



# Welcome

AHLI Health AI Summer Camp 2026

**INAUGURAL COHORT • SEATTLE • JUNE 22, 2026**

Opening remarks — Tristan Naumann (Board Chair) → Matthew McDermott (Vice Chair)

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Good morning, and welcome to the inaugural  
AHLI Health AI Summer Camp.

*TRISTAN NAUMANN · CHAIR, ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH LEARNING AND INFERENCE*

# You are the inaugural cohort

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- **100+** applications from across disciplines, institutions, and countries.
- **~45** of you selected — from an extraordinary, hard-to-choose field.
- Your being here reflects your accomplishments and the promise of what you'll contribute.

The future of healthcare will be shaped by people who can bridge disciplines — who understand both the technical possibilities of AI and the realities of care, clinical practice, public health, and patient outcomes.

## Why we built this

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Over years of ML4H and CHIL, AHLI heard the same gap:

health AI is advancing fast, but there are too few opportunities for emerging researchers to get focused mentorship, build lasting collaborations, and see the breadth of the field.

This Summer Camp was created to help close that gap.

# What makes this week different

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The goal isn't simply to teach technical content — you can learn an architecture or read a paper anywhere.

What's different is engaging deeply with the **people behind the work**: how they identify important problems, navigate real-world constraints, collaborate across disciplines, and translate ideas into impact.

# You'll hear from outstanding researchers

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**Peter Szolovits**  
Day 1 · AM



**Emily Alsentzer**  
Day 1 · PM



**Tom Pollard**  
Day 2 · AM



**Solly Sieberts**  
Day 2 · PM



**Jineta Banerjee**  
Day 2 · PM



**Shalmali Joshi**  
Day 3 · AM



**Olawale Salaudeen**  
Day 3 · PM



**Matthew McDermott**  
Day 4 · AM



**Walter Gerych**  
Day 4 · PM



**Muhammad Mamdani**  
Day 5 · AM



**Deborah Raji**  
Day 5 · PM

## ...and from each other

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Look around the room: future faculty, founders, clinicians, healthcare innovators, industry leaders, scientists, and engineers — exactly the interdisciplinary community health AI requires.

- Introduce yourself to someone new. Ask questions. Share your ideas.
- Discuss your failures as openly as your successes.
- The best outcomes are often unplanned — a collaborator met over lunch, a mentor after a session, a friend who shapes your thinking for years.

# You're not just attending — you're building it

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You are the inaugural cohort. The traditions, programs, and collaborations that begin this week may shape every camp that follows.

- Each of you has a chance to help define what this community becomes.
- There will be real opportunities to get involved in organizing future iterations.

## Thank you

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This program exists because of many people — instructors, speakers, mentors, volunteers, reviewers, and the AHLI team — who gave enormous time and energy.

And it was launched with the generous support of the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation:

GORDON AND BETTY  
**MOORE**  
FOUNDATION

## One honest note

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We managed to schedule this during one of Seattle's busiest weeks in years — FIFA festivities all over the city. 😊

Thank you for your patience with the travel, crowds, and logistics to get here. We think the week will be well worth the trip.

AHLI HEALTH AI SUMMER CAMP 2026  
NOW, YOUR FIRST DAY –

# How the week works

Matthew McDermott · Vice Chair & organizer

# You are the driver

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You get out what you put in — you are the arbiter of your own success here.

- Especially in the era of GenAI, the essential skill is being a **self-learner**.
- So most of the week is not passive: it's small-group discussion and interactive, participant-driven work.
- Show up curious, share early, and take real intellectual risks.

# Two kinds of interactive time, every day

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## 1 · A breakout / work period

on the day's topic — format depends on the day.

## 2 · Two small-group discussions

1.5 hours each, in your fixed group, workshopping your own projects.

This is where most of your learning happens. The lectures frame; you build.

# 1 • The daily breakout / work period

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The format tracks the topic of the day:

- Day 1 (Problem) & Day 2 (Data) — **breakout sessions with sub-modality experts**: how problem formulation and data differ in a specific area of health AI versus the field in general.
- Day 3 (Evaluation) & Day 4 (Methods) — a **synthetic-experiment Colab notebook**: simulate the parts of your evaluation / method that are meaningfully specific to your problem and data.

## 2 • Your small group

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- Two 1.5-hour discussions every day — ~3 hours on your project, daily.
- Fixed groups all week, by the **color on your name tag**. Find your color.
- Five per group; a rotating facilitator — everyone facilitates once.
- Instructors rotate through the sessions (from that day and others) — catch them, ask questions.

# Your companion: the project workbook

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A private guide for thinking about your project — one prompt per day's topic.

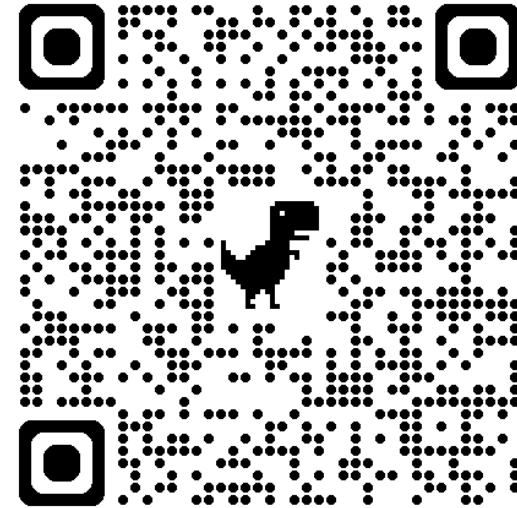
- **It's yours.** It's for your benefit, and it won't be graded.
- Aim for the right concise point, not polished paragraphs. A good entry is short.
- The win is time spent thinking and discussing, not writing — keep updating it after each day.

## Share your GitHub username

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Take a moment to fill out a short form with your **GitHub username** — we'll use it to connect you to relevant resources through the week.

Scan the QR → or visit [forms.gle/ZA3UE51QVzr7dxnE7](https://forms.gle/ZA3UE51QVzr7dxnE7)



## How a small-group session flows

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The only fixed structure — the rest is yours:

- Today (Day 1), AM: quick intros — yourself, then a short project pitch. *Keep it short:* if it doesn't land, that's useful signal about communication.
- Days 1–4, AM: walk through the day's workbook prompt together.
- Days 1–4, PM (last 30 min): each person, ~5 min — how your thinking evolved today.
- Day 5: present your project briefly (~12 min, no frills), then the group **red-teams** it — *imagine it shipped and failed: why?*

## Engage in good faith

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Everyone here was selected on their merits — so every idea carries real signal.

- Give every idea a strong prior: assume there's a useful insight in it.
- Take, and give, criticism in the most constructive way.
- Read conversations charitably, and hold to the code of conduct.

## At the end of the week: practice job talks

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On Day 7, some of you will give a practice job talk and get feedback from instructors.

- We've tried to slot those on or near the job market; priority goes to later-career folks.
- Not everyone can present — but if you'd like to, or think we missed you, **let us know**.

# Logistics

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- Breakfast & lunch are provided here, every day.
- Dinner: use your meal cards at the campus dining hall — and go as a group. Some of the best conversations happen there.
- Anything you need this week — just ask.

# Let's get started

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Up next, 9:15 — Pete Szolovits (MIT): *Problems in ML4H*, the first lead lecture of the week.

Welcome again — we're glad you're here.