THE AI CAMPUS OF NEW YORK CITY



CORNELL TECH

CORNELL TECH

Home of the Jacobs
Technion-Cornell Institute

2026 CAMPUS VIEWBOOK

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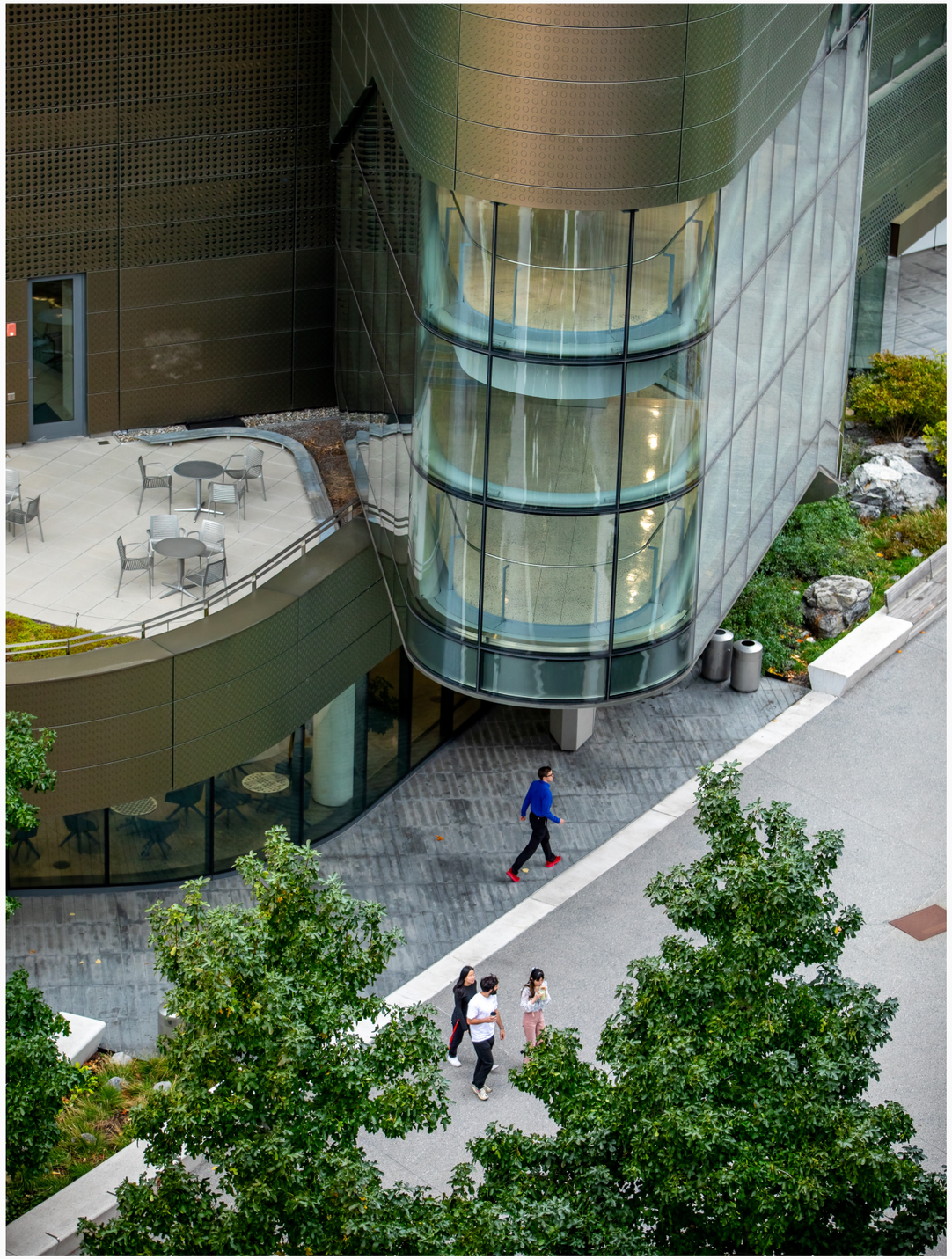
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CAMPUS BY THE NUMBERS

Cover photo: Ph.D. student and Runway postdoc conducting research using a mixed reality headset.

Credits: Mats Hakansson, Design; Grace Stanley, Editorial; Sarah Marquart, Contributing Writer; Iwan Baan, Alexandra Paula Bayer, Jess Campitiello, Bob Handelman, Jason Koski, Timothy Lee, Luke Stewart, Daniel Terna, Photography

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Cornell Tech: The AI Campus of New York City



FROM THE DEAN

We stand at a defining moment in technological history. Artificial intelligence is reshaping every discipline and every industry — and since its founding in 2012, Cornell Tech has been at the forefront.

From day one, we built an environment where machine learning, human-centered design, and societal inquiry reinforce one another. Drawing on Cornell University's long and distinguished legacy of excellence in multiple academic areas, Cornell Tech has become a global hub for interdisciplinary AI research, education, and innovation. And at the same time, New York City's tech sector has become the second largest in the world with Cornell Tech at its center. Yet AI is still in its infancy. The frontier — where ideas are fragile and unproven — is where academia must lead. Industry focuses on what works now; universities explore what works next. Infinite data is not sustainable, and the next leap in AI may require more efficient models, new reasoning capabilities, or entirely different methods. Cornell Tech researchers confront these challenges every day. Whether rethinking language generation, advancing multimodal systems, or improving the transparency of core model components, our faculty are shaping the concepts for future AI.

A commitment to people is also central to our mission. Cornell Tech sits at the intersection of technical innovation, real-world deployment, and societal impact. Attention to ethics, culture, and long-term prosperity is essential to the systems we build. Beyond our research, initiatives like Public Interest Tech and our K–12 Lab work throughout the city with organizations focused on tech for good and educating our public school students to thrive in an increasingly tech-driven world.

The Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute on our campus has created an ecosystem of entrepreneurs to help ideas



move from the lab to real-world benefit — especially in areas like health and medicine — and I'm proud to say we have launched 128 companies on this campus since we opened.

Academia must build sustainable, distributed research capacity rather than concentrating resources in a few private hubs. The most important AI challenges facing us today demand the long view that only universities can provide. Whether you are a prospective student, tech startup founder, investor, supporter, or partner, we look forward to continuing this work with you.

— Greg Morrisett
Jack and Rilla Neafsey Dean and Vice Provost, Cornell Tech

FROM THE CORNELL TECH COUNCIL



As chair of the Cornell Tech Council, I'm proud to share how our institution continues to reshape New York City's technology landscape in profound and measurable ways.

Since opening, Cornell Tech has become a true catalyst for innovation in our city. Our alumni have launched more than 100 start-ups that have raised nearly $400 million in funding, creating hundreds of jobs for New Yorkers across a range of sectors. The campus's economic impact expands beyond its startup culture. The majority of our graduates join companies that strengthen our local tech ecosystem and our campus itself generates more than $750 million in annual economic impact for NYC.

Beyond economic metrics, Cornell Tech's faculty members continue to make groundbreaking research contributions, raise tens of millions of dollars in grant funding, and regularly win coveted awards and honors. They also play crucial roles in the campus's external impact efforts, including digital equity, K–12 education, and technology for the public good, working to ensure that innovation benefits diverse communities across NYC and beyond. Our ethical, societal, and equity-focused initiatives help ensure responsible AI development and deployment — critical work as we lead in the AI era.

We welcome and are grateful for your support, engagement, and involvement as we work to establish New York as the world's most innovative and dynamic technology hub. If you are interested in attending our on-campus events, please sign up for our newsletter.

