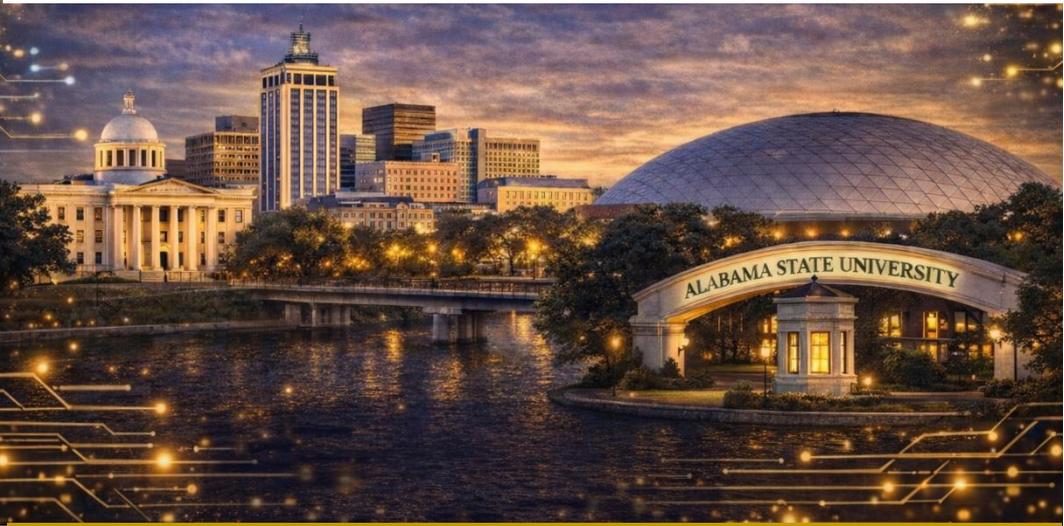


ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY MONTGOMERY.AI

Advancing Learning, Work, and Public Service



**Thursday, March 05, 2026
8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.**

7:30 A.M. – 8:00 A.M.

Registration

Location: Ralph D. Abernathy, Dr. Vivian Deshields Auditorium Lobby

8:00 A.M. – 9:00 A.M.

Opening Session

Welcome

Keynote Address

AI: The Tool, the Shift, Your Advantage-James Locke, Ph.D., Troy University
Center for AI Research and Education

Location: Ralph D. Abernathy, Dr. Vivian Deshields Auditorium

Hackathon Launch Ceremony

9:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

Interactive Rotation Block: Hackathon & Hands-On Workshops

Attendees will engage in three 1-hour hands-on workshops of their choice, or joining one of the Hackathon teams (Montgomery Open Data).

Hackathon/Data Fest with Montgomery Open Data Sessions

Session 1A:

Improving City Communications and Public Access

Location: Abernathy, Room 102

Session 2A:

Workforce Training and Reskilling

Location: Abernathy, Room 405

Session 3A:

Patterns in Public Transportation Usage

Location: Abernathy, Room 203

Session 4A:

Comparing Crime Statistics to Public Perception/ Messaging

Location: Abernathy, Room 302

Session 5A:

Trends and Importance of 911 Data

Location: Abernathy, Room 104

Session 6A:

Business Licenses Vs Foot Traffic

Location: Abernathy, Room 304

Session 7A:

Vacant Properties Redevelopment

Location: Abernathy, Room 401

Session 8A:

City Construction Projects & Cost

Location: Abernathy, Room 303

Session 9A:

Usage of City Owned Property

Location: Abernathy, Room 202

Session 10A:

Ameliorating Environmental Nuisances

Location: Abernathy, Room 204

Need a Break? Stop by the Great Hall of Teachers for coffee, snacks, and networking opportunities. Experience virtual reality headsets and experiment with prompting in Large Language Models with the Eagle Institute from Air University.

Hands-On Workshops

Session 1B:

Start Anywhere. Build Anything

Description: We are entering a new era of creation. This workshop will introduce you to coding agents and show how human creativity + AI collaboration can dramatically expand what's possible.

