

2026 AI and Data Science Symposium at UB: Physical AI

September 24–25, 2026



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University at Buffalo
Institute for Artificial Intelligence
and Data Science

Grounding Intelligence and Autonomy in the Built and Natural World

This year's symposium brings together AI researchers and domain experts across five tracks— Health Care and Medicine; Geography, Archaeology and Remote Sensing; Physical Networks and Critical Infrastructure; Bridging the Gap Between AI Experts and Domain Experts; and Education and Training— to explore how embodied, responsible AI can realize AI for good.

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Center for Tomorrow

120 Center for Tomorrow, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY 14260

Interactive Session: Bridging the Gap between AI Experts & Domain Experts

Thursday, September 24, 2026, 4.00 – 5.30 pm

Description: The objective of this event is to facilitate engagement between **AI experts** and **experts in domains** that are increasingly adopting AI – to enable better shared understanding of the problems and open challenges, and potentially seed research collaborations. The event is designed as a **research speed dating** session where participants will be randomly paired (into AI expert/domain expert pairs), with each pair allowed 15-20 mins of discussion, and then rotated. Thus, each participant will have the opportunity to engage with up to four other participants.

With this objective mind, we are inviting as participants both *experts in AI* (algorithms, architecture, privacy, security, ethics, systems/hardware) as well as *domain experts* from disciplines including but not limited to engineering, healthcare/medicine, physical sciences, architecture and arts.

Structure: To seed the discussions of each speed-dating AI/domain expert pair, here are a few talking points as reference:

- 1 minute introduction – name, discipline, organization, and research area.
- *Domain Expert:*
 - What are you most excited about or most concerned about w.r.t. use of AI in your domain?
 - What is a specific use case (or set of problems) where you would like to try AI?
 - What challenges have you faced in using AI in your domain?
- *AI Expert:*
 - What application(s) of your work in AI are you most excited about?
 - How have application domains shaped the fundamental research questions in your AI research?
 - Are you looking for use cases (applications) with specific problem characteristics to apply your AI methods to (if so, what?)?
 - Are there aspects of your AI research that can tackle the problems or challenges put forward by the domain expert?

<https://www.buffalo.edu/ai-data-science/news-events/events/iad-days/2026-symposium.html>