

## AI IN ACTION SUMMIT PANELISTS

### Energy Panel

**Craig Aull** is Director of Operations Support at Dominion Energy South Carolina, where he leads operational and technical teams focused on system reliability, customer service, and technology-enabled efficiency. He has spent more than four decades with Dominion Energy and its predecessor organizations, holding leadership roles across information technology, customer service, and operations support, and leading major enterprise software and infrastructure initiatives, including advanced metering and grid modernization efforts. Craig holds an MBA from the University of South Carolina and a bachelor's degree in administrative management from Clemson University, and he currently serves as a trustee on the Lexington School District Two Board of Trustees

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**Kealy Carter** is Marketing Department Chair, Director of the Center for Sustainable Growth, and a Clinical Associate Professor at the Darla Moore School of Business at the University of South Carolina. Her work focuses on sustainability and marketing strategy, with research examining consumer and firm responses to sustainable products and practices. Prior to academia, she spent six years in logistics, supply chain, and product management roles at organizations including CHEP and FedEx. Kealy holds a Ph.D. in marketing from the University of South Carolina, an International MBA from USC, and a bachelor's degree in international studies from American University.

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**Youseok Lim** is a Senior Researcher in the R&D Business Department at the Research Institute of the Korea Electric Power Corporation (KEPCO). His work focuses on smart distribution systems, flexible energy and resource optimization, and data-driven power system security, with particular emphasis on integrating electric vehicles, buildings, and distributed energy resources into the grid. He is currently also affiliated with the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), working in the Distribution Sector. Youseok has extensive experience in international energy standards, serving for many years as a Korea National Expert to ISO/IEC technical committees related to electric vehicles and grid interoperability. He is pursuing a doctoral degree in artificial intelligence at Hanyang University and has published in leading energy and engineering journals on grid-friendly EV infrastructure, AI-based charging optimization, and secure EV charging systems.

**Adel Nasiri** is the Thomas L. Gregory Endowed Professor of Electrical Engineering in the Molinaroli College of Engineering and Computing at the University of South Carolina. A Fellow of IEEE, his work focuses on power electronics, microgrids, energy storage, and high-power and high-voltage energy conversion for resilient and sustainable energy systems. Prior to joining USC in 2021, he spent 16 years at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, where he held leadership roles including Associate Dean for Research and founding executive director of major interdisciplinary energy research centers. He has led numerous federally and

industry-sponsored research projects, published extensively, holds multiple patents, and co-authored two books

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**Neil Vandermeulen** is President of the T&D Infrastructure Division at Hubbell Incorporated, where he leads a large-scale utility infrastructure business with full P&L responsibility. He has more than 30 years of experience at Hubbell, having held senior leadership roles across business development, division leadership, and general management. His work has included leading major acquisitions, launching new business divisions, and driving operational and financial turnarounds across multiple manufacturing operations. Neil holds an MBA from Emory University's Goizueta Business School and a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the Missouri University of Science and Technology.

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## Health Care Operations Panel

**Tony Asher, MD**, is President of the Prisma Health Neurosciences Institute and a nationally recognized neurosurgeon, scientist, and healthcare executive based in South Carolina. Over more than three decades, he has led the development of high-performing, multidisciplinary neuroscience programs that integrate clinical care, translational research, quality improvement, and data-driven innovation. Dr. Asher has held senior leadership roles across major academic and health system settings and has played a central role in shaping national standards for neurosurgical quality, outcomes measurement, and registry-based research. His work emphasizes enterprise-level collaboration, value-based care, and the use of clinical data to improve patient outcomes across complex healthcare systems.

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**Leonardo Bonilha, MD, PhD**, (moderator) is Senior Associate Dean for Research and Dorothea Krebs Professor of Neurology at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine Columbia. A physician-scientist and board-certified neurologist, he also serves as Clinical Director of USC Brain Health, where he leads interdisciplinary research and clinical initiatives focused on neurological recovery and brain health across the lifespan. His research examines how structural and functional brain networks adapt following injury, with particular emphasis on aphasia, stroke recovery, and epilepsy. Dr. Bonilha has authored hundreds of peer-reviewed publications, led multiple federally funded research programs, and brings extensive experience bridging clinical care, neuroscience research, and health systems innovation.

**Jacqueline R. Fox** is a Professor of Law at the University of South Carolina Joseph F. Rice School of Law. Her teaching and research focus on health law and policy, public health law, bioethics, and healthcare financing and regulation. She holds a J.D. and LL.M. from Georgetown University Law Center and has held research and visiting appointments at Johns Hopkins University, Yale University, Oxford University, and Melbourne Law School,. Her scholarship examines the legal, ethical, and policy frameworks that govern healthcare systems, with particular attention to how

financing mechanisms, regulatory design, and data-driven decision-making shape access, equity, and outcomes. Her work offers critical insight into how emerging technologies intersect with health policy, accountability, and ethical oversight.

