Artificial Intelligence (AI) Panel Introductions

The Shape of Things to Come

May 5, 2026

Panel - The Shape of Things to Come



Richard Culatta
ISTE+ASCD CEO



Dr. Amarda Shehu
GMU VP and Chief AI Officer



Yusuf Ahmad
Playlab Co-Founder



Dr. Allison Mishkin
Youth Policy Lead, OpenAI

Richard Cullata

ISTE+ASCD CEO, FCPS parent



- **ISTE+ASCD creates standards for using technology in education. Current focus on finding ways to use technology to close equity gaps and redefine Digital Citizenship.**
- **Committed to ensuring every student encounters high-impact, engaging learning experiences daily.**
- **Former director of the Office of Educational Technology for the U.S. Department of Education.**
- **Author of “Digital for Good: Raising Kids to Thrive in an Online World.”**

Dr. Amarda Shehu

VP and Chief AI Officer of George Mason University, parent



- **Leading university's AI strategy and implementation across research, academics, and ethical governance.**
- **Entering GMU, students have foundational knowledge of AI, critical thinkers, and strong commitment to ethical stewardship.**
- **Transforms student baseline curiosity into the high-level adaptability and ethical judgment required for an AI-integrated workforce.**
- **Inaugural founder and co-director of GMU's Center for Advancing Human-Machine Partnerships.**

Yusuf Ahmad

Playlab Co-Founder, parent



- **Dedicated to democratization and safe use of AI.**
- **Created a safe (nonprofit) sandbox where educators and students can create with AI responsibly.**
- **Prior to founding Playlab, Yusuf led new product development for Teach For America, and contributed to Scratch (creative coding platform used by millions of kids).**
- **On the founding team of ALU & ALX, a pan-African network of universities and alternative higher ed pathways to develop ethical leaders.**

Dr. Allison Mishkin

OpenAI Youth Policy Lead, parent



- **Technology and Youth mental health expert.**
- **Focus is to ensure young adults have safe and positive experiences with technology.**
- **Received PhD from the University of Oxford in Technology and Child Development and has published on a range of issues including digital parenting, children's play, and STEM education.**
- **Worked with organizations including Sesame Workshop, Nickelodeon, and UNICEF.**