



Engineering Leadership Conference 2025

Schulich School of Engineering

Step into a world where engineering expertise meets impactful leadership! The Schulich Engineering Leadership Conference is your gateway to connecting with trailblazing industry professionals and community engineering leaders who are shaping the future of the profession. Join us for this **free**, dynamic, in-person event on Saturday, March 15, 2025, to explore inspiring presentations on career growth, professionalism, career readiness, engineering trends and the vital role of leadership in engineering.

This is your chance to:

- **Learn from the Best:** Hear from industry experts and leaders about their journeys and the skills that set them apart.
- **Expand Your Network:** Connect with peers, industry representatives, and leadership experts to build meaningful relationships.
- **Boost Your Career:** Gain insights that will set you apart as a leader in the engineering profession.

Last year's conference brought together 250 passionate students from diverse programs, including Certificates in Engineering Leadership and Engineering Entrepreneurship, PhD Catalyst, and MEng, and leaders from Schulich clubs, teams, and societies. This year, it is your turn to be part of this growing legacy.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to sharpen your leadership edge and become the engineering leader of tomorrow!

Sat, March 15, 2025, | 8:45 am-3:30 pm
Location: Schulich School of Engineering

Conference Schedule (Subject to change without previous notice)

Engineering Leadership Conference
Saturday, March 15, 2025, 8:45 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**SCHULICH SCHOOL
OF ENGINEERING**

Block	Time	Room ENG 224	Room ENC 201	Room ENA 103	Room ICT 217	Room ENG 207
	8:45 – 9:15 a.m.	Registration – SSE Atrium				
1	9:15 – 9:30 a.m.	Opening Remarks – Room ENA 201				
	9:30 – 10 a.m.	Keynote – Room ENA 201 Teresa Waddington - Oilpatch to Energy Garden: Leading Change in the Energy Sector				
	10 – 10:15 a.m.	Move to concurrent sessions				
2	10:15 – 11 a.m.	W1 – Savana Radley Soft Power: Leveraging historically "feminine" qualities in leadership effectively	W2 – Cinthya Chan & Diana Wong Doolan Navigating Career Transitions: Leading Your Shift to a New Industry	W3 - Svava Patel Time Management – From Overwhelmed to Strategic	W4 (part 1) - Craig Elias & Jen Jensen Beating the Odds - Startup Survival Board Game	Industry Panel - Engineered for Change: Leadership at the Intersection of Sustainability and Innovation: Jennifer Massig, Kiran Somanchi, Teresa Waddington
	11 – 11:15 a.m.	Move to concurrent sessions				
3	11:15 a.m. – 12 p.m.	W5 - Kiran Somanchi Career 3.0: Designing your career for maximum fulfilment	W6 - Jacob Grzywacz Let's Talk About Your Styles!	W7 - Kyle Dobson What I wish I knew... when I was twenty-two	W4 (part 2) - Craig Elias & Jen Jensen Beating the Odds - Startup Survival Board Game	Student Panel - Lessons from the Frontlines: Engineering Student Leadership in Action: Iremide Aina, Aarushi Bhargava, Shannon Wong
	12 – 1 p.m.	Lunch: SSE Atrium and Social Staircase				
4	1 – 1:45 p.m.	W8 - Maude Ramsay Leadership in an ever-evolving technology landscape	W9 - Leda Stawnychko Wired for Success: Engineering the Leaders of Tomorrow	W10 - Amy Zell From Campus to Career: Unlocking Leadership at Every Level		Industry Panel – Engineering Minds, Leading Futures: A Career in Research and Academia: Marjan Eggermont, Naser El-Sheimy, Ahmad Ghasemloonia
	1:45 – 2 p.m.	Move to concurrent sessions				
5	2 – 2:45 p.m.	Industry Panel - Bryan Guscott, Karl Yeh - AI Beyond the Buzzwords: Real-World Insights on AI and Leadership from Industry Experts – Room ENA 201				
	3 – 3:30 p.m.	Networking: SSE Atrium and Social Staircase				

Keynote Speaker: Teresa Waddington | VP Corporate Relations, LNG Canada

Room: ENA 201

Oilpatch to Energy Garden: Leading Change in the Energy Sector

Strong leadership will be needed to transform our energy systems. The oilpatch grew fast and wild out of a global hunger for oil and its products. It met the challenge of the day - to provide enough energy for the world. Our challenge now is different. We're facing the climate crisis, while still needing to power a developing world.

