




Artificial Intelligence and Bourbon

Friday Oct. 17, 2025 307/309 Lake St. Claire/Huron – University Center		
1:30 to 2:05	Narayan Ramesh 	Data Challenges and Impact of AI on Research Driven Organizations
2:10 to 2:45	Beth Lorsbach 	The Chemistry of Bourbon: From Distillation to Distinction
2:50 to 3:30	Regan Silverstri  Lorain County Community College	The Cleveland Whiskey Story: Technology not Heresy!

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Data Challenges and Impact of AI on Research Driven Organizations

Narayan Ramesh

Senior R&D Director, Global Analytical Sciences - Core R&D

This presentation explores how data and AI are reshaping research-driven organizations. We trace the journey from experiment to data, highlighting key challenges such as data fragmentation, legacy infrastructure, and annotation gaps. The talk showcases how AI enables acceleration of innovation and improves decision-making. Strategies for building agile, data-centric R&D ecosystems and enhancing collaboration between domain experts and AI systems experts will be discussed, along with opportunities to train the workforce and multiply impact across disciplines.

The Chemistry of Bourbon, Instrument to Taste Analysis

"The Cleveland Whiskey Story: Technology not Heresy!"

Regan Silvestri, PhD

Professor of Chemistry, Lorain County Community College, Elyria, Ohio

Abstract:

Cleveland Whiskey was founded as an entrepreneurial start-up on the basis of a revolutionary production technology termed “rapid pressure aging” which uses pressure to accelerate the maturing process of whiskey from a few years to a few days. With the development of this innovative technology, Cleveland Whiskey is not confined to aging in oak barrels and has proceeded to produce unprecedented bourbons finished with and flavored naturally with varied woods including black cherry, apple, hickory, sugar maple, and honey locust.

Speaker Biography:

Dr. Regan Silvestri is a Professor of Chemistry at Lorain County Community College, where he directs an undergraduate student research group investigating the science of the flavor of whiskey and the health benefits of beer. Dr. Silvestri served as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer in Kazakhstan, where he lived and worked for four years as a Visiting Professor. For fun, Professor Silvestri performs his science magic show “Magical Science!!” as a volunteer at local schools, and has inspired combined live audiences of 100,000+ enthusiastic young students with the wonders of science.