Speaker(s): Kingsley Bentum, DVM, Ph.D.,

Alabama Artificial Intelligence Center of Excellence (AAICE) and Saroj Sahoo, Ph.D.,

Alabama State University

Location: Abernathy Lab, 403

Session 2B:

If You're Talking About AI, You're Doing PR: Connecting Social Media, Public Messaging, and Innovation Strategy

Description: Artificial intelligence is showing up everywhere—from classrooms and small businesses to city offices and community programs. But the moment someone explains an AI tool, posts about it on social media, or answers questions publicly, they're shaping how people understand it. And that shapes trust. This interactive session explores how to talk about AI clearly and responsibly using a simple communication framework called PESO (Paid, Earned, Shared, Owned). Whether you're sharing AI-generated content online, publishing dashboard data, or introducing automation at work or school, how you explain it matters. Participants will practice turning technical information into messages real people can understand. We'll build simple audience personas, think through common questions, and map how information spreads across websites, social platforms, news coverage, and community conversations. You'll leave with practical tools to communicate AI with clarity and confidence—so innovation doesn't just work, but makes sense to the people it affects.

Speaker(s): Leslie Byrd, Ph.D., Alabama State University

Location: Ralph D. Abernathy, Dr. Vivian Deshields Auditorium

Session 3B:

AI in Action: Transforming Education with ChatGPT, Latimer AI & Beautiful A.I.

Description: This engaging workshop explores how OpenAI's ChatGPT, Latimer AI, and Beautiful A.I. are transforming education by enhancing teaching, learning, and academic research. Participants will gain a clear understanding of how generative AI works, the differences between ChatGPT, Latimer AI, and Beautiful A.I., and how each tool can be used responsibly and ethically in educational settings.

Speaker(s): Cynthia Steele, Ph.D. and Sondra Sutton Obas, Alabama State University

Location: Annex Lab, 303 (Second floor, building to the right of Abernathy Hall)

Session 4B:

From Idea to Image: A Strategic Framework for AI-Driven Visuals

Description: Most people type something into AI and hope the image comes out right. It usually doesn't. This session teaches you how to describe your vision in a way AI actually understands, so the output resembles what you had in mind. Using ChatGPT and Google Whisk, you'll see live how the right words produce dramatically better results. You'll walk away with a simple, repeatable prompt structure you can use for graphics, logos, brand visuals, and creative projects, starting today.

Speaker(s): Tania Johns, PRC Impact

Location: Annex Lab 311 (Second floor, building to the right of Abernathy Hall)

Session 5B:

Smart Job Searching: Using AI to Land Internships and Careers Faster

Description: This interactive beginner-friendly workshop will show students and professionals how to use AI tools strategically in their job search. Participants will learn how to generate tailored resumes and cover letters, prepare for interviews, optimize LinkedIn profiles, and research employers using AI responsibly. Attendees will leave with practical prompts and real-time demonstrations they can immediately apply to secure internships and full-time roles.

Speaker(s): Sabrina Simmons, Ph.D., Alabama State University

Location: Abernathy Lab, 334

Session 6B:

AI and Customer Engagement: Where AI Meets the Human: Trust, Fluency, and the Illusion of Knowledge

Description: Artificial intelligence is increasingly positioned between customers and suppliers, changing how information, assistance, and services are delivered. This presentation explains how the placement of AI affects efficiency, interpretation, and trust, and why fluent communication can create the illusion of understanding. Through examples, demonstration, and hands-on interaction, participants will learn how both customers and suppliers share responsibility for using AI effectively and wisely.

Speaker(s): Robert Griffin, Troy University

Location: Annex Lab, 305 (Second floor, building to the right of Abernathy Hall)

Session 7B:

Your First AI Agent in 60 Minutes

Description: Walk in with zero experience. Walk out with a working AI agent that can answer questions, search the web, and take action on your behalf. In this hands-on workshop, you will build a fully functional AI agent. No coding required. Professors can build agents that summarize research papers. Business owners can create agents that handle customer inquiries 24/7. Students can build personal assistants that actually get things done. Bring your laptop and leave with something you can use on Monday morning. Led by MM Intelligence, Montgomery's own AI company.