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**Andrew Nye** is the founder and CEO of Qatalyst Health, a Columbia-based health technology startup developing AI-driven software to streamline admissions and reimbursement workflows for skilled nursing facilities. A University of South Carolina alumnus, he launched Qatalyst while still a student after identifying widespread inefficiencies in post-acute care billing and administrative processes. His work sits at the intersection of healthcare operations, artificial intelligence, and entrepreneurship, with a focus on reducing administrative burden so clinicians can spend more time on patient care. Andrew is a product-focused founder who taught himself to code to build Qatalyst's core platform and remains actively involved in scaling its real-world impact across the healthcare system.

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**Luv Sharma** (moderator) is an Associate Professor of Management Science at the Darla Moore School of Business at the University of South Carolina, where his work focuses on improving the performance of complex service environments, with a particularly emphasis on healthcare operations. His research examines how information systems, analytics, and operational capabilities can be leveraged to design more efficient, reliable, and patient-centered healthcare organizations. Much of his work addresses care coordination, process improvement, and knowledge management in complex clinical environments. Prior to academia, he collaborated with healthcare and health-adjacent organizations including the Cleveland Clinic and the World Health Organization, bringing an applied perspective to research and teaching. Luv holds a Ph.D. and an MBA from The Ohio State University and regularly engages with health systems leaders on data-driven approaches to operational and clinical improvement.

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## **Risk and Uncertainty Management**

**Robert Hartwig** (moderator) is a Clinical Associate Professor of Finance at the University of South Carolina's Darla Moore School of Business and Director of the Risk and Uncertainty Management Center. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Illinois and the Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) designation. His academic and professional work focuses on insurance markets, risk management, pandemic and catastrophe risk, and the financing of technology-driven and emerging risks. Prior to joining USC, Dr. Hartwig served as President and Chief Economist of the Insurance Information Institute and held senior roles at Swiss Re, the National Council on Compensation Insurance, and the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. He has provided expert testimony before state and federal legislative bodies and regularly advises industry leaders, regulators, and policymakers on risk, uncertainty, and market responses to large-scale shocks.

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**Cory Mullen** is a senior program and analytics leader at USAA, based in the Charlotte metropolitan area, with extensive experience in program delivery, audit analytics, and enterprise data and risk initiatives. His professional background spans large, complex financial services organizations, where he has worked at the intersection of analytics, technology, governance, and operational risk. Across his roles, he has led programs that translate advanced data and analytics capabilities into enterprise decision-making frameworks. In discussions of artificial intelligence, Cory brings a practitioner's perspective on how analytics and emerging technologies are operationalized, governed, and integrated within large-scale organizations, with particular attention to risk management, controls, and execution at enterprise scale.

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**Nelson Pinochet** is a Principal at IBM, where he focuses on AI governance and governance, risk, and compliance (GRC) solutions, including leadership roles supporting IBM OpenPages and watsonx.governance. With more than 15 years at IBM, he has led global and regional teams responsible for strategy, technical sales, and execution of enterprise GRC platforms, helping organizations apply analytics and artificial intelligence to manage regulatory complexity, operational risk, and compliance obligations. He holds an International MBA from the University of South Carolina's Darla Moore School of Business. In discussions of artificial intelligence, Nelson brings a practitioner-driven perspective on AI governance, risk management, and the responsible deployment of AI systems within large, regulated organizations.

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**Jack Pringle** is a Partner at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough and an information privacy and technology law professional. He holds a J.D. from the University of South Carolina School of Law and the CIPP/US certification from the International Association of Privacy Professionals. With more than 25 years of legal experience, his practice focuses on information governance, data privacy and security, regulatory compliance, and technology transactions. Jack advises organizations on designing and strengthening privacy and information security programs and navigating legal risks arising from emerging technologies. He is a frequent speaker on technology, privacy, and artificial intelligence issues, including participation in University of South Carolina law school programs exploring the legal and ethical implications of AI.

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**Kyle Thompson** is an Area Senior Vice President in Risk Management at Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., based in Greenville, South Carolina, where he advises complex organizations on insurance strategy and risk transfer. A 2001 University of South Carolina graduate, Kyle spent 17 years as a professional golfer on the PGA and Korn Ferry Tours. He is a four-time First Team All-SEC selection, three-time All-American, five-time collegiate winner, and was inducted into the USC Athletic Hall of Fame in 2009.

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**Bryant Walker Smith** (moderator) is an Associate Professor in the Joseph F. Rice School of Law and, by courtesy, the College of Engineering and Computing at the University of South Carolina. Trained as both a lawyer and an engineer, his work focuses on artificial intelligence, automated systems, and other emerging technologies, with particular attention to governance, safety, risk, and trust. Professor Smith advises governments and international organizations, including cities, states, national governments, and the United Nations, on technology policy and regulation. He has testified before the U.S. Senate, vice-chaired the U.S. Department of Transportation's Transforming Transportation Advisory Committee, co-authored the globally influential levels of driving automation, and drafted model legislation on automated driving. He is also an affiliate scholar at Stanford Law School's Center for Internet and Society and serves as faculty director of USC's TechInLaw initiative.

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