntsville, AL 35899

FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2024

Time in CST	Session Description	Room
8:00 am to 9:00 am	**Breakfast and Pre-Conference Session** Artificial Intelligence: A Leader's Glossary (Mainstay)	112
9:00 am to 9:20 am	**Welcome and Opening Session** Dr. Tonjanita Johnson Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic & Student Affairs, University of Alabama System Dr. Jim Purcell Executive Director, Alabama Commission on Higher Education	112
9:20 am to 10:35 am	**Keynote: Generative AI – A Force for Positive Disruption** With Introduction by Dr. Asim Ali, Biggio Center, Auburn University Dr. Ravi Pendse VP for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer, University of Michigan Dr. Pendse has extensive experience as a successful and collaborative university leader, serving in executive roles at the University of Michigan, Brown University, Wichita State University and elsewhere. He has also been a professor, researcher, teacher and advisor to students. His successes include securing more than $21 million in external research grants, developing innovative university courses, earning teaching awards, and publishing numerous scholarly articles and papers co-authored by students. In addition, he was invited to testify before the 114th Congress (2015-2017) on protecting sensitive data. Dr. Pendse holds a B.S. in electronics and communication engineering from Osmania University in Hyderabad, India. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Wichita State University.	112

Dr. Ravi Pendse

Networking Break

10:45 am to 11:45 am	**Breakout Session 1**	
Option A	Panel Discussion: Integrating AI into Teaching and Learning This session will explore how higher education institutions can leverage AI technologies to enhance teaching and learning experiences. Discussion will include the benefits and challenges of integrating AI-based tools and strategies in the curriculum across different disciplines and types of institutions. Dr. Rhonda Gaede, University of Alabama in Huntsville (Moderator) Dr. Michelle Greene, University of Alabama in Huntsville Dr. Lindsay Doukopoulos, Auburn University Prof. Emily Gill, University of Montevallo Prof. Ed Noriega, Troy University Jennifer Pate, University of North Alabama Dr. Veronica Morin, Alabama Community College System	112

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10:45 am to 11:45 am

Breakout Session 1

Option B

Panel Discussion: Shaping AI-Driven Research and Innovation

SST 207

This session will explore examples of AI-driven research initiatives across multiple disciplines, including defense, engineering, business analytics, computer science, and others. Discussions will touch on ethical considerations and responsible use of AI in research fields, as well as AI's potential to transform research and academic innovation.

Dr. Bob Lindquist, University of Alabama in Huntsville (Moderator)

Dr. Kaveh Heidary, Alabama A&M University

Dr. Shiwen Mao, Auburn University

Dr. Jim Locke, Auburn University at Montgomery

Dr. Jackey Gong, University of Alabama

Dr. Mikel Petty, University of Alabama in Huntsville

Dr. Vineetha Menon, University of Alabama in Huntsville

Option C

How an HBCU is Infusing AI in the Classroom and University Operations: A Panel Discussion

SST 218

Join us for an insightful discussion exploring how a forward-thinking Historically Black College or University (HBCU) is leveraging the power of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to transform its educational and operational landscape. In this panel, you will

- Discover innovative ways AI is being integrated into classrooms, enhancing learning experiences and personalizing education for students.
- Explore how AI is streamlining university operations, from admissions and financial aid to campus safety and resource management.
- Gain insights into the unique challenges and opportunities faced by HBCUs in implementing AI solutions.

Dr. Damian Clarke, Alabama State University (Moderator)

Dr. Rajendran Swamidurai, Alabama State University

Bryn Bakoyéma, Alabama State University

Dr. Kartz Bibb, Alabama State University

Mia Williams, Alabama State University

Aaron Benz, Degree Analytics

Option D

Responsible AI in Action: Cultivating Ethical Reasoning and Privacy Skills

SST 216

This workshop offers targeted training aimed at building and fostering ethical AI cultures. Through interactive case studies, participants will learn to navigate complex ethical scenarios, ensuring their AI initiatives align with ethical norms and principles and address privacy concerns. This workshop emphasizes practical education and the cultivation of ethical decision-making skills essential for those working in AI fields.

