

# CAL POLY AI SYMPOSIUM 2026, 2-DAY AGENDA

**Wednesday, May 6th, 12pm – 4:00pm**

**JUSTIN and J. LOHR Center for Wine and Viticulture – Swanson Center of Effort Conference Hall  
(Building 156)**

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12:00 PM – Faculty Discussion on AI Policy & Practice (2 hours)

02:00 PM – “AI: Your Competitive Advantage” Presented by Stan Van Vleck (2 hours)

**Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am – 5pm**

**Chumash Auditorium, University Union (Building 65), Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo**

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08:30 AM – Registration & Continental Breakfast

09:00 AM – Welcome & Framing, Dr. Teshia Roby

09:05 AM – Provost’s Welcome

09:12 AM – Keynote I Introduction, Dr. Sarah Macdonald, Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology

09:15 AM – Keynote I - Dr. Julie Carpenter, AI and Human Interactions

09:55 AM – Keynote II Introduction, Dr. Dustin DeBrum, Noyce School of Applied Computing

09:58 AM – Keynote II - Dr. Rama Akkiraju - NVIDIA (Virtual)

10:40 AM – Student Voices – Neeraja Beesetti, Alexios Sideris, Weston Kenneth Patrick

11:00 AM – Faculty Panel Introduction, Dr. Leida Chen and Dr. Ashley Ringer McDonald

11:03 AM – Faculty Panel

11:53 AM – Chancellor’s Office Perspective, Ed Clark

12:03 PM – Lunch & Networking

12:45 PM – Industry Panel on Emerging careers, Career readiness, and Life-long learning

01:30 PM – Transition Break

01:40 PM – Concurrent Sessions – Block 1 (Tracks A, B, C, D running simultaneously)

02:35 PM – Transition Break (Movement between rooms)

02:43 PM – Concurrent Sessions – Block 2 (Tracks A, B, C running simultaneously)

03:38 PM – Transition Back to Chumash

03:46 PM – Keynote III Introduction, Dean Wendt, Bailey College of Science and Mathematics

03:49 PM – Keynote III - Entrepreneur and Industry Speaker - Mike Abbott (Virtual)

03:04 PM – Keynote IV Introduction, Provost Liddicoat

04:07 PM – Keynote IV - Noyce Distinguished Speaker, Dr. Chris Clark

04:54 PM – Closing Remarks, Provost Liddicoat

04:59 PM – Reception