Speaker(s): Mazin Salim, MM Intelligence

Location: Abernathy Lab, 218

Session 8B:**Prompt to Product: Build One Real Work Output With AI in 45 Minutes**

Description: This hands-on session teaches a practical skill anyone can use immediately: turning a vague task into a clear AI prompt, then quality-checking the result before it is shared or used. After a brief introduction to I-85's connector role, participants will use a simple "Prompt Blueprint" to produce one real output aligned to their context (school, workforce, small business, or public service). You will learn how to: (1) write prompts that consistently produce usable results, (2) iterate quickly using a structured revision step, and (3) run a fast "trust check" for accuracy, bias, and sensitive information. No coding required. Participants leave with a reusable prompt template, a safety and quality checklist, and one finished draft they can take back to work, class, or their organization.

Speaker(s): Brittany Austin Wade, I85 Regional STEM Ecosystem

Location: Life Science Lab (First floor, building to the left of Abernathy Hall)

12:30 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.**Lunch**

Lunch will be provided.

Hackathon/Data Fest Showcase

Location: Abernathy, Great Hall of Teachers

1:30 P.M. – 2:15 P.M.**Keynote Address**

Community Keynote: Harnessing AI to Elevate Montgomery

Boyd Stephens, I85 Cyber Corridor Initiative

Location: Ralph D. Abernathy, Dr. Vivian Deshields Auditorium

2:30 P.M. – 3:15 P.M.**Concurrent Sessions 1****Session 1C:****Facial Recognition Model for Autism**

Description: The data scientists from the VLMS team present a case study on a facial image classification model trained on a publicly available pediatric dataset, highlighting core deep learning techniques in healthcare. The demonstration model was developed using AUBix's NVIDIA DGX cluster as part of the team's research pipeline. Participants will walk through a Python Jupyter notebook illustrating the standard image classification pipeline and discuss common pitfalls and limitations of applying deep learning in sensitive healthcare contexts.

Speaker(s): Jan Michalak and Spencer Dant, Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine

Location: Abernathy, 303

Session 2C:**AI Infrastructure, Explained: A Real Talk on How AI Runs (Anywhere)**

Description: In this tech talk, we will discuss how AI infrastructure is used to build AI powered applications using plain language that students can relate to. We'll focus on how data, compute, and cloud services come together to power the AI applications you use every day. During this discussion, we will show you how Oracle AI Database Services and OCI AI services work together to build powerful AI application. We'll also explore Oracle's AI Lakehouse approach to providing a unified data view of your enterprise data regardless of whether that data lives on-premises or in the cloud. The discussion also highlights Oracle Autonomous Database Serverless and why it's a strong fit for students and teams: with built-in AI features, automatic scaling, and cost-efficient performance that lets you experiment, build, and grow without needing to manage infrastructure. If you've ever wondered what actually runs behind an AI app — and how to build it in a flexible, cost-smart way — this session will make it click.

Speaker(s): Kehinde Otubamowo and Eddie Ambler, Oracle

Location: Abernathy, 405

Session 3C:

AI literacy: Tools every professional should know

Description: Discover essential AI tools designed to streamline workflows and boost productivity across industries in this concise, high-impact session. Learn to leverage cutting-edge automation for daily tasks, from content generation to data analysis, keeping you competitive in 2026. This workshop offers practical, actionable insights tailored for professionals looking to maximize their efficiency

Speaker(s): James Locke, Ph.D.

Troy University Center for AI Research and Education

Location: Abernathy, 302

Session 4C:

Cybersecurity in the age of AI

Description: The explosion of AI presents challenges and opportunities for cybersecurity. This session will discuss the use of AI in network monitoring and endpoint protection.

Speaker(s): Tony Porterfield, Christopher McMillan, and Ahmad Auston, City of Montgomery

Location: Abernathy, 204

Session 5C:

Copyrights, AI, and Your Business

Description: Join us for an insightful and engaging workshop, "Copyrights, AI, and Your Business," designed specifically for business owners who use content creation to market their business and highlight their expertise. As AI continues to revolutionize the way we create and share content, understanding the nuances of copyright law is more important than ever. We will explore:

1. The Basics of Copyright Law: Learn the fundamental principles of copyright and why it is crucial for protecting your creative works.
2. Copyright ability of AI-Generated Content: Understand the key instances where AI-generated content can be registered for copyright, including human-authored inputs, creative compilation, and significant modifications.

