Proceedings of the 18th Annual Chief Data Officer & Information Quality (CDOIQ) Symposium

July 16-18, 2024

Pre-Symposium

Edited by:
Hannah Abarquez
Fluramie Icaro
Sheila Mae Malugao
Sheena Marie Malugao
Sherille Mhae Narag
Jelly Poso
April Mae Zamora

- ***As of July 11, 2024; data quality checks and error corrections continue***
- *Presentations and videos will be included in the Post-Symposium Proceedings*
- *Post-Symposium Proceedings will be available around August 1st, 2024*
- *A special 50% discount will be offered for the Proceedings until August 31st, 2024*

*For inquiries, contact team@cdoiq.org

Welcome to CDOIQ Symposium

The Proceedings of the previous Chief Data Officer and Information Quality (CDOIQ) Symposium and other information about the Symposium are available at: https://cdoiq2024.org/. The session recordings will be stored on the CDOIQ YouTube Channel as permanent record. Please subscribe to the CDOIQ channel so you can receive immediate notifications as we upload new videos.

The 18th Annual Chief Data Officer & Information Quality (CDOIQ) Symposium

DIRECTOR

Dr. Richard Y. Wang
Executive Director
CDOIQ Program

CDOIQ TEAM

Hannah Abarquez

Mayeth Benavidez

Jan Portia Eboña

Gjertrud Gibbs

Fluramie Icaro

Sheila Malugao

Sheena Malugao

Jann Manalastas

Sherille Narag

Jelly Poso

Hanzel Riconalla

April Mae Zamora

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The 18th Annual Chief Data Officer and Information Quality Symposium has been supported by the sponsors listed below. We express our gratitude and highest appreciation for their gracious support and for sharing their experiences, success stories, and lessons learned.

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End of the 18th 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)

Carl Gerber

Audit Chief Data Officer

KPMG

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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.

Carl Gerber

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.

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SESSION 2-A

Fireside Chat: (Data) Ethics for AI

Moderator

Allison Banzon, SAIC

Panelists

**Dr. Laura Prietula, Electronic Health Record Modernization Integration Office, Department of Veterans Affairs;
Sarah Weber, California Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District**

Abstract

The burgeoning field of artificial intelligence (AI) hinges critically on data—the fuel that powers machine learning algorithms and enables AI systems to process, learn, and make decisions. Yet, as AI permeates various aspects of society, from healthcare to criminal justice, the ethical implications of data usage within AI systems can be lost in the larger conversation around what it means to design, develop, and deploy responsible AI. As such, this panel discussion aims to dissect the multifaceted data-specific ethical considerations related to data collection, processing, and output as AI systems continue to proliferate across public and private domains.

Join a panel of diverse experts from industry, academia, and the private sector to explore the ethics of scaled data usage (and in many cases production) as nearly every professional landscape seeks the balance between supporting AI innovation while proactively mitigating related risks. Panelists will discuss how (if at all) their respective industries have thought about data ethics in the past, provide real-world examples of the current moral quandaries they are engaging with surrounding data and AI, and provide a forward-thinking view of how they see AI shifting the discourse on data ethics in the future. Through this lens, the panel seeks to ignite a forward-thinking conversation on how data professionals can ethically steer the rapidly evolving landscape of AI, ensuring that these technologies are developed and implemented in a manner that respects human dignity, equity, and justice.

In an era where data breaches and discriminatory algorithms frequently headline news stories, this session will aim to provide the audience with a deeper understanding of the ethical imperatives for AI and tangible take aways that practitioners can utilize to make informed decisions around ethical AI practices in their respective fields.

Biography

Allison Banzon
AI Ethicist
SAIC

Alli Banzon currently serves as AI Ethicist at SAIC, playing an integral role in the company's enterprise AI governance initiatives with a focus on AI upskilling and organizational risk management. Currently pursuing a doctoral degree in Learning Sciences and Advanced Quantitative Methods at the University of Central Florida, Alli has published research on topical areas including AI/ML ethics and learning sciences. Prior to joining SAIC, Alli worked within an international standard setting body for internal auditors, where she co-developed the organization's AI framework and managed continuing education products focused on emerging technology upskilling. As a passionate advocate for education and AI literacy, Alli is committed to preparing today's workforce for tomorrow's AI landscape through continued education opportunities, accessible language, and transparent systems.

Dr. Laura Prietula
Deputy Chief Information Officer
Electronic Health Record Modernization Integration Office
Department of Veterans Affairs

Dr. Laura Prietula, a distinguished leader with over three decades of experience spanning both public and private sectors, excels in establishing strategic business units, enhancing organizational digital advantage, transforming organizations, and improving customer experiences. As a Senior Healthcare Executive, she is renowned for her visionary leadership in business and IT portfolio management, strategic planning, project execution, and organizational change management. In her current role as the Deputy Chief Information Officer (DCIO) for the United States (US) Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Electronic Health Record Modernization Integration Office (EHRM-IO), she oversees the technical implementation of the VA's modernized electronic health record (EHR), ensuring seamless healthcare delivery. Through her over 20 years at VA, she has led enterprise initiatives to transform business practices and establish learning organizations. She has successfully worked across the department and with other agencies such as the Department of Defense, Department of Health and Human Services, Internal Revenue Service, Federal Communications Commission, and Social Security Administration. Dr. Prietula is well known as an industry disruptor for her mission-oriented approach to consistently delivering optimal results, even in politically charged environments, driven by innovations that transform customer benefits delivery and maximize business outcomes. Her contributions significantly impact multiple areas within the federal government, such as data sharing, analytics, innovation, customer experience, and technology adoption. She has worked in the health, manufacturing, financial, and

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services industries since 1992. She has an exceptional background in conducting disruptive innovations to transform customer benefits delivery, create synergies, and maximize business results. She holds a bachelor's degree in computer science engineering from Instituto Tecnologico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM Mexico), a master's degree in decision and information sciences from the University of Florida, and a doctorate in leadership and learning in organizations from Vanderbilt University.

Sarah Weber

Senior Appellate Attorney
California Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District

Sarah Weber is a Senior Research Attorney at the California Court of Appeal in San Diego. She has worked for the California courts since 2012, assisting with the resolution of appeals and other appellate court proceedings, as well as serving for ten years as administrator and legal writing instructor for the court's externship program for law students. Her experience as a judicial attorney covers a wide range of subject matters, including all manners of criminal prosecutions, civil litigation, and family and probate matters. Her background also includes eight years in private practice as a litigator representing consumers, shareholders, and businesses prosecuting class actions in the antitrust, securities, and consumer protection arenas. In her current role, Ms. Weber is constantly learning as the law develops and is excited to dive into the world of data privacy for the 2024 CDOIQ Symposium.

SESSION 2-B

Transforming Business Responsiveness and Governance in the Age of AI

Speaker

Anshuman ("Ansh") Kanwar, Reltio

Abstract

This session will explore how data leaders can rapidly provide trusted, secure, reusable data sets for business teams and data scientists while instituting effective data governance practices that support machine learning governance. Attendees will gain insights into offering core data as data products tailored to business and data science teams' specific requirements while accommodating the nuanced demands of machine learning and data governance. Furthermore, the session delves into best practices for optimizing data team productivity through harnessing the transformative power of AI.

Biography

Anshuman Kanwar
Executive Vice President, Technology, Product and Strategy
Reltio

Ansh Kanwar is Executive Vice President (EVP) of Technology, Product and Strategy at Reltio. He oversees Reltio's global software engineering, product management, and technology operations.

Ansh has extensive experience in product management, software development, product marketing, security, cloud computing, and technology operations. Over the last 23 years, he has held numerous senior technical and management roles, including at Citrix Systems, where he served as Vice President, Technology Operations, and LogMeIn, where he served as Chief Technology Officer, and General Manager, Products and Technology at Onapsis.

Ansh is a public speaker and loves discussing Data Unification and Management, AI in Data, Data Products, the Ethical use of Data, and building at scale SaaS products. He has a Bachelor's in Computer Engineering from Delhi University, an MS in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and an MBA from the MIT Sloan School of Management. He lives in Cambridge, MA.

SESSION 2-C

PRESENTATION

Maximizing ROI with Data Products: A Data Marketplace Approach

Speakers

David Petty & Vivek Patel, Incept Data Solutions

Abstract

The effective management and utilization of data assets are paramount for business success today. Join Incept Data Solutions at CDOIQ in July 2024 in exploring how data marketplaces bridge the gap between data supply and demand, providing organizations with the tools to harness the full potential of their data. Discover how these platforms not only enhance data accessibility but also ensure data quality, enabling data-driven decision-making at scale. This 40-minute presentation delves into the transformative power of data marketplaces, with a keen focus on the dissemination of data products and the curation of quality datasets.

Incept will delve into real-world examples, discussing how leading organizations are leveraging data marketplaces to drive innovation, maximize ROI, and establish robust data governance practices. Furthermore, we'll explore emerging trends that are shaping the future of data marketplaces.

Whether you are new to the concept or looking to refine your data strategy, this session promises valuable insights into how data marketplaces can elevate your data game, from data chaos to data excellence. We hope to see you there!

Biography

David Petty
Engagement Partner
Incept Data Solutions, Inc

David Petty, a seasoned leader in data management and transformation, brings over two decades of expertise to the stage. As a former Chief Data Officer, David has spearheaded global programs, delivering innovative data solutions and fostering international collaborations. His tenure at HSBC and Conyers showcased his ability to lead complex data initiatives across multiple regions, including Europe, Bermuda, and the US. Currently, as an Engagement Partner at Incept, David leverages his extensive experience in governance, risk management, and enterprise data strategies to drive successful outcomes for clients. His strategic vision and hands-on leadership make him a pivotal figure in the data industry.

Vivek Patel
Vice President of Data Engineering
Incept Data Solutions, Inc

Vivek Patel is a dynamic and forward-thinking Vice-President of Data Engineering with a rich background in architecting and implementing large-scale data management solutions. With over 19 years of experience, Vivek excels in master and reference data management, cloud technologies, and digital transformation. His deep expertise in integrating data across diverse platforms and domains has led to successful marketplace implementations and enhanced data governance frameworks. Vivek's tenure at Incept Data Solutions is marked by his ability to develop cost-effective, high-performance solutions that align with business objectives, making him a valuable asset in the realm of data engineering.

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SESSION
2-D

PRESENTATION

Strategizing Gen AI: A Case Study in Advancing Business and Mindsets

Speakers

Jeremy Forman, Pfizer & Nimisha Asthagiri, Thoughtworks

Abstract

We'll dive into our experience of developing a comprehensive, multi-dimensional Gen AI strategy across Seagen's molecule-to-market value chain. This ultimately led to the creation of an advanced internal product for R&D, fostering other bounded innovations. With an adoption-first mindset, we identified ROI value-based use cases, mitigated identified risks, established an operating governance model, and ingrained iterative agile principles.

We'll provide practical frameworks and techniques that proved to be successful in our journey. We'll also explore challenges we faced, such as overcoming human biases and finding the right balance between meeting users where they are and advancing them forward.

Finally, we'll also highlight the importance of a robust data and AI platform that serves FAIR data and is rooted in 'Data as a Product' principles. We hope our insights will prove valuable to others leading their own data and AI transformations.

Biography

Jeremy Forman
VP, R&D, AI, Data, Analytics
Pfizer

Jeremy Forman is the Vice President, R&D AI, Data, and Analytics. Jeremy brings a background of nearly 25 years of expertise in data-driven innovation and artificial intelligence. His career is marked by strategic leadership roles where he has harnessed the power of AI and data to drive business growth, enhance customer and employee experiences, and foster a culture of innovation and responsible use of technology.

At Seagen, Inc., Jeremy spearheaded the development of an enterprise data strategy that significantly contributed to the company's data-driven decision making in drug discovery, development, commercialization, and across all enabling functions. He led the foundation of a company-wide AI Center of Innovation, demonstrating his commitment to fostering an environment conducive to AI adoption. Under his leadership, the data team saw remarkable growth and diversity, with a notable increase in gender diversity from 16% to 45%.

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Jeremy's experience extends beyond the corporate world into academia, where he shares his knowledge as an Adjunct Professor at the Tippie School of Business, University of Iowa. His work at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Oracle Corporation, and Los Alamos National Laboratory further underscores his global perspective, strategic thinking, and commitment to sustainability and social responsibility.

Jeremy lives in Seattle with his wife, Bernadette, dogs Axel and Piper, and with his two grown children nearby. When not working Jeremy can be found on his bike, playing guitar, or enjoying the food and wine of the Pacific Northwest.

Nimisha Asthagiri

Head of AI & Analytics
Thoughtworks

Nimisha Asthagiri is the Services Leader for AI and Analytics in North America at Thoughtworks. She leads organization transformations with strategic combinations of design thinking, change management, experimentation, and platform architecture. Prior, she was Chief Architect at edX, where she drove intentional architecture, digital governance, and technical strategy for the next generation of large-scale online learning.

She is a long-term technologist who values innovations that result from the amplification of diverse voices and the synergism of collective strength. Recently, she partnered with Jeremy to support value-driven digital transformation of Seagen's oncology research and co-create enterprise-wide generative AI strategy.

SESSION 2-E

PRESENTATION

CDO as a Chief Regulation Officer: Managing the Organizational Impact of Many New Cybersecurity Regulations

Speaker

Stuart Madnick, Cybersecurity at MIT Sloan (CAMS)

Abstract

The CDO's responsibilities have always included increasing the value of the organization's data, now the CDO must also play a role in protecting that valuable data. Furthermore, there are new complexities due to rapidly increasing new regulations, inspired by cyberattacks, being enacted around the world. In this session, we will discuss some of the major categories of these regulations, their likely impacts, and how organizations need to adjust to address them. We have identified over 170 new regulations in areas such: (1) Required Software and Data Bill of Materials (SBOM and DBOM), (2) Required "Secure by Design," (3) Prohibition on Payment of Ransomware to Free up Data, (4) Data Governance (such as Data Localization), (5) Required Reporting of Data Cyber Incidents.

Biography

Stuart 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.

SESSION 2-F

PRESENTATION

Generative AI Requires CIOs and CDOs to Work Better Together

Speaker

Myles Franklin Suer, #CIOChat + Privacera

Abstract

Generative AI Solutions have received much press and attention. The attention increasingly seems to be on par with the introduction of the Internet. However, the risks are clear. To seize this opportunity, CIOs and CDOs can no longer be at arm's length with each other. Generative AI requires CIOs and CDOs to form a tighter bond because generative AI fundamentally transforms how organizations conduct business and even transforms self-service BI. These are topics that are squarely in the middle of the CIO agenda. In this panel, we discuss how CDOs can work better with their CIOs to deliver generative AI solutions to business processes. This includes carefully managing the risks associated with generative AI and how to best address them.

Biography

Myles Franklin Suer

#CIOChat Facilitator
#CIOChat + Privacera

Myles Suer is, according to LeadTails, the leading influencer of CIOs. He is the facilitator for the #CIOChat. The chat has executive-level participants from around the world in a mix of industries including banking, insurance, education, and government. Mr. Suer also has a weekly column with CMSWire and Cutter Business Technology Journal. He has had his articles published in CIO.com, eWeek, ComputerWorld, and COBIT Focus. He is currently Strategic Marketing Director at Privacera.

SESSION 2-G

PRESENTATION
Data Governance for AI: A Vision of the Future

Speaker

Martha Dember, MM&I Data Management Advisory Services

Abstract

One of the major trends in automating data management and data analytics is AI (artificial intelligence). However, there is much controversy developing around the ethical use of AI and how to audit for it.

AI models are objectively simple, they take in data and then learn patterns from this data to generate an output. Systems like ChatGPT and Google Board, considered Large Language Models (LLM's) are not any different and when we look to manage and govern the deployment of these type of AI models, we must first focus on governing the data that the AI models are trained on.

This requires us to understand the origin, sensitivity, and lifecycle of all the data that we use. It is the foundation for any AI Governance practice and is crucial in mitigating a number of risks.

This session will further discuss what it is going to take to build data governance policies and procedures into the AI model, to address not only current regulations such as GDPR but the potential of future regulations and audit controls as the use of AI is becoming more extensive in all industries and across the globe.

Biography

Martha Dember
Data Management Advisory Consultant
MM&I Data Management Advisory Services

Ms. Dember is credited as one of the founding principles of Data Governance, having published the first Data Governance Maturity Model at DAMA Conference in 2004. Since then, she has published works on Data Analysis and has both lectured and taught courses at conferences both domestically and abroad. She has been responsible for transforming business analytics into solutions that provide actionable information to drive business growth, Customer and Consumer insights, as well as developing strategic working relationship between IT and the business units supported within the organization. Ms. Dember is considered an industry thought leader in all aspects of data management along with Business Intelligence and Big Data & Analytics. Currently, Ms. Dember provides advisory consulting services to organizations that are looking for assistance in growing their capabilities, need direction on resolving issues or figuring out priorities, or providing insight to current/future trends.

SESSION

3-A

Speaker

Abstract

PRESENTATION

Legislative Strategy and Federal Data Policy

Nick Hart, Data Foundation

The evolution of federal data policy in the United States has been marked by a series of landmark legislative acts and strategic initiatives aimed at harnessing the power of data to improve government effectiveness, transparency, and citizen services. This expert discussion explores the interconnected landscape of federal data policy, honoring the 10-year anniversary of the DATA Act, the 5-year anniversary of the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act and OPEN Government Data Act, and highlights the collective impact of these laws and other data policies and capacity-building efforts on the role of Chief Data Officers (CDOs) in the modern data and evidence ecosystem.

Drawing from the Data Foundation's extensive research and advocacy work, the discussion will trace the progression of these policies and their implementation, demonstrating how they collectively reshaped the federal data landscape. The DATA Act's foundational efforts to enhance financial transparency by applying data standards, the Evidence Act's promotion of data-driven decision-making, and how the Federal Data Strategy spurred these efforts, today rely on CDOs and effective data management frameworks across agencies.

Central to this discussion will be the evolving role of CDOs, who operate at the intersection of data policy implementation and organizational change. Insights from our annual CDO and periodic Evaluation Officer surveys will illuminate the challenges and opportunities facing these key federal government leaders for themes including cultural change, addressing data government, implementing effective collaboration, balancing access and privacy, and enabling data literacy programs.

The session will conclude by looking ahead, to the future of federal data policy, including emerging trends, potential legislative developments, and the evolving needs of CDOs. By understanding this complex policy landscape and its practical implications, attendees will gain insights into how to navigate and leverage federal data initiatives effectively in their own organizations and with peers.

Join us for a comprehensive overview of the legislative and strategic foundations shaping the future of federal data management, and learn how

these policies are transforming the way government operates in the years ahead.

Biography –

Nick Hart
President & CEO
Data Foundation

Nick Hart is the President & CEO of the Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit Data Foundation. He is a recognized advocate and leader for establishing systems and practices that enable evidence-informed policymaking and open data practices to succeed around the world to improve society. He is an expert in United States policies related to data, evaluation, statistics, science, and privacy.

During his professional career, Dr. Hart led initiatives in government and non-profits, championing the use of data to improve society. He is a fellow at the National Academy of Public Administration and the Bipartisan Policy Center. He previously worked at the White House Office of Management and Budget, as the Policy and Research Director of the U.S. Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking, and as the Director the Evidence Project at the Bipartisan Policy Center.

Dr. Hart has testified to U.S. Congress and panels of the European Commission, frequently comments on regulations and offers technical assistance on proposed legislation and regulations, and collaborates with policymakers to apply evidence for improving policy. He has written extensively about the need to collect, manage, govern, and use data to generate useful evidence for policymakers, including co-authoring two books: Evidence-Building and Evaluation in Government (2022) and Evidence Works: Cases Where Evidence Meaningfully Informed Decision-Making (2019).

Dr. Hart was appointed by the Director of the White House Office of Management and Budget to the Federal Advisory Committee on Data for Evidence Building, by the Comptroller General to the Government Accountability Office's Advisory Council on Government Auditing Standards (Yellow Book Council), and by the Director of the Government Publishing Office to GPO's Transparency Advisory Group. Dr. Hart previously Co-Chaired the Select Task Force on Information Policy Reform for the National Academy of Public Administration. He has served on multiple panels for the National Academy of Sciences Committee on National Statistics and the National Academy of Public Administration.

Dr. Hart is an adjunct professor of program evaluation at George Washington University. He chairs the American Evaluation Association's Evaluation Policy Task Force, among other committees and boards.

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Dr. Hart earned a Ph.D. from George Washington University's Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration, specializing in program evaluation. He holds a Master of Science degree in Environmental Science and Master of Public Affairs degree from Indiana University, and a Bachelor of Science degree from Truman State University.

Dr. Hart lives in Washington, D.C. with his son Calvin.

SESSION 3-B

PRESENTATION

AI Disrupts MDM: Building the Virtual Chief Data Officer (vCDO)

Speaker

Anthony Deighton, Tamr

Abstract

In the rapidly evolving landscape of data management, artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming traditional Master Data Management (MDM) practices, enabling unprecedented efficiency and precision. This presentation, titled "AI Disrupts MDM: Building the Virtual Chief Data Officer (vCDO)," explores how AI-driven solutions are revolutionizing enterprise data strategies. Highlighting Tamr's pioneering work—commercialized from academic research by Turing award-winning professor Dr. Michael Stonebraker at MIT—the presentation showcases how AI automates routine tasks, addresses scale problems, and ensures data quality. Tamr's innovative approach, powered by machine learning, creates accurate golden records, unlocking the full potential of enterprise data and setting a new standard in data management.

Biography

Anthony Deighton
CEO
Tamr
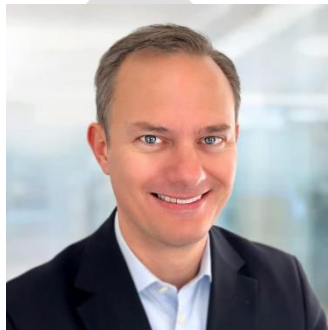
Anthony Deighton is the CEO at Tamr, bringing extensive experience and expertise in building and scaling enterprise software companies. With a twenty-year career, He initially joined Tamr as its Chief Product Officer and has since been pivotal in driving the company's success. Before Tamr, Anthony was Chief Marketing Officer at Celonis, establishing the company's leadership in the Process Mining software category and creating demand generation programs resulting in exceptional 130% ARR growth. He spent a decade at Qlik and transformed the organization from a relatively unknown Swedish software company into a renowned market leader. At Qlik, Anthony held key roles, including product leadership, marketing, and, ultimately, Chief Technology Officer.

SESSION

3-C

PRESENTATION

The CDO's Guide to Implementing Gen AI for Analytics: Using Data Fabric to Accelerate Time to Value

Speaker

Abstract

Kaycee Lai, Promethium

The introduction of Generative AI (Gen AI) in the enterprise heralds a new era of advanced analytics and operational efficiency. By harnessing the sophisticated capabilities of Gen AI, businesses can significantly accelerate their decision-making processes and empower their employees across multiple dimensions. Gen AI enables intricate data analysis, natural language processing (NLP), and decision-making with just a few prompts, facilitating faster innovation and competitive advantage.

However, implementation and optimization of Gen AI for enterprise analytics use cases present several challenges. Gen AI is hard to put into production, due to the complexities associated with data integration and secure data access. Additionally, enterprise struggle to tune and deliver consistently high quality and compelling responses to AI-driven questions

A data fabric is a new architecture that can help accelerate GenAI implementations while reducing their risk. A data fabric presents a unified interface for data management, integrating disparate data sources and ensuring consistent data governance and analytics. Gen AI models typically cannot access multiple data management solutions from different vendors and coordinate the complex workflows required to find, retrieve, build, and analyze distributed or unstructured data.

With a modern data fabric, businesses can efficiently manage and analyze data in its existing state while ensuring compliance with regulatory standards and leveraging Gen AI.

Evaluation of data fabrics should focus on four key capabilities:

1. **Natural Language Interface:** From its inception, Promethium has been envisioned with a search-based and natural language interface. This design philosophy aligns perfectly with the operational dynamics of Gen AI, enabling seamless integration and interaction. For Promethium's data fabric, Gen AI functions as another user querying the system.
2. **Data Preparation and Querying:** By applying NLP to data preparation, query building, data access, pipeline generation, and

visualization creation, Promethium reduces the time and complexity associated with data exploration and analysis, making it more accessible to users with varying levels of technical expertise.

3. **Robust Data Governance:** Promethium's data fabric provides a robust framework for data governance, ensuring that data usage adheres to regulatory and organizational policies. This prevents irrelevant or inaccurate responses by ensuring that governed and trusted data are used.

4. **Virtual Data Access and Security:** The data fabric allows for virtual data access, meaning that data does not need to be transferred to the Gen AI model, thus providing the necessary data security that enterprises require. This aspect is crucial for maintaining trust and compliance, especially in industries with stringent data privacy and security regulations.

5. **High quality and predictability of AI responses:** The Promethium data fabric leverages rich business context and metadata to ensure high quality responses to natural language questions by business users. This problem is particularly acute when NLP questions depend on multiple heterogeneous data sources (cloud data warehouses, SaaS applications, or on-premises data stores). Ensuring trust is critical when rolling out GenAI in production.

While Gen AI presents a paradigm shift in enterprise analytics, its full potential can only be realized with the support of an effective data fabric. Data fabrics should have a search-based natural language interface that is inherently compatible with GenAI. They should be able to quickly access data and provide robust governance, while allowing data teams to rapidly iterate and support self-service NLP and data products for the business users. As a representative example, Promethium data fabric offers all the five capabilities above and delivers fast time to value for business users to get insight from enterprise data, while allowing the strapped data teams to amplify their resources and productivity.

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Biography

Kaycee Lai
Founder
Promethium

Kaycee Lai, Founder of Promethium, is a visionary in the field of data management and advanced analytics. With a career spanning over two decades at leading companies like EMC, VMware, Microsoft, and Waterline Data, Kaycee has consistently driven the adoption of new and disruptive technologies. As President of Waterline Data, he achieved a sixfold revenue increase in one year by transforming the company's strategy and operations.

At Promethium, Kaycee is one of the early pioneers in revolutionizing the modern data fabric not just in concept but also to productize the design. Kaycee then drove Promethium to accelerate the implementation of Generative AI (Gen AI) in enterprises. He is a recognized pioneer for integrating natural language processing (NLP) into analytics, making advanced data querying and analysis accessible to users with varying technical expertise. Kaycee's expertise in integrating complex data systems ensures that businesses can harness the power of Gen AI for advanced analytics, natural language processing, and decision-making.

Holder of two patents in data architecture design, Kaycee's innovative solutions provide a unified data management interface that simplifies data integration, enhances data governance, and ensures secure data access. His leadership at Promethium focuses on delivering fast time to value for business users while amplifying the resources and productivity of data teams as evidenced by the growing number of enterprises that have adopted Promethium.

With a BA in Psychology from Pomona College, Kaycee combines his deep understanding of human behavior with cutting-edge technology to drive business innovation and operational efficiency.

SESSION
3-D

PRESENTATION

A Leader's Guide: How to Go from Idea to Value with Generative AI

Speaker

Tom Godden, Amazon Web Services (AWS)

Abstract

Generative AI holds transformative potential, but harnessing it requires a strategic, responsible approach. This presentation explores a blueprint for unlocking generative AI's power within your organization. We'll examine diverse use cases, navigate model choices, and discuss critical data governance and security practices. Importantly, we'll address the people and cultural aspects of adoption, including upskilling and change management. By the end, you'll have a clear roadmap for integrating generative AI into your organizational DNA to drive sustainable, competitive growth through unprecedented creativity, efficiency, and innovation.

Biography

Tom Godden
Enterprise Strategist and CXO Advisor
Amazon Web Services (AWS)

Tom Godden is an Enterprise Strategist and CxO Advisor at Amazon Web Services (AWS). Prior to AWS, Tom was the Chief Information Officer for Foundation Medicine where he helped build the world's leading FDA regulated, cancer genomics diagnostic, research, and patient outcomes platform to improve outcomes and inform next-generation precision medicine. Previously, Tom held multiple senior technology leadership roles at Wolters Kluwer in Alphen aan den Rijn Netherlands and has over 17 years in the healthcare and life sciences industry.

SESSION 3-E

PANEL SESSION

Healthcare Data Evolution

Moderator

Abbas Mooraj, PwC

Panelists

Beth Falder, Nuvance Health & Jawad Khan, Akron Children's Hospital

Abstract

Join PwC and their guests in an engaging session focused on Data Modernization in Healthcare focused on improving long-term outcomes through GenAI, Data Governance, and Next Gen Platforms. In this session, join Nuvance Health and Akron Children's Hospital in a discussion about how to drive insights and action throughout the Healthcare organization.

Biography –

Abbas Mooraj
Partner
PwC

Abbas is a Partner in the Health Industries Data, Analytics and Cloud Transformation practice based out of Boston. Abbas focuses on helping Health Systems and AMCs establish the vision, strategy, and foundation for a Cloud based Enterprise Data & Digital Platform to drive analytics and insights across the organization.

Beth Falder
AVP Data Management & Analytics
Nuvance Health

Beth Falder is the AVP, Data Management & Analytics for Nuvance Health, an integrated health system in New York and Connecticut. Beth is responsible for Nuvance Health's data assets as well as the external data ecosystems. Beth leads the enterprise oversight and sets the strategic vision for all data / analytic products including cloud-based and on-premise solutions. In her role she is responsible for the oversight of the program and championing analytics to drive innovation and enterprise objectives. She oversees the master and reference data management, data quality, data governance policies, and administration

of the program in alignment with relevant regulatory, legal and ethical mandates.

Jawad Khan

Chief Data & Analytics Officer
Akron Children's Hospital
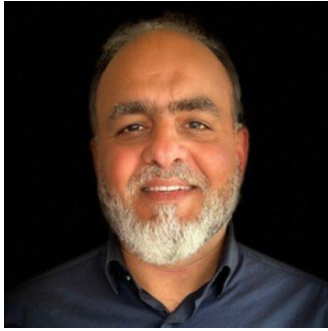
Jawad Khan is an established IT executive with proven experience integrating technology and business solutions for multiple organizations. Jawad has succeeded in building strategic plans, technology roadmaps, and enterprise product development organizations, as well as in providing hands-on guidance and leadership throughout development, implementation, and execution. With a strong focus and subject matter expertise in Data Science, AI, Machine Learning, and Cloud Technologies, Jawad thrives when leading development of innovative products and solutions.

Jawad is currently the AVP, Advanced Analytics & Knowledge Management at Rush University Medical Center, where he owns the advanced analytics strategy across 3 hospitals and 1 university.

SESSION 3-F

PRESENTATION

Empowering Decision Excellence and Risk Resilience Through Master Data Management: Insights and Innovations

Speaker

Steve Kleinmann, Moody's

Abstract

In today's data-centric environment, master data management (MDM) plays a pivotal role in fostering decision-making precision and enhancing risk management capabilities. In this session our panel will present and discuss significant insights from the recent "The Master Data Management Market Survey," conducted by Raconteur in collaboration with Moody's, and participants will:

- Gain a robust understanding of how MDM catalyzes organizational nimbleness, mitigates risk by ensuring data interoperability, and paves the way for new opportunities by enriching master data quality
- Delve into the critical aspects of selecting a reference data provider, focusing on essential quality dimensions that influence decision-making
- Understand the strategic benefits and operational enhancements achievable by integrating robust company reference data into MDM initiatives
- Explore current trends, challenges, and future directions in the MDM landscape

Biography

Steve Kleinmann
Senior Director – Industry Practice Lead
Moody's

Steve Kleinmann is an Industry Practice Lead for Moody's Analytics, specialized in master data management, with over 20 years of consulting experience leading digital transformations to improve data interoperability. Today, he helps global organizations across many verticals to gain competitive advantages through better, faster data-driven decisions.

SESSION 3-G

PANEL DISCUSSION

Health Equity Science: Principles, Applications and Trust in Healthcare Access, Safety and Privacy

Moderator

James Short, San Diego SuperComputer Center, UC San Diego

Panelists

Alastair Thomson, Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H); Scott Kahn, Illumina & Ian Komorowski, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Abstract

Health equity and access to hi-quality, trusted medical care is a multidimensional concept long recognized as a critical pillar in national economic development and healthcare system performance. The historical roots of the concept go back to the 1800s, and the first documented use of the term "health equality", to 1966, in an article published in the Penn Law Review. Inevitably, healthcare equity revolves around questions of personal privacy, provider trust, data ownership, and the trusted exchange of sensitive data, especially for disadvantaged populations. In this session, we will draw on the experience of three noted experts in the fields of privacy, data ownership, and the complex relationship between the quality of medical research, and the quality of the data it depends on. Our distinguished speakers include Alastair Thomson, Director of Data Innovation for ARPA-H, Dr. Scott Kahn, CIO Illumina (ret) and Ian Komorowski, Executive Director, VHA Strategic Investment Management, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The session will be moderated by Dr. James Short, Lead Scientist and Director of SPARK AI, San Diego Supercomputer Center, UC San Diego.

Biography

James Short
Lead Scientist
San Diego SuperComputer Center, UC San Diego

Jim Short is a Lead Scientist at San Diego Supercomputer Center at UC San Diego (SDSC). He is a data scientist interested in the economics of large-scale data systems, the valuation of data and information markets, and the economic incentives and management of data privacy and data sharing. In 2018 he founded SDSC's new blockchain research laboratory, BlockLAB. The Lab's research goals include exploring the principal technologies and business use cases in blockchains, distributed ledgers, digital transactions and smart contracts. His current work focuses on the economics and policy governance of data markets. Short received his undergraduate, masters and PhD degrees from MIT. He is active in IT professional organizations and serves as an editorial board member and reviewer for several technology and business management journals.

Alastair Thomson
Director, Data Innovation
Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)
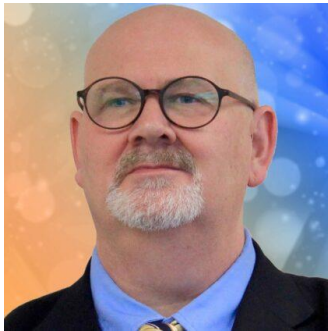
Mr. Thomson serves as the Acting Director for Data Innovation at the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) where he leads the ARPA-H data strategy to improve sharing of biomedical research data with a particular focus on equity and trust in AI. Prior to ARPA-H he served as the Chief Information Officer at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute where he led several big data programs including the NHLBI's BioData Catalyst cloud-based analytics platform and the data strategy for the RECOVER long-COVID research study. He has had an eclectic career that includes the inaugural Director of the University of Otago's Computer Science Applied Research Centre, founding a computer animation company and work in broadcast television production, logistics, telecommunications, finance, insurance and federal government consulting. He holds degrees in psychology and computer science from the University of Otago.

