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About the Conference

Artificial intelligence has reached a decisive inflection point. The question organizations face in 2026 is no longer whether to adopt AI but how to deploy it responsibly at scale — and how to ensure it delivers outcomes that matter. In healthcare, that means better care, safer decisions and more equitable access. In enterprise, government and financial services, it means reimagining operations, managing risk and serving people more effectively. Leading organizations across every sector are achieving five times the ROI of their peers not by automating what already exists but by fundamentally redesigning how they work, with AI amplifying human judgment rather than replacing it.

Business Research Intelligence Network's Artificial Intelligence Summit convenes researchers, clinicians, enterprise leaders, policymakers and technologists navigating the real work of AI deployment across high-stakes environments. Sessions examine the defining challenges of 2026: clinical AI and patient safety, agentic AI in regulated industries, responsible governance and explainability, health equity and algorithmic bias, data infrastructure at scale, and building the workforce and organizational structures required for transformative impact. Whether you are deploying AI at the bedside, across a financial institution or inside a government agency, you will leave with frameworks, practitioner perspectives and peer connections that accelerate the move from isolated pilots to integrated programs delivering measurable human impact.

Agenda

Day One – Monday, September 28, 2026

7:15am – 8:00am
Conference Registration & Networking Breakfast

8:00am – 8:15am
Chairperson's Opening Remarks

8:15am – 9:00am

Beyond the AI Illusion: Building a Sustainable Strategy for Measurable Impact

Artificial intelligence has moved beyond experimentation, yet many organizations still struggle to convert pilots, tools, and proofs of concept into sustained enterprise value. This session examines how leaders can build a comprehensive AI strategy that moves from isolated activity to production-scale capability delivering measurable business, operational, workforce, and human-centered outcomes. The session will provide a practical roadmap for identifying high-impact workflows where AI can drive transformative rather than incremental change; assessing organizational readiness across data, infrastructure, governance, risk, and talent dimensions; and defining success metrics that connect AI investment to enterprise performance. The session will also address how to balance top-down strategy with bottom-up innovation, design governance that enables responsible adoption without slowing momentum, and create implementation roadmaps that combine quick wins with long-term capability building. Drawing from real-world lessons in AI governance, automation, digital modernization, data transformation, and responsible innovation from the nation's #1 Digital City, the session provides a practical framework for translating AI ambition into sustainable capability and measurable impact.

Bianca M. Lochner Ph.D.
Chief Information Officer
City of Scottsdale Information Technology Office

9:00am – 9:45am

Autonomous AI for Clinical and Population Health: The New Paradigm

Autonomous AI has started to bring a new era in healthcare, one where it no longer waits to be asked a question, but actively works alongside care teams to identify patients who need attention, recommend the right next step, and help coordinate care before a health issue becomes a crisis. Imagine AI systems that continuously monitor patient health across entire populations, spotting early warning signs of chronic disease, flagging gaps in preventive care, and surfacing timely recommendations to the clinicians and care managers best positioned to act. What makes this generation of AI genuinely transformative is its ability to work at scale, doing in seconds what would take a team of analysts days, while always keeping a clinician in the loop for the most critical decisions. For health systems and risk bearing entities (ACO, IPA, Payers), this means tremendous growth opportunity while enhancing access to care with an AI front door and moving from reactive care, to proactive care, with AI is quietly working in the background to ensure no patient gets left behind.

Ashish Atreja, MD, MPH
Professor of Medicine
Stanford University
Former CIO and CDHO, UC Davis Health

9:45am – 10:15am
Networking & Refreshments Break

10:15am – 11:00am
Can I Trust the AI "I" Want to Learn How to Build?
In a world where AI shapes everyday decisions—from planning trips to debugging code—one question matters more than ever: Can I trust the AI "I" want to build? This talk explores how to create reliable AI systems, from choosing the right data to defining accuracy and navigating ethics. We'll focus on high-stakes industries like healthcare and aviation, offering a grounded, inclusive, and practical lens for developers, leaders, and anyone making sense of today's AI landscape.
Shreya Verma
Technical Lead
Boeing

