Proceedings of the 19ᵗʰ Annual Chief Data Officer & Information Quality (CDOIQ) Symposium

July 15-17, 2025

Editor:
Dr. Richard Y. Wang

Welcome to CDOIQ Symposium

The 19th Annual Chief Data Officer & Information Quality (CDOIQ) Symposium

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Dr. Richard Y. Wang
Executive Director
CDOIQ Program

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Prof. Yang Lee
Associate Professor of
Information Management and Analytics
Northeastern University

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The Evolving Role of CDO

TBD

Data Leadership Landscape

TBD

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Dr. Richard Y. Wang
Founder and Executive Director
Chief Data Officer &
Information Quality Program

John Ottman
Executive Chairman
Solix Technologies

PANEL DISCUSSION

Essential AI Use Case: Illuminating Dark Data

Moderator
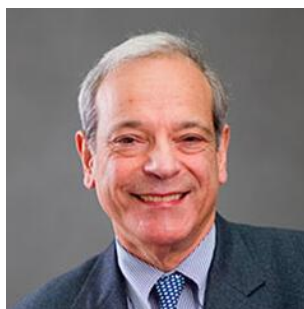
Mel Horwitch
Visiting Scholar/Research Affiliate,
MIT Sloan School of Management

Panelists

Archaana Pattabhii
SVP, Citi

Dr. Deborah Barnes
CDAO and Former Head
of Bank Data Management
and Transformation,
USAA

Sravan Karsala
Head of Enterprise Data
Management (CDO),
Commonwealth Financial

James Massa,
Sr. Executive Director of
Software Engineering and
Architecture,
JPMorganChase

PANEL DISCUSSION

AI-Powered Finance and Agentic Workflows

Moderator

Dr. Joseph Lancaster
VP Product Management, Enterprise AI,
Solix Technologies

Panelists

Valquir Correa
Vice President of
Corporate Finance,
BaHa Mar

Govil Kumar
Director Finance Business
Analytics & Planning,
Honeywell

Vinay Vijay Singh
Former CAIO and CFO,
HUD

Steven Meltzer
Partner, Pillsbury
Winthrop Shaw Pittman
LLP

x

PANEL DISCUSSION

Industry Spotlight - Pharma Fireside Chat: From Data to Cure: Accelerating Biopharma Drug Discovery & Development with AI-driven Insights

Moderator

Dr. Raju Pusapati
VP Life Sciences, Solix Technologies

Panelists

Dr. Jake Jaffe
Former VP, Systems Biology Data Science, Odyssey Therapeutics

Dr. Ryan Abo
Director of Data Science, Entact Bio

Marc Foster
Technologist, Geodesic Bioventures

KEYNOTE

The New Science of Customer Relationships:
Delivering the One-to-One Promise with AI

Tom Davenport
Distinguished Professor at Babson College
and Research Fellow, MIT Initiative on the
Digital Economy

DAY 0: Monday, July 14, 2025

CCDO Certification: TBD

CDOIQ/SolixEmpower Mini Symposium: 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Speakers: Dr. Richard Y. Wang, Founder & Executive Director, CDOIQ Symposium
John Ottman, Executive Chairman, Solix

Moderator: Mel Horwitch, Visiting Scholar/Research Affiliate, MIT Sloan School of Management
Panelists: Archaana Pattabhii, SVP, Citi; Dr. Deborah Barnes, PhD, CDAO and Former Head of Bank
Data Management and Transformation, USAA; Sravan Karsala, Head of Enterprise Data Management
(CDO), Commonwealth Financial Network; James Massa, Senior Executive Director of Software
Engineering and Architecture, JPMorganChase

Moderator: Dr. Joseph Lancaster, VP Product Management, Enterprise AI, Solix
Panelists: Valquir Correa, Vice President of Corporate Finance, BaHa Mar; Govil Kumar, Director
Finance Business Analytics & Planning, Honeywell; Vinay Vijay Singh, Former CAIO and CFO, HUD;
Steven Meltzer, Partner, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

Moderator: Dr. Raju Pusapati, VP Life Sciences, Solix Technologies
Panelists: Dr. Jake Jaffe, Former VP, Systems Biology Data Science, Odyssey Therapeutics; Dr. Ryan
Abo, Director of Data Science, Entact Bio; Marc Foster, Technologist, Geodesic Bioventures

Speaker: Tom Davenport, Distinguished Professor at Babson College and Research Fellow,MIT Initiative
on the Digital Economy

DAY 1: Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Session 1 – Welcome and Opening Remarks: 8:30 am – 9:00 am

Speakers: Dr. Richard Y. Wang, Founder & Executive Director, CDOIQ Symposium
Dr. Stuart Madnick, Professor & Founding Director, Cybersecurity at MIT Sloan (CAMS)
Alba Alemán, CDOIQ Symposium CDOIQ Onsite Operations, CEO & Founder, Citizant
Justin Magruder, CDOIQ Master of Ceremony, Chief Data Officer, SAIC

Sessions 2 – Plenary Keynote: 9:00 am – 10:00 am

Moderator: Dr. Richard Y. Wang, Founder & Executive Director, CDOIQ Symposium
Panelists: Randy Bean, Senior Advisor, Data & AI Leadership Exchange; Tom Davenport, Distinguished Professor, Babson College; Mark Ramsey, Managing Partner, Ramsey International LLC; Tom Redman, President, Data Quality Solutions; John Talburt, Acxiom Chair of Information Quality, UA Little Rock

Sessions 3-A – 3-D: 10:15 am – 11:00 am

Speaker: Mark Birkhead, JPMorgan Chase

Speaker: Prof. Stuart Madnick, MIT CAMS

Speaker: Murali Vridhachalam, Gilead Sciences

Speaker: Moderator: Antony Parchment, New Era Technology
Panelists: Sajid Patel, New Era Tech; Dennis Kettler, WorldPay; Bharadwaj Kannan, Owens Corning; Bill Kemerer, Allegion

Sessions 4-A – 4-D: 11:15 Am – 12:00 pm

Moderator: David Paget-Brown, Modak
Panelists: Kent Supancik, Eli Lilly; J.D. Williams, Zoetis; Gian Prakash, AbbVie;
Santha Ramakrishnan, Bayer

Speaker: Michael Hejtmanek, Neudata; Jessica Li Gebert, Neudata

Speaker: Maureen Butler, GE Aerospace

Sessions 5-A – 5-D: 1:30 pm – 2:15 pm

Sessions 6-A – 6-D: 2:45 pm – 3:30 pm

Sessions 7-A – 7-D: 4:00 pm – 4:45 pm

Sessions 8-A – 8-D: 5:00 pm – 5:45 pm

DAY 2: Wednesday, July 16, 2025

Sessions 10-A – 10-D: 8:30 am – 9:15 am

Sessions 11-A – 11-D: 9:45 am – 10:30 am

Moderator: Ursula Cottone, Huntington Bank
Panelists: Andrew Foster, M&T Bank; Manav Misra, Regions Financial; Reuven Shnaps, AmTrust

Sessions 12-A – 12-D 11:00 am – 11:45 am

Sessions 13-A – 13-D: 1:15 pm – 2:00 pm

Sessions 14-A – 14-D: 2:30 pm – 3:15 pm

Sessions 15-A – 15-D: 3:45 pm – 4:30 pm

Sessions 16-A – 16-D: 5:00 pm – 5:45 pm

DAY 3: Thursday, July 17, 2025

Sessions 18-A – 18-D: 8:30 am – 9:15 am

Sessions 19-A – 19-D: 9:45 am – 10:30 am

Sessions 20-A – 20-D: 11:00 am – 11:45 am

Sessions 21-A – 21-D: 1:15 pm – 2:00 pm

Sessions 22-A – 22-D: 2:30 pm – 3:15 pm

Concluding Plenary Town Hall Session: 3:45 pm – 4:15 pm

End of the 19th Annual CDOIQ Symposium

SESSION 1
WELCOME

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Dr. Richard Y. Wang
Founder and Executive Director
Chief Data Officer &
Information Quality Program

Dr. Stuart E. Madnick
Professor & Founding Director
Cybersecurity at MIT Sloan (CAMS)

Alba Alemán
CDOIQ Onsite Operations
CEO & Founder, Citizant

Justin Magruder
CDOIQ Master of Ceremony
Chief Data Officer, SAIC

Dr. Richard Y. Wang

Founder and Executive Director, Chief Data Officer & Information Quality Program

Richard Y. Wang is Director of the Chief Data Officer and Information Quality (CDOIQ) Program. He is a pioneer and leader in the research and practice of Chief Data Officer (CDO). Dr. Wang has significant credentials across government, industry, and academia. He conceived and chaired the Inaugural MIT-Army CDO Forum, and established the CDO Forum as an annual event at MIT. In addition, he has been chairing the Annual MIT CDOIQ Symposium since 2007. Dr. Wang was a professor at the MIT Sloan School of Management for almost a decade. From 2005-2009, he was appointed as a Visiting University Professor of Information Quality, University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He is an Honorary Professor at Xi'An Jiao Tong University, China.

Dr. Wang has put the term Information Quality on the intellectual map with myriad publications. In 1996, Prof. Wang organized the premier International Conference on Information Quality, which he has served as the general conference chair and currently serves as Chairman of the Board. Dr. Wang's books on information quality include Journey to Data Quality (MIT Press, 2006), Information Quality: Advances in Management Information Systems (M.E. Sharpe, 2005), Introduction to Information Quality (MITIQ Publications, 2005), Data Quality (Kluwer Academic, 2001), and Quality Information and Knowledge (Prentice Hall, 1999).

Prof. Wang has been instrumental in the establishment of the Ph.D. and Master of Science in Information Quality degree program at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, the Stuart Madnick IQ Best Paper Award for the International Conference on Information Quality, the comprehensive IQ Ph.D. dissertations website, and the Donald Ballou & Harry Pazer IQ Ph.D. Dissertation Award.

Dr. Wang is the recipient of the 2005 DAMA International Achievement Award. Previous recipients of this award include Codd for inventing the Relational Data model and Chen for the Entity Relationship model.

In 2005, he received a certificate of appreciation from the Director of Central Intelligence and a thank you letter from the Director of National Intelligence. From 2009-2011, Dr. Wang served as the Deputy CDO and Chief Data Quality Officer of the U.S. Army, for which he received letters of appreciation from the Army's Chief Information Officer, and the CIO at the Office of the Secretary of Defense. He received a Ph.D. in Information Technology from the MIT Sloan School of Management in 1985.

Dr. Stuart E. Madnick

Professor & Founding Director, Cybersecurity at MIT Sloan (CAMS)

Dr. Stuart E. Madnick is the John Norris Maguire (1960) Professor of Information Technology, Emeritus, in the Sloan School of Management and Professor of Engineering Systems in the School of Engineering, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). He has been a faculty member at MIT since 1972 and have served as the head of MIT's Information Technologies Group for more than 25 years. Dr. Madnick holds degrees in Electrical Engineering (B.S. and M.S.), Management (M.S.), and Computer Science (Ph.D.) from MIT. In addition, he has been a visiting professor at about a dozen other universities.

His involvement in cybersecurity research goes back to 1979 when he co-authored the book Computer Security, one of the first books on this subject. In 2014, he founded the research group Cybersecurity at MIT Sloan (CAMS), formerly the Interdisciplinary Consortium for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity.

He has broad expertise in software engineering, data bases, and Internet/Web technologies, as well as their applications to businesses and other large organizations and is reflected in more than 400 papers and other publications.

In addition to his research and development work in academia, he has extensive experience in the development of information systems for industry, such as a key designer and developer of projects including IBM's VM/370, IBM's Script/370, and Lockheed's DIALOG. He also co-founded several high-tech firms and currently owns the 14th-century Langley Castle Hotel in England.

Alba Alemán
CDOIQ Onsite Operations; CEO & Founder, Citizant

Alba M. Alemán is a recognized expert in federal data management solutions, with 35 years in IT modernization, strategy, leadership, and solution development. She is the founder and CEO of Citizant, Inc., and a Certified Enterprise Architect. Alba leads Citizant's Enterprise Data Community of Practice and has decades of experience leading large, complex programs in Enterprise Data Management (EDM), data quality, architecture, and governance, including managing data asset repositories to support data estate modernization, governance, and stewardship. Alba led the development of Citizant's unique Middle Out Approach™, which promotes the delivery of mission-essential capabilities continuously aligned to business priorities and leverages best practices, methodologies, and frameworks from traditional disciplines to maximize business value.

Alba supports Federal agencies with the review and impact analysis of legislation, development of enterprise data strategies and annual plans, implementation of maturity assessments, and design and development of enterprise-wide data literacy programs. She is directly supporting the CDO Staff at a federal financial agency as it builds a data-driven culture by maturing and modernizing its EDM and Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning (AI/ML) programs. She developed customized Data Modeling courseware for the Department of Homeland Security's largest "As-Is" architecture development effort. Her expertise in enterprise data maturity and governance strategies to promote discovery, business intelligence, decision-making, and information sharing have made her a key contributing member of the Chief Data Officer and Information Quality (CDOIQ) community.

Justin Magruder
CDOIQ Master of Ceremony; Chief Data Officer, SAIC

Dr. Magruder is the Chief Data Officer for SAIC, a fortune 500 Information Technology Services company based in Reston, Virginia.

Justin is a pioneer and a thought leader in the field of data governance, master and reference data and data operations, with more than 25 years supporting data operations, leaders and decision makers to improve business performance through better data management. He has led efforts at a number of world class organizations to improve business, financial and operational performance, to reduce costs and manage operational risks, and to improve the quality of customer, account, portfolio, and product data, transaction data processing and analytics.

Justin's experience spans the broad domain of modern enterprise data and information management by enabling next generation information and process management. Data driven disciplines include strategy development, strategy execution, customer and account management, order management, settlement and clearance, performance measurement and attribution, and other types of quantitative and qualitative analytics.

He has delivered sophisticated technical solutions for managing massive volumes of disparate, high speed structured and unstructured data and information.

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Plenary Keynote

Dr. Richard Y. Wang

Founder and Executive Director

Chief Data Officer &
Information Quality Program

Randy Bean

Senior Advisor

Data & AI Leadership Exchange

Tom Davenport

Distinguished Professor

Babson College

Mark Ramsey

Managing Partner

Ramsey International LLC

Tom Redman

President

Data Quality Solutions

Dr. John Talburt

Acxiom Chair of Information
Quality

UA Little Rock

Dr. Richard Y. Wang
Founder and Executive Director, Chief Data Officer & Information Quality Program

Richard Y. Wang is Director of the *Chief Data Officer and Information Quality (CDOIQ) Program*. He is a pioneer and leader in the research and practice of Chief Data Officer (CDO). Dr. Wang has significant credentials across government, industry, and academia. He conceived and chaired the Inaugural MIT-Army CDO Forum, and established the CDO Forum as an annual event at MIT. In addition, he has been chairing the Annual MIT CDOIQ Symposium since 2007. Dr. Wang was a professor at the MIT Sloan School of Management for almost a decade. From 2005-2009, he was appointed as a Visiting University Professor of Information Quality, University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He is an Honorary Professor at Xi'An Jiao Tong University, China.

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Randy Bean
Senior Advisor, Author, and Speaker, Data & AI Leadership Exchange

Randy Bean has been an advisor to Fortune 1000 organizations on data and AI leadership for 3+ decades. He is a Founder, CEO, Author, Speaker, Senior Advisor, Innovation Fellow, and Board Member.

Randy is the bestselling author of "Fail Fast, Learn Faster: Lessons in Data-Driven Leadership in an Age of Disruption, Big Data, and AI", and a regular contributor to Forbes, Harvard Business Review, and MIT Sloan Management Review on Data & AI leadership. He was previously Founder and CEO of NewVantage Partners (NVP), a data and AI leadership advisory firm to Fortune 1000 clients, which he founded in 2001. NVP was acquired by Wavestone, a Paris-based global consultancy, in 2021. Randy has organized and moderated a Chief Data Officer keynote panel for CDOIQ since 2014 and serves on its advisory board.

Tom Davenport
Distinguished Professor, Babson College

Tom Davenport is the President's Distinguished Professor of Information Technology and Management at Babson College, a Visiting Professor at Oxford University's Saïd Business School, a Fellow of the MIT Initiative on the Digital Economy, and a Senior Advisor to Deloitte's AI practice. He pioneered the concept of "competing on analytics" with his best-selling 2006 Harvard Business Review article (and his 2007 book by the same name). In 2022 he will publish three books on AI, including Working with AI (MIT Press) and All In on AI (Harvard Business Review Press). He has published over twenty books and over 300 articles for Harvard Business Review, MIT Sloan Management Review, and many other publications. He writes columns for Forbes, MIT Sloan Management Review, and the Wall Street Journal. He has been named one of the world's "Top 25 Consultants" by Consulting magazine, one of the top 3 business/technology analysts in the world by Optimize magazine, one of the 100 most influential people in the IT industry by Ziff-Davis magazines, and one of the world's top fifty business school professors by Fortune magazine. He's also been a LinkedIn Top Voice for both the education and tech sectors.

Mark Ramsey
Managing Partner, Ramsey International LLC

Dr. Mark Ramsey is a globally recognized authority in modern data platforms, large-scale analytics architecture, and the strategic application of Generative AI. With over 35 years of experience, Mark has designed, delivered, and optimized some of the world's most impactful enterprise data platforms, enabling organizations to accelerate innovation and unlock transformative business value. As Managing Partner of Ramsey International, Mark leads the design and deployment of advanced data and AI solutions for global enterprises seeking to maximize the potential of their data assets. He is renowned for his expertise in architecting and operationalizing modern, hybrid multi-cloud data platforms that support analytics, machine learning, and the latest advances in Generative AI.

Mark's leadership was instrumental in the rapid delivery of AbbVie's award-winning ARCH (AbbVie Research Convergence Hub) platform, a modern, cloud-based data ecosystem developed by Mark and the RI team. This platform broke down silos and doubled R&D productivity by accelerating drug discovery and clinical innovation. Recognized by Bio-IT World for its innovative practices, ARCH exemplifies Mark's ability to deliver production-grade, scalable platforms that drive measurable impact in highly regulated, data-intensive industries. Additionally, Mark and the RI team have worked with more than half of the Top 10 pharmaceutical organizations in the design and delivery of their large-scale modern data platforms, and have also worked with organizations in finance, insurance, telco, retail, healthcare, and government.

Previously, Mark served as the first R&D Chief Data & Analytics Officer at GlaxoSmithKline, where he architected the R&D Information Platform (RDIP) as a cornerstone of GSK's data-driven strategy. As the inaugural Chief Data Officer for Samsung Telecommunications America, he led the development of large-scale analytics solutions to drive business growth. At IBM, Mark spearheaded the global Business Analytics & Optimization business, scaling it to over $1 billion in

annual revenue across 150 countries. A prolific inventor, Mark holds 28 patents in data analytics, optimization, and AI, including foundational work on integrating data mining with parallel relational databases and advanced analytics for user behavior monitoring. He is a trusted advisor to CDOs and technology leaders navigating the rapidly evolving landscape of Generative AI and enterprise data strategy.

Mark holds a Ph.D. in Applied Computer Science, a Master's in Computer & Information Security, and a Bachelor's in Computer Science. His technical depth, visionary leadership, and proven track record in delivering large-scale, modern data platforms make him one of the most sought-after experts in the field today.

Tom Redman
The Data Doc, President, Data Quality Solutions

Dr. Thomas C. Redman, "the Data Doc," President of Data Quality Solutions, helps companies of all sizes, chart their courses to data-driven futures, with special emphasis on quality and analytics. Tom's recent book, People and Data: Uniting to Transform Your Business (Kogan Page Publications, July 2023) makes the transformational advice that companies must get everyone involved in their data programs. He has a Ph.D. in Statistics and two patents.

John Talburt
Acxiom Chair of Information Quality and Director of the Information Quality Graduate Program, UA Little Rock

John R. Talburt, PhD, IQCP, CDMP, is the Acxiom Chair of Information Quality and Director of the Information Quality Graduate Program at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Previously, he led the Data Research and Development group for Acxiom Corporation where he implemented their Total Data Quality Management program. He is a member of the U.S. Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in data quality, and Lead Data Governance Consultant for Noetic Partners. He is an inventor for several patents related to customer data integration and the author of numerous research papers on information quality and entity resolution. His books include "Entity Information Life Cycle for Big Data: Master Data Management and Information Integration" (Morgan Kaufmann, 2015), "Entity Resolution and Information Quality" (Morgan Kaufmann, 2011), "Data Engineering: Mining, Information and Intelligence" (Springer, 2010), and "Information Quality and Governance for Business Intelligence" (IGI Global, 2014).

SESSION 3-A

PRESENTATION

From Data to Impact: Scaling AI Innovation through Data Modernization

Speaker

Mark Birkhead, JPMorganChase

Abstract

Your AI is only as good as your data. A robust data foundation powers transformative AI applications, fuels innovation, and generates measurable impact. In this session, we will explore the critical role of data modernization in unlocking the full potential of AI.

JPMorganChase is at the forefront of AI, with a leadership position in the banking sector that includes three consecutive years at the top of the Evident AI Index. Come learn how JPMorganChase is modernizing data and driving AI innovation to create significant value across its operations globally.

Biography

Mark Birkhead
Managing Director & Firmwide Chief Data Officer
JPMorganChase

Mark Birkhead is a Managing Director and Firmwide Chief Data Officer at JPMorgan Chase. In this role, he is instrumental in fostering a culture of datadriven decision-making and leveraging data and analytics to benefit customers and clients globally.

Mark has a strong track record of building and transforming analytic organizations both in the United States and internationally. Prior to his current position, he was the Chief Data & Analytics Officer for Chase and JPMorgan Wealth Management, where he harnessed analytics, machine learning, and artificial intelligence to drive growth, enhance sales and marketing strategies, optimize branch distribution, and improve the customer experience.

Before his tenure at JPMorgan Chase, Mark was the Chief Analytic Officer at Santander US, where he established data and analytics organizations across five business units, including the Retail Bank. He also spent a decade at Citigroup within the Global Consumer Bank and Retail Services, culminating in his role as the Global Head of Analytics & Insights for Latin America and Mexico.

Mark's expertise and contributions to the field have been widely recognized. He has been featured in publications such as Forbes and MIT Technology Review, and has been named to the DataIQ 100 Most Influential People in Data as well as Chief Data Officer

Magazine's lists of The World's Leading Enterprise Data Leaders and Data Leaders 100. In 2025, Chief Data Officer Magazine named Mark the fourth most influential person in data, analytics and AI. Additionally, Mark fosters the development of future talent by serving as the executive sponsor of JPMC's AI/ML talent programs and as a member of The Ohio State University Translational Data Analytics Institute Advisory Board.

SESSION 3-B

AI's Impact on Cybersecurity of Data…and vice versa! The AI Arms Race

Speaker

Stuart Madnick, MIT Sloan (CAMS)

Abstract

As AI reshapes the IT landscape, both defenders and attackers of your data are leveraging its capabilities in an escalating arms race. This session will discuss how AI is transforming threat detection, risk management, and response strategies while also introducing new vulnerabilities and attack strategies that adversaries can exploit. What does this mean for CDO's and enterprises striving to protect critical data assets? Join us as we examine the evolving interplay between AI and cybersecurity of your data, the challenges of securing AI-driven systems, and the strategies needed to stay ahead in an increasingly AI-powered threat environment.

Biography

Stuart Madnick

Professor & Founding Director, Cybersecurity
MIT Sloan (CAMS)

Dr. Stuart E. Madnick is the John Norris Maguire (1960) Professor of Information Technology, Emeritus, in the Sloan School of Management and Professor of Engineering Systems in the School of Engineering, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). He has been a faculty member at MIT since 1972 and have served as the head of MIT's Information Technologies Group for more than 25 years. Dr. Madnick holds degrees in Electrical Engineering (B.S. and M.S.), Management (M.S.), and Computer Science (Ph.D.) from MIT. In addition, he has been a visiting professor at about a dozen other universities.

His involvement in cybersecurity research goes back to 1979 when he co-authored the book *Computer Security*, one of the first books on this subject. In 2014, he founded the research group Cybersecurity at MIT Sloan (CAMS), formerly *the Interdisciplinary Consortium for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity*.

He has broad expertise in software engineering, data bases, and Internet/Web technologies, as well as their applications to businesses and other large organizations and is reflected in more than 400 papers and other publications.

In addition to his research and development work in academia, he has extensive experience in the development of information systems for

industry, such as a key designer and developer of projects including IBM's VM/370, IBM's Script/370, and Lockheed's DIALOG. He also co-founded several high-tech firms and currently owns the 14th-century Langley Castle Hotel in England.

SESSION 3-C

PRESENTATION
Scaling Strategic Impact: Unifying Cloud, Data & AI for Business Value

Speaker

Murali Vridhachalam, Gilead Sciences

Abstract

What happens when cloud, data, and AI are no longer siloed capabilities but an integrated platform powering the enterprise? This session explores how Gilead is converging these domains to drive business-aligned outcomes across the entire value chain, from Drug Discovery and Development to Manufacturing and Commercialization. Learn how a unified Cloud, Data and AI architecture can:

- Deliver end-to-end traceability from aspirations to strategy to execution to CMDB to Cloud FinOps
- Empower business units with self-service data access and reusable AI agents
- Support Responsible AI practices, compliance, and operational resilience
- Reduce time-to-insight and increase platform ROI using data mesh and FinOps principles

Discover how this is being implemented at scale at Gilead, including the shifts required to manage change, complexity, and culture, as well as the challenges and best practices for scaling adoption.

Why attend?

If your organization is navigating AI adoption, managing data complexity, or rethinking platform strategy, this session offers a roadmap to align technology with business goals. Walk away with actionable insights on designing a scalable, governed AI-ready platform that accelerates innovation without compromising trust or agility.

Biography

Murali Vridhachalam
VP & IT Head of Cloud, Data, & Analytics
Gilead Sciences

Murali Vridhachalam is the Head of Enterprise Data and Analytics at Gilead Sciences, a research-based pharmaceutical company. Prior to joining Gilead in March of 2021, Murali held several leadership positions at IBM in the areas of Data, Analytics, Supply Chain, Enterprise Services, and Software Development.

SESSION 3-D

PANEL DISCUSSION

AI Reality Check: Transforming Challenges into Triumphs

Moderator

Antony Parchment, New Era Technology

Panelists

Sajid Patel, New Era Technology; Dennis Kettler, Worldpay; Bharadwaj Kannan, Owens Corning; Bill Kemerer, Allegion

Abstract

As organizations increasingly turn to artificial intelligence to drive innovation and efficiency, understanding the complexities of AI adoption becomes crucial for success. This panel discussion, "AI Reality Check: Transforming Challenges into Triumphs," will delve into the essential aspects of launching AI solutions and integrating AI technologies effectively. Recent Gartner data reveals that while 90% of respondents in a 2025 business survey plan to purchase software with GenAI capabilities, only 25% have detailed plans to extract value from these tools. Expectations for GenAI's utility and value are high, yet many organizational initiatives fall short of realizing their potential. Our expert panelists will explore best practices for preparing for AI adoption, using AI effectively, and managing the proliferation of GenAI. We will focus on clearly defining value propositions, managing expectations, and setting a strategic course for success to ensure AI initiatives achieve impactful and sustainable outcomes.

Biography —

Antony Parchment
Senior Vice President, Strategic Consulting, Global Digital Transformation
New Era Technology

2025 marks Antony's third decade leading and consulting on enterprise technology initiatives that drive measurable business value for Fortune 500 clients. From the company he founded in 1995 to his current role leading Digital Transformation Solutions Consulting at New Era Technology, one of Antony's key focus areas has been designing and implementing data acquisition and management systems that enable companies to transform data into strategic, accessible business assets, use those assets for data driven decision making and ultimately better anticipate, understand and address consumer needs. Antony complements his passion for data and data driven insights with years of experience designing, building and deploying the technology systems that enable the modern enterprise.

