

[RE]IMAGINE EDUCATION

A weekly Design.AI newsletter

STUDENT-LED AI AT SUTD: AI INTEREST GROUP

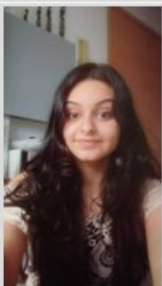
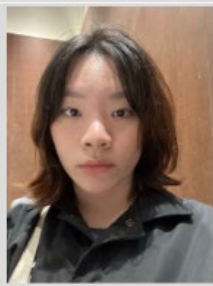
*AI Interest Group
In Conversation with Dr. Nachamma Sockalingam, OSP*

The Artificial Intelligence (AI) Interest Group at SUTD is a vibrant hub for students, faculty, and enthusiasts passionate about exploring, understanding, and shaping the future of AI. Established in 2020, the group launched its journey by spearheading a collaborative initiative with AI Singapore (AISG), securing complimentary access for all members to DataCamp, a leading platform for data science and analytics education. This strategic partnership empowered participants to acquire high-demand technical skills through self-paced learning, cultivating a strong culture of continuous growth and professional development.

Our mission is to anchor capabilities in Artificial Intelligence, nurture talents, build an AI ecosystem, and promote AI literacy for the greater good of society. We look forward to working with you.



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*This newsletter is produced with ChatGPT and other AI tools as super-collaborators. The authors contribute the core ideas, drafts, strategic framing, pedagogical insights, and design direction, while AI supports creative articulation.
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Dr. Nachamma Sockalingam, Office of Strategic Planning



AI Interest Group Vision and Mission

Our vision is ambitious and clear. It is to anchor AI capabilities, nurture talents, build a thriving AI ecosystem, and champion AI literacy for the greater good of society.

Guided by a spirit of innovation and collaboration, our core mission is to:

- Promote interdisciplinary collaboration across design, engineering, computer science, and the humanities.
- Foster groundbreaking innovation in AI applications across diverse sectors.
- Facilitate the widespread dissemination of AI knowledge through hands-on workshops, expert-led seminars, and immersive project opportunities.

These initiatives are crafted to equip our members with the skills, mindset, and confidence needed to explore and create impactful AI solutions.

Our Approach

Through meaningful partnerships—both within and beyond the university—we nurture a culture of experimentation and real-world problem-solving. Our collaborative projects enable students to apply AI techniques to domains such as Healthcare, Robotics, Sustainability, and Design and Innovation.

Our Commitment

The AI Interest Group proudly supports SUTD's strategic mission to advance Design AI education and research. We are deeply committed to inspiring the next generation of AI leaders by laying a strong foundation in practical implementation, critical thinking, and creative exploration. Together, we are building a future where AI empowers positive change for society and the world.



How We are Exploring Practical AI, One Project and Partnership at a Time

Our vision is AI is changing everything—and so can you.

At the SUTD AI Interest Group, we are more than just a community—we are a movement.

We equip you with the skills, mindset, and hands-on experience to turn big ideas into real-world AI solutions. From hackathons to groundbreaking projects, our platform connects coders, designers, and innovators ready to collaborate, create, and make an impact. With AI-IG, you would not just learn about AI—you will live it.

Join us and become a driving force for change in one of the most exciting frontiers of our time. Here are some of the projects and programs we have embarked on:

Building Foundations: Workshops and Hands-On Learning



Streamlit X Generative AI Workshop

A perennial favorite, this annual workshop empowers students to integrate cutting-edge Large Language Models (LLMs) like DeepSeek and Gemini into their projects. Participants learn to build interactive web apps using Streamlit, enabling rapid deployment of Python-based AI prototypes with minimal web development overhead.

This hands-on experience gives students a vital edge: the ability to seamlessly embed AI into real-world applications. Whether for hackathons, research, or entrepreneurial ventures, mastering tools like Gemini and DeepSeek positions them for success in an increasingly AI-driven world.



Outreach & Engagement: Taking AI Beyond Campus

Catholic High School Machine Learning Workshop

Collaborating with 3DC, we introduced Catholic high school students to the world of supervised machine learning. The session covered fundamental algorithms and real-world applications, providing students with their first hands-on experience with AI tools.

By planting early seeds of AI literacy, we aim to empower future creators, not just consumers, encouraging students to prototype solutions for local issues and pursue future STEM pathways in a tech-driven society.

Embedded LLM Workshop – Building Low-Code AI Agents

Recognizing the growing demand for low-code solutions, we partnered with Embedded LLM, a pioneering company specializing in deployable AI tools. This workshop guided students through building intelligent agents with minimal coding, exposing them to agile development practices often favored by tech startups.

Participants not only acquired technical skills but also gained valuable insights into what software startups seek in new talent, enhancing their career readiness.



Supporting AI Research and Educational Innovation @ SUTD

We are proud to contribute actively to the growth of AI research and innovation at SUTD through collaborations with the newly established DAI Fab Lab and initiatives supporting the university's pivot to AI. Working alongside SUTD's Senior Management and the Office of Strategic Planning, our members are:

- Integrating AI concepts into SUTD courses
- Gathering student feedback to enhance AI curricula
- Supporting research initiatives that drive groundbreaking discoveries

Through these efforts, we aim to elevate the quality of AI education at SUTD and cultivate a thriving research ecosystem.



Connecting Students to Industry: AI Talks & Career Insights

To bridge the gap between academic learning and industry practice, we are organizing a series of Industry Talks featuring AI professionals across diverse domains.

- These sessions will offer students opportunities to:
- Gain real-world insights into AI applications
- Explore emerging career pathways
- Stay abreast of trends shaping the AI industry

Additionally, we are launching an Industry Fireside Chat Series featuring SUTD alumni currently working in engineering and tech sectors. These unfiltered discussions will offer pragmatic advice on:

- Workplace trends
- Emerging technical skills
- Strategies for thriving in competitive industries

These engagements aim to help students make more informed study and career planning decisions, maximizing their time at the world's first Design AI University.

Showcasing Innovation: Visit the DAI Fab Lab

As part of our commitment to showcasing creativity in action, we invite you to explore groundbreaking AI projects emerging from our community. From experimental prototypes to scalable solutions, these projects reflect the unique advantage of studying at the world's first Design AI university, where interdisciplinary creativity meets technical rigor.

The DAI Fab Lab serves as a living laboratory where ideas take tangible form — and where the next big breakthroughs are already taking shape.

Join Us: Shape the AI-Driven Future

Whether you are seeking to refine your expertise, collaborate on new ventures, or lead in an AI-powered world, we invite you to engage with us and be part of this dynamic ecosystem.

Aspiring innovators eager to upskill, create, and make an impact — your journey starts here. **The future is already here. Let us build it together.**