RE-2 Employee Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp
RECEIVED
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
PUBLIC RECORDS
2026 APR 27 AM 10: 57

Post Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 144 Hart Building. **This form is a public disclosure. The form and all attachments will be made publicly available.**

Certification: *In compliance with the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel, Senate Rule 35, and the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007, I certify that I accepted the following gift of privately sponsored travel:*

Private Sponsor(s):

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Travel Dates:

03/31/2026 to 04/02/2026

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Relationship to Traveler:

Total Expenses

Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meals Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
$210.93	$674.84	$204.76	$29.30 (Lyft/Uber reimbursement)

I also certify that attached to this form are all required documents for post travel disclosure, including:

- **The final Employee Pre-Travel Authorization** (Form RE-1)
- The final **Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form** with all attachments
- The final invitation
- The final approved itinerary

Finally, I certify that all trip information reflected in the attachments above accurately reflects the travel that I accepted. If there were any changes to the trip after I received approval from the Committee, the changes are described in ATTACHMENT 1.

4/27/26 — Date

Rachael Lau — Printed Name of Traveler

Rachael Lau — Signature of Traveler

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the Employee Pre-Travel Authorization form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

04-27-2026 — Date

Gary C Peters — Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

ATTACHMENT 1 – CHANGES FROM APPROVED PRE-TRAVEL

Note: Material changes to a trip that occur after the Committee has issued an approval letter may invalidate the Committee's approval. Please contact the Committee with any questions regarding changes to an approved trip.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved travel expenses? (Transportation, Meals, Lodging, Other)?

(●) Yes ( ) No

Expense Change	Revised Amount	Explanation
Lodging	$674.84	An error was made inputting the estimated lodging figures before the trip was approved and cannot be changed in the portal once approval for the trip was given. The estimated figures for transportation and lodging were accidentally reversed, so the pre-travel amount approved for Transportation was $676.00 when it should have been $633.32 and the pre-travel amount approved for lodging was $633.32 when it should have been $676.00. The hotel nightly rate was $271.00 per night + taxes = $674.84. This is the same amount that was estimated in the original pre-travel Primary Trip Sponsor Form which was uploaded in the portal before approval. My apologies for the error.
Transportation Expenses	$210.93	I paid for my own trip to a different location, so MIT only sponsored the travel to Boston.
Other Expenses	$29.30	Lyft/Uber reimbursement during adverse weather conditions during the trip.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved itinerary?

(●) Yes ( ) No

Explanation:

MIT had to make a minor, last minute change to the itinerary when we discovered Delta Airlines had moved the time of the departing BOS - DCA flight up by 20 minutes. Instead of leaving Logan at 6:05pm, we received an update at lunchtime on the day of travel to say the flight would be departing at 5:40pm. As a result of this news, MIT cut 30 minutes from the last session to facilitate getting to the airport on time. The last session 'Fitting it all together & Seminar Evaluation', therefore ran from 3:00 - 3:30pm (instead of 3:00 - 4:00pm).

Were there any additional changes to the pre-approved trip?

(●) Yes ( ) No

Explanation:

I paid for my own trip to a different location (BOS-ORD instead of BOS-DCA, which was in the original pre-approved trip) after the seminar. The flight took off at 4:28PM from BOS and landed at ORD at 6:28PM. I spoke with Shaunda Cobbs from Senate Ethics and submitted a Trip Modification Form in advance of the trip as well. An email thread is also attached verifying my communication with Senate Ethics.

REQUEST FOR TRIP MODIFICATION

Pursuant to the *Regulations and Guidelines for Privately Sponsored Travel* § III.E.2:

Senate travelers are expected to participate in the trip as planned by the trip sponsor except as follows:

- A Senate traveler may modify their point of departure or return to facilitate an official purpose if the Senate office pays any difference in cost between the modified travel and the travel as originally planned.
- A Senate traveler may modify their point of departure or return to facilitate a personal purpose only if the Senate traveler pays all transportation expenses in connection with that side of the trip.
- All trip modifications must be approved by the Committee, and must not create an appearance, as determined in the sole discretion of the Committee, that the Senate traveler is using the resources of the sponsoring entity for personal gain or to supplement impermissibly the work of the Senate office.

Trip Sponsor: Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Trip Dates: March 31, 2026 - April 2, 2026

Original point of departure/return: Washington, D.C. (DCA)

Modified point of departure/return: Chicago, IL (ORD)

Rachael Lau	Rachael E. Lau	3/30/2026
Printed name of traveler	Signature	Date
Gary C. Peters		3/30/2026
Printed name of supervising Senator/officer	Signature	Date

Lau, Rachael (HSGAC)

From: Lau, Rachael (HSGAC)
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2026 12:35 PM
To: Cobbs, Shaunda (Ethics)
Subject: RE: Important Information for MIT 'Future of AI Seminar', March 31-April 2,2026
Attachments: Rachael Lau Trip Modification - MIT_Signed.pdf

Hi Shaunda,

Thank you for this! Please see the signed Trip Modification Form attached. Please let me know if there are any outstanding concerns, and thank you for taking the time to guide me through this!

Best,
Rachael

From: Cobbs, Shaunda (Ethics) <Shaunda_Cobbs@ethics.senate.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2026 11:47 AM
To: Lau, Rachael (HSGAC) <Rachael_Lau@hsgac.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Important Information for MIT 'Future of AI Seminar', March 31-April 2,2026

Hi Rachel,

Thanks for much for updating me on your trip. Please see attached for the Trip Modification Form. Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Thanks,
Shaunda

From: Lau, Rachael (HSGAC) <Rachael_Lau@hsgac.senate.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2026 11:44 AM
To: Cobbs, Shaunda (Ethics) <Shaunda_Cobbs@ethics.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Important Information for MIT 'Future of AI Seminar', March 31-April 2,2026

Hi Shaunda,

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me on the phone. As discussed, I'm confirming that w about me personally sponsoring my trip from Boston for last flight of the MIT trip. I will send you Trip Modification form to reflect those changes.