Antony resides in the Greater Boston area with his family. When not rooting for his kids at their sporting events he enjoys boating, flying

and traveling with his family. Antony's curiosity at work is mirrored in his personal life, and most of his interests revolve around learning new skills that he can apply in other aspects of his life.

Sajid Patel

President, Global Digital Transformation Division
New Era Technology

Sajid has decades of experience with information technology, which broadly spans data & analytics, application development, technical & business architecture and infrastructure. His career has focused on understanding and influencing the evolution of data technologies and was an early pioneer with "scalable" parallel technologies, a revolutionary stage that changed the fundamental paradigm of hardware engineering, software design and integration architecture. He was instrumental in the validation and application of this technology with early adopters. Throughout his career, he has focused at a large-scale on impactful enterprise data management & architecture initiatives for diverse industries and business domains, including Fortune 100 and growing mid-market organizations. Sajid is an entrepreneur by nature and was an early contributor, founder or co-founder of several successful startups throughout his career- five had successful exits such as acquisitions or IPOs.

As Managing Director of the Global Digital Transformation (GDT) division at New Era Tech, Sajid leads a thousand strong group of very talented consulting professionals, spanning ten practice disciplines. The GDT practices are focused on helping organizations mature their digital transformation capabilities and accomplish their business objectives for growth, innovation and efficiency. The practices appreciate that digital transformation is uniquely defined for each organization and strive to deliver targeted value and meaningful outcomes on every engagement. As the market undergoes another stage of massive innovation, GDT is evaluating the portfolio of consulting services to ensure alignment with what clients want and need.

At a personal level, Sajid has diverse interests including photography, travel, philanthropy and fly fishing but gets the most satisfaction helping people with their entrepreneurial or career ambitions.

Dennis Kettler

Global Head of Data Strategy & Data Sciences
Worldpay

Dennis is currently the Global Head of Data Strategy & Data Sciences for Worldpay. In his thirteen years at FIS, he has established Data Science as a core competency enabling transformative capabilities such as advanced data visualization, predictive analytics, and ML/AI. Ultimately Dennis has played a key leadership role in activating data-driven decisions that have established competitive advantages in market for both FIS and Clients alike.

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In his current role, Dennis is driving data and analytics strategy, data governance strategy, as well as capital investment in data as a senior leader of Worldpay. He brings a wealth of experience supporting many of the world's largest retailers, corporations, and payments brands for nearly 20 years.

Dennis and his team are focused on boldly innovating and maximizing Worldpay's responsible use of data assets to ideate, architect, and build market-leading solutions for our colleagues and clients. They combine a multi-faceted approach with an intricate understanding of how best to harness data to deliver value through informed decisions and innovative outcomes. Through rapid development, centered in business value, they enable success for their stakeholders.

Dennis is also an inventor and has over thirty issued or allowed patents.

Bharadwaj Kannan
Global Master Data Management Product, Program, and Practice Leader
Owens Corning
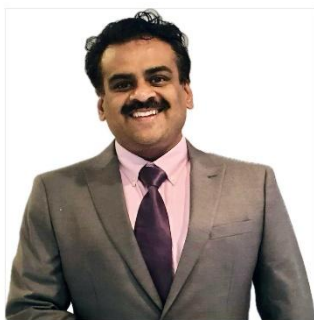
Bharadwaj Kannan is a results-oriented professional with 25 years of expertise in master data and supply chain management. Currently serving as the Global MDM Product, Program, and Practice Leader at Owens Corning Sales LLC, Bharadwaj has overseen master data management for a leading fiberglass industry, ensuring data systems met organizational requirements. Bharadwaj excels in fostering strategic partnerships with organizational leaders to align and support key business initiatives and has a proven track record in building and retaining high-performing teams by hiring, developing, and motivating talented professionals. Bharadwaj has led initiatives to achieve brand alignment, analyzed key metrics to measure product effectiveness, and enhanced business KPIs by implementing customer-facing product features. With a strong background in SAP implementation, Bharadwaj served as the data migration leader, solution architect, and lead on a multimillion-dollar SAP master data implementation, managing all deliverables and coordinating integration with various modules. Bharadwaj has also implemented design optimization with IT and business sponsors on SAP BODS and STIBO, coordinated with domestic and international teams, and provided guidance to IT management to ensure system standards. Bharadwaj holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Business Administration (MIS) from the Technical Institute of Management Education and a Bachelor of Science in Statistics Major & Operations Research Minor from Madras Christian College – University of Madras.

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Bill Kemerer

Vice President, Global Data and Analytics
Allegion

Bill leads Allegion's Global Data and Analytics team, including all aspects of enterprise data, analytics and artificial intelligence, to "transform data into business value for Allegion and our customers." Bill is responsible for Allegion's enterprise data strategy and partners with other leaders to optimize benefits and reduce risks associated with the company's data. Allegion's Global Data and Analytics team is responsible for the enterprise data lake, data warehouse, and all ETL processes that ingest data from 40+ sources (including connected products and software solutions); designing, building and supporting 20+ self-service analytics solutions; and applying advanced analytics and AI to derive new insights from data and help the business realize incremental value. Bill reports to Allegion's Chief Information and Digital Officer and is a member of the information and digital leadership team.

Bill joined the Security Technologies division of Ingersoll Rand in 2004, which was spun off as Allegion in 2013. He has held positions of increasing responsibility in Lean Six Sigma and Operational Excellence. Following the spin-off from Ingersoll Rand, Bill managed the completion of transition agreements between the two companies and worked with the executive team to develop the Allegion Operating System. Bill then served as Director of Demand Creation, leading the Americas sales operations team in supporting a 600+ sales and specification-writing organization in adopting CRM, sales analytics, and Overtur® collaboration tools. Prior to Allegion, Bill worked for Johns Manville, Anchor Hocking Specialty Glass, and was a Submarine Warfare Officer in the United States Navy.

Bill holds a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Penn State, an MBA from Indiana University and earned a Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt certification. Bill resides in Fishers, Indiana.

SESSION

4-A

PANEL DISCUSSION

AI-Driven Data Strategy in Pharma: Balancing Innovation, Governance, and Value

| **Moderator** | **David Paget-Brown, Modak** |

| **Panelists** | **Kent Supancik, Eli Lilly; J.D. Williams, Zoetis; Gian Prakash, AbbVie; Santha Ramakrishnan, Bayer** |

Abstract

As AI and generative models continue to transform the pharmaceutical and life sciences industries, Chief Data Officers face a big question:

How can companies fully use AI while maintaining strong data quality, governance, and real business impact?

This panel will discuss important topics associated with the impact of AI on Data Strategy, Data Governance, AI readiness, and data products. Expect a deep dive into data value, sourcing external data, and how Data Governance and Master Data Management are changing in the age of generative AI. Panelists will share practical strategies for accommodating AI's impact, building digital fluency, and rethinking how pharma views its data, whether as a competitive advantage or a shared resource that can move the entire industry forward.

Join us for an engaging conversation on navigating the future of data-driven innovation.

Biography

David Paget-Brown

Senior Vice President, Head of Operations
Modak

David Paget-Brown brings nearly 3 decades of experience in the data space. He joined Modak in 2023 and is currently the Senior Vice President – Head of Operations, North America. He is responsible for ensuring delivery excellence for Modak's existing clients and growing their portfolio of clients. His recent focus is on designing and implementing Generative AI use cases. He spent 25 years with IBM building enterprise data lakes/data warehouses on-premises, as well as on different clouds (IBM Cloud, Google, and AWS). He has led global teams leveraging diverse ETL technologies, including Spark, Ab Initio, DataStage, and Informatica, as well as Business Intelligence tools such as Tableau, Power BI, and Cognos. He has managed the design and implementation of

functions solving data ingestion, data transformation, data curation, and data distribution challenges at the petabyte scale.

Kent Supancik
Associate Vice President, Enterprise Data
Eli Lilly
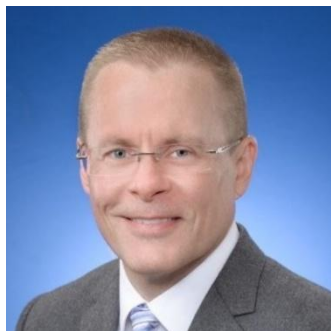
Kent Supancik is an Associate Vice President – Digital Core at Eli Lilly, leading their global Enterprise Data Team. He has over 30 years of IT experience in pharma/life sciences delivering significant business outcomes in global infrastructure, data and analytics, CRM, enterprise architecture, and business facing roles across the value chain. He is currently leading Lilly's agile data transformation to the cloud, enabling digital and AI related business strategies, by reducing the friction that exists in finding, accessing, trusting, and consuming data. He has a BS in Marketing and Management Information Systems and MS in Information and Communication Sciences from Ball State University, an Executive MBA from Purdue University, and a Certificate from the Carnegie Mellon University CDO Program. Kent resides in Indianapolis, IN. He has 2 grown daughters one of which joined Tech@Lilly in 2023. Outside of work he is passionate about travel, cars, and fitness.

J.D. Williams
Chief Data and Analytics Officer
Zoetis

J.D. Williams, Ph.D. is Chief Data and Analytics Officer at Zoetis, the world's largest animal health company. In his role, he leads a global team of enterprise data platform and AI professionals in support of the company's strategic priority to *Power the Business Through Digital Solutions and Data Insights*. J.D. joined Zoetis in 2021 and brings 20+ years of experience leading statistics and data science organizations and efforts at Eli Lilly, Dow AgroSciences, JP Morgan Chase, and GE.

He holds a bachelor's degree in mathematics education and a master's degree in statistics from Brigham Young University, and a Ph.D. degree in statistics from Virginia Tech. On a personal note, J.D. is fluent in Spanish, he and his wife have 5 children, he has competed in multiple Ironman triathlons and Boston marathons, and he is a former competitive ballroom dancer.

Gian Prakash

Director of Data Engineering & Analytics, Global Therapeutics R&D
AbbVie

Gian Prakash is the Director of Data Engineering and Analytics supporting Global Therapeutics R&D at AbbVie. With a wealth of experience in data and analytics coupled with a deep understanding of the pharmaceutical industry, Gian is instrumental in shaping the vision and strategy for data-driven initiatives within the organization. In his role, Gian leads efforts to integrate data, analytics, and technology into AbbVie's global therapeutic endeavors, ensuring that data is leveraged effectively to enhance decision-making and drive successful business outcomes. Under Gian's leadership, the Data and Analytics team at AbbVie thrives on a culture of collaboration and innovation, continually seeking to enhance the impact of their work across the global therapeutic landscape.

Santha Ramakrishnan

VP, Head of R&D Data Strategy and Governance
Bayer
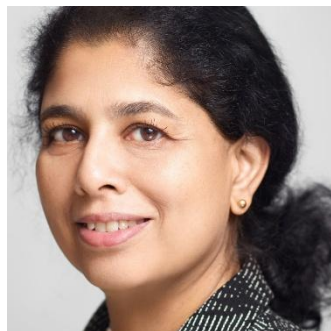
Santha Ramakrishnan is the VP, Head of R&D Data Strategy and Governance at Bayer Pharmaceuticals. She brings a wealth of expertise in life science strategy operations, data and analytics and has a proven track record in driving business value through large-scale data and digital transformation involving people, process, data and technology. Santha has a PhD in Biochemistry from the Indian Institute of Science and has career experience in product development, business development and operations in small and large settings.

SESSION

4-B

PRESENTATION
Data Monetization: Selling Data in Risk-Averse Enterprises

Speakers

Michael Hejtmanek & Jessica Li Gilbert, Neudata

Abstract

The idea of selling internal data externally can feel daunting, even dangerous. But the market has shown insatiate demand for enterprise data, and companies across industries have demonstrated that monetizing data is profitable and safe.

Michael Hejtmanek tackles common fears that prevent enterprises from capitalising on their data assets through vivid examples of successes and missteps; while Jessica Li Gebert explores how data monetization and corporate AI strategies are intertwined, sharing insights distilled from 50+ AI data licensing deals.

This talk equips CDOs with practical tools and frameworks to overcome internal resistance, protect privacy, mitigate reputational risk and confidently capture the substantial commercial opportunities hidden within their data inventory.

Biography

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Michael Hejtmanek
Head of Data Consulting
Neudata

Michael is a seasoned leader at the forefront of Neudata, a premier global data research and advisory firm, where he spearheads the consulting and corporate solutions groups. With over two decades of senior leadership across the United States, Sweden, Israel, Switzerland and China, Michael has been a driving force in digital transformation and cultivating data-driven cultures, resulting in significant growth and successful exits for investors in global organizations. His expertise extends to collaborating with data owners to bring innovative datasets to market and assisting data buyers in pinpointing the most relevant datasets for specific analytics requirements. Prior to Neudata, Michael played a pivotal role in shaping sales and marketing strategies at Sequentum, Inc., a leading alternative data provider, and has made substantial contributions to private equity as an operating partner. Michael's wealth of experience is complemented by an MBA from the prestigious Columbia Business School in New York.

Jessica Li Gebert

Strategy Consultant
Neudata

Jessica Li Gebert is a strategy consultant at Neudata, specializing in go-to-market for data and AI products. She's experienced in investment and corporate strategy in life sciences, fintech, trade finance and academic research. Her focus lies in helping businesses worldwide navigate rising geopolitical tension and commercializing emerging tech products. Jessica holds an MA in International Relations and Affairs.

SESSION 4-C

PRESENTATION
AI Is Cool, but If Your Data Quality Isn't, Then What's the Point?

Speaker

Maureen Butler, GE Aerospace

Abstract

How to get executive-level sponsorship to build Enterprise Data Management capabilities at scale to transform data quality across the enterprise.
- How to gain executive sponsorship for EDM
- Creating a successful EDM operating model
- How to drive culture change to manage data as a strategic asset
- How to monetize the value of Enterprise Data Management through real business use cases
- Understand how data quality is the foundation of AI Data Fabric
- So…where do I start?

Biography

Maureen Butler
Vice President of Lean and Data Transformation
GE Aerospace

Maureen Butler is the VP of Lean and Data Transformation, GE Aerospace. With 3 previous implementations of Enterprise Data Management (EDM) in her career (Honeywell, Tyson Foods, W.W. Grainger), she is currently implementing the EDM strategy at GE Aerospace. She has learned that the right EDM strategy, and executive sponsorship and investment, EDM can deliver real financial benefits tied to revenue, working capital, productivity, and operating income, while building a strong foundation for process digitization and robust analytics and insights. Maureen has been recognized as one of the Global Data Power Women of 2024 by CDO Magazine.

SESSION

4-D

PRESENTATION

Industry Domain Framework: A Blueprint for Trusted, Connected, and AI-Ready Data Products

Speaker

Ravi Shankar, Tiger Analytics

Abstract

Data & Analytics (D&A) leaders are under growing pressure to deliver business value through trusted, scalable data products while enabling enterprise-wide AI adoption. This session introduces the **Industry Domain Framework**—a reference architecture that combines data mesh principles, medallion architecture, and decision-driven design to build connected, high-quality domain data products.

The framework aligns data to user personas, key business decisions, and metrics, while establishing a governed, interoperable data foundation. This foundation is critical for accelerating the development of AI/ML models, GenAI solutions, and intelligent agents by providing reliable, context-rich, and reusable data assets.

The session will explore how the framework helps eliminate data silos, increase trust in insights, and scale AI use cases responsibly. It will also address practical challenges such as domain ownership, data governance, and organizational change. D&A leaders will gain a clear, actionable path to drive both data product maturity and AI readiness.

Biography

Ravi Shankar
Partner – Data Transformation
Tiger Analytics

Innovative leader and entrepreneur with over 18 years of consulting experience in data and analytics, cloud technologies, and enterprise applications. I bring deep domain expertise across industries including Telecommunications, Media & Entertainment, Energy & Utilities, Financial Services, Retail, Higher Education, and Professional Services. I have held leadership roles spanning delivery, sales, pre-sales, and marketing, driving impact across the full business lifecycle.

SESSION

5-A

PANEL DISCUSSION

Data-Driven Transformation in Digital Payments: Insights from Industry Leaders

Moderator

Eileen Vidrine, Vidrine Vantage

Panelists

Bob Hedges, Visa; Beth Hiatt, PayPal

Abstract

The financial services landscape has undergone unprecedented transformation, with digital payments becoming the backbone of global commerce. As transaction volumes surge and customer expectations evolve, leading payment companies are leveraging advanced data analytics, artificial intelligence, and real-time processing capabilities to drive innovation, enhance security, and deliver personalized experiences.

This panel brings together senior data and analytics leaders from Visa and PayPal—two giants that collectively process billions of transactions annually—to share insights on how they harness data to solve complex business challenges. Panelists will discuss their approaches to building scalable data architectures, implementing AI/ML solutions for fraud detection and risk management, and creating data products that serve both internal stakeholders and external partners.

Key topics will include the evolution of data governance in highly regulated environments, strategies for real-time analytics at massive scale, the role of data in driving financial inclusion initiatives, and emerging trends in payment analytics. Attendees will gain practical insights into how these organizations balance innovation with compliance, manage data privacy across global markets, and transform raw transaction data into actionable business intelligence.

This session is designed for CDOs, data leaders, and analytics professionals seeking to understand how world-class financial institutions approach data strategy, overcome technical challenges, and create competitive advantages through data-driven decision making.

Eileen Vidrine

Chief Executive Officer, Vidrine Vantage
Former Air Force, Chief Data and AI Officer, Department of Air Force

Eileen Vidrine is a national security executive, U.S. Army veteran and the former Chief Data and Artificial Intelligence Officer for the U.S. Department of the Air Force. Ms. Vidrine possesses more than 35 years of experience leading transformative change initiatives in defense, intelligence, air, and space.

A visionary leader within the Federal Senior Executive Service, she was handpicked as the first strategic advisor for data to the Federal chief information officer, where she spearheaded data and emerging technology strategies. In her leadership roles, Ms. Vidrine has consistently driven innovation by establishing new programs that enhance workforce capabilities and promote best practices in data management and AI. She continues to mentor and develop the next generation of data and AI leaders.

Ms. Vidrine's contributions to the AI and data community have been recognized with several prestigious awards, including the AIM AI 100 Visionary Leader, *CDO Magazine* Executive of the Year 2023 and the DataIQ 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award.

Bob Hedges

Chief Data Officer
Visa

TBD

Beth Hiatt

Head of Global Data Governance
PayPal

Elizabeth Hiatt (Beth) has close to thirty (30) years of experience building and deploying enterprise-wide data management & governance programs. Beth has held various data management & governance roles across business & technology within the Financial Services, Telecommunications & Hospitality industries and most recently as the Head of Global Data Governance for PayPal. Beth has implemented enterprise data management programs from end-to-end, developing and enabling such critical functions as, data governance, data quality, master & metadata programs. She has deep technical expertise in enterprise data architecture, helping organizations "connect the dots" across the data lifecycle. Beth is a strong, results driven leader with experience managing large, complex organizations specifically focusing on growing a company's data management maturity while changing the organizations data culture.

Beth has previously written articles, including "Time to Level Up: The Evolving role of the Chief Data Officer" published by TDWI, has spoken at many conferences, including the Women Data Leaders Global Summit in 2021 and was on CDO Magazine's, Global Data Power Women List in 2022.

SESSION
5-B

The Master Data Management Journey: Six Lessons Learned from Mizuho

Speakers

Anthony Deighton, Tamr & JC Lionti, Mizuho Bank

Abstract

Join JC Lionti, CDO at Mizuho Bank, to learn six essential, practical, and real-world lessons from successful MDM initiatives. Traditional rules-based Master Data Management approaches have often failed to deliver value. Increasingly, successful business strategies, especially AI strategies, depend on high-quality data. Discover how Tamr's AI-native MDM is disrupting the traditional approach to MDM. This new approach focuses on understanding your data, transforming it into a reliable asset, engaging users to build trust, and integrating your data into critical operational systems, leveraging AI throughout the journey.

Biography

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Anthony Deighton
Chief Executive Officer
Tamr

Anthony Deighton is CEO at Tamr. Tamr is building a modern AI-based approach to Master Data Management which allows enterprises to connect and leverage all their data as an asset. Previous to Tamr Anthony was Chief Marketing Officer at Celonis and Chief Product Officer at Qlik, two companies which have revolutionized how users consume enterprise data. One thing he noticed was that organizations consistently loved modern visualization, but were frustrated by the quality of enterprise data – and he's building Tamr to solve this challenge. Anthony has also served as an investor, advisor and board member to start-ups around the world. He began his career in enterprise software at Siebel Systems, and holds a bachelor's degree in Math and Economics from Northwestern University and an MBA with high distinction from Harvard Business School.

JC Lionti
Chief Data Officer
Mizuho Bank

As Chief Data Officer, JC Lionti provides leadership and a strategic vision related to the development, management and protection of Mizuho data assets. He drives the definition and execution of Mizuho's data strategy in support of MUSO strategic objectives. Mizuho's data governance and management framework covers standards and policies, data change management, data knowledge (e.g. catalogs, flow maps, lineage), data quality (methodology, measurements, remediation) and data usage (accessibility, insights / Analytics, and innovation / AI). JC Lionti reports to the Deputy Chief Information Officer, Mizuho Americas, and is a member of Mizuho's IT Steering Committee and Executive Management Change Committee. JC also chairs Mizuho's Enterprise Data Executive Committee.

Prior to Mizuho, JC was the Americas Chief Data Officer for BNP Paribas Corporate and Investment Banking and the Deputy Chief Data Officer for BNP Paribas USA, Inc.

PRESENTATION

Navigating the Digital Transformation: From Cloud Migration to Data Driven Business Outcomes and AI Readiness

Speakers

Nathan Rogers & Daniel Pullen, SAIC

Abstract

In the rapidly evolving landscape of digital technology, organizations are increasingly looking to cloud solutions, advanced data strategies, and artificial intelligence to stay competitive.

Nathan Rogers, SAIC SVP and Chief Information Officer, and Daniel Pullen, SAIC Chief Data Architect, delve into the SAIC journey from on-premises data centers to cloud adoption for achievement of data-driven business outcomes and AI readiness.

Explore how to overcome common challenges, cloud-enabled optimization of data management practices, and leveraging AI to drive innovation and efficiency with real-world examples and strategic insights.

Attendees will gain a comprehensive understanding of the transformative potential of these technologies and the best practices for implementing them within their organizations.

Biography

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Nathan Rogers
SVP and Chief Information Officer
SAIC

Nathan G. Rogers is senior vice president of Infrastructure Enablement and chief information officer (CIO) for SAIC. In this role, Rogers manages information technology (IT), CRE & Facilities, Security, Cybersecurity, and Data. He focuses on advancing technical and digital innovation, automation and AI, shaping the future of work, and keeping SAIC secure. As CIO, he is leading the company's digital transformation of IT and providing best-in-class customer service that enables SAIC to serve and protect our world.

Rogers has served in various diversified IT, financial, and operational management roles for 25 years across. Most recently, he was the Engility CIO, and previously the senior director of enterprise shared services and senior director of financial operations at TASC, which was acquired by Engility in 2015. He also served as director of contract accounting at Northrop Grumman. He has extensive experience with mergers, divisestures and acquisitions.

Rogers is the executive sponsor of SAIC's Connect and Grow enterprise resource group which is focused on professional and leadership growth among all generational segments. Rogers is also on the Board of Directors for the Appalachian Trail Conservancy where he is the Vice Chair and serves on the Executive, Finance and Nomination committees.

Rogers is a co-chair for Boston Evanta and on the Governing Board of the Boston CIO.

Rogers was the winner of the 2020 Boston CIO of the Year Large Enterprise ORBIE award and has been named to Washington Executives CIOs to Watch. He holds a Master of Business Administration from Boston University and a Bachelor of Science in accounting from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Rogers enjoys volunteering time to the ATC, volunteering with the boy scouts and enjoying the great outdoors with his wife and two children.

Daniel Pullen

Chief Data Scientist and Data Architect
SAIC

Daniel Pullen is the Chief Data Architect for SAIC's corporate data operations. He spearheaded the implementation of SAIC's Cloud Native Data Platform, emphasizing Data Management, Data Governance, Master Data Management, and Cloud Native concepts. Currently, Daniel is a pivotal contributor to SAIC's AI Transformation Office, where he leverages his extensive experience in Data Science and Data Management to enhance SAIC's internal AI capabilities and drive innovative solutions within the organization.

Daniel's journey into the data domain began with his academic pursuits, culminating in a Ph.D. in Integrated Computing with a specialization in Information Quality. Throughout his career, Daniel has been actively involved in both academic and industrial research and publications, demonstrating a robust commitment to advancing the field of data science.

He is deeply passionate about the transformative power of data and believes that effective analytics, driven by comprehensive statistical models, machine learning, and artificial intelligence, can deliver significant value to organizations. Daniel emphasizes that the success of modern Data Analytics is fundamentally rooted in strong Data Management, Data Governance, and Master Data Management practices.

SESSION
5-D

PRESENTATION

Putting Enterprise Data to Work: A CDO's Guide to Accelerating Safe AI

Speaker

Jack Berkowitz, Securiti

Abstract

In 2025 AI development and adoption continues at a breakneck pace. As more powerful and data hungry AI's are increasingly able to reason, plan and act, CDO's must stay ahead and protect their data from new and complex vulnerabilities. Traditional security measures do not address the realities of AI's. This session will cover vital topics such as: How to effectively discover, classify, and manage all enterprise data+AI assets? How can sensitive data be processed and utilized by AI tools without exposing it to the wrong people? How to build system-level security to protect against evolving attacks? How to remain compliant with new regulations?

Join Jack Berkowitz, Chief Data Officer at Securiti, as he delineates a strategic roadmap for CDOs to navigate the complexities of competing in the AI era and accelerating the development of safe, responsible AI.

Key Insights:
- Securing AI demands a paradigm shift to address new vulnerabilities.
- Protecting sensitive data in AI requires a strong foundation of data security.
- Robust Data+AI governance can be an innovation accelerator

Biography

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Jack Berkowitz
Chief Data Officer
Securiti

Berkowitz named CDO at Securiti, where he plays a strategic role helping enterprises unleash the power of Data and AI safely with Securiti's pioneering Data Command Center. Berkowitz spent the previous five years as the CDO for ADP, where he guided AI strategy and led the development of cloud-native Data and ML solutions that leveraged the company's highly valuable global data assets. Prior to ADP, he brought to life numerous intelligent software products and information systems while holding product and development leadership roles at companies including Oracle, Attivio (acquired by ServiceNow), FieldConnect, Siderean Software (Acquired by OpenText), and others

SESSION 6-A

PANEL DISCUSSION

What's Next for Retail Data?

Moderator

Danielle Crop, WNS

Panelists

Todd James, Aurora Insights; Nachiket Mehta, Wayfair; Veronika Durgin, Saks

Abstract

In the rapidly evolving landscape of retail, data has become the cornerstone of strategic decision-making and customer engagement. This panel discussion will explore the future of retail data, focusing on emerging trends, technologies, and best practices that are shaping the industry. Experts from various sectors will delve into how data analytics, artificial intelligence, and machine learning are transforming retail operations, enhancing customer experiences, and driving innovation. The discussion will also address the challenges of data privacy, security, and ethical considerations in the use of retail data. Attendees will gain insights into how leading retailers are leveraging data to stay competitive and what the next decade holds for the industry.

Biography

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Danielle Crop
Executive Vice President of Digital Strategy and Partnerships, WNS
Former Chief Data Officer, Albertsons

Danielle Crop is the Executive Vice President of Digital Strategy and Partnerships at WNS and former Senior Vice President and Chief Data Officer of American Express and Albertsons Companies. In these roles, Danielle was responsible for realizing the potential of large, complex digital, data, analytics and AI assets to drive revenue and create the world's best customer and client experiences.

Throughout Danielle's career she has held a series of global roles within the areas of fraud risk management, merchant and customer demographics, payment and network data, digital products, data management and governance, data commercialization and digital and data strategy. Danielle has a strong background in analytics, modeling, digital experimentation, as well as scaled agile transformation and strategic product and portfolio management.

