Strategic Horizon Network
Cleveland, OH
June 1-3, 2025
Colloquium Theme:
AI & the Changing World of Work

Our Philosophy

Member institutions are the heart of the Strategic Horizon Network, a self-organized learning community focusing on organizational stretch, exploring new trends, and building capacity. Collaboration and leveraging the synergy of the Network to learn, build strength, and support institutional adaptation are its cornerstones.

The environment in which community colleges operate is changing at an ever-accelerating and increasingly complex rate. Social, technological, and political forces are fundamentally altering the educational landscape in ways that are not easily understood. The Strategic Horizon Network believes that unprecedented challenges require unconventional solutions that can only be found through uncommon learning.

Network Design Principles

1. Explore *disruptive innovation* that is ahead of traditional and commonplace thinking to identify new patterns, signals, and trends.
2. Understand creative and effective aspects of *dynamic organizational culture* to adapt insights, evolve traditional models, and inspire growth in culture, programs, services, and systems at member institutions.
3. Analyze all learning opportunities through *an equity-minded approach* to understand the systemic implications for our students, employees, and communities.
4. Foster an *institutional growth mindset* through *team-based learning* and *cross-college idea sharing and collaboration* in the pursuit and execution of innovation and change.
5. Maintain a Network membership that fosters a sense of *familiarity, fellowship, and support among institutions* and its participants.
6. Provide *common learning opportunities through uncommon experiences outside of postsecondary education.*

Colloquium Background

As artificial intelligence rapidly transforms industries, higher education faces an urgent imperative to prepare students and institutions for a fundamentally altered workplace. This colloquium arrives at a critical inflection point where AI adoption is accelerating across sectors, creating both unprecedented opportunities and existential challenges.

The workforce our graduates will enter demands new competencies, while the positions we prepare them for are being redefined or remade. Organizations successfully navigating this transition aren't merely implementing technology—they're reimagining work itself through an ethical framework that amplifies human potential rather than diminishing it.

Community colleges sit at the frontline of this transformation. Our responsibility extends beyond technical training to fostering adaptability, ethical reasoning, and distinctly human capabilities that complement rather than compete with AI systems.

By bringing together innovators from healthcare, insurance, manufacturing, and mortgage lending, this colloquium breaks down silos to examine how leading organizations are integrating AI into their strategy and operations. Participants will gain crucial insights to reshape educational approaches, institutional operations, and student experiences.

The future belongs to institutions that act decisively. This colloquium provides the cross-industry perspective and practical frameworks needed to position our colleges— and our students—as leaders rather than followers in the AI revolution.

Learning Outcomes:
1. Evaluate current and potential applications of AI outside of higher education and apply them to our industry through an ethical lens that prioritizes human dignity.
2. Compare and contrast AI applications across multiple industries.
3. Analyze how leading companies responsibly integrate AI to enrich jobs and lives without deskilling workers.
4. Identify priority considerations to further prepare campus cultures to embrace and leverage the potential of AI to improve the student and employee experience, as well as improve operational efficiencies.

Sunday, June 1   Metropolitan at the 9

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.   Design Team Meeting (Presidents & SHN Liaisons) **-** *Post Room*

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.   Reception – *The Vaults*

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.   Dinner – *Mint I & II*

6:30 – 7:30 p.m.   "Reimagining Education and Work: AI as a Catalyst for Competency-Based Innovation"
Lisa McIntyre-Hite, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
Competency-Based Education Network (C-BEN)
Mint I & II

Hear how artificial intelligence and a focus on a skills-based economy is reshaping the work/learn ecosystem—and what it means for learners, educators, and employers. Highlights will include the urgent need to redesign learning to keep pace with rapid technological change, including new models that integrate work, learning, and credentialing. Real-world examples will challenge participants to embrace AI and competency-based approaches as a catalyst for more equitable, dynamic, and personalized learning pathways.

