

Presentation at Alameda County Workforce Development Board (ACWDB)

on

Bay Area Community Colleges' Initiatives on Artificial Intelligence (AI)

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Alameda WDB— 2025/09/11

BACCC and Significant AI Initiatives (Career Technical Education (CTE) Emphasis)

- ▶ Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics (AIDA) Regional Joint Venture (RJV)
 - From Spring 2022 to June 2024.
- ▶ Proposal of New Statewide Artificial Intelligence (AI) Discipline Initiative
 - From Summer 2023 to July 2024
- ▶ Artificial Intelligence (AI) RJV — Curriculum and Program Developments
 - From Fall 2024 through Spring 2026
- ▶ Current Pilot Program to Broaden BACCC's "Generative AI" Certificate

BACCC First AI Related Initiative – Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics (AIDA)

- ▶ BACCC was presented with the AIDA initiative RJV in Spring 2022.
- ▶ Original-Endorsing Colleges:

▪ Laney College (lead)	▪ Contra Costa College
▪ Cabrillo College	▪ Foothill College
▪ College of Alameda	▪ Las Positas College
▪ College of San Mateo	▪ Mission College
- ▶ Creating AI and DA curricula and programs by Spring 2024.
- ▶ Major industry participations and curricula: Intel (AI4W) , AWS (Machine Learning University – MLU), Google

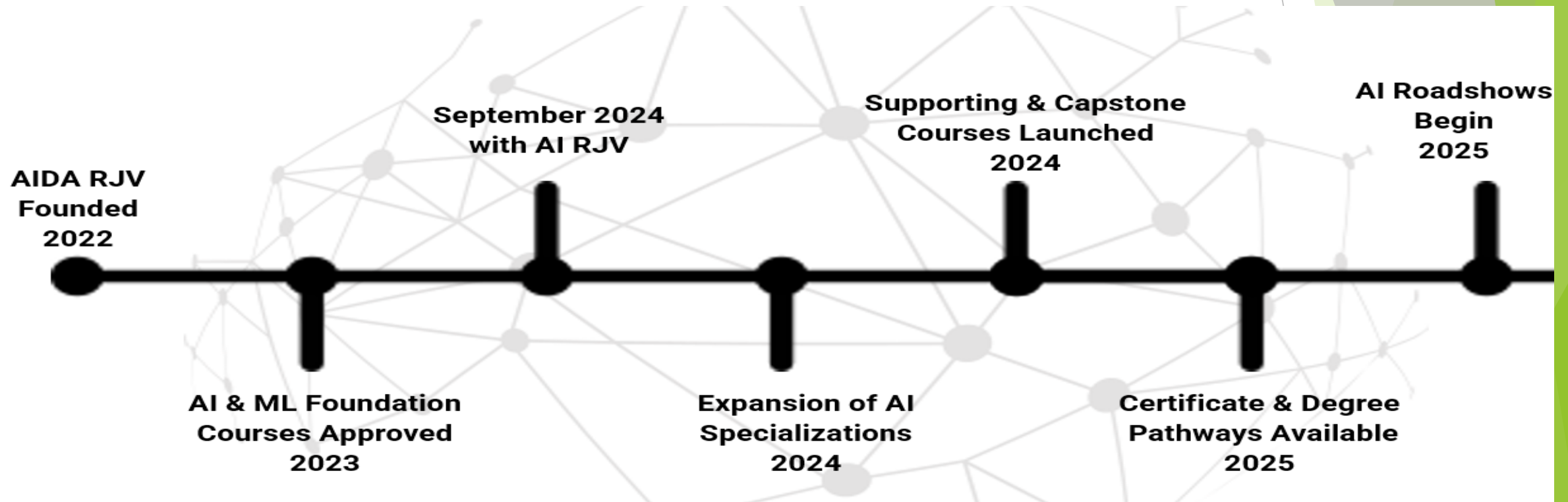
AIDA RJV Outcomes

- ▶ New **AI Discipline** proposal was submitted to State in September 2023.
 - Receiving approvals from
 - Academic Senate of California Community College (ASCCC) in April 2024
 - State Chancellor's Office in July 2024
- ▶ “**AI Subject Code**” was added to State's Minimum Qualification (MQ) handbook in late 2024.
- ▶ Prior to AI subject code availability, AI-relevant courses were developed in different **subject codes** such as CS, CIS, CISB, CISD, CISP, CMPR, ENGIN, and MATH.
- ▶ Data Analytic programs were collaborated with Google's Analytics.
 - Laney College, Mission College, San Jose City College

