Meet the Mentors – IEEE Quantum Week 2025



Mariia Mykhailova is Principal Quantum Applications Software Developer at PsiQuantum and a lecturer at Northeastern University in Seattle. A quantum computing evangelist, she works on quantum software for fault-tolerant quantum computers and education. Mariia is author of the recent book *Quantum Computing in Depth* and the *Q# Pocket Guide*. She has a Masters in Applied Mathematics, Informatics from National Technical University of Ukraine 'Kyiv Polytechnic Institute.'



Rudy Raymond is an Executive Director of Global Technology and Applied Research at JPMorganChase, and a technical advisor to the Biotechnology and Quantum Computing Research Project at Keio University, Tokyo, Japan. He has a PhD in Informatics from Kyoto University. His work in quantum computing has been awarded a Yamashita SIG Research Award by the Information Processing Society of Japan (IPSJ) and the IBM Outstanding Technical Accomplishment Awards (OTAA) for his technical contribution to Combinatorial Sparsity in AI.



<u>Taylor Patti</u> is a Senior Research Scientist at NVIDIA. Her research interests are all things at the intersection of quantum and classical computation, including quantum algorithms, machine learning for quantum applications, and the efficient simulation of quantum systems. She holds a PhD in Theoretical Physics from Harvard University.



Jun Zhuang is an Assistant Professor of Computer Science at Boise State University. He has a PhD in Computer Science from Purdue University. He was previously a Software Engineering intern at Uber Technologies and an Algorithms and Advanced Analytics intern at Roche. Jun aims to investigate trustworthy and robust Al models across multiple domains, such as quantum machine learning and medical imaging.



Eleanor Rieffel leads the Quantum Artificial Intelligence Lab at the NASA Ames Research Center and is the NASA Senior Researcher for Advanced Computing and Data Analytics. Her research focuses on quantum algorithms, resource estimation, evaluation and use of near-term quantum hardware, logical and fault-tolerant quantum architectures, distributed quantum computing, and quantum error characterization. She has a PhD in mathematics from UCLA. She is best known for her 2011 book *Quantum Computing: A Gentle Introduction* (with Wolfgang Polak).



Neel Vora is a Machine Learning Engineer at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory where he designs online learning algorithms and deep RL (PPO) models for adaptive control, optimizing systems across quantum information processing, laser coherent combining, and distributed AI workloads. Neel has an MS in Computer Science from the University of Texas at Arlington and a BTech in information technology from Dharmsinh Desai University.





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<u>Félix Beaudoin</u> has an MSc in theoretical physics from Université de Sherbrooke and a PhD from McGill University. He conducted postdoctoral research and lectured at Dartmouth College, collaborating with MIT researchers. He joined Nanoacademic in 2019 as a Research Scientist, became Director of Quantum Technology in 2022, and was appointed CEO in 2025. He has more than 15 years' experience in quantum technology, notably leading the development and commercialization of Nanoacademic's qubit-modeling software QTCAD.®



<u>Susan Clark</u> has worked as a Quantum Computing Experimentalist at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, NM, since 2013. She focuses primarily on trapped-ion quantum computing as principal investigator of the program QSCOUT (qscout.sandia.gov), but has also contributed to experimental work on other quantum platforms including gate-defined quantum dots in silicon, donor-bound excitons in semiconductors systems, and neutral atoms. SNL is managed and operated by NTESS under DOE NNSA contract DE-NA0003525.



<u>Pavel Dutta</u> is Sr. Manager of Open Innovation and Strategy at Samsung Semiconductor where he is responsible for strategy, partnership, collaboration, and competitive intelligence. He has an MBA from Indiana University Kelley School of Business, a PhD in Electrical Engineering from South Dakota State University, and an MS in Physics from the Indian Institute of Technology, Karagpur.



Sonika Johri is Founder and CEO of Coherent Computing. She was previously Principal Researcher, Head of Quantum at IonQ. She has a PhD in condensed matter physics focusing on disordered and strongly interacting electronic systems from Princeton University and a BTech in Engineering Physics from Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi.



Sebastian Stern is a Senior Quantum Specialist Solutions Architect at AWS, based in Munich, Germany. He helps customers to explore and build quantum solutions on Amazon Braket. Sebastian studied Physics at the Technical University of Munich and earned his PhD at the Max-Planck-Institute for Physics. He spent several years in academia in the field of High Energy Physics and researched in the Higgs boson working group at the LHC at CERN.



<u>Pallavi Bhardwaj</u> is a Senior Researcher for quantum computing and quantum Al, Innovation center network, at SAP SE. She has a Masters in Computer Science from TH Köln, in Leverkusen, Germany.