Danielle holds both a Bachelor of Applied Science in Quantitative Terrestrial Ecology and a Master of Science in Statistics from Oregon State University. Danielle lives in Phoenix with her husband Chris and their daughter Anna. Ask Danielle about reading, gardening, her favorite TED Talk or Wes Anderson movies.

Todd James

Founder & CEO, Aurora Insights
Former Chief Data & Technology Officer, 84.51

Todd is the Founder and CEO of Aurora Insights, an expert partner helping leaders integrate AI strategically, holistically, and responsibly. With experience developing advanced data and strategies for companies like Kroger and Fidelity Investments, Todd has a long and proven record of scaling solutions to create real value for customers, as well as economic value for companies.

Before founding Aurora Insights, Todd was the Chief Data & Technology Officer for 84.51° (Kroger Subsidiary), he scaled AI investments and transformed how Kroger uses AI to better serve customers. As a Kroger executive, he also led the artificial intelligence and enterprise data agenda for the $140 billion Fortune 25 company.

Todd spent 15 years at Fidelity Investments where he held a variety of key strategic leadership roles. An innovative leader, he built the global data and analytics organization for Fidelity's Workplace Investing and Health Care business units. He also led efforts to modernize servicing and operations through applied artificial intelligence, automation and directed Fidelity's Cross-Enterprise AI Center of Excellence (COE). Prior to Fidelity, Todd led a strategy consulting practice at Deloitte and led a technology services business.

Prior to his business career, Todd was an officer in the U.S. Coast Guard where he held leadership roles in IT, information security, and shipboard operations.

Todd has a bachelor's degree in mathematics and computer science from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, an MBA from the College of William & Mary, and a master's degree in computer science from the University of Illinois.

Nachiket Mehta

Former Head of Data and Analytics Engineering for Global Operations and Enterprise Systems
Wayfair

Nachiket Mehta is a visionary data and technology executive with over 20 years of experience driving large-scale digital and AI transformations across retail, e-commerce, healthcare, fintech, and enterprise functions. Most recently, Nachiket served as a Head of Data and Analytics for Global Operations and Enterprise at Wayfair, where he led a global team supporting supply chain, customer service, finance, HR, and legal, driving the data modernization, AI-driven personalization, and real-time decision intelligence.

Nachiket has built and scaled data platforms using cloud-native architectures, data mesh, and federated governance. He has spearheaded GenAI initiatives that significantly improved productivity, efficiency, and customer experience. He is a frequent board advisor and guest lecturer, with

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deep experience partnering with C-suite leaders and boards to embed data as a competitive advantage.

His early career includes co-founding a FoodTech marketplace, leading customer data platform (CDP) product and services at Quaero (now part of CSG) and consulting data-driven transformations at Fortune 500 firms. He is passionate about making disconnected data usable for automated decisions with a particular interest in Shift Left Data strategy to bridge software, data, and science gaps for AI readiness in complex environments.

Nachiket holds an MBA from Purdue University recently, a Master's degree in Computer Science from Northeastern University, and a Bachelor's degree in Information Technology. He serves in advisory roles for various start-ups, as a Guest Lecturer at his alma mater, Northeastern University, and volunteers to non-profit organizations to give back to the community.

Veronika Durgin
Vice President of Data
Saks

Veronika Durgin is a career data practitioner with over 20 years of experience who has built and led data teams across industries, from hands-on database administration to shaping enterprise-wide data strategy. She currently serves as Vice President of Data at Saks Global, where she leads a full-stack team focused on delivering fast and trustworthy insights across the business. Her team works across the entire data lifecycle, from platform and engineering to analytics and AI enablement.

Veronika is known for her practical and real-world approach to data, with a strong belief that success starts with mastering the fundamentals and building a solid foundation. She stresses that no amount of advanced AI or analytics can make up for shaky basics. Getting the right data architecture and governance in place is essential to scaling with confidence.

Her philosophy is simple: data is a team sport. Whether it is enabling AI, fixing broken pipelines, or making dashboards that do not require a decoder ring, Veronika believes the real magic happens when data folks, engineers, and business partners work together without eye rolls. Cross-functional collaboration is not just a nice-to-have; it is the core of durable, impactful data work.

She is passionate about mentoring the next generation of data leaders and building systems that are not only effective but built to last.

Veronika holds a Master's degree in Software Engineering and a Bachelor of Science in Biology. She is a certified Data Vault Practitioner and a Snowflake Data Superhero. She is also a lifelong learner, partly because the more she learns, the more she realizes how much she does not know.

SESSION

6-B

PRESENTATION

Microsoft Purview Data Governance in the Age of AI

Speaker

Nick Doughty, Microsoft Purview Unified Catalog

Abstract

In the Age of AI, the effectiveness of your AI is directly linked to the quality of your data and your team's ability to responsibly discover and utilize it. The quality of data inputs significantly influences the final output of AI models.

It has been nearly a year since the general availability of Microsoft Purview Unified Catalog. A ton of innovations have been released, enabling users to effectively model your data estate for your business, enhance federated data governance practices, and accelerate responsible AI innovation with comprehensive data quality, safe data discovery, access, and more. In this session, you will learn:

1. Why Data Governance is important today and relevant to the Age of AI
2. How Data Governance empowers users across the business
3. How Microsoft learned from its own data governance journey and created the Unified Catalog
4. Purview Unified Catalog capabilities that help businesses stand up a data governance practice.
5. Roadmap call outs of the Unified Catalog

Biography

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Nick Doughty
Sr. Product Manager
Microsoft Purview Unified Catalog

Nick has been working on Data Governance internally at Microsoft over the last seven years, including MDM, DQ, and data issue remediation as part of the central data office. He joined the Purview product team 3 years ago to bring his practitioner experience to the product.

SESSION

6-C

PRESENTATION

Accelerating AI Innovation: Building Trusted Data Foundations with AWS

Speaker

Atif Salam, AWS

Abstract

As organizations accelerate their adoption of AI and autonomous AI systems, data leaders face critical decisions about their data infrastructure. This session explores how AWS customers have successfully built robust data foundations that support trusted analytics and AI operations at scale. Drawing from real-world examples, we'll discuss strategic approaches to unlock enterprise-wide data value, from accelerating AI-ready data preparation to implementing effective governance and enabling confident enterprise deployment.

Biography

Atif Salam
Enterprise Technologist and CxO Advisor
AWS
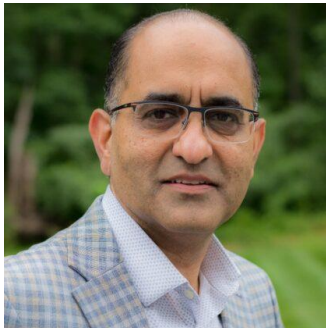
Atif is a CxO Advisor and Enterprise Technologist at AWS with 20+ years of experience leading large scale data, AI and delivery initiatives in Financial Services. Previously he was Head of Data Technology for Fannie Mae, a fortune 50 financial services enterprise, where he led technology execution, data and AI delivery for $270 billion/day TBA securitization and book of business worth $4.3 trillion.

A CompSci major, Atif also holds a Master's degree from Virginia Tech, a leadership diploma from MIT Sloan and multiple professional certifications. He speaks on Data, AI/ML, Technology Leadership and Organizational Efficiencies at conferences and events across the globe.

SESSION 6-D

Building AI for Data and Data for AI

Speaker

Matthew Mullins, Coginiti

Abstract

Large Language Models (LLMs) are revolutionizing how companies analyze and act on data. This session reveals practical methods learned in the field to implement LLMs as "data copilots" for your enterprise. Topics include step-back prompting, context windows, and retrieval-augmented generation—techniques that enhance responsiveness while preserving accuracy. How to implement response guardrails and highlight data preparation best practices through knowledge graphs, semantic layers, and semantic modeling. Attendees will learn to create language-ready data that empowers LLMs to grasp business context, delivering tangible ROI. Arm yourself with strategies to avoid pitfalls, drive data-driven decisions, and harness the full potential of AI.

Biography

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Matthew Mullins
Chief Technology Officer
Coginiti

Matthew Mullins has spent over 20 years at the intersection of government and enterprise, building and delivering data solutions that drive informed decision-making. With deep expertise in data strategy, analytics, and technology implementation, he has helped organizations harness the power of data to solve complex challenges. If he's not solving data challenges, you'll find him on the floating or standing in a river fly fishing.

SESSION 7-A

The Top 10 Secrets That Every CDO Should Know for Developing and Deploying an Impactful AI Solution

Speaker

Mark Ramsey, Ramsey International LLC

Abstract

AI is transforming business—but only when it's done right. In this session, "The Top 10 Secrets Every CDO Should Know for Developing and Deploying Impactful AI Solutions" you'll discover the critical strategies and insider tips that separate successful AI initiatives from costly failures. Learn how to build a strong data foundation, align AI with business priorities, navigate governance and ethics, and accelerate adoption across your organization. Packed with examples and actionable insights, this session will empower you to lead high-impact AI projects that deliver measurable value. Don't miss your chance to gain the knowledge and confidence to drive AI success at scale—join the session and learn to unlock your organization's AI potential!

Biography

Mark Ramsey
Managing Partner
Ramsey International LLC

Dr. Mark Ramsey is a globally recognized authority in modern data platforms, large-scale analytics architecture, and the strategic application of Generative AI. With over 35 years of experience, Mark has designed, delivered, and optimized some of the world's most impactful enterprise data platforms, enabling organizations to accelerate innovation and unlock transformative business value. As Managing Partner of Ramsey International, Mark leads the design and deployment of advanced data and AI solutions for global enterprises seeking to maximize the potential of their data assets. He is renowned for his expertise in architecting and operationalizing modern, hybrid multi-cloud data platforms that support analytics, machine learning, and the latest advances in Generative AI.

Mark's leadership was instrumental in the rapid delivery of AbbVie's award-winning ARCH (AbbVie Research Convergence Hub) platform, a modern, cloud-based data ecosystem developed by Mark and the RI team. This platform broke down silos and doubled R&D productivity by

accelerating drug discovery and clinical innovation. Recognized by Bio-IT World for its innovative practices, ARCH exemplifies Mark's ability to deliver production-grade, scalable platforms that drive measurable impact in highly regulated, data-intensive industries. Additionally, Mark and the RI team have worked with more than half of the Top 10 pharmaceutical organizations in the design and delivery of their large-scale modern data platforms, and have also worked with organizations in finance, insurance, telco, retail, healthcare, and government.

Previously, Mark served as the first R&D Chief Data & Analytics Officer at GlaxoSmithKline, where he architected the R&D Information Platform (RDIP) as a cornerstone of GSK's data-driven strategy. As the inaugural Chief Data Officer for Samsung Telecommunications America, he led the development of large-scale analytics solutions to drive business growth. At IBM, Mark spearheaded the global Business Analytics & Optimization business, scaling it to over $1 billion in annual revenue across 150 countries. A prolific inventor, Mark holds 28 patents in data analytics, optimization, and AI, including foundational work on integrating data mining with parallel relational databases and advanced analytics for user behavior monitoring. He is a trusted advisor to CDOs and technology leaders navigating the rapidly evolving landscape of Generative AI and enterprise data strategy.

Mark holds a Ph.D. in Applied Computer Science, a Master's in Computer & Information Security, and a Bachelor's in Computer Science. His technical depth, visionary leadership, and proven track record in delivering large-scale, modern data platforms make him one of the most sought-after experts in the field today.

SESSION
7-B

PRESENTATION

Dr. Wang Open Session: Ask All You Can

SESSION 7-C

PANEL DISCUSSION
Empowering the Workforce for Effective AI Use

Moderator

Nancy Morgan, Ellis Morgan Enterprises LLC

Panelists

Erik Price; Daniel Baller, US Army Intelligence and Security Command; John Radovan, MIT Open Learning

Abstract

In today's AI-powered world, public sector organizations must go beyond awareness and actively empower their workforce to use emerging tools effectively and securely. This forward-looking panel brings together experts from government, defense, intelligence, and academia to explore how agencies can build a future-ready workforce through AI skills, cultural change, and strong data foundations.

Panelists will share:
- How to promote hands-on AI adoption, including prompt engineering for day-to-day use
- Approaches to embed trust and transparency in AI exploration and implementation
- Ways to build on Data Literacy to ensure that AI-powered insights are grounded in clean, accurate, and unbiased data
- Strategies to foster skill growth across all levels—from foundational awareness to advanced technical expertise
- Cultural enablers that demystify AI and reduce fear while encouraging innovation

Join us to gain practical guidance on cultivating an AI-literate workforce equipped to unlock insights, accelerate mission outcomes, and lead in a rapidly evolving digital era.

Biography

- -

Nancy Morgan
Chief Executive Officer
Ellis Morgan Enterprises LLC

Nancy Morgan is a National Security executive leader, the former US Government Intelligence Community Chief Data Officer (IC CDO) and Advisory Board Member with 36+ years of experience leading strategy, innovation and driving transformation in the data, AI and information technology arenas. She now does independent consulting and advisory board work related to data, AI, cybersecurity, corporate governance and working with the public sector. While in Government she successfully led numerous data and information technology initiatives while serving as a

program manager and Executive Leader at the Central Intelligence Agency.

She has extensive experience leading major corporate transformation efforts and standing up new organizations across portfolios for data and AI strategy, data management, data policy, data literacy/data acumen, digital transformation, software development, and cloud technology adoption/migration the national security and intelligence arenas. She has proven experience across all phases of the data management lifecycle; defining, developing and deploying capabilities worldwide; and excels at partnership engagement across all branches of governments, between the public and private sectors and with foreign partners.

She now serves as Strategic Advisor with The Cantellus Group, working with both public and private sector clients; and is on Samba Nova Systems' Artificial Intelligence Innovation Advisory Council and Federal Council, Academy Securities Advisory Board and Geopolitical Intelligence Group, Kibu, Inc. Advisory Council, data2 Advisors, and the T-Mobile Public Sector Advisory Council. She was named as a 2024 Visiting Fellow for the Cyber and Tech Center of the National Security Institute and was named one of the Most Influential People in Data by dataIQ100 in 2024. She is an Ambassador for World Leaders in Data and AI (WLDA) and is a frequent public speaker.

She has a Master of Science in Information Systems from American University and a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and French from Colgate University. She is based in the Washington, DC area.

Areas of interest: corporate change management, digital transformation, emerging technologies, mission tradecraft, data management, data literacy, data fluency, data acumen, data science, artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), data and AI ethics, privacy, cloud adoption, program management and developing the next generation workforce.

Erik Price
Data & AI Literacy Workforce Adoption SME

Mr. Erik Price has been serving the US Federal Government and the Intelligence Community (IC) for over 20 years. Through that time, he has championed various emerging technology and information management initiatives, supported workforce planning, worked in a technical computing center at an FFRDC, and has been recognized as a disrupter focused on innovation and the future state.

After serving at multiple agencies, Mr. Price joined the Office of the Director of National Intelligence to lead a digital records management program, to ensure the materials reflecting our valued work are stored, managed, preserved, and remain discoverable. He then served under the IC Chief Data Officer to lead the IC's Data Acumen strategic initiative to ensure all IC members, regardless of job function, possess knowledge to support a data-driven enterprise. In this role he completed a comprehensive

assessment of data acumen at all IC agencies and focused on bringing foundational data skills to diverse groups of IC partners.

Mr. Price served as chair of the DoD-IC Ontologies Working Group, to promote and leverage Data Ontologies to support data interoperability and federated searching. Here he was instrumental in the first ever formal agreement between the DoD CDAO and IC CDO on baseline ontology standards. He also chairs the IC Data Management Lexicon working group, which provides a common understanding and consistent use of data management terms across the IC and with its partners.

Mr. Price was most recently the Deputy Chief of the Innovation and Analytics Group, for the IC's Human Capital program. In this role he championed the use of data-informed reporting and decisions for workforce needs and trends, advanced analytic insights and visualizations, and injected innovation to posture the IC for the workforce of the future. Academically, Mr. Price holds a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science, both in Systems Engineering from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. Erik is passionate about driving the IC forward with data and technology adoption, and establishing the workforce and workplace of the future.

Daniel Baller

Data Scientist
US Army Intelligence and Security Command
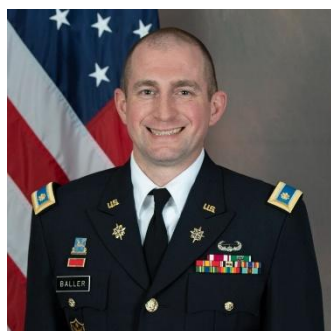
Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Baller is a Data Scientist in the US Army Intelligence and Security Command (USAINSCOM) assisting the command in making better data driven decisions.

A 2008 West Point graduate, LTC Baller received a Bachelor's of Science in Operations Research with Honors and commissioned as a Military Intelligence officer. He served as a platoon leader, executive officer, battalion intelligence officer, and company commander in a variety of locations to include Fort Hood, Texas; Balad Air Base, Iraq; Camp Casey, Korea; Camp Humphreys, Korea; and Yongsan, Korea. He transitioned to Functional Area 49 (Operations Research Analyst) in 2019.

Following company command LTC Baller earned his Masters of Operations Research with honors from the Georgia Institute of Technology. While completing his studies he served at the President of the Georgia Tech Graduate school chapter of the Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers (IISE).

Prior to joining INSCOM MAJ Ballers spent 4 years as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences and additionally served as the Director for the Center for Data Analysis and Statistics (CDAS) at the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York. He has taught Mathematical Modeling and Intro to Calculus, Probability and Statistics, Applied Statistics, and Sabermetrics. While teaching he advised 10 honors theses and published academic journal articles in a variety of topics to include, fetal/placental growth, statistics education, sports science, meta analysis, and text analysis.

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Currently LTC Baller is continuing research efforts in coordination with the United States Military Academy and Texas Tech University and serves as a reviewer for the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, The International Journal of Obesity, and PLOSOne. LTC Baller is also one of the Army's primary trainers for the Data Literacy 101 and AI Literacy 101 courses and holds the R1J Data Science PDSI and 5K Instructor ASI.

This summer LTC Baller will take over as the Soldiers and Sustainment Portfolio Manager at the Army's AI Integration Center (AI2C) in Pittsburgh, PA.

John Radovan
Public Sector Director
MIT Open Learning

John Radovan is the Public Sector Director at MIT Open Learning, specializing in delivering digital transformation and AI workforce education for large government organizations. Prior to his role at MIT, John was the Department of the Air Force – MIT AI Accelerator Deputy Director. He served in the United States Air Force (USAF) for over 20 years and his distinguished military career includes tours in Germany, Lithuania, Amazon HQ, Guam, MIT, and Iraq. He holds an MBA from the Kenan-Flagler Business School, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

PRESENTATION

Quantum Powered Data Washing Machine for AI-driven Data Quality

Speakers

Dr. Salomon de Jager & Dr. Imad Syed, PiLog Group

Abstract

As AI agents evolve to operate autonomously interacting through voice, vision, and sensors, the demand for **real-time, high quality and integrity data** becomes critical. Traditional data management systems struggle to keep pace with the scale, speed, and complexity of modern AI ecosystems.

Data Washing Machine, reimagined through the lens of **quantum computing and autonomous AI agents**. This next-gen approach leverages quantum parallelism and intelligent automation to continuously cleanse, validate, and optimize data pipeline without human intervention.

At the core of this transformation is the **PiLog Data Quality & Governance Suite** focused on Supply Chain & Asset Management Data, fully integrated with the SAP ecosystem, it delivers:

- **End-to-end data quality management** (structured and unstructured)
- **Automated data migration, governance workflows fully integrated with ERP & Operational Systems**
- **Industry-powered content libraries, repositories for contextual accuracy**
- **Cloud-native scalability and transparency**

For Chief Data Officers, this means a future-proof foundation for AI, where data is always clean, compliant, and ready for action. With PiLog and quantum-enhanced intelligence, enterprises can gain the agility, resilience, and trust needed to lead in the AI era.

Biography

Dr. Salomon de Jager

Chairman
PiLog Group

Salomon has 45 years of cross-industry experience around the globe, he is also on the ISO 8000 committee as part of ISO TC184/SC4 contributing for the development of Data standards. He holds Doctor of Philosophy in System Engineering and Logistic design.

Dr Salomon de Jager completed his Hons. B-Eng. degree (Mech. Ind.) in 1978 at the University of Stellenbosch South Africa. During his 2 year National Service in the South African Army he became an officer, contributed to Weapon Systems Development, Logistic Support System Design and obtained his M Eng. (Ind.) degree in 1981 at the University of Pretoria South Africa. The thesis was done in the field of systems simulation of the man-machine interfaces on the helmet visor of the pilot of an attack helicopter. National service was followed by six years of national service camps. During these camps Salomon was utilized on the development of models for the establishment of Logistic Data Analysis and data records required for the establishment of Integrated Logistic Software Systems in the Department of Defense.

Since 1978 Dr Salomon worked as Professional Engineer for Iron and Steel Corporation SA for six years and was involved in the design and optimization of asset and inventory management systems. In 1984 Salomon established a consultancy practice which merged into a software systems development house Paradigm Systems Technology. The company successfully developed and implemented the integrated asset and logistics management for the South African Air Force and Navy. Successful Asset and Maintenance Management systems was also developed and implemented for the Steel, Utilities, Mining, Nuclear, Telecom, Aviation and Petrochemical Industries.

This elaborated experience was used to complete his PhD in System Engineering and Logistic design in 1993 at Witwatersrand University Johannesburg. The thesis was on System Engineering and integrated acquisition processes in nuclear enrichment equipment.

Since 1985 Salomon was the head of the functional design team of Paradigm Systems. In 1994 the UK Royal Air Force chose the Paradigm Software Solution as the integrated logistic solution for the UK Royal Air Force. British Aerospace bought the Paradigm Company and Dr Salomon initiated a management buyout for the Industrial Division of Paradigm which became Pilog in 1995. Pilog business exteded into catalogue and data content solutions and this led to the establishment of Pilog Data in 1999. It was Dr Salomon's vision that data and data investments would become the assets of the future and therefore Pilog Data was established to focus on data, schemas, standards and e- solutions.

Dr Salomon participated in ISO TC184/SC4 since 2006 and initiated a South African mirror committee, SABS TC184 within the South African Bureau of Standards. This act as the single representation of the South African Industry and Defense input into ISO 8000.

In 2014 Dr Salomon was appointed as an Affiliate Faculty member of University Arkansas Little Rock (UALR) to assist the UALR IQ program through expert advice, teaching and student supervision. This was followed by the establishment of the Pilog Global Academy that will serve as a hub whereby industry- derived best practice and academic developments will be used for tertiary master data courses supplemented by Pilog Master Data Solutions being made available to global participating universities and academic institutions.

Dr. Imad Syed

CEO & CTO
PiLog Group

Imad has 20+ years of international experience, leading Innovation, Technology & Solution teams for several large implementations around the globe specifically focused on Data & Analytics deriving business value. He holds master's degree in computer science & Honorary Doctorate in Data Analytics. Senior executive, Digital advisory, Visionary Leader with vast experience in conceiving & designing enterprise information management solutions, data strategies for medium to large enterprises; Expertise in data governance, data management & data transformations of complex system landscapes, proven track record of excelling operational efficiency & effectiveness.

Strategic visionary, with deep business, engineering & technical knowledge of the latest market trends & evolutions, highly focused on delivering the best customer experience to the enterprises. Extensive knowledge of data science, real-time, grass root level issues of medium to large industry practices of business operations, revolutionized the product development with innovative technology platforms & frameworks. Worked extensively in various senior executive levels across multi-national teams internationally, team player, innovative thinker & go-to market strategist. Strong leadership skills with ability to build & lead performance-oriented teams, passionate to drive rapid business growth.

With a wealth of international experience and extensive cross-functional industrial expertise in Supply-chain, Asset lifecycle management, master & meta data management, I excel in fostering data-driven cultures that drive progressive business transformative. As a recognized thought leader and innovator in disruptive technology platforms, I specialize in the development, implementation, and execution of frameworks, complemented by ISO practices. My passion lies in empowering enterprises to achieve digital growth and unlock the hidden value from Enterprise Data & AI initiatives.

Researched, conceived, and architected innovative enterprise solutions using advanced technologies. Specialized in SaaS-based, multi-cloud content monetization through microservices with subscription models. Developed multiple software products, including PiLog Data Quality and Governance Suite, iMDRM, PiLog Cloud, Lean Data Governance, AI Lens, iDQM, and iDHS, leveraging the iVision Business Technology Platform Framework. Trusted advisor for numerous large organizations, providing expertise in digital advisory, enterprise strategy, data, AI, analytics, and ISO data standards.
• AI Lens, iMirAI Conversational AI Solutions built on several ML models including GenAI ISLexitas
• Enterprise Data, AI & Analytics Strategies
• Data Governance and Analytics, Data Quality HUB Strategies
• Data Maturity, Process Maturity Assessment & Value-Engineering Services
• Augmented Data Management, Business Process Modeling, Data Science-Enabled Solutions
• Multi-Lingual Ontologies/Taxonomies/Dictionaries (Asset/Equipment,

Materials, Services, Smart Contracts, Maintenance BoMs, Business Partners, etc.)
• Multi-Domain, Multi-Tenant, Multi-Org Implementation Frameworks for Data Quality, Master Data Governance & MDM Solutions
• Master Data Transformation, Quality Assessment, Processes, Policies & Practices
• Self-Serving Meter-able Micro-Services (High-Performance APIs/APX)
• Optimization of Enterprise Architecture, Application Landscape & Digital Transformation   Landscapes
• SAP MDG taxonomy & content framework for SAP Solution Extensions & Implementations
•   AI/ML,   Data   Science,   Automation   Solutions
• Innovated iVision Technology & Data Quality Framework, Methodology & Platform

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SESSION

8-A

PRESENTATION

ROI or Bust: Making GenAI Work for the KPIs That Actually Matter

Speaker

Alex Vayner, SparkBeyond

Abstract

Generative AI is everywhere—if you believe the hype, it's about to do your job, your laundry, and maybe even finally explain your company's expense policy. But for most CxOs, the real question is: "When does this thing actually deliver value I present to the board (or at least discuss at the next leadership team offsite)?" Too many AI projects end up as flashy demos or chatbots that could win "Employee of the Month" for answering FAQs, but somehow leave the real business needles superglued in place.

Here's the plot twist: the road to real, measurable ROI isn't paved with chatbot scripts or LLMs playing it safe in the shallow end. It runs straight through your company's structured data—the CRM, IoT feeds, production logs, and all those spreadsheets that haunt your dreams. Imagine if your LLM could act like a caffeine-fueled consulting team that never sleeps, always on call, sifting through your operational data treasure trove and surfacing the recommendations that actually move your most important business metrics. The trick? Letting LLMs extract, connect, and make sense of the numbers that matter—without forcing your teams to moonlight as AI engineers or take up interpretive data dance.

In this session, we'll ditch the buzzwords and walk through a practical, slightly irreverent methodology for dragging GenAI out of the innovation lab and into the operational trenches. You'll learn how to cut through the noise, zero in on the data that counts, and build a culture where AI doesn't just sound smart—it actually makes your business smarter. Because at the end of the day, it's not about how clever your AI is; it's about how much cleverer your business becomes.

Biography

Alex Vayner
Chief Growth Officer
SparkBeyond

Alex Vayner is the Chief Growth Officer at SparkBeyond, where he helps enterprises unlock the real business value of Generative AI—powered by the Always-Optimized™ platform (and a personal vendetta against mediocrity). With 25+ years of navigating data, AI, and the occasional executive detour, Alex has built and led high-performing teams and solutions for Fortune 500s in over 30 countries—often while grappling with jet lag, calendar chaos, and the existential dread of daylight saving time.

Before SparkBeyond, Alex spearheaded growth and innovation at KPMG, PA Consulting, and Capgemini, and served as the founding head of data innovation at Equifax. He holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in applied mathematics and computer science from the University of Florida and Georgia Tech, respectively—credentials he claims are equally handy for trivia night and decoding the proof of Fermat's last theorem.

