CLC ATC Highlights: Notes on Community Engagement & AI

Jonathan Hardbarger, Ed.D.

Director of College of Lake County ATC

CLC ATC Community Outreach Notes: Kohl Children's Museum







CLC ATC Community Outreach Notes: METT Challenge



CLC ATC Community Outreach Notes: CMMS

- Noah Willkom, Project Manager, Return to Home Port, Noah@Return2Homeport.com,
- Andy Kimsey, Workforce Development Lead for Veterans' Initiatives and the Great Lakes, Submarine Industrial Base



CLC ATC Community Outreach Notes

I would love to hear what you are doing and to share that with the conference attendees. What are you doing at your center to increase community and k-12 engagement? Please email me, or scan the code I am sharing. I will share all of the comments with you.

AI at the CLC ATC

- Fundamental Question: Where is its place in our curriculum for all of our CTE programs at the ATC?

Dennis Wingate: "I think everyone's just trying to get their head wrapped around it still. I don't think we're at a point where we can develop a plan or a path of how to incorporate it yet."

Applied Co-Intelligence: Preparing Career and Technical Education Learners for an AI-Driven Workforce

By Cameron Sublett, Lauren Mason, Matias Fresard, & Dani Rimbach-Jones

February 2026

Ashish Vaswani:
“Attention is you Need.”