Scott Kahn

CIO and Chief Privacy Officer
Illumina

Scott Kahn recently joined the Board of Directors at Exagen after serving as the Chief Information and Privacy Officer at LunaPBC where he was responsible for all informatics and data science strategy. Through his work with the Helmsley Charitable Trust, Scott has worked on data privacy and data sharing policies for biomedical organizations globally, and he serves on the Board of Directors for Rady Children's Institute of Genomic Medicine and is the Chairman of the Board for Blue Circle Health. Previously Scott spend 11 years as Illumina's first Chief Information Officer, and he also was an executive leader in Illumina's Enterprise Informatics Unit. He organized the Genome Informatics Alliance for five years to drive interdisciplinary thought leadership focused on the future of Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) and its role in precision medicine, healthcare, and other applied markets.

Scott has a PhD in Theoretical Organic Chemistry from UC Irvine and was a Fellow Commoner of Churchill College at the University of Cambridge in England.

Ian Komorowski

Executive Director, VHA Strategic Investment Management
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Ian Komorowski serves as the Executive Director of Strategic Investment Management (SIM), Veterans Health Administration (VHA). Ian leads SIM's mission to facilitate sound decision making by VHA for the development, acquisition, and maintenance of health-focused IT investments. SIM ensures leadership has a comprehensive understanding of needed VHA business capabilities including business requirements, processes, information needs, IT strategy & priorities and investment analysis.

In his most recent role, he served as the Acting Chief Consultant to the Deputy Under Secretary for Health (DUSH) as the co-lead for VHA's Electronic Health Record Modernization (EHRM) Reset efforts. His primary focus was coordinating with VISNs and VA Medical Centers on their EHR requirements, in partnership with the EHRM Integration Office (EHRM IO) and the VHA Office of Health Informatics (OHI).

Ian also brings experience leading government programs through successful growth and development using project and change management best practices and valuable interdepartmental experience in leading multi-agency government projects.

From 2018 through 2021, Ian served as Deputy Director, Office of Healthcare Transformation (OHT) where he provided executive leadership on project management, strategic implementation, and health systems engineering. He was also the executive sponsor for the VHA

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Change Management (CM) effort, establishing a CM training program and expanding CM Practices across VHA.

He previously served as Branch Chief, Architecture & Cloud Strategies for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), leading the effort to include Enterprise Architecture as a core part of business, IT, and acquisition practices in the SEC and increasing visibility of information across the enterprise. Before that, he served as the Deputy Director of Business Architecture in SIM in VHA.

Earlier in his career, he was Director of Architecture & Interoperability for a mid-size consulting company, and VP of Training at a small business. Ian enjoys teaching and mentoring across many disciplines, from having been a full-time kayak instructor, to a developer and instructor of formal enterprise architecture courses. He has also guest lectured on health IT and enterprise architecture topics at both the undergraduate and graduate level at schools such as Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Georgetown University.

SESSION 4-A

PANEL DISCUSSION

Securing the Border of the Future

Moderator

Jason Hannah, SAIC

Panelists

Douglas Lindquist, FBI EI Paso Office; Craig Mcintire, SAIC & Shweta Mulcare, SAIC

Abstract

Whether we live near an international border or not, our lives are influenced by the people and cargo that cross our borders. Trade, work and leisure take us across continents, extending the definition of "border" beyond the one to our North and South. Avocados and Apple products cross oceans, as does cyber and data transactions faster than ever. That safe and efficient transport of people and cargo is challenged by bad actors who may bear animus toward the Unites States or be willing to inflict harm for profit. How do we welcome legitimate trade and travel while ensuring the safety and security of our nation?

The Unites States Department of Homeland Security, Department of Justice, the Intelligence Community, and other federal agencies work hard to protect our nation's safety and interests. These agencies like the Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) work in concert with other federal agencies and our state, local, and tribal partners to enable the "good" to happen and prevent the "bad" from our lives.

Join the conversation with our panel to gain some insight and share your perspectives on the importance of data, access, integration, and transparency in defining the future of the border and its ongoing impact on our lives.

Biography

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Jason Hannah

Senior Director, Justice and Law Enforcement
SAIC

With over 25 years in roles supporting operational missions and organizational change, Jason serves as the Sr. Director for Law Enforcement and Public Safety (LEAPS) for SAIC. He leads programs focusing on solving complex mission issues for maximum impact of tools, practices and policies; data analysis and decision-making; modeling-based impact analysis and risk assessment, game theory in enforcement, and new AI/ML implementations and their broader impacts across multiple jurisdictions and agencies.

Douglas Lindquist

Assistant Director (retired), Criminal Justice Information System
Former Special Agent in Charge
FBI EI Paso Office

Douglas E. Lindquist is a Senior Director at SAIC in Huntsville, AL focused on DOJ Business Development. Mr. Lindquist retired from the FBI after 21 years of service as a Special Agent, including Senior Executive Service roles as the Chief of the Eurasia Counterintelligence Section, the Special Agent in Charge of the El Paso Division, and the Assistant Director of the Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division, supporting the 18,000+ Law Enforcement Agencies across the nation. Prior to his career in the FBI, Mr. Lindquist served as an Intelligence Officer in the United States Marine Corps.

Craig McIntire

Vice President, Department of Homeland Security Account
SAIC

Craig McIntire is SAIC Vice President for the Civilian Business Group DHS Account, headquartered in Reston, VA. He is responsible for overseeing all elements of the DHS portfolio, which provides a wide range of IT and engineering services to DHS.

Mr. McIntire joined Sperry Corporation in 1985, where he designed and developed systems for the DOD and DOJ. In early 2000, he served as Vice President of Engineering for a venture-capital funded start-up and joined Unisys in 2001 to lead solution delivery efforts across commercial and Federal accounts. For the past 15 years, he has led delivery and growth across multiple DHS accounts. Unisys Federal Systems was acquired by SAIC in March, 2020.

McIntire received a master's degree in Computer Science from George Washington University and a bachelor's degree in Computer Science from Virginia Tech.

Shweta Mulcare

Director, Data Science Futures
SAIC

Shweta is Director of Data Science Futures and AI Strategist at SAIC. She is also an SAIC Technical Fellow. Shweta can help you zero in on the best articulation of your key problem and leverage solutions from diverse domains to innovate with speed. Shweta works across the enterprise to extract meaningful business outcomes from data. Shweta collaborates with business development teams and technologists on transformative solutions; is an AI thought leader to the enterprise and engages with customers to bring the future of data into the present.

Shweta has excelled in diverse domains including medicine, patent examination, aviation and neuroscience. Shweta has worked in a condensed matter physics lab at The George Washington University; as a neuroscience researcher and in critical care medicine, both at the National Institutes of Health where she published her first paper in Nature Neuroscience describing neural correlates of memory formation; as an electrical engineering patent examiner at the US Patent and Trademark Office and for 12 years at the MITRE Corporation optimizing safety and efficiency for aviation. This included managing the largest aviation safety program in the world, through which Shweta's team led the safety study of the 737B Max accidents for the FAA Administrator. Shweta won a best paper award for, "Assuring Human and Artificial Intelligence are Appropriately Informed in Aviation Systems". Shweta also established a new MITRE work program with the FAA's Office of Aerospace Medicine to transform human machine teaming in the cockpit.

Shweta lives in Falls Church, VA with her daughter Rani, husband Jon, and cats Bosky and Mishka. She is a recipe tester for America's Test Kitchen and will be a Virginia Master Naturalist in the Fall.

SESSION
4-B

PRESENTATION

Navigating Unstructured Data: A CDO's Guide to Thriving with GenAI

Speaker

Jack Berkowitz, Securiti

Abstract

In the age of Generative AI (GenAI), unstructured data has become increasingly pivotal, presenting both vast opportunities for growth and significant governance challenges. For Chief Data Officers (CDOs), effectively managing this data is critical to maintaining a competitive advantage. Conventional data management tools often fall short in addressing the complexities of unstructured data, which calls for innovative approaches to fully exploit its potential in GenAI frameworks.

This session will cover vital topics such as: How to effectively discover, classify, and manage unstructured data? Who should have access to sensitive information within these datasets? What strategies can prevent the leakage of sensitive details? How can we ensure the data remains relevant, updated, and duplicate-free? What are the pertinent policies and regulations affecting unstructured data? How can we trace data lineage from unstructured sources to GenAI models and their applications?

Join Jack Berkowitz, Chief Data Officer at Securiti, as he delineates a strategic roadmap for CDOs to navigate the complexities of unstructured data management, thereby enabling the safe and efficient use of GenAI technologies.

Key Insights:

- The escalating importance of unstructured data in the GenAI landscape.

- The governance challenges CDOs face with unstructured data.

- Emerging governance techniques essential for leveraging unstructured data in GenAI initiatives.

Biography

Jack Berkowitz
Chief Data Officer
Securiti

Berkowitz was recently named CDO at Securiti, where he plays a strategic role in 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
4-D

Beyond Buzzword: The Power of Specialized GenAI

Speakers

David Paget-Brown, Modak & Mark Ramsey, Ramsey International LLC

Abstract

Forget one-size-fits-all! General-purpose language models are great for party tricks, but for real ROI, enterprises need specialized AI. Data security, cost, and accuracy roadblocks cripple generic AI solutions.

In this session, led by Modak, we'll ditch the hypothetical and share the gritty realities faced when building real-world GenAI solutions. Buckle up as we unveil the challenges and hard-won lessons learned from the trenches.

Generic models, while relatively easy to implement do not generate acceptable performance characteristics. It is better to break down the problem and implement specialized AI. This approach resulted in 99% accuracy with lower costs. The journey continues in the implementation of Generative AI solutions at the enterprise level, which must solve issues such as user intent, data access control, PII detection, multi-language, multi-agent systems, profanity checking, and API integration.

Join this session to better understand the realities of a GenAI journey and the trade-offs and approaches you can use to overcome the roadblocks. Move beyond party tricks to a GenAI solution that drives ROI for your organization.

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.

Mark Ramsey

Managing Partner
Ramsey International LLC

Dr. Mark Ramsey is a globally recognized expert in data analytics and optimization, with over 30 years of experience designing, developing, and implementing large-scale, production data analytics platforms. Mark is currently the Managing Partner of Ramsey International, providing solutions and services to organizations seeking to unlock the full potential of their data assets. Mark has a strong track record of success in this field, having served as the first R&D Chief Data & Analytics Officer for GlaxoSmithKline, where he designed and implemented the R&D Information Platform (RDIP) as a key component of the company's data strategy. He was also the first Chief Data Officer (CDO) for Samsung Telecommunications America and played a critical role in leading the development of large-scale data analytics solutions. In addition, Mark led the growth strategy, development, and launch of the IBM Business Analytics & Optimization business, which spanned over 150 countries with over 2,000 consultants. During his tenure, the annual revenues of the business exceeded $1 billion, achieved a remarkable compound annual growth rate (CAGR) and established itself as a leading provider of data analytics solutions in the industry. Mark is an inventor of 28 patents and numerous patent-pending filings in the area of data analytics and optimization, including the patent on the integration of data mining within a parallel relational database and the use of advanced analytics for user behavior monitoring. He holds a Ph.D. in Applied Computer Science, a Master's degree in Computer & Information Security, and a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science. Mark's extensive experience, technical skills, and innovative thinking make him a highly sought-after advisor in the data analytics space.

SESSION 4-E

<u>PRESENTATION</u>

Enabling Data Governance for Generative AI

Speaker

Stewart Bond, IDC

Abstract

Data governance is not a new discipline, but its importance is more paramount now than ever before as organizations running a digital business begin to leverage AI everywhere. This session will explain why a disciplined approach to using Generative AI in the organization, coupled with vision, intelligence, people, technology, and process for to enable data governance are critical in reducing risks associated with using internal data against external Generative AI models to protect individuals' and intellectual property data from being misused, reducing risks associated with undesirable consequences.

Biography

Stewart Bond
Vice President, Data Intelligence and Integration Software Research
IDC

Stewart Bond is Vice President of IDC's Data Intelligence and Integration Software service. Mr. Bond's core research coverage includes watching emerging trends that are shaping and changing data movement, ingestion, streaming, transformation, mastering, cleansing, and consumption in the era of digital business. Mr. Bond is credited with defining a new software market category called data intelligence. Data intelligence software captures and curates intelligence about data in support of organizational disciplines such as data governance and stewardship. Mr. Bond has a depth of IT professional field experience coupled with market insight, and he is recognized as a valued industry analyst by leading software vendors, consumers, and peers.

SESSION
4-F

PRESENTATION

Strong Data Foundation is Still the Best Strategy in the World of AI

Speakers

Vickye Jain, ZS Associates & Raj Nimmagadda, Sanofi

Abstract

Data will be the only differentiator as technologies such as Gen AI continue to level the playing field. Building strong data foundations is easier said than done. Just as we are done streamlining our ecosystem, the next wave of new data or new analytics disrupts the field again. We will take a closer look from the lens of R&D teams that deal with a wide range of data spanning regulated data sources, fragmented data generated internally and via 3rd parties for studies, massive amalgamations of real world and Omics data collected by 3rd parties and consortiums, an onslaught of newer data modalities such as device data, high resolution images, and more. Learn about the strategies some of the leading enterprises are betting on and lessons learnt from their journey. The recent advances in Gen AI have driven an interesting duality, on one hand it has driven more demand for stronger data foundations while on the other it has providing productivity gains to accelerate building and consuming from them – how should our strategies evolve to account for this shift?

Biography

Vickye Jain
Principal
ZS Associates

Vickye is a Principal at ZS and he leads the global R&D Technology team for helping Lifesciences clients unlock the value from their data through cutting edge technology solutions. He has helped several clients transform their data & analytics capabilities, engaging with them on multi-year journeys from conceptualization to value realization. Vickye was also recognized as one of the Top 35 under 35 consulting professionals in 2019.

Raj Nimmagadda
Chief Data Officer R&D
Sanofi

Raj Nimmagadda is the Chief Data Officer of R&D at Sanofi. She established the data office and has been leading the implementation of data strategy, the data echo system, and data governance framework to accelerate business outcomes through data and digital innovation. Raj was previously the Global Head of Central Operational Services at Novartis where she led the development of advanced analytics solutions and the implementation of data products and transformative solutions in R&D. Prior to this role, Raj had spent several years at BioClinica (formerly Core Lab Partners Inc.) and J&J where she led large-scale business and technology transformations. She is also the Organizing Committee chair of the Boston Chief Data Officer Forum. Raj has an MBA from the New York University Stern School of Business and a Masters in Computers from the Osmania University.

SESSION 4-G

Women Leaders in Data and AI: Creating Impact and Making Contributions

Speakers

Asha Saxena, WLDA; Dara Meath, Build a Bear; Ellen Nielsen, Chevron and Carl Gerber, KPMG

Abstract

In the dynamic world of data and artificial intelligence (AI), women are rising to prominence as leaders, innovators, and catalysts for change. This panel discussion explores the inspirational journeys and diverse achievements of women who have emerged as influential figures in the data and AI sectors. It delves into their experiences, accomplishments, and the distinctive perspectives they bring to the forefront of these transformative technologies.

Biography

Asha Saxena
Chief Executive Officer
WLDA

Asha Saxena is a strategic and innovative leader with a track record of building successful technology companies over the past 30 years. She is the author of the bestselling book "The AI Factor – How to Apply Artificial Intelligence and Use Big Data to Grow Your Business Exponentially" and the Founder and CEO of Women Leaders in Data and AI, a global leadership organization brining senior leaders together to create a fair digital world with parity and equity.

Dara Meath
CTO
Build a Bear

TBD

Ellen Nielsen
CDO
Chevron

Ellen Nielsen was the first Chief Data Officer at Chevron, focusing on creating a data-oriented culture partnered with value chain thinking. A multi-disciplinary leader, Nielsen has over 30 years of global experience as an executive in IT, Digital, Data, Procurement, and Supply Chain. She has worked with industry leaders in Oil and Gas, FMCG, Automotive, Manufacturing, Retail and Banking and Insurance.

Nielsen is a regular speaker for her industry, and has presented for PPDM Association Data Expo, Evanta CDAO, MIT CDOIQ, and the Houston CDO Executive Summit. She has received numerous awards and recognitions including Reuters Event Trailblazing Women in Energy, Global Data Power Woman by CDO Magazine, and DataIQ 100 – 5th most influential people in data in the USA.

A firm believer in giving back, Ellen serves on a variety of boards, Including: Women Leaders in Data and AI (WLDA) and the Global Editorial Board of CDO Magazine.

Carl Gerber
CDO
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 5-A

Fireside Chat: Upskilling the Government Workforce for AI & DataOps

Speakers

Jason Parman, Office of Personnel Management; Jillian Wanner, Deloitte

Abstract

On October 30, 2023, President Biden issued an executive order (EO) on AI with the goal of promoting the "safe, secure, and trustworthy development of artificial intelligence." The EO underscores the importance of investing in education and job training, along with emphasizing that it is to be accessible to all. Additionally, through the EO, the President directs the development of principles to mitigate the harms and maximize the benefits of AI for workers through addressing workforce related topics including job displacement, workplace equity, and labor standards.

This fireside chat with the Office of Personnel Management will explore the impacts AI adoption may have on public sector workers, the steps government leaders should consider taking when preparing their organization for AI adoption, and the approach to reskilling and upskilling that can be explored at scale in the government.

Biography

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Jason Parman
Deputy Director
Office of Personnel Management

Jason Parman serves as a Deputy Associate Director for the U.S. Office of Personnel Management's (OPM) HR Solutions (HRS) organization. In this role, Jason leads OPM's strategic human capital consulting and individual/organizational assessment services, helping federal agencies and their employees improve their strategy, operations, culture, and performance. Jason serves a nationwide cadre of HR consultants, personnel research psychologists, and program analysts, supporting programs that help make the best human capital management ideas work in real life. Jason is currently engaged in bringing artificial intelligence capability to OPM's suite of technology offerings that is compliant, defensible, transparent, ethical, and helpful to the federal workforce and the public it serves.

Jillian Wanner
AI Principal
Deloitte

Jillian Wanner is a Principal at Deloitte Consulting, with over 15 years of financial services and public sector technology and data experience. Her expertise is in delivering AI, innovation, product and analytics programs, data science, data delivery, and data modernization projects for Government, Public Sector, and Commercial clients. Jillian has a proven track record of on-time delivery and a successful career of developing innovative solutions for her high-profile clients. Combining these skills and project experiences uniquely positions Jillian to advise clients on advancing their product or positioning, particularly with an emphasis on scaling AI, identifying AI strategies, implementation paths and use cases, modernizing legacy systems, providing innovation around data, and moving clients towards AI solutions and automation.

In addition to helping her clients solve their technology challenges, Jillian is passionate about mentoring women and under-represented minorities on the keys to successfully climbing the corporate ladder. She leads several Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DE&I) initiatives within Deloitte's Government and Public Sector practice, including efforts to recruit and retain diverse talent, promote cultural intelligence, and build diverse and inclusive project teams.

Her client list includes both government and commercial clients such as:
- US Internal Revenue Service, US Postal Service, Department of Treasury, and several of the largest payments issuers and banking institutions in the world.

SESSION 5-B

PANEL DISCUSSION

Data Modernization Programs for Scaling AI

Moderator

Sam Ramachandran, Tiger Analytics

Panelists

Derrick Higgins, Matt Parisi, Crystal Son, Health Care Service Corporation (HCSC); Rachit Dhir, Tiger Analytics

Abstract

2024 is shaping up to be the breakthrough moment for enterprises looking to modernize their data ecosystems, scale AI initiatives, and commit to robust governance and ethics policies.

Strategic data migration initiatives serve not only to streamline data access but also to facilitate a culture of responsible AI and governance. This entails establishing a centralized, sanitized data foundation, complemented by modern data architecture. Consequently, the realization of AI potential is becoming increasingly tangible. Reusable semantic layers are helping to create a cohesive unified, accurate business view of data for widespread consumption and democratization of data across the enterprise. Simultaneously, creating a robust user access layer, facilitated by APIs and visualization options, is instrumental in crafting tailored data products, required to accelerate AI initiatives with control access policies enforced.

Biography

Sam Ramachandran
Chief Sales Officer
Tiger Analytics

Executive with over 25 years of progressive experience in Business Transformation, Strategy and Consulting across Fortune 500 Organizations. Heading the Business Development function and the Sales team at Tiger Analytics, responsible for building strategic partnerships with organizations, leveraging Advanced Analytics, Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence and emerging technologies.

Derrick Higgins

Vice President of Data Science and AI Solutions
Health Care Service Corporation

Dr. Derrick Higgins is Vice President of Data Science and AI Solutions at Health Care Service Corporation (HCSC) where he leads development of intelligent capabilities for payer operations ranging from risk stratification and health care management to payment integrity and utilization management. His division serves as a center of excellence, facilitating collaboration, providing governance, and assembling data science best practices for the enterprise. Dr. Higgins is also an Adjunct Professor of Computer Science at the Illinois Institute of Technology.

Previously, Dr. Higgins led the innovation unit at the American Family Insurance (AmFam) Data Science and Analytics Lab in Chicago, where his team developed new products and services based on text, imagery and IoT data in the property and casualty (P&C) domain. Prior to joining AmFam, Dr. Higgins was lead data scientist at Civis Analytics, and used deep learning to uncover latent factors in political discussions on social media. Before that, he was the Director of NLP and Speech Research at Educational Testing Service, where he and his team developed tools for analyzing student responses that are now used in leading testing programs around the world, including the GRE and TOEFL exams.

Dr. Higgins earned a Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of Chicago in 2002.

Matt Parisi

Vice President of Business Data Solutions
Health Care Service Corporation

Matt has spent nearly 25 years working within technology organizations across both Property & Casualty and Health Insurance companies. While at Allstate Insurance Company, he had oversight of the teams that support the advanced analytics platforms, software assets used to bring analytics to production, enterprise data management tools, data visualization & reporting and ETL platforms, etc. One of the more recent assignments was to lead the technology effort to achieve compliance with the latest State Privacy Laws, including the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA). Prior to that role, Matt led technology simplification initiatives and several new development efforts across a wide variety of technical solutions in support of different parts of the business. Within the last year, Matt joined Health Care Service Corporation as Vice President of Business Data Solutions in which he is tasked with modernizing the data & analytic ecosystem to help advance a variety of business goals.

Outside of work, Matt recently wrapped up a decade of coaching youth athletics for the local park district. Activities like that keep him grounded and remind him of the similarities between leading people in a professional context and athletics. Many of those who influenced Matt along the way were athletic coaches, so he is doing what he can to pay it forward.

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Crystal Son

Executive Director of Data and AI Solutions
Health Care Service Corporation

Crystal Son is an Executive Director of Enterprise Data Analytics and AI at Healthcare Service Corporation (HCSC). She has 18 years of experience in deriving intelligence from data, first as technical contributor and now as a leader and organizer of diverse teams. She is passionate about real-world applications of data-driven insights, storytelling through data, and building high-performance analytics and data science teams.

Prior to joining HCSC in October 2022, Crystal held several roles at Civis Analytics, including delivery of analytics advisory services, management of healthcare and government customer portfolios, and the build and GTM for several products. In March 2020, she led a private sector + public sector team of academic researchers, data scientists, engineers and communications experts appointed by Gov. JB Pritzker to inform decision making and outreach campaigns during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic in Illinois.

She began her career in data as a public health epidemiologist first for the City of New York, then with Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center as an infection control epidemiologist. She now calls downtown Chicago home, where she lives with her spouse and three children.

Rachit Dhir

Business Unit Head Insurance
Tiger Analytics

Analytics and Business Transformation leader with 22 years of experience in Strategy and Building Data and Analytics Solutions. As a Head of Insurance Practice at Tiger, Rachit has developed strategic partnerships with Fortune 500 organizations to support them in their efforts towards scaling value by embedding AI in enterprise decision chains.

SESSION
5-C

Not Available Due to Legal Constraints

SESSION 5-D

PRESENTATION

Unlocking GenAI's Full Potential with a Trusted Data Foundation

Speaker

Drew Clarke, Qlik

Abstract

The key to unleashing the true power of GenAI lies in prioritizing the creation of AI-ready data. It's not just about algorithms; it's about the quality, diversity, and ultimately, the trustworthiness of the data GenAI learns from.

As we pave the way for more powerful and reliable generative AI systems, establishing a trusted data foundation becomes crucial. This foundation is one that leverages automation to supply AI-ready data, and unlocks data value by delivering the right data at the right time and in the right format— all while ensuring compliance. But what does it take to build such a trusted data foundation?

Join this session, where we will discuss some key ingredients, including data products—an emerging data paradigm that bridges the gap between data producers and consumers—and how combining them with the six key principles of AI-ready data can deliver better and faster business results for your AI use-cases.

Biography

Drew Clarke
General Manager, Data Business Unit
Qlik

As General Manager, Drew leads the product engineering and R&D, product marketing, product management, product led growth and offering management teams related to Qlik's data software portfolio, including both the Qlik Data Integration and Talend solutions. Prior to this role, Drew served as Qlik's Chief Strategy Officer, managing Corporate Development, Strategic Partnerships and Corporate Sustainability.

Previous to Qlik, Drew was an Integration Executive for mergers & acquisitions at IBM. Drew has also held senior positions at various leading technology companies, including Vice President, North America Channel Sales, Inside Sales and Marketing at Cognos Software; Vice President, Global Marketing Operations at PTC; and Senior Director at

Siebel Systems in various positions, including product management, field marketing, investor relations and business development.

Drew has a BS in Environmental Science from the United States Military Academy at West Point and has served as a Captain in the United States Army with the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment. He also holds an MBA from Harvard Business School.

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SESSION 5-E

PRESENTATION

The Paradox of Leadership Skills for CDOs

Speakers

Elliott Kruse, EGADE Business School, Tec De Monterrey; Christian Yarid Ayala Millán, EGADE Business School & Su Jin Yeon, University of Groningen

Abstract

Despite the exploding importance of the Chief Data Officer, modern empirical research is scarce. To remedy this, we conduct a qualitative study of multiple CDOs, in which we interview them about their experiences and career paths, how they define the role, and the obstacles they have faced. Through these interviews, we have identified a core tension or paradox. On one hand, they rarely have decision-making power built into their position; usually they are expected to guide via counsel and persuasion. On the other hand, their career paths may not have had the same opportunities to develop these skills. In other words, more than any other C-suite position, CDOs may most need soft leadership skills and have been afforded the fewest opportunities to develop them. Through our conversations with CDOs in both the United States and Latin America, we identify the ways that they have managed this core tension and some of the solutions they have found to resolve it.

Biography

Elliott Kruse
Research Professor
EGADE Business School, Tec De Monterrey

Elliott Kruse is a research professor at the EGADE Business School, Tec de Monterrey, based in Mexico City. He is the head of the research group on Leadership. Previously, he was a postdoctoral researcher at Princeton University and Owen Graduate School of Management, Vanderbilt University. Along with his coauthors, Yarid Ayala and Sujin Yeon, Dr. Kruse is studying the emerging role of CDOs in the global context and the specific leadership skills they need to be successful.

Christian Yarid Ayala Millán

Assistant Professor
EGADE Business School

Yarid Ayala is Assistant Professor of Human Management and Organizational Behavior at Tecnológico de Monterrey and EGADE Business School, México. He received his Ph.D. from Universitat de Valéncia, Spain. His research focuses on the intersection between organizational behavior, human resource management, and innovation. He serves as editorial board in prestigious journals such as the *Journal of Applied Psychology*. He has published papers in top-tier journals such as the *Journal of Vocational Behavior*, *Technovation*, and the *Journal of Happiness Studies*. Currently, among other topics, Yarid is involved with a research project in collaboration with Dr. Su Jin Yeon and Dr. Elliott Kruse to explore the roles of CDO on digital transformation in the global context.

Su Jin Yeon

Assistant Professor
University of Groningen

Su Jin Yeon is an assistant professor at the University of Groningen, based in the Netherlands. She is the faculty member of the Department of Global Economics and Management, teaching courses in the areas relating to International Business and Culture. Previously, she worked as an assistant professor at the International Business Department from Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico. She obtained a PhD in International Business from Chungbuk National University in South Korea and Masters of International Business from the University of Auckland in New Zealand. Dr. Yeon is involved with a research project in collaboration with Dr. Yarid Ayala and Dr. Elliott Kruse to explore the roles of CDO on digital transformation in the global context.

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**SESSION
5-F**

PRESENTATION

Preventing Accidental Data Leaks Using LLMS

Speakers

Maryam Nozari & Urmi Majumder, Enterprise Knowledge LLC

Abstract

In the era of growing unstructured data and advanced Large Language Models (LLMs), the risk of sensitive data exposure has become a paramount concern for enterprises. With an average of 17.5 petabytes of unstructured data, including 55% classified as dark data, organizations face the challenge of safeguarding data in AI interactions. In this talk, we will present a solution architecture that integrates AI-driven data classification, robust access controls, and compliance mechanisms. We will describe how this approach enhances data security, ensures AI compliance, and streamlines sensitive data management while boosting operational efficiency and risk mitigation. We will also discuss why it is pivotal for organizations seeking to leverage AI capabilities responsibly in the LLM era to adopt this framework. Implementing a comprehensive data security solution is essential for modern enterprises coping with vast amounts of sensitive information. The success of our solution demonstrates that a hybrid approach combining deterministic and probabilistic methods, such as pattern matching and advanced AI/ML models, is effective in identifying and flagging sensitive data with overly permissive access controls. Our approach underlines the importance of a sensitivity rules database, categorized into Core, Common, and Unique Rules, to tailor data protection strategies to the specific needs of an organization. Join us in this session to learn more about this extensible framework that organizations can implement to secure their sensitive data in an increasingly complex digital environment.

Biography -

Maryam Nozari
Senior Data Scientist
Enterprise Knowledge LLC

A senior data scientist and researcher at Enterprise-Knowledge with a passion for problem-solving and diving deep into data. With a background in statistical analysis and machine learning, I've had the privilege of working with diverse analytical data professionals and collaborating with cross-functional teams to drive impactful results. My goal is to leverage my research and problem-solving skills to build powerful predictive models and provide actionable insights, helping organizations toward data-driven solutions.

Urmi Majumder
Principal Consultant
Enterprise Knowledge LLC

Urmi Majumder is a Principal Architect at Enterprise Knowledge. She specializes in system architecture, design and implementation of a broad range of enterprise solutions, most recently focusing on semantic solutions such as knowledge graph and AI/ML applications in both AWS and Azure cloud environments. She has led the development of technical solutions in support of a wide variety of clients, both federal and commercial, integrating open-source, SaaS and COTS tools, as well as establishing the connection between these tools and their business users.

SESSION 5-G

PRESENTATION

Semantic AI: The Key to Unleashing AI's Potential in Your Organization

Speaker

Inna Tokarev Sela, Illumex.ai

Abstract

2024 marks a pivotal year for organizations, as they adopt AI as a key component in their business strategy – forecasting and budgeting, market intelligence and financial commentary, strategic insights, or any other business need. Yet, in order to leverage AI effectively, organizational data cannot be used "as-is" because it spreads across various systems, apps, and sources; it has differing naming conventions across teams; it is managed via distinct collections of use cases; and it has complicated permissions structures, which often leads to silos. Semantic AI can tackle all these challenges while re-establishing trust in data insights and data-driven decisions across the organization by introducing automated uniform definition alignment.

Biography

Inna Tokarev Sela
Chief Executive Officer
Illumex.ai

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—illumexc 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 6-A

PRESENTATION

Expanding Federal Data Strategies to Address AI Risks

Moderator

Alba Aleman, Citizant

Panelists

Kartik Dave & Andie Srivastava, Citizant

Federal Chief Data Officers must create data strategies that align with and support the Federal Data Strategy, their agency's overall strategy and objectives, existing legislation, and external and internal guidance. And with the recent mandate for agency Chief AI Officers, CDOs must extend the scope of data governance, privacy controls, and risk management to encompass predictive and generative AI systems and processes. This session will look at how a "Middle-Out Approach" to data strategy can achieve 360-degree alignment and provide the flexibility to accommodate emerging and fast-evolving opportunities like AI. The "arms race of AI" will soon reach an inflection point in organizations of every size and in every industry. At that point, the trustworthiness in AI systems will push the boundaries of responsible, explainable, and ethical AI. CDOs must be conversant in AI Risk Management strategies so they can partner effectively with new Chief AI Officers required by the President's recent Executive Order on Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence.

Citizant's Data and AI Strategy leaders will present approaches to these challenges that have been applied successfully at numerous Federal agencies. At the end of this session, attendees will have gained an understanding of:
- Citizant's "Middle-Out Approach" to an Integrated, Flexible Data Strategy
- AI Risk Management Challenges and Drivers

- Risk Mitigation Strategies as part of AI Risk Governance

Biography

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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.

Kartik Dave
Data Analytics Solutions Leader
Citizant

Kartik Dave leads public sector AI/ML and enterprise data analytics strategy for Citizant. Kartik also serves as CXO advisor leading digital strategy to leverage disruptive technologies and process optimization methodologies that improve revenue growth, customer experience, and operational scalability. He collaborates across enterprise functions to deliver business transformations by building high-performing, talented, and geo-diverse teams.

Prior to joining Citizant, Kartik spent 18 years in varying capacities from project leader to product manager to senior digital executive at FORTUNE 100 companies in multiple industries including SaaS, high tech, banking/finance, consumer products, logistics, consulting, and agri-business.

Kartik is a certified Program Management Professional (PMP) and a Certified Scrum Master (CSM). He earned his MBA with concentrations in Finance, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. He earned his Master's degree in Data Science

from Northwestern University and a B.S. in Computer Science and Mathematics from Wayne State University.