When not at work, Alex juggles life with three kids, one wife, and a golden doodle (the true household strategist), splitting his time between Atlanta, Israel, and seat 34C on Delta—usually with a 19th-century Russian poetry book in hand and a home library that would make Umberto Eco jealous.

SESSION

8-B

PRESENTATION

AI's Hidden Price Tag: How Data Quality Can Make or Break ROI

Speakers

Gorkem Sevinc, Qualytics & Renee Colwell, Revantage

Abstract

As organizations race to adopt AI, many overlook the hidden cost sabotaging results: poor data quality. In this session, Gorkem Sevinc, CEO of Qualytics and serial tech founder, joins Renée Colwell, Global Data Quality Lead at Revantage (a Blackstone company), to unpack how data quality directly impacts AI performance and ROI. With insights from both a platform innovator and an enterprise leader, they'll share lessons on building scalable, proactive data quality programs that keep AI on track—and budgets intact.

Biography

Gorkem Sevinc
CEO
Qualytics

Gorkem Sevinc is a technology leader and entrepreneur with extensive experience in founding & scaling startup companies. He is the Co-Founder & CEO of Qualytics, the Enterprise Data Quality platform, and an Adjunct Assistant Professor at Johns Hopkins University.

He was previously the Co-Founder & Chief Architect of Facet, a financial services company focused on providing full financial management to mass affluent households; Co-Founder & CTO of Scene Health, a mobile health platform for medication adherence; VP of Software Engineering for miDiagnostics, a medical device company focused on blood diagnostics through nanofluidics; and Managing Director of the Johns Hopkins Medicine Technology Innovation Center.

Renee Colwell
Global Data Quality Lead
Revantage

Renée Colwell is the Global Data Quality Lead for Revantage, a Blackstone Real Estate portfolio company that provides best-in-class corporate services. Renee is responsible for data quality strategy and tooling across the business and tech ecosystem.

Prior to joining Revantage, Renée specialized in a variety of data governance and quality initiatives across disparate lines of business in Fortune 500 investment banks and brokerage firms, as well as at smaller private equity groups and hedge funds.

Expertise includes standing up and operationalizing data quality in the enterprise; understanding and documenting data lineage and transformations; automating manua tasks, and creating and achieving governance objectives.

A current member of the EDM Council (Enterprise Data Management Council), Renee is DCAM (Data Management Capability Assessment Model) certified, and hasparticipated in core activities such as committees formed to document data quality terminology and best practices.

She attended Bennington College in Vermont, and graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a B.A.

She holds a certificate in Executive IT Management from Columbia University's School of Continuing Education.

SESSION
8-C

PANEL DISCUSSION
Preparing to Become Chief Data Officer

Moderator	**Tom Redman, Data Quality Solutions**
Panelists	**Ravindra Harve, Boston College; Yasha Mouradi, Qvest; Beth Falder, Nuvance Health**

Abstract

No question—Chief Data Officer is a demanding job—there are so many competing priorities, the data is in such bad shape, and people are loathe to change. Fortunately, there is a rigorous, comprehensive program that can help you prepare for the job—the CDO Certification Program. This panel brings together recent graduates, who'll relate their experiences and answer your questions. While the panelists are big supporters, we'll do our best to cover both the great and the not-so-great.

Biography

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Tom Redman
The Data Doc, President
Data Quality Solutions

Dr. Thomas C. Redman, "the Data Doc," President of Data Quality Solutions, helps companies of all sizes, chart their courses to data-driven futures, with special emphasis on quality and analytics. Tom's recent book, People and Data: Uniting to Transform Your Business (Kogan Page Publications, July 2023) makes the transformational advice that companies must get everyone involved in their data programs. He has a Ph.D. in Statistics and two patents.

Ravindra Harve

Enterprise Data Architect
Boston College

Ravindra is a seasoned Data and Analytics Leader with over 30 years of experience in Data Management, Analytics, and Application Development across various industries, such as housing finance, retail, manufacturing, shipping, and higher education.

As an Enterprise Data Architect at Boston College, he uses data to drive strategy, innovation, and continuous improvement. He collaborates with project teams to guide data structures, integration, and governance, ensuring robust data foundations for initiatives.

Ravindra has demonstrated strategic leadership in the Business Intelligence (BI) Program, aligning projects with organizational goals. He designed and implemented a fully integrated Enterprise Data Warehouse (EDW) to enhance data accessibility. Additionally, he managed the Software Development Lifecycle for the EDW platform, overseeing analysis, design, development, and testing.

In a key modernization initiative, he transitioned the Enterprise Data Integration Solution to modern ETL/ELT tools, improving data processing efficiency while implementing strong security measures. Beyond technical & solution architecture, Ravindra mentors computer science students to be the next technical leaders and manages vendor relations and contract negotiations to maximize organizational value. His strategic insight has led to a scalable architecture for the EDW and an optimized BI infrastructure.

Yasha Mouradi

Data & Analytics Practice Leadership
Qvest

Yasha is a determined data, analytics, and AI executive with a strong technical background and over two decades of experience in managing data as an enterprise asset, shaping company-wide strategy, and building data teams that turn visions into reality.

Beth Falder

AVP, Data Management & Analytics
Nuvance Health

Ms. Falder spearheads enterprise-wide data and analytics strategy, ensuring optimal governance and stewardship of Nuvance's valued data resources.

Reporting directly to the CIO, Ms. Falder and her highly skilled team drive continuous innovation through cutting-edge analytics platforms, including both cloud-based and on-premise solutions. She provides visionary leadership in leveraging analytics and insights to advance organizational objectives around quality care, community health, and superior patient experiences.

Central to her mission is championing state-of-the-art data management, encompassing master data, reference data, metadata, data quality, and governance frameworks. Ms. Falder is the authoritative voice on data policies and administration, ensuring adherence to legal, regulatory, security and ethical mandates across this complex, highly regulated industry.

Widely recognized as a transformative force, Ms. Falder's deft leadership has positioned Nuvance at the forefront of harnessing healthcare data analytics to improve lives. Her unique blend of technical capabilities, strategic orientation, and collaborative approach drive both immediate impact and sustainable results.

SESSION 8-D

PRESENTATION

Data Quality and Reliability in the Age of AI

Speaker

Nandagopal Jayaram, CoStrategix

Abstract

As organizations expand their data and AI efforts, ensuring high-quality, reliable data is essential for success. Nandagopal Jayaram, CEO of CoStrategix, will share proven patterns for automating data issue detection, generating adaptive quality rules, and resolving problems proactively at scale. Attendees will learn practical strategies for creating self-healing data systems that support AI initiatives, modern governance, and measurable business value.

Biography

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Nandagopal Jayaram
Chief Executive Officer
CoStrategix

Nan Jayaram is the founder and CEO of CoStrategix, a strategy-led digital and data transformation services firm that helps organizations transform to stay competitive in today's digital world. Nan's strength is applying technology to achieve new revenue streams or operational efficiencies. He loves to stay on the leading edge of all things related to digital transformation, data and analytics, artificial intelligence, and the cloud. Nan defines his mission as tapping into the collective curiosity of employees and partners to create new possibilities for clients, communities, and each other.

PRESENTATION

Lessons from Building a Data Ecosystem that Works Back from the Business

Speaker

Amy Lenander, Capital One

Abstract

The evolution of emerging technologies like AI – combined with the explosive growth of data volume and complexity – continues to raise the stakes on how organizations manage and use data to drive material business value. In this talk, Capital One's Chief Data Officer will share lessons learned from the company's decades-long journey to build and evolve a modern data ecosystem that powers results across the business. Attendees will walk away with actionable insights and best practices on areas including:

- Building an understanding of the business and the destination it's working back from.
- Creating a scalable data foundation of platforms and tools that is extensible across the organization.
- Balancing central and federated accountability for data to effectively deploy data strategy, fuel results, unlock insights, and maintain flexibility for continued iteration as the business and the external landscape evolve.
- Fostering a data-driven culture.

Biography

Amy Lenander
Chief Data Officer
Capital One

Amy Lenander is Chief Data Officer at Capital One, where she leads the development and delivery of Capital One's data strategy. A Fortune 500 company, Capital One was founded with data in its DNA and serves more than 100 million customers across a broad spectrum of financial products and services. Amy's team builds and manages the data platforms and products that make up Capital One's data ecosystem and drives data management practices across the company.

Since joining Capital One in 2003, Amy has held a variety of business leadership roles. These have included leading the No Hassle Rewards program, strengthening customer advocacy and digital engagement; Head of International and CEO of Capital One UK, leading all aspects of that business; and Head of Capital One's Navigator Platform, which aims to

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simplify the car buying experience. She is a Fellow of the 2019 class of the Aspen Institute Finance Leaders Fellowship and a member of the Aspen Global Leadership Network. She is also a board member of the non-profit LIFT.

Amy is passionate about developing talent and creating products that make life better for consumers. Born and raised in New Jersey, Amy earned her undergraduate degree in Economics from Harvard University and M.B.A. from Columbia University.

SESSION 10-B

What AI Needs From Your Data: Lessons From the Front Lines

Speakers

Adita Karkera, PhD, Deloitte Government & Public Services; Lorenzo Ross, Deloitte Consulting, LLC

Abstract

Organizations adopting AI often find that poor data quality, unclear ownership, and missing lineage can derail progress. this session will share insights from real-world projects where AI success depended on strong data foundations. They will discuss invisible data defects that skew model outcomes and practical techniques to enhance trust and usability. Attendees will gain actionable takeaways and questions to bring back to their teams for reliable, scalable impact.

Biography

Adita Karkera, PhD

Chief Data Officer
Deloitte Government & Public Services

With over 22 years of industry experience, Adita Karkera, Ph.D., serves as the Chief Data Officer for Deloitte Consulting LLP's Government and Public Services. She leads the data strategy to foster value creation from the firm's data and ensuring trust. She also serves as a leader in the Deloitte AI Institute for Government, providing strategic advice to government clients. Previously, Dr. Karkera served as the Deputy CDO for the State of Arkansas, pioneering a data-driven culture. She established the state's first CDO office and served on Governor Hutchinson's COVID-19 Technical Advisory Board.

Dr. Karkera devotes herself to empowering women in data and AI through formal and informal mentorship programs. She is a founding member of Women Leaders in Data & AI (WLDA) and is the inaugural Chapter Lead for the Federal Government Chapter for Women in Data. She is also an editorial board member of CDO Magazine, a board member for Women in Data and Data Leadership Collaborative. In 2023, CDO Magazine named her a Global Data Power Woman and a Leading Data Consultant. She has been nationally recognized by Women in IT, GovTech, and StateScoop 50 for her exemplary contributions to the industry.

Lorenzo Ross

Technology Fellow
Deloitte Consulting, LLC

Lorenzo is an Information Technology Leader with twenty-eight years' experience in business/technology consulting. Lorenzo delivers large complex BI/DW, EDM, Analytic, and data modernization programs to GPS market clients. Lorenzo advises clients integrating emerging technologies and next generation architectures to drive greater value from the massive amounts of data Agencies collect, manage, and share.

Lorenzo is an AI & Data Engineering, Data Modernization & Analytics, CDO Services campaign leader, and a Data Management / Architecture subject matter expert (SME). Lorenzo serves as strategic advisor to Government CDOs / CDAOs and leads internal efforts developing accelerators, approaches, strategies, and offerings to optimize the access, management, quality, sharing and utilization of their enterprise data using next generation architectures that integrate cloud, big data, data management and advanced analytic capabilities.

SESSION

10-C

PANEL DISCUSSION

How CDOs Must Adapt and Change to Stay Relevant and Have a Business Impact

Moderator	**Randy Bean, Data & AI Leadership Exchange**
Panelists	**Ryan Swann, Vanguard; Don Vu, New York Life; Teresa Heitsenrether, JPMorganChase; Chandra Donelson, United States Space Force**

Abstract

The CDO role continues to evolve. The good news is that the demand for data & AI leadership has never been greater. Yet, while a record 84% of Fortune 1000 and leading global organizations have appointed a CDO according to survey data, less than half report that the role is successful and well established. Further, one-third report having hired a Chief AI Officer. What impact will this have on the CDO role? With an average tenure of well under 3 years, this session tackles the tough questions of how CDOs must evolve, adapt, and change if they wish to remain relevant and have a business impact within their organizations.

Biography

Randy Bean
Founder, CEO, Author, Speaker, Senior Advisor
Data & AI Leadership Exchange

Randy Bean has been an advisor to Fortune 1000 organizations on data and AI leadership for 3+ decades. He is a Founder, CEO, Author, Speaker, Senior Advisor, Innovation Fellow, and Board Member.

Randy is the bestselling author of "Fail Fast, Learn Faster: Lessons in Data-Driven Leadership in an Age of Disruption, Big Data, and AI", and a regular contributor to Forbes, Harvard Business Review, and MIT Sloan Management Review on Data & AI leadership. He was previously Founder and CEO of NewVantage Partners (NVP), a data and AI leadership advisory firm to Fortune 1000 clients, which he founded in 2001. NVP was acquired by Wavestone, a Paris-based global consultancy, in 2021. Randy has organized and moderated a Chief Data Officer keynote panel for CDOIQ since 2014 and serves on its advisory board.

Ryan Swann
Principal and Chief Data Analytics Officer
Vanguard

Ryan Swann is Vanguard's Chief Data Analytics Officer and principal. In this role, he oversees the strategic use of data and analytics across the firm. This includes, but not limited to, managing the entire data lifecycle while increasing business insights from analytics, AI, ML, and data science. Ryan is also a member of the U.S. Defense Innovation Board.

Before joining Vanguard in April 2020, Mr. Swann led data and analytics organizations not only to drive business outcomes but also to reduce risk in the private and public sectors. In the private sector, he was a Chief Data Officer (CDO) at Collibra Inc. after serving as the CDO at E*Trade Financial, where he developed and implemented an enterprise data strategy. Prior to these private sector roles, Mr. Swann was CDO/Director of Data Analytics at the Office of Government-wide Policy during the Obama Administration. While in this role he co-founded the White House Data Cabinet and co-authored the first Federal Data Maturity Model after serving as senior data leader at the U.S. Department of the Treasury during the 2008 financial crisis for almost a decade.

Mr. Swann earned a B.A. in communication with a minor in mathematics and computer science from University of Maryland at College Park, a M.B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, and an M.P.A. from Harvard University. During his undergraduate years, Ryan also served in the U.S. Marine Corps where, after a tour in Iraq, he received several medals and commendations for outstanding service.

Don Vu
SVP, Chief Data & Analytics Officer
New York Life

Don Vu is Senior Vice President and Chief Data & Analytics Officer at New York Life. In his role, Mr. Vu is responsible for driving the strategy and delivery of New York Life's AI, data, and insights capabilities in support of its business strategy and objectives.

Immediately before joining New York Life in October 2023, Mr. Vu was Chief Data Officer at Northwestern Mutual, where he helped drive the company's digital transformation and reset the company's data & AI strategy. He also co-led the Northwestern Mutual Data Science Institute, a partnership between Northwestern Mutual, Marquette, and University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Prior to Northwestern Mutual, Mr. Vu held senior data leadership positions at Major League Baseball, BAMTech (acquired by Disney) and WeWork.

Mr. Vu holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Virginia's McIntire School of Commerce and is on the school's AI Task Force and

the Advisory Board for the Center for Business Analytics. Mr. Vu currently serves on OpenAI's customer advisory board.

Teresa Heitsenrether
Firmwide Chief Data & Analytics Officer
JPMorganChase

Teresa Heitsenrether is the Chief Data & Analytics Officer and a member of JPMorganChase's Operating Committee. Leading the Data & Analytics organization, she is responsible for setting data and analytics strategy and governance standards, as well as driving firmwide adoption of artificial intelligence to develop new products, enhance productivity, and improve risk management.

Heitsenrether has spent her entire career with JPMorganChase. From 2015 to 2023, she was Global Head of Securities Services, overseeing a business responsible for safekeeping, accounting, administration, and data solutions for institutional investment managers. Under her leadership, the business achieved remarkable growth, increasing revenue by over 22% and assets under custody by nearly $9 trillion. It also launched Fusion, a scalable data platform for institutional investors.

Prior to that, Heitsenrether held various leadership roles within JPMorganChase, including Global Head of Prime Brokerage, where she spearheaded international expansion and growth. She has been recognized as one of American Banker's Most Powerful Women in Finance and named to Barron's list of the 100 Most Influential Women in U.S. Finance.

Heitsenrether holds a Bachelor of Science in Finance from Fordham University and a Master of Business Administration from New York University. She serves on the Advisory Board of Fordham's Gabelli School of Business and is actively involved in JPMorganChase's Women on the Move initiative and the NextGen Business Resource Group.

Chandra Donelson
CDAO & Director of Data Artificial Intelligence and Software
United States Space Force

TBD

SESSION
10-D

PRESENTATION

Financial Services Meets AI: Implementing Scalable Data Governance in Highly Regulated Industries

Speakers

Leanne Ball, Carson Group & Inna Tokarev Sela, illumex

Abstract

Data governance is a critical pillar of enterprise AI strategy, yet many organizations face challenges in scaling these efforts effectively. According to the Gartner Chief Data and Analytics Officer Agenda Survey for 2024, 89% of CDAOs identified effective data and analytics governance as essential for driving both business and technology innovation. At Carson Group, a financial services company with a small, non-dedicated governance team, we've taken a step-by-step approach to data governance, aligning with the organization's evolving needs and appetite.

Our journey began with data tagging to improve visibility and control, then progressed into defining AI concepts and building data lineage. Today, we're focusing on governed AI to enhance data integrity, accessibility, and compliance.

This session will walk through our chronological approach, highlighting how AI has reduced manual overhead and fostered collaboration across teams. From automated tagging of sensitive data like Personally Identifiable Information (PII) to AI-driven business glossaries, we've minimized reporting time and enhanced semantic consistency.

In this fireside chat, we'll explore how AI augments governance without replacing human oversight and share insights on building scalable, adaptable governance frameworks in data-heavy, highly regulated environments.

Biography -

Leanne Ball
VP of Data and Analytics
Carson Group

Leanne Ball is the Vice President, Data & Analytics at Carson Group, a leading wealth management firm headquartered in Omaha, Nebraska. With an undergraduate degree in math from Nebraska Wesleyan, a Masters in Statistics from Texas A&M, and nearly a decade of experience on data teams, Leanne brings a wealth of knowledge in analytics and governance.

In Leanne's current role, she oversees Data Management, Data Engineering, and Reporting and Analytics, driving innovation and leveraging data to provide valuable insights and solutions for the firm. Leanne is particularly passionate about leadership development, machine learning, data governance, and data warehousing techniques.

When not at work, she enjoys spending time with her daughter and husband, as well as CrossFit, running, and traveling.

Inna Tokarev Sela
CEO and Founder
illumex

Inna Tokarev Sela is the founder and CEO of illumex.ai, a company revolutionizing data potential with its Generative Semantic Fabric. Recognizing the complexities of unifying business data semantics—essential for GenAI readiness—illumex created a platform that simplifies semantic mapping and alignment. illumex is widely used by data-intensive enterprises for GenAI, Data Governance, and multi-cloud initiatives, ensuring swift and error-free data-driven decisions.

Inna's career reveals a consistent theme: bridging the gap between data investments and decision-making. She previously held roles as VP of AI at Sisense and Senior Director of Machine Learning at SAP. An inventor with multiple patents, she speaks frequently at top data and AI conferences. Inna holds an MSc in Information Systems focused on neural networks and completed the Stanford MBA executive program. She also leads the Women in Data Israel chapter.

SESSION
11-A

Financial Industry Panel: Navigating Data and Analytics in a Rapidly Evolving Landscape

Moderator	**Ursula Cottone, Huntington Bank**
Panelists	**Andrew Foster, M&T Bank; Manav Misra, Regions Financial; Reuven Shnaps, AmTrust Financial Services**

Abstract

Sets the stage for an engaging conversation, highlighting the forward-thinking nature of the topic, and the critical role data and analytics play in financial services.

Topics:
1. Transformative Technologies: AI, machine learning, and beyond.
2. Data Governance: Ensuring compliance and ethical use of data.
3. Customer Insights: Leveraging data to enhance customer experience.
4. Risk Management: Using analytics to predict and mitigate risks.

Biography

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Ursula Cottone
EVP, Chief Data Officer Enterprise Data
Huntington Bank

As the Chief Data & Architecture Officer at Huntington Bank since 2018, Ursula is focused on building a best-in-class data and analytics team focused on business-focused outcomes of improving the customer experience, growing revenues, driving operational efficiency, and reducing risk for the bank. Dedicated to enabling innovation and solving pain points by executing against an enterprise data strategy and delivering the necessary capabilities, including a strong data management and governance program, an innovative Artificial Intelligence center of excellence and an industrialized data engineering team to support both. Her goal is to have Huntington actively manage data as an enterprise asset to make lives better, help businesses thrive, and strengthen the communities we serve.

Andrew Foster
Chief Data Officer
M&T Bank

Andrew Foster, C.F.A., is the Chief Data Officer at M&T Bank. As CDO, he leads data and AI strategy design and execution ensuring M&T is well placed for the next decade of growth.

He drives development and delivery of platforms, tools, processes and methodologies to enable M&T to harness the full potential of its data to continuously meet the evolving needs of customers and communities. He partners with multi-disciplinary teams across the organization to drive data-driven outcomes to support customer experience, business resilience, performance optimization, and growth.

Foster brings over 20 years of experience leading data, automation, and innovation organizations in the financial services industry, most recently as Deputy Chief Data Officer (Americas) and Head of Data Governance at Deutsche Bank in New York. He previously held leadership positions at Europe Arab Bank (EAB) PLC and Arab Bank PLC, both in London.

Committed to pursuing greater inclusion in the fields of data and technology, Foster has consistently advocated for women in data management, serving in volunteer leadership and outreach roles for Women Data Professionals with a focus on industry mentoring. WDP is the gender diversity arm of EDM Council, a leading global trade association for data and analytics management.

A native of South Africa whose career has taken him through London and New York, Foster works at M&T Bank's Tech Hub at Seneca One in Buffalo, New York. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Science, specializing in Finance, from the University of Cape Town in South Africa and has participated in executive leadership programs through the London Business School.

Manav Misra
Chief Data Analytics Officer
Regions Financial

Manav Misra is the Chief Data and Analytics Officer for Regions Bank and serves on the company's Executive Leadership Team. Regions is a regional bank that operates throughout the South, Midwest and Texas and is headquartered in Birmingham, Ala.

Misra is responsible for overseeing the company's data strategy and enterprise data governance and leveraging data and analytics for improving the customer experience, enhancing risk management and driving revenue growth across the businesses.

Prior to joining Regions in late 2018, Misra was the Chief Data Science Officer for CenturyLink from 2014 to 2018, leading a geographically distributed team focused on solving big data problems for customers using machine learning/AI & statistical techniques. He

also was Chief Knowledge Officer/Chief Science Officer for Cognilytics, Inc., a company he co-founded, from 2009 to 2014, before CenturyLink acquired it. He was Chief Operating Officer for XProtean, Inc. from 2007 to 2009 and was co-founder, VP of Strategy for StorePerform Technologies (now part of JDA Corporation) from 2002 to 2007. He served as senior director of Business Intelligence & Strategy for KBToys.com from 1999 to 2002 and began his career as an assistant professor of Computer Science from 1992 to 1999 at the Colorado School of Mines with a research interest in Artificial Intelligence.

Misra earned his PhD in computer engineering from the University of Southern California and holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur.

Reuven Shnaps

SVP, Chief Data Science & AI Officer
AmTrust Financial Services

Reuven Shnaps, Ph.D. is the Chief Data Science & AI Officer at AmTrust Financial Services, Inc – a multinational property and casualty commercial & specialty insurance company. With over 25 years of global experience, he is a seasoned Analytics & AI/ML thought leader and trusted advisor. Reuven has a proven track record in building Analytics & AI/ML teams, shaping analytical vision, and promoting innovation. He has worked with some of the biggest financial institutions in the world dealing with a wide array of business challenges, blending business and advanced analytics concepts, with clear and proven financial impact focusing among other things on: Pricing & Underwriting, Product Personalization, Customer Retention. He is also a frequent speaker at key industry conferences.

SESSION

11-B

PRESENTATION

Unlocking Value with Data Products & the Data Value Chain

Speakers

Danielle Beringer & Gabriel Crane, KPMG US

Abstract

Business leaders across industries know that maximizing their data investments and overcoming barriers is key to unlocking value from their data. In this session, KPMG will discuss a quantitative approach to the data value chain and present client stories that illustrate the impact and value trajectory of data products. KPMG will also be sharing the results of their market survey "Unlocking Value with Data Products" which gathered responses from 250 executives across a wide range of sectors, highlights the universal agreement of the importance of data products and the challenges in achieving business value.

Biography

Danielle Beringer
Principal, Advisory
KPMG US

Danielle is an enterprise technology executive and data integration strategist driving high-performance agile teams to deliver business value. Her career emphasis over the last 20 years is application development, holistic data management, next-generation analytics, artificial intelligence/machine learning innovation, and cloud modernization. She is presently a managing director in the KPMG Lighthouse practice, focused on the KPMG Modern Data Platform and sales engineering for go-to-market—positioning data and analytics services with clients and expanding data-related alliances.

Prior to KPMG, Danielle served as the regional data officer for Nissan Americas, leading Data and Analytics, Enterprise Architecture, DevOps, and Cloud Delivery. Danielle's experience as a software engineer has been a driver for success throughout her progression into technical leadership and creating a data-driven culture. Her passion for advancing data accessibility and collaboration at scale is based on unifying business and technology teams to work on strategic data initiatives. Danielle is an advocate for data literacy, persona-based technology enablement, and adoption of privacy engineering at scale.

Gabriel Crane

Technical Director, Advisory Data Organization
KPMG US
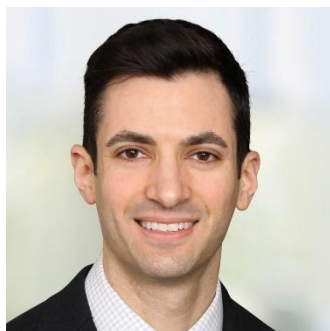
Gabriel is a Director in the KPMG CDO dataCatalyst organization and a product manager specializing in enterprise data ecosystems and data products. He is dedicated to enhancing the value of data through finding novel integrations of data, technology, and work approaches. The most recent 10 years of his career have focused on accomplishing this through guiding the design, development, and use of enterprise-scale data meshes and fit-for-purpose operating models. His work has emphasized data democratization, trust in data, self-service experiences, and optimized data management lifecycles.at scale.

SESSION

11-C

From Noise to Value: Unlocking Domain-Specific AI with Unstructured Data

Speakers

Michael Mocanu, Liberty Mutual & Or Zabludowski, Flexor

Abstract

In highly regulated industries like insurance and finance, critical business knowledge is often buried in unstructured formats, from claims notes to compliance documents.

In this session, Michael Mocanu (Liberty Mutual) and Or Zabludowski (Flexor) will explore how leading data teams transform messy, unstructured data into trusted, AI-ready assets, and why that's essential for building scalable, domain-specific AI systems.

Key discussion points will include:
- **The Evolution of the Feature Factory**: How GenAI is reshaping feature engineering workflows, and why balancing flexibility with focus is critical for data science teams.
- **Why GenAI Co-Pilots Fall Short**: The limits of generic GenAI tools in complex environments, and the growing need for domain-specific AI agents that understand context and ensure compliance.
- **Structuring for Success**: Why the formatting and standardization of unstructured inputs are foundational to enabling usable, trusted, and scalable AI.

Join us to learn how leading data teams are transforming noisy, unstructured data into strategic assets, and driving AI initiatives that deliver real, governed impact.

Biography

- -

Michael Mocanu
Senior Director
Liberty Mutual

Michael serves as a Senior Director, Technology Data Science & Data Governance at Liberty Mutual Insurance and has more than 20 years of experience helping insurance and technology organizations use data and analytics for growth, transformation, and achievement of strategic objectives.