3. Practical Implications for Business Owners: Gain insights into protecting your intellectual property, leveraging AI strategically, and ensuring compliance with copyright laws.

Whether you're a marketer, content creator, or business owner, this workshop will provide you with the knowledge and tools to navigate the evolving landscape of copyright and AI.

Speaker(s): LaConya Murray, Esq.

Off the Mark IP Solutions

Location: Abernathy, 104

Session 6C:

Student Employability and Relevance in the Age of AI

Description: In the age of AI, employability is no longer defined by a degree alone—it is defined by adaptability, clarity, and measurable capability. MayaMaya™ equips students with Talent Intelligence across 84 soft skills, evolving job skills, and behavioral fit, aligning them to emerging roles. It transforms uncertainty into direction, ensuring students remain relevant, resilient, and workforce-ready in a rapidly changing global economy.

Speaker(s): Vishwa Karthik, MayaMaya

Location: Abernathy, 202

Session 7C:

Putting Agents to Work: The When, Where, and Why of AI Agents

Description: As we move beyond simple zero-shot prompting, the focus shifts to agentic workflows—systems capable of iterative reasoning and tool-use. This session provides a deep dive into the transition from static LLM calls to autonomous loops. We will analyze the decision logic for agent deployment (the When), the operational environments most conducive to autonomous execution (the Where), and the dynamic, self-correcting loops of AI agents that utilize iterative reasoning and tool-augmentation for reliable production-grade task execution (the Why).

Speaker(s): Madalyn Richardson,

Troy University

Location: Abernathy, 203

Session 8C:

Both Sides of the Classroom: Building AI for Students and Faculty

Description: Mazin Salim was building AI for education before ChatGPT was a household name. At Auburn University, he developed multiple AI systems including a syllabus bot, a nursing tutor, and chatbot systems integrated into VR environments for coursework. He went on to create Brain Buff, an AI learning app that adapts to each student through real-time feedback on flashcards and quizzes and has led hands-on "AI Without the Overwhelm" workshops for university faculty who had never touched the technology. In this talk, he shares what he has learned building AI tools for students and training the educators who teach them.

Speaker(s): Mazin Salim, MM Intelligence

Location: Abernathy, 401

3:30 P.M. – 4:15 P.M.

Concurrent Sessions 2

Session 1D:

Beyond the Black Box: Measuring and Translating GAN Uncertainty for Human Decision-Makers

Description: Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) are powerful tools for generating highly realistic synthetic data across domains such as autonomous systems, fraud detection, and medical diagnostics. However, their "black box" architecture and inherent instability present significant, often obscured, risks. Unlike traditional predictive models, standard GANs lack explicit confidence metrics, leaving decision-makers ill-equipped to evaluate the reliability of their outputs. Furthermore, relying solely on aggregate performance statistics, such as the Fréchet Inception Distance (FID), can lead to flawed risk assessments. To achieve reliable and ethical deployment, GAN architectures require a fundamental shift toward transparency. Our research introduces a novel hybrid framework that integrates quantitative Uncertainty of Information (UoI) metrics with human-centered communication. By re-architecting the GAN to intrinsically measure output variance, our model actively quantifies its own uncertainty. Crucially, the framework introduces a streamlined mechanism to translate these complex statistical metrics into actionable intelligence. This approach bridges the gap between machine learning outputs and human oversight, empowering decision-makers to confidently manage risk, optimize resources, and guide the responsible development of generative AI systems.