Andie Srivastava
Senior Data Architect & Strategist
Citizant

Kar Andie Srivastava is a Senior Data Architect and Strategist at Citizant. As a product and project leader on transformational and strategic programs, she is known for her expertise in defining and executing strategies, solving complex challenges, and leading high-performing global teams. In her work on both public- and private-sector programs, she has developed and implemented data governance frameworks to guide data-driven decision-making and ensure accountability. Andie has served in senior product management and technology leadership roles at ACI Worldwide, a provider of electronic payment solutions for the financial industry – most recently managing P&L for ACI's $160M Merchant business line. She also worked for federal contractors such as ITC and IBM Global Business Services, supporting agencies including the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the U.S. Army, and the U.S. Postal Service. She earned a Master's in Computer Science at Franklin University and holds numerous industry certifications including Certified ScrumMaster, PMP, and Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt.

SESSION
6-B

Hidden In Plain Sight: The 30-Year-Old Solution to Today's Top Data Challenges

Speakers

John Bruce & Bruce Schneier, Inrupt

Abstract

Today's data leaders must navigate a difficult balancing act between the demands and strategies of their organization's past and its future. On the one hand, legacy tech stacks and silos of data. On the other hand, the opportunities and risks around AI, global privacy regulations, and a user, citizen, or customer base with high expectations and lessening trust. Organizations, enterprises, and governments that do business or deliver services online are at the point of diminishing returns for the current approach to handling data, which was created two decades ago at the dawn of the Web 2.0 era.

But the web itself has evolved since then, and now provides a path forward for CDOs that must marry today's operational realities with tomorrow's transformative business opportunities.

In this session, John Bruce, CEO of Inrupt, and Bruce Schneier, Chief Security Officer and renowned author/security expert, will explore:

- Solid, the open source update to the web protocols created by the inventor of World Wide Web, Sir Tim Berners-Lee
- How governments and businesses are transforming data relationships with citizens, users, and customers using Solid
- The emergence of Data Wallets (beyond payments), and what this means for enterprise data infrastructures
- The new security model resulting from a user-centric approach to data
- And finally, AI as an accelerant for these changes.

Participants will leave with a unique understanding of the gaps in today's data practices, ecosystems, and infrastructure, as well as the most promising pathways to an innovative, compliant, and secure future of data.

Biography

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John Bruce
CEO & Co-Founder
Inrupt

With a background as both a founder and an executive at global tech firms, John is uniquely qualified to help engineer the next phase of the web alongside his co-founder Sir Tim Berners-Lee. He brings to bear decades of successful business leadership and experience creating new markets around innovative software. Prior to partnering with Tim, he was the co-founder and CEO of Resilient, now an IBM company, that developed a new approach to cybersecurity. Through Resilient and four other successful startups, John has experienced first-hand the strategic challenges that the current structure of the web causes for users, developers and organizations around the world.

Bruce Schneier
Chief of Security Architecture
Inrupt

Bruce is an internationally renowned security technologist, called a security guru by the Economist. He is the New York Times best-selling author of 14 books — including Click Here to Kill Everybody — as well as hundreds of articles, essays, and academic papers. His influential newsletter Crypto-Gram and blog Schneier on Security are read by over 250,000 people. Schneier is a fellow at the Berkman-Klein Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University; a Lecturer in Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School; a board member of the Electronic Frontier Foundation, AccessNow, and the Tor Project; and an advisory board member of EPIC and VerifiedVoting.org.

SESSION
6-C

PRESENTATION
Governance for the Age of AI

Speaker

Karthik Ravindran, Microsoft

Abstract

Your AI is only as good as your data and the ability of your people and your AI to responsibly discover and use your data. The quality of the data input also mirrors the final output of the model. With Data Governance, consumers developing AI can seamlessly discover secure quality data and organizations can ensure a healthy data estate. Organizations must govern not only the data inputs, but also govern the data generated from the models. With Microsoft Purview, model your data estate for your business, federate your Data Governance practice, and accelerate your responsible AI innovation with Governance.

Biography

Karthik Ravindran
GM of Data Governance
Microsoft Purview

Karthik Ravindran is GM of Data Governance for Microsoft Purview. Builder in heart and mind. Passionate about solutions to responsibly democratize data to drive transformative growth in the age of AI.

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SESSION
6-D

PRESENTATION

Everyday Risk Management: Navigating a World of Risks & Advancement

Speaker

Abstract

Matt Vogt, Immuta

From getting in your car to accessing a data set, risk is all around us. It's easy to overlook the inherent risks of everyday tasks – and without the right risk management strategies, what seems like a far-fetched scenario could become a reality. The good news is that with the right tools and standards, you'll minimize risks to your data, and allow your teams to access it more freely and confidently. In this session, Immuta VP of Global Solution Architecture Matt Vogt will share how to do this in today's fast-moving data ecosystems. You'll learn:

- The main drivers of risk mismanagement, including team dynamics and emerging trends

- How dynamic policy enforcement and purpose-based restrictions help de-risk data use at scale, with minimal overhead

- Best practices for monitoring data activity, identifying risks, and proactively remediating them

- How major enterprises in highly regulated industries minimized risk and drove business results by integrating the Immuta Data Security Platform into their tech stacks

Biography

Matt Vogt
VP, Global Solutions Architecture
Immuta

Matt has 20 years experience in architecture and engineering in large scale enterprise data center infrastructure. Matt came to Immuta from Hewlett Packard Enterprise where he was a Chief Technologist working with enterprises on their Hybrid Cloud initiatives. Since then he has been leading teams helping customers scale rapid access to data through automated data access and dynamic trust controls.

SESSION
6-E

Speaker

Abstract

The New CDO Mandate: Use Data & AI Responsibly

Kabir Barday, OneTrust

Today we have the most diverse set of stakeholders we've ever had using data to make decisions. What is the force bringing us together? It's quite simple actually – using data & AI responsibly. But wait, it's quite complicated. Our success depends on both supporting that pace of innovation and reducing the chance of a trust breaking event.

To succeed with AI, you must move from reactive compliance to agile innovation. This means both reducing complexity and increasing controls to reduce risks across security, privacy, marketing consent, compliance, and ethics.

Join us to learn how some of the world's largest data teams are putting policy orchestration technology in place to shift from a reactive to an agile posture in an increasingly complex data estate.

Biography

Kabir Barday
Founder, CEO, and Chairman
OneTrust

Kabir Barday is the Founder, CEO, and Chairman of OneTrust – the cloud platform organizations use to transform trust from an abstract concept into a measurable competitive advantage. 14,000 customers use OneTrust's technology, including 80% of the Fortune 100 and half of the Global 2,000. OneTrust currently ranks #21 on the Forbes Cloud 100 list of top private cloud companies in the world. Kabir is a Henry Crown Fellow at the Aspen Institute. He holds a Fellow of Information Privacy with the IAPP, the highest designation of a privacy professional. In 2019, Kabir received the National EY Entrepreneur of the Year Award. He received his B.S. in Computer Science from Georgia Institute of Technology and currently serves on the Georgia Tech Advisory Board (GTAB). He was also named to the inaugural Georgia Tech 40 under 40 class.

**SESSION
6-F**

PRESENTATION

Combining The Strategies of Data Literacy and Data Governance to Achieve True Data Trust and Enablement

Speaker

Hojjat Salmasian, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Abstract

Our organization has an award-winning Data Trust and Enablement program which has been extremely successful. This program includes a mature data literacy program which has trained hundreds of employees in short- and long-format sessions, a mature data governance program, and effective use of a fusion team model for analytics delivery (formally known as the "product teams" model). These efforts have resulted in validated, multiple-fold return of investment from the data governance and data quality programs. Critical to this success have been the focus on a unified strategy around data and analytics excellence (including centers of excellence that are governed in a matrixed fashion), self-service analytics, use of state-of-the-art techniques such as CI/CD to streamline development and maintenance of data and BI assets, and increasing use of a value-quantifying frameworks to ensure the value of data and analytics at our organization is fully realized and maximized. The presenters will share the organization's data and analytics strategy, how it has evolved over time, and specific details about success factors and potential blind spots.

Biography

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.

SESSION 6-G

PRESENTATION

Governance vs Agility: Finding the Balance

Speaker

Vanessa Lam, Business Rule Solutions, LLC

Abstract

Data organizations often struggle to strike the right balance between Governance and Agility. Too much Governance often results in high levels of oversight and long wait times for data projects. Conversely, high agility often means few guardrails, redundant work, and mismatching metrics. How do we find the balance between Governance and Agility? While tools and technologies can help, ultimately this tension can only be eased by people. Through socializing governance practices, educating on business topics, and connecting networks across the organization, we can help organizations with strong governance move more nimbly and highly democratized companies ensure more consistency. In this presentation, we will discuss two case studies: one that began highly governed and the other highly agile, and how they moved to more neutral ground without giving up key requirements. We will provide both everyday tips and robust organizational changes that can help ease the tension between Governance and Agility.

Biography

Vanessa Lam
Principal
Business Rule Solutions, LLC

Vanessa Lam is a Principal at BRS, working on Data Architecture, Business Intelligence, and Data Culture projects. Previously, she worked at Mastercard as a Manager of Business Insight and Productivity and Optoro as Manager of Business Intelligence. In these roles, she created educational tools for the organization, fostered data community, and ensured people were using data responsibly. She has a Master of Computer and Information Technology from the University of Pennsylvania and a BSc in Economics from the Wharton School. She was named a top influencer to watch in 2021 by IIBA.

SESSION
7-A

PANEL DISCUSSION

Accelerating Data and AI Literacy in the Public Sector: The Upskilling Imperative

Moderator

Nancy Morgan, Ellis Morgan Enterprises LLC

Panelists

Erik Price, ODNI; Daniel Baller, U.S Army Intelligence and Security Command; Kathleen Kennedy, MIT Center for Collective Intelligence & Eileen Vidrine, Vidrine Vantage, Former Air Force Chief Data and AI Officer

Abstract

Leaders in the Public Sector are recognizing that Data and AI Literacy are core competencies in the digital age to ensure their organizations not just survive, but thrive. Join us for an enlightening session where a distinguished panel of experts from both the public and private sectors, including defense, intelligence, and national security, will discuss:

- Practical insights on preparing for a data and AI driven future

- The expanding role of public-private partnerships across governments, industry, academia, and non-government organizations

- How to foster foundational, intermediate, and advanced skills simultaneously

- Why investing in your workforce is a key enabler to the future of work

- Driving cultural change to embrace data and AI while putting fears to rest

Expect practical strategies to drive cultural change, form strategic alliances, and encourage leadership to prioritize Data and AI skills. Learn to ensure safe, trustworthy use of data and AI, unlock insights to drive mission outcomes, and accelerate innovation in the Public Sector. This session promises to provide actionable strategies and inspiring ideas to propel your organization into the future.

Biography

Nancy Morgan
CEO
Ellis Morgan Enterprises LLC

Nancy Morgan is the CEO of Ellis Morgan Enterprises LLC, a National Security Executive leader, and the former US Government Intelligence Community Chief Data Officer (IC CDO). She has over 35 years of executive level experience leading strategy, innovation and driving transformation in the data and information technology arenas. She retired from US Federal Government service in April 2022 and now does independent consulting/advisory board work related to Data and AI strategy, trustworthy use of Data and AI, corporate governance and working with the public sector.

While in Government she successfully led numerous data and IT 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 proven experience standing up new organizations across portfolios for data strategy, data management, data policy, data literacy/data acumen, digital transformation, software development, and cloud technology adoption/migration in the national security and intelligence arenas. She has a proven history fostering mutually beneficial internal and external partnerships. She is a champion for women in STEM/STEAM fields and developing the next generation workforce.

In her last tour with the Federal Government, she was on a joint duty assignment to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, where she served as Assistant Director of National Intelligence for Domestic Engagement, Information Sharing and Data and was dual hatted as the Intelligence Community Chief Data Officer (IC CDO). She led the IC's strategic initiative to re-imagine the future of the IC's data and information landscape in the digital era.

She now serves as a Strategic Advisor on SambaNova Systems' Artificial Intelligence Innovation Advisory Council, Informa's AI Security Council and is a client advisor for The Cantellus Group. She is an active member of Women 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.

Erik Price
Deputy Chief, Innovation and Analytics Group
ODNI

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 is currently the Deputy Chief of the Innovation and Analytics Group, for the IC's Human Capital program. In this role he champions the use of data-driven reporting and decisions for workforce needs and injects 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. He is based in the Washington D.C. area.

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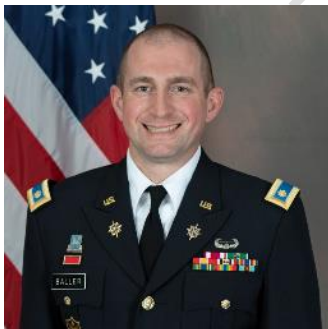
MAJ(P) Daniel Baller is a Data Scientist in the US Army Intelligence and Security Command (USAINSCOM) assisting the command in making better data driven decisions.

A 2008 West Point graduate, MAJ 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,

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Korea; Camp Humphreys, Korea; and Yongsan, Korea. He transitioned to Functional Area 49 (Operations Research Analyst) in 2019.

Following company command MAJ 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, and text analysis.

Currently MAJ 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. MAJ Baller is also one of the Army's primary trainers for the Data Literacy 101 course and holds the R1J Data Science PDSI and 5K Instructor ASI.

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.

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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.

Eileen Vidrine

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

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
7-B

PRESENTATION

How Whoop Built and Launched a Reliable GenAI Chatbot

Speakers

Shane Murray, Monte Carlo & Matt Luizzi, WHOOP

Abstract

Many organizations have deemed GenAI as a top priority. But what does it take to successfully implement an LLM in practice?

Join Matt Luizzi, Director of Business Analytics at Whoop, and Shane Murray, Field CTO at Monte Carlo as they discuss how the data team at Whoop has built and launched an internal chatbot to surface valuable data insights, enabling more reliable, data-driven decision-making and innovation. They'll discuss the challenges the team set out to solve with their GenAI chatbot, how they approached their GenAI strategy, and the role data quality and reliability plays in creating and executing impactful GenAI initiatives.

Biography

Shane Murray
Field CTO
Monte Carlo

Shane is the field chief technology officer at Monte Carlo, partnering with data leaders on their data strategy and operations, to realize the maximal value from their data observability and data quality initiatives. Prior to Monte Carlo, Shane was the senior vice president of data & insights at The New York Times, leading 150+ employees across data science, analytics, governance and data platforms.

Matt Luizzi

Director of Analytics
WHOOP

Shane Matt Luizzi, leading the WHOOP analytics team, has transformed their data landscape during his tenure. He steered major projects like migrating to Snowflake, enhancing data workflows, and introducing a groundbreaking LLM-driven chat interface for real-time insights. His expertise in financial analysis, gained at Nasuni and Brightcove, and his Economics degree from Holy Cross, shape his strategic, data-driven approach. Under Matt, WHOOP stays ahead in data technology and decision-making.

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PRESENTATION

Leveraging Beauty & Brains for Effective Data Storytelling

Speaker

Dr. Joe Perez, Senior Systems Analyst, NC Department of Health & Human Services / Chief Technology Officer, CogniMind

Abstract

Are you tired of creating beautiful graphs that only serve as decoration? Do you want to take your data visualizations to the next level and turn them into a powerful decision-making tool? Don't settle for flashy concepts that have no practical use; learn how to combine beauty with brains and make your data actionable with effective data storytelling. Join us to identify ways of turning your data into a cohesive strategy for the short and long term. Explore the five "Stages of the Spectrum" and learn how to exploit both internal and external ideas to drive decisions with data. You'll see firsthand the difference between impact and influence, and how to make sure your data has a real effect on your business. American mathematician John Tukey once said, "The greatest value of a picture is when it forces us to notice what we never expected to see." Let us show you how to capitalize on those unexpected insights and turn them into a competitive advantage. You'll discover how to catch the right blend of art and science, as you go from concept to reality, making sure your ideas become a reality, not just fluff. In this session, you'll gain the skills and knowledge to create visualizations that drive decision-making and business outcomes. Don't settle for pretty pictures without impact; join us to uncover how to blend creativity with analytical thinking, thus leveraging art and science to make your data work for you.

Biography

Dr. Joe Perez
Senior Systems Analyst, NC Department of Health & Human Services / Chief Technology Officer, CogniMind

Dr. Joe Perez, a transformative figure in IT, HHS, data analytics, and higher education, holds advanced degrees, including a doctorate in education with dual minors in computers and theology. From educator to a distinguished IT career, he has thrived in roles like Business Intelligence Specialist at NC State University and Senior Systems Analyst/Team Leader at the NC Department of Health & Human Services. As fractional CTO at CogniMind, he drives innovation and efficiency.

Featured on a Times Square billboard and ranked Top 10 Thought Leader on Thinkers360, Dr. Perez's influence is undeniable. An Amazon best-selling author with multiple #1 New Releases, more than 17,000 LinkedIn

followers, a magazine column, and numerous certifications to his credit, he's a much sought-after international keynote speaker, data viz/analytics expert, and process improvement specialist. He also co-hosts an online talk show.

A recipient of the IOT Industry Insights 2021 Thought Leader of the Year award and named Gartner Peer Community's 2023 Ambassador of the Year, he frequently speaks at numerous global conferences, expanding his reach to more than 20 countries and earning recognition by several highly-esteemed Thought Leader communities.

Passionate about teaching, he inspires excellence as a speaker, workshop facilitator, podcast guest, and conference emcee. He dedicates time to his family, contributes through musical talents, and engages in community service via his church's Spanish and military ministries, where his monthly military newsletter, The Patriot News, has gained widespread recognition. His commitment to innovation, relentless drive, and unwavering integrity define Dr. Joe as an exceptional leader.

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SESSION
7-D

PRESENTATION

AI Governance Starts with Data Intelligence

Speakers

Susan Laine, Erwin Data Intelligence by Quest & Mike King, Congruity Consulting, Corp.

Abstract

AI has the power to help your organization disrupt, innovate and generate faster data insights. But trusted and responsible AI is dependent on finding, observing, and knowing how to work with the data. And knowing how to separate fact from fiction when training the data and taking advantage of augmented data quality techniques.

Attend this session with Susan Laine, Quest chief technologist and data thought leader, to explore the role of data intelligence within a successful AI strategy. Sue will discuss the benefits of leveraging data intelligence to:

• Hear about how AI is making a difference with real examples from a Data Leader in the field
• Understand how AI and the support thereof is different from your traditional IT Program
• AI Must Have's
•New Use Cases and AI Trends

Now's the time to plan and advance the foundation needed for trusted and responsible use and value of AI across your organization. Join us!

Biography

- -

Susan Laine
Chief Field Technologist and DI Thought Leader
Erwin Data Intelligence by Quest
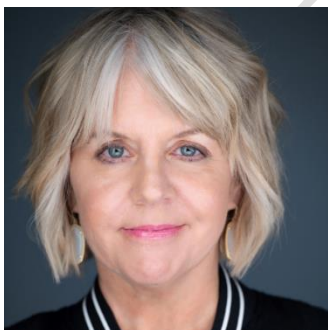
Sue is the Chief Field Technologist and DI Thought Leader for Erwin Data Intelligence by Quest. A thought leader in the application of technology and business process to solve real business problems, Sue has over 25 years of data management experience on the buy side as a customer and the sell side as a vendor, including implementation, data leadership, and enablement. She has worked to structure and drive enterprise data intelligence programs to deliver value. Additionally, Sue has an extensive worldwide network of data leaders that she continues to draw upon for best practices, value use cases and product innovation. She has supported a wide range of clients, including financial, insurance, healthcare, energy, manufacturing, and e-

Commerce with a general need to provide data-driven business practices. Sue is responsible for launching and guiding Quest's market-leading data intelligence and modeling solutions to deliver fresh, modern offerings with extraordinary value for today's challenging business demands.

Mike King
Managing Partner
Congruity Consulting, Corp.

- Over thirty years of experience including Goldman Sachs, BNY Mellon, Citi, US Bank, Wells Fargo, IBM
- Focused on data architecture, data quality & data governance, and software development.
- Direct oversight and governance of regulated systems in banking & finance, payments processing, and FDA-regulated systems.
- Head of Data Governance Technology and IBM GBS Client Director
- Member of AOPA, EAA, and Data Governance Institute
- Recent Awards: Analytics 50 (Drexel University), Innovator of the Year (ASG), Top Innovator of the Year (BNY Mellon)
- Private Instrument pilot, avid skier and runner, and surfer

**SESSION
7-E**

PRESENTATION

Holistic Data QA™: The Scalable Path to Trusted, High-Quality Data

Speakers

Matt Agee, Validatar

Abstract

Join us for an immersive demo of Validatar, the revolutionary platform automating and streamlining QA for your data team.Designed amidst the rise of advanced analytics and AI, Validatar tackles quality assurance challenges for your data with a holistic and outcomes-oriented approach. Our presentation will guide you through the four key pillars in Validatar's vision for Holistic Data QA™: Full Lifecycle Comprehensive, Automated, Transparent Data QA. Witness first-hand how the Validatar platform seamlessly connects to any data, regardless of its format or source, and how it enables seamless documentation of standards and expectations for data quality. Delve into the world of powerful, template-driven testing, allowing for easy scalability and meticulous comparisons across all your data. Observe real-time monitoring at work, enhancing governance and providing unparalleled visibility through our data catalog. Then, experience the ease of sharing standardized results, fostering transparency and collaboration across your organization. Discover how Validatar can revolutionize your data QA processes, ensuring swift and accurate delivery of data projects.

Biography

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

7-F

Using Data Fabrics with Generative AI to Automate Data Management

Speaker

Abstract

Jeffrey Fried, InterSystems

The Data Fabric architecture has been steadily gaining traction in the enterprise to unify data across disparate sources into coherent data services. Now, with the rise of generative AI and large language models (LLMs), the data fabric can add a range of new facilities to accelerate data democratization. By leveraging the power of generative AI models in conjunction with smart data fabrics, organizations can automate the integration of data, provide natural language access to data and analytics, improve data quality while decreasing the need for labor-intensive data cleansing, and secure and govern data in real time. This talk will explore the benefits of using data fabrics and generative AI to improve data management practices and provide examples of how these technologies can be used in real-world scenarios. We'll provide case studies showing how these technologies can be used in real-world scenarios, and also illustrate the risks and lay out a practical path for applying this technology safely.

Biography

Jeffrey Fried
Director of Platform Strategy
InterSystems

Jeff Fried, Director of Platform Strategy for InterSystems, is a long-standing data management nerd, and particularly passionate about helping people create powerful data-driven applications. Prior to joining InterSystems, Jeff was CTO of BA Insight, and ran product management for FAST Search and Transfer and for Microsoft. He has extensive experience in data management, text analytics, enterprise search, machine learning, and interoperability. Jeff is a frequent speaker and writer in the industry; holds 15 patents; and has authored more than 50 technical papers and co-authored three technical books.

SESSION

7-G

PRESENTATION
Unlocking the Power of Data Sharing

Speaker

Mahmoud Yassin, Booking.com

Abstract

Join us for an engaging and informative session as I will delve into the dynamic world of data sharing in the realm of data management. In this session, I will not only explore the pivotal role data sharing plays in today's data-driven business landscape but also uncover innovative technical solutions that have successfully addressed the challenges associated with sharing data effectively. I will guide you through the key aspects of data sharing, offering insights into the business advantages it provides, such as improved decision-making, enhanced collaboration, and increased operational efficiency. I'll also discuss the technical intricacies of data sharing, including data integration, security, and compliance considerations. But that's not all! I will also share a real-world solution I have developed, which has proven to be a game-changer in solving data sharing challenges. Discover how this cutting-edge solution streamlines data sharing processes, mitigates risks, and empowers organizations to harness the full potential of their data assets.

Biography

Mahmoud Yassin
Senior Data Manager Data and AI
Booking.com
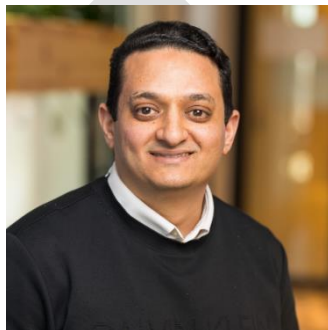
Mahmoud is a data professional who has helped a lot of organisation across Africa, Asia and Europe to support their data solution/architecture needs and solved many of the challenges around data. With a background in data engineering, architecture and leadership his career expands over several industries including banking, telecommunications, education, e-commerce, traveling and consultancy. Mahmoud has been working in the data field from his first day of his career. He started as an ETL (Extract, Transform and Load) developer in the telecommunication business. After that, he realised the need to know BI (Business intelligence) to have an end-to-end view of how to use data in a correct way. He stepped into big data architecture as well and loved being in the architecture seat. He continued working in the telecom industry for more than 10 years moving between multinational operators across Africa and Asia. After that, Mahmoud decided to move to Europe to explore new businesses, so he chose the financial industry where he worked first as a consultant and later, he worked for a Dutch bank called ABN AMRO as a lead data architect responsible for ABN AMRO data lineage, data

management, data access and data sharing capabilities. Now Mahmoud is working for Booking.com as a Senior Data Manager leading teams to adopt state of the are data management best practices and adopt public cloud data architecture as an enabler for the future of booking.

SESSION
9-A

PANEL DISCUSSION

From Data to Governed Decisions with AI: Driving Practical Outcomes Without Burning the House Down

Moderator

Justin Magruder, SAIC

Panelists

Patrick McGarry, data.world; Ren Essene, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau; Dessa Glasser, GLEIF

Abstract

Agile data governance enables and fortifies Generative AI ("GenAI") solutions, ensuring they operate within ethical boundaries, comply with regulatory standards, and serve their intended purpose effectively while maintaining the trust of users and stakeholders.

Among the key enablers is the concept of "Identity:" GenAIprojects rely upon the well-formed concept of identity for the definition and management of data source, provenance, lineage, and ownership "meta data," and also for the quality of information about natural and juridical persons or entities described by results of prompts to the GenAI system.

Join us for a focused discussion on how agile data governance is essential for the success of generative AI projects. Our panel will cover the importance of maintaining data quality, meeting regulatory standards, reducing bias, and ensuring security in AI-generated outcomes.

This session is a must for anyone involved in the GenAI space seeking to balance agility with accountability.

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 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.

Patrick McGarry
GM Federal
data.world

Patrick McGarry is the General Manager for US Federal at data.world, bringing a rich background in open source and open data, establishing partnership organizations, and spearheading startup ventures. His entrepreneurial spirit is complemented by his strategic and advisory roles at organizations like the University of Houston and The Data Foundation. Patrick is also a frequent contributor of thought leadership in the data ecosystem, as a frequent speaker and content creator, delving into a spectrum of topics from data and open source to community building, agile data operations, and data governance. His expertise not only drives innovation and growth at data.world but also shapes the broader dialogue on harnessing data for transformative impact.

Ren Essene
Chief Data Officer
Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Ren Essene has over 25 years of public service experience at the intersection of data, consumer protection, and community development. Ms. Essene currently serves as the Chief Data Officer at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau where she leads the CFPB enterprise data strategy and facilitates the effective management, use, sharing, and protection of agency data assets. Recently, Ms. Essene was named among the Top Government CDOs to Watch in 2022 by the Washington Exec, and in 2019, she received the highest award presented by the

CFPB, the Director Mission Achievement Award for Excellence in Leadership. Over the last decade at the CFPB, Ms. Essene has led the development of the agency Data Policy and Governance Program; coordinated with industry and other government agencies to adopt voluntary industry data standards; and led the agency effort to modernize the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) data collection. Previously, Ms. Essene organized the Federal Reserve Board public HMDA hearings and co-authored a book chapter on HMDA reform for Moving Forward: The Future of Consumer Credit and Mortgage Finance. In earlier service at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston and Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies, Ms. Essene leveraged her prior decade of experience leading a community development organization; serving on the Advisory Council for the Federal Home Loan Bank of Seattle; and working with community leaders and lenders to address housing issues in the Northwest. Ms. Essene earned a Master in Public Administration from Harvard Kennedy School.

Dessa Glasser

Chair | Board & Principal
Global Legal Entity Foundation (GLEIF) | Financial Risk Group

Dessa Glasser is a Principal for FRG, responsible for the Data Advisory & Analytics practice. She has a 30- year track record implementing innovative solutions and managing organizations in the areas of risk, data, and analytics. She is an Independent Board Member of Oppenheimer & Co. Inc. and is the Chair of the Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation (GLEIF). With experience as a board member, a senior leader within financial firms, and a deputy director for the U.S. Treasury, Ms. Glasser has seen the importance of getting data and risk right from multiple stakeholder perspectives.

Before joining FRG in 2017, Ms. Glasser was a Managing Director at JPMorgan Chase. At JPMC she initiated the firm's Capital Stress Testing Analytics team and built the Chief Data Office for Asset and Wealth Management, serving as the group's first CDO. She was Deputy Director of the Office of Financial Research (US Treasury), supporting the Financial Stability Oversight Council, where she implemented a range of data and risk solutions, including assisting with the launch of the industry standard Legal Entity Identifier (LEI). Ms. Glasser established the Chief Risk Office for Bunge, as its first Chief Risk Officer. She held senior positions at Credit Suisse, Merrill Lynch, IBM, and KPMG and began her career teaching at Rutgers University.

Ms. Glasser has a B.S. from Fairleigh Dickinson University and a Ph.D. and M.A. in Economics from Fordham University, where she sits on the Board of Advisors for the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. She is a recipient of the US Treasury Exceptional Service Award and has been listed as a 'Director to Watch' by Directors and Boards and a Global Data Power Woman by CDO Magazine. She was chosen as the A-Team's Industry Data Professional of the Year in 2023.

SESSION
9-B

PRESENTATION

Querying Minds Want to Know: Can a Data Fabric Overcome the Data Agility Challenge Hindering Gen AI Potential?

Speaker

Terry Dorsey, Denodo

Abstract

There is hardly an enterprise organization that isn't looking to enhance its operations internally and externally by deploying future-ready AI programs and harnessing the full potential of Generative AI. But given the scale and complexity of government, some common obstacles that impede the data agility of the average enterprise such as data silos, legacy systems, regulatory compliance issues, and diverse data formats from multiple sources become even more stifling for mission-critical work. The solution lies in data fabric, a key enabler that connects disparate data sources, formats, and structures. Enhanced by data virtualization, data fabric serves as a crucial foundation, securely facilitating easy access to and integration of structured and semi-structured data offering the promise of real-time accessibility. This empowers Large Language Models (LLMs) and Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) with a simplified yet comprehensive view of the organization's informational landscape.

This session will explore how the integration of data fabric, RAG, and LLMs can transform the delivery of information to non-technical data users. We will discuss essential platform capabilities necessary to realize a Gen AI-enabled future, including intelligent autonomous agents and on-demand enterprise data querying. Furthermore, in an era where access to LLMs is widespread and foundational models are universally used, we will demonstrate how data agility can provide a strategic decision-making advantage.

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Terry Dorsey

Sr. Data Architect & Evangelist
Denodo

Terry has amassed over 30 years of experience in the Information Technology field. She currently holds the position of Senior Data Architect and serves as North America's Evangelist for Denodo, the leading provider of Data Virtualization technology.

Terry's educational background includes a bachelor's degree in applied mathematics from Carnegie-Mellon University, a master's degree in information science from the University of Pittsburgh, and a master's degree in Analytics from Harrisburg University of Science and Technology. Presently, she is pursuing a doctoral degree in Data Science at Harrisburg University, focusing on the application of Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence to unstructured data leveraging graph theory and graph-based algorithms.

Prior to joining Denodo, Terry held positions in various industries, including consumer goods, manufacturing, healthcare, utilities, and defense. Throughout her career, she has made significant contributions in the areas of Business Intelligence, Software Development, and Integration. Terry has also held Enterprise-level Architecture roles, where she played a pivotal role in driving practices for Enterprise Integration, minimizing disruption during Cloud and ERP Migrations, and spearheading the implementation of Self-Service Analytics while managing costs for delivery. She has also been involved in architecting the technical implementation of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning. Terry is experienced in streamlining strategic implementations leveraging Data Virtualization.

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SESSION
9-C

PRESENTATION

DATA OBSERVABILITY: WHAT MAKES IT ESSENTIAL FOR CDOS IN 2024?

Speaker

Rohit Choudhary, Acceldata

Abstract

Join Rohit Choudhary, Founder and CEO of Acceldata, as he explores the critical role of data observability for CDOs and data leaders in 2024. This session examines why data observability has become indispensable, showcasing how forward-thinking leaders are leveraging it to gain a competitive advantage. Practical strategies and case studies will be shared to illustrate how data observability enhances decision-making and ensures data reliability and compliance in modern data environments.

Biography

Rohit Choudhary
CEO and Co-Founder
Acceldata

Rohit Choudhary is the CEO and Co-Founder of Acceldata, the leading provider of all-in-one, enterprise data observability. a Campbell, CA-based startup that has developed an Enterprise Data Observability Platform.

Prior to Acceldata, Choudhary served as Director of Engineering at Hortonworks, where he led development of Dataplane Services, Ambari, and Zeppelin among other products. While at Hortonworks, Rohit was inspired to start Acceldata after repeatedly witnessing his customers' multi-million dollar data initiatives fail despite employing the latest data technologies and experienced teams of data experts.

PRESENTATION

Biography

Empowering Secure Data Democratization: Harnessing the Potential of GenAI and LLMs for Digital Transformation

Speaker

Dr. Adi Hod, Velotix

Abstract

Data is the lifeblood of your organization. It fuels your enterprise's quest for competitive advantage, enabling it to develop groundbreaking solutions, solve complex problems, and stay ahead in dynamic markets. In the era of digital transformation, secure data democratization is pivotal for organizations; data should be secure and easy to use.

Join us on Day 2 of the CDOIQ Symposium as we dive into the groundbreaking realm of data security platforms. In this session, we'll unveil how Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) and Large Language Models (LLMs) are not just buzzwords but transformative tools revolutionizing organizational success. By leveraging the capabilities of GenAI and LLMs, enterprises can streamline data handling and security processes, achieving higher standards of data integrity, accessibility, and security. This session contributes to the ongoing discourse on AI's potential to revolutionize data democratization and security in the digital age.

Discover how GenAI and LLMs democratize data, making it more accessible and secure for every stakeholder. We'll explore how cutting-edge data security platform technologies automate critical tasks, from data access to threat detection, reducing errors and fortifying security measures. Join us and learn how to embrace the data revolution and elevate your organization's data integrity, accessibility, and security standards.