— Howard Morgan
Chair, Cornell Tech Council

Cornell Tech Council

Howard Morgan
Chair, Cornell Tech Council;
Chair, B Capital Group

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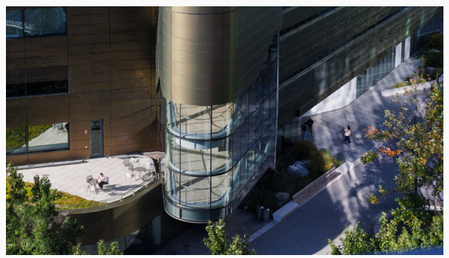
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JOIN US ON OUR MISSION TO BUILD TECH LEADERS THAT MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE.

Cornell Tech aims to reinvent the way we live in the digital age — an ambition that requires rigorous thinking, creative ideas, a vibrant environment, and a dash of the unexpected. Your gift will support the students, faculty, and program leaders who are making that vision a reality.

CORNELL TECH

WELCOME TO THE AI CAMPUS OF NEW YORK CITY

Cornell Tech is at the forefront of AI research, developing tools and systems that prioritize equity, accessibility, and societal impact.

DRIVING TOMORROW'S AI BREAKTHROUGHS

Cornell Tech is home to world-class faculty members driving innovation across four key areas. Here are just a few examples of the incredible work happening on campus.

01 → CORE COMPUTING

Our faculty builds the invisible infrastructure powering modern life, from ultra-efficient circuits to cryptographic systems that keep your data safe.

Assistant professor Udit Gupta builds the backbone of modern computing, designing energy-efficient systems that make AI faster, scalable, and sustainable.



02 → CORE AI

From smarter robotics to personalized medicine, our teams push the boundaries of machine learning, computer vision, and language systems.

Assistant professor Hadar Averbuch-Elor fuses vision, 3D structure, and language, building AI that sees, understands, and creates 3D worlds.



03 → HUMAN CENTERED AI

Our researchers design human-centered AI systems for critical applications — from autonomous vehicles and health-care innovations to immersive XR and accessibility tools.

Associate professor Wendy Ju reimagines how we respond to autonomous systems, from self-driving cars to trash robots, by designing interactions that feel natural and intuitive.



04 → AI SOCIETAL IMPACTS

As AI reshapes economies and societies, we explore its ethical, legal, and market implications — ensuring innovation benefits everyone.

Professor Frank Pasquale writes the rules for the age of algorithms, shaping AI law and ethics to protect privacy, fairness, and accountability worldwide.



Driving Tomorrow's AI Breakthroughs

Welcome to the AI Campus of New York City

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



Runway postdoc Yiran Zhao (seated) and Ph.D. student Eden Shaveet use a mixed reality headset in the People-Aware Computing Lab, where researchers build mobile sensing and multimodal AI systems to better measure and intervene on health behaviors and symptoms.





Top: Andrew H. and Ann R. Tisch assistant professor Angelique Taylor, director of the Artificial Intelligence and Robotics Lab.

Bottom: Demonstration of a robotic medical crash cart.

Research Highlights

At Cornell Tech, AI isn't just about algorithms — it's about people. From helping users with speech disabilities deliver punchlines in real time to improving healthcare outcomes, our researchers are developing and advocating for AI that's responsive, responsible, and human-centered.

These highlights from the past year are just a few examples of how Cornell Tech is advancing the field of AI while staying grounded in real-world needs.

Inside the Medical Crash Cart Robot: Designing for Urgency, Collaboration, and Clarity
A research group has developed an autonomous robotic crash cart — stocked with medications, syringes, gauze, and IV fluids — designed to support, not disrupt, emergency care teams during time-sensitive procedures.
Faculty: Angelique Taylor

Why Companies Don't Share AV Crash Data — And How They Could
Researchers have created a roadmap outlining the barriers and opportunities to encourage companies making autonomous vehicles to share the data to make them safer.
Faculty: Wendy Ju

System Eases Patient-Discharge Process
Doctoral student Vince Bartle built a system that uses texts to streamline hospital discharges. Tested at Queen's Medical Center in Hawaii, the system helped place over 100 patients and is now one of the hospital's go-to tools for discharge coordination.
Faculty: Nikhil Garg, Nicola Dell

AI Hardware Reimagined for Lower Energy Use
An innovation from researchers lowers the energy use needed to power AI, a step toward shrinking the carbon footprints of data centers and AI infrastructure.
Faculty: Mohamed Abdelfattah

AI Tools Reveal the Complexity of Mental Health Measurement
Using AI, researchers are identifying trends that advance our understanding of mental health, making symptom detection and treatment more effective.
Faculty: Tanzeem Choudhury

Home Care Workers on AI's Role and Potential Benefits
Researchers have investigated the implications of AI tools for the work of frontline home health care workers, including personal care aides, home health aides, and certified nursing assistants, in a new qualitative study.
Faculty: Nicola Dell

"Our study takes the first steps in a broader agenda that seeks to elevate the voices of frontline stakeholders in the design and adoption of safe and ethical AI systems in home health care."

— Associate professor Nicola Dell

Balancing the Promise of Health AI With its Carbon Costs
A new study shows how health care decision-makers can use real-world data to build sustainability into new AI systems.
Faculty: Udit Gupta (with co-researcher Chethan Sarabu)

Welcome to the AI Campus of New York City

Opposite page, top: This image shows heatmaps highlighting brain regions that an AI tool focuses on to predict changes in dementia scores for three subjects.

Bottom: Ph.D. candidate Tobias Weinberg (left) and advisor Thijs Roumen (right), assistant professor at Cornell Tech, working to transform assistive communication technologies.

Personalized AI Systems Can Combat Ableism Online
People with disabilities face high rates of online harassment. New research explores AI systems that not only hide online abuse but also summarize or categorize it by the type of hate expressed, giving users greater agency over what they see online.
Faculty: Shiri Azenkot

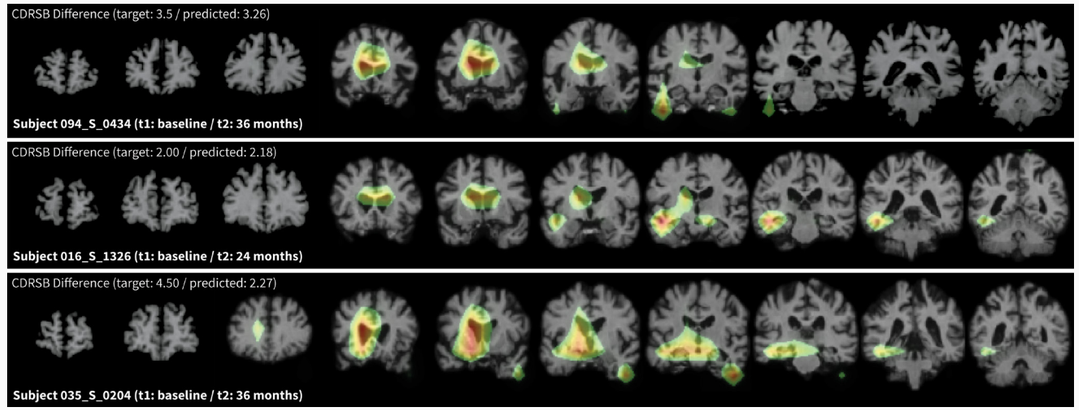
Dataset Reveals How Reddit Communities Are Adapting to AI
Researchers have released a dataset extracted from more than 300,000 public Reddit communities, along with a report detailing how Reddit communities are adapting their policies to address a surge in AI-generated content.
Faculty: Mor Naaman

A Versatile AI System for Analyzing Series of Medical Images
A new AI-based system for analyzing medical images taken over time can accurately detect changes and predict outcomes, according to a study led by investigators at Weill Cornell Medicine, Cornell's Ithaca campus, and Cornell Tech.
Faculty: Mert Sabuncu

AI Technology Helps People With Speech Disabilities Make Timely Jokes
Researchers are reimagining how AI can support users with speech disabilities — not just in functional speech, but also in making real-time jokes during conversations.
Faculty: Thijs Roumen

"Humor is a crucial form of social interaction and is usually taken as a trivial thing. But for someone with a speech impairment, it is not trivial to match the timing of the conversation."