Speaker(s): Raj Swamidurai, Ph.D. and
Uma Kannan, Ph.D., Alabama State University

Location: Abernathy, 303

Session 2D:

AI Supporting Supervisors, Workers, & Students in High-Pressure Situations

Description: In schools, workplaces, and public service, people are being asked to juggle more responsibility, more pressure, and more decisions — often without enough support in the moment. This interactive session invites students, professionals, and leaders to explore where stress, overload, and uncertainty show up in real life — from exams and first jobs to managing teams and serving the public. Participants will share real scenarios, identify moments where things tend to break down, and explore how AI tools like NuriEdge can act as a supportive layer — helping people pause, reset, and respond more effectively in high-pressure moments. Together, we'll explore use cases that support individual success and strengthen schools, workplaces, and organizations at scale.

Speaker(s): Mariana Merritt
NuriEdge

Location: Abernathy, 203

Session 3D:**Ethics and Legality of Artificial Intelligence: Who Decides, Who Benefits, and Who Bears the Risk**

Description: Artificial intelligence is already reshaping education, business, and professional practice—often faster than the law can keep up. This presentation explores how AI is currently being used across industries, the emerging legal frameworks at the federal and state levels, and the ethical responsibilities that fall on institutions and individuals alike. Through real-world examples, including the legal profession, participants will gain practical insight into how to use AI thoughtfully, lawfully, and responsibly in their work.

Speaker(s): Terri Reynolds Esq.

Levitate Logic & Consulting

Location: Abernathy, 104

Session 4D:

Ask Stinger: Alabama State's AI tool for work & teaching

Description: Ask Stinger is an AI-powered virtual mentor designed to support students, faculty, and researchers with coursework, coding, research, and career development. It integrates directly into Canvas and ASU's SSO to provide 24/7 conversational help, personalized instruction, progress assessment, and resource recommendations. The system is built on the Generative Intelligence Engine, combining multiple LLMs, long-term memory, curated scientific knowledge, and tools like Stable Diffusion, Google Scholar search, and Wolfram Alpha. Stinger can generate code, summarize scientific literature, create images, and assist with complex tasks such as bioinformatics workflows.

Speaker(s): Albert Calhoun, Alabama State University

Location: Abernathy, 405

Session 5D:**How Modern AI Thinks: From Pattern Learning to Reasoning Systems**

Description: AI today does more than recognizing patterns; it can plan, explain, and help solve problems in surprisingly human-like ways. In this session, we'll explore how modern AI appears to think, why it sometimes gets things wrong, and how understanding this can help you use AI more confidently and effectively

Speaker(s): Saroj Sahoo, Ph.D.

Alabama State University

Location: Abernathy, 202

Session 6D:**Thoughtful Approaches to Integrating Artificial Intelligence in Support of Teaching and Learning**

Description: In my presentation, I will share classroom experiences and faculty perspectives on the use of artificial intelligence in teaching and learning. I will discuss opportunities, concerns, and responsible use of AI. At the end of the talk, I plan to have an open discussion with the audience to hear their concerns, perspectives, and overall thoughts.

Speaker(s): Sahar Hasim, Ph.D. and Kartz Bibb, Ph.D.,

Alabama State University

Location: Abernathy, 204

Session 7D:**How the City of Montgomery is Using AI**

Description: Using a fireside chat format, City of Montgomery technology staff will discuss the city's previous technologies, the selection process for AI solutions, and city-wide implementation

Speaker(s): Tony Porterfield, City of Montgomery

Location: Abernathy, 304

Session 8D:**From Classroom to Career: Succeeding in an AI-Driven Future**

Description: In this tech talk, we'll explore how AI is reshaping careers across every industry and what students can do today to prepare for an AI-enabled workforce. Rather than diving deep into theory, we'll focus on how AI is used in real jobs—how people work alongside AI tools to solve problems, analyze data, and build applications. We'll discuss the skills that matter most, including AI literacy, problem solving, adaptability, and ethical awareness. Using examples from Oracle AI Database Services, Autonomous Database Serverless, and OCI AI services, we'll show how students can gain hands-on experience using free cloud services, certifications, and hackathons to build practical, career-ready skills and confidence for the future of work.