Teresa will talk about the key skills required to drive change in our evolving world of energy: leading with purpose, working with diverse and dissenting opinions, and how being a friendly nerd can be transformational.

Teresa Waddington P. Eng, ICD.D | VP Corporate Relations | LNG Canada

Teresa is on a mission to turn her dad's oilpatch into her daughter's energy garden. This has driven her contribution to shaping the global energy garden, helping to plant and nurture the molecules, electrons, technologies, policies and workforce that will drive our energy transition. Teresa believes in thinking big, having fun and that the intersection of creativity and technology will be the ultimate transformational force in our society. This mission - informed by her engineering education and diverse work experiences (from corporate relations to running a gas plant to leading a maintenance crew), along with a cheeky nature and a love of drawing - has driven her to create a YouTube channel where she animates a variety of industry-relevant topics. She's been published numerous times in the Globe and Mail, typically from work inspired by her three kids and husband. Teresa is contributing to several boards and has recently completed the Director's Education Program. She is always seeking to connect and communicate around energy.



10:15 am – 11:00 am

Workshop 1 Room: ENG 224

Session title: Soft Power: Leveraging Historically "Feminine" Qualities in Leadership Effectively

For years, leadership models valued typically "masculine" approaches but this is changing. With consensus and collaboration now top-of-mind, however, it can be difficult to walk the line between being "nice" and being effective. Join us for a discussion about effectively motivating teams and leading from whatever role you happen to be in, using a variety of methods.

Presenter: Savana Radley | Senior Manager, Information Services, CPKC.

Savana Radley has been in technology for over 25 years in various sales and client service roles. She began working for early-stage SaaS technology companies in 2006 on her move to Calgary from London, UK. During her career, she has also worked for large technology consultancies in Canada and internationally, leading a range of digital transformation projects in different industries including telecoms, retail construction, oil & gas and the not-for-profit sector. Savana is currently working on a large transformation project for CPKC, the newly-integrated combination of CP Rail and Kansas City Rail.

Session 2, Room: ENC 201

Session title: Navigating Career Transitions: Leading Your Shift to a New Industry

Changing industries can be a daunting yet rewarding journey. Whether you're moving from engineering to tech, energy to sustainability, or any other sector shift, understanding how to leverage your existing skills, adapt to new challenges, and embrace a leadership mindset is key to a successful transition. This session will explore strategies for reskilling and upskilling, overcoming mindset shifts, and building credibility in a new industry. It will also offer insights on navigating an industry as a new leader, and draw from real-world experiences of mentoring and training junior professionals, developing talent, and fostering growth in evolving work environments. This session will provide actionable strategies and lessons to help you step into your next opportunity with confidence and leadership.

Moderator: Abheek Abrar Obaid | Mechanical Engineering Student at the University of Calgary

Co-Presenter: Cynthia Chan P. Eng, MMA | Product Manager, Benevity

Cynthia is a Professional Engineer driven by data and a passion for growth. With a background in oil and gas reserves consulting, she's recently leveraged her business sense and analytical skills to transition into the tech industry. She has since completed a Master of Management Analytics and developed a keen literacy for unlocking the power of data with machine learning and AI. Known for her leadership and communication abilities, Cynthia is eager to share about her career journey and a transition that has allowed her to thrive in her authenticity..

Co-Presenter: Diana Wong Doolan P. Eng, M.Eng | Software Developer, Benevity

Diana Wong Doolan is a software developer with a background in mechanical engineering and senior leadership in the energy industry. She holds a B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering and an M.Eng. in Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering with a Specialization in Engineering for the Environment. After transitioning from engineering to tech, she applied her technical expertise and business acumen to simplify client solutions and help companies drive positive social impact in the community investment space.

A long-time advocate for STEM and women's leadership, she gives back by speaking at events and sharing insights on lifelong learning, adapting to change, and leadership. Drawing from her diverse experience in engineering and tech, she empowers others to navigate career transitions with confidence and clarity.