— Lead author and Ph.D. candidate Tobias Weinberg, who lost his ability to speak at 15 and now uses augmentative and alternative communication technology





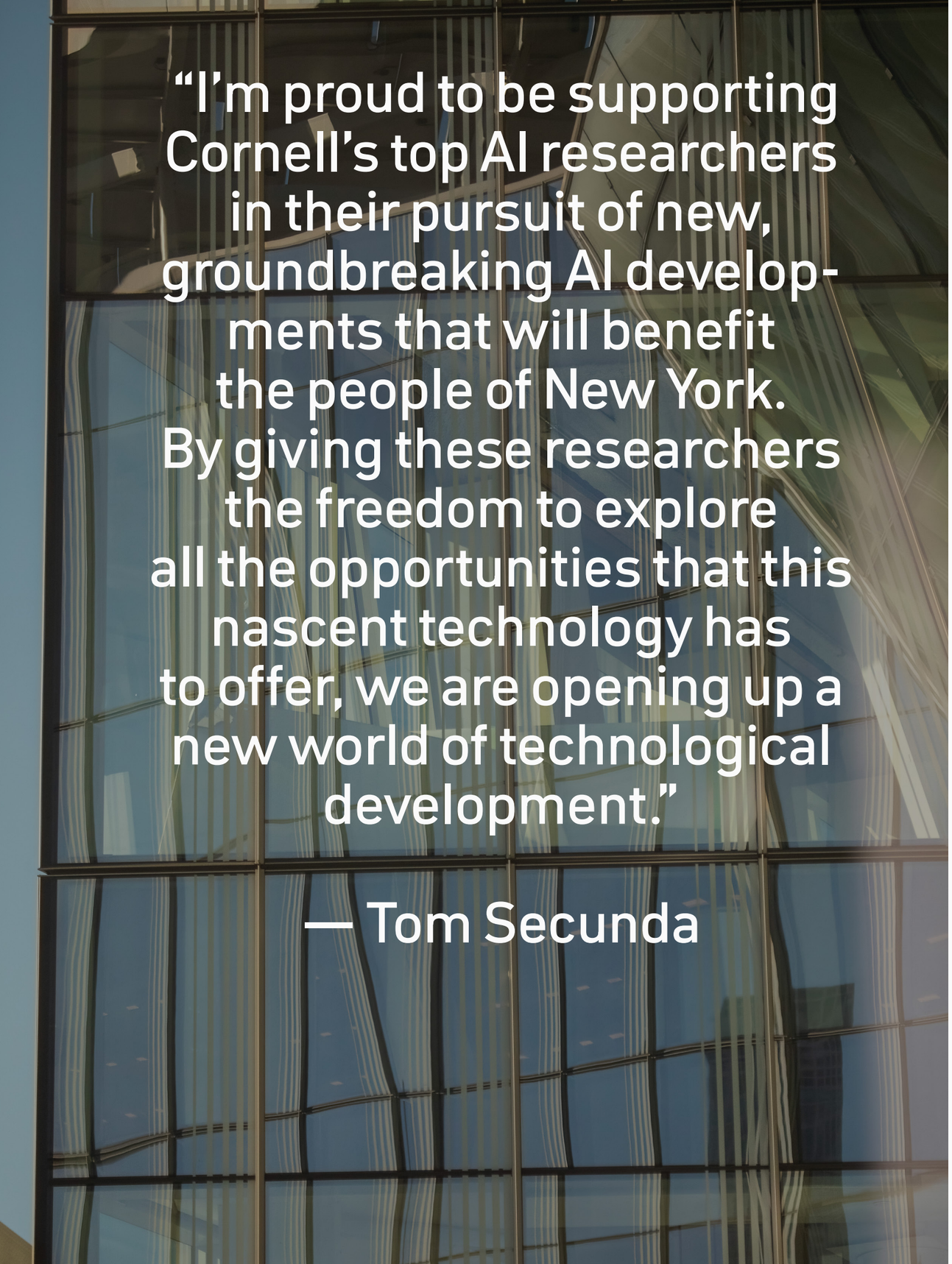




Below: Ph.D. student Tan Gemicioglu (right) designed wearable gloves that help users learn piano faster by guiding their fingers with gentle vibrations.

Research Highlights

Welcome to the AI Campus of New York City



CELEBRATING A $10.5 MILLION GIFT FOR AI RESEARCH

“Mr. Secunda’s generous support represents a remarkable opportunity for Cornell University, which is already a national leader in AI research, to bring more top AI scholars from around the world to both its Cornell Tech campus in New York City and to the Bowers College of Computing and Information Science on our Ithaca campus.”

— Kavita Bala,
Provost, Cornell University

In early 2025, Cornell Tech announced a landmark donation from Bloomberg L.P. co-founder and philanthropist Tom Secunda (pictured, right) totaling $10.5 million to create the Cornell Empire AI Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program Fund. This donation will advance the mission of Empire AI, providing researchers and faculty with unparalleled access to computing power and opportunities to engage in groundbreaking AI research for the public good.

The Secunda Family Foundation gift, which totals $10.5 million over five years, established the Cornell Empire AI Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program Fund at Cornell Tech in partnership with the Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute. The gift will benefit researchers at both the Cornell Tech campus in New York City and at the Cornell Ann S. Bowers College of Computing and Information Science in Ithaca.

Secunda’s gift will also support an annual public conference to be held at Cornell Tech to showcase the research work being conducted by the Cornell fellows and faculty utilizing Empire AI.

Faculty associated with the Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute at Cornell Tech will also be key participants. The fellowship program will drastically increase capacity for faculty doing AI research by allowing them to recruit an elite cohort of up-and-coming researchers.

The highly selective cohort will additionally benefit from Empire AI’s large computing resources. The very first of these systems at Empire AI, called Alpha, was launched in October of 2024. Out of the gate, Alpha was among the top 250 most high-performing systems in the world, notably at the current leading edge of processor capabilities for AI-enabled research.



MEET THE EMPIRE AI FELLOWS

Nathan Godey
Nathan Godey is the first Empire AI Postdoctoral Fellow at Cornell Tech, working under the guidance of associate professor Yoav Artzi. Originally from France, Godey earned his Ph.D. in natural language processing (NLP) from Inria and Sorbonne University, where he focused on improving language model representations and efficiency.

With multiple publications in top NLP venues and a recent Best Dissertation Award from the French National NLP Association, Godey is focused on pushing the boundaries of what smaller, smarter AI models can do — research he hopes will shape both academic thinking and real-world applications.

What drew you to the Empire AI fellowship?
Nathan: I liked the freedom it offered. There's no rigid deliverable or product you have to build for a company. It's more about exploring ideas. That kind of autonomy is rare and really valuable. The location and research environment at Cornell Tech were also big draws.

What's it like being based in New York City for your research?
Nathan: It's a great place to be. You're surrounded by top institutions — Cornell Tech, NYU, Columbia — and there's a strong industry presence. In my lab, many students are doing research internships with companies on a regular basis. It's a real melting pot of academic and professional opportunities.