Speaker(s): Kehinde Otubamowo and
Eddie Ambler, Oracle

Location: Abernathy, 302

Session 9D:**The AI Money Game: Policy, Procurement & Power**

Description: Artificial intelligence is no longer a pilot project. It is becoming operational infrastructure. But where there is power, there is risk. This seminar explores how AI policy and procurement decisions determine who captures value, who absorbs liability, and who gains lasting competitive advantage.

Speaker(s): Terry G. Davis, JD, MBA
Davis Hatcher Law, P.C.

Location: Abernathy, 401

4:15 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.**Closing Session****Community Café-Envisioning Montgomery's Future**

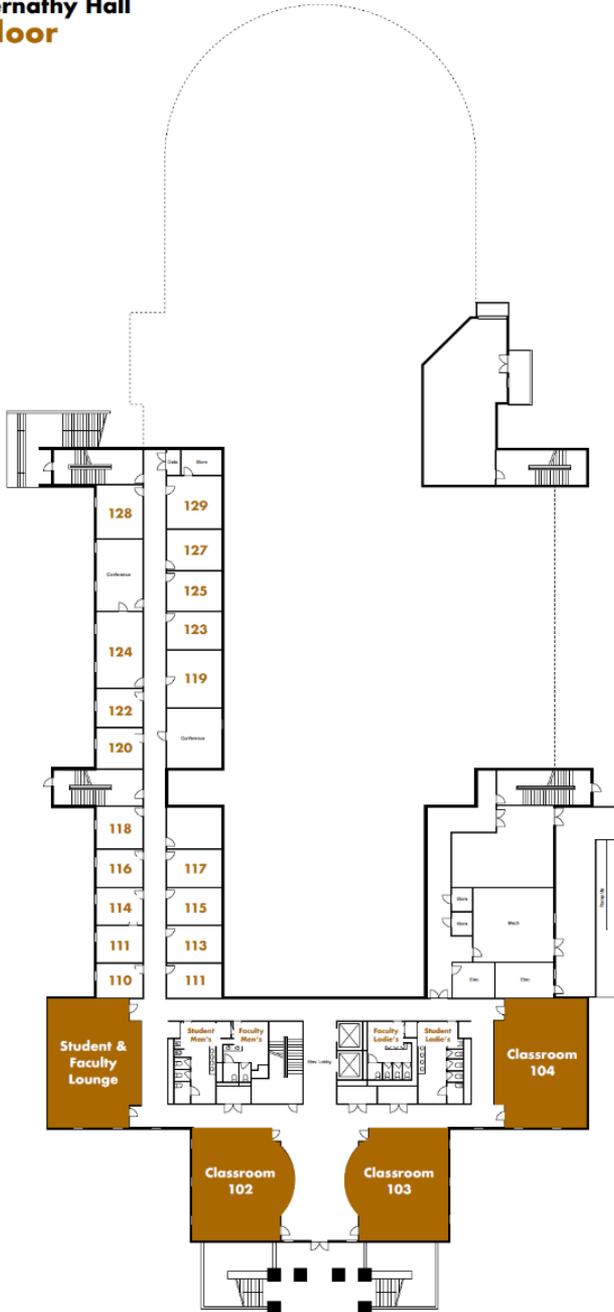
Location: Ralph D. Abernathy, Dr. Vivian Deshields Auditorium

