

The background of the top half of the poster is a dark, blurred image of a laptop keyboard. Overlaid on this are several translucent, glowing icons that represent various aspects of education and technology: a target, a video player, a graduation cap, gears, a magnifying glass, a person at a presentation, and an open book.

World EdTech & Innovation Summit

12-13 FEBRUARY 2026
BOSTON, MA

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World EdTech & Innovation Summit

12-13 FEBRUARY 2026

BOSTON, MA

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SPEAKER LINE-UP



John FitzGibbon
Associate Director
of Digital Learning Innovation
Boston College



Kim Manturuk
Executive Director of the Center
for Excellence in Teaching
Learning and Online Education
Georgia State University



Kanchan Thaokar
Assistant Director,
Education Technology
Fordham University



Greg Heiberger
Associate Dean for Academics
& Student Success
South Dakota State
University



Kyle Bowen
Deputy CIO,
Enterprise Technology
Arizona State
University



Martin Samuels
Director, Faculty Programs
and Services (Center for
Teaching and Learning)
Columbia University



Mark Green
Vice President Institutional
Effectiveness and Technology
Holy Family
University



Helen Chu
Senior Director, Learning Spaces
Stanford University



Mary Ellen Wilttrout
Director of Online and Blended
Learning Initiatives, Lecturer in
Digital Learning, Biology
Massachusetts
Institute of Technology



Joe Way
Executive Director,
Digital Spaces
UCLA



Rob Curtin
Director Higher Education,
Microsoft Worldwide
Education Industry
Microsoft



World EdTech & Innovation Summit

 **12-13 FEBRUARY 2026**

 **BOSTON, MA**

Register Now & Save USD 400

We are excited to announce the **World EdTech & Innovation Summit**, taking place on **12-13 February 2026** in **Boston, MA**. This summit will spotlight the latest advancements, strategies, and technologies shaping the future of higher education. From AI-driven course design and immersive professional skills labs to smart campus infrastructure and student-centered digital ecosystems, the event will explore how technology can transform learning environments to boost engagement, foster innovation, and elevate students' outcomes. The summit will bring together senior-level university leaders, educators, EdTech innovators, and other industry leaders to collaborate, exchange ideas, and uncover actionable solutions that redefine the educational experience. Join us to explore inspiring case studies, participate in engaging discussions, and gain practical insights that will empower you to lead digital transformation and pedagogical innovation at your institution!

Key Practical Learning Points

- Designing Engaging Virtual and Hybrid Classrooms That Promote Active Participation
- Implementing AI-Powered Tools to Automate and Enhance Course Design and Assessment
- Leveraging Chatbots and Virtual Agents to Improve Student Support and Administrative Workflows
- Applying Learning Analytics to Tailor Course Content and Improve Student Outcomes
- Building Inclusive Co-Creation Processes That Involve Students in Course Development
- Scaling Active Learning Techniques Across Faculties to Increase Engagement and Retention
- Embedding Innovation Into Teaching Norms to Foster a Culture of Continuous Improvement
- Developing Immersive Labs for Practical Skills Training Across Diverse Disciplines
- Leading Digital Transformation Initiatives to Build Internal Capacity and Align Strategy With Pedagogy

Take a Look at Our Innovative Learning Spaces Summit



Who Should Attend

This summit will bring together Directors, Heads, Managers, Principals, Deans, Professors, and Senior Level Executives involved in:

- Higher Education
- Digital and Blended Learning
- Educational Development and Innovation
- Learning Technology and EdTech Solutions
- Student Experience and Support Services
- Learning Analytics and Data Science
- Teaching Innovation and Pedagogical Adoption
- Immersive Learning and Simulation Labs
- Smart Campus Infrastructure
- Library and Information Services
- Space Planning and Facilities Management
- Research and Educational Policy
- & Others!

 **X 12+ Industry Case Studies**

 **X 20+ Hours of Networking:**
forge new professional contacts during numerous networking breaks between sessions & during the special Networking Dinner on Day 1

 **X 100+ Pages of the Post-Summit Materials**
documentation package available upon demand*

Did You Know?

94% of universities worldwide now use at least one learning management system (LMS) as a core part of their teaching infrastructure, making digital learning the new normal in higher education.

Sources:

Dahlstrom, E., Brooks, D. C., & Bichsel, J. (2014). The current ecosystem of learning management systems in higher education: Student, faculty, and IT perspectives. EDUCAUSE.

Over **60%** of faculty say EdTech tools have significantly increased student engagement, particularly in hybrid and active learning environments.

Number Analytics. (2023, December 14). 7 Statistical gains from EdTech in modern educational classrooms. Number Analytics. Retrieved August 12, 2025

More than **80%** of universities now integrate AI-powered tools into at least one area of teaching, assessment, or student support, marking a major shift toward intelligent learning systems in higher education.

HolonIQ. (2024). AI in Higher Education: Adoption Trends and Impacts.

More than **70%** of universities use learning analytics to track student progress and personalize support, helping to improve retention and academic outcomes.