In the current role, he is responsible for the advancement of decision data science and artificial intelligence capabilities throughout the organization – growing high performing analytics and engineering teams, leading value driven product strategy and innovation, and bringing together diverse business ecosystems.

Michael is the inventor on a number of highly cited patents related to GPS and location-based AI, and enjoys teaching university Advanced Analytics graduate classes to the next generation of Data Scientists and Engineers.

Or Zabludowski
Co-Founder & CEO
Flexor
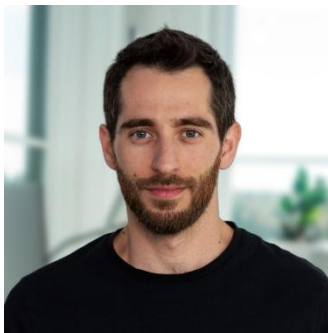
As CEO of Flexor, Or Zabludowski is a visionary leader in unstructured data solutions. With an MSc in Biomedical Engineering, he led Israel's National Covid HQ Data Team, delivering mission-critical insights that shaped national decisions and earned top tech honors. Now at Flexor, he is pioneering next-generation data infrastructure, transforming how enterprises extract, structure, and operationalize unstructured data to drive intelligence and innovation at scale.

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SESSION

11-D

PRESENTATION

Rewiring Data Trust: UCB's Journey with DQLabs

Speakers

Andrew Crisp, United Community Bank & Bhavesh Patel, DQLabs

Abstract

United Community Bank (UCB) began its data transformation journey with fragmented systems, reactive monitoring, and manual data quality workflows that could have left the business exposed to hidden data issues. In this session, Andrew Crisp, Director of Enterprise Data., shares how UCB transformed its approach by adopting DQLabs to drive proactive monitoring, centralized data quality controls, and consistent data across lines of business. What started as an initial data strategy and compliance initiative is now evolving into an enterprise-wide rollout fuelled by end-user trust, visibility, tremendous time savings and agility. Learn how UCB increased data confidence, empowered end users, and scaled literacy and accountability by embedding data quality into its critical data operations.

Biography

Andrew Crisp
VP, Director of Enterprise Data Services
United Community Bank

TBD

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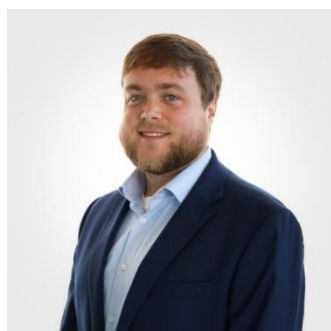
Bhavesh Patel

Head of Sales
DQLabs

As a successful Software Sales Executive, I have contributed to the growth and success of seven startups. With expertise in the Enterprise Software industry, I excel at developing high-value customer relationships and driving maximum revenue. I am results-driven, knowledgeable in emerging technologies, and committed to maintaining ethical standards.

SESSION 12-A

PRESENTATION

Data Truths Brought to Life Through Song

Speaker | **Alissa Schneider, Sinclair, Inc.**

Abstract | Data is serious business, but talking about it doesn't have to be! Join Alissa Schneider for an enlightening and entertaining session where she'll share data truths, collected over nearly two decades working in data, via both speech and a collection of musical vignettes.

Biography

Alissa Schneider

Executive Director of Enterprise Data & Insights
Sinclair, Inc.

Alissa Schneider is the Executive Director of Enterprise Data & Insights at Sinclair, Inc., where she holds the most senior data leadership position, reporting directly to the CIO. In this role, she oversees all facets of enterprise data strategy and management, including Data Science/AI, Data Engineering & Warehousing, Business Intelligence, Master Data Management, Data Governance, and more. A trusted partner to business leaders across the organization, Alissa ensures data-driven solutions are strategically aligned with Sinclair's overarching business objectives.

With nearly two decades of experience in data, technology, and program delivery, Alissa has spearheaded multimillion-dollar, enterprise-scale initiatives that transform business and data capabilities. Her career began in management consulting, where she gained broad expertise across a wide range of data and technology domains, working in both private and public sectors, and serving industries including Media & Broadcast, Facility Services, Financial Services, Healthcare, Pharmaceuticals, Insurance, Oil & Gas, Building Products, HVAC, and Real Estate. Alissa is currently a member of the 2nd cohort of the Certified Chief Data Officer Program through CDOIQ, under the direction of Dr. Richard Wang.

Alissa's career journey is as unique as it is inspiring. She began her professional life in the arts, earning a Bachelor of Music in Classical Voice from the renowned Cleveland Institute of Music. Her early career roles in arts administration and stage management ultimately led her to pivot into data and consulting through technical training at TechSkills. Based in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, Alissa enjoys a fulfilling personal life with her husband, a classical pianist, and their three children. Her eldest daughter is

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studying Acting at the prestigious Interlochen Arts Academy in northern Michigan, while her middle daughter's love of softball keeps the family busy on most weekends. As time permits, Alissa performs as a soloist at her church. It's a busy, wonderful life!

SESSION 12-B

PRESENTATION

The Hidden Tax of Inefficient Data Platforms—And How to Eliminate It

Speaker

Milind Chitgupakar, Yeedu

Abstract

Every slow job, every performance bottleneck, every surprise cloud bill—it's all a hidden tax on your innovation agenda. This session lifts the curtain on the actual cost of inefficiency in Spark workloads. Milind shares how CDOs are quantifying platform drag, aligning tech with finance, and reclaiming lost budgets. The message is clear: reclaim efficiency, reinvest in innovation, and transform your data estate into a value-creating engine.

Biography

Milind Chitgupakar
Founder & CEO
Yeedu

Milind has over 23 years of experience transforming enterprise data strategies, shaped by an early encounter with a costly data failure at a Fortune 500 company. He helped build some of the era's largest data warehouses at Microsoft and IBM, witnessing the gap between data investment and business value.

To address rising data computing costs, Milind launched Yeedu—a re-architected Spark engine that cuts data processing expenses by 60% and boosts performance by 4- 10X without requiring migration or refactoring.

Holding six patents, he now focuses on scaling Yeedu and mentoring the next wave of data innovators.

SESSION
12-C

PRESENTATION

How Bill and ZoomInfo Embedded AI-Based Data Observability Into Their Lakehouse

Speakers

**Mona Rakibe, Telm.ai; Aindra Misra, Bill;
Hasmik Sarkezians, ZoomInfo**

Abstract

As enterprises modernize their data platforms, open table formats like Apache Iceberg are quickly becoming the backbone of scalable, AI-ready lakehouse architectures. But with this transformation comes a critical challenge: how to maintain real-time data trust across increasingly fragmented, high-velocity pipelines—without introducing latency or operational drag.

This challenge is front and center for organizations like Bill and ZoomInfo. Bill is re-architecting its platform for agentic AI—where autonomous agents trigger dynamic workflows based on chat, APIs, and event streams. This shift requires trustworthy, low-latency data served from systems like Iceberg and Kafka, with observability deeply embedded to support real-time decisions. ZoomInfo, meanwhile, powers its core go-to-market intelligence with a complex, multi-layered pipeline, where even subtle data degradation can break workflows or erode customer trust.

In both cases, traditional, reactive approaches to data quality weren't enough. Instead, these teams partnered with Telmai to implement a new model: proactive observability at the lakehouse layer. This session will walk through how each organization integrated Telmai into their architecture to continuously monitor schema drift, anomalies, and data contract violations—without slowing down innovation.

Attendees will gain a practical blueprint for embedding intelligent, adaptive data quality workflows into modern data stacks—enabling trusted AI outcomes, resilient pipelines, and faster time to insight.

Mona Rakibe
Co-Founder and CEO
Telm.ai

Mona Rakibe is the Co-Founder and CEO of Telmai, a leading AI-driven data observability platform helping enterprises ensure trusted, reliable data at scale. With deep expertise in data infrastructure and AI-ready architectures, Mona works closely with Fortune 500 companies to embed data quality and observability at the core of modern data stacks — enabling faster, more confident AI adoption. Before founding Telmai, Mona was Director of Products at Reltio and held engineering and product leadership roles at multiple data-focused startups. She is a frequent speaker on topics spanning data trust, lakehouse architectures, and operationalizing AI.

Aindra Misra
Director of Product Management, Data, AI & Cloud
Bill

Aindra Misra is a product leader at BILL, where he drives the strategy and development of data, AI, and machine learning platforms. Previously at Twitter (X), he led key modernization efforts across Twitter 1.0 and X. With deep expertise in platform architecture and scalability, Aindra has spoken at institutions like Dartmouth and Northeastern, sharing insights on product management, GenAI, and innovation. He's passionate about building impactful systems and mentoring the next generation of tech leaders.

Hasmik Sarkezians
VP of Engineering
ZoomInfo

Hasmik Sarkezians is Vice President of Engineering at ZoomInfo, where she leads the development of large-scale, data-centric platforms that power go-to-market intelligence. With over 20 years of experience in enterprise software, Hasmik has built and scaled high-performing engineering teams across industries, from telecommunications to SaaS.

Her background includes leadership roles in software development, data engineering, and infrastructure, with a focus on reliability, scalability, and business impact. Passionate about mentorship and inclusive leadership, Hasmik is committed to fostering engineering cultures that emphasize ownership, quality, and continuous growth.

SESSION
12-D

Agentic AI and the Future of Data: How to Balance Cost, Performance, and Control

Speaker

Or Zabludowski, Flexor

Abstract

AI agents are redefining data management, automating tasks like data cleansing, quality monitoring, and transforming unstructured data into actionable insights.

But with automation comes new challenges:

How do we scale AI-driven operations while maintaining control and maximizing time to impact?

In this session, Or Zabludowski, CEO of Flexor, will share:

- How smarter data management helps enterprises leverage AI agents better and faster.
- Why unstructured data, which holds your organization's tacit knowledge in emails, documents, and conversations, is both the key, and the challenge, to scaling AI effectively.
- Practical strategies from real-world deployments to balance AI agents' autonomy, performance, and cost – without losing control.
- If you're looking to move beyond AI pilots and drive real business impact, this webinar will show you how to make Agentic AI work, without compromising governance or efficiency.

Biography

Or Zabludowski
Co-Founder & CEO
Flexor
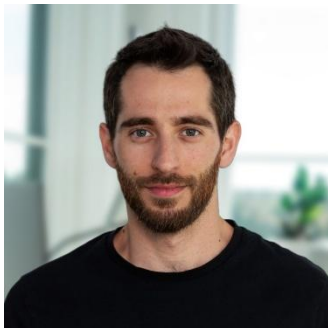
As CEO of Flexor, Or Zabludowski is a visionary leader in unstructured data solutions. With an MSc in Biomedical Engineering, he led Israel's National Covid HQ Data Team, delivering mission-critical insights that shaped national decisions and earned top tech honors. Now at Flexor, he is pioneering next-generation data infrastructure, transforming how enterprises extract, structure, and operationalize unstructured data to drive intelligence and innovation at scale.

SESSION
13-A

PRESENTATION
Key Success Factors for AI Adoption by Corporate Functions

Speaker

Trang Nguyen, Prudential Financial

Abstract

AI – and in particular Generative AI – has received a lot of spotlight within and outside of corporate settings. Tech giants are increasing the depth and breadth of their AI products. Major enterprise software vendors have been embedding AI into their product offerings. Companies of different sizes are rushing to buy AI solutions from vendors or develop their own solutions. However, the reality is harsh: Gartner has predicted that 30% of Gen AI use cases will fail, while other sources like Rand Corporation claim that failure rate can be as high as 80%!

The good news is that AI leaders can increase the probability of success by focusing on key factors: people, process and technology. Trang Nguyen, VP of Data Science for Corporate Functions at Prudential, will share lessons learned and elaborate on the success factors to drive adoption and outcomes of AI use cases in Corporate Functions at Prudential.

Biography

Trang Nguyen
VP of Data Science
Prudential Financial

Trang Nguyen is VP of Data Science for Corporate Functions for Prudential Financial. Trang leads the Data Science portfolios for Non-Financial Risk Management, Law, Compliance and Business Ethics, Audit and Human Resources. Prior to her role at Prudential, Trang led a Data Science and Engineering team at Philips Healthcare to execute Data Science and Analytics projects. Trang has nearly 20 years of experience in data, analytics, and artificial intelligence leadership roles in financial services and healthcare industries. Trang earned an MBA with high honors from Boston University and had computer science education at Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology.

SESSION
13-B

PRESENTATION
Fuel GenAI with AI-Ready Data

Speaker

Peter Manta, Informatica

Abstract

Data leaders worldwide are now being directed to pursue GenAI to drive innovation, top-line revenue growth and productivity, but without the right data, those GenAI projects might be stuck in experimentation. Discover how AI-ready data fuels GenAI that can grow and scale.

Join your peers to learn:

- AI and GenAI's impact and common pitfalls
- Key considerations for AI-ready data
- Real-world AI-ready examples
- Recommendations to get started

Biography

Peter Manta
Global AI Strategy Leader
Informatica

Peter is an AI and data strategy leader with over 25 years of experience in data management, analytics, and technology. As the Global AI Strategy Lead at Informatica, Peter is at the forefront of helping organizations assess and define their data management strategies with an eye toward delivering impactful and reliable AI outcomes. Holding a master's degree in applied mathematics from Cornell University, Peter's deep understanding of data and algorithms is matched by his commitment to advancing industry standards in data-driven decision-making.

Throughout his career, Peter has witnessed the rise of AI and its profound impact across industries like healthcare, finance, and logistics. Recently, the resurgence of AI's relevance has reignited the connection to his academic roots in mathematics. His broader focus lies in advancing AI by refining data management practices and driving data literacy. He highlights the importance of trusted AI outcomes relying on authoritative, proprietary data, ensuring organizations leverage the right data foundations to achieve accurate, reliable, and transformative AI solutions.

PRESENTATION

Democratizing Data and Technology Development

Speaker

Tom Davenport, Babson College

Abstract

Organizations seeking to digitize, automate, and model their operations can't accomplish those goals with IT professionals alone. They need as much assistance from their business domain experts as possible, and that's where citizen development, automation, and data science come in. In this session Tom Davenport will describe the research findings from his book *All Hands on Tech: The AI-Powered Citizen Revolution.* The research illustrates how CDOs and their tech executive colleagues can engage business professionals in technology development, while managing the risks of citizen-developed technology. Davenport will provide examples of aggressive democratization in some of the world's largest and most sophisticated corporations.

Biography

Tom Davenport
Distinguished Professor
Babson College

Tom Davenport is the President's Distinguished Professor of Information Technology and Management and the Faculty Director of the Metropoulos Institute for Technology and Entrepreneurship at Babson College, a Visiting Professor at the UVA Darden School of Business, a Fellow of the MIT Initiative on the Digital Economy, and a Senior Advisor to Deloitte's Chief Data and Analytics Officer program. He pioneered the concept of "competing on analytics" with his best-selling 2006 Harvard Business Review article (and his 2007 book by the same name). He recently co-authored the book is *All Hands-on Tech: The AI-Powered Citizen Revolution* (with Ian Barkin), and he has also co-authored the book Agentic Artificial Intelligence. He has published 26 books and over 300 articles for Harvard Business Review, MIT Sloan Management Review, and many other publications. He writes columns for Forbes, MIT Sloan Management Review, and the Wall Street Journal. He has been named one of the world's "Top 25 Consultants" by Consulting magazine, one of the top 3 business/technology analysts in the world by Optimize magazine, one of the 100 most influential people in the IT industry by Ziff-Davis magazines, and one of the world's top fifty business school professors by Fortune magazine. He's also been a LinkedIn Top Voice for both the education and tech sectors.

SESSION

13-D

PRESENTATION

How Trust Scores Create Actionable Clarity (in an increasingly uncertain world)

Speaker

Matt Agee, Validatar

Abstract

In a world of rapid change and increasing uncertainty, where data-driven decision-making is paramount, understanding and improving data quality is essential for effective governance and operational excellence. This session will explore how trust scores can serve as a powerful framework for data teams to drive action and clarity with stakeholders. Attendees will learn:

- **The Importance of Trust Scores:** Discover why establishing quality metrics is crucial for data integrity and organizational success.

- **Practical Calculation Techniques:** Gain insights into methods for calculating trust scores and other quality metrics that are tailored to your organization's specific needs.

- **Real-World Applications:** Explore case studies that demonstrate how trust scores have led to significant improvements in data management and decision-making processes.

- **Actionable Strategies:** Walk away with practical strategies for implementing and leveraging quality metrics to foster a culture of data excellence within your team.

Join us to transform your approach to data quality and empower your data teams with the insights they need to drive meaningful results.

Biography

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Matt Agee
Vice President of Product Innovation
Validatar
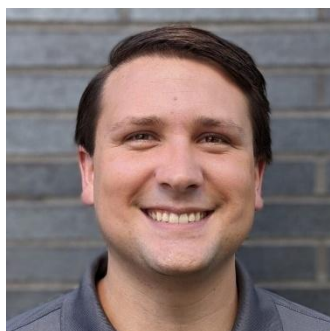
Matt is Co-Founder and Vice President of Product Innovation at Validatar. Before launching Validatar, he spent over 15 years of experience in the data analytics space as a consultant, data architect, and data scientist. He has led teams delivering enterprise data warehouses, predictive modeling, and visualization and business analytics solutions for over 80 customers. He is passionate about designing products with deep automation and transparency built throughout. Matt and his wife live in Chicago with their two dogs, Kiko and Sol. He loves Wikipedia, math, history, and geography, and is always down to kick a soccer ball around or eat some tacos.

SESSION

14-A

PRESENTATION

Creating New Opportunities at Scale: Leveraging Telemetry Data for a Global Device Manufacturer

Speaker

Mike Woods, The Modern Data Company

Abstract

Transforming millions of connected devices into actionable intelligence represents one of today's most compelling data opportunities. This presentation explores how a leading global device manufacturer unlocked the potential of their telemetry data, creating a breakthrough device intelligence platform.

The solution now delivers insights into over 100 million devices, enabling predictive maintenance that dramatically improves customer satisfaction and reduces long-term warranty costs. Discover the key strategies, technical approaches, and business outcomes that made this large-scale IoT data transformation possible.

Biography

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Mike Woods

Vice President, Growth,
North America, The Modern Data Company

Mike Woods leads The Modern Data Company's North America New Business Sales team and is based in Winder, Georgia, just outside Atlanta. With over 30 years of global experience across the U.S., Canada, and Europe, Mike brings a rich and diverse background in enterprise solution management and business development.

Mike's career began in the Finance & Accounting division of NCR in Dayton, Ohio, and quickly expanded across continents and industries. From managing supply chain product solutions in Milan, Italy, to leading the Wal-Mart account as Sales Director in Bentonville, Arkansas, Mike has held pivotal roles in high-impact markets. For the past 15 years, he has excelled in sales leadership positions at Teradata and Denodo in Chicago, helping Fortune 500 companies unlock value from data and analytics. He has collaborated with top-tier organizations across Retail, Healthcare, Financial Services, Manufacturing, and CPG sectors, driving strategic growth through data-driven innovation. Mike holds a B.A. in Finance from Indiana University and an MBA in International Business from the University of Dayton. Outside of work, Mike and his wife Tiffiney enjoy family time, travel adventures, and playtime with their two dogs, Rocky and Tango.

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SESSION

14-B

PRESENTATION

A CDO Blueprint for Driving Agentic AI Trust

Speaker

James Massa, JPMorganChase

Abstract

As AI agents become integral to decision-making, the question of trust becomes paramount. This keynote explores how CDOs can support trust in AI through a robust data strategy that includes zero-trust data quality, data ownership frameworks, data mesh architecture, and data democratization. We will dissect why training data quality and Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) data quality contribute to AI hallucinations and outline how data contracts and data marketplaces can mitigate these risks. By addressing the data underpinnings of AI, this session provides actionable strategies for CDOs to replace shadow IT with citizen data scientists, enforce data quality standards, and build trusted AI agents.

Biography

James Massa
Senior Executive Director of Software Engineering and Architecture
JPMorganChase

James Massa is a recognized leader in data strategy and AI data quality. With six patents, including one for AI Zero Trust Data Quality, he has pioneered innovative solutions that elevate data governance and mitigate risk in AI systems. As the head of Data Quality Application Development for JPMorgan Chase Wealth Management, James led his team to win the 2024 FSTech Award for Best Financial Services IT Team and has been a repeat winner of the American Financial Technology Award for Best Compliance Initiative and the FF Banking Tech Award for Best Reg Tech.

A frequent international conference speaker, James holds master's degrees in Digital Design from Harvard University and in Finance from Baruch College. He is also an AWS Certified Solutions Architect and a former Agile adjunct instructor at NYU. With expertise spanning data quality, data strategy, responsible AI, GenAI, compliance, operations, trading, and program management, James continues to shape industry standards and drive transformative data initiatives.

SESSION
14-C

It's Not FAIR, It's IRAF!: An Adoption-First Approach to Data Transformations

Speakers

John Spens & Nimisha Asthagiri, Thoughtworks

Abstract

Implementing FAIR data principles is a strategic imperative for healthcare and life science organizations as those organizations seek to drive better outcomes for patients. However, real-world adoption often faces significant hurdles. This session cuts through the theoretical to reveal what successful FAIR transformation looks like on the ground, given our experiences at multiple organizations.

We explore critical nuances of managing risk, demonstrating ROI, and navigating organizational change. We distinguish between the data consumer's journey $(F \rightarrow A \rightarrow I \rightarrow R)$ and the data transformation journey $(I \rightarrow R \rightarrow A \rightarrow F)$. The latter offers an iterative, value-first approach, built collaboratively with data product consumers and producers, with higher likelihood to overcome resistance and accelerate buy-in.

Join us to learn about our experiences in executing data strategies that are contextualized, collaborative, and designed for genuine impact, ensuring your FAIR initiatives move from aspiration to ingrained practice.

Biography

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John Spens
VP of Data Modernization
Thoughtworks

John is the Vice President of Data Modernization at Thoughtworks, where he brings over 18 years of experience in delivering data and analytics capacities. His career spans more than three decades, focusing on the development of critical software applications and business intelligence solutions worldwide. Before his tenure at Thoughtworks, John was an architect and technical project manager at Towers Watson, Deloitte Consulting, and Hyperion Software. In 2012, he led the launch of Thoughtworks' data analytics practice in North America. A well-known proponent of modern data engineering techniques, John frequently contributes to Thoughtworks' insights on subjects like data mesh and data governance.

Nimisha Asthagiri
Global Director of Data and AI
Thoughtworks

Nimisha (Nim) Asthagiri is a Global Director of Data and AI at Thoughtworks. She leads digital transformations for her clients with strategic combinations of design thinking, change management, experimentation, and platform architecture often applied to data products. Her most recent focus is architecting agentic enterprises while applying systems thinking for responsible AI. Previously, she was Chief Architect at edX, driving intentional architecture for the next generation of large-scale online learning. Nimisha also serves as advisor and board member to emerging businesses, including serving as a consulting CTO. She began her career in Boston-based technology startups and holds multiple degrees from MIT. A seasoned technologist, Nimisha is passionate about fostering innovation through the amplification of diverse voices and the synergism of collective strength.

SESSION

14-D

PRESENTATION
How AI Transforms Data Engineering

| **Speaker** | **Saket Saurabh, Nexla** |

| **Abstract** | Learn how data engineering teams are evolving to become a critical foundation for successful enterprise-grade AI implementations. While there was significant hype around GenAI in 2024, 2025 is the year AI delivers real, measurable business impact. This session will dive into the best practices that helped move AI projects from promising prototypes to robust production systems and how companies can unlock Agentic AI use cases. It will also include examples from real-world implementations using Nexla to highlight how to implement an enterprise-grade integration and agentic AI foundation that supports no-code data engineering. |

Biography

Saket Saurabh
CEO & Co-founder
Nexla

Saket Saurabh is the Co-founder and CEO of Nexla, industry's most advanced integration platform that is built with AI, for AI. Saket started his career as an engineer, creating accelerated computing technology at NVIDIA as part of a small innovation team. Thereafter he took to data scaling as founder at mobile ad-serving pioneer Mob smith, ultimately taking it through acquisition and IPO. Driven by a passion to simplify the lives of data users, he founded Nexla, driving cutting edge innovation in data engineering, winning Gartner Cool Vendor and acquiring customers like DoorDash, Johnson &Johnson, and American Express. Saket holds an MBA from The Wharton School and a BTech in Computer Science &Engineering from IIT (Indian Institute of Technology), Kanpur. He lives in the Bay area with his data expert wife and three kids.

PRESENTATION

Navigating Risk in the AI Era: Building Trust While Scaling Data Innovation

Speakers

JoAnn Stonier, Mastercard & Eileen Vidrine, Vidrine Vantage

Abstract

In an era where artificial intelligence capabilities are advancing at breakneck speed, organizations face an unprecedented challenge: how to harness the transformative power of AI while navigating risks and maintaining the trust that customers demand. This fireside chat explores the critical intersection of AI innovation, data governance, how to handle risk through the lens of a seasoned executive who navigated these complexities at one of the world's largest financial technology companies.

As former first Chief Privacy Officer, and then as the first Chief Data Officer at Mastercard, current Mastercard Fellow of Data & AI, as well as an Executive Advisor with the Cantellus Group — JoAnn brings unparalleled insights into building privacy-first AI systems at global scale. Having overseen data strategy during a period of explosive AI adoption while simultaneously ensuring compliance with an ever-evolving landscape of regulations from GDPR to emerging AI governance frameworks, she has a unique perspective on the practical realities of implementing "privacy by design" principles as part of AI Governance.

This conversation is particularly timely as organizations across industries grapple with fundamental questions: How do you build AI systems that are both powerful and able to navigate risk? What does meaningful consent look like in an AI-driven world? How do you maintain competitive advantage through data innovation. Perhaps most critically, how do you build sustainable trust with customers who are increasingly aware of—and concerned about—how their data is being used?

Drawing from real-world experience in financial services—an industry where trust is the ultimate currency and regulatory scrutiny is intense—this discussion will provide actionable insights for leaders seeking to navigate the complex terrain of AI innovation, privacy protection, and business growth in today's data-driven economy.

JoAnn Stonier

Mastercard Fellow of Data and AI
Mastercard

JoAnn C. Stonier serves as the Fellow of Data & Artificial Intelligence for Mastercard as a leading expert in both disciplines and assists the organization's innovation, policy, and risk efforts. JoAnn has been instrumental in designing and operationalizing Mastercard's global data business, first as the firm's first privacy officer, then as the first chief data officer and now as the first fellow. JoAnn is a global data expert and strategist with extensive experience overseeing the curation, quality, ethical use, governance, strategy, and management of Mastercard's global data assets. She is an expert in artificial intelligence with a keen interest in ethics, data equity, minimization of bias and ensuring fair analytic outcomes, especially as generative artificial intelligence, and other technologies increase.

JoAnn is a highly sought-after thought leader and speaker in emergent data, AI, and privacy issues. She has advised industry executives, governments, intergovernmental organizations, and NGOs (nongovernmental organizations). Currently, she serves as the Chair of the USCIB's Digital Policy Committee and is Co- Chair of the World Economic Forum's Global Future Council on Data Policy and Equity. She also teaches at Carnegie Mellon University and is an adjunct professor at Pratt Institute. She has been appointed as an Advisor to several organizations including: Omnicom Group/Credera's AI Council, Cantellus Group and Elementum and she serves on the board of directors for Hope for the Warriors and the Academy of Mount St. Ursula.

JoAnn received her Juris Doctorate from St. John's University and her Bachelor of Science degree from St. Francis College. She holds memberships in the Bar of the State of New York and the Bar of the State of New Jersey. She is based in Purchase, N.Y.

Eileen Vidrine

CEO, Vidrine Vantage
Former Air Force, Chief Data and AI Officer, Department of Air Force

Eileen Vidrine is a national security executive, U.S. Army veteran and the former Chief Data and Artificial Intelligence Officer for the U.S. Department of the Air Force. Ms. Vidrine possesses more than 35 years of experience leading transformative change initiatives in defense, intelligence, air, and space.