MONTGOMERY.AI

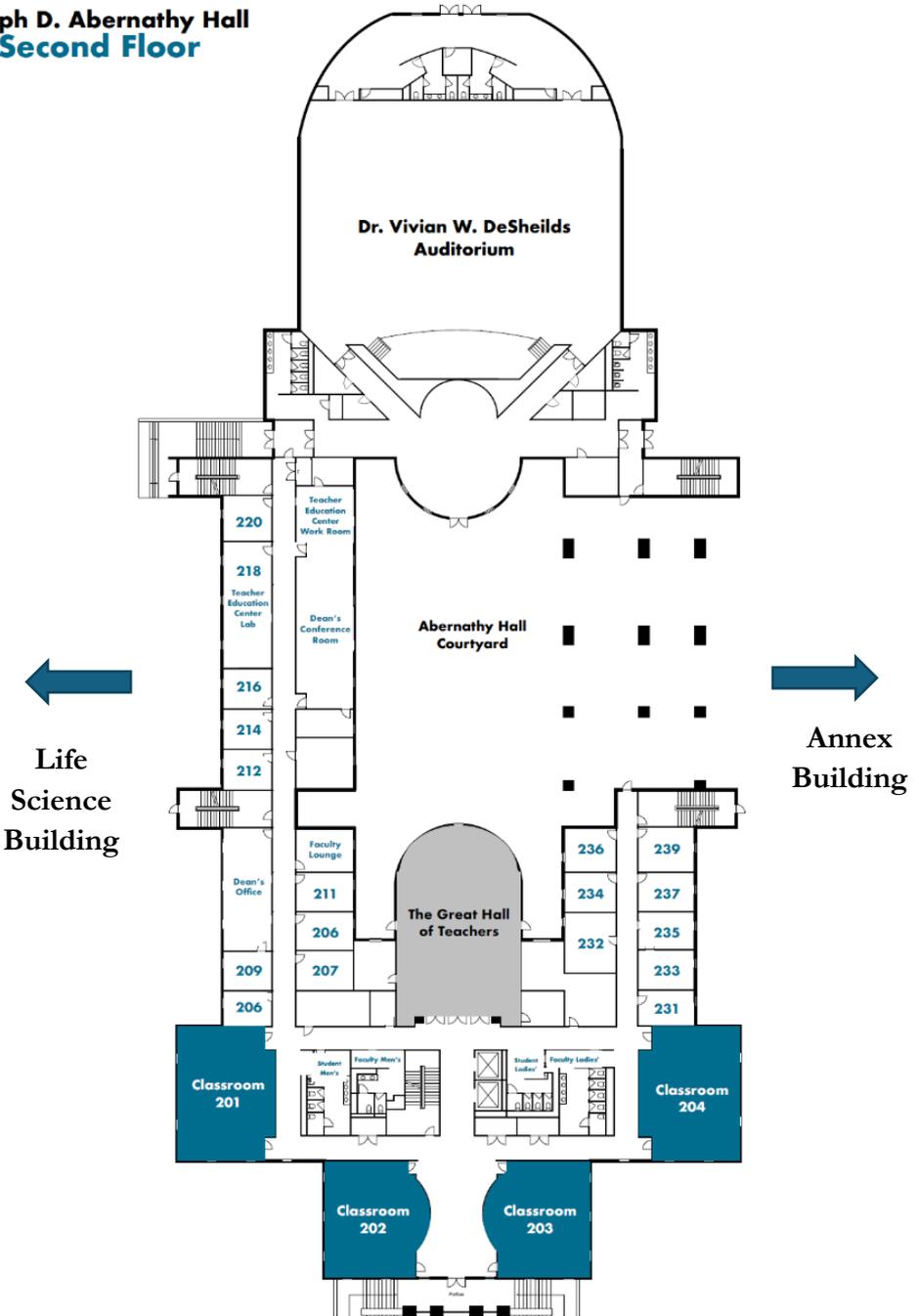
Sponsors

| Platinum Sponsors | |
|--|---|
| <p>ASU Foundation Institutional Advancement Advancing the mission of Alabama State University by securing philanthropic support, cultivating strategic partnerships, and investing in initiatives that strengthen student success and institutional excellence.</p> |  |
| Gold Sponsors | |
| <p>From AI Ambition to Action — We Build the Bridge. Ascend AI NOW is a strategic AI implementation advisory helping education, healthcare, and service organizations turn AI potential into measurable outcomes through governance, enterprise architecture, fractional CTO services, and workforce enablement. www.AscendAINOW.com</p> |  |
| <p>Innovation you can trust. Transform your IT with expert solutions. Leverage out 25+ years of expertise to enhance your IT capabilities and drive innovation. https://zealriver.com/</p> |  |
| <p>The I-85 Regional STEM Learning Network connects educators, businesses, and community partners to strengthen STEM education, expand career awareness, and build a skilled workforce along the I-85 corridor. https://www.i85stemecosystem.com/</p> |  |
| Silver Sponsors | |
| <p>1 Sync Technologies, L.L.C.(1 SYNC) is an 8(a) Certified, ISO 9001-2015 certified, Small Disadvantaged Business providing technical and professional services across Federal Agencies, the Department of Defense and to commercial clients https://1synctech.com/</p> |  |