AI Program Promotions

- AI programs were presented at
 - BACCC Regional (road show) sessions in 2025
 - Intel First Friday Network online in 2024
 - CCCCCO in 2024
 - ASCCC in 2023 and 2024
 - CCCAOE in 2022, 2023
 - AACC in 2023
 - Laney College “AI Program Kickoff” in 2022
- Events
 - AWS Educator Enablement Program and Machine Learning University (MLU) in 2023
 - Intel Innovation Conference in 2022
- Nguyen, T., Sisneros, H., Chow, K. (February 2024). *Artificial Intelligence, Generative AI, and Ethics: An Educational Perspective*. Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC)

Milestones and Key Dates



Current Artificial Intelligence (AI) RJV from 2024 to 2026

► Details of AI Discipline Initiative and Approvals

https://www.asccc.org/sites/default/files/Laney_AI_Discipline_Application_20230925_1055am.docx.pdf

<https://asccc.org/resolutions/disciplines-list-artificial-intelligence>

► Establishing AI Department at Laney College in Spring 2024 – the first AI Department in California Community College system

- Folsom Lake College issued its AI department in November 2024 – the second college in CCC system.

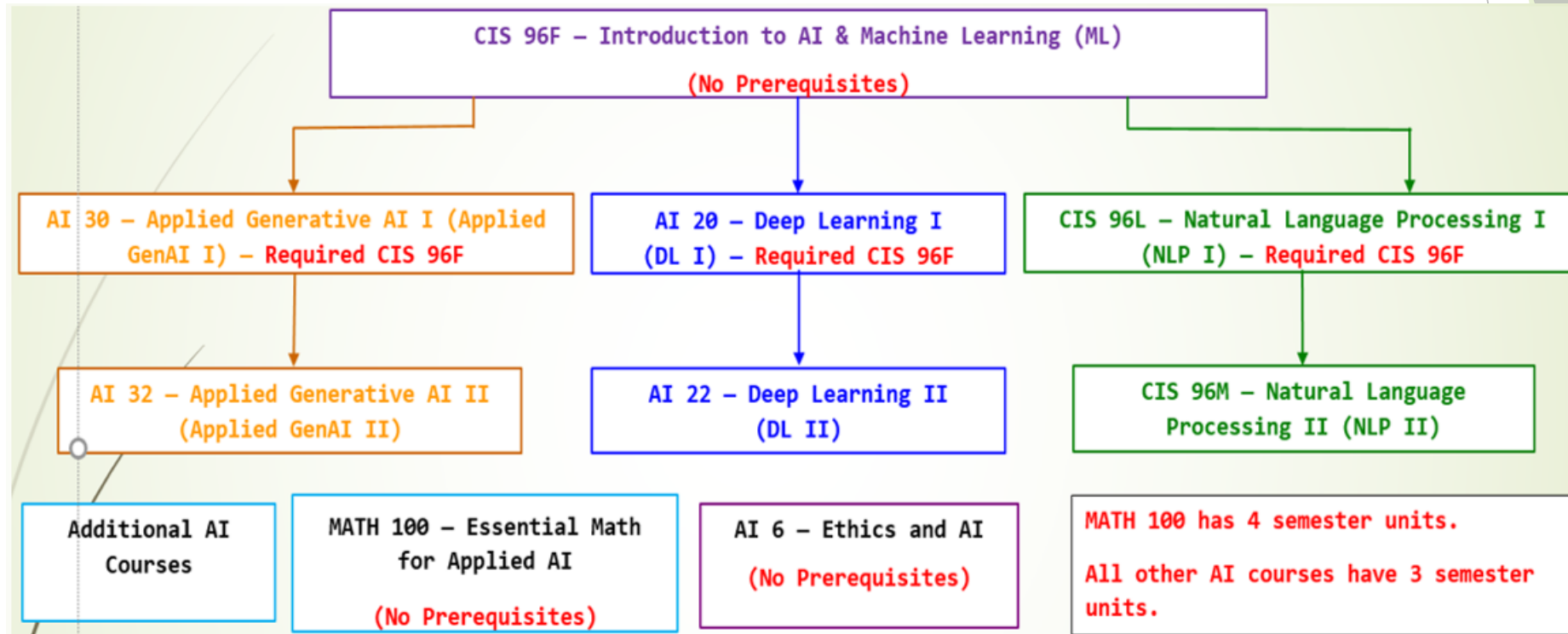
► Evergreen Valley College issued its AI department in Spring 2025.