What research questions are you hoping to explore during your fellowship?
Nathan: My research has been focused on the science of language models — specifically, analyzing what's happening inside them. The idea was to understand their internal mechanisms so we could improve how they're trained and used, to make them faster, more efficient, and less energy-intensive.

In this fellowship, I'm broadly interested in how small a language model can be while still performing well. What are the trade-offs when you shrink a model to something that could run on a mobile phone? What limitations emerge? It's early days, but that's the direction I'm thinking about.

What has access to Empire AI's computing resources meant for your work?
Nathan: Often, institutions buy a huge cluster and don't upgrade for years. Empire AI is expanding its GPU infrastructure, and it's great to be part of that. We also have other options for smaller needs, but it's good to know that when I'm ready to run a large-scale experiment, the infrastructure will be there.

What do you hope to achieve during your time at Cornell Tech?
Nathan: I want to make models more efficient and better at what they do — without increasing costs. That means understanding them deeply and designing around how they actually work. If I can turn some of my ideas into real systems that impact both research and industry, that would be a great outcome.





Opposite page, left: Nathan Godey; Right: Dongyoung Go.

Dongyoung Go
Dongyoung Go is also an inaugural Empire AI Postdoctoral Fellow, working under Cornell professor Kilian Weinberger in Ithaca. Go earned his Ph.D. in applied statistics from Yonsei University, where he focused on alignment tuning in machine learning.

His research spans self-improving language models, explainability, and collaborative AI systems. Prior to academia, Go gained industry experience in recommendation systems, quantitative investment, and large language model development.

Under the new fellowship, he's exploring how AI models can reason more reliably and improve autonomously — work that aligns with his long-term goal of leading impactful, socially beneficial research.

Can you tell us a bit about your background and what led you to this fellowship?
Dongyoung: I earned my Ph.D. in applied statistics from Yonsei University, where I focused on distributional approaches to alignment tuning. Before that, I worked in industry across several domains: recommendation systems, quantitative investment, and building large language models.

I first learned about the Empire AI Fellowship through a post by associate professor Yoav Artzi from Cornell Tech. I was already working on an interesting project in industry, but this felt like a meaningful turning point for my career. During the interview, Yoav mentioned the opportunity to work with professor Kilian Weinberger, whose research style I really admire. That sealed the deal for me. Kilian's approach — grounding theoretical insights in real, impactful improvements — is something I hope to emulate. The fellowship gives me the freedom to explore, collaborate, and grow as a researcher.

What research questions are you exploring?
Dongyoung: I'm focused on self-improvement in language models — how they can enhance their capabilities through their own reasoning. A key part of this is investigating the reasoning step itself, not just the surface-level output. I'm diving into the latent space where real computation happens, aiming to make models both smarter and more explainable.

As models get stronger, they're expected to explain their reasoning. But current explanations often involve hallucinations or unreliable outputs. I want to make that reasoning more grounded and trustworthy. This has implications for safety, transparency, and how we evaluate AI systems in the future.

> "The atmosphere at Cornell is fantastic — diverse, active, and welcoming. I'm excited to collaborate with researchers across labs and disciplines. It's a great place to grow."
>
> — Dongyoung Go, Empire AI Postdoctoral Fellow

How do Empire AI's computing resources support your work?
Dongyoung: It's a huge opportunity for academic researchers like us. AI research today requires massive resources, and Empire AI gives us access to infrastructure that significantly narrows the gap with industry. That means we can run large-scale experiments and explore ideas that would otherwise be out of reach.

How do you hope your research evolves over the next few years?
Dongyoung: I'm working toward enabling collaborative learning between models — having them evaluate and improve each other without human-generated datasets. Ultimately, I hope to lead my own research group and contribute impactful work that benefits society. This fellowship is helping me build the foundation for that.

What does "AI for the public good" mean to you?
Dongyoung: AI is becoming essential to everyday life, but most powerful models are developed by private companies. That's risky. We need open-source alternatives and public research to ensure transparency and accountability. We also need to study the societal impact — whether models can deceive, mislead, or cause harm — and develop ways to prevent that. I think that's the way we need to go.

WHERE BOLD IDEAS COME TO LIFE

The Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute at Cornell Tech is a launchpad for innovation, fostering a maker-driven culture where startups, labs, and collaborative programs thrive.



INSIDE STUDIO

At the heart of Cornell Tech's hands-on, interdisciplinary approach is Studio — a signature program of the Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute that brings students together across disciplines to build, test, and launch real-world solutions.

We sat down with Josh Hartmann, chief practice officer and leader of Studio since 2018, to talk about what makes the program unique, how it's evolved, and why it's a powerful engine for innovation in New York City.

Studio is a requirement at Cornell Tech. Why is that?
There are a few big reasons. First, when we created Cornell Tech, we knew we'd have multiple degree programs, now ten in total. Rather than having ten separate silos, we wanted a signature element that would bring everyone together. Studio is that element. It creates a single, cohesive population across the campus.

Second, we believe entrepreneurship is vital — not just for startups, but for anyone creating something new. Whether you're launching a company or innovating inside a large organization, the skills we teach in Studio (opportunity identification, de-risking, iteration) are relevant.

We also offer different pathways. Students can choose to pursue a BigCo Studio track, which focuses on innovation within large companies, or PiTech Studio, which explores how to develop and deploy technologies in the public interest.

What does a typical day in Studio look like for a student?
There's no such thing as a typical day, and that's by design. You're rarely sitting and listening to someone talk at you. Instead, you're out in the world: talking to users, building prototypes, testing ideas, and learning through doing.

We structure Studio across the full academic year. For most students, that's their entire time at Cornell Tech. Classes are held on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, and we also set aside a few Fridays each semester for "Studio Maker Days" — uninterrupted time for teams to build, present, and iterate.

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Andrew Tisch
Director Emeritus, Loews Corporation



Opposite page and this page, top: Studio teams working in the Master's Collaboratory at the Tata Innovation Center.

This page, bottom: Charles H. Dyson Family Professor of Management Karan Girotra is a Studio instructor, leading research on AI and business transformation.





Inside Studio

Where Bold Ideas Come to Life



How has Studio evolved since you joined Cornell Tech?
It has more than doubled in size, which has been exciting and challenging. One thing we've focused on as we've grown is feedback. We make sure every team gets as much feedback as they can handle, from as many perspectives as possible. That includes contradictory feedback, which is a real-world challenge entrepreneurs face all the time.

Another big shift is the rise of AI. When we started a decade ago, AI wasn't mainstream. Now, it's transforming product development. As they would in industry, students are using AI to accelerate all facets of product development, from research, to ideation, to rapid prototyping through "vibe coding," and we're adapting our curriculum to reflect that.

How does Studio impact the New York City economy?
In a lot of ways. First, we invest in up to four of the top startups each year from our master's cohort. These teams are committed to staying in New York and building their companies here. That's a direct pipeline of innovation into the city's economy.

Second, we're creating a workforce that's fluent in applying AI and other emerging technologies. And third, we engage with hundreds of industry advisors each year — people from companies across NYC who work directly with our students to provide feedback and context.

New York is no longer an outlier for startups. It's a media hub, a financial hub, a growing health tech hub, and home to major players like Google, Meta, Microsoft, and Amazon. It's a great place to start and grow a company.

What excites you most about the future of Studio?
Cornell Tech has just added new degree programs in design and data science, which brings even more diversity to our teams. That diversity leads to more creative solutions, and we learn more from our students every year.