| <p>RocNet Supply is a provider of network equipment and services. We primarily service broadband, fiber and network infrastructure organizations by offering new, used and Certified Pre-Owned networking equipment and associated services. https://rocnetsupply.com/</p> |  |
| <p>Quick · Quality · Affordable · Custom Print Designs We are more than a print shop; we are a community partner. Whether it's designing spirit wear for local schools, supporting youth programs, or launching campaigns that spark conversation and uplift others, Provitt Prints is committed to making a positive impact. https://provittprints.myshopify.com/</p> |  |
| <p>Alabama Artificial Intelligence Center of Excellence Advancing Alabama through AI trainings, workforce development, and industry collaboration https://aaice.net/</p> |  |
| <p>Creative Graphics and Displays For All Your Business Needs In Montgomery At Signs Now Montgomery we design, produce and install a large variety of custom signs for any industry and any occasion. Our sign products are excellent advertising and communication tools that send strong marketing messages and create memorable experiences. https://www.signsnow.com/montgomery</p> |  |

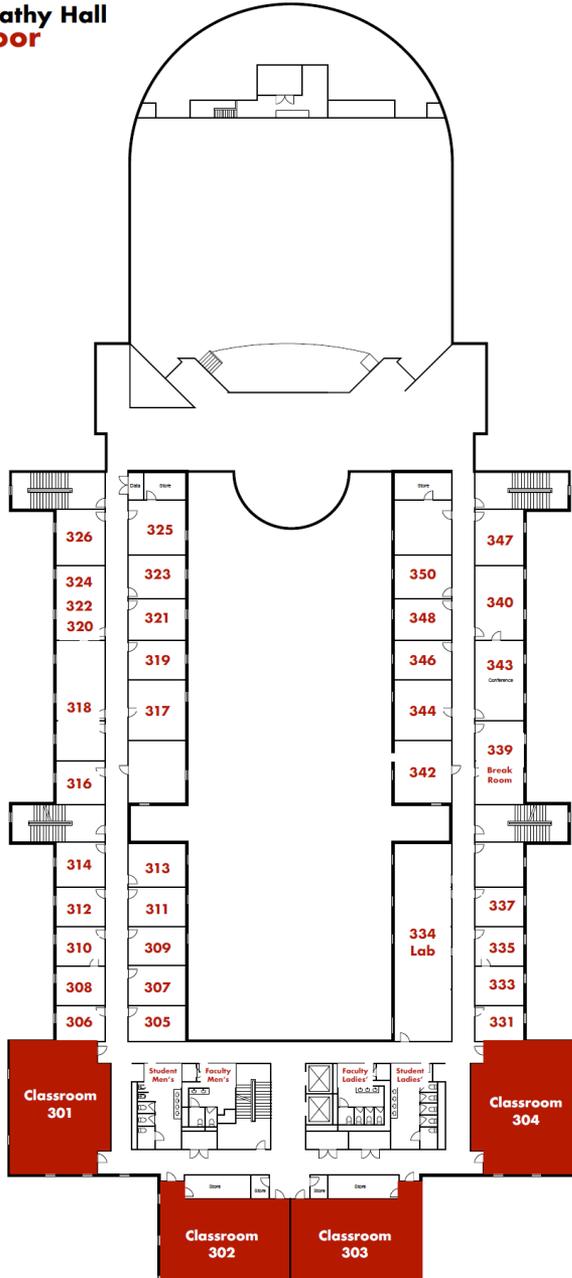
Ralph D. Abernathy Hall First Floor



Ralph D. Abernathy Hall Second Floor



Ralph D. Abernathy Hall Third Floor



Ralph D. Abernathy Hall Fourth Floor



We Value Your Feedback



Thanks for joining us at Montgomery.AI.

Your feedback matters. Share your experience and suggestions by completing a post-event survey.

Scan the QR code to get started.