Best,
Rachael

From: Cobbs, Shaunda (Ethics) <Shaunda_Cobbs@ethics.senate.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2026 11:38 AM

To: Lau, Rachael (HSGAC) <Rachael_Lau@hsgac.senate.gov>
Subject: Re: Important Information for MIT 'Future of AI Seminar', March 31-April 2,2026

I just gave you a call. Please give me a call back. I'm at 202-340-6775.

Sent from my iPhone

> On Mar 30, 2026, at 11:16 AM, Lau, Rachael (HSGAC) <Rachael_Lau@hsgac.senate.gov> wrote:
>
> Hi Shaunda,
>
> Sounds great! Thank you so much.
>
> Best,
> Rachael
>
> **From:** Cobbs, Shaunda (Ethics) <Shaunda_Cobbs@ethics.senate.gov>
> **Sent:** Monday, March 30, 2026 11:16 AM
> **To:** Lau, Rachael (HSGAC) <Rachael_Lau@hsgac.senate.gov>
> **Subject:** Re: Important Information for MIT 'Future of AI Seminar', March 31-April 2,2026
>
> Rachel,
>
> Please give me ten minutes and I can give you a call.
>
> > On Mar 30, 2026, at 11:12 AM, Lau, Rachael (HSGAC) <Rachael_Lau@hsgac.senate.gov> wrote:
> >
> > Hi Shaunda,
> >
> > Do you have time today for a brief conversation? The chat with Helen was super helpful, and I'd like to confirm my schedule change with ethics before my travel tomorrow.
> >
> > Many thanks!
> >
> > Best,
> > Rachael Lau
> >
> > > On Mar 30, 2026, at 10:46 AM, Helen C Haislmaier <helenh@mit.edu> wrote:

I'll call in a few minutes.

Helen

From: Lau, Rachael (HSGAC) <Rachael_Lau@hsgac.senate.gov>
Date: Monday, March 30, 2026 at 10:43 AM
To: Cobbs, Shaunda (Ethics) <Shaunda_Cobbs@ethics.senate.gov>
Cc: Helen C Haislmaier <helenh@mit.edu>
Subject: RE: Important Information for MIT 'Future of AI Seminar', March 31-April 2,2026

Thanks for this, Helen!

Hi Shaunda – I'd love to find a time to speak briefly about my situation. Do you have time today to chat briefly? I'm available anytime at 7712167144

Best,
Rachael Lau

From: Helen C Haislmaier <helenh@mit.edu>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2026 10:40 AM
To: Lau, Rachael (HSGAC) <Rachael_Lau@hsgac.senate.gov>
Cc: Cobbs, Shaunda (Ethics) <Shaunda_Cobbs@ethics.senate.gov>
Subject: Re: Important Information for MIT 'Future of AI Seminar', March 31-April 2,2026

OK, thanks for the update. Our ethics counsel is Shaunda Cobbs, cc'd above.

I've updated the agenda to show the end of the seminar, not the return flight though I'm guessing I may have to revise it again once you know what time you will be leaving, I don't think you will need that until the post-trip disclosure but I defer to Ms. Cobbs.

I won't cancel your return flight until later this afternoon, just in case you still need it or want me to look at alternative returns to DCA on Friday. If you are flying to somewhere other than DCA, I know we won't be allowed to cover that.

Just keep me posted!

Helen

MIT Open Learning

February 5, 2026

Ms. Rachel Lau
Artificial Intelligence Fellow (AAAS)
Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee
442 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Rachael,

I am writing to invite you to attend an MIT seminar for senior Congressional staff on the topic of Artificial Intelligence. The seminar, **"The Future of AI,"** will take place on the MIT campus in Cambridge, MA from March 31-April 2, 2026. To allow for robust discussion, invitations are being extended only to senior Congressional staff who work on Artificial Intelligence-related policy areas.

We will cover the cost of travel and hotel accommodations and are carefully following House and Senate Ethics Committee requirements. The necessary ethics approval forms will be provided to you should you apply to attend.

As you will see in the agenda below, the seminar will cover a range of topics related to AI and its uses, with talks by MIT faculty experts and plenty of time for Q&A. The seminar will also include a tour of MIT's Media Lab and the Plasma Science Fusion Center.

The seminar, which is sponsored by MIT's Open Learning with a grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, was organized by the MIT Washington Office and MIT Open Learning. If you would like to attend, please apply no later than close of business on Thursday, February 26 by clicking here. This will allow sufficient time for filing the necessary paperwork with your Ethics Committee by Monday, March 2nd. Spaces are limited, so early application is strongly suggested.

If you have received this invitation in error and the seminar is not relevant to your portfolio, please feel free to forward it to a colleague who focuses on issues related to AI.

Helen Haislmaier in the MIT Washington Office will be happy to answer any questions, and she can be reached at (202) 744 5835 or at helenh@mit.edu.

Sincerely,



Dimitris Bertsimas
Vice Provost for Open Learning

RE-1 Employee Pre-Travel Authorization

Date/Time Stamp

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220.** Incomplete and late travel submissions will not be considered or approved.

Name of Traveler:
RACHAEL LAU

Employing Office/Committee:
HOMELAND SECURITY & GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Private Sponsor(s):
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Destination(s):
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Travel Dates:
03/31/2026 to 04/02/2026
NOTE: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties.

As an AI fellow working specifically on artificial intelligence, cyber security, and quantum computing, this is directly related to my duties within the Committee.

Do you have an accompanying family member or spouse on this trip?
No

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
N/A

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.

3-2-2026
Date

Rachael Lau
Signature of Employee

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER
(President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain)

I Gary C. Peters
(Print Senator's/Officer's Name)

hereby authorize Rachael Lau
(Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate.