SESSION 9-E

od

CEO

Adi Hod is an entrepreneur and leader with over 20 years of experience developing, strategizing, and innovating enterprise software solutions. Adi specialized in optimization solutions in a variety of markets such as banking, utilities, telecommunications, and healthcare. He transforms strategic plans into tactical reality through building enterprises across different regions and cultures, including Europe, North and South America, and APAC. Adi holds a BSc, MSc, EMBA and PhD in Engineering, Operations, Research and Algorithms from the Technion, Haifa and MIT. Adi is also a professional piano player and art collector. In addition, Adi volunteered two years in Africa building elementary schools.

PANEL DISCUSSION

Upcoming Innovation and Research for CDOs: A Panel Perspective

Moderator	**Maria Villar, Business Data Leadership LLC**
Panelists	**Graham Brooks, .406 Ventures & Moran Cabili, Harvard University**

Abstract

This will be a panel discussion with 3 different perspectives on the topic

- CDO perspective: The key challenges for CDO/CDAO/AI heads that require new research, innovation, start-ups
- VC perspective: current start- up environment and the future innovation areas for data and AI
- University research: specific university research or start-ups that may be of interest to CDO/CDAO/
- How to best engage with start-ups

Biography

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Maria Villar
Founder and Managing Partner
Business Data Leadership LLC

Maria C Villar brings over 25 years of experience as a Chief Data Officer responsible for building enterprise data management organizations from the ground up and spearheading the culture transformation across the enterprise. She has held senior executive roles in both the technology and financial sector. Notably, serving as SAP's first CDO from 2009- 2017, later a CDO advisor to SAP customers from 2017-2024. Additionally, she pioneered IBM's first enterprise data Center of Excellence (COE).

As a CDO, Maria was honored with the "Transformation of Collaboration From Inwards to Outwards" Award from the international Society of CDO (MIT/iSCDO) . This award recognizes outstanding CDO leadership in driving business outcomes and business collaboration.

In 2009, she co-founded Business Data Leadership, a firm dedicated to enhancing effective data management practices through training, writing, coaching and consulting on enterprise data strategy, data governance and business value realization . She also serves as an advisor to venture capital firms and start-ups. In 2022 and 2023 , CDO magazine recognized Maria as 1. Power women in data and 2. Top data consultants in North America

Maria publishes and speaks regularly:

- Co-authored a book with Theresa Kushner, " Managing your Business Data from Chaos to Confidence"
- Developed 2 online classes https://ecm.elearningcurve.com/Maria_C_Villar_s/76.htm
- Has written numerous articles, including "Time to Level Up: The Evolving role of the Chief Data Officer" , 1. Data Voices Unite: Why One Enterprise Data Strategy Is The Answer. 2.What COVID-19 Dashboards Have Taught Us about Interpreting Data, 3.Managing Data in the Cloud – A Guide
- Published a data strategy master class available on YouTube
- MIT Sloan school article Presenting about data to your board: 6 tips from experts | MIT Sloan

Other affiliations:

- CDO IQ Planning Committee – member, advisor and 2024 conference co-chair (CDOIQ Program)
- Women Leaders in Data & AI – member.

Graham Brooks

Partner
.406 Ventures

Graham leads data and cloud investing for .406 Ventures, focusing on highly disruptive, deep tech companies in the data stack, AI, and cloud enablement space with a specific focus on healthcare and financial services. Graham has been at .406 Ventures since 2007, and in addition to investing, runs the firm's college and university outreach program, .406 Student Fellows.

At .406 Graham has led and been involved on the boards for 20+ investments including: Abacus Insights, Bobsled, ChaosSearch, ClosedLoop, Corvus Insurance, Indico, Keebo, Linea, Portrait Analytics, Promethium, Reltio, and Simon Data. Exited companies with previous involvement include: AbleTo (recapitalized by Optum), Iora (acquired by Amazon]), AdTuitive (acquired by Etsy), Compass (NYSE: COMP) and Digitalsmiths (acquired by TiVo).

Prior to .406 Graham was an engineer and DBA at ALK Technologies, Cofounder and Head of Sales at Accentus and BizDev/Corp Dev for Bose Corporation. Graham holds an MBA from the Tuck School at Dartmouth where he was a Tuck Scholar and an engineering degree from Princeton University where he majored in computer science.

Moran Cabili

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ctor of Business Development
rsity

Moran Cabili is an Associate Director of Business Development at Harvard's Office of Technology Development. She specializes in commercializing technologies and forging industry partnerships. Trained as a computational biologist, Moran brings nearly a decade of experience in product management. She previously led Data Strategy and Product Development at Foundation Medicine and played a key role in developing a biomedical research cloud platform at the Broad Institute, in collaboration with Verily.

Moran holds a Ph.D. in Systems Biology from Harvard and a M.Sc. in Computer Science from Tel-Aviv University.

PRESENTATION

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Designing for Adoption: The Product Approach to Making ML and Analytics Solutions Indispensable

Speaker

Brian T. O'Neill, Designing for Analytics

Abstract

Truth: no user wants another technically right, but effectively wrong solution from your data team. It's not good for you, your team, or your customers— but it happens frequently because solutions are not designed with intention around adoption, usability, and utility. In this session, I want to share a human-centered approach to creating useful decision support applications that allows the value of your ML and analytics work to be realized. This approach is often referred to as having "a data product mindset" or "product orientation," and I'm going to explain why thinking about data products as a method and not an output will get your team producing better ML and analytics solutions that actually get adopted. During this non-technical session, we will use my simple, human-centered definition of "data products" that is practical, useful, and decoupled from any output-based definitions heard in spaces such as data mesh, analytics products, and data-as-a-product. I will also share the messy truth of innovation work you must get comfortable with, why UX design and product management skills are essential to working in this style, and three design activities your team must embrace to routinely produce useful, high-value data products. Additionally, we'll cover: Why 1 leader tossed out 18 months of data science work to adopt this approach Why you can't achieve business value with data without first solving the adoption problem   Why change management is the wrong way to think about introducing ML/AI and decision support apps   Why customer and stakeholder requirements are friendly lies you can't trust What my performance with The Who has to do with data products   The producty definition of data products that myself, and most members of The Data Product Leadership Community, gravitate toward – and why others aren't helping them   Core practices your team can (and must) adopt now if they want to routinely deliver data products that get used and produce value What the future looks like when you start adopting a producty approach What types of data products and usage scenarios need UI/UX the most and why GenAI poses even greater challenges around adoption Where to find data product management and design resources Why data products must be measurable, and how to measure their impact (yes, they can be measured!) 15 additional ways CDOs can increase adoption of data products (hint: they don't involve GenAI, Python, or any other tech)

Brian T. O'Neill

Biography cipal
Designing for Analytics

Brian T. O'Neill is the Founder and Principal of Designing for Analytics, an independent data product UI/UX design consultancy he started in 2016. Brian also hosts Experiencing Data, ranked in the top 2% of all podcasts globally, exploring the impact of UX design and product management on ML/AI and analytics products. In 2023, he founded the The Data Product Leadership Community to allow a curated group of leaders leveraging UX design and product management in their data work to share knowledge. A drummer/percussionist by training, Brian has also been a consulting product designer for over 25 years, with clients including many startups, DellEMC, Fidelity, NetApp, Roche, Abbvie, and the City of Los Angeles. In addition to speaking at many international data conferences, he's also given keynotes for BigDataConferenceEU, MathCo and Netguru. Brian was also published in O'Reilly Media's 97 Things About Ethics in Data Science Everyone Should Know and has written for his weekly Insights mailing list for 8 years. Brian also helped advance growth at several startups including Dispatch.me, Akorri and Apptopia.com and now advises on product and UI/UX design for startup founders in MIT's Sandbox Innovation Fund. Today, Brian also maintains a career as a professional musician in Boston and internationally. He's appeared with The Who, Donna Summer, in the pits of multiple Broadway touring productions, and on the world's finest stages including The Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall. His unique multi-ensemble, Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica, delights over 16,000 monthly listeners on Spotify and has toured in German, Mexico and across the US.

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SESSION 9-G

PRESENTATION

Design Considerations for Data Products

Speaker

Ananya Som, Kout Food Group, Rennes School of Business

Abstract

Data products serve business objectives and are designed with internal and external customers in mind. In a business entity, Data Users and Data Suppliers contribute to data product designs. However, their efforts need to be carefully orchestrated. Offense and defense-oriented initiatives impacting business capabilities needs to be harmonized, directed and infused into data products. The market for retail food and beverage (F&B) in the GCC region is valued at US$85 billion, but it is challenged by data paucity, quality and peculiarities. At Kout Food Group, a leading multi-brand F&B player in the region, we developed a practical framework and used Design Science Research Methodology (DSRM) to pilot two data products. In this session I will share our journey and findings from semi-structured interviews conducted with data science practitioners on key considerations for designing data products.

Biography

Ananya Som

Associate Director - Analytics
Kout Food Group, Rennes School of Business

She is Associate Director of Analytics & Strategic Projects in Kout Food Group, Kuwait. She has served in the industry for 17 years with a background of Enterprise Architecture and IT Strategy. Her latest focus is on embedding data products for data monetization in business models. She is pursuing her Doctoral thesis for DBA (Doctor of Business Administration) from Rennes School of Business, France in collaboration with INSOFE Education in India)

SESSION 10-A

PANEL DISCUSSION

Data-Driven Transformation: Empowering VA Health Policy and Outcomes

Moderator	Tina Burnette, SAIC
Panelists	Dr. Laura Prietula, Department of Veterans Affairs; Ian Komorowski, Department of Veterans Affairs & Lynette Sherrill, Department of Veterans Affairs
Abstract	TBD

Biography

Tina Burnette

Program Management Director
Department of Veterans Affairs, SAIC

Ms. Burnette is a highly accomplished executive with an extensive background in leading complex U.S. federal government programs and operations. Ms. Burnette's extensive experience and leadership roles within multiple federal agencies demonstrate her significant contributions to government operations, procurement, and program management.

In her current role at SAIC, Ms. Burnette focuses on enabling growth opportunities within the Department of Veteran Affairs by leveraging her skills and experience in federal government. Her dedication to improving government processes and understanding of the federal government is bridging the gap between Government and Industry.

Throughout her career, Ms. Burnette has served in leadership positions in several key federal agencies, including the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), General Services Administration (GSA), Department of Commerce, and Department of Defense.

At the VA, she played a critical role in developing and integrating Development Security Operations practices into the VA Information and Technology environment. She also managed a $4 billion information technology program implementing category management principles in her role as Executive Director of Acquisition and Category Management.

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In her role at FEMA, Ms. Burnette was responsible for overseeing all agency requirements, acquisition policies, and procedures. She notably managed the acquisition response and recovery efforts in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. As the Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Commercial Acquisitions at GSA, she managed the federal government purchasing system, totaling $3.2 billion.

Before her time at GSA, Ms. Burnette served as a program manager for the Department of Commerce, overseeing the small business GWAC, which involved the management and operation of information technology solutions across the federal government. She also contributed to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration by overseeing the deployment of the modernization of the Advanced Weather Interactive Processing Systems.

Ms. Burnette's educational background includes a Bachelor of Science Degree and a Master of Science Administration Degree from the University of Maryland. She has also completed leadership programs, including the Industry Advisory Council Partners Program, Defense Department Executive Leadership Development Program, and the Federal Executive Institute. Her accomplishments include being a finalist for the Women in Technology Government Leadership Award.

Dr. Laura Prietula
Deputy Chief Information Officer
Electronic Health Record Modernization Integration Office
Department of Veterans Affairs

Dr. Laura Prietula, a distinguished leader with over three decades of experience spanning both public and private sectors, excels in establishing strategic business units, enhancing organizational digital advantage, transforming organizations, and improving customer experiences. As a Senior Healthcare Executive, she is renowned for her visionary leadership in business and IT portfolio management, strategic planning, project execution, and organizational change management. In her current role as the Deputy Chief Information Officer (DCIO) for the United States (US) Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Electronic Health Record Modernization Integration Office (EHRM-IO), she oversees the technical implementation of the VA's modernized electronic health record (EHR), ensuring seamless healthcare delivery. Through her over 20 years at VA, she has led enterprise initiatives to transform business practices and establish learning organizations. She has successfully worked across the department and with other agencies such as the Department of Defense, Department of Health and Human Services, Internal Revenue Service, Federal Communications Commission, and Social Security Administration.

Dr. Prietula is well known as an industry disruptor for her mission-oriented approach to consistently delivering optimal results, even in politically charged environments, driven by innovations that transform customer

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benefits delivery and maximize business outcomes. Her contributions significantly impact multiple areas within the federal government, such as data sharing, analytics, innovation, customer experience, and technology adoption. She has worked in the health, manufacturing, financial, and services industries since 1992. She has an exceptional background in conducting disruptive innovations to transform customer benefits delivery, create synergies, and maximize business results.

She holds a bachelor's degree in computer science engineering from Instituto Tecnologico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM Mexico), a master's degree in decision and information sciences from the University of Florida, and a doctorate in leadership and learning in organizations from Vanderbilt University.

Ian Komorowski

Executive Director, VHA Strategic Investment Management
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

Ian Komorowski serves as the Executive Director of Strategic Investment Management (SIM), Veterans Health Administration (VHA). Ian leads SIM's mission to facilitate sound decision making by VHA for the development, acquisition, and maintenance of health-focused IT investments. SIM ensures leadership has a comprehensive understanding of needed VHA business capabilities including business requirements, processes, information needs, IT strategy & priorities and investment analysis.

In his most recent role, he served as the Acting Chief Consultant to the Deputy Under Secretary for Health (DUSH) as the co-lead for VHA's Electronic Health Record Modernization (EHRM) Reset efforts. His primary focus was coordinating with VISNs and VA Medical Centers on their EHR requirements, in partnership with the EHRM Integration Office (EHRM IO) and the VHA Office of Health Informatics (OHI).

Ian also brings experience leading government programs through successful growth and development using project and change management best practices and valuable interdepartmental experience in leading multi-agency government projects.

From 2018 through 2021, Ian served as Deputy Director, Office of Healthcare Transformation (OHT) where he provided executive leadership on project management, strategic implementation, and health systems engineering. He was also the executive sponsor for the VHA Change Management (CM) effort, establishing a CM training program and expanding CM Practices across VHA.

He previously served as Branch Chief, Architecture & Cloud Strategies for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), leading the effort to include Enterprise Architecture as a core part of business, IT, and acquisition practices in the SEC and increasing visibility of information across the

enterprise. Before that, he served as the Deputy Director of Business Architecture in SIM in VHA.

Earlier in his career, he was Director of Architecture & Interoperability for a mid-size consulting company, and VP of Training at a small business. Ian enjoys teaching and mentoring across many disciplines, from having been a full-time kayak instructor, to a developer and instructor of formal enterprise architecture courses. He has also guest lectured on health IT and enterprise architecture topics at both the undergraduate and graduate level at schools such as Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Georgetown University.

Lynette Sherrill

Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Information Security (OIS)
and Chief Information Security Officer (CISO)
Department of Veterans Affairs

Ms. Sherrill is an accomplished Information Technology management professional with over 20 years of experience. She is responsible for leading the VA's Office of Information Security, which establishes the vision, defines the strategy, and leads the implementation of the Department's enterprise-wide cybersecurity program. Ms. Sherrill coordinates cybersecurity responses across the enterprise and provides cybersecurity incident response, assessment & authorization, as well as OT and medical device security in support of the Veterans Health Administration, Veteran Benefits Administration, and National Cemetery Administration missions.

Ms. Sherrill worked for both federal and municipal governments, to operate and defend vital networks and information, by providing excellence in information technology operations and customer service. Prior to fulfilling her current duties as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Information Security and Chief Information Security Officer, Ms. Sherrill was responsible for leading Enterprise Command Operations at the Department of Veterans Affairs. There she had responsibility for managing Enterprise Service Desk, Enterprise Command Center, Operations Triage Group and the Major Incident, Problem and Emergency Management teams that support the Department of Veterans Affairs 24/7/365. Ms. Sherrill also served the Department of Veterans Affairs as the Director for Enterprise Service Desk, the Deputy Director for the Health Information Security Division and held network security management, information and technology management, and security specialist positions with the VA, City of Austin Government, and the Department of the Army.

Ms. Sherrill's awards and recognition include the 2022 FedScoop Best Boss Nominee, the 2022 FedHealthIT100 Awardee, 2021 FedHealthIT Innovation Award, 2020 Women in Leadership Impact; 2016 US Government Information Security Leadership Award, the 2015 NextGov Bold Award in Government innovations, and the 2015 Digital Innovation Award Nominee. She holds Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems, Colorado Christian University, Lakewood, CO, a Master's Certificate in Project Management, George Washington University, Washington, DC, the Certified Information Systems Security Profession

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(CISSP), Business Relationship Management Professional, and the ITIL 3 Foundation certificates.

SESSION 10-B

PRESENTATION

How to turn AI Challenges into Growth Opportunities

Speaker

Nick Dobbins, Informatica

Abstract

With all the advances in AI and Analytics, organizations need to scale their data and AI initiatives while demonstrating ROI. We will examine the challenges, including resource limitations, talent shortages, and the imperative to showcase productivity improvements to stakeholders. Let's reimagine the possibilities of AI and learn how to transform challenges into opportunities for innovation and success.

Biography

Nick Dobbins
VP WW Field CTO
Informatica

Nick Dobbins, an accomplished technology leader with over twenty years of experience in driving innovation within data management, has held various positions ranging from software engineering to technical sales leadership. Currently positioned as the Vice President, Worldwide Field CTO at Informatica—a global enterprise specializing in cloud data management.

In his capacity, Nick provides guidance to clients on addressing their most complex data management challenges, collaborating closely with CTOs, CDOs, and other leaders in data management to devise strategies that yield successful business results. Acting as a liaison between the field and product leadership, he steers innovation through the development of roadmaps and acquisitions. Nick remains vigilant regarding emerging trends, ensuring that Informatica remains at the forefront of enabling our customers' success.

SESSION 10-C

PRESENTATION

Data & Analytics at Scale: Exploring Decentralized Operating Models

| **Moderator** | John Spens, Thoughtworks |

| **Panelists** | Adam Lundberg, Total Wine & More; Eric Dessler, Parkland; Nghi Ho, Gilead Sciences Inc & Jeremy Forman, Pfizer |

Abstract

Over the past few years, data and analytics organizations have been exploring decentralized operating models in effort to meet the ever increasing demand for data. There are many platforms and solutions that support decentralized approaches, but the greater challenges are often in enabling individuals and teams to change ways of working, and to adopt the new processes required to ensure data is delivered in a responsible and effective manner.

In this session we will talk to leaders of data and analytics organizations at various stages of exploring decentralized approaches, to understand what they have sought to achieve, and what challenges they experienced along the way.

What problems did you face that caused you to explore a decentralized approach?

What was the outcome you expected to achieve, and were you able to achieve that?

What challenges did you experience along the way?

What did you learn through this experience?

Biography

John Spens

Director, Data and AI – North America
Thoughtworks

I'm fascinated by the challenges of extracting intelligence from data, and applying that intelligence to create powerful applications that change businesses. I joined Thoughtworks as a Consultant in 2003, and led a number of strategic projects before becoming General Manager for Chicago and New York. In 2012, I led the launch of our data analytics practice in North America, and in 2019 I became Director of Data Strategy, Engineering and Analytics.

I have two grown-up sons and live in a small town north of New York City with my wife and cats.

Adam Lundberg
VP, Data Services
Total Wine & More

Mr. Lundberg is Vice President of Data Services at Total Wine & More, where he oversees the company's enterprise data platform, reporting, and data science groups.

Throughout his career, he has led successful data and analytics initiatives across multiple sectors, including retail, financial services, automotive, government, energy, chemicals, and maritime. He has spearheaded data platform transformations, developed industry-leading analytics solutions, fostered collaborative data-driven cultures in large teams and across organizations, and brings a proven track record of success in data strategy and governance – leveraging advanced analytics and AI to solve complex challenges. Whether it's crafting data strategies or wielding AI for powerful insights, his passion lies in helping companies and leaders translate numbers into clear roadmaps for success.

Eric Dressler
Director, Data Products & Platforms
Parkland

With over two decades of experience in data, analytics, AI, and business, Eric is the Head of Data at Parkland Corporation, a leading energy and retail company operating in 25 countries. Eric oversees data products, platforms and AI execution for Parkland's extensive operations, including fuel supply, commercial logistics, and convenience stores under brands like Pioneer and Ultramar. Parkland also runs the On the Run convenience stores, the Journie Rewards loyalty program, and owns M&M Food Market. Additionally, Parkland is a leader in low-carbon fuels and EV charging networks.

Eric resides in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, a large tech hub in North America. He contributes to shaping future business leaders as an Advisory Board Member and Lead Instructor at NAIT's JR Shaw School of Business and promotes data science education as VP of Intelligent Data Science Initiatives at DAMA Edmonton. He is the founder of machine.healthcare, an AI company transforming healthcare, and has held senior data and analytics roles at AMA - Alberta Motor Association and LoyaltyOne.

Nghi Ho
Sr. 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.

Jeremy Forman
VP, R&D AI, Data, and Analytics
Pfizer

Jeremy Forman is the Vice President, R&D AI, Data, and Analytics. Jeremy brings a background of nearly 25 years of expertise in data-driven innovation and artificial intelligence. His career is marked by strategic leadership roles where he has harnessed the power of AI and data to drive business growth, enhance customer and employee experiences, and foster a culture of innovation and responsible use of technology. Jeremy's experience extends beyond the corporate world into academia, where he shares his knowledge as an Adjunct Professor at the Tippie School of Business, University of Iowa. His work at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Oracle Corporation, and Los Alamos National Laboratory further underscores his global perspective, strategic thinking, and commitment to sustainability and social responsibility.

Jeremy lives in Seattle with his wife, Bernadette, dogs Axel and Piper, and with his two grown children nearby. When not working Jeremy can be found on his bike, playing guitar, or enjoying the food and wine of the Pacific Northwest.

**SESSION
10-D**

Business Data Fabric: The Future of Data and AI

Speakers

Kaiser Larsen, SAP

Abstract

The future of data management and AI requires an integrated approach that unifies all your data across applications and systems. See how a business data fabric, enabled by the SAP Datasphere solution, simplifies data landscapes and empowers organizations to access insights wherever their data resides.

Biography

Kaiser Larsen
VP of Product Marketing, Data & Analytics
SAP

TBD

**SESSION
10-E**

PRESENTATION

Implementing a Comprehensive Data Office Operating Model

Speakers

Douglas Laney, West Monroe & Carsten Dehner, Vienna Insurance Group

Abstract

Realizing the true value of data requires a coordinated effort across an organization to empower business users and foster innovation from data & analytics teams. Upon becoming CDAO for Vienna Insurance Group (VIG), the largest insurance group in Central & Eastern Europe, Carsten Dehner partnered with West Monroe to develop a comprehensive operating model to improve data quality & usage across VIG's dozens of insurance companies operating across 29 countries. In this session, Mr. Dehner and West Monroe's Doug Laney will discuss their approach - from understanding the needs of individual stakeholders to a dynamic, collaborative hub-and-spoke operating model design which enhances organization-wide and local data governance and advanced analytic success. During the session, you are invited to ask questions to dive deeper into the operational definition, change management, and stakeholder engagement aspects that are critical components for a scaled data & analytics office.

Biography

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Douglas Laney
Innovation Fellow, Data & Analytics Strategy
West Monroe

We all recognize that monetizing data creates advantage in a digital economy, yet few understand how to do that well. Doug does—in fact, he originated the field of "infonomics" – the economics of information. His innovative ideas have helped organizations uncover billions of dollars of untapped value in their data assets.

Many senior IT, business, and data leaders have sought Doug's expertise on the topics of data monetization and valuation, data management and governance, open and syndicated data, analytics best practices, and big data-based innovation. He is a frequent featured speaker at industry conferences and author in The Wall Street Journal, Forbes, and The Financial Times, among other journals. Today, he uses his knowledge to raise the level of data fluency across our organization and create offerings related to data value and valuation. Prior to joining West Monroe, Doug was a distinguished analyst with Gartner's Chief Data Officer Research & Advisory team and a three-time recipient of Gartner's annual Thought Leadership Award. In a previous role, he launched and managed the

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Deloitte Analytics Institute. He earned a bachelor's degree in software engineering and business administration from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Carsten Dehner
Chief Data & Analytics Officer
Vienna Insurance Group AG

Carsten Dehner is the Group Chief Data & Analytics Officer (CDAO) of the Vienna Insurance Group AG (VIG), a role he has held since July 2023. He holds a degree in pure mathematics and initially taught at the Baden-Wuerttemberg Cooperative State University (DHBW) in Stuttgart, Germany. In 2008, he joined VIG, the market leader in Central Eastern Europe, transitioning from academia to industry. And he recently completed the Chief Data Officer (CDataO) Executive Education and Certificate Program at Carnegie Mellon University.

Carsten's early work at VIG involved an IT subsidiary focused on SAP for Insurance co-innovation. In 2011, he moved to VIG Holding and led the group-wide introduction of Solvency II Reporting. He later took charge of the Data, Processes, and IT workstream for the group-wide implementation of IFRS 17. Carsten has been an integral part of the leadership team of the worldwide SAP FPSL User Group since its inception and became its chairman in 2023.

And from 2017 to 2021, Carsten headed the Data Management and Processes department, and from 2021 to 2023, he led VIG Holding IT, both positions carrying the title of Senior Vice President. Additionally, from 2017 to 2023, he served as managing director in two different VIG IT subsidiaries.

Carsten is a seasoned speaker, having presented at numerous international conferences in Austria, Croatia, Germany, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Singapore, and in most of the 30 countries where VIG operates.

SESSION
10-F

PRESENTATION

The Data Governance Journey in Geosciences: Reflections on the Last 20 Years at Petrobras

Speaker

Leonardo Campos de Melo, Petrobras

Abstract

The Geosciences department at Petrobras is the beating heart of the oil and gas industry. With virtually every aspect of our operations relying on digitized data, data governance has been at the forefront of our department's focus for many years. Join us as we delve into the journey of data governance within Geosciences at Petrobras over the past two decades. In this enlightening session, we will explore how the Geosciences department has been at the forefront of data governance, given its crucial role in the oil and gas industry. With data being the lifeblood of our operations, the need to establish robust governance practices has been paramount. We will delve into the challenges faced by Geosciences in terms of exchanging information with external entities while ensuring the integrity of this data. We have constantly strived to maintain the highest standards of data governance, recognizing the immense value that accurate and reliable data brings to our decision-making processes. During this presentation, we will share the successes and failures in data governance. By highlighting real-life case studies, we will provide valuable insights into the strategies and solutions that have shaped our data governance journey. Moreover, we will discuss our vision for the future of data governance within Geosciences. As technology continues to advance at an unprecedented pace, we are committed to staying ahead of the curve.

Biography

Leonardo Campos de Melo

Head of Data Integration for Geosciences and Geoengineering
Petrobras

Leonardo Melo holds a degree in Electronics and Computing Engineering from the Polytechnic School of Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. He has 12 years of experience in data governance for Upstream, working as a Geology Information Architect for Exploration and leading several data architecture projects at Petrobras. He worked as an upstream data consultant for 3 years and is currently the Head of Data Integration for Geosciences and Geoengineering.

SESSION

10-G

PRESENTATION

AI/ML Ops - Reducing Iteration Time is the Key to Success

Speaker

Phillip Finucane, Pat Inc

Abstract

As we survey the landscape of AI technologies, it's easy to get caught up in the latest tools and techniques, and the startups that frequently are powering these. While these can offer powerful approaches to improve your company's AI practice, it's also critical to focus on the productivity of the data scientists and developers who develop the models themselves. By investing in decreasing iteration time, companies can significantly improve their returns on AI initiatives. Model development is a highly iterative process. Data scientists and engineers need to try different techniques, tools, and configurations on any model in order to drive the desired outcomes. Furthermore, just because your new model is live in production doesn't mean that it is delivering optimal value. Each iteration of a model can improve performance, which in turn can drive big impacts to the bottom line. This talk will give an overview of areas of the ML Ops practice that should be emphasized in order to improve the productivity of your data scientists and increase the rate at which business critical models improve.

Biography

Phillip Finucane
Ex-CEO
Pat Inc

Phillip Finucane is a high-impact engineering leader with deep understanding of the value of best-in-class technology as it relates to enabling business success. He brings extensive experience optimizing technology strategy for some of the world's most progressive tech companies across sectors, including finance, healthcare, social media, and gaming. A trusted business partner, he provides big picture business acumen and a strong background in engineering modernization, product strategy, risk management, Big Data and AI, cost management, cybersecurity, and acquisitions and integrations. He has been trusted repeatedly throughout his career to drive major transformation endeavors and culture shifts that support growth, enhance operating efficiency, and transform low-performing engineering teams into fast-moving, highly effective business drivers. Phil builds an empowering and rewarding working environment with consistently increasing engagement and enablement scores, and places high value on ingenuity and diversity of thought. Phil is the ex-CEO of Pat Inc, an early stage startup developing

a symbolic AI engine for natural language understanding. Before this, Phil was with Meta as Senior AI Production Engineering Leader managing teams focused on improving reliability, scalability, and efficiency of Meta's massive AI/Machine Learning ecosystem. During his tenure, Phil drove componentization of a monolithic machine learning stack to enable better observability and efficiency for 20K+ training jobs and reducing job failure rates by more than 10%. He was also credited with decreasing the time for code to move from authoring to production by 50% and articulating a vision for the next iteration of Meta's AI stack. Prior to Meta, Phil had roles as VP of Engineering at Northwestern Mutual, CTO at Express Scripts, and Divisional Chief Architect at American Express. Early career was based in Silicon Valley where he worked at Zynga, Yahoo!, and a number of startups.

SESSION 11-A

PANEL DISCUSSION

Leadership Panel on Sustainability Data

Moderator

Nathan Rogers, SAIC

Panelists

Sandi Marra, Appalachian Trail Conservancy; Jason Duke, US Fish & Wildlife Service; Lisa Manley, Abbott Lange Consulting

Abstract

Data is a powerful tool in driving environmental sustainability. From monitoring and assessment to resource optimization, modeling, public engagement, and regulation, data-driven approaches enable a more holistic and informed approach to environmental management and evidence-building. Leveraging data effectively can lead to more sustainable practices, an increased understanding of past, current, and future challenges for natural resource conservation, and opportunities to secure new funding sources, partnerships, and technology needed to accelerate environmental preservation and stewardship at both the scale and pace required.

Biography

Nathan Rogers
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.

Sandi Marra
President and CEO
Appalachian Trail Conservancy

Sandra "Sandi" Marra has served as the Appalachian Trail Conservancy's President and CEO since 2019 and has been an A.T. volunteer for over 35 years. Sandi and the Conservancy utilize data to inform visitor use management of the National Scenic Trail and to quantify the overall experience, economic, and natural resource values within the Appalachian Trail landscape to prioritize conservation efforts.

Prior to her tenure at the ATC, Sandi founded and served as the principal of Marra Consulting Group, which provided organizational and strategic planning expertise to nonprofit organizations. Sandi also served as the Chief Operating Officer of St. Coletta of Greater Washington, a nonprofit organization supporting educational and service programs for developmentally disabled children and adults. Coupled with her nonprofit experience, she has worked in the private sector for various government contracting firms providing operational, human resource, and organizational management.

Jason Duke
Chief Data Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service

Jason Duke became the Chief Data Officer for the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) in 2018 after serving as a Regional Geographic Information Systems Coordinator and an IT Specialist with the USFWS since 1993. Jason started his Federal career with the US Geological Survey in 1990, working in Geographic Information Systems. Jason has been collecting and analyzing data on a daily work basis since 1990.

Jason completed his BS in Management Information Systems and an MBA in Information Systems from Tennessee Tech University. He later completed a Master's in Information Quality and a PhD in Computer and Information Sciences from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Jason firmly believes in industry certifications and holds a CISSP, CISA, CRISC, CDPSE, CISM, CGEIT, Data+, Security+, Network+, A+, and GISP certification.

Achieving excellence in the collection, cataloging, retrieval, analysis, and preserving data are the primary drivers of his tenure as Chief Data Officer. Jason focuses on ensuring that data collected by US Fish & Wildlife Service staff should be accessible to all staff and that no data should be orphaned or lost when employees retire or change careers. Data should be accessible and properly documented to be shared among staff and with the American public. Jason is responsible for Enterprise Data Management and chairs the Data Governance Board for the USFWS.

Jason taught Geographic Information Systems courses for 27 years at Tennessee Tech University and is a Global Editorial Board Member with CDO Magazine. Jason does not seem to believe in downtime and is an avid private pilot and chair of the local airport authority in Livingston, TN, restores Ford Mustangs and log cabins and travels the world as much as possible.

Lisa Manley

Former, VP Sustainability, Mars
Founder & CEO, Abbott Lange Consulting

Lisa Manley is a visionary communications and sustainability leader with 20+ years experience helping organizations like Mars and The Coca-Cola Company identify, shape, and amplify strategies that earn trust and build reputation. Lisa's superpowers include: 1) an ability to get others excited about business' role in advancing social and environmental sustainability, 2) leading diverse teams and figuring out how people who are different can work together productively, and 3) guiding individuals and organizations to set bold goals and pursue them until they are reached. She is a subject matter expert on sustainability strategy development, sustainability communications, climate action, water stewardship, human rights, and social justice.

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SESSION

11-B

PRESENTATION

Maximizing Profits: Chief Data Officers' Data Monetization Strategies

Speaker

Michael Hejtmanek, Neudata

Abstract

This thought leadership session will give CDOs a clear understanding of different types of data monetization with a focus on direct data monetization (i.e. selling data to third parties). Attendees will learn to understand the market demand, navigate compliance risks, productize and sell the data they already own to increase their bottom line.

Session content

Organizations frequently underestimate the value of internal data. To help attendees assess the revenue potential of their data, we will discuss the types of firms that are buying third-party data and what kind of data those firms are looking for. We will introduce examples from various data categories.

CDOs will then be given insights into the specific benefits and challenges of data monetization.

- Benefits include revenue generation, enhanced financial stability, fostering a data-driven decision-making culture and increasing a company's attractiveness to investors.
- Challenges can include reputational risk, data privacy, customer/partner terms and conditions, headline risk, how to structure data, how to price data, data confidentiality, and compliance. The ecosystem can be very opaque which can make common questions such as who are my potential competitors and what is my unique selling point challenging to answer.

