



UAA Professional Development Seminar Series

Thriving in the Age of AI: Upskilling for the Future

Presented by: Shelly Thomas, PE

ABSTRACT: As artificial intelligence rapidly transforms the engineering landscape, professionals are presented with both challenges and opportunities. This presentation explores how engineers and technical professionals can leverage AI to not only adapt but also elevate their roles and drive innovation. We'll delve into practical upskilling strategies and real-world applications that enhance efficiency, automate routine tasks, and open new avenues for creative problem-solving. Emphasizing collaborative solutions, this session aims to empower you with actionable insights to develop AI literacy, lead AI-driven initiatives, and confidently navigate the evolving technological environment.

BIO: Shelly Thomas is the Director of Global Ecommerce at a Chart Industries, a leading engineered equipment company. With more than a decade of combined experience in engineering, ecommerce and artificial intelligence, she is a licensed Professional Engineer (PE), holds a bachelor's degree in engineering and an MBA. In her role, she leads initiatives to integrate AI-driven solutions that enhance e-commerce operations, expand the company's global online presence, and improve customer experiences through streamlined digital platforms for engineered equipment and parts. Passionate about the intersection of engineering and AI, she is enthusiastic about supporting local engineering initiatives and STEM education in Alaska. Committed to fostering community involvement and seeing young people thrive in STEM careers, she participates in outreach programs and collaborates with local schools and universities on educational projects. Grateful for the mentors—including industry leaders—who have guided her journey, she values the importance of sharing knowledge and working collaboratively. Understanding the challenges professionals face in striving to achieve more with limited resources, she finds joy in developing creative solutions that help teams navigate the evolving landscape of AI with confidence. New to Alaska, Shelly is excited about diving into all the outdoor fun Alaska has to offer, sledding, hiking, camping, and hopefully soon, cross-country skiing with her husband and three kids.

Friday, November 22, 2024

11:45 am - 12:45 pm

EIB 211 or Online Via [YouTube Live](#)