South Dakota State University Extension

Good Neighbor AI Symposium

Agenda | Thursday, November 5

Time	Speaker	Topic
9:30 – 9:45 a.m. Welcome & Opening Remarks	**Ryan Lefers** - Griffith Endowed Chair in Agriculture and Water Resources, South Dakota Water Resources Institute Director & SDSU State Water Extension Specialist, SDSU **Rajesh Kavasseri** - Co-Executive Director, Center for AI Innovation and Emergent Technologies, Associate Dean for Research, Jerome J. Lohr College of Engineering, SDSU **Mike Bockorny** - President, SD EDPA	How can AI infrastructure be a "good neighbor" in South Dakota?
9:45 – 10:30 a.m. Keynote Address	**Scott Sandal** - VP of Client Services, Sunbird Software	AI Infrastructure in Real Communities: Opportunity, Risk, and Responsibility
10:30 – 10:45 a.m. Morning Break		
10:45 – 11:30 a.m. Panel 1	Moderator: **Mike Bockorny** - EDPA Panelists: **Bleau LaFave** - Northwestern Energy **Kyle Peters** - Partner, Harvest Group **Chris Schmit** - Water/Wastewater Project Manager, Bolton & Menk, Inc.	AI Infrastructure Footprint: What the Load Actually Requires
11:30 – 12:15 p.m. Panel 2	Moderator: **Dr. Junjian Qi** - SDSU Hohbach Endowed Associate Professor, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Lead Scientist AI WEAR Project Panelists: **Todd Kays** - Executive Director, 1st Planning District **Tim Reed** - Chair of the SD Senate Local Government Standing Committee and current SD State Senator District 7 **Mike Jaspers** - Business Development Director, East River Electric Cooperative, Inc.	Rural Readiness: Communities as Infrastructure Hosts
12:15 - 12:45 p.m. Lunch Buffet		
12:45 - 1:15 p.m. Economic Impact Perspective	**Rajesh Kavasseri** - SDSU	How will AI Infrastructure and Use Impact the Economy of South Dakota?
1:15 – 1:30 p.m. Break		
1:30 – 2:15 p.m. Panel 3	Moderator: **Mike Bockorny** - EDPA Panelists: **Tyler Tordsen** - CEO of Sioux Metro Growth Alliance **Jack Valentine** - CEO Elevate Rapid City	AI, Economic Development & South Dakota
2:15 – 2:30 p.m. Break		

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2:30 – 3:15 p.m. Panel 4	Moderator: **Rajesh Kavasseri** - SDSU Panelists: **Nick Fosness** - CEO of Marshall County Hospital Healthcare Center Avera, Vice President and incoming Chair of the Board of Directors for the South Dakota Association of Healthcare Organizations (Health Care) **Ben Dold** - President and COO, Midco (Connectivity) **Nicholas Uilk** - Klingbeil Endowed Educator in Precision Agriculture/Lecturer, Ag & Biosystems Engineering, SDSU (Agriculture-precision ag/row crops/ag machinery) **Hector Menendez** - Assistant Research Professor/ Extension Specialist-Livestock Grazing, Animal Science (Ag Livestock)	AI in Practice in South Dakota
3:15 – 3:30 p.m. Closing Remarks and Dismissal	**Ryan Lefers** - SDSU	Key themes summary

For more detailed information on speakers and presentations, visit:
https://extension.sdstate.edu/event/good-neighbor-ai-symposium

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