11:00am – 11:45am
Novoflow

11:45am – 12:30pm
Business Transformation Leveraging AI and Cloud Computing
AI for customer experience is a way to use AI technologies like machine learning, chatbots, conversational user experience (UX) and advanced analytics to analyze customer data to personalize customer interactions, boost customer service efficiency and increase self-service options. AI can also optimize business processes and improve key performance indicators like customer loyalty and engagement.
Jack J. McCauley
Innovator in Residence
Jacobs Institute for Design Innovation
College of Engineering, UC Berkeley

12:30pm – 1:30pm
Networking Lunch

1:30pm – 2:15pm
AI Has No Soul: Engineers Are the Answer, Not Another Casualty
AI talent demand now exceeds supply by more than 3:1 globally, and organizations are responding the wrong way — rushing to automate rather than activate the engineering workforce already in their ranks. The real skills gap isn't about what AI can do. It's about what happens when we remove the human engineer from the equation entirely. Janeen Uzzell has lived this question from every angle — as a mechanical engineer at General Electric spanning 22 years and four continents, as the leader who built operational infrastructure for 1.5 billion users at the Wikimedia Foundation, and now as CEO of the National Society of Black Engineers, where she leads nearly 30,000 engineers navigating the most consequential workforce transformation of our time. Her conviction is simple: AI has no soul. Engineers do. And that difference is what saves lives, serves communities, and sustains organizations through change. In this session, Janeen will challenge the prevailing narrative that AI replaces engineering talent — and replace it with a more powerful one. She will explore how organizations can close the true skills gap by

investing in engineer-led AI collaboration, building AI literacy that preserves critical thinking rather than eroding it, and designing workforce strategies where human engineering judgment remains the irreplaceable layer between technology and human outcomes. Attendees will leave with a concrete framework for activating — not sidelining — their technical workforce in an AI-driven future.

Janeen Uzzell, NAE
Chief Executive Officer
National Society of Black Engineers

2:15pm – 3:15pm
Panel: From Pilot to Production: Scaling AI Without Losing Control
Most organizations have launched AI pilots. Far fewer have successfully scaled them. This panel examines what separates the two — the governance decisions, organizational structures and change management approaches that determine whether AI expands across an enterprise or stalls after the proof of concept. Panelists will share what worked, what failed and what they would do differently.

- What made the difference between a successful pilot and a stalled one
- How to build internal alignment and executive support for scaling
- Practical approaches to change management as AI expands beyond early adopters
- Measuring success beyond cost savings — workforce adoption, trust and outcomes

Panelists:

Ashish Atreja, MD, MPH
Professor of Medicine
Stanford University
Former CIO and CDHO, UC Davis Health

Dr. Nell Meshcheryakov
Strategic Advisor Responsible AI Lead
Dominion Energy Services

Brad Shaink, MBA
Senior Director, Innovation and IT Business Applications
Houston Methodist

3:15pm – 3:45pm
Networking & Refreshments Break

3:45pm – 4:30pm
General Agentic AI in Healthcare (Regulated Industries) and an Architecture Review of Agents
Healthcare and other regulated industries place unusual demands on AI: every workflow must account for compliance, human oversight, and traceability before it reaches production. This session examines how agentic AI is deployed under those conditions. It walks through the architecture behind production-grade agents, including how workflows map step by step, where human checkpoints belong, what is logged for audit, and how a shared control layer lets

the same system scale across many use cases instead of being rebuilt each time. Drawing on deployments across payers, providers, and medical device organizations, the session outlines what separates agentic projects that deliver measurable operational value.
Shani Fargun
VP Healthcare, AI Solutions
StackAI

