



Saint Joseph University of Beirut
Faculty of Engineering and Architecture

ESIB - INCI

A large, glowing blue circular graphic dominates the center of the poster. It features concentric rings with circuit board patterns. A white sprout with three leaves grows from the center. The text 'EFAI25' is prominently displayed in the middle in a large, white, sans-serif font. The words 'Engineering the Future with AI' are written along the top inner curve, and 'AI-driven design, technology and innovation' are written along the bottom inner curve, both in white sans-serif font.

EFAI25

Engineering the Future with AI

AI-driven design, technology and innovation



June 19-20 | 2025
9:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Program



Free Registration
usj.edu.lb/efai25



USJ - CST Campus
Mkalles, Jean Ducruet Auditorium

DAY 1: JUNE 19, 2025

09:00 AM – 10:00 AM **Registration**

10:00 AM – 10:45 AM **Inauguration Ceremony**

- **Prof. Wassim Raphael**, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture - ESIB at USJ
- **Eng. Charles Malek**, Director of Structural & Bridge Engineering at Dar Al-Handasah
- **Prof. Salim Daccache, SJ**, Rector of the Saint Joseph University of Beirut
- **H.E. Mr. Nawaf Salam**, Prime Minister of Lebanon

10:45 AM – 11:00 AM **University Diploma in AI Graduation Ceremony**

11:00 AM – 11:30 AM **KEYNOTE 1: AI-Driven Living Systems: Reimagining Industry and Reinventing Learning**

- **Dr. Grace Metri**, Principal Strategic Alliance Manager at NVIDIA

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM **Break**

12:00 PM – 01:10 PM **PANEL 1: AI, Digital Transformation, and the Future of Public Services**

Moderator

- **Mr. Ronnie Hammad**, Managing Partner at The Sublime Institute

Speakers

- **Dr. Kamal Shehadi**, Minister of Displaced and Minister of State for Technology and Artificial Intelligence, Lebanon
- **Prof. Carole Alsharabati**, Founding Partner at Siren Analytics and CME, Professor at USJ
- **Mr. Abdallah Jabbour**, Senior Digital Specialist at the World Bank

01:10 PM – 02:00 PM **SPECIAL SESSION: AI and Computer-Aided Design Design, Build, and Operate a Better Built Environment (Online)**

- **Mr. Naji Atallah**, Head of Construction and Manufacturing at Autodesk

Accelerate Simulation with AI; Validate AI with Simulation

- **Mr. Tony Karam**, Global Sales Director at ANSYS

02:00 PM – 03:30 PM **Lunch/Networking Break + Exhibition**

03:30 PM – 04:30 PM

PANEL 2: AI Across Industries

Moderator

- **Dr. Nicolas Rouhana**, Chairman & CEO of IM Fndng

Speakers

- **Mr. Yorgo Youssef**, AI Solution Architect at Murex
- **Prof. César Yaghi**, Head of Hepatology and Gastroenterology Department at Hôtel-Dieu de France
- **Dr. Nawal Zaher**, Tech Expert/Data Analyst at Dar Al-Handasah

04:30 PM – 05:15 PM

Guest Speaker

The Four Pillars of AI-Driven Innovation (Online)

- **Mr. Bill Schmarzo**, Dean of Big Data, Customer AI and Data Innovation Strategist

05:15 PM – 05:45 PM

KEYNOTE 2: Optimizing Data for Decision-Making (Online)

- **Prof. Asu Ozdaglar**, Department Head of EECS, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

DAY 2: JUNE 20, 2025

09:00 AM – 09:30 AM

Guest Speaker

Operationalizing AI at Scale: From PoC to Business Value at TotalEnergies (Online)

- **Dr. Marc Hoballah**, AI Scientific Lead at TotalEnergies

09:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Invited Researchers

The Architecture of Trust: Engineering Ethical Infrastructure for AI Governance

- **Prof. Mariette Awad**, Director AI, Data Science and Computing Hub at the American University of Beirut

AI-Driven IC Design

- **Dr. Rayan Mina**, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture at the Saint Joseph University of Beirut

Three Challenges in Multimodal Diffusion (Online)

- **Dr. Vicky Kalogeiton**, Professor in AI at the Computer Science Laboratory of École Polytechnique, France

Fuelling the AI Revolution with Trusted and Interoperable Data Spaces

- **Dr. Rafiqul Haque**, Senior Research Fellow, University of Galway, Ireland

11:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Coffee Break
11:30 AM – 12:00 PM	SPECIAL SESSION: Engineering Workforce in the AI Era <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. James Varnham, CEO & Partner at AI Academy
12:00 PM – 12:30 PM	Innovation Pitches Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Carla Saba, Deputy General Manager at Berytech
12:30 PM – 01:30 PM	PANEL 3: AI Security and Sovereignty Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Antoine Feghaly, Founder & CEO at Potech Speakers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Hayssam Serhan, Chief of AI and Innovation at EXEO • Mr. Bassam Touma, Partner and Co-Founder at SHELТ Global • Mr. Pejman Gohari, Partner and Founder at ORBii (Online)
01:30 PM – 03:00 PM	Lunch/Networking Break
03:00 PM – 04:15 PM	<div> <div> PANEL 4: AI in Construction and Urban Planning Moderator <p>Mr. Ibrahim Mneimneh, Member of the Lebanese Parliament</p> Speakers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Nabil Mohareb, Associate Professor at The American University in Cairo • Mr. Ahmed Hegazy, Co-Founder & CEO at Opteam • Ms. Christelle Salame, Managing Partner - Global Industry Lead for Real Estate and Smart Cities at Artefact • Mr. Prakash Senghani, Co-Founder and CEO, NavaTech (Online) </div> <div> Parallel Workshops Workshop 1: Data Analysis with LLMs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Amanda Hachem, Education Lead at Zaka <hr/> Workshop 2: ML for Everyone Using Google Sheets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Dalia Jaber, Senior AI engineer at CME <hr/> Workshop 3: Machine Learning for Call Activity Prediction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Elio Hanna, AI Software Engineer at inmind.ai </div> </div>
04:15 PM – 04:30 PM	Break

04:30 PM – 04:40 PM **Upskilling for an AI World: A Human-Centered AI Journey at USJ**

- **Wadad Wazen Gergy**, Director of the Center for Digital Innovation and AI at the Saint Joseph University of Beirut

04:40 PM – 05:20 PM **KEYNOTE 3: AI and the Future of Higher Education**

- **Prof. Joseph Aoun**, President of Northeastern University, Boston, USA ([Online](#))

Moderator:

- **Mr. Albert Kostanian**, Managing Director of Levant Consult

05:20 PM – 06:00 PM **Students Awards and Closing Session**

08:30 PM Gala Dinner

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