Workshop 3, Room: ENA 103

Session title: Time Management – From Overwhelmed to Strategic

Can you imagine meeting deadlines without the stress, while still accomplishing the same amount, or more? As a student, I've always wondered if I was doing enough and had enough time. Maybe managing tasks isn't about rigid discipline. What if you could have fun while achieving your goals?

Presenter: Svara Patel | Student, Schulich School of Engineering, Vice-President External, TechStart, HXI Lab

Svara is a dedicated software engineering student with a strong background in research and leadership. She has experience developing virtual reality environments and has held roles in student organizations, primarily managing external communications and sponsorships. With a history in competitive gymnastics and coaching, she brings discipline and perseverance to her pursuits. Passionate about innovation and representation, she aspires to advocate for women in technology, bridging the gap between engineering, leadership, and global impact.

Workshop 4, Room: ICT 217

Note: This workshop will run from 10:15 am to 12:00 pm and has limited capacity.

Session title: Beating the Odds - Startup Survival Board Game.

Join us to learn how entrepreneurs can avoid the common pitfalls and mistakes of starting a company without risking their bank account, ego, or reputation.

During the session, you will learn how to launch a successful company by playing a specialized Norwegian board game called Playing Lean that closely mimics the real-world challenge of starting a company.

The game helps simplify and demystify entrepreneurship while participants:

- Learn and practice lean startup skills
- Feel the highs and lows of entrepreneurship
- Learn the truth about commonly-held startup myths
- Discover how to improve a startup's odds of success
- Understand and develop the mindset of an entrepreneur
- Experience the challenges and trade-offs of starting a company.

Co-presenter: Craig Elias MBA | Technology Development Advisor, Alberta Innovates.

Craig Elias is a LinkedIn user number 3,956 of over a billion users, where he has 10,000+ unsolicited endorsements - with over 1,000 of them for his favourite sales topic, lead generation. In both 2018 and 2019, Craig was chosen by LinkedIn as Canada's #1 B2B Sales Expert (#15 globally). Craig's first startup went from initial launch to being funded by a Tier 1 US-based Venture Capitalist and was twice named by Dow Jones as one of North America's 50 most promising companies in less than 24 months after launching. He is a Startup Mentor for the Alchemist Accelerator in San Francisco, on an advisory board for South by Southwest (SXSW) in Austin, Texas, and a mentor for Techstars in Toronto. He has been a National Growth Advisor for Goldman Sachs and Babson College's 10,000 Small Business Program in Boston.

Co-presenter: Jen Jensen MBA | Technology Development Advisor, Alberta Innovates.

Jennifer Jensen is a seasoned entrepreneur with a passion for building and growing businesses. Having successfully founded, operated, and sold two companies, she understands firsthand the challenges and opportunities that come with entrepreneurship. Her experience in scaling businesses and navigating commercialization fuels her dedication to helping other entrepreneurs succeed. She recently excitedly joined Alberta Innovates as a Technology

Development Advisor, where she leverages her expertise to provide strategic guidance and resources that accelerate innovation and business growth in Alberta's ecosystem.

Block One Panel

Panel 1, Room: ENG 207

Industry Panel – Engineered for Change: Leadership at the Intersection of Sustainability and Innovation

Discover how leadership and innovation can drive sustainable change in this inspiring panel discussion. Featuring experts at the forefront of sustainability and engineering, this session will explore the challenges and opportunities in creating a greener future.

Through guided dialogue, panellists will share insights into leading sustainability initiatives, balancing economic, environmental, and social priorities, and fostering collaboration across industries. Students will gain valuable perspectives on how to harness engineering expertise and leadership skills to address some of today's most pressing global issues.

This interactive session will kick off with curated questions and transition into an open Q&A, where attendees can directly engage with panellists. Be part of the conversation shaping the next generation of sustainable engineering leaders.