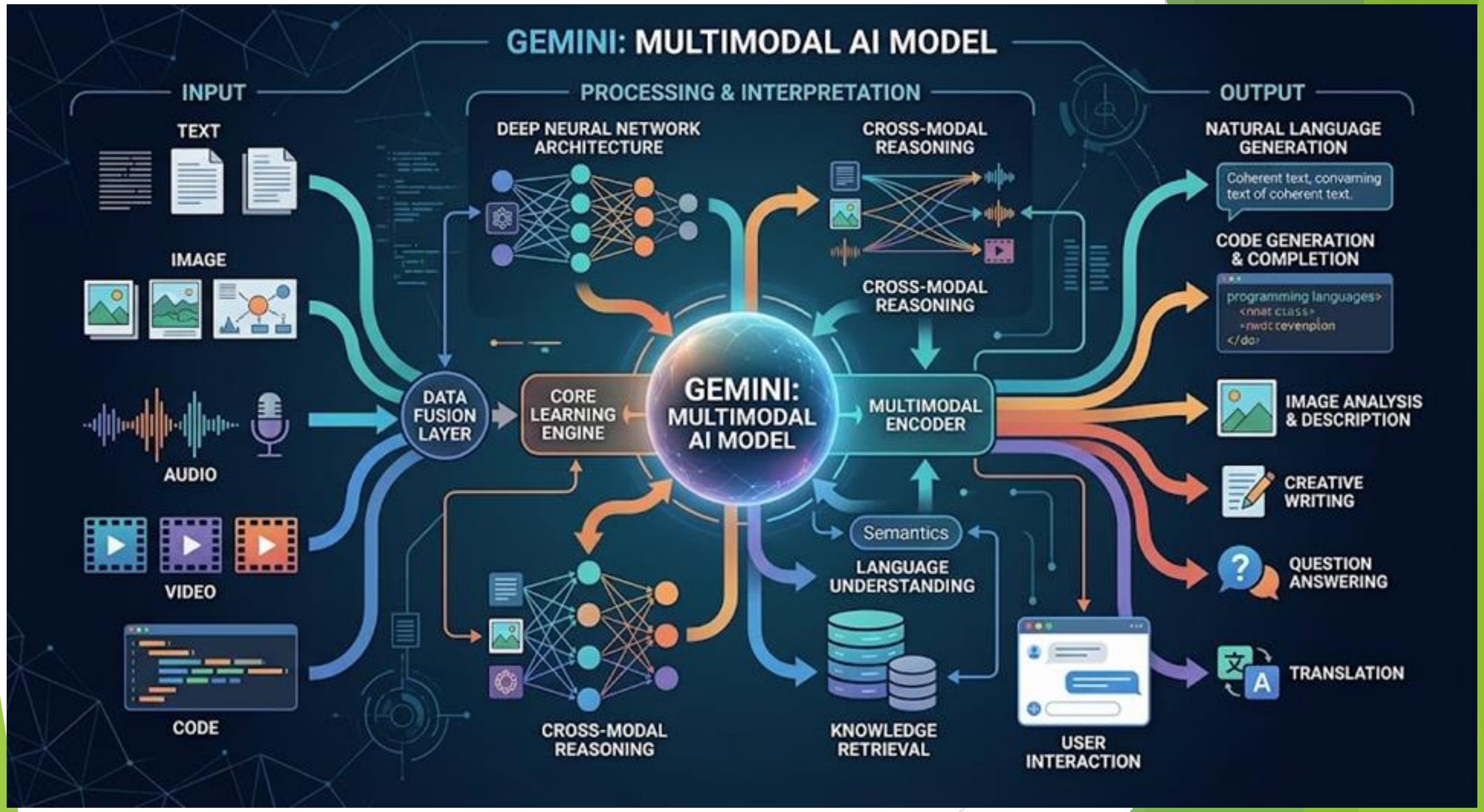
AI at the CLC ATC

Non-generative machine learning has been around since 1952 when Arthur Samuel developed a computer that could play checkers, and he coined the term “machine learning”, an early form of AI that focuses on learning patterns in data and making predictions, and it is a key part of any Generative AI platform today; indeed many of our business systems.



G is for Generative AI ; P is for Pre-trained; T is for Transformer architecture

- Gemini “Why does Google literature refer to Gemini as a model? What is it modeling?”
- I am referred to as a model “***because, mathematically and structurally, it is a statistical model of human communication, reasoning, and world knowledge……***
- ***At its most fundamental level, (It) is a probability model (mapping) out how words, code, visual tokens, and sound frequencies relate to one another.”***


GEMINI: MULTIMODAL AI MODEL
INPUT
TEXT
IMAGE
AUDIO
VIDEO
CODE
DATA FUSION LAYER
PROCESSING & INTERPRETATION
DEEP NEURAL NETWORK ARCHITECTURE
CROSS-MODAL REASONING
CROSS-MODAL REASONING
CORE LEARNING ENGINE
GEMINI: MULTIMODAL AI MODEL
MULTIMODAL ENCODER
Semantics
LANGUAGE UNDERSTANDING
CROSS-MODAL REASONING
KNOWLEDGE RETRIEVAL
USER INTERACTION
OUTPUT
NATURAL LANGUAGE GENERATION
Coherent text, convaming text of coherent text.
CODE GENERATION & COMPLETION
programming languages>
IMAGE ANALYSIS & DESCRIPTION
CREATIVE WRITING
QUESTION ANSWERING
TRANSLATION

