

SIXTH AI IN STEM CCPI-CAST FOCUSES ON INTEGRATING AI INTO WORKFORCE SKILLS & ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

The CCPI-Cast [Integrating AI into Workforce Skills and Advanced Manufacturing](#) provides an overview of the artificial intelligence (AI) challenges facing two-year colleges and the [American Association of Community Colleges'](#) efforts to address them. The webinar also features detailed information about [South Texas College's](#) approach to incorporating AI across its campuses.

The May 29 webcast is the final entry in a six-part series on AI and the twenty-second CCPI-Cast moderated by Dr. Elizabeth Hawthorne, co-principal investigator of CCPI-STEM. All the CCPI-Casts are available for free at <https://www.ccpi-stem.org/webcasts-podcasts>.

Katy Nelson, Project Manager for Workforce and Economic Development at the American Association of Community Colleges, shared information about the organization's programs to help its 1,000+ member institutions deal with the complex issues around AI. Nelson also directed audience members to the faculty professional development offerings, other courses, and resources available from the [National Applied AI Consortium \(NAAIC\)](#), an [Advanced Technological Education](#) project hosted by [Miami Dade College](#).

Erika K. Guerra, Program Chair of Advanced Manufacturing Technology and Robotics and Mechatronics Technology at South Texas College, explained how the college identifies, maps, and tracks AI integration programs in an array of departments to address the needs of various industries. She then presented detailed information about the AI tools that advanced manufacturing technology students are learning. "We want to make sure that we are upskilling, that we are re-skilling, and that we have that trained workforce," she said.

The 30 webinar participants who answered poll questions identified the lack of faculty expertise, unclear policies, and resistance to change as the biggest barriers to the integration of AI in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) curricula. About half of the respondents indicated their top concerns about AI in higher education are data security, overreliance on AI, and academic integrity.

Read the full article here: bit.ly/4vdEgCA

SOUTHEAST REGION FOCUSES ON BUILDING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

Building upon the Southeast Region's 360° Fireside Chat in April, seventeen educators from nine Alabama community colleges and the Alabama Community College System attended the in-person workshop—Unlocking Capacity: An Institutional Framework for Scaling NSF-ATE Grant Success—that CCPI-STEM's Southeast Region convened in Alabama on June 11.

Read the full article here: bit.ly/3RfvXlj

June 11

CCPI Southeast Region Holds NSF Grant Workshop in AL
"Unlocking Capacity: An Institutional Framework for Scaling NSF-ATE Grant Success"

June 11-12

CCPI Southwest Region Holds AI workshop in TX
"Implications of Artificial Intelligence for Educators."

July 29 | 11:15 am CT

HI-TEC – From Data to Action: Building Collaborative Capacity for STEM Workforce Grants

This session focuses on a college's use of CCPI-STEM modules to translate findings into actionable strategies.

July 27 - 30

CCPI-Fellows & Mentors Attend Hi-TEC 2026

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SOUTHWEST REGION COLLABORATES ON AI WORKSHOP

The in-person workshop Implications of Artificial Intelligence for Educators on June 11 and 12 extended CCPI-STEM's efforts to help educators understand artificial intelligence (AI) and integrate it into their teaching and curriculum development.

CCPI-STEM's Southwest Region collaborated with the [Center for Occupational Research and Development \(CORD\)](#) to bring 66 educators from Texas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma to this meeting at [McLennan Community College](#) in Waco, TX.

Three educators affiliated with the [National Cybersecurity Training & Education Center \(NCyTE\)](#) led the hands-on sessions on how to use AI to enhance learning experiences and for decision-making, problem-solving, data analysis, assessments, course bots, and virtual teaching assistants.

Ethical implications and other AI challenges were also covered during the workshop that helped educators equip students to be adept AI users and critical thinkers.

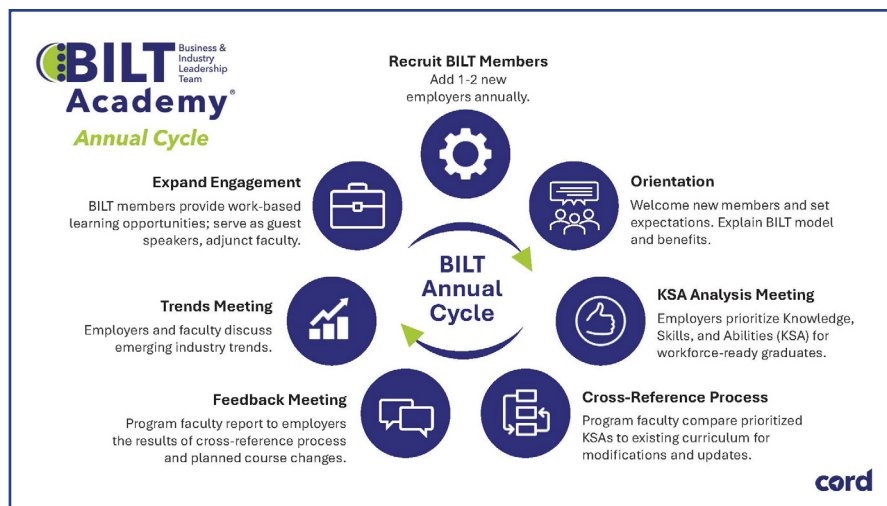
LEVERAGE BILT STRATEGIES EARLY IN GRANT PROPOSAL PREPARATION

Hope Cotner urged educators preparing grant proposals for innovations to start with the basics of convening five to eight employers to see if they think the new program is needed. She suggested asking employers very specific questions. "First and foremost listen to what they have to say. Document it and really take that to inform your next steps," she said.

The grant-writing team should consider these questions:

- What problem will your proposed project address?
- Have you documented your community gaps and the need to address them?
- How is your proposed solution informed by industry?
- How will industry collaborate to implement it?

Read the full article here: bit.ly/3QIhzYY



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