Moderator: **Bhavna Rikhi** | Software Engineering Student at the University of Calgary

Panel Speakers:

Jennifer Massig P. Eng | CEO, Magna Engineering Services Inc

Jennifer has 25 years of Environmental/Civil Engineering experience in community water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure for rural and urban communities. Jennifer's previous experience as a member of the City of Chestermere Council for the 2013 - 2017 term provided her with exclusive experience as a client, providing an unparalleled perspective and making her a key asset for all municipal infrastructure projects. Her role as a Municipal Councillor complimented her on the groundwork as a professional Civil Engineer, where Jennifer has built her career around bringing the technical and municipal perspective to every project. This experience led her and MAGNA into the innovative world of naturalized treatment for municipal wastewater and stormwater to lower capital investment and, more importantly, reduce long-term operation and maintenance.

As CEO at MAGNA, her primary responsibilities have been in specialized stormwater management, municipal wastewater treatment, helping Western Canadian communities with innovative municipal infrastructure design, master planning, and community engagement. Her focus has been on providing solutions based around finding innovative, cost-effective solutions that lower capital costs and long-term operation and maintenance while providing attractive naturalized infrastructure solutions.

Kiran Somanchi P. Eng, MBA | Senior Product Manager, Benevity

Kiran Somanchi is a wide achiever who has had a wide-ranging career in multiple industries such as upstream exploration and production to enterprise SaaS product management. He is the author of multiple SPE papers and articles on various topics. Currently, he works as a Senior Product Manager at Benevity helping serve the mission of spreading goodness through the world.

Teresa Waddington P. Eng, ICD.D | VP Corporate Relations, LNG Canada

Teresa is on a mission to turn her dad's oilpatch into her daughter's energy garden. This has driven her contribution to shaping the global energy garden, helping to plant and nurture the molecules, electrons, technologies, policies and workforce that will drive our energy transition. Teresa believes in thinking big, having fun and that the intersection of creativity and technology will be the ultimate transformational force in our society. This mission is

informed by her engineering education and diverse work experiences (from corporate relations to running a gas plant to leading a maintenance crew), along with a cheeky nature and a love of drawing - which has driven her to create a YouTube channel where she animates a variety of industry-relevant topics. She's been published numerous times in the Globe and Mail, typically from work inspired by her three kids and husband. Teresa is contributing to several boards and has recently completed the Director's Education Program. She is always seeking to connect and communicate around energy.

11:15 am – 12:00 pm

Workshop 5, Room: ENGG 224

Session title: Career 3.0: Designing Your Career for Maximum Fulfillment

This session will provide students a view into different types of career success. Career success is generally viewed as a linear journey through life that involves working hard, delivering on results and achieving goals. Whilst this is true, it ignores an important aspect: careers are often non-linear. In this talk, we will explore and examine what the broader landscape of career development and growth looks like in the 21st century.

Presenter: Kiran Somanchi P. Eng, MBA | Senior Product Manager, Benevity

Kiran Somanchi is a wide achiever who has had a wide-ranging career in multiple industries such as upstream exploration and production to enterprise SaaS product management. He is the author of multiple SPE papers and articles on various topics. Currently, he works as a Senior Product Manager at Benevity helping serve the mission of spreading goodness through the world.

Workshop 6, Room: ENC 201

Session title: Let's Talk About Your Styles

Let's Talk About Your Styles is an interactive presentation that explores the differences between Leadership and Management styles and how they shape your approach to project management.

Presenter: Jacob Grzywacz P. Eng, MBA | Chief Operations Officer, BBE Supply Chain Co.

Jacob is a senior Operations, Maintenance, and Continuous Improvement leader with +15 years of creative and diverse work experience within the Mining, Power Generation, Cleantech StartUp, and Supply Chain industries. He is an energetic, transformational, and passionate professional, achieving business growth through strategic planning, lean organization, and dependable management. Jacob has led teams and businesses through culture transformations, lean operations, organizational restructures, international tech start-ups, and business strategy implementations.

Workshop 7, Room: ENA 103

Session title: What I wish I knew... when I was twenty-two

So you've got your Iron Ring and are ready to head out into the world! Now what?!?

This session will present thoughts from Engineers about life after graduation and what I wish someone would have told us back then. It will focus on the varying definitions of leadership, values and goals. I will also share a story of life presenting unexpected twists and what I've learned from this. The session will end with a quick-hit list of suggestions from people who were once in your shoes!