CDOs will receive guidance on how they can reap these benefits and overcome these challenges. Specifically, they will gain an understanding of:

- The demand for different categories of data
- The most appropriate target market
- Pricing considerations
- Data enrichments that will make a data product more desirable
- Go to market options (direct, channel, aggregators etc)
- How to market datasets to potential buyers

In conclusion, data monetization represents a substantial opportunity for businesses, but it demands strategic planning, industry awareness, and knowing the potential use cases of one's data. This session is designed to provide CDOs and other data professionals with a clear pathway on how to monetize the data they already own.

Biography

Michael Hejtmanek
Vice President, Corporate Solutions
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.

SESSION
11-C

NO SESSION SCHEDULED

SESSION 11-D

PRESENTATION

AI Readiness: How To Prepare, Scale, And Accelerate AI

Speakers

Tracy Jones & Cassidy Solomon, Guidehouse

Abstract

What are the foundational elements needed to successfully start and expand Artificial Intelligence (AI) within your organization? If you are struggling with answering this question, you are not alone. Despite the growing demand for AI, both public and private sector organizations struggle with AI readiness and getting key success factors underway. Join us to learn about an AI Readiness Framework that you can apply to your organization, simple steps to get started, and examples of how the framework can be used to support both Generative AI and a more traditional AI projects.

Biography

Tracy Jones
Associate Director
Guidehouse

Tracy Jones, Associate Director, at Guidehouse's Data & AI Practice has over 15 years of experience with public sector agencies in the areas of data strategy and management, enterprise change management, requirements gathering and product visioning, and professional advisory services. She supported the development of the Federal Data Strategy, 2020 Action Plan, and the Federal Data Ethics Framework. Ms. Jones illuminates data issues and solutions, appearing as a guest speaker on the FedHeads podcast, MIT CDOIQ symposium (2023), Virginia Tech's Day of Data (2023), and Federal News Network. Publications include three articles with the Data Foundation on the topic of the CDO, including The Growth and Challenges of the Chief Data Officer Data Foundation (2022) and contributed to the ACT-IAC paper, Ethical Application of AI Framework (2020). She is currently co-authoring articles for CDO Magazine and AGA Journal related to data/ AI strategy and AI ethics.

Cassidy Solomon

Senior Consultant, Data & AI Practice
Guidehouse

Cassidy Solomon is a Senior Consultant in Guidehouse's Data & AI Practice. She is a Certified Data Management Professional (CDMP), with hands-on experience supporting public sector clients in the areas of data management, data strategy, data governance, and data management maturity assessments, and professional advisory services. Most recently, Cassidy supported a state government client with the development of a comprehensive statewide data strategy. As part of this effort, she supported the development of an artificial intelligence (AI) readiness framework to assess organizational readiness to AI, identifying critical gaps and implications for successful AI enablement with specific emphasis on building foundational capabilities. Additionally, Cassidy is working on the development of a thought-leadership piece titled, "Best Practices and Lessons Learned in Developing State & Local Data Strategies", which outlines a framework and key enablers to develop a successful data strategy within the state and local government landscape.

SESSION
11-E

PRESENTATION

Garbage In, Genius Out? The Crucial Role of Data Quality in Generative AI

Speaker

Tobias Jaeckel, Shelf

Abstract

As organizations increasingly adopt Generative AI (GenAI) technologies, the quality of input data determines the reliability and coherence of produced outputs. This session explores the crucial role of data quality and effective data management—especially concerning unstructured data—in optimizing GenAI implementations. We will examine how robust data management practices can transform unstructured data into high-quality inputs that drive successful AI-driven projects.

Grounded in real-world instances presented as mini case studies, attendees will gain actionable strategies to enhance data quality, resulting in more successful and impactful GenAI projects. Finally, we'll discuss how to future-proof these strategies to ensure sustained success in an ever-evolving data landscape. This presentation aims to bridge the gap between data science and business needs, championing data quality as the cornerstone of effective GenAI deployment.

Biography

Tobias Jaeckel
Co-founder and Chief Technology Officer
Shelf

Tobias Jaeckel is the Co-founder and Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of Shelf, where he leads the development of innovative solutions in data management and generative AI. With over 20 years of experience in the industry, Tobias specializes in transforming unstructured data into high-quality inputs for AI-driven projects.

A prior executive at Accenture and repeat-founder, Tobias has a proven track record of creating platforms that enhance data accuracy and efficiency. He is dedicated to bridging the gap between data science and business needs, advocating for data quality as the foundation of successful AI implementations.

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SESSION 11-F

NO SESSION SCHEDULED

SESSION 11-G

PRESENTATION

Being People-focused in a Data-driven World: The Secret Sauce to ROI Realization

Speakers

Beth Montag-Schmaltz & Erin Daly, West Monroe

Abstract

In today's fast-paced and technology-driven world, businesses are increasingly relying on data and analytics to make informed decisions and drive growth. However, amidst the race to embrace data-driven strategies, it is crucial not to lose sight of the human element – changing behaviors & mindsets, recognizing biases, understanding a bit of the neuroscience behind it all. Let's get ahead of this question: "We've invested so much and we continue to keep going back to the well – when will I see results in my business?". This workshop aims to explore the significance of being people-focused in a data-driven world and empower participants to leverage proven change management principles for achieving tangible business outcomes.

Biography

Beth Montag-Schmaltz

Senior Partner, Transformation Enablement
West Monroe

Beth Montag-Schmaltz is a Senior Partner in West Monroe Partners Operations Excellence practice. Beth is a recognized researcher, practitioner, innovator, and thought leader in the field of change management. Throughout her 20-year professional journey, she has designed, and managed complex change management programs for countless strategic and high-risk corporate initiatives. Beth uses her wealth of knowledge, experience, and creative energy to guide organizations and their leaders through uniquely tailored change processes designed to produce concrete returns on their investments.

Today, Beth is pioneering advances in two unique areas of change management: developing best practices for measuring and tracking change initiatives across the enterprise and building sustainable, change-capable organizations. A respected industry author of articles and white papers, Beth provides companies with the unconventional wisdom to reach and often exceed their business goals.

Prior to West Monroe, Beth was a co-founder of 71 & Change, co-founder and partner at PeopleFirm where she built a thriving change practice and oversaw all components of their change management solution. Before starting PeopleFirm, she was a Vice President in charge of Hitachi Consulting's Global Organizational Change Management Practice.

Beth has a Bachelor of Arts in Communications and minor in Psychology from Baldwin-Wallace College in Ohio and an Executive MBA from the University of Washington.

WHAT MAKES BETH DIFFERENT

Beth enjoys traveling, wine tasting, walking/hiking/jogging and spending time with family and friends.

WHERE BETH MAKES AN IMPACT

Beth is a founding board member of the PNW Chapter of Association of Change Management Professionals (ACMP) and is responsible for establishing the first US-based regional ACMP community of change practitioners. She lends the same energy that she brings to her work with West Monroe to the Board of Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Puget Sound.

Erin Daly

Director, Organizational Change Management
West Monroe

Erin Daly is a Director in the Operations Excellence practice with a focus on Change Management. Erin has built a reputation as a strategic partner, trusted advisor, skilled facilitator and a successful architect of tailored change management strategies and frameworks.

She is highly skilled in leading OCM programs across a multitude of types of transitions, such as technology, organizational changes and culture transformations. She has successfully lead change efforts for teams of all sizes, from less than 50 employees to a global workforce of more than 50,000. Erin is renowned for her adept management of complex and high-risk initiatives, including turnaround efforts in cases of failure or imminent risk. She thrives in challenging scenarios marked by schedule delays, stakeholder resistance, resource constraints, and ROI setbacks. Erin's systematic approach involves strategic evaluation, team mobilization, and client collaboration to achieve noteworthy outcomes. Erin takes immense pride in her ability to work with all levels of the organization, from the C-Suite to field staff and her track record of building partnerships with her clients to achieve great success, together.

WHAT MAKES ERIN DIFFERENT

Erin started her career fundraising for both causes and candidates. Within these colorful environments, Erin learned the power of thoughtful collaboration, the success of blending frameworks and scrappiness and the art of graceful tenacity. This unique beginning was the perfect start to a career leading changes for organizations and people.

WHERE ERIN MAKES AN IMPACT

Erin was a founding member of 71 & Change, now part of West Monroe. She studied History and Political Science at Colorado State University and is certified in Prosci.

She is an active and passionate thought leader in the change management community, having been part of a team that founded the first US chapter of the Association of Change Management Professionals (ACMP) in the Pacific Northwest and presenter at a number of Global ACMP Conferences.

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SESSION
12-A

PRESENTATION

From Theory to Practice - How to Govern Use of AI at the IRS

Speakers

Melanie R. Krause, IRS; Reza Rashidi, Research Applied Analytics & Statistics (RAAS) & Maya Bretzius, IRS

Abstract

As AI provides opportunities to radically improve the parsing and utilization of data to meet taxpayer needs, the IRS is exploring use cases to embed AI in its taxpayer support tools while balancing the security, privacy, transparency, and other needs core to its mandate. One important, transformative use case is the Taxpayer 360 project – a radical redesign of the systems live assistors use to answer queries when taxpayers call or visit a live assistance center. Taxpayer 360 aims to embed AI to rapidly scan taxpayer history and provide instant access to the most relevant contextual information to answer a query, and eventually enable taxpayers to self-service issue resolution through online accounts. During this session, attendees will hear more about how IRS uses and governs the use of AI with an emphasis on Taxpayer 360 to demonstrate the IRS' journey from theory to practice.

Biography

Melanie Krause
Chief Operating Officer
Internal Revenue Service

As Chief Operating Officer for the Internal Revenue Service, Melanie is responsible for the major operational and administrative functions which enable the IRS mission, including the following offices: Chief Financial Officer; Chief Risk Office; Facilities Management and Security Services; Human Capital Office; Lifting Communities Up; Procurement; Privacy, Governmental Liaison and Disclosure; as well as Research, Applied Analytics and Statistics.

Following an impactful tenure with Veterans Affairs as the Assistant Inspector General for Management and Administration, Melanie joined the IRS in October 2021 as the Chief Data & Analytics Officer. In this role she coordinated research activities to advance areas of strategic importance to the Service including new or expanded customer service and enforcement initiatives, developing strategies for addressing emerging issues, and better measuring the full impact of IRS budget and compliance actions.

Although she left clinical practice in 2009, Melanie maintains an active license as a registered nurse and is a proud "Badger" as she holds bachelor, master, and doctoral degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She dedicates her spare time to family, friends, and various outdoor hobbies including skiing and camping.

Reza Rashidi

Director, Data Management Division
RAAS (Research, Applied Analytics, and Statistics)

Reza Rashidi is currently serving as the Director, Data Management Division in RAAS (Research, Applied Analytics, and Statistics) as well as leading AI Governance processes for IRS. Prior to this role, he served as the Deputy Director of IRS IT Submission Processing. He joined IRS in 2010 as a Technical Advisor in Applications Development. Reza has since held several positions including Assistant to Director of Solutions Engineering and IRS Executive Lead for Robotics and Intelligent Process Automation, Senior Technology Advisor to the Deputy Commissioner for Service and Enforcement, Acting Director for the Internal Management Domain in Applications Development, and Initiative Director with the Office of Compliance Analytics.

Reza is a graduate of the 2017 Executive Development Program. He holds an Executive MBA and PhD in Computer Science & Mathematics and worked as an adjunct faculty in the Executive MBA and Master of Information Technology programs at the Virginia Tech and George Washington University.

Maya Bretzius

Strategic Advisor
Transformation and Strategy Office (TSO), IRS

Maya Bretzius is a Strategic Advisor in the Transformation and Strategy Office (TSO). Her main focus area is Call Center Modernization. As part of these efforts, she has focused on developing Taxpayer 360, which aims to identify opportunities for FS25 and beyond to streamline the desktop experience for IRS employees answering taxpayer queries, and enhancing current Workforce Management (WFM) systems.

Prior to working at the IRS, Maya spent a decade working with the Boston Consulting Group to support large-scale transformation efforts across both private and public sector clients. Maya earned a BA in Medieval Studies from Brown University and an MBA from Stanford Graduate School of Business.

SESSION
12-B

PRESENTATION

Become A Data Hero with Modern Data Leadership

Speaker

Malcolm Hawker, Profisee

Abstract

We live in a world of constant change and disruption, but over the last 20 years little has changed with how CDOs approach their biggest challenges. By clinging to old and outdated methods and mindsets that no longer serve them, many CDOs struggle to become the agents of change their companies need them to be.

There is a better way. By embracing in the principals of Modern Data Leadership outlined in this presentation, CDO's can jettison the status quo and begin to deliver truly transformational value.

Biography

Malcolm Hawker
Head of Data Strategy
Profisee

Malcolm Hawker is a thought leader in data management and governance and has consulted on thousands of software implementations in his years as a Gartner analyst, architect at Dun & Bradstreet and more. Now as an evangelist for helping companies become truly data-driven, he helps CDOs understand how data can be a competitive advantage. Malcolm is a frequent public speaker on data and analytics best practices, and he cherishes the opportunity to share practical and actionable insights on how companies can achieve their strategic imperatives by improving their approach to data management.

SESSION
12-C

PRESENTATION

Data Experience: A Paradigm Shift in Discovering Organizational Data Needs

Speaker

Abstract

Karen Bourne, Guidehouse

Every CDO, CDAO, and data management leader must understand the information needs and capabilities of their organization to guide progress toward mission and business objectives. Maybe you have performed a current-to-future state assessment and gap analysis and are familiar with these questions:

- Where are you now?
- Where do you want to be?
- What do you need to get there?

We know this discovery process well, but we have room for improvement in the way we interview stakeholders, collect requirements, empathize with users, and define data and analytic priorities.

This session provides a practical framework and ready-to-use process steps for better intentional interviews that collect the right kind of information you need to lead a successful data program in your organization, while avoiding pitfalls with bad questions that obscure the truth. It will also educate you on how to have insightful conversations about what it is like using data within your organization to keep your strategy and execution focused on an exceptional data experience.

Biography

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Karen Bourne
Director, Digital Data
Guidehouse

Ms. Bourne specializes in leading enterprise data management solutions for public sector organizations. She is passionate about using data to inspire action and sustain positive transformation. She brings more than 12 years of experience in data governance, metadata administration, data strategy and roadmap planning and execution, requirements gathering, verification, and translation, conceptual, logical, and physical data modeling, data architecture, database and data warehouse design, data integration planning and development, data quality and master data management, data lineage analysis and business process development supporting all phases of the data lifecycle, data visualization and presentation, and project management. She has performed and managed all phases of the software development lifecycle (SDLC) using common methodologies (e.g., Waterfall, Agile, hybrids thereof). Her professional passion is in using data to build enterprise collaboration within and between organizations. She believes that painless, problem-solving data governance must be iterative, sustainable, and scalable using a data-centric approach to setting objectives and a people-focused approach in developing solutions. She is a thought leader on applying the Data Experience approach to improving information management and use for any organization.

SESSION
12-D

PRESENTATION

Data Products: The Next-Generation Consumption Layer

Speakers

Srujan Akula, The Modern Data Company &
Brett Crawford, Softcrylic

Abstract

In the era of AI and machine learning, the way organizations consume and leverage data is undergoing a fundamental shift. This talk introduces the concept of Data Products as the next-generation consumption layer, poised to revolutionize how enterprises interact with their data assets.

Data Products represent a paradigm shift from traditional data management approaches. They are purpose-built, self-contained units of data that are designed for specific business outcomes, complete with their own interfaces, documentation, and quality assurance. This talk will explore how Data Products are becoming the cornerstone of modern data strategies, enabling faster insights, improved data governance, and unprecedented scalability. And our implementation partners will share how the Data Product approach has significantly compressed their time to value.

We will delve into the critical role Data Products play in the development and scaling of enterprise Large Language Models (LLMs). As LLMs become increasingly central to business operations, the need for high-quality, contextually rich data has never been greater. Data Products provide the structured, governed, and readily consumable data that these models require to deliver accurate and valuable results.

Biography

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Srujan Akula
Co-Founder and CEO
The Modern Data Company

Srujan Akula is the Co-founder and CEO of The Modern Data Company. With a proven leadership history at Bay Area startups like Intertrust Technologies, Apsalar, and as CEO of Doot,, Srujan has delivered multiple award-winning apps and products. He excels at communicating complex technological concepts to diverse stakeholders, driving innovation and growth in the data industry. Srujan is passionate about empowering organizations to unlock the full potential of their data assets.

Brett Crawford

Consultant, Data Science and Analytics
Softcrylic

Brett is a consultant in Softcrylic's Data Science and Analytics practice. With a focus on data science, analytics, visualization, and data architecture and engineering, Brett is dedicated to helping organizations realize the value of their data. His industry experience includes media, ecommerce, travel and hospitality, restaurants, healthcare, and government.

SESSION 12-E

PRESENTATION

Data Stewardship: Best Practices for Getting Started

Speaker

Bobbi Caggianelli, Collibra

Abstract

There is no "one-size-fits-all" approach when it comes to managing your data governance journey. Join Bobbi Caggianelli for a 101 of data stewardship, as well as best practices for applying it to your enterprise. As a former customer and now head of North America Enterprise sales engineering at Collibra, Bobbi offers a highly relevant, practical perspective on getting started with data stewardship. Learn more about:

Why you need data stewardship

- The key traits for successful business and technical stewards
- How to gain buy-in
- Ways to drive continued active participation

Biography

Bobbi Caggianelli
Head of North America Enterprise Sales Engineering
Collibra

Prior to joining Collibra, Bobbi Caggianelli spent four years building a data governance and quality practice from scratch at a multi-billion dollar life and annuity company. She joined Colliba after working with Collibra's toolset, in part to share her experience with others. Her goal is to help companies build a successful governance practice and show them how Collibra enables that maturation journey. Bobbi has an MS in Business Analytics and is a Master Black Belt in Six Sigma.

SESSION
12-F

PRESENTATION

Delivering Data Science with Data Governance

Speaker

Deep Lidder, Cervello

Abstract

Many organisations are struggling to realise value from their data governance and data science investments. In this session we will explore how data governance can support data science and vice versa.   Throughout this session, I'll share real-world examples and success stories that highlight how to foster a successful relationship between data governance and data science.

Key Takeaways:

1. Data Governance - A Data Scientists' Best Friend!: Participants will learn how data governance plays a vital role in supporting data science initiatives
2. Driving Adoption Through Data Science: Discover how data science efforts can serve as natural use cases to showcase the value of data governance, accelerating adoption and maturity within organisations. In addition, data science can drive automation and scaling of manual data governance tasks.
3. Data-Driven Decision-Making: Understand how key aspects of data governance empower data scientists to make informed decisions and extract meaningful value from datasets, enhancing the ROI of data-driven initiatives.
4. Data Trust and Quality Assurance: Learn about practical approaches for establishing data quality standards to foster data trust and mitigate biases or inaccuracies

Real-World Success Stories: Gain insights from real-world examples and success stories that illustrate the successful relationship between data governance and data science, providing actionable strategies to implement at your own organisation.

Biography

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Deep Lidder

Data Governance Delivery Lead
Cervello

Deep Lidder is Data Governance Delivery Lead at Cervello, a Data and Digital Consultancy. He has worked with organisations across industries and internationally to successfully deliver Data Governance programs that focus on people and business value. Deep has worked closely with data throughout his career. He studied Physics and Maths at Cambridge and Harvard, before joining the Finance and Risk practice at Oliver Wyman. He enjoys improv, sketch comedy and teaching high-school Physics. He lives in London, UK.

SESSION

12-G

PRESENTATION

Modern Methods for Managing Data Security

Speakers

Ian Thompson & Joe Hilger, Enterprise Knowledge LLC

Abstract

The amount and complexity of the data organizations work with continues to grow exponentially. In addition, concepts like data fabric and data mesh make data more available and accessible to a wider range of users. Properly securing data is more important than ever and cannot be done using older, more manual techniques. In this presentation, we will explore the latest methods to automate and scale data security for the enterprise. We will explain how these new methods are implemented and in which environments they work best.

Biography

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Ian Thompson
Data Engineer
Enterprise Knowledge LLC

Ian Thompson is a Solutions Architect & Data Engineer with over 4 years of experience spearheading innovative enterprise AI, data management, and analytical initiatives. Ian excels in system integrations, ETL processes, and complex problem-solving while upholding the highest security standards. Holding an M.S. in Business Analytics and pursuing a CISSP, Ian engineers cutting-edge data architectures and integration frameworks with a strategic use of machine learning for data classification and insight generation. Ian's profound interest in data security has evolved significantly through leading a cloud vendor through the Authorization to Operate (ATO) process and tackling the complex security requirements of deploying applications on-premise for clients with highly classified materials. These experiences have endowed him with unique insights into the nuances of securing sensitive data in complex and stringently regulated environments. In the upcoming CDOIQ conference, Ian will discuss advanced techniques and frameworks for automating and scaling data security to safeguard sensitive information and maintain organizational integrity in an era of growing data complexity and cyber threats.

Joe Hilger
Chief Operating Officer and Co-Founder
Enterprise Knowledge LLC

Joe Hilger is the COO and co-founder of Enterprise Knowledge, a Knowledge and Information Management consultancy that has been listed on the Inc. 5000 List of Fastest Growing Companies in the US for five straight years. He also co-authored a book on Knowledge Management Systems called "Making Knowledge Management Clickable". Joe has over thirty years of experience designing, leading, and implementing cutting-edge, enterprise-scale Knowledge and Information Management solutions. He has worked with an array of commercial and government clients in a wide range of industries. He was an early pioneer in the use of agile techniques for knowledge management systems design and implementation. Joe is an expert in implementing enterprise-scale content, search, and data analytics solutions. He consults on these areas with organizations across the world and is a frequent speaker and instructor on topics including enterprise search, enterprise content management, knowledge graphs, machine learning, and explainable AI.

SESSION
13-A

NO SESSION SCHEDULED

SESSION
13-B

Data & Analytics Governance for AI in Healthcare

Speakers

Arun Buduri, Innovacer & Ben Herzberg, Satori

Abstract

In this session, we will share insights and experiences from our journey, navigating the complexities of governing healthcare data for AI and analytics. We will discuss how we overcame challenges of scale, growth, tech diversity, global compliance and sensitive data access. We will also discuss how using a Data Security Platform streamlines many of these challenges.

Biography

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Arun Buduri
VP Healthcare AI Platform Engineering
Innovacer

Arun is an award-winning Executive Leader, Entrepreneur, and Innovator with extensive experience in creating and launching world-class products, particularly in the Internet of Things, Home Automation, and Big Data sectors. With 25+ years in the Healthcare and Cybersecurity industry, including a decade in consumer products, he has led large teams across the US, India, and China, and has been recognized for his leadership, innovation, and patent contributions. Arun is renowned for his rapid innovation and out-of-the-box thinking, having pioneered new business verticals and introduced intelligent home automation products in emerging markets. He also has significant expertise in managing large-scale Big Data projects, from data processing and analytics to customer onboarding and complex system management on AWS.

Ben Herzberg
Chief Scientist & VP Marketing
Satori

Ben is an experienced hacker and a tech and business leader. Ben spent years in leadership positions as a CTO, VP of R&D, and research leadership for companies like Imperva and Cynet. With strong data and cybersecurity expertise, Ben is Satori's Chief Scientist and VP of Marketing.

SESSION
13-C

PANEL DISCUSSION

Paving Career Paths for CDO through CDO Certification Program

Moderator

Mark Ramsey, Ramsey International LLC

Panelists

Anita Hyde, Cognizant; Ashish Bajpai, John Deere; Dean Pickett, State of Ohio & Gilles Simler, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Abstract

In today's data-driven world, the role of Chief Data Officers (CDOs) has become increasingly crucial for organizations aiming to leverage data as a strategic asset. This session will explore the significance of CDO Certification Program in providing structured training and validation for individuals aspiring to excel in the role of a CDO or related positions. This program offers comprehensive modules, workshops, and assessments covering data management, analytics, quality, governance, and leadership skills. By obtaining certification, professionals not only enhance their credibility but also gain the necessary expertise to navigate the complex landscape of data strategy and governance. This session will highlight how CDO Certification Program serve as a roadmap for career advancement, equipping individuals with the knowledge and credentials needed to thrive in leadership roles focused on maximizing the value of data assets within organizations.

Biography

Mark Ramsey
Managing Partner
Ramsey International LLC

Dr. Mark Ramsey is a globally recognized expert in data analytics and optimization, with over 30 years of experience designing, developing, and implementing large-scale, production data analytics platforms. Mark is currently the Managing Partner of Ramsey International, providing solutions and services to organizations seeking to unlock the full potential of their data assets.

Mark has a strong track record of success in this field, having served as the first R&D Chief Data & Analytics Officer for GlaxoSmithKline, where he designed and implemented the R&D Information Platform (RDIP) as a key component of the company's data strategy. He was also the first Chief

Data Officer (CDO) for Samsung Telecommunications America and played a critical role in leading the development of large-scale data analytics solutions. In addition, Mark led the growth strategy, development, and launch of the IBM Business Analytics & Optimization business, which spanned over 150 countries with over 2,000 consultants. During his tenure, the annual revenues of the business exceeded $1 billion, achieved a remarkable compound annual growth rate (CAGR) and established itself as a leading provider of data analytics solutions in the industry.

Mark is an inventor of 28 patents and numerous patent-pending filings in the area of data analytics and optimization, including the patent on the integration of data mining within a parallel relational database and the use of advanced analytics for user behavior monitoring. He holds a Ph.D. in Applied Computer Science, a Master's degree in Computer & Information Security, and a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science. Mark's extensive experience, technical skills, and innovative thinking make him a highly sought-after advisor in the data analytics space.

Anita Hyde
Data Advisory Practice Leader
Cognizant

Anita Hyde is a transformative executive with over a decade of experience in data and analytics, thriving in ever-changing environments. Renowned for her strategic vision, Anita consistently delivers impactful data and analytics strategies that drive organizational success through data-driven decision-making. She excels in harnessing the power of data to achieve strategic objectives and accelerate long-term growth. As a thought leader and powerful strategist, she is a key driver of change, transformation, and success. Anita is serving in a dual role at Cognizant as the Data Advisory Leader in Technology Modernization and a Trusted Advisor for key strategic client accounts. In this capacity, she participates on the GenAI Steering Committee for North America. In recognition of her contributions, Anita was named a "Technology Innovator" by Consulting Magazine in 2024 and one of the "Top 50 Women Leaders in Kansas City" for 2024.

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Ashish Bajpai

Enterprise Data Leader
John Deere

Data Executive and strategic thought leader with global experience of 20+ years (managed high-performing Data & Analytics Teams across 4 Continents – US/Europe/South America/Asia) in leading data-driven transformations that enhance customer experiences and strategic decision-making. Proven results in building strategic partnerships, and leading and implementing Data strategies to harness the power of data and Analytics-driven insights to deliver value-propelling products. Known for raising the bar in team innovation and performance and positioning organizations to prioritize (strategic data roadmaps), develop (Data Solutions & Data Governance), and launch innovative Customer Data Products & Analytics solutions powered by data insights.

Areas of Expertise

• Data Strategy

• Data Management (Certified Data Management Professional – CDMP from DAMA)

• Data Governance (DAMA certified)

• Data Quality • Data Security & Protection

• Master Data Management

• Data Mesh – Data Products

• Data Analytics & Business Intelligence (BI) Reporting

• AI/ML & Generative AI • Data & Analytics Platforms

• Multi-Cultural & Diverse Team Management (Team size – 100+) • CXO/VP-level Collaborations

• Part of 1st cohort of CDO (Chief Data Officer) Certification program – from CDOIQ (https://cdocert.org)

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.

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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 Innovate Ohio 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 an advisory board member for several organizations, including Spring Labs, Plumlogix, Gramener, and Faith Life Church.

Gilles Simler

Manager of Business Intelligence Solutions
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Gilles is the Manager of Business Intelligence Solutions in the Office of the Vice President for Finance at MIT. In his current role, Gilles is leading a full-stack BI team focused on solving business problems by developing data products and deploying new data architecture: Data Vault 2.0. Gilles is currently enrolled in the first class of CDOIQ CDO Certification Program. Prior to MIT, Gilles worked as an expert management and IT consultant helping companies build analytics solutions, data warehouses and data pipelines. With 30+ years of experience in data systems, data integration and data analytics, Gilles is both a strategic thinker, architect and hands-on practitioner. Gilles holds an MBA and Master of Science in Information Systems from Boston University, an Executive Certificate in Management, Innovation and Technology from MIT Sloan School of Management and is a certified CDVP2 practitioner and SCRUM Master.

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SESSION
13-D

PANEL DISCUSSION

Fifteen Years Since its Creation: What Comes Next for the CDO/CDAO Role in an AI Future?

Moderator

Randy Bean

Panelists

Ronke Ekwensi, T-Mobile; Todd James, 84.51; Amy Lenander, Capital One; Paul Ballew, National Football League & Usama Fayyad, Northeastern University

Abstract

For nine years, Randy Bean has organized a panel of Fortune 1000 Chief Data & Analytics Officers for CDOIQ. In honor of the 10th year of this CDO/CDAO session, CDO/CDAO panelists reflect on the evolution of the role from its risk and regulatory origins to its expansion into analytics and business growth, and what the future of the role will look like in an era of Generative AI and Artificial General Intelligence (AGI). How will the role change? Will the role still be needed in its present form? Who should manage AI? Will the CDO/CDAO be replaced by AI?

Biography

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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.

Todd James
Chief Data & Technology Officer
84.51

Prior to joining 84.51°, 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). He also held senior leadership roles in enterprise operations, business transformation, strategy and consulting, and performance solutions. Prior to Fidelity, James led a strategy consulting practice at Deloitte and served as a director at Resource Consultants, Inc. Prior to his business career, James was an officer in the U.S. Coast Guard where he held leadership roles in IT, information security, and shipboard operations.

Ronke Ekwensi
Vice President – Data and AI
T-Mobile

Ronke Ekwensi is the VP – Data and AI Education at T-Mobile, a US telecommunications company. Formerly the Chief Data Officer at T-Mobile, Ronke was recognized as the 5th most influential person in data in the US in 2024 (#dataIQ100 USA), CDO Magazine's Global Data Power Women 2024 and is a 2024 BlackStars Honoree. Prior to T-Mobile, she was Vice President of data management and data governance at Prudential. Before joining Prudential, Ronke served in various senior data and information governance capacities with several industry-leading firms, including Aetna, Baxalta, and Pfizer. Her professional experience includes positions in the healthcare, biopharmaceuticals, power, technology, consumer electronics, and management consulting industries.

Ronke earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology/Philosophy from D'Youville College in Buffalo, NY; an MBA in Global Management from the University of Phoenix; a Masters of Jurisprudence in Health Law from the Loyola University Chicago School of Law. She earned her Doctorate in Law and Policy from Northeastern University. Ronke's thesis focused on Data Philanthropy: How telecommunications companies can freely share their data for social good and humanitarian crisis response.

She is married with four adult children.

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 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.

Paul Ballew

Chief Data & Analytics Officer
National Football League

Paul Ballew currently serves as the National Football League's Chief Data & Analytics Officer. Based in New York, Paul directs the League's extensive data and analytics operations across the Game, Fans and Engagement. This mission is centered on ensuring that the NFL's data assets and advanced analytic capabilities are leveraged to improve on-field football, overall fan experience and commercial outcomes for the League, clubs and partners. In advancing the Game, Paul and team support Football Operations' critical workstreams and Player Health & Safety's major initiatives, where the power of analytics is critically important to the future of the game. Paul and team are also leading the key initiatives on deepening fan engagement through enhanced fan modeling, predictive analytics, and the personalization of content and experiences.

Throughout his extensive career Paul has built and led transformational data and analytic organizations across leading companies and industries. Previously he served as Chief Data and Analytics Officer for the Loblaw LTD the largest retailer, pharmaceutical provider and real estate investment trust in Canada. He was responsible for establishing the company's data and analytics functions, data management operations, data science activities, technology strategy and the Artificial Intelligence and

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Machine Learning Center of Excellence. Prior to Loblaw, Paul's decades of experience in the field includes leading the formation of the data and analytics organizations at Ford Motor Company, Nationwide Financial, Dun and Bradstreet and General Motors. Paul's experience in the data and analytics field is centered on turning insights into action through close collaboration with business partners with the goal of improving customer relationships and driving operational excellence.

Usama Fayyad

Executive Director - Institute for Experiential AI
Northeastern University

Usama joined Northeastern University Khoury College of Computer Sciences as professor of the practice and the Office of the Provost as the Inaugural Executive Director of the Institute for Experiential AI. He continues as Chairman of Open Insights, a company he founded as a technology and consulting firm in 2008 after leaving Yahoo to enable enterprises to get value out of their data assets and optimize or create new business models based on the evolving economy of interactions. Leveraging open-source and Big Data technology with strategic consulting, Open Insights deploys data-driven solutions to grow revenue from data assets through Big Data strategy, new business models, data science, and AI/ML solutions.

Usama served from 2017 to 2019 as Co-Founder & CTO at OODA Health, Inc., a VC-funded company aiming to liberate the healthcare system from administrative waste by leveraging artificial intelligence and automation to create a real-time, retail-like experience for payments in healthcare. From 2013 to 2016, Usama served as Global Chief Data Officer & Group Managing Director at Barclays Bank in London, after launching the largest tech-startup accelerator in the Middle East and North Africa following his appointment as Executive Chairman of Oasis500 in Jordan by King Abdullah II in 2010. His background includes Chairman & CEO roles at several startups, including Blue Kangaroo Corp, DMX Group, and Digimine Inc.

Usama was the first person to hold the Chief Data Officer title when Yahoo acquired his second startup in 2004. At Yahoo he built the Strategic Data Solutions group and founded Yahoo Research Labs. Much of his early Yahoo work on Big Data made it to open source and led to Hadoop and other open-source contributions. Usama also held leadership roles at Microsoft (1996-2000) and founded the Machine Learning Systems group at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (1989-2005), where his work on machine learning resulted in the top Excellence in Research award from Caltech and a United States Government medal from NASA.

Usama has published over 100 technical articles on data mining, data science, AI/ML, and databases. He holds over 20 patents and is a Fellow of both the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) and the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM). He earned his doctorate in Engineering in AI/Machine Learning from the University

of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He has edited two influential books on data mining/data science and served as Founding Editor-in-Chief on two key journals.

