

VECTORS, RASTERS, AND ROBOTS:

NAVIGATING THE SHIFT FROM DIGITAL CARTOGRAPHY TO SPATIAL AI



SPEAKER

DR. MEGAN
GODDARD

Senior Program Manager Machine Intelligence @ Google Maps

Dr. Megan Goddard is a Google Maps Program Manager with a 20-year tenure, where she has witnessed the industry's digital cartography evolution firsthand. Her current work focuses on a new frontier with Mapping and AI. She has a PhD in Forestry and Natural Resources and an MS in Environmental Engineering & Science from Clemson University with an emphasis on water resources. A Santa Cruz native, she is water commissioner for the city of Santa Cruz and a guest lecturer at UCSC.



SPEAKER

MR. W. KAILEN
WRIGHT

Data Engineer @ Google

Mr. W. Kailen Wright has been a key figure in Geo at Google for over 18 years, with a career spanning over two decades in the geospatial industry. As a Geospatial Lead, he tackles complex data challenges, from standardizing global addressing, managing large-scale data ingestion, and pioneering AI-powered geospatial workflows. His foundational work includes the Google Earth Vector Team and the Ground Truth project. He holds a BS in Computer Science and studied Remote Sensing at UC Santa Barbara, and holds a Certificate of Spacecraft Design and Operations from Stanford.

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Interdisciplinary Sciences Building 221