



Achieving Excellence in Workforce Education

How Community Colleges Prepare Students with AI Workforce Competencies

Part 5: AI in STEM Education Series

CCPI-CAST

March 20, 2026

1:00 – 2:00 PM ET

ccpi-stem.org/webcasts-podcasts/



PRINCE GEORGE'S
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Presentation Slides, Recordings, & Upcoming CCPI-Casts

- ❖ Available on the CCPI-STEM website @ ccpi-stem.org/webcasts-podcasts/
- ❖ 20 previously recorded episodes available as both webcasts and podcasts with presentation slides as separate files
- ❖ Upcoming CCPI-Cast episodes in the **AI in STEM Education Series**: registration links available @ ccpi-stem.org under Upcoming Events
 - Part 6 in the AI in STEM Education series will be **Fri, April 17, 2026 @ 1:00 pm ET**



Welcome and Introductions

Today's Presenters

- **President Anne Kress**, Northern Virginia Community College, VA
- **President David Harrison**, Columbus State Community College, OH

Today's Moderator

- **Dr. Elizabeth K. Hawthorne**, CCPI-STEM Co-PI, Senior Professor Emerita, Computer Science and Cybersecurity, Union College, NJ



Today's Topics

- Opinion poll about AI
- How **NOVA Community College** prepares student with AI workforce competencies
- How **Columbus State Community College** prepares students with AI workforce competencies
- Questions along the way in chat
- Webinar evaluation poll



AI Opinion Poll





Northern Virginia Community College

President Anne Kress





CCPI-STEM WEBINAR:

**HOW NOVA PREPARES
STUDENTS WITH AI WORKFORCE
COMPETENCIES**

MARCH 20, 2026

NOVA | Northern Virginia
Community College



AI CAREER PATHWAY PROGRAMS

GROUNDING IN LMI & INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS

Program Advisory
Councils

Future of Work Business
Advisory Council

Labor Market Intelligence
Team

Pulse Surveys



CREDIT PATHWAYS

History: Machine Learning partnership with the U.S. Marine Corps

Today: Info Systems Tech: Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics (Fall 2023)

- Focuses on artificial intelligence/machine learning and data analytics and emphasizes applied tool use and IT system integration
- 224 Students Fall 2025
- 62 Graduates in 2 years

Tomorrow: Computer Sci: Algorithms and Artificial Intelligence (Fall 2026)

- Meets regional demand for emerging areas in artificial intelligence and data science.
- Emphasizes computational and mathematical foundations that enable students to design, develop, and evaluate AI and data-driven solutions.

INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS



Building the AI Talent Pipeline through FastForward

- IT Specialist: Artificial Intelligence Certification
- Introduces learners to AI concepts and practical applications
- Since 2025 launch, over 100 enrollees

Customized AI Training for Business & Incumbent Workers

- NOVAnext

Expanding AI Options – Launching this Spring

- AWS Certified AI Practitioner
- AWS Certified Machine Learning - Associate



AI ACROSS NOVA

ENGAGING FACULTY & STAFF

Center for the Advancement of Teaching Excellence (CATE)

- Supports faculty and staff across three inaugural AI in Teaching and Learning internal cross-disciplinary grants (\$225K)

Assessment in the Age of AI Grant supports assessment redesign

AI Incubator Grant supports faculty integration of GenAI and Machine Learning into their courses.

Developing an AI Micro-Credential in Non-Tech Disciplines grants

College Computing

- Homegrown **GenAI Career Coach** launching Summer 2026
- Work team **Microsoft Copilot agentic training** to streamline recurring tasks
- **AI-enabled software solutions** (e.g., Raptor, Ad Astra) to support staff

EXPANDING SCOPE

- **VCCS AI Framework**
 - NOVA Computer Science Professor Emilia Butu leads VCCS Community of Practice on AI Pathways
- **AAC&U AI, Pedagogy & the Curriculum Institute**
 - Cross-discipline team
- **University Partnerships**
 - Virginia State University Computer Science with AI
 - George Washington University Leveraging AI for Skills Attraction and Research



QUESTIONS?

NOVA | Northern Virginia
Community College



Columbus State Community College

President David Harrison



AI in STEM: How Community Colleges Prepare Students with AI Workforce Competencies

Community College Presidents Initiative in STEM (CCPI-STEM)
March 20, 2026

David Harrison
President

COLUMBUS
STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Our Strategic Framework

- **Responsible AI usage**
- **Preparing the workforce**
- **Using AI to run our business**

AI Policy and Practice Committee

Committee Members

Adam Keller, Professor, Biological and Physical Sciences

Allen Kraus, Vice President (co-chair)

Amanda Gradisek, Dean, Arts and Humanities

Ben Dalton, Director, Information Security

Deborah Bertsch, Professor, English

Kristen Oganowski, Instructor, Humanities

Larry McWherter, Incoming Dean, Information Systems Technology

Marty Maliwesky, Senior Vice President, Academic Affairs

Mary Reiter, Professor, Social & Behavioral Sciences (co-chair, AI Faculty Fellow)

Matt Heywood, Professor, Information Systems Technology

Maura Usher, Chairperson, Social & Behavioral Sciences

Rebecca Butler, Executive Vice President

Shelley Casbarro, Senior Director, Strategic Initiatives and Assessment (co-chair)

Committee Focus Areas

- 1. Syllabus transparency:** Provide clear guidelines for student use of AI.
- 2. Student literacy and fluency:** Ensure that students understand AI and can apply it to real-world problems.

Proposed changes to Institutional Learning Goals

Upon completion of their degree program, students will be able to:

ILG 1(g): **Critical Thinking** - Evaluate the accuracy, relevance, and limitations of information generated by digital and artificial intelligence tools when analyzing problems or drawing conclusions.

ILG 2(d): **Ethical Reasoning** - Demonstrate responsible, transparent, and ethical use of artificial intelligence and large language models, including respect for privacy, intellectual property, and academic integrity.

ILG 5(d): **Technological Competence** - Demonstrate an understanding of and use digital and artificial intelligence tools to support learning, research, and problem-solving within their discipline.

ILG 7(f): **Cultural and Social Awareness** - Recognize the impact of artificial intelligence and algorithmic technologies on social, political, cultural, economic, and environmental discourses and outcomes.

ILG 8(d): **Professional and Life Skills** - Use established and emerging technologies to plan, adapt, and innovate in personal, academic, and professional settings.

Committee Focus Areas

- 3. Employee literacy and fluency:** Defining and providing for employee AI literacy and fluency.
- 4. Faculty use guidelines:** Establishing responsible and effective AI uses and use guidelines for course development, assessment, portfolio development, and more.
- 5. Responsible Use of Generative AI Guidelines:** Facilitate the adoption of an ever-evolving set of guidelines focused on data integrity and security in the context of AI use.

Preparing the AI Workforce: A credential ecosystem

AI Credential Ecosystem

1. Artificial Intelligence Certificate
2. Artificial Intelligence AAS: Applied AI Engineering
3. AI Literacy and Fluency Certificate
4. Integrated Pathway

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Audience: Poll, Questions & Discussions



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