Usama has served on the boards/advisory boards of private and public companies such as Criteo, Invensense, Exelate, RapidMiner, Stella.AI, Virsec, Silniva, Abe.AI, NetSeer, Choicestream, Medio, Leapyear Technology, Drover, and others. He served on the advisory boards of the Data Science Institute at Imperial College, AAI at UTS, and The University of Michigan College of Engineering National Advisory Board. He currently serves on the Board Advisory Committee to Nationwide Building Society in the United Kingdom and on the Advisory board of the World Economic Forum's Global Center for Cybersecurity. He is an active angel investor/advisor in many early-stage tech startups across the U.S., Europe, and the Middle East.

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SESSION
13-E

PANEL DISCUSSION

Thrive Or Dive: Building Trustworthy Foundations for Applied Intelligence

Moderator

Salema Rice, CDO Today

Panelists

Peter Geovanes, McGuireWoods LLP; Kent Supancik, Eli Lilly & Kamal Distell, Toyota Motor North America

Abstract

In the world of data and AI, Chief Data and AI Officers stand at the forefront of driving accelerated business value. Yet, the role of a CDAO is not without its challenges, with the industry often citing a revolving door where they either thrive or dive. However, there are many exceptions of those who not only survive but thrive, creating exponential value for their organizations while fostering trust and confidence in data-driven decision-making.

Join us for a panel discussion where today's senior data and AI leaders share their strategies for building rock-solid foundations that empower AI. From navigating the C-Suite to meeting shareholder expectations, these leaders have mastered the balance of driving revenue while ensuring data accuracy and ethical standards.

Hear firsthand how these leaders leverage AI technology to predict outcomes in legal proceedings, are advancing drug discovery processes, revolutionizing customer experiences in automotive, and so much. more. Get inspired and learn actionable insights as we discuss the skill of thriving in today's AI landscape.

Biography

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Salema Rice
Founder & CEO
CDO Today

She is a tenured Chief Data & Analytics Officer, Board Member and Industry Thought Leader.

This #DataDiva and senior executive has over 25 years of experience mentoring, evangelizing, and directing data management strategies, AI transformation, digital innovation, and advising large complex Fortune 500 companies.

Salema is recognized as one of the top thirty most inspiring women in AI, one of the top 200 business and technology innovators in the world, and one of the 100 most influential leaders in data. Her focus today is on upskilling talent for the workforce of the future and helping leaders leverage AI to make the world a better place.

Peter Geovanes
Chief Innovation & AI Officer
McGuireWoods LLP
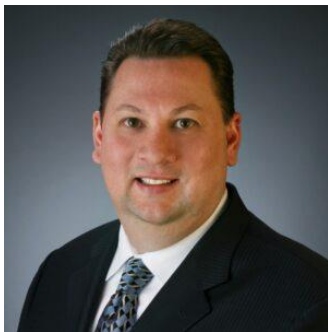
Peter Geovanes (JD/MBA) is a data scientist and accomplished executive who has implemented innovative data, analytic and AI solutions for both law firms and Fortune 1000 companies. As the Chief Innovation & AI Officer at McGuireWoods, he spearheads development and implementation of innovative business solutions, including the use of AI-enhanced tools, to better serve clients and to improve firm operations.

He provides a unique hybrid background that combines deep data and analytical capabilities along with proven technical, project management, legal and business consulting skills. He specializes in applying state-of-the-art analytics, business intelligence tools and modeling techniques to generate legal insights and improve firm performance. His work has garnered the following industry awards and recognition:

- OnCon 2024 Top 100 Data & Analytics Professional Award Winner
- Innovations in AI for Law Firms 2023 Law.com Finalist announcement
- Innovations in Diversity and Inclusion 2023 Law.com Finalist announcement
- OnCon 2023 finalists for the Top 100 Data & Analytics Professional Award
- American Legal Technology Awards 2022 Award Winner
- Business of Data Awards 2022 Award Finalist article
- Winner of the 2022 Data Value Award by Corinium Intelligence – "presented to the leader whom has worked to extract large amounts of value from their data & analytics projects"
- Innovative Leader of the Year Award ILTA 2021 runner-up
- Legal Innovator of the Year article 2021 runner-up

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- Named a Top 100 Innovator in Data and Analytics awarded by Corinium Intelligence
- Work Experience: Prior to joining McGuireWoods, Peter led Data Strategy, AI & Analytics at Winston & Strawn, was a Senior Director with Alvarez & Marsal, a Director and Analytics Market Leader with PwC, a Principal for a regional consulting firm, a senior project manager for SPSS and proudly served as a Commissioned Officer in the United States Navy.

Peter received his JD from Northwestern Ca University, his MBA from University of Phoenix and his B.S. from the University of Illinois (Urbana) and is based in the Chicago metro Area.

Kent Supancik

Associate Vice President - Digital Core
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.

Kamal Distell

Onetech VP Data, Analytics, and Data Science
Toyota Motor North America

Kamal is a passionate, visionary and inclusive global leader in the Digital transformation, Data, IT, AI and Cybersecurity domains. She excels at building amazing teams to solve the most complex challenges. Through her extensive experience Kamal enables a culture that empowers teams to "bring their best self" and deliver value. Kamal embodies true servant leadership, transformational technology, and human-centered design in every aspect of our technology future. Her experience ranges in many different industries such as automotive, insurance, healthcare, navigation and mapping and GIS. Kamal also volunteers with the northeast adaptive community with the mission to enhance independence and enjoyment through active recreation.

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SESSION
13-F

A Rule-Based Solution for the Automation of Anomaly Detection in Hydro-Meteorological Data

Speakers

John Raymond, Rutambara Sonawane & Sarah Noorjahan, South Florida Water Management District

Abstract

This paper addresses the challenges faced by the water resource management industry in managing its extensive water resource infrastructure. Over the past fifteen years, the proliferation of field sensors has added complexity to data management processes, particularly in water level monitoring. Manual methods, reliant on substantial manpower, which is labor intensive, i.e., costly, introduce challenges such as data review delays and susceptibility to human errors. To overcome these limitations, this paper proposes a rule-based automated anomaly detection system to efficiently process the increasing volume of real-time data. Focusing on upstream and downstream water level sensors, the proposed system integrates thirteen business rules and specific algorithms to identify deviations from established quality standards. These rules encompass criteria such as sensor value limits, historical standard deviation, physical limits, and the rate of change. The methodology ensures sustained effectiveness in upholding data integrity and facilitating timely decision-making. Implemented using the R statistics package and GIS, the automated processes occur seasonally, annually, and multi-yearly. The near real-time process tags provisional fine-resolution data based on business rules, while a nightly process estimates tagged data through linear regression. The comprehensive three-phase approach involves data analyst review, manual and automated processes running in parallel, and a final hybrid process for data repair. This methodology not only addresses current challenges but also aligns with the water resource management industry's commitment to providing better data quality in near real-time. By enhancing anomaly detection, the proposed approach supports a sustainable future for water resource management in the region. This paper marks a significant step toward ensuring data integrity and informed decision-making in the dynamic field of water resource management.

John Raymond
Section Lead (Retired)
South Florida Water Management District
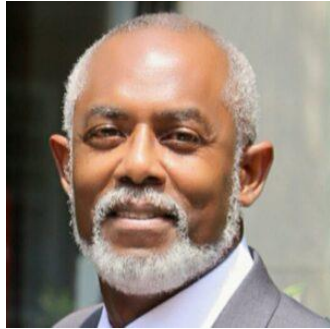
John brings over 45 years of diverse expertise in water resource management, water policy, irrigation systems, hydraulic structure design, decision support systems, hydrologic data quality assurance and control, project management, and leadership. He embarked on his academic journey by earning a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the Faculty of Sciences in Haiti in 1979. His pursuit of knowledge led him to Spain, where he studied hydrogeology at the University of Madrid in 1980. Continuing as a Fulbright scholar, he pursued Agricultural Engineering at Colorado State University (CSU) in the United States, graduating in 1985. Subsequently, from 1994 to 1996, he undertook Ph.D. coursework at CSU in Bioresources Engineering and Water Resources Management. John has significantly contributed to international organizations as a freelance consultant, collaborating with the Food and Agricultural Organization and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). Notably, during his consultancy for the IDB in 1997, he led a multidisciplinary team of international and national consultants to formulate an action plan and a water law for integrated water resources management in Haiti. For the past 24 years, John has dedicated his expertise to the South Florida Water Management District, a prominent agency overseeing water resources in Florida. Currently serving as a section leader in QA and Hydro Data Management, he has played pivotal roles in over 50 projects, including three engineering initiatives. John's contributions extend beyond project management, as he has authored, co-authored, and reviewed numerous technical papers and publications, establishing himself as a subject matter expert in the field.

Rutambara Sonawane
Scientist 4
South Florida Water Management District
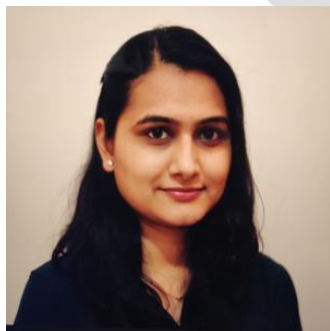
Dr. Rutambara Sonawane is a Civil Engineer with a PhD from Florida International University and an MS in Environmental Engineering from Cleveland State University. As a Scientist at South Florida Water Management District, Dr. Rutambara specializes in hydrological modeling, hydrometeorological data quality assurance, and geospatial analysis. Proficient in Python, Power BI, SQL, and ArcGIS, she excels in technical report writing and presenting. Dr. Rutambara has authored and co-authored numerous conference papers and is committed to supporting environmental restoration and infrastructure projects through advanced data analysis and project management.

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Sarah Noorjahan

Section Leader
South Florida Water Management District

Sarah has over 24 (twenty-four) years of in-depth experience in environmental and water resources and engineering projects and programs including over fourteen years of extensive QA/QC experience at Quality Assurance & Hydrology (QAH), Hydro Data Management (HDM) Section, Hydrology and Hydraulics Bureau, South Florida Water Management District. She is a Professional Engineer in the state of FL. Currently serving as a Section Leader for the QAH section. She obtained her bachelor's degree from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology in 1998 and master's degree from University of Alabama in 2003. Her expertise in various fields of water resource engineering including hydrometeorological data mining, analysis of hydrologic/hydraulic systems through application of modeling tools; performance of hydrologic mass balance analyses, temporal and spatial statistical analyses of data; evaluation of hydrometeorological parameter measurements and identification of sources of error in the data; application of advanced statistical techniques to estimate missing data; resolution of complex hydrometeorological and hydraulic problems; project management of multiple contracts for hydrologic investigations, summarizing work through technical publications, developing and reviewing Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for hydrometeorological data. Her leading team on all major initiatives and projects like STA Water Budget Improvement, Automation of Anomaly Detection, One Parameter data generation, Flow Single Time Series Generation, Pan Evaporation Data Automation, Lake Okeechobee Water Budget Tool development, QA Tool Development, Nexrad Radar data acquisition, GOES insolation data along with and RET and PET data acquisition, evaluate various methods of ET for Lake Okeechobee using water budget method, Bias Assessment Tool, etc., and providing technical support to various internal and external stakeholders established herself as subject matter expert in the field.

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SESSION

13-G

From Zero to Database-backed Support Bot - Using New GenAI Stack- Docker, LangChain, Ollama & Neo4j

Speaker

Alison Cossette, Neo4j

Abstract

With the breakthrough of large language models, generative AI capabilities are now possible for every developer. But where to start? In a partnership between Docker, Neo4j, LangChain, and Ollama we created a GenAI Stack for building database-backed GenAI applications. With a single "docker-compose up," you get them up and running and can start importing data and creating vector embeddings, as well as using an example chatbot application to answer natural language questions using a combination of a Large Language Model and a Knowledge Graph. In this session, we will look behind the scenes into the containers of the GenAI Stack, how they work together and how the LangChain and Streamlit Python apps are implemented.

Biography

Alison Cossette
Data Science Advocate
Neo4j

Alison Cossette is a dynamic Data Science Strategist, Educator, and Podcast Host. As a Developer Advocate at Neo4j specializing in Graph Data Science, she brings a wealth of expertise to the field. With her strong technical background and exceptional communication skills, Alison bridges the gap between complex data science concepts and practical applications. Alison's passion for responsible AI shines through in her work. She actively promotes ethical and transparent AI practices and believes in the transformative potential of responsible AI for industries and society. Through her engagements with industry professionals, policymakers, and the public, she advocates for the responsible development and deployment of AI technologies. Alison's academic journey includes pursuing her Master of Science in Data Science program, specializing in Artificial Intelligence, at Northwestern University and research with Stanford University Human-Computer Interaction Crowd Research Collective. Alison combines academic knowledge with real-world experience. She leverages this expertise to educate and empower individuals and organizations in the field of data science. Overall, Alison

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Cossette's multifaceted background, commitment to responsible AI, and expertise in data science make her a respected figure in the field. Through her role as a Developer Advocate at Neo4j and her podcast, she continues to drive innovation, education, and responsible practices in the exciting realm of data science and AI.

SESSION 14-A

PANEL DISCUSSION

Leveraging AI and Data Analytics to Enhance our Nation's Security

Speakers

Adita Karkera, Ph.D, Deloitte; Carin Quiroga, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement; Elizabeth Puchek, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Citizenship & Immigration Services

Abstract

Hear from leading government CDOs on how they are deploying innovative Data, Analytics and AI techniques to manage our nation's security.

Biography

Adita Karkera, Ph.D.

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.

Carin Quiroga

Chief Data Officer
U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Carin Quiroga became Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Chief Data Officer (CDO) in October 2021. Since becoming the CDO, Carin led the effort to unite a robust team of experienced professionals to create an ICE IT Data Modernization (ITDM) Roadmap. The ITDM Roadmap monitors the progression, budgetary roadblocks, and risk mitigation strategies of 16 capability gaps. In 2023 Carin was awarded Homeland Security Today's Most Valuable Player – Data Advancement by Government Technology & Services Coalition (GTSC). Carin has over 25 years of experience in the informational technology sector.

Elizabeth Puchek

Chief Data Officer
U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Citizenship and Immigration Services

Ms. Elizabeth Puchek, Chief Data Officer, joined USCIS in 2018 to help design the Office of the Chief Data Officer (OCDO). Beth led the development of the first-ever USCIS Data Strategy. The strategy formed the foundation for the new organizational design for the OCDO, which is responsible for managing our data assets and fostering a data-driven culture at USCIS. Since then, she has led her office to strengthen data governance by approving and implementing data standards for improved interoperability, centralizing the management of data sharing for USCIS, and establishing a data quality program to monitor data and to resolve reported data issues. Through her leadership, she has also promoted data-informed decision making among all staff with the creation of numerous enterprise-level data dashboards that transformed data consumption, the creation of a centralized website of data resources available to the whole agency, and the creation of Analyst Basic Training to provide a consistent skillset baseline for USCIS data analysts. She also leads several initiatives across USCIS to streamline case processing for employment authorization and several other benefit types. Prior to joining USCIS, Ms. Puchek spent 8 years at U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) where she held several roles, including Advisor to the Commissioner, Chief of Staff for Enterprise Services, and Director of Systems Engineering. Prior to CBP, she worked in the private sector as a consulting engineer. She led teams to design the structures for commercial buildings and investigate building failures. Ms. Puchek is a registered Structural Engineer in the state of Maryland.

SESSION
14-B

PRESENTATION

CDO's Business Transformation Strategy: Being Data Ready to be AI Ready

Speakers

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

Abstract

The Chief Data Officer (CDO) plays a pivotal role in preparing the organization for the AI revolution by executing a comprehensive data readiness strategy. Without leveraging GenAI and AI technologies, transforming organizations to reap greater benefits would be challenging. Data quality and governance are essential to lay the groundwork or foundation for AI readiness. Inadequate data quality means organizations will not see any advantages from AI deployments. Therefore, it is crucial for CDOs to prioritize investments in data quality and governance to ensure agility, speed, and resilience during the business transformation journey. PiLog Data Quality Hub Technologies such as IVision Platform and Infinity Platform offers a range of frameworks, products, and cloud-based services to support the Chief Data Office's stakeholders.

Biography

Dr. Salomon de Jager
Chairman
PiLog Group

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

Co-CEO & CIO
PiLog Group

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.

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Wynand Nortje
CTO
PiLog Group

Mr. Wynand Nortje obtained his Industrial Engineering degree from the University of Pretoria, South Africa and furthered his studies with a B.Sc Honnors degree in Operations Research. He has 20 years of experience in the design, development and implementation of data governance solutions with a specific focus on technical frameworks required to affect enterprise data quality for large organizations. He participated in the ISO technical committee's tasked with the creation of the ISO 8000 standard and provided the strategic roadmap for the practical implementation of the standard in PiLog software frameworks. He is actively researching trends in data digitalization and transformation methodologies. He has a proven track record for delivering large scale complex solutions, passionate on following through to successful conclusions and satisfied customers.

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SESSION
14-C

PRESENTATION
Designing and Training Intelligent Organization

Speaker

Kathleen Kennedy, MIT Horizon

Abstract

Through a multidimensional approach, the session aims to explore innovative strategies for configuring organizations. Then we'll explore methods for training existing teams about AI and other emerging technologies to ensure sustainable growth and competitive advantage in an ever-evolving global landscape. The session reviews research and case studies from MIT Horizon and the Center for Collective Intelligence.

Biography

Kathleen Kennedy
Senior Director
MIT Horizon

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 14-D

PRESENTATION

The Evolving Roles in Data and Technology Leadership

Speakers

Tom Davenport, Babson College & Sebastian Klapdor, Vista

Abstract

CDOs are only one of a growing collection of C-level tech executives in many organizations. A recent survey found that both customers and even the incumbents of these roles are often confused about who is doing what. Davenport, who conducted the survey, will describe the findings from it and executive interviews suggesting the emergence of "supertech leaders" who oversee multiple tech and data functions. Klapdor held one such role and will describe how it emerged and functioned at Vista.

Biography

Tom Davenport
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.

Sebastian Klapdor

Former EVP, Chief Data & Technology Officer Vista
Former Partner, McKinsey

Sebastian Klapdor's mission is to fundamentally transform businesses through AI/ML, data, and technology for a step-change in value creation. In his former role at Vista (aka VistaPrint) he joined the company as the CDO to transform it into one of the world's most iconic data and analytics-driven institutions. Core element of his vision is to treat data as a product and build scalable data products in cross-functional teams on a data mesh architecture. Early 2023, Sebastian was appointed CTO/CDO at Vista and merged the former technology and data organizations to accelerate scaling of AI/ML applications. Since then, the team has built ML-based experiences and data products across the value chain: real-time personalization on site and mails, optimizing paid search spend, dynamic pricing, and LLM-based chatbots. The investment in these and other data products paid off with $100M incremental profit realized and a continuously increasing incremental run-rate. Sebastian is active in the community with podcast appearances, panel discussions and presentations, incl. at 2022, 2023, and 2024 MIT CDOIQ. He received the 2023 Top 100 Global CDO Award and the 2022 Top 100 Global Data Activators award. Sebastian holds a Ph.D. from Technical University of Munich.

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SESSION 14-E

Building Data Capabilities for Sustainability – From ad-hoc Reactivity to Proactive Sustainability

Speakers

Christine Legner & Elizabeth Teracino, University of Lausanne

Abstract

Many companies use the UN Sustainable Development Goals as a point of reference for their sustainability initiatives and actions. Reporting on these goals requires collecting, processing, and interpreting substantial amounts of data (e.g., on emissions or recycled materials) that were previously neither captured nor analyzed. Data availability, access and quality are particularly urgent issues when reporting on sustainability initiatives becomes mandatory and requires the audit of the reported information, as imposed under the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) from the European Union (EU). In this presentation, we analyze the data practices in more than 10 multinational companies and find that sustainability-related data requirements are mostly addressed in an ad-hoc manner. Building up data management capabilities is key for moving from ad-hoc reactivity to proactive sustainability. We outline a data management framework for sustainability and provide examples and recommendations, specifically for data sourcing practices, sustainability data products and data stewardship for sustainability.

Biography

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Christine Legner

Professor, Competence Center Corporate Data Quality (CC CDQ)
University of Lausanne

Christine Legner is a professor and director of the Department of Information Systems at the Faculty of Business and Economics (HEC), University of Lausanne, Switzerland. She is also the head of the Competence Center Corporate Data Quality (CC CDQ), a research consortium and expert community in the field of data management. In this role, she closely collaborates with leading European companies to support them in managing data as an asset. Before joining HEC Lausanne, she was professor at European Business School and post-doc at University of St. Gallen. She was also a visiting scholar at INSEAD and Stanford University.

Elizabeth Teracino

Researcher & Lecturer in the Department of Information Systems
University of Lausanne

Elizabeth A. Teracino, Ph.D., is a senior researcher and lecturer at the Faculty of Business and Economics at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland. She is also a senior researcher and advisor at the Competence Center for Corporate Data Quality, collaborating with leading multinationals on their data, digital, and sustainability transformations. Previously, she worked at the International Institute of Management Development (IMD Business School), in the Global Center for Digital Business Transformation, a joint initiative with Cisco, advising Fortune 500 leaders on their digital transformation journeys. Her publications span prestigious outlets like Harvard Business Review, covering topics such as strategy in emerging technology markets, data management, and organizational change. She holds a doctoral degree in Economics from the University of Groningen.

SESSION

14-F

PRESENTATION

Customer Loyalty: AI systems and When to Use Human in the Loop

Speakers

Cecilia Dones, Columbia Business School & Karan Dhawal, ZS Associates

Abstract

The talk will bring back human in loop concept for AI recommendations in customer journey, customer care processes. We will review multiple AI customer case studies where original AI recommendations for the customer needed human interactions for customer retention and customer loyalty. In one specific example of Milwaukee Bucks, a basketball team in Wisconsin. they launched a unique service called "Bucks Pass," a highly personalized data product. Utilizing customer 360 data. The franchise saw a substantial improvement in game attendance, averaging over 62,000 more attendees per year compared to the previous five years (excluding COVID-19 years), with an average of over 720,000 attendees per year due to Opt out of AI recommendation and Human in the loop as part of the process.

Biography

Cecilia Dones

Adjunct Assistant Professor
Columbia Business School

Cecilia Dones is a 15+ year Data and Marketing Analytics Evangelist. Her interests lie in the intersection of technology, data, and how people and organizations make decisions. She has extensive experience in driving change in both large and small organizations. She is an expert in maximizing value from data by delivering quick analytical wins, operational excellence, and long-term advantage with analytical innovation. She is passionate about shaping ideas at the convergence of data and people with the purpose of enabling others to create value and meaning with data.   Her most recent research interests are related to the technology of wearables, the implications of ubiquitous sensors, and the effects on how people connect to each other and brands.   Cecilia earned her Bachelor's in Marketing and International Business from NYU Stern School of Business where she also minored in Psychology and East Asian Studies. Cecilia also earned her Master's in Statistics from Columbia University. She is finishing her doctoral studies focused on Immersive Digital Environments and its impacts on Interpersonal Relationships and Consumer Psychology. She is expected to complete her doctoral degree late 2024.

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Karan Dhawal

Data Strategy and Technology Leader
ZS Associates

Karan is a professional dedicated, innovative and trustworthy Customer-Centric transformations executive with a strong record of achievement building and managing "cross-functional, high-performance" delivery and service management teams. He is a sought out leader for mergers & acquisitions, transformational, strategic data & business board level top initiatives. Motivated by enhanced client satisfaction & revenue growth by providing key moments of value during end to end customer journey has a strong background in framing business problems, with subsequent development and delivery of solutions. He has a copyright on "Monetizable Data Elements" and is very passionate to leverage data for competitive advantage for his clients.

SESSION

14-G

PRESENTATION

Unleash Your Business Superpowers with Data, Analytics & AI

Speaker

Robin Patra, Arco Constructions

Abstract

The talk will bring back human in loop concept for AI recommendations in customer journey, customer care processes. We will review multiple AI customer case studies where original AI recommendations for the customer needed human interactions for customer retention and customer loyalty. In one specific example of Milwaukee Bucks, a basketball team in Wisconsin. they launched a unique service called "Bucks Pass," a highly personalized data product. Utilizing customer 360 data. The franchise saw a substantial improvement in game attendance, averaging over 62,000 more attendees per year compared to the previous five years (excluding COVID-19 years), with an average of over 720,000 attendees per year due to Opt out of AI recommendation and Human in the loop as part of the process.

Biography

Robin Patra
Director Data, Analytics & AI
Arco Constructions

Robin is an industry-recognized Data, Analytics, and AI leader with over 20 years driving large enterprises to become insight-driven digital businesses. Known for successfully leading embedded AI, Analytics, data-driven digital transformation across manufacturing, finance, and construction, building Strategy, teams and vision from grounds up. He specializes in steering organizational-wide data strategy, building high-impact data platforms and products, and enabling broad data accessibility for AI and decision making at scale like: As Head of Digital Transformation at Cisco, he pioneered the manufacturing industry's first Digital Twin, setting a new standard for innovation in the Supply Chain ecosystem. As Director of Data & AI at BlackRock, Robin was the pioneering force behind the industry's first Finance Data Cloud, disrupting how financial data powers decision-making.

Today, Robin is innovating the first Construction industry real time data platforms, to make construction more performance-driven, making sites radically safer for humans through AI-powered insights. As an proven change agent, he has shifted mindsets, updated technology stacks, broken down data siloes, and upskilled workforces to embed state-of-the-art data practices from C-suite to frontline. His record of using analytics, digital twins, and other AI to optimize supply chains, elevate customer experience,

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and launch breakthrough data offerings has translated to over $50M direct data monetization.

Moreover, established benchmarks increasing enterprise data ROI, value, and impact by over 100% exemplify Robin's ability to culturalized data as a primary corporate asset driving competitive advantage. With internationally recognized companies like Cisco, Rabobank, and BlackRock benefiting from Robin's sophisticated leadership in data strategy, data science, data platform engineering, data product management, and data evangelism – he stands ready to partner as a trusted senior data executive helping navigate any complex digital transformation.

Robin remains highly motivated to empower enterprises where data, analytics, and AI act as the cornerstones to learn, adapt, and lead in a digital-first world.

PRESENTATION

The Language of CDOs

Speaker

Peter Aiken, VCU/Anything Awesome

Abstract

What are the key skills, behaviors, and roles data leaders will need by 2030 as their companies become increasingly digitized and data-driven? This session will explore how data leaders will need to shape their executive ranks and reporting structures to fully exploit the opportunity of a data-driven enterprise. It examines the language used by CDOs to uncover more about the topics of concern. By understanding how CDOs converse our eventual goal is to put forth a language that these data leaders can use to more easily achieve their respective goals.

Biography

Peter Aiken
Associate Professor | Founding Director
VCU | 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.

SESSION
15-B

PRESENTATION

The Evolution of AI: A Systems Perspective from Decision Support to Autonomous Bots

Speaker

Nauman Sheikh, Impel.ai

Abstract

The presentation demystifies the current state of fast paced AI innovation and its penetration into all aspects of our lives. It presents a unique abstraction of AI evolution over the last 40 years to show how slowly AI improvements have been impacting IT Systems evolution from basic automation towards more autonomous execution. This abstract model accurately charts the course of Smart Systems from the 90s to the foreseeable future as part of one continuum. This perspective simplifies the understanding of AI systems and allows managers and decision makers to start adopting AI in their processes with proper controls and efficiencies This abstract model allows teams and professionals to evaluate their current state of AI maturity as well as putting the business requirements in context. Once the AI state is understood, building blocks for newer, smarter systems become easier to build and scale.

Biography

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Nauman Sheikh
Head of Shared Services – Data and AI
Impel.ai

Nauman has been a hands-on technologist and leader with Data and AI implementations for 20+ years. He was among the first people to build AI based risk and fraud models in 2008 for his banking clients. That led to a startup and successful exit with a SaaS based Fraud Detection Service using advanced data analytics and AI models in 2015. Since then, he has been working with executives to help build scalable AI capabilities around processes, tools and technologies, roles and responsibilities for both internal process efficiency use cases as well as revenue and product centric implementations. Nauman has a very well-rounded AI experience with real world implementations in Credit Risk and Fraud models, 10+ million devices based IoT operation, computer vision based implementations in safety and worker protection as well as digital merchandising and extensive experience in Natural Language processing and Conversational AI with his current engagement at Impel.ai. Nauman brings a wealth of hands-on experience with data and AI challenges and has built a reputation for business operations transformation using Data and AI. His original training was in the Data Architecture and Business Intelligence space before venturing into Artificial Intelligence. That combination gives him a unique

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perspective in using data to improve models. His current interest is in creating Objective Driven conversations where Reinforcement Learning concepts are combined with Large Language Models to build more focused conversational chatbots Nauman built his first decision support system in 1997, first billion row table in 1999, first Predictive Model in 2008 and first large foundation model in 2020. He continues to invest in start-ups and advises founders and executives on AI possibilities, risks and value propositions. He lives in Maryland with his family that includes a recent addition of 2 cats.

SESSION

15-C

PANEL DISCUSSION

Data Readiness for GenAI: Essential Insights for Chief Data Officers

Moderator

Mark Ramsey, Ramsey International LLC

Panelists

Derek Strauss, Gavroshe; Tony Cyriac, Accenture & Saurabh Gupta, The Modern Data Company

Abstract

The advent of GenAI marks a transformative phase in the data landscape, presenting both unprecedented opportunities and complex challenges for Chief Data Officers. As CDOs strive to prepare their data for GenAI applications, they must also navigate the intricacies of data security, ethics, regulatory compliance, quality, and monetization. Join us for an insightful session where we delve into innovative practices and strategies—such as product thinking and Data Products strategy—that empower CDOs to meet these demands effectively. Discover actionable steps to enhance your organization's Data Readiness and stay ahead in the evolving data ecosystem. This session promises to equip you with the knowledge and tools necessary to lead your data initiatives to success.

Biography

Mark Ramsey
Managing Partner
Ramsey International LLC

Dr. Mark Ramsey is a globally recognized expert in data analytics and optimization, with over 30 years of experience designing, developing, and implementing large-scale, production data analytics platforms. Mark is currently the Managing Partner of Ramsey International, providing solutions and services to organizations seeking to unlock the full potential of their data assets.

Mark has a strong track record of success in this field, having served as the first R&D Chief Data & Analytics Officer for GlaxoSmithKline, where he designed and implemented the R&D Information Platform (RDIP) as a key component of the company's data strategy. He was also the first Chief Data Officer (CDO) for Samsung Telecommunications America and played a critical role in leading the development of large-scale data analytics solutions. In addition, Mark led the growth strategy, development, and launch of the IBM Business Analytics & Optimization business, which spanned over 150 countries with over 2,000 consultants. During his tenure,

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the annual revenues of the business exceeded $1 billion, achieved a remarkable compound annual growth rate (CAGR) and established itself as a leading provider of data analytics solutions in the industry.

Mark is an inventor of 28 patents and numerous patent-pending filings in the area of data analytics and optimization, including the patent on the integration of data mining within a parallel relational database and the use of advanced analytics for user behavior monitoring. He holds a Ph.D. in Applied Computer Science, a Master's degree in Computer & Information Security, and a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science. Mark's extensive experience, technical skills, and innovative thinking make him a highly sought-after advisor in the data analytics space.

Derek Strauss
CEO & Principal Consultant
Gavroshe

Founder, CEO and Principal Consultant of Gavroshe. Former Chief Data Officer at TD Ameritrade for approximately 5 years; was responsible for Data Governance, Data Science & Advanced Analytics, Data Architecture & Management, and Development and Maintenance of Enterprise-class Data Assets. A career of over 3 decades, mainly in the Data Management and Information Resource Management (IRM) fields. Established Office of the CDO, Data Resource Management, Architecture and IRM Functions in multiple large Corporations. Established and managed numerous enterprise programs and initiatives in the domains of Big Data, Advanced Analytics, Business Intelligence, Data Warehousing, Data Quality Improvement and IRM. Bill Inmon's Corporate Information Factory and John Zachman's Enterprise Architecture Framework have been the foundational cornerstones of the above work. Served as VP Programs for DAMA SW Ohio. Active member of MIT's Chief Data Officer initiatives, and Founding Member of the International Society of Chief Data Officers. Co-authored "DW 2.0: The Architecture for the Next Generation of Data Warehousing" Inmon, Strauss and Neushloss (Book published 2008 by Morgan Kaufman, Series in Data Management Systems).

Tony Cyriac
MD, Data & AI – North America Banking & Capital Markets
Accenture

Tony Cyriac joined Accenture in April 2024 as MD leading Data & AI for Banking & Capital Markets in North America.

Tony is one of the world's leading enterprise data leaders. His expertise includes data and AI strategy, governance, cloud technology, business analytics, data engineering, data science, and product management. Recognizing data as a strategic advantage, he has successfully elevated executive-level awareness and support for data initiatives throughout his career. He was recognized by CDO Magazine in 2022 for his expertise in

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leading enterprise-wide data and AI initiatives to drive organizational success.

As Chief Data & Analytics Officer at Charles Schwab, Tony drove the evolution of Schwab's scalable data, analytics, and AI capabilities. He implemented data and analytics roadmaps for all its business and functional areas, introducing a hub and spoke operating model to optimize talent utilization. Tony also co-led a firm-wide Gen-AI strategy and spearheaded the build and delivery of high-impact AI products that improved client experience and service agent efficiency, cut costs, and boosted revenue. Under his leadership, his team was awarded 10 patents, and Schwab was recognized in 2020 and 2023 with the International Institute of Analytics' ANNY award for excellence and innovation in analytics and AI usage.

Previously, Tony served as the Enterprise Chief Data & Analytics Officer at BMO Financial Group, the eighth largest bank in North America by total assets, where he delivered incremental revenue and operational efficiencies, expanded data capabilities, fostered a data-driven culture, and created external data and AI partnerships. Preceding that role, Tony was the U.S. Chief Data Officer and was crucial in BMO meeting its U.S. regulatory obligations.

At G.E. Capital, as Managing Director of Enterprise Data & Analytics, he spearheaded companywide D&A technology and Risk and Capital management technology. Before joining G.E. Capital, he held senior global product roles with Oracle America | Oracle Financial Services. Tony began his career working for Citicorp IT Industries | I-Flex Solutions.

He serves on the editorial board of CDO Magazine. He is also a former member of the World Economic Forum's Steering Committee for AI in Financial Services.