Satpathy, A. (2023, July 29). The use of big data and analytics for improving student outcomes and personalized learning. Medium. Retrieved August 12, 2025

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08:30 Check-In and Welcome Coffee 

09:00 Opening Address from the Chair

09:10 **"Breaking the Ice" Speed Networking Session**

Meet your colleagues, exchange business cards and have a maximum number of 1-on-1 talks in a short amount of time! Our Speed Networking session will help you to form those initial relationships early, find out who is facing the same challenges as you and get a nice preview of what a longer conversation could bring!

DIGITAL-FIRST LEARNING ECOSYSTEMS

09:50 AVAILABLE SPONSORSHIP SLOT



Empowering Educators and Students Through Data-Driven Insights

Discover how data analytics and AI-powered platforms are enhancing teaching strategies and student support systems. Learn about innovative approaches to leveraging behavioral data for personalized learning experiences and improved engagement across diverse campus communities.

10:30 Case Study: 

Building Bridges, Not Just Tools: Faculty Partnerships in AI and Active Learning Implementation

- Showcase a collaborative approach to implementing AI-powered tools and active learning technologies with faculty as key partners.
- Share successes and roadblocks in scaling new tools across faculty.
- Provide insights on faculty development, trust-building, and cross-functional collaboration.
- Offer a framework for implementing new technologies in alignment with institutional mission and teaching culture.

Kanchan Thaokar

Assistant Director, Education Technology
Fordham University



11:10 Morning Coffee and Networking Break 

11:40 Case Study: 

Scaling Excellence: Using AI-Powered Tools to Integrate High-Impact Teaching Practices Across Core Curriculum

Strategic Implementation at Scale: Learn how Georgia State University is systematically integrating high-impact practices into every core curriculum class, impacting 50,000+ students through technology-enhanced faculty development and AI-powered pedagogical tools.

Data-Driven Impact Assessment: Explore concrete student learning outcomes and success metrics demonstrating how technology-scaled high-impact practices improve retention, engagement, and academic achievement across diverse student populations.

Replicable Framework for Institutional Transformation: Gain actionable insights and a proven model for embedding innovation into teaching norms while building internal capacity for sustained pedagogical transformation at your own institution.

Kim Manturuk

Executive Director of the Center for Excellence
in Teaching Learning and Online Education
Georgia State University



12:20 Case Study: 

Beyond Traditional LMS: Using Prediction Markets and Collaborative Technologies to Enhance Classroom Participation *

Explore how innovative digital platforms like prediction markets and collaborative tools can transform traditional learning management systems to foster deeper student engagement and active participation. This session will showcase practical strategies for integrating technologies such as G Suite and Canvas to create dynamic, interactive classrooms where students are co-creators in their learning journey. Attendees will gain insights into enhancing student interaction, promoting real-time feedback, and leveraging data-driven methods to enrich the educational experience beyond conventional LMS capabilities.

John FitzGibbon

Associate Director of Digital Learning Innovation
Boston College



13:00 Business Lunch 

AI & STUDENT-CENTERED INNOVATION

14:00 Case Study: 

Understanding AI Agents (Not the 007 Kind): How Agentic AI Can Support Academic Outcomes and Simplify Administration for Student Pathways

Join Microsoft for an informative — and fun — session on Agentic Architecture. Whether you're managing spreadsheets, maintaining servers, prepping a class lecture, or committing code to a repo, AI agents can make your life a lot easier. We'll demonstrate how Microsoft 365 Copilot speeds up daily tasks for everyone, how GitHub Copilot accelerates coding and testing for developers, and how organizations can fine-tune their own agentic AI models to better engage campus communities. By the end of this session, you'll understand how the autonomous capabilities of AI agents are transforming the way we work and learn. It's up to you whether to keep them a secret.

Rob Curtin

Director Higher Education,
Microsoft Worldwide Education Industry
Microsoft



14:40 Case Study: 

HigherEd Tech Innovation: Finding Meaning Through the Noise, from Twitter to VR & AI, 20 Years of Progress

- Vision creation and mission alignment
- Culture change
- Progress in resource constrained environments
- Context matters (D1, R1 aspiring university in the rural Great Plains)

Greg Heiberger

Associate Dean for Academics & Student Success
South Dakota State University



15:20 Afternoon Tea and Networking Break 

15:40 Case Study: 

Empowering Educators: Advancing Inclusive and Impactful Teaching Through Faculty Innovation Programs *

By equipping faculty with cutting-edge pedagogical tools, inclusive design principles, and digital learning strategies, institutions can foster more impactful and equitable educational experiences. This presentation will highlight how targeted faculty development programs—centered on active learning design, hybrid instruction, and pedagogical innovation—enable educators to confidently adapt to changing learning environments, uplift student engagement, and sustain institutional teaching excellence in an era of rapid transformation.

Martin Samuels

Director, Faculty Programs and Services
(Center for Teaching and Learning)
Columbia University



16:20 PANEL DISCUSSION 

Panel Discussion: The Future-Ready University – How Digital Infrastructure Will Shape the Next Decade

Join leading experts as they explore how evolving digital infrastructure is set to transform higher education in the coming years. This panel will examine key trends such as campus-wide connectivity, data-driven decision-making, and the integration of emerging technologies to create flexible, resilient learning environments. Attendees will gain insights into strategic investments and collaborative approaches necessary to build universities that are agile, inclusive, and ready to meet future educational challenges.