As AI continues to evolve, we're evolving too. We're advancing the curriculum so our students are ready from day one to make an impact in their organizations and become the next generation of tech leaders.

"We're not teaching students in an ivory tower. We want them working on real-world challenges, grounded in the world around them."

— Josh Hartmann

This page and opposite page: Studio teams working in the Master's Collaboratory at the Tata Innovation Center.

Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute











MEET THE 2025 STARTUP AWARD WINNERS

Each year, Cornell Tech's Startup Awards recognize the most promising student-led companies to emerge from Studio.

The 2025 event, held on May 16, drew more than 1,000 attendees to the Roosevelt Island campus — including students, faculty, alumni, tech executives, investors, and university leadership. The atmosphere was electric as 11 finalist teams pitched their ventures to a panel of distinguished judges, with ideas spanning AI, digital health, global trade, and immersive media.

The 2025 judging panel featured a powerhouse lineup of industry and academic leaders:

- → Andrew Ross Sorkin '99, New York Times Columnist, CNBC Co-Anchor, and Author of "Too Big to Fail", served as a lead juror and announced the winners.
- → Momo Bi, Partner at Watershed Ventures
- → Sam Dix, Founder of aThereThere
- → Amanda Eilian, Co-Founder of _able
- → Alberto Escarlate, Chief Technology Officer of Tough Day
- → Jenny Fielding, Co-Founder of Everywhere Ventures
- → Fernando Gómez-Baquero, Director of Runway and Spinouts
- → Josh Hartmann, Chief Practice Officer and Head of Studio
- → Howard Morgan, Chairman of B-Capital Group and
- → Greg Morrisett, Dean and Vice Provost of Cornell Tech Co-Vice chair of Cornell's Board of Trustees
- → Jason Scott, Founder of Five Two Five

Opposite page, top: 2025 Startup Awards winners with (front row) Greg Morrisett, Dean and Vice Provost of Cornell Tech (third from left); Andrew Ross Sorkin '99 (fourth from left); Josh Hartmann, Chief Practice Officer of Cornell Tech (fourth from right); and Cornell President Michael Kotlikoff (third from right).



Three standout teams — CreditQuant AI, gymii.ai, and SAIL — earned $100,000 each in pre-seed funding as well as studio space in the Tata Innovation Center, and support from Cornell Tech faculty and staff to grow their ventures in New York City. A runner-up was also selected: Reforma. Although Reforma will not receive investment funding, the team will receive office space and mentorship through Cornell Tech's Runway Program.

Meet the 2025 Startup Award Winners

Where Bold Ideas Come to Life

Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute

"With all these AI tools, the process of tracking doesn't have to be that complicated."

— gymii.ai co-founder Selina Li



gymii.ai
Founded by Selina Li, M.E. '25, Zach Zhong, M.E. '25, and Alex Taic, MBA '25

gymii.ai makes nutrition tracking smarter and more fun. Users can snap a photo or video of their meal and instantly receive a breakdown of calories, macros, and portion sizes. With a social feed, gamified streaks, and pro athlete endorsements, gymii.ai is reimagining how we engage with food.



CreditQuant AI
Founded by Adam Liu, MBA '25

CreditQuant AI is transforming commercial lending with an AI-powered tool that analyzes financials, calculates risk ratios, and drafts credit memos. Designed for banks, credit unions, and fintech lenders, the platform streamlines underwriting and improves decision-making accuracy.



SAIL
Founded by Chansam Kim, MBA '25; Olivia Mei, M.E. '25; William J. Reid, M.S. '25; Salik Tehami, MBA '25; and Ali Raza, MBA at NYU Stern

SAIL is an AI-native trade compliance platform that automates Harmonized Tariff Schedule classification, tariff optimization, and regulatory monitoring. Designed for companies navigating global trade, SAIL reduces duty costs, ensures audit readiness, and delivers transparent, document-backed classifications.



Reforma
Runner-up; Founded by Courtney Clapper, MBA '25

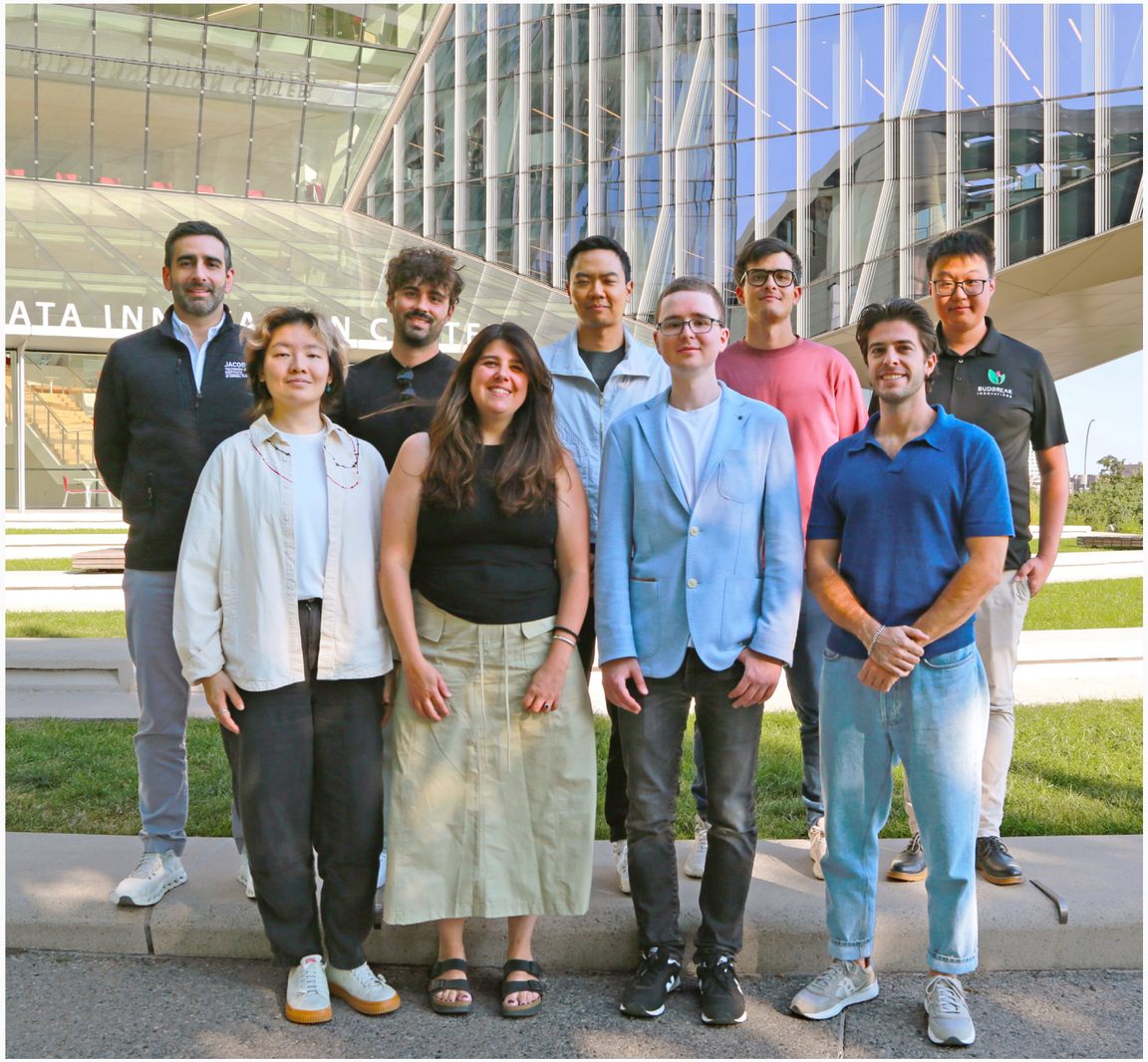
Reforma uses computer vision AI to deliver personalized exercise form feedback that improves technique, reduces injury risk, and maximizes performance, empowering users from beginners to athletes in boutique studios, luxury gyms, and rehab facilities without the need for an in-person trainer.

