Conference Program with Speakers and Panels

AI IN THE TEXTILE AND FASHION INDUSTRIES CONFERENCE

Hosted by FTBEC (Fashion and Textile Business Excellence Cooperative)
Venue: Convocation Center, Wilson College of Textiles, North Carolina State University

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

2-5 pm Optional Pre-Conference Hands-On Workshop: Interactive, expert-led training focused on practical AI tools for textiles, apparel and supply-chain applications.

6:00 pm Welcome Reception
Networking opportunity for industry leaders, academia, innovators, startups and media partners.

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

8:00 am Breakfast & Registration
9:15 am Plenary Talk

Robert Handfield, Ph.D.
Bank of America University Distinguished Professor of Supply Chain Management, North Carolina State University
Executive Director of the Supply Chain Resource Cooperative
AI Transformation in Supply Chains: A Revolution or an Over-Reaction?

10:10 am Session 1: AI Applications in Apparel Product Development and Manufacturing
Focus: AI-assisted design, 3D body anthropometry, digital prototyping, smart factory automation and AI-powered quality analytics.

Steven Hauser, Ph.D.
Principal Data Scientist, Size Stream
3D Body Scanning and the Future of Made to Measure Apparel with AI

Kerry Maguire King
Consultant
Reimagining Textile Print Design Workflows in the Era of AI

Ganesh Subramanian
Founder and CEO, Stylumia
Seeing through the Consumer's Eyes: How AI Agents are Rewriting Fashion Prediction

Amber Isaac
Global Director Digital Product Creation,
Artistic Milliners, SFI Studio
Panel

Christopher Baughan
Director of Data and Analytics,
Peter Millar, G/FORE
Panel

12:15 pm Networking Lunch
1:30 pm Session 2: AI Applications in Consumer Insights, Start-Ups and Workforce Development
Focus: Prompt engineering, AI-driven consumer insights, advanced e-commerce product search, AI-enabled entrepreneurship examples and preparing an evolving AI-powered workforce.

Jeanne McClure, Ph.D. and *Sungwhan Byun, Ph.D.
Postdoctoral Fellow, Data Science and AI Academy
*Assistant Professor, Department of STEM Education/
Director of Educational Research, Data Science and AI Academy, North Carolina State University
Supporting Employee AI Adoption with Prompt Templates

Gart Davis
Co-founder and past-CEO/COO of Spoonflower
Practical Applications of AI in Digital Textile Products and Ecommerce

B. Ellie Jin, Ph.D.
Albert Myers Distinguished Professor / Executive Director, Fashion and Textile Business Excellence Cooperative (FTBEC), North Carolina State University
Beyond Generative: Navigating the Shift to Agentic AI in Fashion Retail

Yasir Nawab, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor of the University of Kamalia, Pakistan
Adjunct Professor, North Carolina State University
Integrating Artificial Intelligence into Textile Engineering and Textile Design Education: A University Perspective

Wednesday, April 1, 2026 (Cont'd)

3:20 pm Session 3: AI Applications in Supply Chain and Sustainability
Focus: Use of AI in supply chain traceability and transparency, fiber identification in recycled textiles and optimized logistics operations.

Daniel Finkenstadt
Vice President of Research and Senior Fellow,
Commerce and Contract Management Institute
Founder and Principal, Wolf Stake Consulting
Panel

Katy Salamati, Ph.D., MBA
Global Solution Lead – IoT in
Government and Infrastructure, SAS
Panel

Rebecca Geppert
Director of Partnerships,
Refiberd, Inc.
Panel

4:10 Session 4: Responsible AI: Ethical, Legal and Governance Perspectives
Focus: Data governance, responsible AI, legal compliance and ethical considerations across the industry.

Kevin P. Lee, J.D.
Director, Institute for AI and Democratic Governance
Unraveling AI: Legal Exposures and Ethical Frameworks for the Textile Industry

W. Lyle Gravatt, J.D.
Managing Partner, Raleigh Office of Michael Best & Friedrich, LLP
Responsible AI: Understanding Ethical, Legal and Governance Risks and Liabilities

Thursday, April 2, 2026

8:00 am Breakfast & Registration
8:45 am Keynote

Brad Ballentine
CEO, MAS USA
AI in Apparel: From Isolated Tools to System-Level Transformation

Veljko Dubljević, Ph.D.
Joseph D. Moore Distinguished Professor of Philosophy and Science, Technology and Society, North Carolina State University
AI Ethics and Its Implications for the Industry

10:00 am Session 5: AI Applications in Textile Technology and Advanced Manufacturing
Focus: Use of AI in cotton farming, spinning, weaving and dyeing processes that enhance productivity across the textile manufacturing supply chain.

Renzo Shamey, Ph.D.
CIBA Distinguished Professor, North Carolina State University
Data-Driven Insights into the Effect of Moisture on Apparel Color Appearance

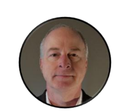
Abdel-Fatth Seyam, Ph.D. and *Constantino Raptis
Charles A. Cannon Professor of Textiles, Alumni Distinguished Graduate Professor * Ph.D. Candidate, North Carolina State University
AI in Weaving

Luis Negrón Naldos, Ph.D.
Business Analytics and Engineering Manager, Creditex S. A.
AI Applications in Textile Technology and Advanced Manufacturing

Oliver Meier
Executive Vice-President,
Lindauer DORNIER
AI-Driven Product Innovation for Weaving Mills

Angie Peterson
Senior Director of IT – AI, Data and Analytics, Milliken & Company
Leveraging AI and Automation in Textiles

Tricia Carey
Chief Commercial Officer, Avalo
Panel



Patrick Hawks
Director of R&D, Glen Raven Inc.
Panel

12:30 pm Wilson College of Textiles Tour

2-5 pm Optional Post-Conference Hands-On Workshop: An advanced, hands-on skill-building session exploring applied AI solutions for product development, manufacturing optimization and retail analytics using existing code and real-world data.