Presenter: Kyle Dobson P. Eng | Consulting Engineer, Dobson Energy, Gas Processors Association of Canada, Avatar Innovations

Kyle is a Professional Engineer with over 21 years of experience in the upstream Oil & Gas sector in Alberta and British Columbia. His primary expertise is Production Engineering, Facility Optimization, and field development strategy. Since 2022 he led an Emissions Reduction Team to develop company emission targets and strategies to achieve them. He has experience reviewing new technologies and start-up companies to help the oil and gas sector achieve their ESG goals.

Kyle recently started his own Engineering Consulting company to focus on helping start-up companies succeed in bringing their technology to the market.

Block Two Panel

Room: ENG 207

Student Panel - Lessons from the Frontlines: Engineering Student Leadership in Action

Join us for an inspiring and insightful session featuring engineering student leaders who are making their mark in teams, clubs, and societies. These exceptional students will share their real-world experiences of balancing academic demands with leadership responsibilities, offering a glimpse into the challenges and triumphs of leading as young engineers in development.

This session is your opportunity to hear firsthand stories from peers who are living the leadership journey, ask questions, and gain practical insights to elevate your own leadership potential. Whether you're already involved in student leadership or looking to step up, this workshop will leave you inspired and equipped to lead with purpose and confidence.

Moderator: Adriana "Kiki" Menjivar Najarro | Student, Schulich School of Engineering | Vice-President Events, UNICEF on Campus & The Mustard Seed University of Calgary

Panel Speakers:

Presenter: Shannon Wong | Student, Schulich School of Engineering | President, Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers at UCalgary | President, Young Energy Infrastructure Professionals UCalgary

Shannon is in her third year of electrical engineering at the University of Calgary. A dedicated community leader with a wide array of leadership experiences, she is passionate about driving innovation and creating meaningful change in the communities she serves. For over six years, Shannon has volunteered thousands of hours and holds numerous leadership and volunteer roles both inside and outside the UCalgary community. Currently, she is the President of SASE (Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers) UCalgary and the President of YEIP (Young Energy Infrastructure Professionals) UCalgary, among others. Outside her academic and leadership endeavours, Shannon enjoys playing the violin and piano, and birdwatching.

Presenter: Aarushi Bhargava | Student, Schulich School of Engineering | Vice-President Academic, Engineering Students' Society

Aarushi is a dedicated student leader passionate about fostering engagement within the Schulich community. In collaboration with the Engineering Students' Society (ESS), she spearheaded the development of the Iron Pin Ceremony at UCalgary, a milestone event that strengthens engineering identity and fosters connections between students and faculty. As VP Academic of ESS, she has focused on student advocacy and establishing a system to ensure student voices are heard. She is also passionate about biomedical engineering and serves as a co-project manager for Project 90, leading the creation of an adaptive standing frame for a child with cerebral palsy and arthrogyposis. Driven by a deep commitment to community and connection, Aarushi strives to create meaningful initiatives that bring people together and leave a lasting impact.

Presenter: Iremide Aina | Student, Schulich School of Engineering | President, BioRobotics (BioRob) Club

Iremide Aina is a passionate researcher and Biomedical Engineering student at the University of Calgary, with experience in biorobotics, digital engineering, and scar treatment monitoring using 3D surface scanning technologies. She has contributed to groundbreaking projects like a wearable real-time monitoring device for anaphylaxis management and is the co-founder of BioBots, a club specializing in soft robotics and interdisciplinary innovation. With a strong background in architecture and robotics, she combines technical expertise with creativity to solve complex challenges. Her dedication to advancing medical technology and sustainability is reflected in her research funded by NSERC and her commitment to creating impactful solutions.

1:00pm – 1:45pm

Workshop 8, Room: ENG 224

Session title: Leadership in an ever-evolving technology landscape

What excites Maude most about the energy industry is the challenges. More and more, we are stepping up to meet the unprecedented challenges in the energy sector with creative and innovative ideas. Join this talk to learn about how technical expertise and dedication to environmental stewardship can drive technical solutions and make a positive impact in the oil and natural gas sector.

