CAL POLY

CAL POLY AI DAY

PROGRAM

THURSDAY

OCT. 22, 2026 | 10 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Swanson Center of Effort Conference Hall

CAL POLY IN SAN LUIS OBISPO

Justin and J. Lohr Center for Wine and Viticulture

CAL POLY IN SAN LUIS OBISPO

From faculty innovation and immersive learning to student research and industry insight, Cal Poly AI Day showcases how Cal Poly is putting AI into practice through its Learn by Doing approach. Amid growing public concern about artificial intelligence, students need opportunities to engage with thoughtful industry leaders who can help them develop the knowledge, discernment and ethical perspective to use AI responsibly.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Charlie Wuischpard is vice president, Americas, at NVIDIA. He has extensive experience in the high-performance computing (HPC) and semiconductor industries and currently leads the field sales and partner sales organization for the company's enterprise portfolio of products and services across Canada, Latin America and the United States.

Prior to joining NVIDIA, he was chairman and CEO of Ayar Labs and served on the boards of Cornelis Networks and Group Delphi. Prior to that he spent nearly five years at Intel leading the HPC and supercomputing group after serving as CEO of Penguin Computing for seven years. His extensive career also includes leadership roles at GoldenGate Software, Versant and IBM.

Charlie earned a bachelor's of Science degree in electrical engineering from Purdue University, and an MBA from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management.



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PROGRAM SCHEDULE

SCAN
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10 – **11** a.m.

Faculty Lightning Talk: CSU AI Educational Innovation Grants Project

Hear from Cal Poly faculty advancing AI-enabled teaching and learning through the CSU AI Educational Innovation Grants Project. In this fast-paced session, speakers will share new ideas, early lessons and practical approaches for integrating AI thoughtfully into education.

11 a.m. – **noon**

Cal Poly AI Immersion Lab

Explore how the Cal Poly AI Immersion Lab is pairing AI literacy, change management and faculty-led rapid prototyping to help industry partners put AI to work. Learn how the lab is moving from concept to client delivery through its agricultural-sector pilot and creating a model for future collaboration across Cal Poly and the CSU.

noon – **1:15** p.m.

Provost's Lunch Speaker Session: Classrooms to Institutions: Scaling AI Adaptation in the CSU

How can higher education move from individual experimentation with AI toward thoughtful institutional adaptation? Drawing on lessons from the CSU and beyond, Zach Justus will introduce a process-and-product framework for understanding faculty work, explore how conversations about student learning can shape majors and programs of study, and consider ways institutions can create the time, space and support needed to adapt in the AI era.

1:30 – **2:40** p.m.

AI Student Showcase and Poster Session

Meet the student researchers exploring AI's potential across disciplines. Discover projects, prototypes and emerging research that reflect the next generation of Cal Poly innovation.

3 – **3:45** p.m.

AI Factory Early Adopters

Hear from members of the Cal Poly community who are among the first to explore the AI Factory's capabilities. This session will highlight early applications of AI in teaching, research and applied projects, along with practical insights from the people putting these tools to work.

3:45 – **4:45** p.m.

Noyce Distinguished Speaker Series

Join us for an inspiring conversation with Charlie Wuischpard, vice president, Americas, at NVIDIA. Explore the evolving AI landscape, the technologies driving its growth and the opportunities ahead for students, educators, researchers and industry professionals.

4:45 – **5** p.m.

AI Factory Digital Ribbon Cutting

Close the day and celebrate a new chapter for AI at Cal Poly with a digital ribbon-cutting ceremony. Join campus leaders, students, faculty and partners as we recognize the people and resources helping bring this vision to life.

5 – **6:30** p.m.

Reception