Opposite page: At the 2025 Startup Awards, students, faculty, and community partners welcomed campus visitors with live demos — highlighting bold ideas and breakthroughs from the past year.





WELCOMING RUNWAY STARTUPS



In 2025, Cornell Tech welcomed 11 new startups to its campus through its Runway Startups Program — with ventures tackling challenges that range from agricultural robotics and energy systems to fertility care, global trade compliance, and AI safety.

To date, more than 128 companies have launched from the Runway program — run by the Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute — and together have a combined valuation of more than $1 billion and have created over 700 jobs in New York City. This year's cohort builds on that momentum with founders who pair deep technical expertise with a drive to translate research into real-world impact.

The program supports Ph.D. founders from leading universities and research institutions worldwide. Runway Startup Postdoc participants receive a package valued at up to $325,000 over two years — including a salary, research budget, campus workspace, intellectual property registration and use, and mentorship from experts in areas such as health technology, security, computer vision, and connective media.

THE 2025 RUNWAY STARTUP POSTDOCS

L2 Labs (Andrew Bell) — Combines advanced AI and machine learning research with real-world implementation, developing breakthrough technologies in areas like task-specific language modeling, data mapping, and information reliability for enterprise clients.

Enhansys (Andrea Fusco and Domenico Gioffrè) — A unified digital platform that integrates energy professionals' software tools with an intelligent co-pilot, using advanced optimization, energy modeling, and machine learning to streamline and enhance energy system design and operation.

APAL (Ming-Chang Chiu) — An agent-to-agent interaction assurance platform that safeguards privacy, verifies authenticity, and enforces truthfulness for autonomous agents across providers, with human oversight built in.

Budbreak Innovations (Ertai Liu) — Develops and operates vineyard management robots, starting with scouting for tasks like disease detection and yield estimation, with a long-term vision of achieving fully autonomous vineyard operations from perception to actuation.

Néa Fertility (Olivia Mendivil Ramos) — A next-generation health platform for reproductive medicine that ingests multimodal patient data — omics, clinical history, and lifestyle — to train foundational AI models tailored to reproductive biology and personalize fertility care.

RemNeuro (Nikolay Lukyanchikov) — An integrated hardware-and-software solution that modernizes and standardizes neurological exams, combining a compact chair-based system with workflow-integrated software to automate data collection and track objective patient progress over time.

Moon Wave (Yiran Zhao) — Creator of CalmingBeats, a wearable software that detects user anxiety via mobile sensing and delivers subtle, biofeedback-based wrist vibrations to promote calm, leveraging neuromodulation research developed at Cornell Tech.

"This cohort demonstrates how applying digital technologies can solve some of the most critical problems in areas as diverse as agriculture, misinformation, neurology, fertility, logistics, and more."

— Fernando Gómez-Baquero, director of Runway and Spinouts at the Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute at Cornell Tech

Opposite page: Fernando Gómez-Baquero (far left) with the 2025 postdoc founders selected to join the Runway Startups Program.

BUILT AT CORNELL TECH









Cornell Tech's startup culture doesn't stop at graduation. Across industries — from AI infrastructure to legal tech — alumni and faculty are launching ventures that are transforming how we live, work, and heal.

ALVK Law
Founded by LL.M. alumni Victoria Kammerath, Agustín Iraola, and Valeria Monturiol, ALVK Law (opposite page, top left) uses agile methodologies and AI to deliver legal services to startups. "New York is everything. It's like being everywhere in the world at the same time. Most entrepreneurs in the world want to be here and believe that here is the place where you need to be to grow, to meet people, to find partners," said Kammerath.

Traversal
Assistant professor Raaz Dwivedi (opposite page, top right) co-founded Traversal, a company transforming how modern software systems detect and resolve outages using AI. "Cornell Tech's support for external engagement made it the perfect place to take that leap. From day one, I felt that culture of innovation and entrepreneurship — and it gave me the confidence to start something ambitious," said Dwivedi.

Avina
Founded by MBA and M.Eng. alumni Ron Fisher, Michael Wang, and Vivek Sudarsan, Avina (opposite page, bottom left) leverages AI with a business's unified marketing, sales, and external data stack to surface key recommendations for sellers during prospecting, outreach, meeting prep, and while working deals. Avina recently closed a $3.2 million seed round.

Makora
Makora, a startup co-founded by Cornell Tech assistant professor Mohamed Abdelfattah (opposite page, bottom right), has raised $8.5 million in seed funding to tackle one of AI's most pressing infrastructure challenges: optimizing the computing efficiency of graphics processing units, or GPUs. The company is based at The Bridge, Cornell Tech's new workspace in the Tata Innovation Center.

MyLÚA Health, Fig Medical, Project B, and Kaveat
Four student-founded ventures have been selected for Founder Fellowships offered by the New York City Economic Development Corporation for their innovative work in maternal health, healthcare automation, custom apparel, and contract management.



The Bridge at Cornell Tech (pictured above) in the Tata Innovation Center provides workspaces that foster an ecosystem of innovation and collaboration, welcoming entrepreneurs and teams from early stage startups to established businesses.

BEHIND THE SCENES

Appointed to the faculty in the fall of 2025, Harald Haraldsson is an associate professor of the practice in design tech at Cornell Tech and the Cornell University College of Architecture, Art, and Planning. He directs the XR Collaboratory, a hands-on lab focused on multimodal 3D user interfaces for virtual and augmented reality (AR/VR) located in the Tata Innovation Center.

Through rapid prototyping and creative experimentation, Harald and his students explore how emerging technologies can reshape the way we interact with both digital and physical environments. We asked Harald about his vision for extended reality (XR), the lab's unique approach to prototyping, and what excites him most about the future of immersive design.

What makes the XR Collaboratory different from other AR/VR labs in academia?
Our projects are structured around semester-long timelines and designed to provide hands-on learning opportunities for our master's students. A typical project requires both technical proficiency and theoretical understanding, with deliverables that include fully documented code repositories, executables, videos, and technical reports. While some projects evolve into workshop papers or poster presentations at academic venues, we focus less on traditional publishing than many other labs.

We also emphasize software engineering best practices. Each project aims to produce modular components that can be reused in future semesters or integrated into other work. This approach ensures that XR Collaboratory projects continue to grow and evolve even after students graduate, building an ecosystem of interoperable tools and techniques.

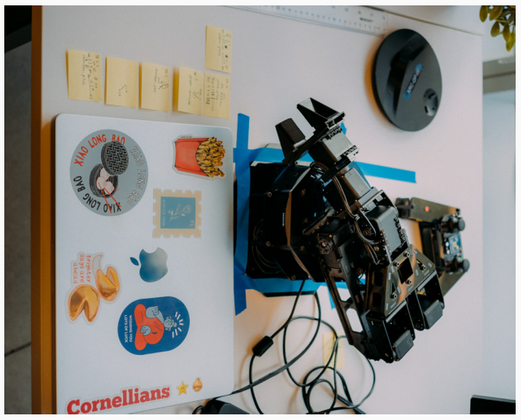
What kinds of multimodal interactions are you exploring, beyond the typical keyboard and mouse?
We frequently combine hand tracking, gaze, and voice input, adapting to each project's input and output requirements based on the sensing capabilities of different devices. Every platform has its own strengths and limitations, but what's exciting now is how seamlessly multimodal prototyping can be implemented through the combination of foundation models and our own toolkit. I'm particularly excited about currently available devices that combine eye tracking with high-quality video see-through. These allow us to prototype for future scenarios where optical see-through devices might have similar capabilities in a smaller form factor, which in some ways is the ultimate objective of our field.