Presenter: Maude Ramsay P. Eng | Manager, Regulatory - Thermal and Conventional, Canadian Natural Resources Limited

Maude is a Professional Engineer and the Regulatory Manager for Thermal & Conventional Operations at Canadian Natural Resource Limited, where she tackles significant challenges in the oil and gas sector through innovative environmental and regulatory solutions. She earned her Mechanical Engineering degree from the University of Calgary, inspired by her interest in the design and complexity of energy processes. Maude began her career at GE Energy in California before transitioning to Fluor, where she worked on projects in both the Middle East and the Alberta oil sands. In 2017, she was honoured with the Young Women in Energy (YWE) award in recognition of her substantial contributions to the industry. Her technical expertise and dedication to environmental responsibility continue to drive her impactful work in the energy sector.

Workshop 9, Room: ENC 201

Session title: Wired for Success: Engineering the Leaders of Tomorrow

Am I a leader? Please join this session to (re)discover the leader in you. Attendees will learn practical strategies to strengthen their leadership abilities to meet the challenges of our rapidly evolving technologically rich world. Participants will be invited to engage in interactive discussions and exercises, enabling them to apply these strategies in real-world scenarios.

Presenter: Leda Stawnychko PhD | Assistant Professor, Mount Royal University.

Dr. Leda Stawnychko is an Assistant Professor of Strategy and Organizational Theory at Mount Royal University's Bissett School of Business. With over 25 years of leadership experience spanning the private, public, and non-profit sectors, Dr. Stawnychko's research explores leadership development, organizational performance, and transformative learning. She also holds adjunct academic roles at the University of Calgary's Haskayne School of Business and Cumming School of Medicine.

Workshop 10, Room: ENG 03

Session title: From Campus to Career: Unlocking Leadership at Every Level

Leadership isn't just about having a title, it's about how you contribute, motivate, and grow within a team. In this session, we'll explore how the leadership skills you've developed as a student can translate into the workplace. Learn how to take initiative, communicate effectively, and make an impact, even when you're not in charge. With real-world examples and practical advice, this talk will help you turn your student experiences into tools for career success, empowering you to lead at any level.

Presenter: Amy Zell P.Eng. | Founder and Lead Consultant, Outset Carbon Consulting.

Amy Zell - a 2016 Schulich alumna - has been a leader in carbon markets since 2018. Her enthusiasm for balancing environmental imperatives with economic realities has led her to start an engineering consulting company that helps organizations navigate the complex world of carbon credits. As a professional engineer with a passion for leadership and communication, Amy brings a holistic approach to her work that balances technical expertise with effective communication.

Block Three Panel

Room: ENG 207

Industry Panel – Engineering Minds, Leading Futures: A Career in Research and Academia

Explore the transformative possibilities of a career in research and academia in this thought-provoking panel. Featuring accomplished leaders in engineering education and innovation, this session delves into the key motivators that inspired their journeys, the skills and attitudes that propelled their success, and the lessons learned along the way.

Our panellists will share how their research not only advanced knowledge but also led to innovative approaches, demonstrating the far-reaching impact of engineering discovery. They will discuss how honing technical expertise, paired with developing non-technical and transferable skills, has been instrumental in driving meaningful change in their fields.

Whether your ambitions lie in academic research, industry innovation, or combining both, this session will provide invaluable insights into how to build a career that bridges creativity, leadership, and engineering excellence.

Moderator: Julien Méscha Rabino | Software Engineering Student, University of Calgary

Panel Speakers:

Marjan Jose Eggermont BA, BFA, MFA, PhD | Professor (Teaching), Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, Interim Associate Dean Sustainability, Artist. Schulich School of Engineering, University of Calgary

Dr. Marjan Eggermont is a Professor (Teaching) and Associate Dean Sustainability at the Schulich School of Engineering (SSE) at the University of Calgary.

She is a Biomimicry Institute Fellow and has been working in the field since 2004 with a focus on visualization and abstraction. With co-editors Tom McKeag (San Francisco) and Norbert Hoeller (Toronto) she co-founded and designs Zygote Quarterly (zqjournal.org), an online bio-inspired design journal to showcase the nexus of science and design. She served on the board of the American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE) from 2014-2017 and was recently inducted into their Hall of Fame. For the past 5 years she has volunteered with NASA VINE (Virtual Interchange for Nature-inspired Exploration) as lead of the Education research working group to explore nature-inspired technology.