[X] (signify "yes" by checking box)

3-2-2026
Date

Gary C Peters
Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

Massachusetts Institute of Technology: 2026 MIT 'Future of AI' Seminar for Congressional Staff

RACHAEL LAU

Title:
None

Employing Office/Committee:
HOMELAND SECURITY & GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Duty Station:
None

Destination(s):

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

As an AI fellow working specifically on artificial intelligence, cyber security, and quantum computing, this is directly related to my duties within the Committee.

Name of accompanying family member (if any):
Not Entered

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
None

Organization Information

Organization Name
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

§501(c)(3) Organization Type
Public Charity

Address 2 (Optional)
3-207

Phone Number
202 744 5835

Is your organization classified as a §501(c)(3)?
(●) Yes ( ) No

Address
77 Massachusetts Avenue

City, State Zip
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139 United States

Organization URL
https://web.mit.edu/

History of Congressional Travel

MIT has hosted similar seminars on a wide range of public policy issues related to science and technology for over 25 years. The most recent 'in person' seminar for congressional staff was held on the MIT campus in April, 2025.

Educational Activities

MIT is a major non-profit research university with a mission focused on education and research in science, engineering and technology. It offers both undergraduate and graduate level degrees and has multiple departments working on cutting-edge technologies in a variety of subjects including Artificial Intelligence and its applications.

Lobbyist and Foreign Agent Registration Information

Lobbyist Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not a federally registered lobbyist but does retain or employ one or more federally registered lobbyists.*

Foreign Agent Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not an agent of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ an agent of a foreign principal.*

Foreign Government Involvement

Foreign Agent Registration Status:

- ✓ I certify that the sponsor is not a foreign government.
- ✓ I certify that the sponsor is not an entity that is owned or operated by a foreign government.
- ✓ I certify that the sponsor does not receive funding from a foreign government.

Comments

MIT does receive foreign funds but we do not meet the definition of a foreign agent under the Foreign Agent Registration Act and are not required to register. No foreign funding is being used for this program.

Signature Page

The signature page is below.

Purpose and Details

Provide a brief description of the trip.

This is an intensive educational seminar presented by MIT faculty with a dinner talk by an expert on AI and transportation. The seminar will be held on MIT's campus (with the exception of using a hotel conference room) and utilizes MIT faculty, classrooms and laboratories. There will be tours of the MIT Media Lab, the Belcher Lab and the Plasma Science & Fusion Center, all showcasing the use of AI in these different areas.

Explain how the purpose of the trip relates to your organization's mission.

MIT is a major non-profit research university with a mission focused on education and research in science, engineering and technology. Congressional staff will be exposed to the latest research and thinking about Artificial Intelligence and its applications. MIT has hosted similar seminars for Congressional staff on a wide range of public policy issues related to science and technology for over 25 years.

Is your organization the only sponsor for this trip?

● Yes ○ No

Grantmaking Organizations (Optional)

1. The Alfred P Sloan Foundation

With or Without Regard for Congressional Participation

The trip is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Involvement in Planning, Organizing, Requesting or Arranging

● The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal, other than de minimis involvement.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Financing

● The trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.

● No funds or in-kind contributions were earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Accompaniment

Complete if all sponsors are §501(c)(3) organizations

● The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip

○ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

○ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Complete if any of the sponsors is not a §501(c)(3) organizations.

○ The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip

○ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

○ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Certification of No Recreational Activity and No Alcohol

- Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for recreational activities.
- Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for alcohol, except as permitted by the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel.

Invitees

- Members and staff from the House of Representatives **will** receive invitations.

The list of invitees is below.

Travel Details

Trip Start Date/Time:
03/31/2026 @ 08:40 AM

Trip End Date/Time:
04/02/2026 @ 07:55 PM

Will the traveler be accompanied by a family member for whom the sponsor will pay travel expenses?

○ Yes ● No

Itinerary

The itinerary is below.

Transportation (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $676.00 | Accompanying Family Member: $0.00)

Transportation Type	Class	Amount
Airfare	Coach	$550.00

Note
round trip, fully refundable coach tickets on Delta Airlines.

Ground Transportation	Coach	$56.00

Note
MIT bus to pick staff up from Boston Logan airport on 3/31/26 and take them to the Marriott Residence Inn, Cambridge and back to Logan Airport again on 4/2/26.

Ground Transportation	N/A	$70.00

Note
MIT will reimburse each staffer UP TO a total, maximum of $70 for round-trip taxis/Ubers to and from Reagan National Airport from/to their residence.

Lodging (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $633.32)

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country	Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem
03/31/2026	04/02/2026	Marriott Residence Inn, Cambridge	Cambridge	Massachusetts	United States	2	$316.66	Yes

Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason
The actual nightly rate is $291.00 which does not exceed the per diem rate. However, with taxes included, the final cost is above the per diem (but it includes breakfast).

Meals (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $240.00)

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
03/31/2026	$0.00	$47.00	$35.00	$11.00	**$93.00**	Cambridge	Massachusetts	United States	Yes

Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason
The opening day includes a formal working lunch and a working dinner at the hotel. We have no choice of caterer for the lunch location but we are using one of the cheapest caterers allowed at the Residence Inn for dinner.

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
04/01/2026	$0.00	$30.00	$79.50	$2.50	**$112.00**	Cambridge	Massachusetts	United States	Yes

Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason
There is a formal working dinner the night of 4/1/26 where there is only one caterer/no cheaper options.

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
04/02/2026	$0.00	$30.00	$0.00	$5.00	**$35.00**	Cambridge	Massachusetts	United States	No

Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $0.00)

Expense Type	Amount	Notes

There are no miscellaneous expenses.

Additional Attachments

Document Name

There are no additional attachments.