Monday, June 2   Metropolitan at the 9 & Site Visits

7:30 - 8:30 a.m.   **Breakfast –** *Mint III*

8:30 – 10:15 a.m.   **"Preparing Your Campus for the Agency Economy"**
Todd McLees, CEO HumanSkills.ai – *Mint I & II*

(*College teams will need 3-4 fully charged laptops for this session*)

Learn how the Agency Economy rewards people who keep their human judgment sharp while steering AI to solve real problems. This session clarifies what that shift means for community colleges. We'll explore why safeguarding—and expanding—human agency matters, contrast Human-First and AI-First playbooks, and unpack a simple loop (purpose → agency → skills) that supports continuous upskilling. You'll also see ways to grow "builders" who turn ideas into value and impact. Finally, we'll roll up our sleeves and, collaborating with AI tools and each other, sketch quick prototypes aimed at today's biggest campus challenges and opportunities—sending you home with pilot-ready actions in mind.

10:15 – 10:30 a.m.   **Break**

10:30 – 11:45 a.m.   **"The Impact of AI on People Driven Organizations"**
Wendell Robinson, Vice President, Government Affairs & Economic Development, Rocket Mortgage – *Mint I & II*

Discover how Rocket, a historical disruptor, continues to redefine itself in a rapidly changing market. This session will explore Rocket's journey from a mortgage giant to a broader player in the home industry, driven by a culture of innovation and customer-centric evolution. We'll delve into the ways Rocket leverages AI to simplify complex processes, create personalized customer experiences, and develop new products for emerging markets. Along the way, we'll highlight the company's unique approach to building a culture of trust, adaptability, and continuous improvement—positioning people at the heart of its AI strategy. Expect actionable insights for leveraging AI without losing the human touch, along with real-world examples of how to maintain a resilient, people-first culture in a tech-driven world.

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.   **Lunch -** *Mint III*

1:00 – 1:30 p.m.   **Inter-college Cross-Team Downloads and Sense-Making**
Mint I & II

1:30 – 2:15 p.m.   **College Team Connections and Applications –** *Mint I & II*

2:15 - 2:30 p.m.   **Load buses and DEPART < 2:30 - travel to Learning Sites**

2:45 – 4:15 p.m.   LEARNING SITE VISITS

1. **Cleveland Clinic: Quantum Computing in Biomedical Research (15-minutes bus) –**Explore the groundbreaking intersection of quantum computing and biomedical research at Cleveland Clinic's IBM Discovery Accelerator. This visit will highlight the potential of quantum computing to revolutionize medical research and shape the future of healthcare innovation.
2. **Cleveland Clinic: AI-Driven Clinical Innovation (15-minutes bus) –** Gain insight into how generative AI and advanced digital solutions are transforming patient care, enhancing clinical workflows, and improving operational efficiency at Cleveland Clinic.
3. **Nottingham Spirk (20-minutes bus) –** Discover how Nottingham Spirk, a leader in product innovation and commercialization, transforms breakthrough ideas into market-ready solutions. This visit will showcase the firm's unique vertical innovation process, where design, engineering, and business strategy converge to drive disruptive advancements across industries.
4. **Manufacturing Advocacy & Growth Network (15-minutes bus) –** Explore this former inter-city elementary school that houses the regional Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) intermediary for manufacturing that is innovating in creative ways.

4:15 - 4:45 p.m.   Travel back to the Hotel

Evening   Open time/Dinner on our own (consider site visit debrief)

Tuesday, June 3   Metropolitan at the 9

7:30 - 8:30 a.m.   Breakfast – *Mint III*

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.   "The Impact of AI: Predictive, Generative, and Responsible — How Progressive is Learning to Dance with AI"
Brian Surtz, GM of Architecture Strategy and Innovation, Progressive Insurance – *Mint I & II*

Discover how Progressive Insurance is learning to dance with AI, embracing its transformative potential to shape the future of a mission-driven organization. Learn how Progressive integrates predictive AI to anticipate customer needs, generative AI to enhance operational efficiency, and responsible AI to ensure ethical practices. Together, these technologies form the foundation of a bold innovation strategy centered on Human + AI (HI+AI). This approach is not just about adopting new tools, it is about aligning AI with Progressive's mission-driven values. The company is investing in internal upskilling, reinforcing trust, and creating a seamless balance between human expertise and machine intelligence. Gain insights on how Progressive is choreographing a future where innovation, ethics, and culture move in sync, and how your organization can begin learning the steps.

10:00-10:15 a.m.   Colloquium Closing/Wrap

****Grab 'n Go Snacks/Water will be available ***