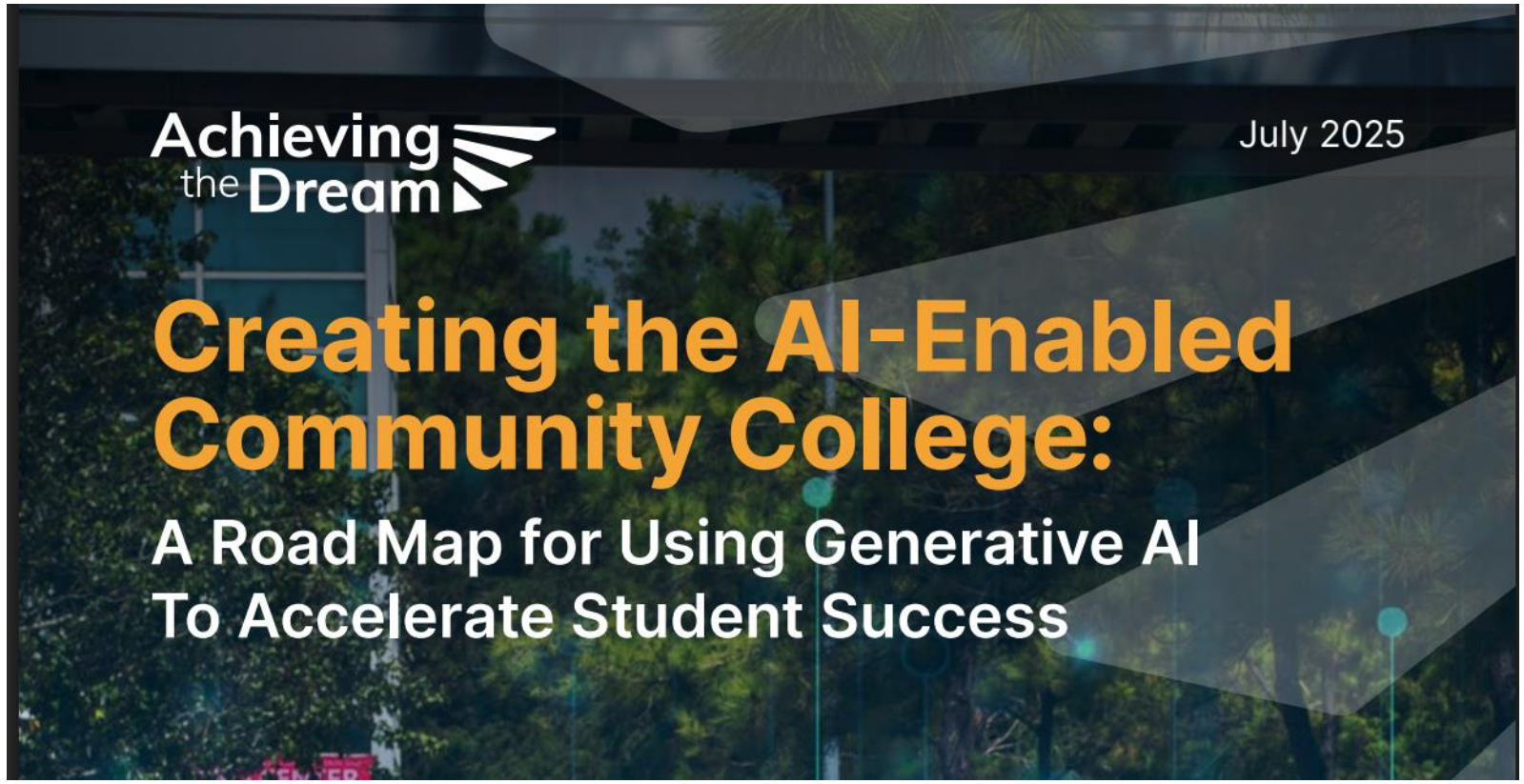
Co-pilot, could you provide a picture of yourself?