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL

SPONSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

I hereby certify that the information submitted in connection with the trip listed below is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Trip Name: 2026 MIT Future of AI Seminar for Congressional Staff

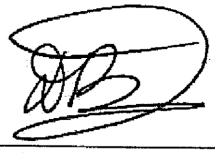
Travel Date(s): 3/31 - 4/2/2026

Travel Destination(s): Washington, DC - Cambridge, MA - Washington, DC

Sponsor: Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Dimitris Bertsimas — *(printed name of sponsor representative)*

Vice Provost, Open Learning — *(title)*



(signature of sponsor representative)

2/9/2026 — *(date)*

Grantmaking Organization Certification Form

Instructions: If a sponsor receives funds from a grantmaking organization, the sponsor must disclose this on the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form*, and the grantmaking organization must complete the *Grantmaking Organization Certification Form.* The completed *Grantmaking Organization Certification Form* must be submitted to the Senate Select Committee on Ethics by the trip sponsor at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date.

Grantmaking Organization: The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

Private Sponsor: Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Trip Name: Artificial Intelligence seminar for Congressional Staff

Travel Date(s): March 31 - April 2, 2026

Destination(s): Washington, DC to Cambridge, MA and back to Washington, DC

In compliance with the *Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel*, I certify the following:

- ☑ The grantmaking organization is a § 501(c)(3) organization.
- ☑ The grantmaking organization is not a lobbyist, lobbying firm, or foreign agent, nor an entity that retains or employs a lobbyist or foreign agent.
- ☑ The grantmaking organization provides funds under an established grant program, or in a manner that is otherwise consistent with the mission and practices of the organization.
- ☑ The grantmaking organization is not involved, directly or indirectly, in organizing and conducting the trip. This includes selecting participants for a trip.
- ☑ The grantmaking organization does not directly pay or reimburse travel expenses for any Senate Member, officer, or employee.

Doron Weber
(Printed name of grantmaking organization representative)

Vice President/Program Director
(Title)

(Signature of grantmaking organization representative)

2/6/2026
(Date)

Prefi	First Name	Last Name	Title	Organization Name (Parent)	Email
	Theresa	Allman	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator James Lankford	theresa_allman@lankford.senate.gov
	Christopher	Anderson	National Security Advisor	Office of Senator Steve Daines	chris_anderson@daines.senate.gov
	Collin	Anderson	Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Richard Blumenthal	collin_anderson@blumenthal.senate.gov
	Erica	Andeweg	Senior Policy Advisor	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	erica_andeweg@fischer.senate.gov
	Kirk	Arner	Counsel	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	kirk_arner@commerce.senate.gov
	Uday	Aryal	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	uday_aryal@commerce.senate.gov
	Mana	Azarmi	Legislative Counsel	Office of Senator Alex Padilla	mana_azarmi@judiciary-dem.senate.gov
	Didier	Barjon	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Charles E. Schumer	didier_barjon@schumer.senate.gov
	James	Barton	Chief Counsel	Office of Senator Chris Coons	james_barton@coons.senate.gov
	Logan	Basner	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Lisa Murkowski	logan_basner@murkowski.senate.gov
	Jessica	Berry	Staff Director	Committee on Appropriations	jessica_berry@appro.senate.gov
	Thompson	Betts	Legislative Correspondent	Office of Senator Steve Daines	taylor_betts@daines.senate.gov
	Jonathan	Black	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Ben Ray Luján	jonathan_black@lujan.senate.gov
	Kathleen	Bochow	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator John Boozman	kathleen_bochow@boozman.senate.gov
	Rachel	Boose	Staff Assistant	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	rachel_boose@commerce.senate.gov
	Nick	Borgaonkar	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Senator John K. Fetterman	nick_borgaonkar@fetterman.senate.gov
	Shelby	Boxenbaum	Chief Counsel	Office of Senator Ben Ray Luján	shelby_boxenbaum@lujan.senate.gov
	Owen	Brier	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Jon Ossoff	owen_brier@ossoff.senate.gov
	Jeremy	Browner	Counsel	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	jeremy_browner@commerce.senate.gov
	Michael	Burley	Counsel	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	michael_burley@commerce.senate.gov
	Kaitlin	Burt-Williams	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Lindsey Graham	kaitlin_williams@lgraham.senate.gov
	Brendan	Campbell	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Mike Crapo	brendan_campbell@crapo.senate.gov
	Grace	Cason	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Tammy Duckworth	grace_cason@duckworth.senate.gov
	Jade	Casteel	Legislative Correspondent	Office of Senator John A. Barrasso	jade_casteel@barrasso.senate.gov
	James	Chang	Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Brian Schatz	james_chang@schatz.senate.gov
	Guen	Chen	Legislative Fellow	Office of Senator Amy Klobuchar	Guen_Chen@klobuchar.senate.gov
	Nicole	Christus	Deputy Staff Director	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	nicole_christus@commerce.senate.gov
	Elisabeth	Coats	Economic Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Elissa B. Slotkin	elisabeth_coats@slotkin.senate.gov
	Dahvi	Cohen	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Adam B. Schiff	dahvi_cohen@schiff.senate.gov
	John	Connolly	Chief Counsel	Office of Senator Mazie K. Hirono	john_connolly@hirono.senate.gov