4:30pm – 5:15pm
AI Data Foundations: The 99% Problem
Ninety-nine percent of enterprise data remains untapped despite AI's potential to unlock transformative insights. Organizations are burdened by fragmented data estates spanning legacy systems, multi-cloud deployments and siloed analytics environments hindering AI readiness. Data quality, accessibility and governance determine whether AI initiatives succeed or fail, yet most organizations lack unified architectures enabling AI to access comprehensive, trustworthy data. This session examines breaking down data silos, establishing data governance enabling AI while protecting privacy and security, and building the infrastructure connecting disparate data sources. Learn about unified data platforms supporting AI workloads, automated data quality management and cataloging systems helping AI understand what data exists and how to use it appropriately. We'll discuss balancing centralized data governance with distributed ownership and preparing data for sovereign AI requirements including localization and compliance.
Prathibha Prabakaran
Senior Director, Enterprise Data and AI Architecture and Strategy
Amtrak

5:15pm
End of Day One

Day Two – Tuesday, September 29, 2026

7:15am – 8:00am
Networking Breakfast

8:00am – 8:15am
Chairperson's Remarks

8:15am – 9:00am
AI and Capital Allocation: The Investor Perspective
Capital allocators are forming distinct views on AI that differ meaningfully from the operator conversation. Where enterprise leaders focus on workflow redesign and productivity measurement, investors are asking harder questions: which AI investments are building durable competitive moats versus generating temporary efficiency gains, how to assess AI capability claims in due diligence, and what separates companies that will capture AI value from those that will see it competed away. This session examines how AI is reshaping portfolio

construction, valuation frameworks and expectations for AI-enabled businesses. Topics to be discussed will include:

- Evaluating AI moat claims — proprietary data, model differentiation and workflow lock-in
- How institutional investors are incorporating AI capability into company valuations
- Portfolio construction in an era where AI compresses competitive advantage timelines
- What investors expect from management teams on AI strategy and governance disclosure

Rohit Kulkarni
Managing Director
Senior Analyst, Internet and Capital Markets Research
Roth Capital Partners, LLC

9:00am – 9:45am
The Future of Work: Human-AI Collaboration and Role Redesign
AI is not replacing humans but fundamentally changing how people work by shifting human effort from routine execution toward strategic oversight, decision-making and creativity. Organizations achieving transformative AI impact redesign workflows so AI handles tasks while people focus on judgment, relationships and innovation that machines cannot replicate. This session explores reimagining roles amplifying human capabilities through AI collaboration, determining which work should remain exclusively human versus human-AI partnership versus fully automated, and managing workforce transitions as AI capabilities expand. Learn about creating hybrid teams where humans and AI agents collaborate as digital coworkers, measuring productivity gains from collaboration rather than replacement, and maintaining employee trust throughout AI transformation. The speaker will examine new job categories emerging from AI adoption, skills becoming more valuable in AI-augmented work and designing career paths in human-AI collaborative environments.
Besa H. Bauta, Ph.D., MPH, MSW
CEO
Rosetta Labs
Assistant Professor
New York University

9:00am – 9:45am
The AI Skills Gap: Education, Reskilling and Workforce Transformation
The AI skills gap has emerged as the biggest barrier to integration across organizations. AI talent demand exceeds supply by more than 3:1 globally, yet education rather than role or workflow redesign was the number one way companies adjusted talent strategies. Worker access to AI rose 50% in 2025 with expectations for continued scaling, but organizations struggle between upskilling existing workforce versus hiring specialized talent. This session explores building AI literacy across all levels of organizations from executives to front-line workers. We'll examine which roles require deep technical AI expertise versus AI fluency enabling effective collaboration with AI systems. Learn about creating training programs that change behavior rather than simply checking compliance boxes, measuring skill development through practical

application, and redesigning roles amplifying human judgment through AI assistance. The speaker will discuss preventing critical thinking atrophy as AI automation accelerates and maintaining capabilities differentiating humans from machines.