Saurabh Gupta
Head Strategy & Revenue
The Modern Data Company

Saurabh Gupta currently is leading the Strategy and Revenue for Palo Alto headquartered Data/Tech Company, The Modern Data Company. Prior to Modern, he was the Head of the Data Strategy & Governance practice at ThoughtWorks, a global technology consulting company. Through his career, he has worked in the data space in both public and private sectors. Prior to ThoughtWorks, he led the data portfolio for the Washington DC government, Education Agency, where he led their data transformation initiative. He has played similar roles and been part of international organizations, including IMF and World Bank, and contributed to the statistics community.

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SESSION

15-D

Top Graph Use Cases and Applications for Enterprise Data Management (with Real World Examples)

Speakers

Lulit Tesfaye & Joe Hilger, Enterprise Knowledge LLC

Abstract

Graph solutions have gained momentum due to their wide-ranging applications across multiple industries. We have seen an increased number of implementations and use cases. However, the most common question remains if it is the right solution for data challenges and when? The presentation describes real world case studies across a wide range of industries for enterprise graph implementations and lessons learned from our work on over 50 data solutions and graph delivery projects.

Biography

Lulit Tesfaye
Partner & Vice President
Enterprise Knowledge LLC

Lulit Tesfaye is a Partner and the VP for Knowledge & Data Services at Enterprise Knowledge, LLC., the largest global consultancy dedicated to Knowledge and Information management. Lulit brings over 15 years of experience leading diverse information and data management initiatives, specializing in technologies and integrations. Lulit is most recently focused on employing advanced Enterprise AI and semantic capabilities for optimizing enterprise data and information assets.

Joe Hilger
COO and Co-Founder
Enterprise Knowledge LLC

Joe Hilger is the COO and co-founder of Enterprise Knowledge, a Knowledge and Information Management consultancy that has been listed on the Inc. 5000 List of Fastest Growing Companies in the US for five straight years. He also co-authored a book on Knowledge Management Systems called "Making Knowledge Management Clickable". Joe has over thirty years of experience designing, leading, and implementing cutting-edge, enterprise-scale Knowledge and Information Management solutions. He has worked with an array of commercial and government clients in a wide range of industries. He was an early pioneer in the use of agile techniques for knowledge management systems design and implementation. Joe is an expert in implementing enterprise-scale content, search, and data analytics solutions. He consults on these areas with organizations across the world and is a frequent speaker and instructor on topics including enterprise search, enterprise content management, knowledge graphs, machine learning, and explainable AI.

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SESSION

15-E

PRESENTATION

Knowledge Graphs as a requirement for AI Ready Data and LLM Accuracy

Speaker

Juan Sequeda, data.world

Abstract

Generative AI has created new opportunities for enterprises to leverage data in powerful ways – from improving processes to creating entirely new products and services. LLMs offer unprecedented opportunity to leverage the vast stores of data residing in enterprise SQL databases, transforming how decisions are made and strategies are formed at the business-level. But concerns loom large, namely the inaccuracy of LLM responses, otherwise known as "hallucinations." The pursuit of mitigating these hallucinations led our team to explore the integration of Knowledge Graphs as a solution. Knowledge Graphs are emerging as a crucial tool in bridging the gap between raw data and meaningful, context-rich information. In this presentation, we focus on our extensive research and development efforts to improve the accuracy of LLM-powered question-answering systems, specifically tailored for enterprise applications. We examine the role of Knowledge Graphs in providing necessary business context and semantics to fill gaps with which LLMs typically struggle. Our main finding is that responses generated by GPT-4, combined with a Knowledge Graph, were three times greater than when relying solely on data retrieved from SQL databases. This improvement underscores the potential of Knowledge Graphs in revolutionizing how enterprises need to deploy LLMs in the future. Investing in Knowledge Graph provides higher accuracy for LLM-powered question-answering systems. And ultimately, to succeed in this AI world, enterprises must treat the business context and semantics as first-class citizens in order to create AI Ready Data. This talk will cover the following emphasizes the importance of AI Ready Data by treating business context and semantics as first-class citizens such that data is accurate, explainable and governed. In the current scenario, many organizations focus on the technological aspects of AI implementation, while overlooking the critical importance of contextual understanding and semantic richness. Our research demonstrates that paying attention to these elements is not just beneficial but essential for the success of AI applications in enterprise environments, as well as driving a data-driven culture in general within an organization. technical aspects of this integration, outlining practical approaches for incorporating Knowledge Graphs into existing Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG) architectures. We'll provide actionable insights for CDOs and data leaders who are looking to implement this type of advanced AI capability in their organizations. We aim to equip CDOs with the knowledge and tools needed to effectively

harness the power of AI with Knowledge Graphs. Ultimately, we hope to empower CDOs to move towards a future where AI is not just an automation tool, but a context-aware strategic asset for informed decision-making and competitive advantage.

Biography

Juan Sequeda
Principal Scientist and Head of AI Lab
data.world

Juan Sequeda is the Principal Scientist and Head of the AI Lab at data.world. He holds a PhD in Computer Science from The University of Texas at Austin. Juan's research and industry work has been on the intersection of data and AI, with the goal to reliably create knowledge from inscrutable data, specifically designing and building Knowledge Graph for enterprise data and metadata management. Juan is the co-author of the book "Designing and Building Enterprise Knowledge Graph" and the co-host of Catalog and Cocktails, an honest, no-bs, non-salesy data podcast. Juan has researched and developed technology on semantic data virtualization, graph data modeling, schema mapping and data integration methodologies. He pioneered technology to construct knowledge graphs from relational databases, resulting in W3C standards, research awards, patents, software and his startup Capsenta acquired by data.world in 2019. Juan is the recipient of the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, received 2nd Place in the 2013 Semantic Web Challenge for his work on ConstituteProject.org, Best Student Research Paper at the 2014 International Semantic Web Conference (ISWC), the 2015 Best Transfer and Innovation Project awarded by the Institute for Applied Informatics and nominated two additional times for best paper at ISWC. Juan strives to build bridges between academia and industry as former co-chair of the LDBC Property Graph Schema Working Group, member of the LDCB Graph Query Languages task force, standards editor at the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C). Juan continues to be an active member of the scientific community by being on the editorial board and program committees of scientific journals and conferences in Semantic Web, Knowledge Graphs, Databases and AI, as well as organizer of various academic and industry conferences, including recently being the General Chair of The ACM Web Conference 2023.

SESSION
15-F

PRESENTATION

Cracking the Data Product Code: The Model-First Approach to Building Impactful Data Products

Speaker

Abstract

Animesh Kumar, The Modern Data Company

The Data Product paradigm is revolutionizing business operations. McKinsey reports that adopters have slashed implementation time for new use cases by 90% and cut total ownership costs by 30%. These staggering results underscore the transformative power of a purpose-driven approach anchored by a robust product strategy.

But there is also huge consensus that the approach to data products is still foggy for most organisations. While there are many ways to approach the solution, we have taken our due time to experiment with a few and landed on the Model-First Approach.

The core principle of Model-First Data Products is to shape data requirements for a productized outcome. This approach tackles the ambiguity between data efforts and business value head-on. By starting with the desired business outcomes, it creates a clear, direct pathway for translating data into measurable business impact.

The Model-First Approach starts by defining the desired outcomes of a specific business use case and then journeys backwards to the requirements necessary to achieve those outcomes. In this action-packed session, find out how Model-First Data Products drive better business alignment, produce measurable value faster, and reduce the time and cost of bringing that value!

Biography

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Animesh Kumar
Co-Founder & CTO
The Modern Data Company

Animesh is the CTO & Co-Founder @Modern, and a founding contributor to the Data Developer Platform Infrastructure Specification that enables flexible implementation of disparate data design architectures such as data products, meshes, or fabrics. With over 20 years in the data engineering space, he has donned multiple hats, including those of Architect, VP of Engineering, CTO, and Founder across a wide range of technology firms. He has architected engineering solutions for several A-Players, including the likes of NFL, GAP, Verizon, Rediff, Reliance, SGWS, Gensler, TOI, and more.

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**SESSION
15-G**

NO SESSION SCHEDULED

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SESSION
16-A

Legal Perspectives on Privacy and Use of Data in AI

Speaker

Sarah Weber, California Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District

Abstract

In this 45 minute presentation, Ms. Weber will survey existing data privacy and AI regulation at the federal, state, and international levels. The talk will delve into recent developments in AI policy within federal and state government, and new rules that apply to the government's use of AI.

Biography

Sarah Weber
Senior Appellate Attorney
California Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District

Sarah Weber is a Senior Research Attorney at the California Court of Appeal in San Diego. She has worked for the California courts since 2012, assisting with the resolution of appeals and other appellate court proceedings, as well as serving for ten years as administrator and legal writing instructor for the court's externship program for law students. Her experience as a judicial attorney covers a wide range of subject matters, including all manners of criminal prosecutions, civil litigation, and family and probate matters. Her background also includes eight years in private practice as a litigator representing consumers, shareholders, and businesses prosecuting class actions in the antitrust, securities, and consumer protection arenas. In her current role, Ms. Weber is constantly learning as the law develops and is excited to dive into the world of data privacy for the 2024 CDOIQ Symposium.

SESSION

16-B

PRESENTATION

How to Unlock Data for AI by Breaking Through the Data Transformation Bottleneck

Speakers

Maciej Szpakowski & Matt Turner, Prophecy

Abstract

Data is the competitive advantage to power the next generation of AI and analytics. Yet access to clean, trusted, and timely data remains a challenge. Traditional data transformation doesn't work well with data cloud platforms and coding of pipelines puts strain on scarce data engineering resources. The result: business teams are blocked from the data they need and data teams are oversubscribed.

What's needed is to bring experts into the data transformation process and deliver AI-driven self-service. With Prophecy Data Transformation Copilot, organizations can change the game with visual tools to let everyone develop data pipelines, AI suggestions and automation make everyone more productive, and compiler technology generates enterprise-grade code.

This session will discuss the impact of leveraging AI to speed data pipeline creation to deliver self-service and feature a demo showing how you can break through the data transformation bottleneck.

In this session, you will

- Learn about the key role data transformation plays in unlocking data
- Hear how to copilots change the game to enable all users
- See how Prophecy Data Transformation Copilot breaks through the data transformation bottleneck

Biography

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Maciej Szpakowski
Co-Founder & CTO
Prophecy

Maciej is the Co-Founder and CTO of Prophecy. He began his engineering journey in Poland, working on various apps & data projects from a young age. During his university years, he founded a data and AI startup in the biomedical field. Recognizing the need for better tools to accelerate AI innovation, Maciej focused on Prophecy, where he now drives product and engineering to build the ultimate Data Transformation Copilot!

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Matt Turner

Director of Product Marketing
Prophecy

Matt Turner is the Director of Product Marketing at Prophecy. He works closely with customers and partners to speed data transformation and help everyone working with data to be more productive. Before joining Prophecy, Matt was the Director of Industry strategy at data catalog provider Alation and the Chief Technology Officer for Media and Manufacturing at Enterprise NoSQL provider MarkLogic. Matt has also been a strategic advisor to GitHub and other software and solution providers, a technology leader at Sony Music and PC World Online, a published author on data, and a speaker at industry events.

**SESSION
16-C**

NO SESSION SCHEDULED

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SESSION
16-D

PRESENTATION
The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly of Building a Data Culture

Speakers

Mario Faria, Carnegie Mellon University; Gary Griffin, Accurate Numbers; David Holcomb

Abstract

During this session, Mario Faria will host a panel and will interview authors Gary W. Griffin and David Holcomb about their new book, Building a Data Culture, which was released in November 2023. Gary and David bring together over seven decades of professional experience in operations, data management, analytics, technology, and sociology. They spent almost three years creating this seminal work on data culture, providing the guidance chief data and analytics officers must follow when working with executives and stakeholders.

Biography

Mario Faria
Adjunct Professor, Chief Data and Analytics Officer Program
Carnegie Mellon University

Mario Faria is an Adjunct Professor at Carnegie Mellon University, at the Heinz College Chief Data Officer, and a Global Advisor for companies looking for how to drive value by creating and executing data, analytics, and digital transformation projects and programs. Mario works along several business lines to define the goals, priorities, and strategies for their following growth opportunities, product offerings, markets to pursue, and competitors to look at. Mario has professional experience at Amazon AWS, Gartner, Equifax, Accenture, and Microsoft, leading global teams in data, analytics, technology, CRM, supply chain, post-merger integration, and operations management. According to MIT, Mario is one of the world's first Chief Data and Analytics Officers, and the first one in Latin America, and he has been involved with the MIT CDOIQ Symposium since 2011. Mario has a BSc. in Computer Science from Unicamp (Brazil), an MSc. in Computer Science from the State University of New York at Albany, and an MBA in Marketing from the University of California at Santa Cruz.

Gary Griffin
Author, Managing Partner
Accurate Numbers

Gary W. Griffin is a noted author, speaker, innovator, and consultant who has spent over 30 years in the public and private sectors, delivering enterprise solutions focusing on data, analytics, and strategy. He is the inventor of Datalink 1000, a Master Data management and Data Quality tool. He also developed the data strategy for one of the first web-based assessment systems for K-12 education. Dr. Griffin has a Master of Science and a Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology.

David Holcomb
Author and Strategic Advisor

David Holcomb is a speaker, writer, practitioner, and theorist in data warehousing, business intelligence, organizational behavior and culture, and cyber security. His career includes leadership roles in business operations, marketing, sales, product development, and information technology at leading brands, including Verizon, Western Union, and the University of Chicago Medicine. Dr. Holcomb holds a Master of Science in Management Information Systems, a Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Information Technology.

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SESSION

16-E

PRESENTATION

How to Solve Your Data Integration Challenge

Speaker

Michael Stonebraker, MIT | Tamr

Abstract

Data integration requires solving several different problems (global schema construction, extract-transform-and-load, data cleaning, feature extraction, deduplication, golden record selection, classification, etc.) To solve these challenges, you need to bring a variety of tools to bear including traditional machine learning, deep learning, large language models (LLMs), rule systems, and conventional analysis techniques. In this talk I explain the best technology for a number of these problems and conclude that "one size does not fit all". Hence, end-to-end data integration will require a tool kit of different techniques.

I also believe that the best data integration leverage is to build up pretrained models in the popular semantic areas (products, suppliers, customers, etc). This will allow you to get the best head start on most data integration challenges.

Biography

Michael Stonebraker
Adjunct Professor | CTO
MIT | 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
16-F

PRESENTATION

Accelerating Digital Transformation: Delek US Holdings' Journey to Data - Driven Excellence

Speaker

Ido Biger, Delek US Holdings, Inc.

Abstract

Join Ido Biger, CIO and Chief Data Officer of Delek US Holdings, as he shares the company's transformative journey to becoming a data-driven organization.

This session will delve into the strategies and technologies that enabled Delek US Holdings to cultivate a robust data culture, leverage real-time analytics, and harness the power of AI and machine learning.

Ido will share insights on how the company overcame data addiction, digitalized assets, and implemented innovative solutions like AI-based drone visual inspections.

Learn how Delek US Holdings' digital transformation has driven business growth, improved operational efficiency, and enhanced decision-making.

Get ready to be inspired and equipped with practical takeaways to accelerate your own organization's digital journey.

Biography

Ido Biger

EVP, Chief Information and Data Officer
Delek US Holdings, Inc.

CIO & Chief Data Officer With 20 years record of IT Expertise in various industries. A Data & Analytics Leader with a proven ability to make Enterprises Data Driven.

Heading (CIO) the Technology and Data Division of Delek US Holdings, Inc. (NYSE: DK), a Fortune 500 downstream energy company with assets in petroleum refining, logistics, convenience stores, asphalt, and renewables. Leading the technology enablement of the company including the digital transformation strategic journey.

In charge of the enterprise & operational application groups, Cyber Security (managing the CISO) team,

Data & Analytics team, the infrastructure and network team and the Office of the CIO.

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Managing approximately 200 people, internal, external and P.S dedicated teams.

A Data Geek with a business state of mind.

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SESSION
16-G

Presidential Executive Order – Consumer Data, Privacy, Security and Safety in the Age of AI

Speaker

Deepak Bhaskar, Leonis Consulting LLC

Abstract

The US government is encouraging the development and evolution of AI by setting new standards on the innovative development that is to change our society. And there isn't a conference or networking event that isn't discussing this. A hyper Consumer-centric and hyper Data-centric, highly digitized and machine generated world. And why Data/AI Governance frameworks and strategies are going to strongly drive the way forward.

Biography

Deepak Bhaskar
Independent Consultant
Leonis Consulting LLC

Deepak is a business data strategy, operations execution, governance, management, analytics and compliance leader. He assesses firms data assets and provides compelling data-centric and customer-centric business cases with phased roadmaps for the data challenges and digitization, while leveraging APIs and vendor managed cloud solutions. His industry experiences are in SaaS, Marketing, Payments, Telecoms, Energy Utilities, Financial, Legal and Retail firms. As a corporate leader and consultant, engagements have included Data Migrations, Corporate Re-orgs, Risk and Compliance initiatives, RFP's for data operations modernization with new vendor tools/data products, SAP/Oracle, Salesforce/CRM, Data Lake/Data Warehouse implementations/migrations, data monetization, data programs, COE/process optimizations and proposing new ways to manage data as a strategic asset. He was DAMA-Minnesota's Past President and Communications officer and member of DGPO, IAAP, UNA-USA and a senior member of IEEE-USA.

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SESSION 17-A

PANEL DISCUSSION

The Federal Financial Data Strategy for the Financial Data Transparency Act of 2022 (FDTA)

Moderator

Ashley Nelle-Davis, The Data Foundation

Panelists

Dessa Glasser, Global Legal Entity Foundation (GLEIF); Mark Flood, U. of Maryland; Chris Taggart, OpenCorporates; Daniel Pullen, SAIC

Abstract

The panel discussion aims to shed light on the significance of the Financial Data Transparency Act of 2022 (FDTA) in the context of data standardization and how changes in the FDTA could impact financial services in the United States and beyond. By bringing together experts from various practices, the panel will explore the key components of the FDTA, its implications for data governance, entity resolution, and its potential impact on financial data management practices across U.S. federal agencies and international jurisdictions. Through an interactive and informative discussion, the panelists will delve into the challenges, opportunities, and best practices associated with data standardization and the FDTA. This panel discussion serves as a platform for sharing insights, fostering collaboration, and envisioning a future where financial data transparency is maximized, leading to improved accountability, data-driven decision-making, and enhanced public trust in the federal government.

Biography

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Ashley Nelle-Davis
Chief of Staff
The Data Foundation

Ashley Nelle-Davis is the Chief of Staff at the Data Foundation and lead for Special Projects. She has strong project management skills, a deep understanding of the policy landscape related to data, experience working with a range of stakeholders in industry, nonprofits, academia, and government, and communicating complex, albeit sometimes niche, issues to a variety of audiences.

Ashley facilitates productive discussions between diverse stakeholders across data communities, ensuring various perspectives and interests are

heard as she works to support the mission of the Data Foundation to support the use of data for positive change in government and society.

Ashley is a graduate of the Lyndon Baines Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin (Global Policy, 2015). Prior to joining the Data Foundation, she honed her skills at prominent D.C. think tanks and as a educator. She brings a depth of experience in research, analysis, communication, and knowledge sharing. Her data heros include those who place data in context for meaningful and positive change, like Upton Sinclair and her uncle Steven H. Fritts (see his work on wolves).

Dessa Glasser

Chair | Board & Principal
Global Legal Entity Foundation (GLEIF)| Financial Risk Group

Dessa Glasser is a Principal for FRG, responsible for the Data Advisory & Analytics practice. She has a 30- year track record implementing innovative solutions and managing organizations in the areas of risk, data, and analytics. She is an Independent Board Member of Oppenheimer & Co. Inc. and is the Chair of the Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation (GLEIF). With experience as a board member, a senior leader within financial firms, and a deputy director for the U.S. Treasury, Ms. Glasser has seen the importance of getting data and risk right from multiple stakeholder perspectives.

Before joining FRG in 2017, Ms. Glasser was a Managing Director at JPMorgan Chase. At JPMC she initiated the firm's Capital Stress Testing Analytics team and built the Chief Data Office for Asset and Wealth Management, serving as the group's first CDO. She was Deputy Director of the Office of Financial Research (US Treasury), supporting the Financial Stability Oversight Council, where she implemented a range of data and risk solutions, including assisting with the launch of the industry standard Legal Entity Identifier (LEI). Ms. Glasser established the Chief Risk Office for Bunge, as its first Chief Risk Officer. She held senior positions at Credit Suisse, Merrill Lynch, IBM, and KPMG and began her career teaching at Rutgers University.

Ms. Glasser has a B.S. from Fairleigh Dickinson University and a Ph.D. and M.A. in Economics from Fordham University, where she sits on the Board of Advisors for the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. She is a recipient of the US Treasury Exceptional Service Award and has been listed as a 'Director to Watch' by Directors and Boards and a Global Data Power Woman by CDO Magazine. She was chosen as the A-Team's Industry Data Professional of the Year in 2023.

Mark Flood

Senior Researcher Scholar, Center For Financial Policy
R.H Smith School of Business, University of Maryland

Mark D. Flood is currently a senior research scholar at the University of Maryland. He has a diverse career in financial data, risk management, research, and regulation. He earned his Ph.D. in finance from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and he has worked as a researcher, risk manager, and/or faculty member at: the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Concordia University in Montreal, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Office of Thrift Supervision, Federal Housing Finance Agency, Office of Financial Research in the U.S. Treasury, and University of Maryland. Most recently, he was a program manager in DARPA's Information Innovation Office. His research interests include financial big data, systemic financial risk, stress testing, supply chain resilience, digital assets, and financial network complexity. His research has appeared in (among others): *Annual Reviews in Finance, J. of Banking and Finance, Artificial Intelligence and Law, Quantitative Finance, Review of Financial Studies, J. of International Money and Finance, and the St. Louis Fed's Review.*

Chris Taggart

Co-Founder and CEO
OpenCorporates

Chris Taggart is Co-Founder and CEO of OpenCorporates, the largest open database of legal entities in the world, with over 200 million entities in over 100 jurisdictions. Chris is an acknowledged expert on global company data, particularly corporate identifiers, and was a founding board member of the Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation.

Daniel Pullen

Corporate Chief Data Scientist
SAIC

Daniel Pullen is currently the Chief Data Architect and Data Scientist for SAIC's corporate data operation. SAIC is a fortune 500 Information Technology Services company based in Reston, Virginia. Currently, Daniel is leading the implementation of SAIC's Cloud Native Data Platform that puts Data Management, Data Governance, Master Data Management and Cloud Native concepts at the forefront. Daniel Pullen started his journey in the realm of data through his education. He has three degrees in Information and Information Quality spanning from his B.S. of Information Science through his PhD in Integrated Computing: Information Quality Track. During his career in data, Daniel has participated in research and

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publications in both an academic and industrial capacities. He is passionate about data and how effective analytics can provide substantial value for organizations. Daniel always likes to highlight that modern Data Analytics through the application of comprehensive statistical models, machine learning and artificial intelligent are only successful through effective Data Management, Data Governance and Master Data Management. He has a rich background and experience in core data competencies including but not limited to Data Management, Data Governance, Master Data Management, Entity Resolution, Data Warehousing and Data Science. Entity Resolution was the topic of Daniel's Doctoral Research at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and his first exposure to the concepts of Information Quality. It will always be his first love when it comes to data!

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SESSION 17-B

Fireside Chat: Unleashing Global Research Capabilities across Industry through Data Science

Speakers

Dr. Tammy Hanna, AllSci; Dr. John Talburt, University of Arkansas at Little Rock; Dr. Shaurya Rohatgi, AllSci & Derek Reisfield, AllSci

Abstract

For over two centuries, scientific publishing has been constrained by traditional models, slow technology adoption, and misaligned incentives. In this context, AllSci emerges as a transformative platform that "atomizes" scientific content into fundamental units – research questions, hypotheses, results, and methods. This modular approach aims to dismantle barriers to content access, speed up the publication process, and promote the publication of all results, including null findings and replication studies. AllSci leverages advancements in machine learning and LLM-based knowledge extraction techniques to reengineer the way scientific data is processed, analyzed, and disseminated. By incorporating natural language processing (NLP), large-scale text mining, and advanced semantic analysis, AllSci enhances the functionality of search and discovery in research, fostering greater innovation.

Applying data science principles such as deep learning, ensemble methods, and unsupervised learning, AllSci ensures comprehensive indexing and clustering of scientific literature. Join us to discover how AllSci applies cutting-edge data science methodologies to revolutionize scientific publishing, making research more accessible and aligned with contemporary needs for knowledge creation.

Biography

Dr. Tammy Hanna

Director, Product Management
AllSci

Dr. Tammy Hanna is the Director of Product Management at AllSci, where she focuses on solving the challenges of incentives, trust, and reproducibility in the dissemination of scientific knowledge. Previously, she worked at the American Chemical Society as Director of New Product Innovation, where she spearheaded initiatives in digital transformation and product development, significantly enhancing educational and safety standards in chemistry. She holds a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Cornell University and completed postdoctoral research at the University of California, Berkeley. Tammy is focused on transforming how scientific knowledge is created, utilized, and shared.

Dr. John Talburt

Chair of Information Quality and Director of Information Quality Graduate Program
University of Arkansas at Litte 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).

Dr. Shaurya Rohatgi

Applied Scientist
AllSci

Dr. Shaurya Rohatgi is an Applied Scientist at AllSci where he leads the integration and optimization of Large Language Models to advance scientific research and analytical capabilities. Previously, Dr. Rohatgi contributed significantly to the Science of Science field as a Research Intern and Collaborator at the Allen Institute of Artificial Intelligence, developing key datasets and ML systems to aid in academic document categorization. He earned his PhD in Information Sciences and Technology from Pennsylvania State University, where his research focused on data mining techniques for scholarly digital libraries and search engines.

Derek Reisfield

CFO
AllSci

Derek Reisfield is the CFO of AllSci, bringing over 30 years of senior executive experience across various sectors including information technology, SaaS, e-commerce, social media, and telecom. Previously, as CFO, Treasurer, and Secretary of Nasdaq-listed Ondas Holdings, he managed significant financial activities, including raising $68 million and executing four acquisitions. Derek's career began at McKinsey & Company, focusing on media and telecom, followed by leadership roles at Westinghouse, CBS, and as an entrepreneur involved with startups such as MarketWatch and BBN Networks. He has advised major corporations like EMI and Starbucks and served in board roles at the San Francisco Zoological Society and other organizations. Derek is a graduate of Wesleyan University and the Annenberg School of Communications at The University of Southern California.

SESSION

17-C

PRESENTATION

Gamifying Data Culture to Unlock Business ROI - An Interactive Guide for CDOs

Speakers

Abstract

Ganes Kesari, Gramener & Karan Dhawal, ZS Associates

Organizational investment in data and analytics is now standard practice, yet achieving sustainable ROI from these investments remains a formidable challenge. This session tackles the critical issues faced by Chief Data Officers (CDOs): driving the adoption of data analytics solutions and fostering data-informed decision-making. Where should CDOs start to build a data culture? What are the current gaps in this journey? How should they orchestrate initiatives to bring about user adoption and organization-wide change?

This session will answer all these questions in three segments: a) Presenting a proven framework that CDOs can use to assess and measure the data culture of their organizations. b) Sharing novel gamification approaches to bridge the gaps and level up in the journey by learning from inspiring real-world stories. c) Internalize learning with an interactive segment to help participants absorb and apply the insights using two industry case studies.

Our data culture assessment framework addresses the challenge of quantifying intangible attributes along an organization's data journey. The framework has a comprehensive set of pillars and competencies that help assess organizational maturity levels in data-driven decisioning. Firms are classified into four levels with a clear characterization of the key attributes, what it takes to level up, and how each of the maturity levels translate into Business ROI.

The session then presents time-tested strategies to enhance data culture at organizations. The gamification approaches we recommend involve a combination of top-down and bottom-up initiatives that reward learning, foster adoption, inspire collaborative storytelling, and incentivize data-driven habits. Real-world stories are woven throughout the session, showcasing how CDOs implemented these strategies to reshape data culture, drive data literacy, and transform business outcomes. Participants will engage with two industry case studies, which have been carefully selected to represent common challenges and opportunities in data culture transformation. This hands-on exercise will help attendees gain a deep, experiential understanding.

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Our session goes beyond theoretical discussions; it's about real-world applications and results. Participants will walk away with inspiring ideas and practical strategies to gamify their data culture. By the end of the session, participants will have a clear understanding of how to leverage gamification to not only enhance data literacy and culture but also to unlock and maximize business ROI.

Biography

Ganes Kesari

Co-Founder & Chief Decision Scientist
Gramener

Ganes Kesari is an entrepreneur, data science thought leader, author, adjunct professor, and TEDx speaker with international speaking experience. He co-founded Gramener, a 250-member data science company, where he heads data science advisory and innovation. He advises executives on data-driven leadership and helps organizations adopt a culture of data for decisions. He has also founded a data advisory firm, Innovation Titan, to help startups become data-driven. Ganes has spoken at 50+ leading events such as TEDx, O'Reilly Strata, and INBOUND. He contributes articles to magazines such as Forbes, Entrepreneur, and TechCrunch. Ganes runs corporate workshops for global enterprises on business transformation using data analytics and AI. He is an Adjunct Professor at NJIT's business school and delivers guest lectures at institutions such as Princeton, Columbia, and Penn State University. Ganes won the 2020 CSuite Award for best blog by a business leader, and has been recognized as a top writer on AI, on Medium. He is recognized as one of the top 3 global thought leaders in AI & Analytics by Thinkers360. He has won the NJBIZ Leader in Digital Technology Award 2023. Ganes was recently recognized as a LinkedIn 'Top Voice' in Artificial Intelligence and Decision-Making. He is on a mission to help technology leaders deliver enterprise value from data and AI. Find more about his work at https://gkesari.com/speak/ Ganes' Speaker Reel: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Djbtzs4MuVo

Karan Dhawal

Data Strategy and Technology Leader
ZS Associates

Karan is a professional dedicated, innovative and trustworthy Customer-Centric transformations executive with a strong record of achievement building and managing "cross-functional, high-performance" delivery and service management teams.

He is a sought out leader for mergers & acquisitions, transformational, strategic data & business board level top initiatives. Motivated by enhanced client satisfaction & revenue growth by providing key moments of value during end to end customer journey has a strong background in framing business problems, with subsequent development and delivery of solutions.

He has a copyright on "Monetizable Data Elements" and is very passionate to leverage data for competitive advantage for his clients.

SESSION
17-D

PRESENTATION

All Roads Lead Through Data Quality

Speaker

Thomas Redman, Data Quality Solutions

Abstract

Everything anyone attempts to do with data: from completing a customer order, to making an important decision, to training an AI model, depends on quality data. And today, data is simply not up to the task. This presentation explains how to address data quality: Adopting an approach of aggressively finding and fixing root causes of errors, building the people and organizational capabilities to do so, and using basic methods to complete the work. It features a detailed example from a financial services company. The last quarter is devoted specifically to data quality for machine learning.

Biography

Thomas Redman
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.

SESSION
17-E

Panel Discussion on the Impact of Start-up Innovative Technologies on the CDO's Mission

Moderator   **Anish Athalye, CleanLab.ai**

Panelists   **Michelle Finneran Dennedy, PrivacyCode, Inc; Sadegh Riazi, Pyte.ai; Anton Teodorescu**

Abstract   If you're struggling to create trusted data that enables better decisions across your enterprise, you are not alone. Our panelists from Mathworks, Matchbook AI, Informatica and Moody's Analytics share their experiences and lessons learned from multiple perspectives on the Hero's Journey of building a successful master data strategy.

Biography

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Anish Athalye
Co-Founder
CleanLab.ai

TBD

Michelle Finneran Dennedy

CEO | Partner
PrivacyCode, Inc. | Privatus.Online

Michelle Finneran Dennedy currently serves as Board member and advisor to data-centric technology organizations. In addition:

PrivacyCode, Inc. is an early stage venture that applies requirements based and user centric design principles to plan, measure and map privacy engineering productions. Michelle serves as PrivacyCode's CEO

Privatus Consulting is the home of Wicked Privacy™ and assists clients with metrics, methodologies and mentorship to build and accelerate data protection practices. Michelle serves as Partner.

She is the co-author of The Privacy Engineer's Manifesto & the Privacy Engineer's Companion. Michelle instantiated and was the founding Chair for the recently approved and published IEEE 7002 (2022) Standard for ethics and governance of privacy engineered systems.

Before working at PrivacyCode and Privatus, Michelle was a VP and Chief Privacy Officer at Cisco. She developed and implemented the organization's data privacy policies and practices, working across business groups to drive data privacy excellence across the security continuum.

Michelle has also served as CEO of DrumWave, Inc., Chief Privacy Officer for McAfee/ Intel and Vice President for Security & Privacy Solutions for the Oracle Corporation. Before the Oracle acquisition of Sun, Michelle was Chief Data Governance Officer within the Cloud Computing division at Sun Microsystems, Inc. Michelle also served as Sun's first Chief Privacy Officer.

Michelle is known for evangelizing new approaches and business justifications for soundly-defined, transparent security and privacy policies and systems that protect healthy, safe, and ethical global businesses.

Michelle has a JD from Fordham University School of Law and a Bachelor of Science degree with university honors from The Ohio State University.

Among other awards, in 2009, she was awarded the Goodwin Procter-IAPP Vanguard award for lifetime achievement and the EWF–CSO Magazine Woman of Influence award. In 2012, she was recognized by the National Diversity Council as one of California's Most Powerful & Influential Women. In 2014 she was cited as an AlwaysOn Power Player in On-Demand Computing and was honored as the Gold Stevie award as Woman of the Year in Technology.

Sadegh Riazi

Co-Founder
Pyte.ai

Dr. Sadegh Riazi is a technology enthusiast, co-founder and CEO of Pyte. He received his PhD in secure computation from UC San Diego where he was awarded the best PhD thesis award. Sadegh founded Project HEAX at Microsoft Research (a new computing platform for Homomorphic Encryption). Prior to that, he studied Electrical Engineering and designed a new system for Brain-Computer Interfaces. Sadegh is a fellow of the Institute for Global Entrepreneur and has received multiple prestigious awards including the Richard Newton Young Fellow Award, the Jacobs Graduate Student Award, and the Silver Medal in the International Student Olympiad.