Cady	Cooper	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith	cady_cooper@hydesmith.senate.gov
Mariah	Cooper	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Armed Services	maggie_cooper@armed-services.senate.go
Austin	Cromack	Senior Counsel	Office of Senator Jim Justice	austin_cromack@justice.senate.gov
Thomas	Culver	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Patty Murray	thomas_culver@murray.senate.gov
Sari	Cureton	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Gary C. Peters	sari_cureton@peters.senate.gov
Beatrix	Dalton	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Richard Blumenthal	beatrix_dalton@hsgac.senate.gov
Brian	Daner	Counsel/Professional Staff M	Committee on Appropriations	brian_daner@appro.senate.gov
Eugenie	Davis	Research Assistant	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	eugenie_davis@commerce.senate.gov
Madeline	Davis	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	maddy_davis@commerce.senate.gov
Michael	Davisson	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	michael_davisson@commerce.senate.gov
Trevor	Dean	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Catherine Cortez Masto	trevor_dean@cortezmasto.senate.gov
Lindsay	Erickson	Professional Staff Member/(	Committee on Appropriations	lindsay_erickson@appro.senate.gov
Erik	Eykel	Senior Research Assistant	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	erik_eykel@commerce.senate.gov
Emma	Fenton	Research Assistant	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	emma_fenton@commerce.senate.gov
Madeleine	Fleenor	Research Assistant	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	madeleine_fleenor@commerce.senate.gov
Jana	Fong-Swamidoss	Legislative Director/Counsel	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	jana_fong-swamidoss@commerce.senate.
Jameson	Foulke	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Chris Murphy	jameson_foulke@murphy.senate.gov
Margaret	Frankel	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Dave McCormick	maggie_frankel@mccormick.senate.gov
Maureen	Fromuth	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Armed Services	marty_fromuth@armed-services.senate.go
Sierra	Fuller	Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Jacky Rosen	sierra_fuller@rosen.senate.gov
Stephanie	Gamache	Deputy Chief Clerk	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	stephanie_gamache@commerce.senate.g
Cody	Garner	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator John Boozman	cody_garner@boozman.senate.gov
Shreyas	Gandlur	Policy Counsel	Office of Senator Ron Wyden	shreyas_gandlur@wyden.senate.gov
Kevin	Gates	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Armed Services	kevin_gates@armed-services.senate.gov
Kathleen	Gayle	Legislative Director	Office of Senator Mike Rounds	kathleen_gayle@rounds.senate.gov
Bradley	Grantz	Staff Director	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	brad_grantz@commerce.senate.gov
Creighton	Greene	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Armed Services	creighton_greene@armed-services.senate.
Brian	Gutro	Staff Assistant	Committee on Appropriations	brian_gutro@appro.senate.gov
Katie	Hadji	Legislative Director/General	Office of Senator Bill Cassidy	katie_hadji@cassidy.senate.gov
Steven	Hansen	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Roger Wayne Marshall	steve_hansen@marshall.senate.gov
Alex	Hanson	Senior Advisor for Economic	Office of Senator Tom Cotton	alex_hanson@cotton.senate.gov

Claire	Hardy	Legislative Aide	Office of Senator James E. Risch	claire_hardy@risch.senate.gov
Jonathan	Harris	Legislative Correspondent	Office of Senator Sheldon Whitehouse	jonathan_harris@whitehouse.senate.gov
Jessica	Hart	Deputy National Security Ac	Office of Senator Tom Cotton	jessica_hart@cotton.senate.gov
Rosemary	Heiss	Deputy Chief of Staff/Legisl	Office of Senator John Boozman	rosie_heiss@boozman.senate.gov
Lila	Helms	Staff Director	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	lila_helms@commerce.senate.gov
Lauren	Hickey	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Tommy Tuberville	lauren_hickey@tuberville.senate.gov
Natasha	Hickman	Adviser	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	natasha_hickman@commerce.senate.gov
Elizabeth	Hill	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Martin T. Heinrich	elizabeth_hill@heinrich.senate.gov
Charlie	Hobbs	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Ted Budd	charlie_hobbs@budd.senate.gov
Garrison	Holmberg	Legislative Director	Office of Senator Jerry Moran	garrison_holmberg@moran.senate.gov
Daniel	Huguenin	Research Assistant	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	dan_huguenin@commerce.senate.gov
Chad	Johnson	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Armed Services	chad_johnson@armed-services.senate.gov
Mariel	Jorgensen	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Gary C. Peters	mariel_jorgensen@peters.senate.gov
Talia	Katz	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Dave McCormick	talia_katz@mccormick.senate.gov
Mariah	Kessler	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Mike Rounds	mariah_kessler@rounds.senate.gov
Kaitlin	Kleiber	Senior Defense Policy Advis	Office of Senator Tim Kaine	kaitlin_kleiber@kaine.senate.gov
Vikram	Kulkarni	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Foreign Relations	vikram_kulkarni@foreign.senate.gov
Rachael	Lau	AAAS AI Fellow	Senate Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs Com	Rachael_Lau@hsgac.senate.gov
Scott	Leathard	Staff Director/Legislative Co	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	scott_leathard@sullivan.senate.gov
Michael	Lestingi	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	michael_lestingi@commerce.senate.gov
Leah	Li	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Brian Schatz	leah_li@schatz.senate.gov
Eric	LoPresti	Senior Tax Counsel	Committee on Finance	eric_lopresti@finance.senate.gov
Thomas	Lowdermilk	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Appropriations	tj_lowdermilk@appro.senate.gov
William	Lucia	Economist	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	bill_lucia@commerce.senate.gov
Eliza	Lundy	Senior Policy Advisor/Milita	Office of Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith	eliza_lundy@hydesmith.senate.gov
Connor	Lynch	Military Legislative Assistan	Office of Senator James E. Risch	connor_lynch@risch.senate.gov
Elizabeth	Mabry	Legislative Director	Office of Senator Angela D. Alsobrooks	elizabeth_mabry@alsobrooks.senate.gov
Nicholas	Malatesta	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Mark R. Warner	nicholas_malatesta@warner.senate.gov
Mark	Malone	Deputy Chief of Staff	Office of Senator Bill Cassidy	mark_malone@cassidy.senate.gov
John	Maniscalco	Legislative Director	Office of Senator Rand Paul	john_maniscalco@paul.senate.gov
Samantha	Marcy	Senior Counsel	Office of Senator Tina Smith	samantha_marcy@smith.senate.gov