What excites you most about the future of head-mounted displays and wearable interfaces?
For someone endlessly interested in user interfaces and interaction design, head-mounted displays represent such a rich and evolving medium. They will continue to influence professional work in design, architecture, and engineering, as well as gaming, entertainment, and media creation.

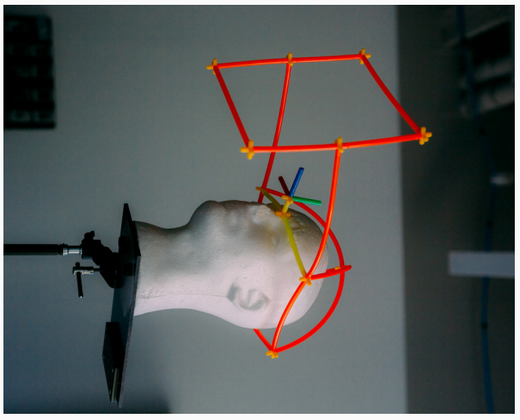
Looking ahead, the growing spectrum of smart glasses (from lightweight AI-assisted eyewear to full AR systems) will enable increasingly context-aware and personalized interactions. It's an especially dynamic time to be working in this space.

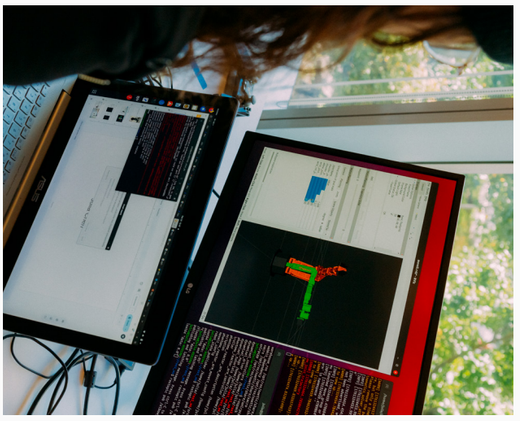
What kind of real-world applications or societal impact do you envision for the work being done in your lab?
Many of our projects are intentionally application-agnostic, focusing on fundamental interaction techniques for tasks like selection, manipulation, system control, and locomotion. At the same time, we explore applied domains that support creative workflows, such as tools for ideation, modeling, and fabrication. I see tremendous potential for XR systems to expand creative thinking and help designers, artists, and engineers work in more expressive and embodied ways.

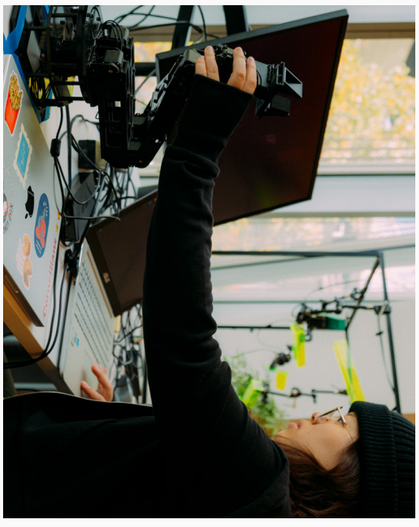



Cornellians















WHAT'S NEW

Cornell Tech welcomed several new faculty members in the 2025-2026 academic year, each bringing visionary research to its academic community. These scholars are blurring the lines between disciplines — from AI that sees and hears like a human, to video games that teach ecological thinking.

With three Sloan Fellows, three National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development Program Award winners, and a Forbes 30 Under 30 honoree among them, this year's new faculty cohort arrives with notable accolades and ambitions. Their work spans digital media, AI, robotics, and optimization, earning national recognition for pushing the boundaries of what technology can do.



Andrew Owens
Associate professor of computer science at Cornell Tech and the Cornell Ann S. Bowers College of Computing and Information Science

In his research, Owens creates multimodal systems that learn to see, hear, and touch without human-labeled training data.



José Sánchez
Associate professor of design tech at Cornell Tech and the Cornell College of Architecture, Art, and Planning

An architect, game designer, and media artist, Sanchez brings a groundbreaking approach to architecture that centers on gameplay, cooperation, and the stewardship of shared resources.



Allison Koenecke
Assistant professor of information science at Cornell Tech and the Cornell Ann S. Bowers College of Computing and Information Science

Koenecke's research on algorithmic fairness applies machine learning and causal inference to study societal inequities in various domains, from online services to public health.



Angelina Wang
Assistant professor of information science at Cornell Tech and the Cornell Ann S. Bowers College of Computing and Information Science

Wang's research focuses on responsible AI, including the societal impacts of AI systems and fairness beyond one-size-fits-all metrics.



Tianyi Chen
Associate professor of electrical and computer engineering at Cornell Tech and Cornell Engineering

Chen's research focuses on the theoretical foundations and algorithmic design of multi-objective optimization and learning, with applications to generative AI and emerging computing paradigms.



Designing the Future
This fall, Cornell Tech welcomed the inaugural cohort of students to its new Master of Science in Design Technology program — a two-year, transdisciplinary degree that fuses design innovation with emerging technologies.

The program draws on expertise from four Cornell colleges (in addition to Cornell Tech) including Art, Architecture, and Planning; Engineering; Human Ecology; and the Ann S. Bowers College of Computing and Information Science.

Students begin their journey in Ithaca, building foundational skills in design, coding, and physical interaction. In their second year, they choose between two tracks: a thesis-based research path in Ithaca or a studio professional track at Cornell Tech in NYC. Those in the studio track join Cornell Tech's signature Product Studio and Startup Studio, collaborating with industry partners to prototype real-world solutions.

The program is housed in the newly opened Gensler Family AAP NYC Center on Roosevelt Island — a cutting-edge facility designed for experimentation, collaboration, and cross-campus synergy.



"At Design Tech, we work at the forefront of Design education and transform and reimagine traditional methods, especially as they can be connected to emerging technologies and new ways to see and experience the world."

— Jenny Sabin, chair of the Department of Design Tech



Make. Test. Repeat.
The MakerLAB is Cornell Tech's playground for problem-solvers and product builders.

Cornell Tech leadership, alongside elected officials, faculty, students, staff, and the Roosevelt Island community, hosted an official ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of the campus's new MakerLAB in May 2025.



The MakerLAB facility, now located on the first floor of Cornell Tech's Tata Innovation Center, serves as an accessible production hub for Cornell Tech students and faculty to bring their ideas to life.

From 3D printing prototypes of medical devices to designing sustainable buildings and communities, the infrastructure allows startups to refine their products, students to gain hands-on experience creating real solutions to common problems, and faculty to advance their research.

"At Cornell Tech, we're creating an environment where ideas collide and partnerships thrive."

— Niti Parikh, director, Learning Spaces and MakerLABs at Cornell Tech

SAVE THE DATES

Join us for these exciting Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute events on Cornell Tech's vibrant Roosevelt Island campus.

HEALTH TECH SUMMIT

MARCH 2–3, 2026

Learn about the latest breakthrough and the most promising startups in an intimate gathering of leading figures shaping the health and AI landscape.

2026 STARTUP AWARDS

MAY 14, 2026

Join us for Cornell Tech's annual Startup Awards featuring startup presentations, interactive lab demos, networking opportunities and a reception.

