



CCPI-CAST HOST EXPLAINS AI FOCUSED WEBINAR SERIES

Dr. Elizabeth K. Hawthorne, cybersecurity professor and graduate program director at Northeastern University's Arlington, Virginia campus, instigated CCPI-STEM's leaders' decision to provide programming about artificial intelligence (AI) in fall 2025.

Hawthorne has been the host of CCPI-STEM's webcasts since the project began with an Advanced Technological Education (ATE) grant from the National Science Foundation in 2021. She is also a co-principal investigator of CCPI-STEM. Her expertise in cybersecurity education coupled with her experience as a community college educator—Hawthorne was senior professor of computer science and cybersecurity at Union College in New Jersey for 26 years—means she is well informed about AI, its evolving role in workplaces, and the important technician education work of science, technology, engineering and mathematics educators at community colleges.

"AI is coming fast and furious, and colleges need to get engaged if they hope to shape this new

technology in an ethical and responsible way. Students are already using AI," Hawthorne said.

She points out that an Insider Higher Education survey, College Students' Views on AI, found that students are concerned that faculty knowledge and competency in using AI tools are insufficient. Students are concerned about the quality of education, proper AI integration, and the loss of essential skills.

"CCPI-STEM leaders agree that community colleges have a moral responsibility to educate their students that best supports their potential employment in an AI-enabled workplace. CCPI-STEM leaders are also aware that community college educators and administrators are hungry for guidance on how to incorporate AI technologies into teaching and learning as well as administrative processes," Hawthorne said.

CCPI-STEM's AI in STEM Education four-part webinar series in fall 2025 responds to both community college students' and educators' needs.

The August CCPI-cast focused on how to use generative artificial intelligence (GAI) responsibly when developing any ATE grant proposal. The educational materials featured in this CCPI-cast were developed by the FORCCE-ATE in response to the December 14, 2023 NSF Notice to research community: Use of generative artificial intelligence technology in the NSF merit review process.

The September 2025 CCPI-cast "Transforming Teaching and Learning with AI: A Live Demonstration for Faculty, Staff, and Administrators" features Dr. John Sands, professor and chair of Computer Integrated Technologies at Moraine Valley Community College in Illinois.

The October CCPI-cast features Dr. Antoino Delgado, vice president of Innovation and Tech Partnerships at Miami Dade College in Florida, explaining the professional development and resources offered by the National Applied AI Consortium. Miami Dade College is the host of consortium funded by the ATE program.

The November CCPI-cast "AI Excellence Institute" features Chris Prokes, director of the AI Excellence Institute at Sinclair Community College in Ohio.

See them all at ccpi-stem.org/webcasts-podcasts

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 17, 2025 | 1:00 pm ET
CCPI-Cast: The National Applied AI Consortium

Oct. 22-25, 2025
ACCT Leadership Congress

Oct. 31, 2025
ATE PI Conference: Affinity Group Meeting

Nov. 14, 2025 | 1:00 pm ET
CCPI-Cast: AI Excellence Institute

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