A visionary leader within the Federal Senior Executive Service, she was handpicked as the first strategic advisor for data to the Federal chief information officer, where she spearheaded data and emerging technology strategies. In her leadership roles, Ms. Vidrine has consistently driven

innovation by establishing new programs that enhance workforce capabilities and promote best practices in data management and AI. She continues to mentor and develop the next generation of data and AI leaders.

Ms. Vidrine's contributions to the AI and data community have been recognized with several prestigious awards, including the AIM AI 100 Visionary Leader, CDO Magazine Executive of the Year 2023 and the DataIQ 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award.

SESSION
15-B

PRESENTATION
Dr. Wang Open Session: Ask All You Can

SESSION
15-C

PANEL DISCUSSION
CDOIQ Going Global – How to Strengthen the CDO Role and Build CDOIQ Communities in the Regions

Moderator	Christine Legner, University of Lausanne
Panelists	Noriko Rzonca, Cosmo Energy Holdings; Dr. Salomon de Jager, PiLog Group
Abstract	TBD

Biography

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Christine Legner
Professor, Director Competence Center Corporate Data Quality
University of Lausanne

Christine Legner is a Professor of Information Systems at the Faculty of Business and Economics (HEC), University of Lausanne. She is the co-founder and academic director of the Competence Centers Corporate Data Quality (CC CDQ), an industry-funded research consortium and expert community with 20 corporate partners (BASF, Bayer, Beiersdorf, Bosch, Nestlé, Schaeffler, SAP, Siemens and Tetrapak, among others). In the CC CDQ, she and her research team collaborate with industry experts to develop concepts, tools and methods that advance data management. Christine is also the co-director of the Executive Certificate in Data Science and Management, a joint program offered by University of Lausanne and EPFL.

Noriko Rzonca
Chief Digital Officer, Cosmo Energy Holdings
Outside Director, Unicharm Corporation

Noriko Rzonca is a dynamic data science and digital transformation (DX) strategy expert with over 20 years of leadership experience in the insurance, banking, and energy industries. As Chief Digital Officer of Cosmo Energy Holdings, she has led the company's digital transformation efforts, including driving oil refinery digital twin projects, enhancing employee digital upskilling initiatives, and

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facilitating DX projects such as DX Hub. She has also spearheaded the establishment of data governance and a data-driven business environment at the enterprise level.

Previously, Noriko held senior roles at Citi Group, MetLife Japan, and Sony Bank, where she led integrated marketing, branding, and pricing initiatives. Her expertise in data science, CX design, and global services strategy development has positioned her as one of Japan's most respected thought leaders in the areas of DX and change management.

Noriko holds a Ph.D. in Psychology from Utah State University, with a focus on research and evaluation methodology. A strong advocate for data-driven decision-making, she frequently speaks at conferences globally.

Beyond her professional life, Noriko serves as a Management Councilor at Shiga University and previously served as a member of Japan's Cabinet Office's Working Group for the Establishment of a Mathematics, Data Science, and AI Higher Education Programs Certification System, supporting data literacy cultivation among students in Japan.

In her free time, she enjoys traveling and spending time with her husband and son.

Salomon de Jager

Chairman
PiLog Group

Salomon has 45 years of cross-industry experience around the globe, he is also on the ISO 8000 committee as part of ISO TC184/SC4 contributing for the development of Data standards. He holds Doctor of Philosophy in System Engineering and Logistic design.

Dr Salomon de Jager completed his Hons. B-Eng. degree (Mech. Ind.) in 1978 at the University of Stellenbosch South Africa. During his 2 year National Service in the South African Army he became an officer, contributed to Weapon Systems Development, Logistic Support System Design and obtained his M Eng. (Ind.) degree in 1981 at the University of Pretoria South Africa. The thesis was done in the field of systems simulation of the man-machine interfaces on the helmet visor of the pilot of an attack helicopter. National service was followed by six years of national service camps. During these camps Salomon was utilized on the development of models for the establishment of Logistic Data Analysis and data records required for the establishment of Integrated Logistic Software Systems in the Department of Defense.

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Since 1978 Dr Salomon worked as Professional Engineer for Iron and Steel Corporation SA for six years and was involved in the design and optimization of asset and inventory management systems. In 1984 Salomon established a consultancy practice which merged into a software systems development house Paradigm Systems Technology. The company successfully developed and implemented the integrated asset and logistics management for the South African Air Force and Navy. Successful Asset and Maintenance Management systems was also developed and implemented for the Steel, Utilities, Mining, Nuclear, Telecom, Aviation and Petrochemical Industries.

This elaborated experience was used to complete his PhD in System Engineering and Logistic design in 1993 at Witwatersrand University Johannesburg. The thesis was on System Engineering and integrated acquisition processes in nuclear enrichment equipment.

Since 1985 Salomon was the head of the functional design team of Paradigm Systems. In 1994 the UK Royal Air Force chose the Paradigm Software Solution as the integrated logistic solution for the UK Royal Air Force. British Aerospace bought the Paradigm Company and Dr Salomon initiated a management buyout for the Industrial Division of Paradigm which became Pilog in 1995. Pilog business exteded into catalogue and data content solutions and this led to the establishment of Pilog Data in 1999. It was Dr Salomon's vision that data and data investments would become the assets of the future and therefore Pilog Data was established to focus on data, schemas, standards and e- solutions.

Dr Salomon participated in ISO TC184/SC4 since 2006 and initiated a South African mirror committee, SABS TC184 within the South African Bureau of Standards. This act as the single representation of the South African Industry and Defense input into ISO 8000.

In 2014 Dr Salomon was appointed as an Affiliate Faculty member of University Arkansas Little Rock (UALR) to assist the UALR IQ program through expert advice, teaching and student supervision. This was followed by the establishment of the Pilog Global Academy that will serve as a hub whereby industry- derived best practice and academic developments will be used for tertiary master data courses supplemented by Pilog Master Data Solutions being made available to global participating universities and academic institutions.

SESSION

15-D

PRESENTATION

Beyond Automation: How Next Generation AI-powered Solutions are Reshaping Business Models

Speaker

Rajeev Shrivastava, TigerGraph

Abstract

AI is no longer just a tool for automating routine tasks—it is fundamentally transforming how businesses operate, compete, and create value. This session explores how leading organizations across industries are using the next generation of AI-powered platforms for mission critical needs at scale including increasing fraud detection, unlocking new revenue streams, delivering hyper-personalized customer experiences, and reinventing traditional business model.

Biography

Rajeev Shrivastava
Chief Executive Officer
TigerGraph

Rajeev Shrivastava is the CEO at TigerGraph. He has extensive leadership experience from top technology companies. Previously, he drove significant growth and innovation at Google and NICE inContact, leading major strategic initiatives and successful mergers. His expertise in scaling businesses and fostering innovation is underpinned by an MBA from the Wharton School and a Bachelor's degree from Delhi College of Engineering. Prior to joining TigerGraph, Rajeev was at Google, where he served as GM & Product Lead for an AI-first Customer Conversation Platform. In this role, he managed a significant P&L and led teams driving innovation and growth within Google's expansive business landscape. Previously, Rajeev played a pivotal role in the growth of NICE inContact as their Chief Product & Strategy Officer. Prior to NICE inContact, Rajeev led go-to-market and marketplace initiatives at Rackspace.

SESSION
16-A

PANEL DISCUSSION
What Does Successful Data Leadership Look Like?

| **Moderator** | Peter Aiken, Virginia Commonwealth University |

| **Panelists** | Nancy Morgan, Ellis Morgan Enterprises LLC; Linda Powell, Banking |

Abstract

While the CDO title is relatively new and still evolving, there are some lessons that can be gained from the combined 100+ years of data leadership experience from this group of four dedicated data leaders. They present actionable insights on:

- Paths to data leadership
- Communicating as a data leader and communicating about data
- Creating and accounting for data value
- The role of AI and other buzzwords

Biography –

Peter Aiken
Associate Professor, Virginia Commonwealth University
Founding Director, Anything Awesome

Peter Aiken, PhD is an acknowledged Data Management (DM) authority, an Associate Professor at Virginia Commonwealth University, President of DAMA International, and Associate Director of the MIT International Society of Chief Data Officers. For more than 35 years, Peter has learned from working with hundreds of data management practices in 30 countries including some of the world's most important. Among his 12 books are the first on CDOs (the case for data leadership), focusing on data monetization, on modern strategic data thinking and objectively specifying what it means to be data literate. International recognition has resulted in an intensive schedule of events worldwide (pre-Covid). Peter also hosts the longest running data management webinar series hosted by our partners at Dataversity. Starting before Google, before data was big, and before data science, Peter has founded several organizations that have helped more than 200 organizations leverage data–specific savings have been measured at more than $1.5B USD. His latest is Anything Awesome.

Nancy Morgan

Chief Executive Officer
Ellis Morgan Enterprises LLC

Nancy Morgan is a National Security executive leader, the former US Government Intelligence Community Chief Data Officer (IC CDO) and Advisory Board Member with 36+ years of experience leading strategy, innovation and driving transformation in the data, AI and information technology arenas. She now does independent consulting and advisory board work related to data, AI, cybersecurity, corporate governance and working with the public sector. While in Government she successfully led numerous data and information technology initiatives while serving as a program manager and Executive Leader at the Central Intelligence Agency.

She has extensive experience leading major corporate transformation efforts and standing up new organizations across portfolios for data and AI strategy, data management, data policy, data literacy/data acumen, digital transformation, software development, and cloud technology adoption/migration the national security and intelligence arenas. She has proven experience across all phases of the data management lifecycle; defining, developing and deploying capabilities worldwide; and excels at partnership engagement across all branches of governments, between the public and private sectors and with foreign partners.

She now serves as Strategic Advisor with The Cantellus Group, working with both public and private sector clients; and is on Samba Nova Systems' Artificial Intelligence Innovation Advisory Council and Federal Council, Academy Securities Advisory Board and Geopolitical Intelligence Group, Kibu, Inc. Advisory Council, data2 Advisors, and the T-Mobile Public Sector Advisory Council. She was named as a 2024 Visiting Fellow for the Cyber and Tech Center of the National Security Institute and was named one of the Most Influential People in Data by dataIQ100 in 2024. She is an Ambassador for World Leaders in Data and AI (WLDA) and is a frequent public speaker.

She has a Master of Science in Information Systems from American University and a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and French from Colgate University. She is based in the Washington, DC area.

Areas of interest: corporate change management, digital transformation, emerging technologies, mission tradecraft, data management, data literacy, data fluency, data acumen, data science, artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), data and AI ethics, privacy, cloud adoption, program management and developing the next generation workforce.

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Linda Powell
Deputy Chief Data Officer
Banking

Linda F. Powell has over 20 years of experience in the finance industry including commercial banking, banking supervision, and supporting economic research. She spent most of her career with the Federal Reserve System. She was also the Chief Data Officer at the Treasury Department's Office of Financial Research and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. In 2018 she joined Citibank as the Global Head of Data Governance, Data Reporting, and End User Computing and in 2021 she joined BNY as the Deputy Chief Data Officer. She has published several papers on the topics of data standards, metadata, and data strategy. She has a B.A. in Economics from Rutgers University and an M.S. in Quantitative Finance from George Washington University.

SESSION 16-B

PANEL DISCUSSION

The Evolving Role of State Government CDOs in the Age of AI

Moderator

Adita Karkera, Deloitte Government & Public Services

Panelists

Dean Pickett, State of Ohio; Adam Carpenter, State of Montana; Prabhakar Vijayarangam, State of Nebraska; Scott Powell, State of Michigan

Abstract

In an era where data is a strategic asset, Chief Data Officers (CDOs) are at the forefront of driving transformative change. How do CDOs demonstrate value and impact in a public sector environment? Our panel of seasoned former and current CDOs will explore how they are redefining data governance, enhancing data sharing, and leveraging AI to deliver measurable outcomes.

This discussion will uncover how CDOs in state government challenge conventional wisdom and culture, empowering their teams and stakeholders to harness the power of data and AI while balancing data governance. Attendees will gain insights into the innovative strategies and best practices that enable CDOs to overcome organizational barriers, ensuring data quality and integrity while driving data-driven decision-making.

Join us to learn how CDOs are navigating the complexities of their roles, fostering inter-agency collaboration, and preparing for the future in the age of AI.

Biography

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Adita Kakera
Chief Data Officer
Deloitte Government & Public Services

With over 22 years of industry experience, Adita Karkera, Ph.D., serves as the Chief Data Officer for Deloitte Consulting LLP's Government and Public Services. She leads the data strategy to foster value creation from the firm's data and ensuring trust. She also serves as a leader in the Deloitte AI Institute for Government, providing strategic advice to government clients. Previously, Dr. Karkera served as the Deputy CDO for the State of Arkansas, pioneering a data-driven culture. She established the state's first CDO office and served on Governor Hutchinson's COVID-19 Technical Advisory Board.

Dr. Karkera devotes herself to empowering women in data and AI through formal and informal mentorship programs. She is a founding member of Women Leaders in Data & AI (WLDA) and is the inaugural Chapter Lead for the Federal Government Chapter for Women in Data. She is also an editorial board member of CDO Magazine, a board member for Women in Data and Data Leadership Collaborative. In 2023, CDO Magazine named her a Global Data Power Woman and a Leading Data Consultant. She has been nationally recognized by Women in IT, GovTech, and StateScoop 50 for her exemplary contributions to the industry.

Dean Pickett
Assistant State CDO
State of Ohio
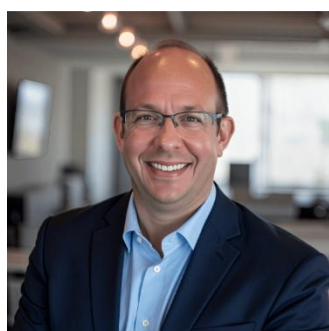
Dean C. Pickett is a seasoned private and public sector leader with a remarkable track record of driving enterprise data and predictive analytics divisions to new heights. With a wealth of expertise in Fortune 100 enterprise data strategies, IT and data operations, data management processes, and the oversight of large-scale analytics projects, Dean has consistently developed strategic vision and realized results. With his recent roles as leaders in Fortune 10 healthcare supply chain corporation and public sector, Dean has cemented his position as a true visionary and effective strategist in the corporate world.

He currently serves as the Assistant State Chief Data Officer and Chief Data Officer at Department of Administrative Services for the State of Ohio. In this role, he is driving the effective use of data and maturing the analytics within the State of Ohio. Previously, he was an Executive Advisor and Program Lead for the InnovateOhio Platform – Data Analytics program at the State of Ohio, Dean helped drive the data and analytic maturity in Ohio. This is evident by the numerous national awards which the program has been awarded over the past 5 years. While in this role, Dean has helped to drive cost efficiencies, improve state revenue, improved the effectiveness of state programs, as well as helped in leading the efforts to reduce fraud across the state.

Previously he served as the Managing Partner and Executive Advisor at Edge Analytics. In this role, he is accountable for strategic planning, business relationship cultivation, and revenue growth, which has demonstrated a remarkable increase of over 55% in the last two years. Dean is renowned for his effective leadership and ability to support enterprise operations. This is evidenced by his role as the Director of Data Analytics Platforms and Services for a Fortune 20 healthcare supply chain corporation. In that position, he successfully managed a $4 million project that involved transitioning information from Teradata to Hadoop, enabling greater insights and more accurate forecasting. Notably, he developed a dental management performance application and led initiatives to improve the analytic maturity across the State of Ohio, identifying areas for revenue improvement and program effectiveness. Additionally, he developed a cutting-edge dental management performance application, further solidifying his reputation as an innovator in the field.

Dean's career is marked by a relentless pursuit of excellence, a passion for analytics, and an unwavering dedication to driving innovation in the corporate world. Dean is also actively engaged as a board member for several organizations..

Adam Carpenter
State Chief Data Officer
State of Montana

Adam has an MBA and Master of Science in Information Systems with an emphasis on Data Science from the University of Texas at Arlington. Now at the state of Montana, Adam is working to break down data silos and make citizen data work for citizens. With a decade of experience in Machine Learning, his expertise enables him to guide the state through the data maturity journey, reducing the infrastructure barriers and financial burden of data accessibility. By modernizing the state's data infrastructure, Montana can tackle more difficult data questions, enabling state agencies to collaborate and improve the citizen experience.

Prabhakar Vijayarangam
State Chief Data Officer
State of Nebraska

Prabhakar Vijayarangam alias **Vijay** is the **State Chief Data Officer** for the State of Nebraska, driving innovation through data strategy and cross-agency collaboration, with over two decades of IT leadership experience in both the public and private sectors spanning industries including finance, insurance, transportation, higher education, and Government. He specializes in digital transformation, cloud integration, and building high-performing teams. Vijay holds an MBA from Creighton and is recognized for his servant leadership and passion for leveraging data to drive meaningful change.

Scott Powell
Chief Data Officer
State of Michigan

Scott Powell is the chief data officer for the State of Michigan. As the founding director of the Michigan Center for Data and Analytics (MCDA), Scott leads efforts to enhance and promote evidence -based decision making across state government. He directs the MCDA team in turning data into actionable information, specializing in advanced analytics, program evaluation, and administrative data systems. His recent work focuses on developing cross-agency collaboration and analytic capacity in state government and promoting data literacy in the public sector. Before taking on his current role, Scott served as the center's research director, leading numerous projects evaluating the effectiveness of state programs in labor and higher education. Prior to joining the State of Michigan, Scott held appointments as a researcher with the Heldrich Center for Workforce Development at Rutgers University, where he developed multiple research projects for the State of New Jersey, and as an assistant professor at the University of Tennessee. Scott is a native of the Flint, Michigan area and holds degrees from Michigan State University and Ohio State University.

SESSION
16-C

PRESENTATION
AI Frontiers at MIT: Pioneering Research, Real-World Applications, and Collaboration Opportunities

Speakers

Graham Rong, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (ILP) & Ron Spangler, MIT Corporate Relations

Abstract

Join industry leaders as they explore the impact of industry-university collaboration. Dr. Graham Rong and Dr. Ron Spangler, Directors of Corporate Relations at MIT, will introduce the MIT Industrial Liaison Program and showcase real-world case studies of successful AI initiatives. Learn about the strategies and best practices that have helped companies drive innovation and achieve success through partnerships with MIT.

Biography

Graham Rong
Director, Corporate Relations
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (ILP)
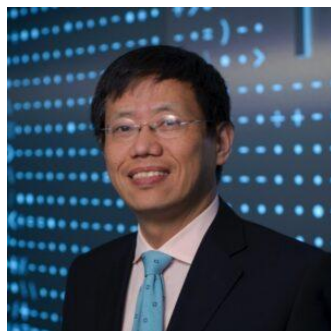
Dr. Rong is a Director of MIT Corporate Relations. He manages the interactions and relationships between the research at MIT and companies worldwide to help them stay abreast of the latest developments in technology and business practices.

Previously, Dr. Rong founded IKA, LLC. He has led corporate development and product innovation, and provided strategic advices to companies in corporate strategy, IT leadership, digital transformation, AI, enterprise content management, and customer relationship. He held senior roles in Harte-Hanks and Vignette Corporation. He held an EU postdoctoral research fellowship in the University of Edinburgh in Scotland where he started global collaborative research.

Dr. Rong is on the board of multiple organizations, including MIT Sloan Alumni Association of Boston from 2009 to 2012. He chaired MIT Sloan

CIO Symposium from 2009-2011. He is a senior expert invited by international organizations.

Dr. Rong holds a M.B.A. in global and innovation leadership from the MIT Sloan School of Management and Ph.D. in numerical computing from University of Guelph.

Ron Spangler

Director
MIT Corporate Relations

Dr. Ron Spangler has served as a Program Director at MIT Corporate Relations since late 2013, overseeing a diverse portfolio of companies in the mining, energy, aerospace, and defense sectors. Before joining MIT Corporate Relations, Ron dedicated two decades to an industry career, primarily focusing on various MIT-connected startup companies. In 1994, he earned his doctorate in Aeronautics and Astronautics from MIT, and his extensive contributions include numerous publications and patents. Notably, Ron is also an FAA-licensed pilot with a glider rating.

He was promoted to Director of Corporate Relations in March 2024.

SESSION 16-D

Scaling AI Across the Enterprise

Speaker

Bill Kemerer, Allegion

Abstract

As organizations embark on their AI journey, initial successes often lead to a greater appetite for more sophisticated and widespread AI applications. However, scaling AI across an enterprise presents unique challenges that require strategic planning and execution. In this session, we will explore the critical steps and considerations necessary to effectively expand AI capabilities within your organization.

Drawing from real-world experience, this session will delve into key strategies for developing robust technical resources and fostering a culture of innovation. We will also discuss the importance of aligning AI initiatives with business objectives and empowering leaders to make informed decisions. Additionally, we will address the complexities of managing the increasing risks associated with deploying multiple AI solutions, including regulatory considerations and data governance.

Attendees will gain insights into best practices for scaling AI, ensuring sustainable growth, and maximizing the transformative potential of AI across the enterprise. Whether you are just beginning your AI journey or looking to enhance existing capabilities, this session will provide valuable guidance on navigating the path to enterprise-wide AI integration.

Biography

Bill Kemerer
Vice President, Global Data and Analytics
Allegion

Bill leads Allegion's Global Data and Analytics team, including all aspects of enterprise data, analytics and artificial intelligence, to "transform data into business value for Allegion and our customers." Bill is responsible for Allegion's enterprise data strategy and partners with other leaders to optimize benefits and reduce risks associated with the company's data. Allegion's Global Data and Analytics team is responsible for the enterprise data lake, data warehouse, and all ETL processes that ingest data from 40+ sources (including connected products and software solutions); designing, building and supporting 20+ self-service analytics solutions; and applying advanced analytics and AI to derive new insights from data and help the business realize incremental

value. Bill reports to Allegion's Chief Information and Digital Officer and is a member of the information and digital leadership team.

Bill joined the Security Technologies division of Ingersoll Rand in 2004, which was spun off as Allegion in 2013. He has held positions of increasing responsibility in Lean Six Sigma and Operational Excellence. Following the spin-off from Ingersoll Rand, Bill managed the completion of transition agreements between the two companies and worked with the executive team to develop the Allegion Operating System. Bill then served as Director of Demand Creation, leading the Americas sales operations team in supporting a 600+ sales and specification-writing organization in adopting CRM, sales analytics, and Overtur® collaboration tools. Prior to Allegion, Bill worked for Johns Manville, Anchor Hocking Specialty Glass, and was a Submarine Warfare Officer in the United States Navy.

Bill holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Penn State, an MBA from Indiana University and earned a Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt certification. Bill resides in Fishers, Indiana.

SESSION

18-A

PRESENTATION

Operationalizing Generative AI at Gilead with the Gilead Enterprise Data & AI Platform

Speaker

Nghi Ho, Gilead Sciences

Abstract

Generative AI has the potential to revolutionize biopharmaceutical innovation and operations. At Gilead Sciences, the Gilead Enterprise Data & AI Platform serves as the foundational ecosystem for securely scaling data and AI solutions. This talk explores how Gilead operationalizes Generative AI, transforming initial prototypes into production-grade solutions through the platform's robust infrastructure, including self-service AI workspaces, MLOps & LLMOps tooling, and comprehensive Responsible AI governance.

Key topics include the transformation from traditional MLOps to LLMOps, the integration of foundation models, prompt engineering, and vector databases, and the processes needed to scale from a compelling demo to a fully operational solution. Attendees will gain insights into Gilead's strategies for AI risk assessment, real-time model monitoring, and fostering enterprise collaboration through a centralized AI agent catalog and federated governance.

By streamlining generative AI adoption, Gilead accelerates the delivery of impactful, enterprise-ready AI solutions, driving innovation to advance its mission of transforming care for patients worldwide.

Biography

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Nghi Ho

Senio Director, Head of Data & AI Platform and Enterprise Data Governance
Gilead Sciences

Nghi Ho is the Head of Data & AI Platform and Enterprise Data Governance for Gilead Sciences, Inc. In this role, he leads the data and AI platform strategy and oversees the development and operations of the Gilead Enterprise Data & AI Platform, the strategic data and AI backbone for Gilead. Nghi's career is distinguished by strategic technical leadership roles, where he has built talented and motivated teams and cultivated an engineering culture to successfully deliver high-performance, large-scale enterprise platforms and solutions from inception to production.

Nghi joined Gilead Sciences in 2021. Since then, he has spearheaded the development of the Gilead Enterprise Data & AI Platform and data mesh, guiding them from inception to enterprise-scale production. His work has facilitated data-driven decision-making in drug discovery, development, and commercialization across the entire enterprise, contributing to Gilead receiving several prestigious awards, including 'Intelligent Digital Enterprise of the Year,' 'Data Mesh of the Year,' and the esteemed 'CIO 100' Award for the Gilead Data & AI Platform.

Before joining Gilead, Nghi was the Head of Engineering and Chief Solutions Architect for the IBM Chief Data Office. In this role, he was responsible for the development and operations of the Cognitive Enterprise Data Platform, the strategic data and AI backbone for IBM.

Nghi frequently speaks on cloud transformation, data architecture, data platforms, and big data technologies. He is passionate about building talented engineering teams and leading them to achieve extraordinary results.

SESSION

18-B

PRESENTATION

Are LLMs Good for Data Mastering?

Speaker

Michael Stonebraker, MIT / Tamr

Abstract

Data mastering is the process of unifying multiple independently constructed data sets about an entity, for example customers, suppliers, or parts. Every large enterprise has this information in data silos and must perform unification to get full value from their data.

The new candidate solution is to use Large Language Models (LLMs) for data mastering (e.g. ChatGPT). LLMs join other candidate technologies, including rule engines, traditional machine learning, and deep neural networks. In this talk, I explain why LLMs are unlikely to work, why deep neural networks are generally avoided, and why rule systems don't work at scale. This leaves traditional machine learning as the "last candidate standing".

Biography

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Michael Stonebraker

Adjunct Professor, MIT
Chief Technology Officer, TAMR

Michael Stonebraker is an adjunct professor at MIT CSAIL and a database pioneer who specializes in database management systems and data integration. He was awarded the 2014 A.M.Turing Award (known as the "Nobel Prize of computing") by the Association for Computing Machinery for his "fundamental contributions to the concepts and practices underlying modern database systems as well as their practical application through nine start-up companies that he has founded." Stonebraker also co-founded and serves as CTO of Tamr.

SESSION
18-C

PANEL DISCUSSION
University CDO Panel: Why Does a University Need a CDO?

Moderator — **Olivia Kew-Fickus, Vanderbilt University**

Panelists — **Kate Wilkinson, University of Missouri; Ravneet Chadha, University of Utah; Corinne Bannon, University of Kansas**

Abstract — Every Chief Data Officer knows that to be successful, they must demonstrate a financial return on the Data and Analytics portfolio. How is this possible in an industry whose mission is not profit-driven? Our panel of experienced Higher Education CDOs will discuss how leaders must successfully challenge conventional wisdom and culture while empowering analysts and customers to successfully deliver measurable outcomes – an approach that we believe can broadly empower data professionals and leaders who often feel like they are swimming upstream against organizational maturity, culture, and structures.

Biography

Olivia Kew-Fickus
Chief Data Officer
Vanderbilt University

Olivia Kew-Fickus is the inaugural Chief Data Officer at Vanderbilt University. She leads the Office of Data & Strategic Analytics, partnering with leaders across Vanderbilt to deliver value through better use of data.

Olivia came to Vanderbilt in 2019 from the University of Birmingham in England, where she was the Director of Strategic Planning. In that role she led strategy development, annual planning, and business intelligence. She had previously managed special projects and executive communications for the vice-chancellor (president) of the University of Birmingham.

Olivia brings to her role as Chief Data Officer an unusually broad perspective thanks to her international background and her ability to bridge between strategic and technical concepts. She is widely networked internationally. In the UK she served on a governmental advisory group on higher education costing and oversaw training programs for her professional organization. She is now a member of the Global Editorial Board at CDO Magazine, is regularly invited to speak to higher education and technology audiences, and is active in the Nashville technology community.