AI Department
Laney College

Laney College – Curriculum/Program Development

State Approved AI Courses – April 2025



State Approved Certificate: “**Applied Generative AI**”

State Pending Approvals: “**Deep Learning**” and “**Natural Language Processing**”

Bay Region Colleges — Certificates

- ▶ Evergreen Valley College

- ▶ Generative AI Certificate (see Excel attachment)

- ▶ Las Positas College

- ▶ Artificial Intelligence Certificate (see Excel attachment)

- ▶ Mission College

- ▶ Artificial Intelligence Certificate (see Excel attachment)

- ▶ Several colleges have some AI courses or are developing AI courses to design AI certificate programs.

Key Industry Training and program Partners

- Intel
- AWS
- Google
- NVIDIA

Potential Partners:

- Salesforce
- Microsoft

Regional and Statewide Collaborations

- ▶ Non-credit Program – Entrepreneurship in Generative AI
- ▶ Conference – Future Summit
- ▶ Bay Area AI Center of Excellence (BAAI CoE) – designated by BACCC

Vision:

To democratize access to transformative AI education and career opportunities for all Bay Area community college students, establishing the region as a statewide and national leader in diverse and skilled AI talent.

Mission:

To drive scalable and sustainable AI workforce development across the Bay Area's 28 community colleges by developing and delivering innovative AI curriculum, and providing industry-aligned professional training for students and faculty, through strong industry and academic partnerships, and creating clear pathways to AI careers.

Regional Collaborations (Activities under AI RJV)

- ▶ Regional road shows to share AI developments
- ▶ Planning quarterly meetings
- ▶ Planning Bay Area CTE's conference/workshop on AI

AI RJV Industry Advisory – Comments I

► What is working – few selected comments:

- Technical focus
- Projects / Application development
- The curriculum is designed to be beginner-friendly and does not overemphasize intimidating tools like Python or R.
- Offers a clear, approachable on-ramp for learners from diverse backgrounds.
- Practical Skill Development
- Exposure to Industry Tools
- Collaboration with companies like NVIDIA adds legitimacy and potential real-world experience to the program.

AI RJV Industry Advisory – Comments II

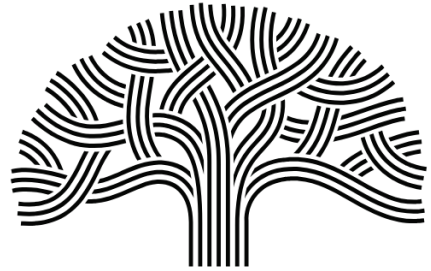
► Areas of opportunity/improvement – few selected comments :

- Update terminology across materials: shift from “Responsible AI” and “AI Ethics” to “AI Risks,” “Governance,” or “Policy Implications” to reflect political realities and avoid misinterpretation.
- Include global policy awareness (e.g., EU AI Act, Colorado AI Law) as part of ethics/policy modules.
- Emphasize compliance with regulations like HIPAA in context-specific domains such as healthcare AI.
- Add mentorship programs pairing students with industry professionals for networking, guidance, and real-world exposure.
- Offer career navigation sessions focused on networking skills, interview prep, and positioning oneself in the job market.
- Teach students how to frame their AI skills in interviews, including using appropriate, less politicized language.

AI RJV Industry Advisory – Comments III

- ▶ **Interesting Points on the AI Hiring Landscape – few selected comments:**
 - ▶ Submitting resumes online is not enough—networking (online or in-person) is now a key method of securing interviews.
 - ▶ Some companies wrongly believe AI can replace multiple roles (e.g., 4 interns = 1 AI-savvy intern). This is often misguided, especially for complex work.
 - ▶ Curiosity, adaptability, and the ability to connect the big picture with technical detail are key differentiators in candidates.
 - ▶ Terms like "AI Ethics" can be politically charged—candidates should instead say things like “AI governance” or “AI risk mitigation” when interviewing.
 - ▶ Programs that connect students with real professionals—through mentoring or live Q&As—are especially beneficial and currently underused.
 - ▶ There's a huge industry gap between AI developers and security professionals. Candidates with both skill sets are in very high demand.
 - ▶ Students should be trained to assess a company's risk posture during interviews (e.g., asking when in the process security is considered).

Sample Local Collaborations



- ▶ City of Oakland's effort to promote AI events supporting communities
- ▶ Collaborations involve academia, organizations, industries, philanthropy, etc.

Quote from Recent McKinsey's Piece (Monthly Highlights, Sept 2025)

“With two-thirds of global companies now using gen AI, the technology could usher in an era of tremendous growth. But handing people new tools doesn’t guarantee effective use, nor does it profoundly change how a company operates. To capture the full value, CEOs could deploy a novel change management approach that empowers employees to shift from gen AI experimenters to gen AI accelerators.”

Thank you for the opportunity to present and share our Bay Region's Collaborative AI Journeys!

Question and Answer Session