Dr. Lawrence Cappello, University of Alabama

Dr. Katherine Chiou, University of Alabama

11:45 am to 12:50 pm

Lunch Buffet

112

Time in CST	Session Description	Room

12:00 pm to 12:50 pm

Lunch Presentation: A Human-Centric Approach to AI – Scaling Personalized and Culturally Relevant Student and Instructor Support

112

Dr. Camesha Whittaker
Senior Vice President of Innovation and Design, Propel Center

Dr. Jeremy Dean
Vice President, Learning Design, Honor Education

In this session, Dr. Whittaker will unveil Propel's groundbreaking initiative to provide cutting-edge, industry-aligned learning to the HBCU community, in partnership with Apple, Disney, Southern Company, and Honor Education. Dr. Whittaker will share how Propel is delivering education focused on harnessing the power of AI to build community, respecting cultural nuances and values, while empowering learners to earn industry-recognized micro-credentials.

Dr. Jeremy Dean will share how Honor Education is responsibly leveraging AI to provide personalized and immediate student and instructor support at scale – right within the learning.

1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Fireside Chat: Industry Perspectives on an AI-Enabled Future

112

In this session, industry leaders will explore how AI is transforming business operations, as well as products and services. Panelists will also provide insights on how higher education can equip students will the skills necessary to succeed in the age of AI.

Miranda Bouldin (Moderator)
Founder and CEO, LogiCore Corporation and Chair, Alabama Commission on Higher Education

Dr. Sixue Zhang
Head of Computer-Aided Drug Discovery, Southern Research

Jasmine Thomas
Senior Director, Innovation + Society, Technology for Fundamental Rights, Microsoft

Gilbert Traverse
Solution Engineering Manager, North America Lead – Global Emerging Tech, Oracle

Drew Magliozzi
CEO and Co-Founder, Mainstay

Josh Jones
CEO, QuantHub

Networking Break

2:15 pm to 3:15 pm

Breakout Session 2

Option A

Roundtable Discussion: AI in Higher Education

112

Corey Edwards, Mainstay (Moderator)

Dr. Asim Ali, Auburn University

Dr. Abigail Carter, Alabama Community College System

Dr. Kartz Bibb, Alabama State University

Dr. Katherine Chiou, University of Alabama

Dr. Jeremy Davis, University of Alabama in Huntsville

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2:15 pm to 3:15 pm

Breakout Session 2

Option B

Roundtable Discussion: AI in Business and Innovation

SST 207

Miranda Bouldin, LogiCore and Commission on Higher Education (Moderator)

Dr. Jay Claiborne, Auburn University at Montgomery

Dr. Kelsey Bickett, QuantHub

Kent Darzi, Vertiv

Dr. Lawrence Cappello, University of Alabama

Option C

Roundtable Discussion: AI in the Defense Industry

SST 216

Dr. Bob Lindquist, University of Alabama in Huntsville (Moderator)

Dr. Venkata Atluri, Alabama A&M University

Daniel Downs, Axient

Chase Golden, Alabama School of Cyber Technology and Engineering

Dr. Douglas Matty, University of Alabama in Huntsville

Dr. Israel Ncube, Alabama A&M University

Dr. Mikel Petty, University of Alabama in Huntsville

Gilbert Traverse, Oracle

Option D

Roundtable Discussion: AI in Healthcare

SST 218

Dr. Rubin Pillay, University of Alabama at Birmingham (Moderator)

Dr. Jerome Baudry, University of Alabama in Huntsville

Dr. Jackey Gong, University of Alabama

Dr. Jonathan White, Huntsville Hospital System

3:20 pm to 3:30 pm

Closing Session

112

Dr. David Puleo
Provost and Executive Vice President, University of Alabama in Huntsville