Olivia began her career working in international development, including in Ukraine supporting better governance, and at California State Polytechnic

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University in Pomona running international training. She speaks Ukrainian and Russian. She holds a bachelors in history from Princeton University and an MBA from the University of Leicester in the UK.

Katie Wilkinson

Vice-Provost of Data Analytics & Chief Data Officer
University of Missouri
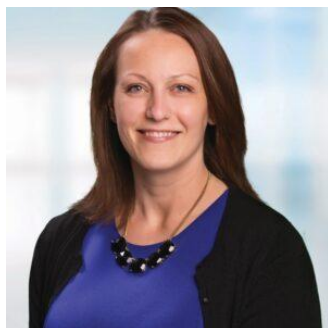
As the MU Vice-Provost of Data Analytics and University Chief Data Officer, Katie Wilkinson is responsible for data & analytics strategy, policy, infrastructure, and delivery. Katie came to her current role with 16 years of Data and Analytics leadership experience in healthcare and healthcare IT. She most recently led hospital data management and served as the Chief Research Information Officer within the MU Health System as part of the public – private partnership between Cerner and the University. Katie has three years of CDO experience in Higher Education and holds a PhD in Bio-Medical Informatics and a C-Data-O certificate from Carnegie Mellon.

Ravneet Chadha

Chief Data Officer and VP of Enterprise Planning
University of Utah

Ravneet Chadha is the VP of Enterprise Planning and Chief Data Officer at the University of Utah, where he leads the institution's strategic data, technology, and planning initiatives. With over 15 years of experience in higher education, Ravneet is dedicated to transforming the university into an insights-driven organization by strengthening its data culture, governance, and enterprise planning capabilities.

In this role, Ravneet provides leadership in data governance, analytics, privacy, and enterprise architecture, ensuring the seamless integration of technology and data strategy to support institutional goals. He oversees enterprise planning efforts, aligning data-driven decision-making with strategic priorities to enhance operational efficiency and long-term institutional success. Collaborating with academic, research, and administrative units, he works to optimize data management, security, and accessibility while fostering innovation in analytics and business intelligence.

Prior to joining the University of Utah, Ravneet served as the Chief Data Officer at the University of Arizona, where he led efforts in data governance, institutional planning, and technology-driven insights. His expertise in leveraging data and technology to drive strategic decision-making continues to position universities at the forefront of innovation and efficiency in higher education.

Corinne Bannon

Chief Strategy & Data Officer, Vice Chancellor
University of Kansas

Corinne Bannon has served the University of Kansas in a newly expanded role as Chief Strategy and Data Officer and Vice Chancellor since November 2024, reporting directly to Chancellor Girod. Corinne oversees the Office of Analytics, Institutional Research, and Effectiveness (AIRE), a One KU central data and analytics office that helps university leaders and constituents measure and advance KU's strategic priorities.

AIRE manages the development and maintenance of KU's data warehouse, enterprise analytics tools, institutional surveys, special studies to inform decision-making, and the submission of federal and state-mandated reports. In January 2025, the Enterprise Analytics team at the KU Medical Center joined AIRE. As the leader of AIRE, Corinne has also served as the architect for the Jayhawks Rising strategic plan and led her team in creating data tools for university leaders at multiple levels to track progress towards advancing key university metrics.

In her role as Chief Strategy and Data Officer, Corinne serves on the University Cabinet, working across the Cabinet and the University to implement the One KU initiative. In this role, she provides strategic guidance to the Chancellor and Cabinet members, focusing on outcomes-driven execution of university priorities. In 2025, she will establish the University Strategy and Strategic Implementation Office to further advance these efforts while continuing to lead AIRE.

Corinne joined KU in 2016 and has held progressively senior roles within AIRE, from first serving as an analyst with hands on experience in SQL programming, statistical analysis, and dashboard development, to serving as the Assistant Director for Academic Data Analytics, the Director of Institutional Effectiveness, and most recently as the Chief Data Officer since early 2022. She has been a driving force behind KU's data-driven decision-making and strategic planning.

Prior to joining KU, Corinne served in progressively responsible roles at Wichita State University's Public Policy and Management Center, last serving as the Community Research Manager. She led a wide range of research and engagement projects across Kansas, including strategic planning, organizational design reviews, and large-scale community research, always engaging organizations and communities with data, information, and analysis to inform strategic action.

Earlier in her career, Corinne worked in municipal government for the city of Wichita as a management fellow in the city manager's office and as a budget and research analyst in the Department of Finance.

Corinne earned a Bachelor of Arts in sociology from Tabor College, a Master of Public Administration from Wichita State University, and an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies with a concentration in Higher Education Administration from the University of Kansas.

SESSION
18-D

PRESENTATION
Data is the New Bullsh*t - GEN AI EDITION!

Speaker

Scott Taylor, MetaMeta Consulting

Abstract

Why the way we talk about data is holding the industry back – and what YOU can do about it!

Are you struggling to gain leadership support, craving stakeholder engagement, and begging for proper funding? Even though you may create analytic Gen AI wonders with your data, it won't matter unless you explain the value in practical business terms. Join The Data Whisperer's rollicking and riotous review of current buzzwords and some practical tips to help you bridge the story gap between data and the business.

In this session, you'll learn:
- Differentiating between a data management narrative and other data storytelling efforts
- Strategies to secure executive sponsorship and ongoing funding
- The 3Vs of Data Storytelling for Data Managemen

Biography

Scott Taylor

The Data Whisperer & Principal Consultant
MetaMeta Consulting

Scott Taylor, known as The Data Whisperer, has helped countless companies by enlightening business executives to the strategic value of proper data management. As an avid business evangelist, he focuses on business alignment and the "strategic WHY" rather than system implementation and the "technical HOW." He shares his passion through all forms of thought leadership content including public speaking, blogs, videos, podcasts, whitepapers, cartoons, and even puppets shows. Scott has a "fear of NOT public speaking" and is an experienced professional speaker specializing in data management. He's worked globally with event producers, media companies, industry associations, standards bodies, enterprises, and data brands to deliver keynotes and sessions to a wide variety of audiences.He lives in Bridgeport, CT where he often kayaks in Black Rock harbor. He can also juggle pins and blow a square bubble.

Accolades and recognition include: DataIQ 100, CDO Magazine Leading Data Consultant, Onalytica Who's Who in Data Management, Dataversity Top 10 Blogger and Thinkers360 Top 10 Thought Leader. His book – TELLING YOUR DATA STORY: Data Storytelling for Data Management is available now.

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SESSION

19-A

Powering AI, Analytics, and Operations with a Data Quality Framework

Speakers

Alla Zaykin & Cynthia Schmidt, Athena Solutions

Abstract

We will introduce a modern Data Quality Framework (DQF) model built to operationalize data quality by embedding it into workflows and assigning clear business ownership. In the race to implement AI, fast-track analytics, and streamline operations, many organizations overlook a critical risk. The impact of poor data quality shows up in failed projects, stalled dashboards, and widespread distrust, yet the root cause often remains undiagnosed. Most enterprises already employ data quality tools, but without structure, these tools become siloed, reactive, and disconnected from business outcomes. This session makes the case that what's missing isn't another tool, but a sustainable capability for producing clean, trusted data across the enterprise. Attendees will leave with a practical vision for a strategic framework that powers AI, analytics, and operational excellence.

Biography

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Alla Zaykin

Data Governance Practice Manager
Athena Solutions

Alla is an information architect and team leader with 20 years of designing Business Intelligence solutions for clients for variety of industries. In the recent years, her focus was on driving Data Maturity in organizations by facilitating, laying the foundation, and supporting of Data Governance and Data Quality programs. She has an excellent track record with the stakeholders for her results-driven and flexible approach focusing on constant improvement and tying data roadmaps to business targets. Alla holds a BS in Mathematics and Computer Science from Trinity College and a Master of Engineering from St. Petersburg Telecommunications University.

Cynthia Schmidt
Data Governance Director
Athena Solutions

Cynthia has 25-plus years of experience in insurance, banking, HR BPO, utilities, healthcare and government. She is a versatile leader who has served as a data governance and technical team lead, data architect, requirement/business analyst, and data warehouse designer/developer/analyst, leveraging her diverse knowledge of multiple database platforms and database management systems. She is a cross-functional business analyst specializing in the assessment of data governance. She holds a BS in Management Information Systems from UNC Charlotte Belk College of Business.

SESSION
19-B

PRESENTATION
AI Governance for CDOs: Building Trustworthy, Compliant, and Scalable Policies

Speaker

Mark Horseman, Data Evangelist, DATAVERSITY

Abstract

As stewards of enterprise data strategy, Chief Data Officers are uniquely positioned to lead the development of robust AI governance frameworks. This session offers a practical guidance for CDOs to craft policies, procedures, and guidelines leveraging a team writing approach that drives ethical AI use, ensures regulatory compliance, and aligns with organizational objectives. Learn how to structure a policy framework that addresses core challenges such as managing algorithmic bias, defining accountability, and navigating a rapidly evolving legal landscape. We'll explore the importance of cross-functional policy teams, clear definitions of AI scope and applicability, and operational procedures that scale. Attendees will gain insights into creating a governance model that not only mitigates risk, but also empowers innovation and builds executive trust in AI-driven initiatives. Policy-writing templates will be available for participants.

Biography

Mark Horseman
Data Evangelist
DATAVERSITY

Mark is a Data and IT professional with over 20 years of experience and is the Data Evangelist for DATAVERSITY's educational and training services. Mark moved into Data Quality, Master Data Management, and Data Governance early in his career and has been working extensively in data management since 2005. Prior to his work at DATAVERSITY, Mark led Information Management initiatives in both private and public sector organizations. His experience and desire for life-long learning led Mark to get his CDMP designation at the Masters level, and he teaches DATAVERSITY's CDMP and DMBoK Preparation course, as well as leading regular CDMP study groups to help other data management colleagues obtain their professional certification. Mark is a peer contributor to DATAVERSITY's new Applied Data Governance Practitioner (ADGP) certification, and the lead instructor of the ADGP prep course.

SESSION
19-C

Customer Data Readiness in Action: Leveraging a Composable Architecture for AI Success

Speakers

Steve Zisk & Ian Clayton, Redpoint Global

Abstract

Bad data inflates costs, degrades AI performance, and undermines CX. That's why **Data Readiness** is no longer optional—it's essential.

In this session, you'll learn what it truly means to have "ready" customer data and why it's the foundation for any AI or CX initiative. We'll share actionable steps to get data ready for any use case that depends on clean, accurate customer insights.

Through real world examples, we'll show how a proven methodology combined with a composable architecture, that includes data hygiene and identity resolution, can drive revenue growth, boost productivity, and enhance business agility.

Whether you're just starting or scaling AI across your organization, this session will help you understand how to operationalize data readiness and unlock real business value.

Biography

Steve Zisk
Product Marketing Principal
Redpoint Global

Steve Zisk is a seasoned technology professional with more than 35 years of expertise in software engineering and product marketing. As Product Marketing Principal at Redpoint Global, Steve is tasked with developing messaging and marketplace positioning for Redpoint's customer engagement platforms.

Ian Clayton
Chief Product Officer
Redpoint Global

Ian Clayton is a skilled technology professional with more than 20 years of expertise in the software, data, and marketing automation industries. As Chief Product Officer, Ian is responsible for driving strategy and development of the Redpoint Global products. He previously served as VP of Engineering and Ian was a key contributor on the product, technical and engineering teams at Experian, ClarityBlue, and Honeywell prior to joining Redpoint.

SESSION

19-D

PANEL DISCUSSION

Building a Workforce of the Future: Designing Data and AI Literacy Programs for Success

Moderator

Valerie Logan, The Data Lodge

Panelists

Elena Alikhachkina, TE Connectivity; Steve Bartos, Worthington Steel; Roberta Hyland, HY'er Impact Consulting

Abstract

As industries rapidly evolve with data and AI advancements, organizations must invest in literacy programs to equip their workforce for the future. This discussion highlights effective strategies for developing training initiatives that drive data-driven decision-making, enhance innovation, and ensure long-term success in an increasingly digital economy.

Biography

Valerie Logan
CEO & Founder
The Data Lodge

Founding The Data Lodge in 2019, Valerie is as committed to data literacy as it gets. With train-the-trainer bootcamps, and a peer community, she's certifying the world's first Data Literacy Program Leads. In 2023, The Data Lodge was acquired as the basis of a newly formed venture, Data Society Group (DSG), aimed at fostering data and AI literacy and cultural change at scale. In addition to running the Lodge, Valerie is excited to also serve as the Chief Strategy Officer of DSG. Previously, Valerie was a Gartner Research VP in the CDO team where she pioneered the Data Literacy research and was awarded Gartner's Top Thought Leadership Award (2018). Valerie has more than 30 years of experience in consulting leadership and telecommunications. Valerie holds a B.S. in Math (SUNY College, Buffalo) and an M.S. in Applied Math (New Mexico State). She lives between the Adirondacks in Upstate NY, and Sarasota, FL with her husband Brian, and their yellow lab, Cooper, the Lodge mascot.

Elena Alikhachkina
Chief Data & AI Officer
TE Connectivity

Elena currently serves as Chief Data & AI Officer for TE Connectivity, global fortune 500 engineering manufacturing company. She is a visionary leader with an impressive international and domestic track record in identifying and translating business opportunities into big ideas that exceed customer and consumer expectations and drive top-line growth. Her entrepreneurial spirit and ability to thrive in fast-paced environments make her a valuable asset in charting new industries and global locations.

With over 20 years of commercial and tech experience, Elena has demonstrated her skill in developing business strategies that inspire organizations to think differently and take data driven action. Her ability to prioritize and effectively motivate diverse groups of individuals has enabled her to transform vision into tangible new ideas that work in the marketplace in record time.

Elena began her career in management consulting, where she helped companies assess global market opportunities. Her diverse and global background has provided her with the privilege of working with exceptional individuals and traveling to countries worldwide. Her impressive track record includes leading products and data platforms for newly created digital businesses such as WSJ.com and Marketwatch.com. She played a key role in the creation of 200+ enterprise digital products powered by data, enabling x20 growth. She pioneered behavior targeting technology before any other publisher enabling a 3-fold increase in advertising profit. At J&J, she led the vision and execution for a first-of-a-kind global digital data platform designed to accelerate the development of innovative customer experiences & business opportunities that shape and create competitive advantages for the business. As a Global Head of DCE & Insights with Roche, she led transformational enterprise digital and data strategy, technology platforms, change management and operations.

Elena is also an accomplished thought leader. She has over 40 published articles and she have been supporting CDOIQ Symposium for last 5 years. Elena is product board member with leading digital and data providers, and an visiting adjunct professor with the first CDO class offering in the world. Elena mentors several startups with a focus on ML/AI applications and decision sciences.

Elena holds a Ph.D. in Economics, M.S. in Software Engineering and she completed the Executive Education program from Wharton Business School and the CDO Certificate with CDOIQ.

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Steve Bartos

Vice President, Digital Transformation, Artificial Intelligence, and Data Analytics
The Worthington Steel Company

Stephen Bartos is Vice President of Digital Transformation, Artificial Intelligence, and Data Analytics at The Worthington Steel Company, headquartered in Columbus, Ohio. In this role, he leads the company's enterprise-wide AI initiative and champions the advancement of analytics across the business. His team's work focuses on high-impact, transformative projects that foster cross-functional collaboration, while building a culture of enablement and empowerment through data-driven decision-making and the development of data and AI fluency across the workforce.

Steve joined Worthington Industries a decade ago as an Advanced Analytics Analyst in the Steel Division, where he was charged with expanding the organization's use of data and analytics. He later progressed to manage the Steel Analytics Team and ultimately succeeded current CIO Bill Wertz as the second leader of the Corporate Data & Analytics Team at Worthington Steel.

Before his corporate career, Steve spent 13 years as a high school mathematics and physics teacher in Portage, Indiana, after earning his undergraduate degree from Purdue University. He went on to complete a PhD in Science Education at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago and later served on the faculty of Middle Tennessee State University, where he taught in both the undergraduate and doctoral programs.

Roberta Hyland

Founder
HY'er Impact Consulting

Ms. Hyland has more than 25 years of experience in education data. She is the founder of HY'er Impact Consulting, which is focused on helping education-related entities use data and understand data effectively in order to help learners. In her prior roles with the National Student Clearinghouse, Ms. Hyland focused on its non-profit mission, data strategy, and education data products and research. Ms. Hyland is passionate about data literacy, effective use of data, and helping education institutions adapt as technology changes. As an adjunct professor and speech and debate coach, Ms. Hyland has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to education and to helping students find their own voices and paths to their definitions of success.

SESSION 20-A

PRESENTATION

Navigating the Real-Time Future: A CDO's Guide to Scalable Impact with Data in Motion & Generative AI

Speaker

Dr. Satyam Priyadarshy, Reignite Future

Abstract

- Establish the need for a real-time future in the era of Generative AI.
- Accelerate the return on investment through faster insights and immediate actionability.
- Leverage Generative AI on real-time data to unlock exponential value by creating novel products, services, and revenue streams, for return on innovation.

This talk addresses the critical need for organizations to adopt transformation management and a real-time data strategy in the era of Generative AI, enabling them to stay competitive. We will discuss how leveraging **data in motion** can dramatically accelerate **return on investment (ROI)** by enabling faster insights and immediate action. Furthermore, the session will delve into the exponential value unlocked by applying **Generative AI to real-time data**, paving the way for innovative products, services, and new revenue streams, ultimately driving **return on innovation**. Finally, it will outline an **Agile Governance framew**ork essential for navigating this dynamic, real-time future with data. Some example case studies from different industries will also be discussed.

Biography

Dr. Satyam Priyadarshy
Chief Executive Officer
Reignite Future

Dr. Satyam Priyadarshy, the CEO of Reignite Future, USA, is a transformational leader who has made a significant impact on the industry and educational and research institutes. His global recognition is a result of his exceptional combination of scientific knowledge, technology expertise, and business acumen. This unique blend has allowed him to pioneer in Quantum Mechanics, Data Science, Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, and Digital Transformation, reshaping the landscape of these fields. His role as the first Chief Data Scientist of the Oil and Gas/Energy Industry is a testament to his groundbreaking contributions. His leadership journey includes senior roles at Haliburton, Acxiom

Corporation, Network Solutions, AOL, and others. He is an adjunct/visiting Professor at Virginia Tech, Oklahoma State University, NMIMS University, PEIMR Indore, IIT KGP, and others. He is also a faculty member of the CDOIQ's CDO Certification Program. He is an investor/board advisor of a number of emerging technology companies based in the USA, India, and Switzerland.

His work or profile has appeared in many magazines, including *Chemical and Engineering News, The Scientist, Silicon India, Oil Review Middle East, Petroleum Review, World, Journal of Petroleum Technology, RigZone, and Forbes*, among others. His work has been the subject of a number of books by O'Reilly. He has received numerous industry accolades. He has delivered over 150 keynote talks globally. He is the author of over 56 papers and ten patents. Dr. Priyadarshy was named the 2021-2022 (Society for Petroleum Engineers) SPE Distinguished Lecturer.

Dr. Priyadarshy obtained his Ph.D. from IIT Bombay in (Quantum/Theoretical Chemistry) and his MBA (Honors) from The Pamplin School of Business, Virginia Tech.

SESSION
20-B

PANEL DISCUSSION

CDO's Supporting Skills Based Practices: Quality, Interoperability, and Timeliness Driving a Transformed National Talent Infrastructure

Moderator — **Dr. John Talburt, UA Little Rock**

Panelists — **Rebecca Cai, State of Hawaii; Natalie Evans Harris, State of Maryland; Josiah Raiche, State of Vermont**

Abstract — TBD

Biography

Dr. John Talburt

Acxiom Chair of Information Quality and Director of the Information Quality Graduate Program, UA Little Rock

John R. Talburt, PhD, IQCP, CDMP, is the Acxiom Chair of Information Quality and Director of the Information Quality Graduate Program at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Previously, he led the Data Research and Development group for Acxiom Corporation where he implemented their Total Data Quality Management program. He is a member of the U.S. Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in data quality, and Lead Data Governance Consultant for Noetic Partners. He is an inventor for several patents related to customer data integration and the author of numerous research papers on information quality and entity resolution. His books include "Entity Information Life Cycle for Big Data: Master Data Management and Information Integration" (Morgan Kaufmann, 2015), "Entity Resolution and Information Quality" (Morgan Kaufmann, 2011), "Data Engineering: Mining, Information and Intelligence" (Springer, 2010), and "Information Quality and Governance for Business Intelligence" (IGI Global, 2014).

Rebecca Cai
Chief Data Officer
State of Hawaii

Rebecca Cai is the first CDO for the State of Hawaii. She has established data and AI strategy, data and AI standards and guidelines, and governance frameworks at Hawaii. Before that, she was CDO for the State of New York. Prior to New York State CDO, Cai had worked in leadership roles for over 20 years in private sector with leading strategy and technology consulting firms such as McKinsey, Deloitte, IBM, focusing on digital transformation through data and AI.

Natalie Harris Evans
Chief Data Officer
State of Maryland

Natalie Evans Harris serves as Maryland's State Chief Data Officer. An ecosystem builder at heart, she is a mission-driven data scientist, strategist and speaker with over 20 years of experience advancing the public sector's strategic use of data. Leading initiatives, coalitions and organizations to powerfully and equitably leverage data to combat economic and social injustice.

As a leading voice in the responsible use of data for social impact, she has spent her career working with a broad network of academic institutions, data science organizations, application developers, and foundations to advance the responsible use of data. Prior to joining Governor's Moore Administration as the State Chief Data Officer, she was the founding executive director of the Black Wealth Data Center and as a senior policy advisor to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, Gina Raimondo, under the Biden Administration. Ms. Evans Harris served as a senior policy advisor to the U.S. Chief Technology Officer in the Obama administration and spent 16 years at the National Security Agency. She holds degrees from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and George Washington University.

Ms. Evans Harris has a master's degree in public administration from The George Washington University and bachelor's degrees in computer science and sociology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. She lives in Maryland with her husband and daughter.

Josiah Raiche

Chief Data and AI Officer
State of Vermont

TBD

**SESSION
20-C**

PRESENTATION

Data in Space - Exploring the Use Case for Data Management and Storage in Space-Based Facilities

Speakers

Justin Magruder, SAIC & Chris Stott, Lonestar Data Holdings Inc.

Abstract

As humanity embarks on a new era of space exploration, the legal frameworks governing space commerce become crucial. In this fireside chat, Chris Stott, founder of the Institute for Space Commerce, and Justin Magruder, Chief Data Officer and Strategist for SAIC, will explore the potential for using space-based resources for data management and storage. They will discuss the technical, legal, and regulatory considerations involved, emphasizing benefits and responsibilities under current treaties. This session is vital for Chief Data Officers, highlighting space-based data solutions' transformative potential in addressing Earth's growing data management challenges securely and sustainably.

Biography

Justin Magruder
Chief Data Officer
SAIC

Dr. Magruder is the Chief Data Officer for SAIC, a fortune 500 Information Technology Services company based in Reston, Virginia.

Justin is a pioneer and a thought leader in the field of data governance, master and reference data and data operations, with more than 25 years supporting data operations, leaders and decision makers to improve business performance through better data management. He has led efforts at a number of world class organizations to improve business, financial and operational performance, to reduce costs and manage operational risks, and to improve the quality of customer, account, portfolio, and product data, transaction data processing and analytics.

Justin's experience spans the broad domain of modern enterprise data and information management by enabling next generation information and process management. Data driven disciplines include strategy development, strategy execution, customer and account management,

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order management, settlement and clearance, performance measurement and attribution, and other types of quantitative and qualitative analytics.

He has delivered sophisticated technical solutions for managing massive volumes of disparate, high speed structured and unstructured data and information.

In his role with SAIC, he is continuously developing and leading implementation of its Enterprise Data Strategy including Lakehouse and DataOps solutions to support Artificial Intelligence, Zero Trust and Information Governance programs.

Prior to joining SAIC, Justin founded Noetic Partners, a financial data and information architecture practice that supports sophisticated clients in the financial services industry.

Justin was Director of Market Data and Technology Strategy for Deutsche Bank's Chief Investment Office, Director of Development for Merrill Lynch's MLX platform,

Program Manager for JP Morgan's LabMorgan Credit Origination and Risk Management, and Program Manager for J.P. Morgan Securities' Counterparty and Instrument Reference Data Services.

Justin is a Advisory Board Member for National Science Foundation's Arkansas EPSCoR DART program, and Board Member for ECCMA, the Electronic Commerce Code Management Association. He is a technical advisor to the International Standards Organization's Technical Committee 184 for Automation, Artificial Intelligence & Integration, and the liaison for Technical Committee 68 for Financial Services.

Justin developed the Noetic Master Model ^{TM} to help investors and risk managers evaluate investments, portfolio construction, market analytics, financial and operational risk management, and instrument master data and the Noetic Partners Identifier – a unique, standard natural identifier and data model to improve counterparty and operational risk management in global markets electronic commerce.

He developed several patented and trade secret ideas, including a continuous method to correct time stamps for low latency transaction-processing systems.

Justin developed a benchmark of domestic mortgage industry data used by management, regulators, and examiners to manage exposure during the 2008-2009 credit crisis, and a quantitative analysis of credit rating products from Moody's, Fitch and S&P for for a global banking consortium led by Deutsche Bank's Research Center.

Justin earned a Bachelor's degree from Colorado College, an MBA in Finance from Columbia University's Graduate School of Business, and a PhD in Computing and Information Science at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He has been certified as a FISD Financial Information Associate, a DAMA CDMP, a member of American Mensa, a Collibra DG Steward, a United Nations Open Data Advisor, an ECCMA ISO 8000 MDQM and an ACF Chef Saucier. He is a founding member of the isCDO and a partner with the MIT Information Quality Program.

Chris Stott
Founder, Chair, and CEO
Lonestar Data Holdings Inc.

Chris Stott is the Founder, Chair, and CEO of Lonestar Data Holdings Inc., the company protecting all our data as the world's leader in Resilience as a Service (RaaS) for Secure, Sovereign, and Accessible data storage. A lifetime entrepreneur, Chris is also the Founder and Non-Executive Chair of River Advisers, the world's largest commercial provider of satellite spectrum.

Chris serves as the Chair Emeritus, alongside the late Sir Arthur C. Clarke, of the Space and Satellite Professionals International (SSPI), the largest professional association in the global space and satellite industry, which also named him Satellite Industry Mentor of the Year in 2015.

Chris's passion for the economics and commerce of space has led him to co-found both the Institute of Space Commerce in Austin in the United States, and the International Institute of Space Commerce on the Isle of Man in the British Isles. He has served on faculty at the International Space University (ISU) since 2003 and is a former co-chair of the university's School of Business and Management. Chris is also a guest lecturer in space law and regulation at MIT Media Labs, the Harvard Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Stanford University, and the School of Law at the University of Houston.

In his spare time, Chris is a multi-award-winning producer, writer, and documentary filmmaker. A naturalized Manx American, Chris lives in Florida with this wife and son and their dogs. He enjoys shooting (pistol, rifle, skeet, and trap), SCUBA and Free Diving, and flying helicopters. He drinks way too much coffee and rarely watches TV. When he needs to sleep, he reads his own bio.

SESSION

20-D

PRESENTATION

Accelerating Business Value with Analytics Enablement

Speaker

Mike Brigger, Cintas

Abstract

Learn how a Fortune 500 company leverages cutting-edge cloud data & analytics technologies to accelerate business results. Topics will include data & analytics strategy, building a modern analytics platform at scale, leveraging AI/ML for deeper insights, and activating this data through various enablement applications.