Anton Teodorescu

Innovation Consultant

Anton Teodorescu is a Consultant, advising companies on partnering and innovation strategies. As Chair of the MIT CIO Symposium Innovation Showcase, he helps organize the now major event and select the most relevant startups to highlight to the CIO and IT Executive community. He was an Advisor to an M&A project with the potential to revolutionize the IT Solutions industry, as well as Co-Founder of a start-up that became a significant player in the 5G Telecom space.

Prior to this, he had a career with IBM for over 23 years, from Sales and Consulting, to IBM's Venture Capital Group where worked closely with the Venture Capital community in New England, as well as their portfolio companies, in a strategic Business Development role.

Anton holds a B.A. Degree in Engineering and Applied Science from Harvard College, a Master's Diploma in Computer Science from Cambridge University, UK, and an MBA from the MIT Sloan School of Management.

SESSION
17-F

Data Literacy: The Key to Cracking the Data Culture Code

Speakers

Valerie Logan & Veronica Vilski, The Data Lodge (now part of Data Society Group)

Abstract

If you think that data literacy is just about training, think again. Data literacy is about rewiring culture. With CDO surveys continually identifying culture as the primary inhibitor to value realization, cracking the data culture code is a must. But how? Join two pioneers of the data literacy movement as they share how a community of over 60 data literacy program pioneers have been steadily cracking this code over the past four years. A rare glimpse into the who, how and why of impactful data literacy programs.

Biography

Valerie Logan
CEO & Founder
The Data Lodge (now part of Data Society Group)

Founding The Data Lodge in 2019, Valerie is as committed to data literacy as it gets. She believes that in today's digital society, data literacy is not just a work skill- it's a life skill. With advisory services, train-the-trainer bootcamps, an extensive resource library and community services at The Data Lodge, Valerie is certifying the world's first Data Literacy Program Leads across commercial, nonprofit and public sectors. As of 2023, the Data Lodge Community has over 60+ members who are pioneering Data Literacy Program Leads and Ambassadors- spanning industries, five countries and organization size (from 300 employees to over 160,000 employees). Previously, Valerie was a Gartner Research VP in the CDO (Chief Data Officer) research team. She led Gartner's Annual CDO Survey, as well as the CDO Circle executive training and networking event, which she designed from scratch. She pioneered Gartner's research in the area of Data Literacy and nurturing the "speaking of data" by inventing Information as a Second Language® (ISL). In 2018, she was awarded Gartner's Top Thought Leadership Award for her work in the area of Data Literacy. In 2022, The Data Lodge was recognized by CDO Magazine as one of the "Top 25 Data Startups to Watch in 2022". Valerie has more than 28 years of experience, including two decades of global consulting across industries, and five years of applied experience in the telecommunications industry at both field and enterprise levels. She holds a B.S. in Math from SUNY College at Buffalo and an M.S. in Applied Math with a concentration in Operations Research from New Mexico State. She lives between the Adirondack Mountains in

Upstate NY, and Sarasota, Florida with her husband Brian, and their 120 lb yellow lab Cooper, who also happily serves as the beloved Mascot of The Data Lodge.

Veronica Vilski

Content & Engagement Director
The Data Lodge (now part of Data Society Group)

Veronica is one of the world's first certified Data Literacy Program Leads through her work at Entegris, where she created and implemented an enterprise data literacy program. In 2023 she became the Content & Engagement Director at The Data Lodge, part of Data Society Group.

Veronica's background in education, marketing, data, and community-building enhances how she contributes to data literacy teams worldwide. Veronica enables and empowers Data Literacy professionals to build and grow programs at their respective organizations through The Data Lodge Community, training, coaching, events, and curated resources.

She lives in Colorado with her husband, three children, two dogs, and one bearded dragon.

SESSION

17-G

PRESENTATION

The Evolving Role of the Chief Data Officer in the World of Gen AI

Speakers

Sadie St. Lawrence, Women in Data; Adita Karkera, Ph.D, Deloitte; Ren Essene, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Abstract

In an era where Generative AI is rapidly transforming industries, the role of the Chief Data Officer (CDO) is evolving more dynamically than ever. This talk delves into how CDOs are adapting to and leading the charge in harnessing the power of Generative AI. We will explore the emerging challenges and opportunities that Gen AI presents, from ethical considerations and data governance to innovation and strategic implementation. Focusing on real-world applications and forward-thinking strategies, this talk offers insights into how CDOs can navigate the complex landscape of AI-driven data management. It also addresses the implications of Gen AI on data strategy, privacy, and compliance, providing a roadmap for CDOs to lead with effectiveness and foresight in this new frontier. Attendees will leave with a deeper understanding of the pivotal role CDOs play in integrating Gen AI into organizational frameworks, and how they can drive success in an increasingly AI-centric world.

Biography

Sadie St. Lawrence
CEO & Founder
Women in Data

Sadie St. Lawrence is the Chief AI at SSL Innovations and the Founder of Women in Data. Women in Data is an international non-profit organization represented in 55 countries with a community of over 60,000 data leaders, practitioners, and enthusiasts. Women in Data has earned recognition as a Top 50 Leading Company of the Year and as the #1 community for Women in AI and Tech. Before establishing SSL Innovations and Women in Data, Sadie gained extensive experience in data science and AI strategy, providing consulting services to healthcare, high-tech, and government organizations. She has educated more than 500,000 individuals in data science and has developed numerous machine learning programs. Sadie's accomplishments include being named one of the Top 30 Women in AI (2022), one of the Top 10 Most Admired Businesswomen to Watch in 2021, a Top 21 Influencer in Data (2021), and one of the Top 30 Most Inspiring Women in AI (2021). She is also a recipient of the Outstanding Service Award from UC Davis

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(2019) and just recently, included in Dataleum's 30 Outstanding Women in Data, 2023. Apart from her accolades, Sadie serves on various start-up and non-profit boards, and hosts the Data Bytes podcast.

Adita Karkera, Ph.D

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.

Ren Essene

Chief Data Officer
Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Ren Essene has over 25 years of public service experience at the intersection of data, consumer protection, and community development. Ms. Essene currently serves as the Chief Data Officer at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau where she leads the CFPB enterprise data strategy and facilitates the effective management, use, sharing, and protection of agency data assets. Recently, Ms. Essene was named among the Top Government CDOs to Watch in 2022 by the Washington Exec, and in 2019, she received the highest award presented by the CFPB, the Director Mission Achievement Award for Excellence in Leadership. Over the last decade at the CFPB, Ms. Essene has led the development of the agency Data Policy and Governance Program; coordinated with industry and other government agencies to adopt voluntary industry data standards; and led the agency effort to modernize the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) data collection. Previously, Ms. Essene organized the Federal Reserve Board public HMDA hearings and co-authored a book chapter on HMDA reform

for Moving Forward: The Future of Consumer Credit and Mortgage Finance. In earlier service at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston and Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies, Ms. Essene leveraged her prior decade of experience leading a community development organization; serving on the Advisory Council for the Federal Home Loan Bank of Seattle; and working with community leaders and lenders to address housing issues in the Northwest. Ms. Essene earned a Master in Public Administration from Harvard Kennedy School.

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SESSION

18-A

Follow the Money - The future of AI and Data Investments as seen by Venture Capitalists

Moderator

Michael Hauser, SAIC

Panelists

Logan Havern, Datalogz & Dan Madden, National Security, Squadra VC

Abstract

In the dynamic landscape of technology innovation, Data & AI stand at the forefront, promising transformative possibilities across industries. This panel brings together the perspective of VCs and startups to explore how the ecosystem views investing in and extracting value from data & AI for customers' mission outcomes. The group will touch on investment trends, challenges & opportunities for startups – particularly with government customers, how to build partnerships, and more.

Biography

Michael Hauser
VP & Managing Partner
SAIC Innovation Fund

Michael Hauser is a Vice President and helps lead the Partnerships, Innovation, and Strategic Partnerships team at SAIC. His primary role is as Managing Partner of the SAIC Innovation Fund where Michael leads corporate venture capital investments into and enterprise platform use of dual-use and national security startups. He is also responsible for the governance and execution of enterprise product & technology investments across SAIC.

Michael previously built and deployed SAIC's business maturity-driven approach to product management and grew the commercial products business around it, contributing new offerings that differentiate and unlock growth.

Throughout his career, he has held a variety of leadership roles among companies with organic & inorganic growth responsiblities. He's been a strategy, M&A, BD, and innovation leader at Boeing including co-founding and contributing to Boeing HorizonX's CVC and global startup accelerators, internal business incubator, and B2B collaboration team.

Prior to his roles at Boeing was an innovation & business model consultant at NewEdge+TheBrewery and Corporate Executive Board. Before and after Boeing Michael held investing, coaching, mentoring, and business building roles with venture capital backed startups.

Early in his career, Michael participated in a engineering leadership development program at Pratt & Whitney before following his passions from engineering into business building which he has continued ever since.

He has been a baseball coach and catching instructor, church trustee, and spends his spare time as cook, bottle washer, and sports taxi driver.

Michael earned his BS in Mechanical Engineering from Bucknell University, an MS in Manufacturing Management from Rensselaer Institute of Technology, and his MBA from the University of Michigan.

Logan Havern

Chief Executive Officer & Founder
Datalogz

Logan is an innovator in the analytics space, solving the biggest challenges with enterprise data management in business intelligence (BI). Currently, he is the CEO & Founder of Datalogz, building out their vision to help companies 5x their ROI on data and create the most robust BI Ops platform on the market. Initially, Logan experienced data confusion early in his career at JetBlue and was motivated to build a platform to solve it. He built the first version of Datalogz himself.

He studied engineering at Texas A&M, focusing on analytics, and is always open to conversations about data and entrepreneurship.

Dan Madden

Principal
National Security, Squadra VC

TBD

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NO SESSION SCHEDULED

SESSION 18-C

PANEL DISCUSSION

Transforming Organizational Culture to Embed D&A in Your DNA

Speakers

Anjali Bansal, Cervello, a Kearney Company & Malcolm Hawker, Profisee

Abstract

Organizations around the world are racing to unlock the value of data by using the latest technologies and techniques, including artificial intelligence. Despite the technical strides, the playing field remains remarkably level, with only 26.5% of organizations reporting the successful establishment of a truly data-driven culture. This statistic underscores the pressing need for a deeper transformation that extends beyond technological adoption.

Join Anjali Bansal and Malcolm Hawker as they unpack the intricacies surrounding the journey to becoming a data-driven organization, emphasizing the critical role of data leadership on data culture. From the nuanced insights gained through real-world experiences to expert perspectives on overcoming cultural barriers, Anjali and Malcolm explore strategies for cultivating a culture where data takes center stage.

Biography

Anjali Bansal

Senior Director
Cervello, a Kearney Company

Anjali Bansal is passionate about inspiring organizations to improve trust and usability of their data. She has advised clients across life sciences, biotechnology, media, oil and gas and financial services over the last 20-plus years in all facets of data governance and master data management. She is the global practice lead for Data Governance with Cervello, a Kearney Company, ensuring we embed data governance practices as we enable our clients to win with data. Outside of work, Anjali enjoys spending time with her young daughter and husband. She is an avid golfer and pickleball player. She is a certified L1 Sommelier and is currently pursuing her 200-hour yoga teacher training.

Malcolm Hawker

Head of Data Strategy
Profisee

Malcolm Hawker is a thought leader in data management and governance and has consulted on thousands of software implementations in his years as a Gartner analyst, architect at Dun & Bradstreet and more. Now as an evangelist for helping companies become truly data-driven, he helps CDOs understand how data can be a competitive advantage. Malcolm is a frequent public speaker on data and analytics best practices, and he cherishes the opportunity to share practical and actionable insights on how companies can achieve their strategic imperatives by improving their approach to data management.

SESSION
18-D

PANEL DISCUSSION

Translating Data to Actionable Insight for The Enterprise

Moderator	**Gana Palghat & Anil Nagaraj, PwC**
Panelists	**Arvind Rajagopalan, Verizon & Subbiah Mahalingam, BD**

Abstract

Join PwC and their guests in an engaging session focused on how organizations can leverage data to drive decisions and to bring tangible results. Along with guests form Becton Dickenson, and Verizon, we will discuss trends, ethical concerns, and aligning AI initiatives with business strategy.

Biography

Gana Palghat
Partner, Cloud & Digital Transformation Leader
PwC

Gana is a Partner in Cloud, Data & Analytics Transformation with over 19+ years of experience focused on driving the right business outcomes for our clients. Gana helps clients identify how one should optimize their portfolio of analytics investments to provide maximum value to their consumers. His experience includes shaping the strategy as well as driving through execution for various cross industry clients.

Anil Nagaraj
Partner in Analytic Insights
PwC

Anil is a Partner in Analytics & Insights practice with 25+ years of experience in advising customers with Data & Analytics strategies. He specializes in execution of large Data & Analytics based business transformation/modernization programs across Consumer Markets, Technology, Media, Telecom, Manufacturing & Health/Life Sciences. An active member of Microsoft's Data & AI Partner Advisory Council.

Arvind Rajagopalan

Associate Vice President & Global Head
Verizon

Arvind Rajagopalan is an Associate Vice President at Verizon, leading the Data & AI Engineering functions. As the visionary leader of the Engineering function and a passion for all things data, Arvind's team is responsible for building the platforms and engineering that power Verizon's AI & data-driven operations. Their diligent efforts have transformed Verizon's data and analytics capabilities, reshaping the company's data landscape with profound impact. He holds a bachelor's degree in Statistics and a master's degree in Information Technology. He also holds several certificates in various programs including Data & Analytics, BI, Leadership.

Subbiah Mahalingam

VP, Digital Transformation
BD

Subbiah is a results driven leader with over 20 years of experience in SAP, Data, Automation, AI, Machine Learning and Generative AI, as well as a proven track record in driving and executing ERP strategy, data strategy, AI strategy, automation, business process orchestration, and digital transformation initiatives for Med Tech industry. Leadership experience in leveraging emerging technologies to enhance business performance in commercial operations, supply chains, quality, business units and deliver tangible outcomes for Med Tech Industry.

Lead enterprise data councils, uniting business stakeholders for disciplined data stewardship and strategy alignment in master data and advanced analytics, setting a robust foundation for AI and Generative AI technologies to maximize business value. Spearhead communication campaigns to boost digital literacy and foster community among digital transformation teams.

SESSION

18-E

Data Leadership: A Psychological Perspective

Speakers

Bor-Shiuan Cheng, National Taiwan University; Chou-Yu (Joey) Tsai, Binghamton University & Min-Ping Huang Huang, Yuan Ze University

Abstract

In an era where data-driven decision-making holds paramount importance, leaders are confronted with the challenge of effectively harnessing data to inform their strategic decisions in organizational management. Our research specifically focuses on the psychological aspects of data leadership—how leaders apply psychological theories to guide their strategies in defining, collecting, and analyzing data. We emphasize the critical alignment between theory, measurement, and analysis, significantly enhancing the value of data management in shaping leadership strategies. In doing so, our work not only defines a pathway to enhance data validity at the individual, dyad, and group levels but also lays the groundwork for systemic organizational change, promoting the widespread adoption of data-driven approaches throughout the organization.

Biography

Bor-Shiuan Cheng
Distinguished Professor of Organizational Behavior
National Taiwan University

Bor-Shiuan Cheng currently serves as a tenured Distinguished Professor in the Department of Psychology at National Taiwan University. He has previously held positions as Chair of the Department of Psychology and Director of the Graduate Institute of Psychology at National Taiwan University. Dr. Cheng is the Editor-in-Chief of "Indigenous Psychology Research in Chinese Society" and serves as Associate Editor for the "Chinese Journal of Psychology" and the "Asian Journal of Social Psychology," as well as a Senior Editor for "Management and Organization Review." He was awarded the Scholarly Impact Award from the Journal of Management for the highest citation count over a five-year period in 2019.

Chou-Yu (Joey) Tsai

Osterhout Associate Professor of Entrepreneurship
Binghamton University

Chou-Yu (Joey) Tsai holds the position of Osterhout Associate Professor of Entrepreneurship at Binghamton University, State University of New York. Before joining Binghamton University, he held faculty positions at California State University, Los Angeles, and Penn State University, Great Valley. His research interests encompass leadership in entrepreneurship, virtual team dynamics, human capital resources, coaching emergence, and robotic technology. In recent projects, he has collaborated with Cornell University to investigate leadership functions within human-robot interactions while working with Waseda University in Japan to enhance entrepreneurship programs through group dynamics in virtual settings, aiming to promote the greater Tokyo innovation ecosystem. Currently, he serves as the Associate Director for Bass Center for Leadership Studies (CLS) and as an editorial board member for Leadership Quarterly.

Before his academic career, Joey Tsai worked as a managerial consultant for numerous international business organizations (e.g., Adidas Group, Tsingtao Brewery). His professional consulting projects encompassed various aspects such as organizational culture, leader selection and development, organizational development and change, intrapreneurship, and organizational engagement. This extensive professional experience has instilled in him a profound respect for the significance of education, leading him to treat all students as individuals with unique strengths and needs. His teaching interests span a broad spectrum, including leadership, entrepreneurship, organizational behavior, advanced business statistics, research methods, and managerial consulting. In 2023, he was recognized as one of the Top 50 Undergraduate Business Professors by Poets & Quants.

Min-Ping Huang

Professor of Organization Management
Yuan Ze University

Min-Ping Huang is a professor of Organization Management at College of Management, Yuan-Ze University, Taiwan. Her main research interests are organizational behaviors in the Chinese cultural context. Recently she has been interested in green organizational behavior, social innovation and entrepreneurship, and leadership in digital transformation. Once she served as the deputy dean of the College of Management, Yuan-Ze University; guest journal editor-in-chief of Organization and Management (Taiwan), and editor committee of NTU Management Review.

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SESSION
18-F

Speaker

Abstract

PRESENTATION

From Hype to Helpful: The Path to Trustworthy GenAI

Phani Dathar PhD, Neo4J

Most organizations recognize the transformative power of Generative AI but are struggling to confidently adopt solutions as they deal with issues such as hallucinations, security, and data bias. Emerging regulatory frameworks will demand safety, transparency, and explainability, especially for consumer-facing experiences. Combining Knowledge Graphs with LLMs creates trustworthy GenAI experiences that minimize risk and maximize relevancy, specificity, completeness, and transparency. Join us in this session to learn:

- How knowledge graphs and LLM can reduce hallucinations and data bias.
- Essential architectural patterns for building conversational experiences grounded by knowledge graphs.
- Advantages of knowledge graphs for retrieval augmented generation (RAG), including graph-native semantic search using vector indexing.
- Leveraging LLMs to accelerate knowledge graph construction, including schema development, entity extraction, and vector embedding. By including knowledge graphs in your GenAI strategy, you'll have a robust, trustworthy approach for delivering the next generation of intelligent applications.

Biography

Phani Dathar
Director, Graph Data Science
Neo4j

Phani is the Director of Graph Data Science at Neo4j. He is a computational scientist and holds a PhD in Nanotechnology and Computational Materials Science from Louisiana Tech University. After a decade of research in batteries and electrical energy storage in both industry and academia, he transitioned to a career in data science and machine learning and since worked with two early-stage start-ups in AI/ML space and large organizations like American Airlines and Infosys as a data science consultant. Currently, he is with Neo4j helping prospects and customers get started with Graph Data Science.

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SESSION 18-G

Operationalizing Responsible AI Governance

Speakers

Anita Hyde & Tara Whitehead Stotland, Cognizant

Abstract

As artificial intelligence becomes increasingly integrated into business operations, it is crucial to ensure that these technologies are developed and deployed responsibly. This collaborative discussion is designed to equip CDOs with the knowledge and tools needed to implement effective AI governance frameworks within their organizations. Through a blend of use cases, interactive exercises, and frameworks, participants will learn to operationalize responsible AI governance, ensuring ethical AI use, compliance with regulations, and alignment with organizational norms to drive business value.

Biography

Anita Hyde
Data Advisory Practice Leader
Cognizant

Anita Hyde is a transformative executive with over a decade of experience in data and analytics, thriving in ever-changing environments. Renowned for her strategic vision, Anita consistently delivers impactful data and analytics strategies that drive organizational success through data-driven decision-making. She excels in harnessing the power of data to achieve strategic objectives and accelerate long-term growth. As a thought leader and powerful strategist, she is a key driver of change, transformation, and success. Anita is serving in a dual role at Cognizant as the Data Advisory Leader in Technology Modernization and a Trusted Advisor for key strategic client accounts. In this capacity, she participates on the GenAI Steering Committee for North America. In recognition of her contributions, Anita was named a "Technology Innovator" by Consulting Magazine in 2024 and one of the "Top 50 Women Leaders in Kansas City" for 2024.

Tara Whitehead Stotland

Leader, Greenlight Growth and Innovation Team
Cognizant

Tara Whitehead Stotland is an innovative and results-oriented executive with 20+ years of experience across multiple industries. With deep expertise in the technology space, Tara is highly skilled in working with IT and business teams to design strategies and help clients unlock new levels of success through new AI solutions, collaboration, and transformation. Throughout her career, Tara has managed client portfolios and business units valued at $100M+, gaining experience partnering with clients and teams of all sizes and across diverse industries. Since 2016, Tara has served in various progressively responsible roles at Cognizant. In 2021, Tara was tapped to lead Greenlight, Cognizant's internal consulting team focused on sales growth and strategy enablement. She co-leads GenAI for consulting North America.

SESSION

19-A

Future Leaders in Data (FLiD) Building the NextGen CDO Team

Moderator

Sara Jones, SAIC

Panelists

Ahmed Hafizyar, Asma Tabra, Lisa Lynch, Maxwell Ramacher & Thomas King, SAIC

Abstract

In the rapidly evolving data landscape, the need for visionary leaders is more pressing than ever. Forward-thinking organizations are looking beyond traditional talent pools and towards the vibrant energy and fresh perspective of young college graduates to steer the future of data science and analytics. At the 2023 CDOIQ event Sara Jones introduced the Future Leaders in Data program FLiD) that SAICs Chief Data Office created. In this session, we will hear experiences from program participants ranging from managers to future leaders. The panel will discuss the innerworkings of the program, share a variety of viewpoints including the benefits, challenges, and lessons learned.

Biography

Sara Jones
Deputy Chief Data officer
SAIC

Sara Jones is the Director of SAIC's Internal Data Products Team within the Chief Data Office. Sara champions superior data management but also dedicates herself to mentoring and cultivating the company's future leadership. With her rich IT background that spans from software to data quality assurance, Sara is an innovator in talent acquisition and development. She proactively seeks out and nurtures new talent, creating pathways for their growth within the organization. Her initiatives include mentorship programs, collaborative projects, and hands-on training, all designed to unlock the potential of up-and-coming data professionals. Sara's BA, MBA, and current PhD research underscore her role as a lifelong learner who inspires her team to be equally committed to personal and professional growth. Under her guidance, SAIC is transforming into a hub for developing the next wave of innovators and leaders in the data industry.

Ahmed Hafizyar
Data Product Manager
SAIC

Ahmed Hafizyar is a data product manager at SAIC. He has a background in information systems and operation management along with a technical background in IT, providing him with a robust foundation in both technical and operational domains. Ahmed began his data journey at SAIC through the esteemed Future Leaders in Data program(2021), where he received invaluable mentorship from senior leaders within the organization to sharpen his business and data related skills. Today, he is passionate about developing data products and mentoring others about his experience and insight through the Future Leaders in Data program at SAIC.

Asma Tabra
Metrics and Data Analyst
FLID 2022, SAIC

Asma Tabra is a metrics and data analyst at SAIC's Chief Data Office. With a strong foundation in information systems and operations management, her educational and professional journey is marked by a continuous expansion of her expertise through hands-on experience in data visualization and analytics as well as cross-functional leadership experience. Asma is a 2022 Future Leader in Data (FLiD) at SAIC's CDO, where she now has the opportunity to mentor aspiring data professionals, fostering a culture of knowledge-sharing and collaborative growth.

Lisa Lynch
Manager
SAIC

TBD

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Maxwell Ramacher

TBD
SAIC

TBD

Thomas King

Data Engineering Sr. Manager
SAIC

TBD

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**SESSION
19-B**

NO SESSION SCHEDULED

SESSION 19-C

PRESENTATION

The First 100 Days: Making an Impact as a New CDO

Speaker

Nicole Radziwill, Qzuku

Abstract

While we all know that it's important to identify and pursue "quick wins" in a new CDO position, it's harder than it sounds. Every CDO needs a way to quickly build a mental model of their new organization's data architecture, pain points, and opportunities to drive value. After serving as a CDO at a national lab in the late 00s, and consulting to CDAOs between 2019 and 2023, I once again returned to the role in late 2023. In this presentation, I share the framework that I developed years ago, adapted to modern cloud-based data management thinking, to quickly assess maturity, pain points, and opportunities for impact along multiple dimensions – even when it seems like there are no quick wins to be found.

Biography

Nicole Radziwill
Chief Strategy Officer
Qzuku

Nicole Radziwill is Chief Strategy Officer at Qzuku. She was previously SVP and Chief Data Scientist at Ultranauts (the first majority neurodivergent professional services firm, where she built a practice supporting Chief Data and Analytics Officers at Fortune 500 companies), VP of the Global Quality & Supply Chain Practice at Intelex Technologies ULC, a tenured Associate Professor of Data Science and Production Systems at James Madison University (JMU), and head of data and software development at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO). Nicole is an elected Academician in the International Academy of Quality (IAQ) for lifetime achievements in promoting quality and organizational excellence, and a Fellow of the American Society for Quality (ASQ). She has a PhD in Quality Systems and an MBA.

SESSION
19-D

PRESENTATION

Overcoming the Challenges of AI Value Creation

Speakers

Michael Proksch, AccelerED & Rodolfo Luzardo, ZS Associates

Abstract

This topic is very critical for all Chief Data Officers and their direct leaders. While the interest in AI remains substantial due to its anticipated influence on value creation in the coming decade, many organizations struggle to realize it. According to PWC, the potential contribution of AI to the global economy could reach $15.7 trillion by 2030, McKinsey has estimated an annual global impact of AI of $13 trillion, however, 60-80% of AI projects are failing according to different news sources, analysts, and experts. In this session, we will outline best practices for leveraging AI to create substantial value by addressing the inherent challenges associated with this technology. Moreover, we will explore strategies for effectively integrating this unique technology into an enterprise, aligning it with the overarching goals of strategy, operations, and organizational culture. The successful realization of business outcomes and value generation through AI hinges on recognizing human limitations and harnessing the full potential of AI to surpass human capabilities. During the talk, we will underscore the critical importance of reaching the last milestone and crossing the finish line in any AI initiative. The discussion will be engaging and interactive, providing attendees with valuable insights into the pivotal aspects of AI implementation.

Biography

Michael Proksch
Chief Scientist
AccelerED

Dr. Michael Proksch is a renowned Expert and Leader with a rich history of mentoring Fortune 2000 companies. He excels in creating business value through Data and AI, delivering innovative solutions globally. Michael's multidisciplinary expertise and a history of successful projects make him a sought-after speaker. His track record in inspiring and leading transformations, combined with academic credentials, positions him as a well-rounded expert. Notably, Michael authored a book called "The Secrets of AI Value Creation" alongside Nisha Paliwal (MVP at Capital One) and Wilhelm Bielert (CIO at Premier Tech), and with many industry contributors such as Scott Hallworth (CDAO at HP), Das Dasgupta (CDAO at Starbucks), Radha Subramanyam (CRAO at CBS). This book was just published by Wiley and has been very positively welcomed by the CDO Community, providing a framework to significantly boost the value creation of many organizations' AI initiatives.

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Rodolfo Luzardo

Principal
ZS Associates

Rodolfo Luzardo is a Partner at ZS and leader of ZS's Priority Industries as well as ZS's Private Equity Practice. He helps his clients create value through Pricing, Marketing and Sales Solutions, and successfully manage complex large-scale commercial transformations. Rodolfo delivers consistent value to clients by taking a hands-on, pragmatic approach to complex problems that generates impact in the short term and build foundational capabilities for long term success.

With 20+ years of professional experience in finance, operations and consulting, Rodolfo has been advising the world's premier companies over the past decade, and has first-hand operating and sales experience. His expertise is in pricing, marketing and sales strategy and effectiveness, with a focus on large-scale commercial transformations relating to go-to-market strategy, merger integration, sales and marketing effectiveness, and pricing optimization. Rodolfo has broad industry exposure spanning specialty chemical, industrial, basic materials, distribution, consumer products, retail and private equity. He lectures on sales strategy topics at the Kellogg School of Management Executive Program, and has published numerous articles and white papers on sales force performance, strategic account management and commercial transformation.

Rodolfo has an MBA, with honors, from the University of Chicago and a BA in Economics from the University of Miami. Prior to ZS, Rodolfo was an Associate Partner at McKinsey & Company, and also held positions in Private Equity and Investment Banking earlier in his career.

SESSION 19-E

NO SESSION SCHEDULED

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SESSION

19-F

PRESENTATION

Using Augmented Intelligence to Propel Wholesale Pharmaceutical Distribution to Hypergrowth and Meet Emerging Challenges

Speaker

Abhik Choudhury, IBM Corporation

Abstract

Using Augmented intelligence to propel Wholesale Pharmaceutical distribution to hypergrowth and meet emerging challenges. The synergy of augmented intelligence seamlessly integrates data, analytics, and AI into wholesale drug distribution and supply chain operations business operations, serving as the paramount catalyst for optimization, innovation, and hypergrowth. In his presentation, Abhik shares invaluable insights garnered from Operational excellence achieved by the leader of wholesale drug distribution using analytics and Augmented intelligence. These systems have not only delivered efficiency in delivery of daily multi-million order volume to end-to-end monitoring of restricted drugs. He unveils battle-tested blueprints, including: 1. Introducing a scalable framework for enterprise data, guiding the journey from Bare Information to Insights to Digital Twin, empowering businesses to operate seamlessly on data. 2. Implementing an AI-powered framework predicting value in pivotal performance metrics like inventory optimization, NPS, churn, and LTV. 3. Operationalizing analytics through CI/CD model pipelines, equipped with tailored monitoring, explain ability, and feedback loops specifically designed for wholesale drug distribution. 4. Tightly integrating analytics and AI orchestration capabilities into cloud-based platforms and workflows, surpassing 70% usage for heightened efficiency in drug distribution. 5. Optimizing, streamlining, and innovating entire business processes through analytical augmentation, exemplified by a 25% reduction in supply chain costs. 6. Defining the optimal organizational structure for Data, Analytics & AI to ensure consistent outcomes in the wholesale drug distribution and supply chain domain. 7. Outlining processes, methodologies, and change management strategies for consistent value delivery in wholesale drug distribution and supply chain operations. Attendees will depart with clear actions and guardrails, empowering them to rapidly build momentum from their initial augmented application to ultimately establish an intelligent enterprise. Discover how orchestrating this system leads to heightened automation, optimization, and innovation driven by data-driven decisions at scale. Initiate

the acceleration of your organization's hypergrowth and solidify analytical leadership through the applied practice of augmented intelligence.

Biography

Abhik Choudhury
Managing Consultant Analytics
IBM Corporation

Abhik is a Senior Analytics Managing Consultant and Data Scientist with 11 years of experience in designing and implementing scalable data solutions for organizations across various industries. Throughout his career, he has developed a strong understanding of AI/ML, Cloud computing, database management systems, data modeling, ETL processes, and Big Data Technologies. His expertise lies in leading cross-functional teams and collaborating with stakeholders at all levels to drive data-driven decision making in in longitudinal pharmacy and medical claims and wholesale drug distribution areas. Abhik's technical skills encompass a wide range of areas, including architecting cloud solutions, business intelligence, data visualization, machine learning algorithms, probability and statistics, data analysis, data warehousing, data quality, linear algebra, cloud computing, big data, data governance, and relational databases. Abhik has completed my MS in Analytics from the Georgia Institute of Technology, GA, USA, from August 2020 to December 2022. Prior to that, he obtained a B. Tech in Electronics and Communications Engineering from West Bengal University of Technology, WB, India, from August 2007 to May 2011. He has been certified as IBM DB2 database developer, SAP BusinessObjects BI tools developer and Google Cloud professional Data engineer. In his current role as a Senior Analytics Managing Consultant at IBM Corporation, USA, since August 2022, Abhik has been responsible for designing and implementing scalable data architecture solutions for Healthcare and Pharma clients. He has also played a key role in architecting, building, and managing Legal and compliance data platforms using the Google Cloud Platform. Additionally, he has led the investigation and adaptation of beneficial data architecture technologies and tools, as well as the development and implementation of an Enterprise Data Model and strategy for Operational Data Stores.

SESSION

19-G

PRESENTATION

Leadership Practice and Framework That Delivers Value from Data and Successful Transformation

Speaker

Dr. Satyam Priyadarshy, Reignite Future

Abstract

Data plays a significant role in all industries, but some industries are able to take advantage of data-driven innovation for the growth, resiliency, and sustainability of their business. The success or failure of transforming an organization by leveraging data and the data ecosystem depends on the leadership of the organization. In this talk, I will discuss the various leadership frameworks that are appropriate for enterprises that are small or global in size. The similarities and differences in leadership skills, thought processes, styles, and actions will provide guidance on how to maximize the value of data, the data workforce, and the transformation journey.

Biography

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Dr. Satyam Priyadarshy
CEO
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 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

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 2024, and take a virtual group photo together. Thank you all for attending the Symposium!

Hosts

Carl Gerber
Audit Chief Data Officer, KPMG

Mark Johnson
Chief Growth Officer & Ex Leader Data
Management & Analytics, CoStrategix

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

Carl Gerber
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.

Mark Johnson
Chief Growth Officer & Ex Leader Data
Management & Analytics, CoStrategix

Mark Johnson has joined CoStrategix as Chief Growth Officer. His focus is helping CS expand geographically and deliver greater value to their existing client base. CoStrategix offers a frameworks-powered approach to creating rich data and AI enabled digital solutions that enhance competitive advantage, revenue generation, operational efficiency, and risk mitigation in the digital age. They offer a blended resourcing approach combining both on and offsore engineering teams. Their Data Cloud solutions offer a proven, framework-accelerated way to modernize aging data and analytics capabilities leveraging the power and agility of Azure and AWS.

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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.