Aalpen Patel, MD, MBA, FSIR
CEO
Kaspyan Group
Former Chief Clinical Innovation Officer at MedQuest Imaging

9:45am – 10:15am
Networking & Refreshments Break

10:15am – 11:00am
The AI Education Spectrum: Cultivating Workforce Literacy in Academic Medical Centers
As artificial intelligence transitions from a research novelty to core clinical infrastructure, Academic Medical Centers (AMCs) face a defining institutional challenge: a profound and multi-layered skills gap. Deploying AI safely at the bedside, across operational departments, and within research pipelines requires moving beyond isolated technical hires. It demands a comprehensive, enterprise-wide educational strategy tailored to the distinct needs of clinicians, technologists, executives, and innovation teams. This session explores the full spectrum of AI education necessary to drive safe, scalable, and high-ROI transformation within AMCs. Attendees will explore resources used to build practical AI literacy at every level—from establishing baseline clinical competencies for front-line care teams to upskilling legacy IT workforces for modern data and agentic architectures.
Topics to be discussed will include:

- Clinical AI Competencies: Training physicians, nurses, and front-line staff to effectively evaluate AI outputs, prevent critical thinking atrophy, and safely utilize clinical decision support tools at the bedside.
- Upskilling IT Employees: Transitioning legacy IT professionals into modern data and AI architects capable of managing unified data platforms, model integrations, and continuous infrastructure monitoring.
- Leadership-Level Competencies: Equipping executive and administrative leaders with the valuation, risk management, and governance frameworks required to make high-stakes capital allocation decisions.
- Innovation Team Redesign: Restructuring and educating dedicated transformation teams to move past the "proof of concept" phase and effectively orchestrate enterprise-wide AI deployment pipelines

Rebecca Canino, MBA
Executive Director
Office of Telemedicine
Johns Hopkins Medicine

11:00am – 11:45am
The Ethical Implications of AI in Healthcare

This interactive talk highlights and dives deep into the ethical issues and controversies surrounding the implementation of artificial intelligence in healthcare. Beginning with a brief history of AI and machine learning in clinical medicine—illustrated by real-world example—the talk surveys the core ethical challenges these technologies raise, including algorithmic and practitioner bias, data diversity and representativeness, transparency and trust, informed consent, liability for medical error, erosion of clinical skill and judgment, data privacy, and equitable access and allocation of AI-enabled care.

G. Hamilton Baker, MD, MS
Professor of Pediatrics and Public Health
Medical University of South Carolina

11:00am – 11:45am
Garbage In, Garbage Out: Why Communication Quality Determines AI ROI
As organizations rush to adopt AI, many discover that weak outputs often stem from weak inputs. This session reframes the AI skills gap as a communication gap, arguing that effective AI use depends on clear goals, relevant context, audience awareness, evidence, and human review. Drawing on applied communication, workforce readiness, and AI-integrated teaching, the presentation explores "garbage in, garbage out" as both a data and communication problem. Attendees will learn a practical framework for improving prompts, evaluating AI outputs, reducing business risk, and helping teams use AI as a strategic collaborator rather than a generic productivity tool.

Emily Acosta Lewis
Professor
Sonoma State University

11:45am – 12:30pm
AI Governance Frameworks: From Compliance Checkbox to Strategic Imperative
AI governance is evolving from a reactive compliance exercise into a strategic differentiator that drives competitive advantage, stakeholder trust, and organizational resilience. While many organizations currently treat governance as a defensive risk-mitigation function, a maturity-based approach—which scores and tiers AI tools—allows for more agile adoption than traditional ad hoc review cycles. By creating structured trust, these frameworks act as an innovation enabler that helps organizations satisfy regulators and clients simultaneously. Ultimately, the next competitive frontier will be defined by credible governance, transforming a mandatory compliance obligation into a valuable strategic asset.

Marcia Cole, MSc
Fellow & James Renier Chair in Security Technologies
University of Minnesota - Technological Leadership Institute

12:30pm
Conference Concludes

12:45pm – 2:45pm
Workshop

AI and Organizational Culture: What the Journey Actually Looks Like

Creating the right culture around AI adoption and use is a critical part of the journey. Via a series of interactive exercises, participants will explore practical tactics to create a culture where AI truly supports business results. This session will delve into how to frame leadership messaging around AI, how to set guardrails and guidelines that make AI use appealing and productive, and how to position AI in the context of working days that are often already overloaded. We'll also discuss how AI use tests long-held cultural norms – and how organizations can make sure their core values stay intact.

Melissa Swift
Founder and CEO
Anthrome Insight LLC

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