Biography

- -

Mike Brigger
Head of Enterprise Analytics and Enablement
Cintas

Mike has been leading technology and analytics initiatives at Cintas for over 21 years. Currently serving as the Head of Enterprise Analytics & Enablement, Mike is focused on accelerating business value with data-driven solutions. He has a proven background in delivering data and analytics strategies that deliver actionable business results through enablement technologies. His areas of responsibilities include Enterprise Analytics, Operational Reporting, Sales & Marketing Technology, Digital Marketing, and Mobile Applications.

Headquartered in Cincinnati, OH, Cintas Corporation is a Fortune 500 company that helps more than one million businesses of all types and sizes get Ready™ to open their doors with confidence every day by providing products and services that help keep their customers' facilities and employees clean, safe and looking their best. With offerings including uniforms, mats, mops, restroom supplies, first aid and safety products, fire extinguishers and testing, and safety training, Cintas helps customers get Ready for the Workday®.

SESSION

21-A

PANEL DISCUSSION

How CDOs Reflect on their Practice?

Moderator

Yang Lee, Northeastern University

Panelists

Ashish Bajpai, John Deere; Hojjat Salmasian, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; Mark Ramsey, Ramsey International LLC; Carl Gerber, KPMG

Abstract

TBD

Biography

Yang Lee
Professor
Northeastern University

Professor Yang Lee is a leading scholar in data quality and strategic information products. She is Associate Professor of Information Management and Analytics at Northeastern University, and also directs the university's online MS in Business Analytics program.

As founding Editor-in-Chief of the ACM Journal of Data and Information Quality, Lee investigates how data quality, integrated with organizational processes and technologies, drives strategic transformation. Her current work focuses on evolving data products and reuse practices in healthcare and other sectors to support collaboration and reduce unintended outcomes, including medical errors. She has published widely in top-tier journals and co-authored Journey to Data Quality (MIT Press, 2006). Her research has received international recognition, including awards from the U.S. government, NIH, and other institutions. She has also served as a distinguished visiting professor at the University of São Paulo and as a research fellow at the National Cancer Research Institute. Lee holds a PhD from MIT, where she also taught and conducted research.

Ashish Bajpai

Global Engineering Leader - Data & Analytics
John Deere

Ashish is senior Data & Analytics Leader with more than 20 years of experience in Data Management, Analytics & Digital applications areas. He has orchestrated data strategy to envision and deliver data-as product for Deere, a Fortune 100 manufacturer and its Financial Services business; driven Data Governance and Management, fueled insight-driven decision-making cultures; and built high-flying data and data engineering platform teams from the ground up. He has worked and lived in 4 Continents (Asia, Europe, South America & North America) with experiences of developing and building Data and Digital Organizations across the globe.

Notable accomplishments during Ashish's prolific tenure at John Deere Enterprise (Deere) / John Deere Financial (JDF) include:

• Most recently as JD's global Data Leader at Enterprise level, Ashish drove Enterprise Data Strategy, and launched and led data platform teams to deliver key data platforms in months (previously done in years) and led multiple major enterprise initiatives successfully (Unified data Platform, Enterprise Data Marketplace, Data Quality, and Enterprise Data Protection/Security) with a focus on active data/Metadata Management, data products and Data Governance

• Previously as Data leader for data and analytics products at divisional level, Ashish led multiple Data initiatives to transform John Deere Financial's data into strategic products and established data teams (based on data mesh principles and aligned to business capabilities) across U.S., Europe, Asia, and South America, embedding agile scrum methodologies as key priorities.

Ashish has been awarded with 2 of the most esteemed company accolades at John Deere Enterprise—the 2020 Deere & Company's Chairman Award and JDF President's Award of Excellence.

• Transforming data into strategic assets during his 5 years as Data & Technology Head for John Deere Financial (JDF) in both South America and Asia, Ashish won Deere & Company's Chairman Award and 2 JDF "President's Awards" in 2016 and 2018 for driving strategic projects, including launching JDF India's first global, mobile-based digital application that slashed credit approval time from 20+ days to less than 7.

• Assembling and steering a 100+ person data and technology team in India, Ashish launched the company's first data and analytics center of excellence (CoE).

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Hojjat Salmasian

Chief Data and Analytics Officer
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Dr. Salmasian is a physician and informatician by background, and he serves Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) as the Chief Data and Analytics Officer. In this role, he oversees the data and analytics teams, services, platforms, and governance structure at CHOP, including the teams that lead data delivery, data literacy, data science, and data trust.

Mark Ramsey

Managing Partner
Ramsey International LLC

Dr. Mark Ramsey is a globally recognized authority in modern data platforms, large-scale analytics architecture, and the strategic application of Generative AI. With over 35 years of experience, Mark has designed, delivered, and optimized some of the world's most impactful enterprise data platforms, enabling organizations to accelerate innovation and unlock transformative business value. As Managing Partner of Ramsey International, Mark leads the design and deployment of advanced data and AI solutions for global enterprises seeking to maximize the potential of their data assets. He is renowned for his expertise in architecting and operationalizing modern, hybrid multi-cloud data platforms that support analytics, machine learning, and the latest advances in Generative AI.

Mark's leadership was instrumental in the rapid delivery of AbbVie's award-winning ARCH (AbbVie Research Convergence Hub) platform, a modern, cloud-based data ecosystem developed by Mark and the RI team. This platform broke down silos and doubled R&D productivity by accelerating drug discovery and clinical innovation. Recognized by Bio-IT World for its innovative practices, ARCH exemplifies Mark's ability to deliver production-grade, scalable platforms that drive measurable impact in highly regulated, data-intensive industries. Additionally, Mark and the RI team have worked with more than half of the Top 10 pharmaceutical organizations in the design and delivery of their large-scale modern data platforms, and have also worked with organizations in finance, insurance, telco, retail, healthcare, and government.

Previously, Mark served as the first R&D Chief Data & Analytics Officer at GlaxoSmithKline, where he architected the R&D Information Platform (RDIP) as a cornerstone of GSK's data-driven strategy. As the inaugural Chief Data Officer for Samsung Telecommunications America, he led the development of large-scale analytics solutions to drive business growth.

At IBM, Mark spearheaded the global Business Analytics & Optimization business, scaling it to over $1 billion in annual revenue across 150 countries. A prolific inventor, Mark holds 28 patents in data analytics, optimization, and AI, including foundational work on integrating data mining with parallel relational databases and advanced analytics for user behavior monitoring. He is a trusted advisor to CDOs and technology leaders navigating the rapidly evolving landscape of Generative AI and enterprise data strategy.

Mark holds a Ph.D. in Applied Computer Science, a Master's in Computer & Information Security, and a Bachelor's in Computer Science. His technical depth, visionary leadership, and proven track record in delivering large-scale, modern data platforms make him one of the most sought-after experts in the field today.

Carl Gerber

FMR Audit Chief Data Officer
KPMG

As Audit Chief Data Officer (CDO), Carl works closely with Audit Leadership to deliver a data and analytics strategy to enhance the audit experience, sustain quality, and engage our people.

Carl has more than 37 years of data and analytics experience, transforming enterprise data processes to power firms at both global and domestic Fortune 500 Companies. He leads analytics initiatives that deliver actionable insights for top-line revenue growth and operational efficiencies. Carl has deployed enterprise data services including data stewardship, business glossary, data privacy, data quality, master data management, data archive and data migration.

As part of the US Firm's data and analytics strategy leadership team, Carl is working together with CDOs from Tax, Advisory, and KPMG US, to deliver firm-wide data management, data governance and data literacy capabilities.

Carl is active in the data and analytics industry via the MIT Chief Data Officer and Information Quality (CDOIQ) Symposium and is an Ally for Women Leaders in Data and AI.

Carl honorably served as a Captain, Communications & Computer officer in the United States Air Force, Tactical Air Command, where he developed an Executive Information System of mission readiness key performance indicators for the Commander and staff.

SESSION
21-B

PRESENTATION
How Do We Prepare for a Data and AI-Driven Future?

Speakers

Doug Llewellyn & Rob Daniel, Data Society Group

Abstract

As data and AI continue to reshape work and decision-making, the need to build readiness across the workforce is growing. This interactive session will explore the shared challenge of preparing people for change, discussing ways to build foundational knowledge, engage key stakeholders, and support real-world application. Together, participants will surface practical strategies to navigate disruption and lead with confidence in an evolving landscape.

Biography

Doug Llewellyn
Chief Executive Officer
Data Society Group

Doug Llewellyn is CEO of the newly formed data and information services company, Data Society Group. A seasoned leader in the business information space with a track record of business value creation and investor ROI, Doug has teamed up with Growth Catalyst partners to build a new platform to advance data leadership and develop data-empowered organizations. Through his people-first approach to driving results, Doug has led several companies to a successful exit over the last decade, one in which the markets were in significant turmoil. By creating a company culture where employees genuinely buy into the mission of the business, he creates alignment between employees, customers, and investors.

Rob Daniel
Chief Revenue Officer
Data Society Group

Rob is the Chief Revenue Officer of Data Society Group, bringing with him a passion for building high-performing sales teams. With a proven track record of scaling businesses and surpassing ambitious revenue targets, he is a catalyst for growth, consistently transforming sales teams into high-performing powerhouses. Renowned for forging groundbreaking partnerships, Rob fuels market expansion and innovation, elevating organizations to new heights. Rob is passionate about fostering a data-driven culture within organizations and believes that investing in employee development is key to achieving sustainable success. He is a firm believer in continuous learning and development, both personally and professionally.

SESSION 21-C

TBD

Speaker	**Kathleen Kennedy, MIT Horizon; MIT Center for Collective Intelligence**

Abstract	TBD

Biography

- -

Kathleen Kennedy
Senior Director, MIT Horizon
Executive Director, MIT Center for Collective Intelligence

Kathleen is a dynamic leader with an exceptional record of achievement, positioning her at the forefront of technology and innovation. Her current pursuits revolve around AI education, digital transformation, organizational design and sustainable fashion, where she passionately drives advancement. With her strategic acumen, she possesses a distinctive skill set that allows her to both revitalize established organizations and build new ones.

In her role as Executive Director of the MIT Center for Collective Intelligence, Kathleen collaborates with a multidisciplinary research team on Supermind Design—a groundbreaking methodology for creating innovative intelligent human/machine organizations. She applies this expertise at MIT Open Learning, where she leads MIT Horizon, a learning platform that enables organizations to scale their training in emerging technologies like generative AI, digital twin, and quantum computing.

Throughout her career, Kathleen has held several key leadership positions, including President of Technology Review, MIT's media company; Chief Strategy Officer, MIT Technology Review; President, MIT Enterprise Forum, a global community for tech entrepreneurs; and Cofounder and board member of Hubweek, an unprecedented civic collaboration and city-wide festival involving Harvard, MIT, the Boston Globe, and Massachusetts General Hospital.

Kathleen's commitment to empowering innovative ventures is evident in her role as a venture partner at Good Growth Capital, a fund dedicated to supporting ambitious founders who strive to improve lives through their ventures. Additionally, she played a pivotal role in successfully launching The Engine—a venture fund aimed at bolstering tough tech startups—and MIT Solve—a dynamic marketplace that drives social impact innovation.

Recognized as an influential figure within the innovation community, Kathleen is highly sought-after as a speaker at global conferences. She

actively contributes her expertise to prestigious selection committees such as the MacArthur Foundation 100&change and the Eisenhower Fellowships. She also dedicates her expertise as a mentor for MIT DesignX.

Kathleen's exceptional contributions have been recognized through accolades, such as the Folio: 40, which honors the most innovative and influential individuals in the media industry. Additionally, she has been named one of Boston's Most Influential Women by the Women of the Harvard Club.

SESSION
21-D

PANEL DISCUSSION

Data Standards Alone Aren't Enough: The Governance Imperative for Success

Moderator

Kris Rowley, Conference of State Bank Supervisors (CSBS)

Panelists

Julia Cherashore, New York State Government Agency; Dulce Medina, California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation

Abstract

Effective data governance is the cornerstone of successful data management, driving the creation and adoption of robust data standards that enable organizations to achieve better outcomes. This panel dives into the critical connection between data governance frameworks and the establishment of consistent data standards, highlighting how this synergy fosters trust, accelerates decision-making, and enhances operational efficiency. Join a diverse group of experts as they explore:

- The role of governance in shaping scalable and adaptable data standards.
- Real-world examples of how standardized data practices reduce risk and improve data quality.
- Strategies for building governance frameworks that encourage collaboration across teams.
- The impact of governance-driven standards on organizational outcomes, from innovation to compliance.

Whether you're a Chief Data Officer, data steward, or data product owner, this session will provide the tools and insights needed to design governance strategies that empower your organization to unlock the full potential of its data assets. Learn how strong governance leads to consistent standards—and how both together drive measurable success.

Kris Rowley
Chief Data Officer
Conference of State Bank Supervisors (CSBS)

Kris is the Chief Data Officer at the Conference of State Bank Supervisors, where he leads the strategic transformation of enterprise data management. He focuses on optimizing technologies and modernizing operating models to centralize and elevate data quality across the organization. With a forward-looking approach, he aligns data governance, tools, and organizational roles to support emerging technology use cases, including AI, advanced analytics, and automation. Kris is committed to enabling data-driven decision-making and empowering teams to treat data as a high-value, enterprise-wide asset.

Julia Cherashore
Deputy Superintendent, Data Governance and Management
New York State Government Agency

Julia Cherashore is Deputy Superintendent for Data Governance and Management at New York State Department of Financial Services, one of the premier financial regulators in the world. Within New York State, the Department regulates activities of over 3,000 financial institutions with nearly $10 trillion in assets. In her role, she's leading DFS' data transformation and implementation of agency-wide data governance program, including leading data governance solutions, tools, processes and capabilities. In 2024, the DFS Data Governance program received Best of State Award for Best Workplace Initiative. Prior to joining DFS in 2023, Julia spent two decades working at top investment banks and financial services firms across Data, Risk Management, Compliance, Management Consulting, and Operations. She received an MBA from NYU Stern School of Business and dual undergraduate degrees in Music and Business Administration from Weber State University. In addition to her professional responsibilities, Julia has been engaged with affinity networks and non-profits in a leadership role since 2014 and currently serves on several charitable Boards dedicated to advancing education and economic opportunity.

Dulce Medina

Research Data Manager - Market Monitoring, Consumer Research, Insight & Analytics
California Department of Financial Protection & Innovation

Dr. Dulce Medina serves as the Research Data Manager at the California Department of Financial Protection & Innovation (DFPI) where she developed and currently oversees the Market Monitoring, Consumer Research, Insights & Analytics (MMCRIA) Unit, the Department's first dedicated research arm. Under her leadership, MMCRIA provides advanced analytic support to inform supervision, enforcement, and consumer protection efforts.

Dr. Medina currently co-leads DFPI's 2024–2026 strategic planning initiative to implement a comprehensive data governance framework focused on improving data quality, transparency, and informed decision-making.

Prior to joining DFPI, she led a policy research unit at the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS), overseeing pension policy initiatives, economic impact studies, and operational improvement projects. Across her public sector and academic career, Dr. Medina has managed complex, high-impact research initiatives spanning the full data lifecycle—from methodology design to data integration and actionable insights.

Dr. Medina holds a PhD in Justice & Social Inquiry and an MA in Sociology from Arizona State University. She is based in the Sacramento, California area.

Areas of focus: data governance, data ethics, public sector analytics

SESSION
22-A

PRESENTATION
Your Data SLAs Are Wrong - A Fail Safe Way to Fix Them

Speaker

Paul Walker, Pantomath

Abstract

Most data teams still measure success with stale, one-size-fits-all SLAs – "five nines" uptime, vague data-quality thresholds. The result? You find out something's broken when a business user does, and by then it's already costing time, money, and credibility.

This session shows why those legacy SLAs miss the mark and lays out a fail safe approach that combines Pantomath's real-time pipeline observability to automate data operations. You'll see how automated lineage, anomaly detection, and root-cause analysis trigger ITSM workflows the moment an issue appears, routing context-rich incidents to the right owner and kicking off self-service fixes. The outcome is a living SLA that adapts to workload priority, business impact, and governance requirements – no more static targets, no more firefighting.

Biography

Paul Walker
Head of GTM
Pantomath

Paul Walker leads the go-to-market team at Pantomath – the pipeline observability platform focused on delivering better data reliability. With nearly 10 years in the data and analytics space (previously Alation and IBM), Paul is focused on solving true data problems with tangible solutions. At Pantomath, we provide clients an operational view into their data to deliver better traceability and monitoring into the complex modern data ecosystem.

SESSION 22-B

PANEL DISCUSSION

From Data to Value: Building Scalable Data Products that Drive Business Impact

| Moderator | Ravi Salavi, WNS Analytics |

| Panelist | Sherman Cooper, QBE North America |

Abstract

In today's data-driven world, true value comes not from data itself, but from transforming it into scalable products that solve real business challenges. Discover how to unlock business value from data by building scalable, integrated data products and how strong business alignment & strategic partnerships drive impactful outcomes.

Biography

Ravi Salavi
SVP, Data Analytics & AI Financial Services
WNS Analytics

Ravi Salavi is a financial services Data & Analytics leader with over 20 years of advisory and consulting experience working with major insurance and financial enterprises.

His key expertise is in digital transformation and the role of data analytics and AI for risk Management, Customer Analytics, profitable underwriting decisions, cost, and fraud optimization, etc. In his current role, he leads Data Analytics & AI for North America Insurance and BFS verticals.

Sherman Cooper
Head of Data
QBE North America
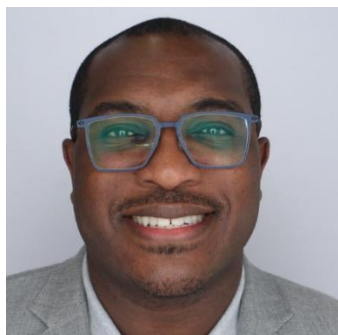
Sherman A. Cooper is Head of Data at QBE North America, leading QBE NA's Data Organization – with responsibly for creating and implementing organizational data strategy, leading data and analytics capabilities to enable business outcomes, driving productization and the innovation of data usage across QBE NA.

Sherman is a visionary and experienced data leader – known for his innovative leadership of data programs that drive client-centric and data-differentiated brand value, and evangelizing data-driven cultures.

Sherman is a strategic digital technologist, expert data scientist, data thought leader, data privacy expert and applied econometrician – with over 20 years of experience in big data strategy, data management (in cloud and hybrid ecosystems), data governance and privacy, and using advanced predictive and explanatory analytics, data science and AI/ML to drive actionable business and client insights. As an expert in data policy, Sherman helps organizations innovate responsibly with data to maximize the ROI of data productization, while staying ahead of evolving data privacy laws and regulation.

Previously, Sherman served as Managing Director, Big Data and Data Science Platform Leader, at Marsh. As a member of Marsh's Digital Executive Leadership Team, Sherman led design and delivery of best-in-class digital, data and analytics products, services and solutions to transform the Marsh client experience.

Sherman was also formerly Vice President of Data Engagement, Data Strategy and Management at Mastercard – where he led global development and operationalization of strategic positions on data-related issues, including oversight of Mastercard's Data Responsibility program to ensure ethical, consumer-centric data innovation across Mastercard's products, solutions and services portfolios.

Sherman has held previous leadership positions at Operation HOPE, McMaster-Carr Supply Company, Delta Air Lines and Citigroup. He has also held academic appointments in advanced econometrics, micro- and macroeconomic principles and global economics at Spelman College, Morehouse College and Georgia State University.

Sherman completed his undergraduate studies in economics and Spanish at Morehouse College – and his graduate degree in economics at the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University.

SESSION
22-C

TBD by TMDC (2nd Session)

Speaker

TBD

Abstract

TBD

Biography

Name
Title
Company

TBD

SESSION

22-D

PRESENTATION

Unlock $ 100 M+ in Impact: The Blueprint for Scaling AI's True Value

Speaker

Ash Dhupar, Analog Devices

Abstract

Many AI and generative AI projects fail to deliver lasting business value despite initial promise. This presentation delves into *why*, arguing that **experimentation and value-driven initiatives are distinct endeavors**. We'll move beyond the pilot phase, directly addressing what it takes to embed AI into daily workflows and achieve significant, measurable impact. Having personally driven over $100 million in impact from diverse AI and generative AI use cases, I'll share practical experiences and hard-won strategies.

You'll leave with actionable insights on:

- A clear framework for separating innovation from core value delivery.
- The essential infrastructure considerations for scaling Genrstive and Agentic AI.
- Developing and retaining a new talent set is critical for your AI journey.
- Achieving the vital business alignment that prevents common AI project failures.

This isn't just theory; it's a pragmatic guide to transforming your AI ambition into sustained organizational success.

Biography

- -

Ash Dhupar
Chief Data & Analytics Officer
Analog Devices

Ash Dhupar, CDAO, has led enterprise-wide transformations across Aerospace/Defense, Semiconductor manufacturing, healthcare, and retail. Ash is driving over $100M in EBITA impact at Analog Devices Inc., cutting through business complexities with innovative applications of connected data, AI/ML, Generative AI, and responsible AI governance. Ash is deeply involved in pioneering the next wave of innovation, from building advanced cloud-native data and AI platforms—including an industry-first Unified Platform integrating Data, AI/ML, GenAI, DevOps, and Security—to exploring groundbreaking Edge AI and Confidential Computing solutions.

SESSION 23

TOWN HALL MEETING

In this townhall meeting, we will summarize the highlights of the Symposium. Importantly, we would like to solicit your informative feedback for 2025 and take a virtual group photo together. Thank you all for attending the Symposium!

Hosts

Justin Magruder
Chief Data Officer, SAIC

Alba Alemán
CEO & Founder, Citizant

Dr. Richard Wang
Founder and Executive Director, MIT CDOIQ Program
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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Justin Magruder

Chief Data Officer
SAIC

Dr. Magruder is the Chief Data Officer for SAIC, a fortune 500 Information Technology Services company based in Reston, Virginia.

Justin is a pioneer and a thought leader in the field of data governance, master and reference data and data operations, with more than 25 years supporting data operations, leaders and decision makers to improve business performance through better data management. He has led efforts at a number of world class organizations to improve business, financial and operational performance, to reduce costs and manage operational risks, and to improve the quality of customer, account, portfolio, and product data, transaction data processing and analytics.

Justin's experience spans the broad domain of modern enterprise data and information management by enabling next generation information and process management. Data driven disciplines include strategy development, strategy execution, customer and account management, order management, settlement and clearance, performance measurement and attribution, and other types of quantitative and qualitative analytics.

He has delivered sophisticated technical solutions for managing massive volumes of disparate, high speed structured and unstructured data and information.

In his role with SAIC, he is continuously developing and leading implementation of its Enterprise Data Strategy including Lakehouse and DataOps solutions to support Artificial Intelligence, Zero Trust and Information Governance programs.

Prior to joining SAIC, Justin founded Noetic Partners, a financial data and information architecture practice that supports sophisticated clients in the financial services industry.

Justin was Director of Market Data and Technology Strategy for Deutsche Bank's Chief Investment Office, Director of Development for Merrill Lynch's MLX platform,

Program Manager for JP Morgan's LabMorgan Credit Origination and Risk Management, and Program Manager for J.P. Morgan Securities' Counterparty and Instrument Reference Data Services.

Justin is a Advisory Board Member for National Science Foundation's Arkansas EPSCoR DART program, and Board Member for ECCMA, the Electronic Commerce Code Management Association. He is a technical advisor to the International Standards Organization's Technical Committee 184 for Automation, Artificial Intelligence & Integration, and the liaison for Technical Committee 68 for Financial Services.

Justin developed the Noetic Master Model ™ to help investors and risk managers evaluate investments, portfolio construction, market analytics, financial and operational risk management, and instrument master data

and the Noetic Partners Identifier – a unique, standard natural identifier and data model to improve counterparty and operational risk management in global markets electronic commerce.

He developed several patented and trade secret ideas, including a continuous method to correct time stamps for low latency transaction-processing systems.

Justin developed a benchmark of domestic mortgage industry data used by management, regulators, and examiners to manage exposure during the 2008-2009 credit crisis, and a quantitative analysis of credit rating products from Moody's, Fitch and S&P for a global banking consortium led by Deutsche Bank's Research Center.

Justin earned a Bachelor's degree from Colorado College, an MBA in Finance from Columbia University's Graduate School of Business, and a PhD in Computing and Information Science at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He has been certified as a FISD Financial Information Associate, a DAMA CDMP, a member of American Mensa, a Collibra DG Steward, a United Nations Open Data Advisor, an ECCMA ISO 8000 MDQM and an ACF Chef Saucier. He is a founding member of the isCDO and a partner with the MIT Information Quality Program.

Alba Alemán
CEO & Founder
Citizant

Alba M. Alemán is a recognized expert in federal data management solutions, with 35 years in IT modernization, strategy, leadership, and solution development. She is the founder and CEO of Citizant, Inc., and a Certified Enterprise Architect. Alba leads Citizant's Enterprise Data Community of Practice and has decades of experience leading large, complex programs in Enterprise Data Management (EDM), data quality, architecture, and governance, including managing data asset repositories to support data estate modernization, governance, and stewardship. Alba led the development of Citizant's unique Middle Out Approach™, which promotes the delivery of mission-essential capabilities continuously aligned to business priorities and leverages best practices, methodologies, and frameworks from traditional disciplines to maximize business value.

Alba supports Federal agencies with the review and impact analysis of legislation, development of enterprise data strategies and annual plans, implementation of maturity assessments, and design and development of enterprise-wide data literacy programs. She is directly supporting the CDO Staff at a federal financial agency as it builds a data-driven culture by maturing and modernizing its EDM and Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning (AI/ML) programs. She developed customized Data Modeling courseware for the Department of Homeland Security's largest "As-Is" architecture development effort. Her expertise in enterprise data maturity and governance strategies to promote discovery, business intelligence, decision-making, and information sharing have made her a key contributing

member of the Chief Data Officer and Information Quality (CDOIQ) community.

Dr. Richard Y. Wang

Founder and Executive Director
Chief Data Officer & Information Quality Program (CDOIQ)

Richard Y. Wang is Director of the Chief Data Officer and Information Quality (CDOIQ) Program. He is a pioneer and leader in the research and practice of Chief Data Officer (CDO). Dr. Wang has significant credentials across government, industry, and academia. He conceived and chaired the Inaugural MIT-Army CDO Forum, and established the CDO Forum as an annual event at MIT. In addition, he has been chairing the Annual MIT CDOIQ Symposium since 2007. Dr. Wang was a professor at the MIT Sloan School of Management for almost a decade. From 2005-2009, he was appointed as a Visiting University Professor of Information Quality, University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He is an Honorary Professor at Xi'An Jiao Tong University, China.

Dr. Wang has put the term Information Quality on the intellectual map with myriad publications. In 1996, Prof. Wang organized the premier International Conference on Information Quality, which he has served as the general conference chair and currently serves as Chairman of the Board. Dr. Wang's books on information quality include Journey to Data Quality (MIT Press, 2006), Information Quality: Advances in Management Information Systems (M.E. Sharpe, 2005), Introduction to Information Quality (MITIQ Publications, 2005), Data Quality (Kluwer Academic, 2001), and Quality Information and Knowledge (Prentice Hall, 1999).

Prof. Wang has been instrumental in the establishment of the Ph.D. and Master of Science in Information Quality degree program at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, the Stuart Madnick IQ Best Paper Award for the International Conference on Information Quality, the comprehensive IQ Ph.D. dissertations website, and the Donald Ballou & Harry Pazer IQ Ph.D. Dissertation Award.

Dr. Wang is the recipient of the 2005 DAMA International Achievement Award. Previous recipients of this award include Codd for inventing the Relational Data model and Chen for the Entity Relationship model.

In 2005, he received a certificate of appreciation from the Director of Central Intelligence and a thank you letter from the Director of National Intelligence. From 2009-2011, Dr. Wang served as the Deputy CDO and Chief Data Quality Officer of the U.S. Army, for which he received letters of appreciation from the Army's Chief Information Officer, and the CIO at the Office of the Secretary of Defense. He received a Ph.D. in Information Technology from the MIT Sloan School of Management in 1985.