17:00 Chair's Closing Remarks and End of Day One

18:00 Networking Dinner 

* TBC

08:30 Check-In and Welcome Coffee ☕

09:00 Day Two Opening Remarks from the Chair

SMART CAMPUSES & DIGITAL STUDENT EXPERIENCE

09:10 AVAILABLE SPONSORSHIP SLOT



Transforming Campus Connectivity: Innovations in Smart Infrastructure

Explore how emerging technologies are reshaping campus networks and infrastructure to create seamless, connected learning environments. This session highlights advancements in IoT, predictive analytics, and integrated digital services that support both academic success and operational efficiency.

09:50 Case Study: 🔍

Building UCLA's Smart Campus: Integrating Technology, Space, and Strategy

In this session, Dr. Joe Way explores UCLA's journey toward becoming a truly smart campus, one that leverages integrated systems, data-informed decision-making, and user-first design to transform the student and faculty experience. Learn how UCLA Digital Spaces is redefining classroom modernization, campus operations, and digital transformation through scalable infrastructure and cross-departmental collaboration.

Joe Way
Executive Director, Digital Spaces
UCLA



10:30 Morning Coffee and Networking Break ☕

11:00 Case Study: 🔍

Technology Enabled Experiences and the Future of Learning Spaces

- Re-imagine learning spaces as collaborative experiences designed for the learner
- Engaging students and faculty in the design and innovation process
- Explore practical examples from ASU of experience driven spaces for XR, creativity and collaboration

Kyle Bowen
Deputy CIO, Enterprise Technology
Arizona State University



11:40 Case Study: 🔍

Reimagining Learning Spaces: Designing for Engagement, Flexibility, and Digital Integration

- How learning spaces can seamlessly integrate in-room and remote learners for a unified experience.
- Designing spaces that adapt to diverse teaching methods and promote student collaboration.
- Ensuring physical and technological infrastructure supports all learners equitably.
- Leveraging usage analytics to guide future learning space investments and innovations.

Helen Chu
Senior Director, Learning Spaces
Stanford University



12:20 Workshop ⚙️

Building a Unified Digital Ecosystem: Bridging EdTech Silos Across the Institution

In this hands-on workshop, participants will explore strategies to break down fragmented EdTech systems and create a seamless, integrated digital ecosystem across their institution. Through case studies and collaborative exercises, attendees will learn how to align technology platforms, data sources, and stakeholder needs to foster collaboration between departments and enhance the overall learning experience. The session will provide practical tools for overcoming common barriers to integration, promoting interoperability, and driving institution-wide digital transformation that supports both faculty and students.

13:00 Business Lunch 🍽️

14:00 Case Study: 🔍

Designing Learning Without Walls: Scaling Transformative Education Through Online and Blended Innovation

Faculty and institutions engaged in innovative teaching are driving a paradigm shift—transforming isolated classrooms into dynamic, boundaryless learning environments. This presentation will explore how robust online and blended learning frameworks can be strategically designed to empower instructors, foster student agency, and enhance learning outcomes. Attendees will gain insights into building scalable, inclusive models that blend synchronous and asynchronous engagement, leverage adaptive technologies, and enable seamless transitions between virtual and in-person experiences—ultimately placing pedagogy at the center of digital learning innovation.

Mary Ellen Wilttrout
Director of Online and Blended Learning
Initiatives, Lecturer in Digital Learning, Biology
Massachusetts
Institute of Technology



14:30 Case Study: 🔍

AI Personas That Empathize and Strategize: Designing Human-Centered Agents for Innovation

- **Persona Design from Rich Data & Phenomenography**
Draw on interviews, focus groups, and phenomenographic methods to craft personas that capture student goals, frustrations, and perspectives in their own words.
- **Empathy Mapping to Surface Emotional Insight**
Use empathy maps ("Thinks, Feels, Says, Does") to structure what students think or feel but may not articulate publicly.
- **Scenario Testing with AI Personas**
Simulate how different personas (e.g., a working parent, a neurodiverse learner) might interpret assignment prompts or course instructions.
- **Strategic Insight Beyond Data Dashboards**
Traditional analytics show what students did; personas help explain why.

Mark Green
Vice President Institutional
Effectiveness and Technology
Holy Family University



15:00 Case Study: 🔍

Driving Digital Transformation: Empowering Faculty and Aligning Institutional Strategy

Discover effective strategies for building internal capacity and fostering a culture of innovation that empowers faculty to lead digital transformation efforts. Learn how to scale successful initiatives from pilot projects to institution-wide adoption, while aligning technology investments and partnerships with core educational goals. Practical insights on procurement and change management will help create a sustainable, pedagogy-centered digital ecosystem.

Speaker TBC

15:30 Chair's Closing Remarks and End of Summit

* TBC

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Position:

E-mail:

Name:

Position:

E-mail:

Name:

Position:

E-mail:

CONTACT INFORMATION

Company:

Address:

City:

Postcode:

Phone:

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