Science and Society High School Symposium
Navigating a World with AI

Overview

Students will view a live panel, *AI and You: Rewards, Risks, and Potential*, featuring three experts and a moderator. Panelists will share their experience working with artificial intelligence and pursuing careers in this field. Students will be encouraged to submit questions before and during the live panel and to further reflect on the Symposium’s central question, *What, if any, restrictions or guidelines should there be on the use of artificial intelligence?*

Guiding Question

What careers can you pursue if you’re interested in working with or researching artificial intelligence?

Objectives

Students will be able to:

- describe possible STEM career pathways related to artificial intelligence.
- summarize perspectives shared during the live panel discussion.

Preparation

For this activity, the educator will need the following:

- Link to view the live panel, provided to registered educators via email

For this activity, students will need the following:

- Internet access
- Access to a smart phone, laptop, or tablet
Live Panel (AI and You: Risks, Rewards, and Potential)

Estimated Time: 60 minutes

Activity Instructions

For this part, students will attend the virtual live panel, *AI and You: Risks, Rewards, and Potential*. This panel will feature a moderator and three panelists. The panelists will share their personal experiences working with artificial intelligence and will speak to the societal dimensions of artificial intelligence, including the role of laws, regulations, and other public policy tools to ensure inclusive and ethical use of AI. Students can join the stream individually on devices or together as a class.

1. Explain to students that they will be observing a 45-minute live panel, *AI and You: Risks, Rewards, and Potential*. Share that this panel will include a moderator and three panelists who have experience working with or researching artificial intelligence. During the panel, students should take notes on what the panelists shared about artificial intelligence and career pathways. Optional prompts are provided below for structured notetaking.

   • What is each panelist's name and job title, and what organization do they work for?
   • What made each panelist decide to pursue a career related to artificial intelligence?
   • What steps did the panelist take to successfully pursue their careers (college, internships, research, mentors)?
   • Did the panelist mention any barriers they faced on their career pathway? How did they overcome them?
   • Did the panelist suggest any restrictions or guidelines on the use of artificial intelligence? If so, what did they suggest?

2. After each panelist has introduced themselves and their work, the panel will open to student questions. The moderator will review pre-submitted questions (refer to Educator Guide: Content Kickoff) and live questions. All questions can be submitted individually on Slido using a smart phone, laptop, or tablet. Instructions to submit questions will be reviewed during the live panel.
3. After the panel, ask students to reflect on what was shared. Ask:

Q: Were there ideas shared during the panel that surprised you or made you think about artificial intelligence in a new way?

A: Accept all reasonable answers. Students may mention a concern that a panelist discussed, or they may have learned about a potential application of AI that they had not considered previously.

Q: What careers can you pursue if you’re interested in working with or researching artificial intelligence?

A: Responses will vary. Roles could include data scientists, software engineers, software developers, robotics engineers, computer scientists, research scientists, machine learning engineers, stack developers, artists, and ethicists.

4. Encourage students to continue reflecting on what they learned during the Content Kickoff and live panel to further hone their unique answer to the Symposium’s central question: What, if any, restrictions or guidelines should there be on the use of artificial intelligence?

The Navigating a World with AI Symposium is provided free of charge for students and teachers through the generosity of BNY Mellon, with additional support from the Lowell Institute.