FRONTIERS OF AI SUMMIT

MAY 27, 2026

Global leaders in research, industry, entrepreneurship, and the public sector come together for the first Cornell Tech Frontiers of AI Summit to explore the future of intelligence in action.

And follow us on social media!

Creating New Technologies | Educating Leaders | Building Ventures | Generating Impact

Cornell Tech, 2025–2026

Cornell Tech — Leading the AI Era

Cornell Tech

Cornell Tech is Cornell University's state-of-the-art campus in New York City that develops leaders and technologies for the AI era through graduate education, foundational and applied research, new ventures, and impact initiatives.

Top 5 — Cornell #5 in the U.S. in Artificial Intelligence and #1 in NY State (CSRankings.org)

Top 7 — Cornell #7 in the U.S. in Computer Science (U.S. News & World Report, 2025 grad school rankings)

Top 7 — Cornell #7 in the U.S. in AI programs (U.S. News & World Report, 2025 grad school rankings)

850,000 Square Feet 5 Buildings

- → Emma and Georgina Bloomberg Center
- → Tata Innovation Center
- → The House
- → Verizon Executive Education Center
- → The Graduate Hotel

The Bridge

Opened in 2025, The Bridge at Cornell Tech offers collaborative workspace for lease in the Tata Innovation Center — home to a thriving community of innovators.

Origin Story + Timeline

Located on Roosevelt Island, Cornell Tech was founded in close collaboration with the NYC Economic Development Corporation.

2011 → Cornell, in partnership with the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, won a worldwide competition initiated by New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's administration to create an applied sciences campus in New York City.

2012 → Cornell Tech opened in Google's offices in New York City.

2017 → Cornell Tech moved to its permanent campus location on Roosevelt Island.

Creating New Technologies

Cornell Tech is the next evolution of Cornell University's 150 years of leadership in engineering and computer science.

Faculty Research Areas

Our faculty represent Cornell disciplines essential to foundational and applied AI:

- → Core Computing
- → Core AI
- → Human Centered AI
- → AI Societal Impacts

$22 Million

in external research funds annually (2024)

World-Class Faculty

- → Since moving to the Roosevelt Island campus in 2017, the faculty has more than doubled from 23 in 2017 to 48 in 2025.
- → 100% of Cornell Tech faculty members have active external corporate, foundation, or government engagements.
- → Faculty accolades include two MacArthur Foundation fellowship "genius" award winners, four Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Fellows, five Association for Computing Machinery Fellows, two Computer-Human Interaction Academy members, and nine Sloan Fellows.

On-Campus Research Facilities

- → Artificial Intelligence Lab
- → Artificial Intelligence for Medical Imaging
- → Digital Fabrication Lab
- → Driving Simulation Lab
- → Electrical and Computer Engineering Lab
- → MakerLAB
- → Robotics Lab
- → Mobile and Ubiquitous Computing Lab
- → XR Collaboratory

57 Postdoctoral students have trained on our campus since 2020

Creating New Technologies | Educating Leaders | Building Ventures | Generating Impact

Educating Leaders

Cornell Tech's graduate and Ph.D. students receive rigorous training by the world's top AI and tech scholars from Cornell University and the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology.

Studio

Cornell Tech's renowned interdisciplinary Studio curriculum is required for all master's degree students and allows them to collaborate with companies and to create startups that address real-world challenges with tech solutions.

10 Cornell Tech Master's Degree Programs

Seven Cornell master's programs in:

- → Business
- → Computer Science
- → Data Science and Decision Analytics
- → Design Tech
- → Electrical and Computer Engineering
- → Law, Technology, and Entrepreneurship
- → Operations Research and Information Engineering

Three dual-degree programs with Cornell University and the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology:

- → Connective Media
- → Health Tech
- → Urban Tech

48 tenured or tenure-track faculty members and professors of practice

75 lecturers, adjuncts, and researchers (including 36 postdoctoral researchers)

700+ students enrolled

- → 621 master's students
- → 158 Ph.D. students
- → 100+ visiting students (non-Cornell Tech)

2,700 alumni worldwide

89% employment rate for master's students within three months of graduation

135 staff members who are experts across various fields

$22+ Million

in scholarships to Cornell Tech students since 2015

Building Ventures

The Runway Startups team helps to incubate new companies, which are based in a startup studio space in the Tata Innovation Center.

128+ startups launched out of Cornell Tech since 2012

90 patent applications by Cornell Tech startups since 2012

36 patents granted since 2012

15 current postdoc startups on campus in the Jacobs Institute's Runway program for 2025–2026

5 current spinout startups operating on campus for 2025–2026 that originated in the Cornell Tech Studio program

94% of Cornell Tech startups are based in NYC

723 people are employed by Cornell Tech startups

32% of Cornell Tech startups are founded by women

$1 Billion

value for Cornell Tech ventures

$378 Million

raised in venture capital by Cornell Tech startups

$20.8 Million

invested in startups since 2014

Cornell Tech: $4.6+ million
Jacobs Institute: $16.1+ million

Creating New Technologies | Educating Leaders | Building Ventures | Generating Impact

Generating Impact

Cornell Tech fuels NYC's innovation economy while collaborating with other educators and nonprofits to achieve positive societal outcomes.

$768 Million

in economic impact for NYC by Cornell Tech in FY 2024

$1.5 Billion

projected impact for NYC by Cornell Tech by 2030

Key Partnerships

- Andrew H. and Anne R. Tisch
- Bloomberg Philanthropies & Bloomberg LP
- CUNY Macaulay Honors College
- Empire AI
- Google
- Jack P. and Rilla B. Neafsey
- Joan K. and Irwin M. Jacobs
- Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts
- LinkedIn
- New York City Economic Development Corporation
- New York City Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence
- New York City Public Schools
- New York Public Library
- New York State
- NewYork-Presbyterian
- Pivotal Ventures & Pivotal Philanthropies
- Ratan N. Tata
- Related Companies
- Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation
- Secunda Family Foundation
- Siegel Family Endowment
- Stephen M. Ross Foundation
- Tech: NYC
- Technion-Israel Institute of Technology
- The Atlantic Philanthropies
- The New York Academy of Sciences
- Verizon
- Weill Cornell Medicine

Impact Initiatives

- arXiv: Offering open access to millions of scholarly papers, arXiv is a research sharing platform operated by Cornell Tech.
- Backslash: Funds artists whose practices are nonlinear, unconventional, and primed for engagement with new technologies.
- Break Through Tech: Empowers, trains, and connects undergraduate students from different lived experiences to influential tech opportunities.
- Clinic to End Tech Abuse (CETA): Supporting survivors of domestic abuse by addressing technology-enabled harm through research, education, and direct services.
- Digital Life Initiative: Investigating the societal, ethical, and policy implications of digital technologies.
- Health Tech Hub: Engaging in cutting-edge research at the intersection of health and technology.
- K–12 Lab: Expanding access to computer science education for NYC students, families, and educators.
- Initiative For Cryptocurrencies and Contracts: Advancing blockchain and smart contract technologies through a multi-institutional academic consortium.
- PiTech (Public Interest Tech): Advancing tech for the public good through research, education, and civic engagement.
- SETS (Security, Trust, and Safety Initiative): Designing technology that protects people and promotes digital safety, trust, and human rights.
- Urban Tech Hub: Developing tech solutions for urban challenges like mobility, housing, and sustainability.

$1 Billion raised in philanthropy since Cornell Tech began operating in 2012

25,000 visitors and 100+ events on campus annually


CORNELL TECH