	Paola	Marquez	Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Jeff Alan Merkley	paola_marquez@merkley.senate.gov
	Graham	Mason	Legislative Director	Office of Senator Ben Ray Luján	graham_mason@lujan.senate.gov
	Lucia	Mastrangelo	Research Assistant	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	lucia_mastrangelo@commerce.senate.gov
	Carla	McGarvey	Legislative Director	Office of Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand	carla_mcgarvey@gillibrand.senate.gov
	Michael	Mets	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Susan M. Collins	michael_mets@collins.senate.gov
	Andrew	Miller	Policy Director	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	andrew_miller@commerce.senate.gov
	Kurtis	Miller	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Senator John K. Fetterman	kurtis_miller@fetterman.senate.gov
	Rachel	Mitnick	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Jack Reed	rachel_mitnick@reed.senate.gov
	Lauren	Morgan	Legislative Correspondent	Office of Senator John A. Barrasso	lauren_morgan@barrasso.senate.gov
	Philip	Murphy	Senior Professional Staff Me	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	phil_murphy@commerce.senate.gov
	Ramesh	Nagarajan	Counsel	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	ramesh_nagarajan@commerce.senate.gov
	Andrew	Nam	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Pete Ricketts	andrew_nam@ricketts.senate.gov
	Collin	Nelson	Legislative Aide	Office of Senator Alex Padilla	collin_nelson@padilla.senate.gov
	Ayla	Neumeyer	Deputy Legislative Director/	Office of Senator James E. Risch	ayla_neumeyer@risch.senate.gov
LtCol	Brian	Newbold	Senior Policy Advisor	Committee on Veterans' Affairs	brian_newbold@vetaff.senate.gov
	Carina	Nichols	Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Dan Sullivan	carina_nichols@sullivan.senate.gov
	Michael	Noblet	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Armed Services	michael_noblet@armed-services.senate.gov
	Megan	Noriega	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	megan_noriega@commerce.senate.gov
Dr.	Ali	Nouri	Senior Policy Director	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	ali_nouri@commerce.senate.gov
	Ciara	O'Donoghue	General Research Assistant	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	ciara_odonoghue@commerce.senate.gov
	Elizabeth	Olsen	Counsel	Office of Senator Tammy Duckworth	lizzy_olsen@duckworth.senate.gov
	Ryan	Orr	Legislative Correspondent	Office of Senator Bill Cassidy	ryan_orr@cassidy.senate.gov
	Will	Ossoff	Counsel	Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren	will_ossoff@warren.senate.gov
	Sebastian	Paez	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Roger F. Wicker	sebastian_paez@wicker.senate.gov
	Julia	Pan	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	julia_pan@commerce.senate.gov
	Cirilo	Perez	Legislative Correspondent	Office of Senator Thom Tillis	cirilo_perez@judiciary-rep.senate.gov
	Michael	Perez	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Jeanne Shaheen	michael_perez@shaheen.senate.gov
	Christopher	Pickens	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	chris_pickens@commerce.senate.gov
	Ian	Pigg	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Marsha W. Blackburn	ian_pigg@blackburn.senate.gov
	Marcus	Points	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Appropriations	marcus.points@trade.gov
	Melissa	Porter	Deputy Staff Director	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	melissa_porter@commerce.senate.gov

Nikitha	Rai	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Andy Kim	nikitha_rai@kim.senate.gov
Brannon	Rains	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Todd Young	brannon_rains@young.senate.gov
Duncan	Rankin	Senior Policy Advisor	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	duncan_rankin@commerce.senate.gov
Peter	Rechter	Senior Counsel	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	peter_rechter@commerce.senate.gov
James	Rice	Legislative Director	Office of Senator Chuck Grassley	james_rice@grassley.senate.gov
Oliver	Riquelme	National Security Advisor	Office of Senator Martin T. Heinrich	oliver_riquelme@heinrich.senate.gov
Edgar	Rivas	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Senator John Hickenlooper	edgar_rivas@hickenlooper.senate.gov
Matthew	Robinson	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Lisa Murkowski	matthew_robinson@murkowski.senate.go
Dana	Rollison	Senior Professional Staff Me	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	dana_rollison@commerce.senate.gov
Franci	Rooney	Chief Counsel	Office of Senator John Cornyn	franci_rooney@judiciary-rep.senate.gov
Peyton	Roth	Legislative Director	Office of Senator Jim Banks	peyton_roth@banks.senate.gov
Emily	Rubin	Senior Professional Staff Me	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	victoria_rubin@commerce.senate.gov
Alexis	Rudd	Policy Director	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	alexis_rudd@commerce.senate.gov
Joe	Russell	Deputy Legislative Director	Office of Senator Mark E. Kelly	joe_russell@kelly.senate.gov
Timothy	Ryder	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Charles E. Schumer	tim_ryder@schumer.senate.gov
Al David	Saab	Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Roger F. Wicker	al-david_saab@wicker.senate.gov
Samantha	Salonen	Research Assistant	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	samantha_salonen@commerce.senate.go
Madeleine	Sears	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Jeanne Shaheen	madeleine_sears@shaheen.senate.gov
Bazyen	Selassie	Legislative Director	Office of Senator Amy Klobuchar	baz_selassie@klobuchar.senate.gov
Max	Seltzer	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Eric Schmitt	max_seltzer@schmitt.senate.gov
Valerie	Shen	Senior Counsel	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	valerie_shen@commerce.senate.gov
Blaise	Sheridan	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Appropriations	blaise_sheridan@appro.senate.gov
John	Simermeyer	Policy Advisor	Office of Senator John Hoeven	john_simermeyer@hoeven.senate.gov
Joshua	Sizemore	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Steve Daines	joshua_sizemore@daines.senate.gov
Gabrielle	Slais	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	gabrielle_slais@commerce.senate.gov
Alexandra	Slocum	Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Markwayne Mullin	alexandra_slocum@mullin.senate.gov
Avery	Smith	Legislative Aide	Office of Senator Lindsey Graham	avery_smith@lgraham.senate.gov
Jacob	Smith	Deputy Legislative Director/I	Office of Senator John Cornyn	jacob_smith@cornyn.senate.gov
Joshua	Smith	Counsel	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	josh_smith@commerce.senate.gov
Robert	Smith	General Counsel	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	robert_smith@commerce.senate.gov
Shannon	Smith	Senior Counsel/ Consumer /	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	shannon_smith@commerce.senate.gov

