

Facilitating AI in Academia: Challenges and Opportunities for RCD Professionals

Timothy Middelkoop, Internet 2 (moderator) Suresh Marru, Georgia Institute of Technology Mariofanna Milanova, University of Arkansas Little Rock Semir Sarajlic, Vanderbilt University Ying Zhang, University of Florida, Paul Brunk, University of Georgia

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Outline

- Panelist Introductions
 - Timothy Middelkoop, Internet 2 (moderator)
 - Suresh Marru, Georgia Institute of Technology
 - Mariofanna Milanova, University of Arkansas Little Rock
 - Semir Sarajlic, Vanderbilt University
 - Ying Zhang, University of Florida,
 - Paul Brunk, University of Georgia
- Aims of the Panel
 - Engage the community in a discourse about facilitating AI in RCD at academic institutions
- CaRCC AI Facilitation Materials Working Group
- NVIDIA Deep Learning Institute (DLI) Program for Educators
- Panel Questions



CaRCC AI Facilitation Materials Working Group



- Working group aims to develop resources and training materials to help RCD professionals effectively facilitate the use of AI technologies.
 - <u>https://carcc.org/ai-facilitation-materials-working-group/</u>
- Presenting a paper at PEARC25 on July 22, 2025, 12:05 PM-12:20 PM (ET)
 - Anna Alber, Laura Briggs, Paul Brunk, Manasvita Joshi, Atish P Kamble, Amira Kefi, Timothy Middelkoop, Semir Sarajlic, Ana Marija Sokovic, Jeffrey N Valdez, and Ying Zhang. 2025.
 Al Project Facilitation Guidance for Research Computing and Data (RCD) Professionals. In Practice and Experience in Advanced Research Computing (PEARC '25), July 20–24, 2025, Columbus, OH, USA. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 4 pages. https://doi.org/10. 1145/3708035.3736061





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To qualify as a DLI Certified Instructor and University Ambassador, you must: •Be affiliated with an accredited university: This includes graduate students enrolled in master's or PhD programs.

•Demonstrate technical proficiency: You should have proven knowledge in areas such as deep learning, machine learning, AI, or accelerated computing. This can be substantiated through coursework, research, or teaching experience.<u>NVIDIA</u> <u>Developer</u>

•Possess teaching or presentation experience: Experience in teaching or presenting technical content, even in academic settings, is beneficial.<u>NVIDIA</u> <u>Developer</u>

These requirements are outlined in the DLI Certified Instructor Program Guide.



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How can RCD professionals effectively guide researchers in selecting and/or procuring appropriate infrastructure for AI workloads?



As an RCD professional, what is the biggest (or unique) challenge(s) you have encountered in AI research facilitation, and what are some lessons learned from that encounter?



With the fast evolving AI landscape, how should RCDs adapt to support AI-driven research and education?



How can RCD professionals help researchers safely and effectively leverage generative AI tools?



How can RCD professionals help researchers navigate compliance and mitigate risks when using AI with regulated or sensitive data, such as in projects subject to NIST 800-171 or HIPAA requirements?



Where do we draw the line for RCD professionals' involvement in addressing the question of explainability in AI/ML workflows, especially in model selection?



Thank you!

Panelist Contact Info:

Timothy Middelkoop, Internet 2, tmiddelkoop@internet2.edu Suresh Marru, Georgia Institute of Technology, smarru@gatech.edu Mariofanna Milanova, University of Arkansas Little Rock, mgmilanova@ualr.edu Semir Sarajlic, Vanderbilt University, semir.sarajlic@vanderbilt.edu Ying Zhang, University of Florida, yingz@ufl.edu Paul Brunk, University of Georgia, pbrunk@uga.edu

