AI Workforce Acceleration Board Member Statements

- *"A rapidly growing creator economy and breakthrough AI technologies have increased the demand for AI literacy and creative skills across all industries. In California alone, the creator economy employs more than 800,000 people, or 4.6% of the state's workforce, and supports nearly 875,00 local service jobs. Adobe has long been a champion of California's creator economy and education system, and we are proud to partner with the California State University (CSU) in ensuring that CSU students are equipped to succeed as creators, creative thinkers, and innovators in an increasingly digital world that is powered by AI."* - **Brian Johnsrud, Director of Education, Learning and Advocacy, Adobe**

- *"I am honored to join the California State University AI Workforce Acceleration Board. Embracing AI is vital to advancing education, supporting students, driving research, and fostering innovation. I look forward to working with fellow board members to promote adoption, access, and security across the State University system."* - **Mary Strain, AI Strategy, Amazon Web Services.**

- *"At Google, we're incredibly excited to partner with the CSU on this groundbreaking initiative. On the Google for Education Team, we're committed to providing tools that are trustworthy, tailored for education, and ever-evolving in an AI powered future. We believe that democratizing access to safe and cutting edge technologies for educators and students is key to fostering innovation and preparing for the future. We're proud to support the CSU in its mission to empower the next generation of AI leaders."* - **Drew Sidel, Head of North America, Google Workspace for Education**

- *"This is an inspiring example of education, private industry and government coming together to implement a bold solution that ensures students are prepared for the workforce in California and nationwide. By leveraging experiential learning and innovative teaching and learning practices, this initiative will be a model for other education systems and states looking to ensure future generations are AI-ready and empowered."* - **Melissa Loble, Chief Academic Officer at Instructure**

- *"AI is reshaping work and creating demand for emerging jobs and skills. LinkedIn data shows that AI hiring has grown 30% faster than overall hiring over the last year and 300% over the last eight years. Beyond AI jobs, AI has the potential to make a vast array of work more efficient, accelerating the pace of change in the skills we need and spurring innovation. But these changes cannot and will not happen on their own. We must equip our future workforce with tools and insights to land the jobs of the future."* - **Kory Kantenga, Head of Economics, Americas, at LinkedIn.**

- *"California State University system is demonstrating leadership in preparing Californians to thrive in the AI-empowered workforce. The scale of this effort is an example of the art-of-the-possible*

when universities, industry and government work together." - **Dr. Elka Walsh, Americas Higher Education Transformation Lead for Microsoft.**

- *"AI and accelerated computing are pivotal to a new industrial revolution that will benefit industries and communities across the state and country, and around the world. Working with CSU, NVIDIA will train faculty and students to use these advanced technologies to help unlock economic opportunities and drive innovation."* **- Louis Stewart, head of strategic initiatives, NVIDIA.**

- *"We're still in the early stages of AI adoption in education, and it is critical that the entire ecosystem—education systems, technologists, educators, and governments—work together to ensure that all students globally have access to AI and develop the skills to use it responsibly. CSU is setting a bold and powerful example for the education sector."* **- Leah Belsky, VP and General Manager of Education at OpenAI.**