Michael	Spierto	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	michael_spierto@commerce.senate.gov
Kate	Sprague	Research Assistant	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	kate_sprague@commerce.senate.gov
Benjamin	Strand	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Mazie K. Hirono	benjamin_strand@hirono.senate.gov
Matthew	Swint	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	matthew_swint@commerce.senate.gov
Rachel	Taylor	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Appropriations	rachel_taylor@appro.senate.gov
Nicole	Teutschel	Senior Professional Staff Me	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	nicole_teutschel@commerce.senate.gov
Jerome	Trankle	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	jerome_trankle@commerce.senate.gov
Audrey	Trussell	Junior Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Markwayne Mullin	audrey_trussell@mullin.senate.gov
David	Turner	Senior Professional Staff Me	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	david_turner@commerce.senate.gov
Lilly	Walsh	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator John Cornyn	lilly_walsh@cornyn.senate.gov
Annie	Wang	Deputy Legislative Director/(	Office of Senator Raphael Warnock	annie_wang@warnock.senate.gov
Ashleigh	Weismiller	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Jerry Moran	ashleigh_weismiller@moran.senate.gov
Joel	Wellum	Policy Director	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	joel_wellum@commerce.senate.gov
Meredith	Werner	Counsel	Committee on Armed Services	meredith_werner@armed-services.senate.
Kevin	Wheeler	Professional Staff Member	Committee on Appropriations	kevin_wheeler@appro.senate.gov
Calla	Wickenhauser	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator John Hoeven	calla_wickenhauser@hoeven.senate.gov
Julia	Wood	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Roger F. Wicker	julia_wood@wicker.senate.gov
Matthew	Yetter	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Mike Rounds	matt_yetter@rounds.senate.gov

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Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Senior Congressional Staff Seminar
THE FUTURE OF AI
March 31-April 2, 2026

AGENDA

Tuesday, March 31: Day 1

Seminar location: MIT Samberg Center, 50 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, MA 02142
6th Floor, Dining Rooms 5 & 6

8:40 am	**Delta Flight 5687 from Washington Reagan National Airport**
10:25 am	**Staff arrive at Boston Logan airport**
10:40-11:15 am	**MIT Bus from Boston Logan Airport to Residence Inn by Marriott Boston Cambridge**
11:15 -11:45 am	**Check into Residence Inn by Marriott Boston Cambridge** 120 Broadway, Cambridge, MA 02142
11:45am - Noon	**Bus from Residence Inn by Marriott Boston Cambridge to Samberg Conference Center**
Noon – 1:15 pm	**Registration, welcome, introductions, and luncheon** **Samberg Conference Center**, 6th floor, Dining Rooms 5 & 6
12:15 – 12:30 pm	**Participants introduce themselves**
12:45 – 1:00 pm	**Welcome Remarks & Overview of AI at MIT** **Daniel Huttenlocher**, Dean, MIT Stephen A. Schwarzman College of Computing **Dimitris Bertsimas,** Vice Provost for Open Learning and Boeing Professor of Management *Welcome participants and provide an overview of the program*
1:00 – 1:10 pm	**Move from Dining Room 6 to Dining Room 5**
1:10 - 2:30 pm	**Overview of AI** *The session will provide an overview of the basics of how AI works, how it is likely to develop, and issues AI raises for policymakers* **Jacob Andreas,** Associate Professor, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

2:30 – 4:00 pm	**Foundation AI Models** *This session will review more deeply the current state of large language models and computer vision, and their strengths and limitations* **Moderator: Tom Giancola,** Policy Associate, MIT Washington Office **Vincent Sitzmann,** Assistant Professor, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science **Dylan Hadfield-Menell,** Bonnie and Marty (1964) Tenenbaum Career Development Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science **Yoon Kim,** Associate Professor, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
4:00 pm- 4:30 pm	**Training an AI-Ready Workforce** *This session will review efforts to develop curricula and infrastructure to advance training for the skills nececcasry for the work of the future* **Cynthia Breazeal,** MIT Dean for Digital Learning, Director of the MIT RAISE Initiative
4:30 - 4:45 pm	**Break/walk to tour**
4:45-5:30 pm	**Tour of MIT Media Lab** *This tour will explore the MIT Media Lab's research in AI and robotics, human-machine interactions, and AI's impact in media and telecommunications.* **Jessica Rosenworcel** -Executive Director, MIT Media Lab
5:30 – 5:45 pm	**Walk to Residence Inn by Marriott Boston Cambridge** Residence Inn by Marriott Boston Cambridge, 120 Broadway, Cambridge,
6:00-8:30 pm	**Dinner with talk - AI and Ethics** **The Doc Egerton Room,** Ground Floor, Residence Inn **Caspar Hare,** Professor of Philosophy in the Department of Linguistics and Philosophy at MIT *This discussion will provide an overview of ethical frameworks with which to analyze new and evolving applications of AI in society.*

Wednesday April 1: Day 2

Seminar Location -	**Ragon Institute, 600 Main Street, Cambridge, MA**
7:30-8:40 am	**Breakfast at Residence Inn by Marriott Boston Cambridge** Residence Inn by Marriott Boston Cambridge, 120 Broadway, Cambridge,