A more symbolic representation would be:

```
                Knowledge
                    ▲
                    |
                    |
Creativity ←— Copilot —→ Reasoning
                    |
                    |
                    ▼
                Assistance
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"community colleges need to ensure that all students (including those in degree and non-degree pathways) have competence in digital and AI literacy and develop the knowledge and skills to be "AI-agile"



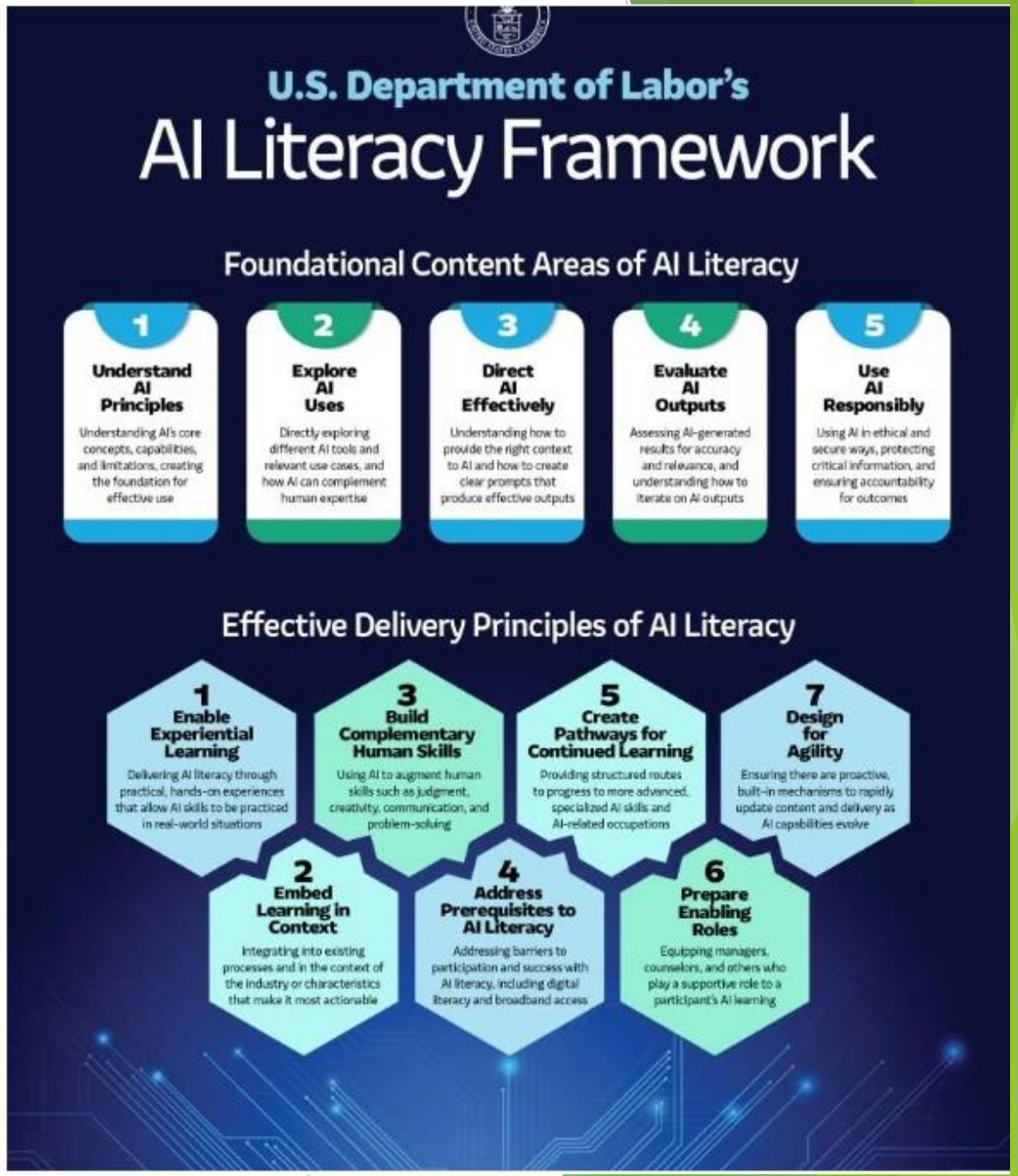
Three days of bringing together more than 200 educators, industry leaders, public sector partners, and innovators to explore how AI is shaping the future of education and the workforce.



FREE AI Literacy

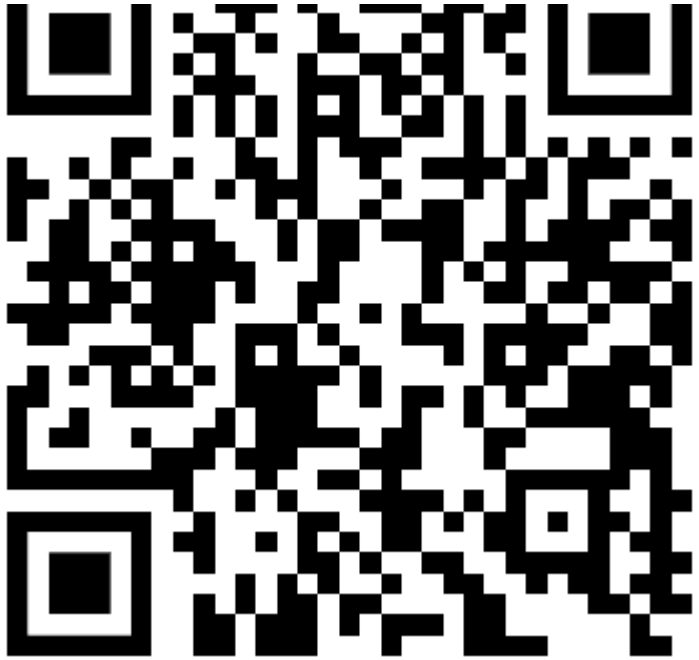
RESOURCE HUB

Everything educators and school leaders need to build AI literacy in their community

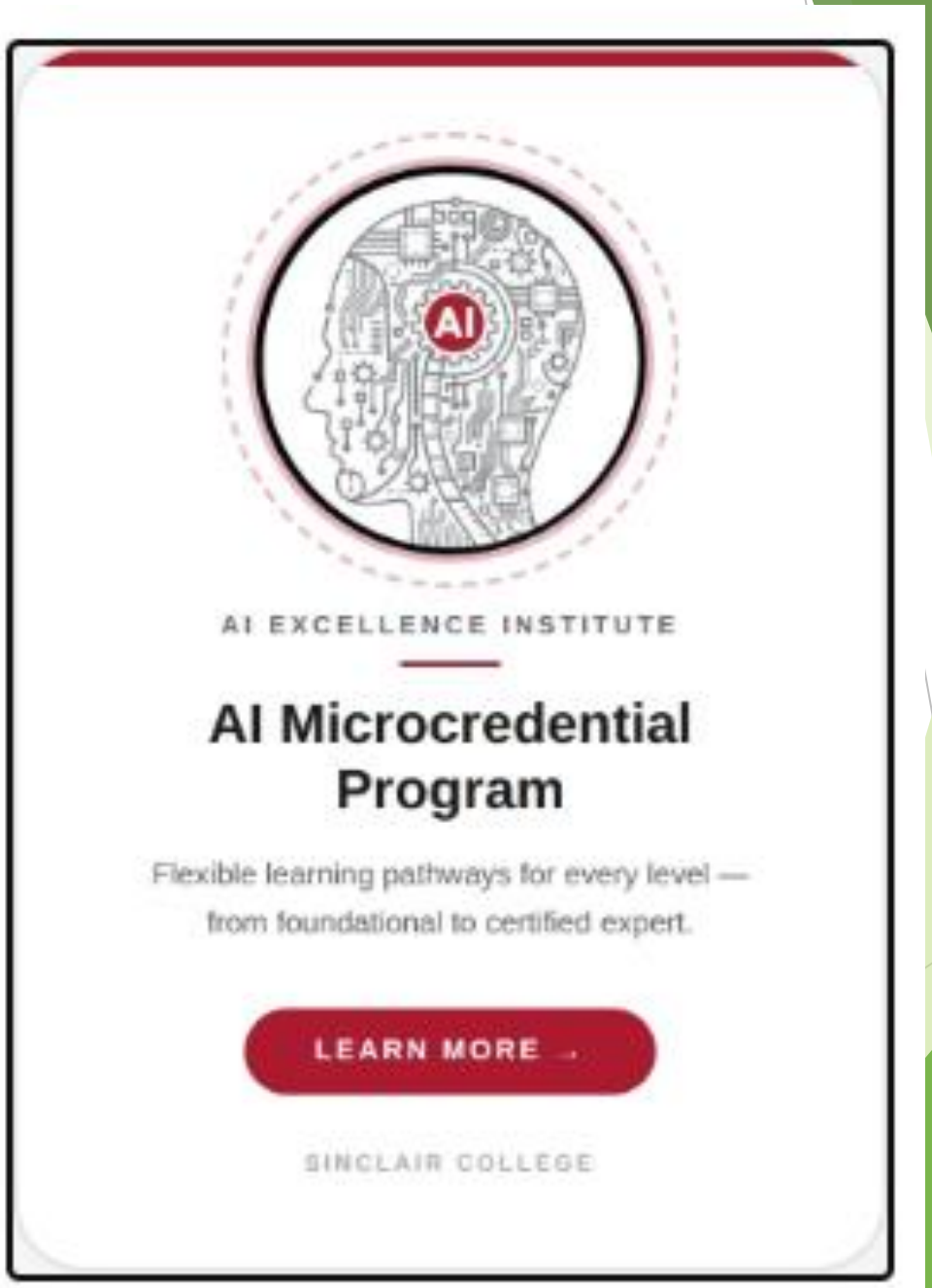


PURDUE UNIVERSITY | Online Programs

ONLINE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE MICROCREDENTIALS



Sinclair AI Micro-credential Program:



Ohio Efforts to bring AI Competency into College Curriculum

- “Our goal is to equip faculty with the knowledge and confidence to use AI in purposeful ways,” https://www.edisonohio.edu/news/edison-state-awarded-grant-ai-integration



Round Table Discussion

- **Do you support a threshold AI literacy or competency is necessary now for the workforce technician, or is that support limited?**
- **What should NCATC's stance on AI in CTE and Workforce education be?**
- **What is your college doing to move AI forward in CTE and workforce education?**
- **What recommendations would you make or are you making to move CTE forward at your ATCs?**



Final Remarks

- A NCATC repository of National AI initiatives. There are many out there, some of which relate better to CTE and ATC programming than others.
- A statement on AI in CTE and ATC programming. Decisive statements about what is needed within ATC programming help push change forward.
- Endorse or develop an action plan for bringing AI literacy and competency to the programming within ATCs.