



**Friday, April 10 | Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts  
DeVos Family Room, Floor 3**

## **AGENDA**

### **11:00 a.m. REGISTRATION**

*Open seating with preset lunch*

### **11:30 a.m. WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS**

- Ajai Singh, Ph.D., Truist Eminent Scholar Chair of Banking, Professor & Chair, Department of Finance & Director, Dr. P. Phillips School of Real Estate, UCF College of Business
- Jim Adamczyk '02, '04, Hall of Fame '23, Senior Executive Vice President & Chief Strategy Officer, *FAIRWINDS*

### **11:45 a.m. EXECUTIVE INSIGHTS: *Innovation, Decentralization and the Future of Finance***

- Dean Paul Jarley, UCF College of Business
- Taylor Gerring '05, Hall of Fame '26, Co-Founder, Ethereum

### **12:45 p.m. NETWORKING BREAK**

### **1:00 p.m. EXECUTIVE INSIGHTS: *The Next Wave of Financial Intelligence – AI, Data and the Consumer Experience***

- Sarthak Pattanaik, Chief Data & AI Officer, BNY

### **1:30 p.m. PANEL DISCUSSION: *State of FinTech 2026 – Reinventing Financial Services***

Moderated by Yafei Zhang, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Finance, UCF College of Business

- Matt Cannon, Vice President of Enterprise AI, *FAIRWINDS*
- Howard Haney, Chief Technology Officer, Voloridge Investment Management
- Alejandro Rodriguez, UCF M.S. FinTech '25
- Maharaja Subramanian C, Head of Product Management, *AMERICAS*, Volante Technologies



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**2:30 p.m. PRESENTATION: *AI in Academic Research and Industry Adoption***

- Sean Cao, Ph.D., Associate Professor of FinTech, AI and Capital Markets, University of Maryland College Park

**2:50 p.m. NETWORKING BREAK**

**3:00 p.m. PANEL DISCUSSION II: *Man & Machine – Leveraging AI Productivity, Human Intuition and Intent in Finance***

Moderated by Rodney Ndum, Ph.D., J.D., Lecturer, Department of Finance, UCF College of Business

- Vijay Chopra, Ph.D., Lecturer
- Hiba El Harrak, UCF M.S. FinTech '26
- Benjamin Harvey, D.Sc., Founder, AI Squared
- Alejandro Lopez Lira, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Finance, Insurance & Real Estate Department, Warrington College of Business, University of Florida

**4:00 p.m. EXECUTIVE INSIGHTS: *Tokenization as the Financial Infrastructure for the Space Economy***

- Grant Blaisdell, Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Copernic Space

**4:30 p.m. PRESENTATION: *The Rise and Fragility of Stablecoins – Tokens, Pegs and Crashes***

- Cuneyt Akcora, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Finance, UCF College of Business

**4:45 p.m. CLOSING KEYNOTE**

- David Yermack, Ph.D., Albert Fingerhut Professor of Finance and Business Transformation, New York University Stern School of Business

**5:30 p.m. NETWORKING RECEPTION: *Rooftop Terrace & Kessler Tier***

**7 p.m. PERFORMANCE: *Legally Blonde – The Musical, Walt Disney Theater***