8:40-8:55 am	**Walk to Ragon Institute of MGB, MIT, and Harvard** 600 Main Street, Cambridge, MA 02139
9:00 - 10:30 am	**AI, Data, and Society– Select Policy Topics** *This session will explore the societal implications of the broad adoption of AI and its use of data.* **Moderator: Asu Ozdaglar**, MathWorks Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science; Department Head, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science; Deputy Dean of Academics, Schwarzman College of Computing **Daniel Huttenlocher**, Dean, MIT Schwarzman College of Computing; Henry Ellis Warren (1894) Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. **Chara Podimata**, Assistant Professor, MIT Sloan School of Management **Alessandro Acquisti**, T. Wilson Professor in Management and Professor of Information Technology, MIT Sloan School of Management
10:30 – 12:00 pm	**AI and the Economy** *This session will explore how AI is likely to change the economy, with a focus on economic behavior in finance and information.* **Moderator: Tom Giancola,** Policy Associate MIT Washington Office **Andrew W. Lo**, Charles E. and Susan T. Harris Professor of Finance, and the Director of the Laboratory for Financial Engineering at the MIT Sloan School of Management. **Lawrence Schmidt,** the Victor J. Menezes (1972) Career Development Professor of Finance at the MIT Sloan School of Management **Ben Armstrong,** Director, MIT Industrial Performance Center
12:00 – 1:15 pm	**Lunch with presentation – Air Force AI Accelerator** *This session will describe work the Air Force is doing with MIT and Lincoln Laboratory to apply AI to Air Force operations.* **Col. Scott Ruppel**, Department of the U.S. Air Force Director, Department of the Air Force-MIT Artificial Intelligence Accelerator **Daniela Rus,** Andrew (1956) and Erna Viterbi Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and Director of the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL) at MIT.
1:15 – 1:30 pm:	**Walk to Plasma Science & Fusion Center** 167 Albany St, Cambridge, MA 02139
1:30 - 2:30 pm	**AI and Fusion Energy** **Tour of Plasma Science & Fusion Center (PSFC)**

The MIT Plasma Science and Fusion Center is an international leader in the development of fusion energy. This tour will explore how AI is being used to advance the field of fusion energy.
Cristina Rea, Principal Research Scientist and Head of Data Science Division, MIT Plasma Science and Fusion Center

Tour Instructions:
- *Closed-toe shoes should be worn on the lab tour.*
- *During the tour, information on the hallway walls may be photographed.*
- *In the lab, there are a few areas that cannot be photographed. Tour location staff will confirm these locations upon arrival.*

2:30 – 2:45 pm: **Walk to Schwarzman Building,** 50 Vassar St. Cambridge, MA, 02139

2:45 – 4:10 pm **AI and National Security**
This session will explore the implications of AI for U.S. national security, including how AI may increase threats to the U.S. and how the U.S. could use AI to enhance its security.
Moderator: Tom Giancola, MIT Washington Office
Eric Evans, Professor of Practice, MIT Aeronautics and Astronautics; Director Emeritus (2006-2024), MIT Lincoln Laboratory
Gene R. Keselman, Lecturer, MIT Sloan School of Management; Executive Director, MIT Mission Innovation Experimental (MIx); Managing Director, MIT Proto Ventures.
Dennis Ross, Group Leader, AI Technology and Systems, MIT Lincoln Laboratory

4:10 - 4:25pm **Break**

4:25 - 5:30 pm **Fireside Chat - China Competition**
This fireside chat will feature a discussion covering a range of topics relevant to geopolitical competition between the U.S. and China, with a particular focus on AI development and adoption, semiconductors, and trade.
Moderator: David Rotman, Editor at Large, MIT Technology Review
Yasheng Huang, Professor of Global Economics and Management at the MIT Sloan School of Management

5:30 - 5:45 pm **Walk to Residence Inn Cambridge**

6:15 - 6:30pm **Walk to Samberg Center**

6:30 - 7:00pm **Reception**

7:00 – 8:45 pm	**Dinner and Talk - AI and Transportation** *This discussion will explore how AI is impacting mobility and transportation, with a focus on autonomous systems.* **Jinhua Zhao**, Class 1941 Professor of Cities and Transportation; Founder, MIT Mobility Initiative

Thursday, April 2: Day 3

Seminar Location: **The Doc Egerton Room, Ground Floor, Residence Inn**

7:45 – 8:45 am	**Continental breakfast at hotel/check out.** *(Bags should be packed and ready to go with you on the bus and can be left with the front desk.)*
9:00 – 10:15 am	**AI and Scientific Discovery** *This session will discuss how AI is being used in research and lab settings to advance scientific discovery and what factors are driving its adoption.* **Neil Thompson**, Principal Research Scientist, MIT CSAIL; Director, MIT FutureTech Project **Marzyeh Ghassemi**, Associate Professor, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science **James Collins,** Termeer Professor of Medical Engineering & Science and Professor of Biological Engineering at MIT
10:15am- 10:30 am	**Walk to tour**
10:30 – 11:45 am	**Tour- MIT Belcher Laboratory** *This session will explore how AI is being used to accelerate scientific discovery in biomolecular materials.* **Angela Belcher,** James Mason Crafts Professor of Biological Engineering and Materials Science
11:45 – Noon	**Walk to The Doc Egerton Room,** Ground Floor, Residence Inn
Noon – 1:45 pm	**Lunch and session:** **AI and Industry** *This session will explore the different ways AI is being put to use, and could be put to use in industry, particularly in manufacturing* **Faez Ahmed,** Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering **Roberto Rigobon**, Professor Sloan School **Thomas Malone,** Patrick J. McGovern Professor, Management; Director for CCI

1:45 – 3:00 pm	**AI in K-12** *This session will explore how AI is being, and could be used in education, particularly K-12 education in the U.S.* **Tom Giancola**, Policy Associate, MIT Washington Office **Daniella Dipaola**, Graduate Researcher, MIT Media Lab **Justin Reich**, Associate Professor of Digital Media, Comparative Media Studies and Writing Department; Director of the MIT Teaching Systems Lab.
3:00 – 4:00 pm	**Fitting it all together, discussion & seminar evaluation** *This session will review the entire program and provide participants a chance to ask questions about the full picture that has emerged, about what they have learned and what information, pertinent to their jobs, they would like to discuss.* **Moderator: Kathleen Kennedy**, Senior Director, MIT Horizon
4:00 – 4:45 pm	**Collect bags/board bus. Travel to Boston Logan Airport**
6:05 – 7:55 pm	**Delta Flight 5667 from Boston to Reagan National Airport, Washington, DC.**