Naser El-Sheimy P. Eng CRC, FCAE, FEIC, FION | Professor, Geomatics Engineering, Schulich School of Engineering, University of Calgary

Dr. Naser El-Sheimy is a Professor in the Department of Geomatics Engineering, as well, he holds a Tier I Canada Research Chair in Geomatics Multi-Sensor Systems. Dr. El-Sheimy led the establishment of three companies and one research center (TECTERRA). He is the chairman of the board of directors of the Micro Engineering Group and the founder of Profound Positioning Inc., a leading company in navigation technologies of autonomous systems. Additionally, his research tackles a multitude of areas such as intelligent and autonomous systems, navigation and positioning technologies, satellite technologies, multi-sensor systems, and vehicles and transportation systems. Dr. El-Sheimy's aerospace research focuses on the development of Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) and Inertial Navigation Systems, as well as the development of multi-sensor systems for continuous and reliable navigation in all environments.

Ahmad Ghasemloonia PhD, P. Eng | Associate Professor (Teaching) Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, Associate Dean – Student Success and Interdisciplinary Academic Programs Schulich School of Engineering, University of Calgary.

Ahmad Ghasemloonia earned a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Tabriz in 2003 and a Master of Science in Applied Mechanics from Tarbiat Modares University in 2006. He completed his PhD in Mechanical Engineering at Memorial University of Newfoundland in 2013 and specializing in structural vibrations.

Dr. Ghasemloonia began his academic career in August 2016 as an Assistant Professor (Teaching) in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Calgary. He was promoted to Associate Professor (Teaching) with tenure in July 2021. In April 2021, he joined the Schulich School of Engineering Dean's Office as the Assistant Dean for Academic Programs and Students. In June 2022, he transitioned to the role of Associate Dean for Student Success and Interdisciplinary Academic Programs, where his responsibilities included overseeing the first-year program, Schulich Studio. In May 2024, his portfolio expanded further to encompass teams and clubs, student professional development, scholarships, and global experiences. In these leadership roles, Dr. Ghasemloonia serves on several strategic committees, contributing to curriculum development, program reviews, and policy implementation.

v2:00pm – 2:45pm

Closing Panel

Room: ENA 201

Industry Panel – AI Beyond the Buzzwords: Real-World Insights on AI and Leadership from an Industry Expert

Explore the transformative impact of artificial intelligence on engineering processes, design thinking, and problem-solving in this thought-provoking session. Gain insights into how future engineering leaders can adapt to rapid technological advancements by making ethical, informed decisions and fostering continuous learning and innovation.

This session will delve into strategies for thriving in an AI-driven environment, emphasizing the importance of empathy, collaboration, and effective communication in AI-integrated teams. Tailored for undergraduate

engineering students, it will provide practical leadership tips on developing critical thinking, resilience, and ethical leadership.

Discover how to approach AI as more than just a tool—view it as an opportunity to elevate your leadership potential, drive meaningful impact, and prepare for the challenges of tomorrow’s engineering landscape.

Moderator: Mohammad El-mougey | Electrical Engineering Student, University of Calgary

Panel Speakers:

Bryan Guscott | Senior Manager, AI & Data Science, Arctic Wolf.

Bryan Guscott is the Senior Manager of AI & Data Science at Arctic Wolf, where he leads an international team of Data Scientists focused on research and development on all things related to machine learning. The AI & Data Science team partners with Arctic Wolf’s security and threat researchers, concierge security team, and software engineers across the organization to build models and systems to more effectively triage security alerts and identify novel threats across Arctic Wolf’s incredible corpus of data. Prior to Arctic Wolf, Bryan ran the Cybersecurity Analytics group at TELUS.

Karl Yeh MBA | Co-founder and Chief AI Officer, 0260.AI

Karl Yeh, is an AI strategist, operator and builder, who is passionate about helping businesses realize the tangible benefits of artificial intelligence. He has led AI adoption from enterprises to start-ups through education, strategy and implementation. With a background and expertise in building businesses, demand generation, and keen ability to drive AI implementation company-wide, Karl has led initiatives resulting in substantial ARR growth and operational efficiencies.

2:45pm – 3:30pm

SSE Atrium and Social Staircase

End-of-day casual networking over afternoon snacks.

All presenters / panel speakers / students / industry guests invited