



RESEARCH + **INNOVATION**

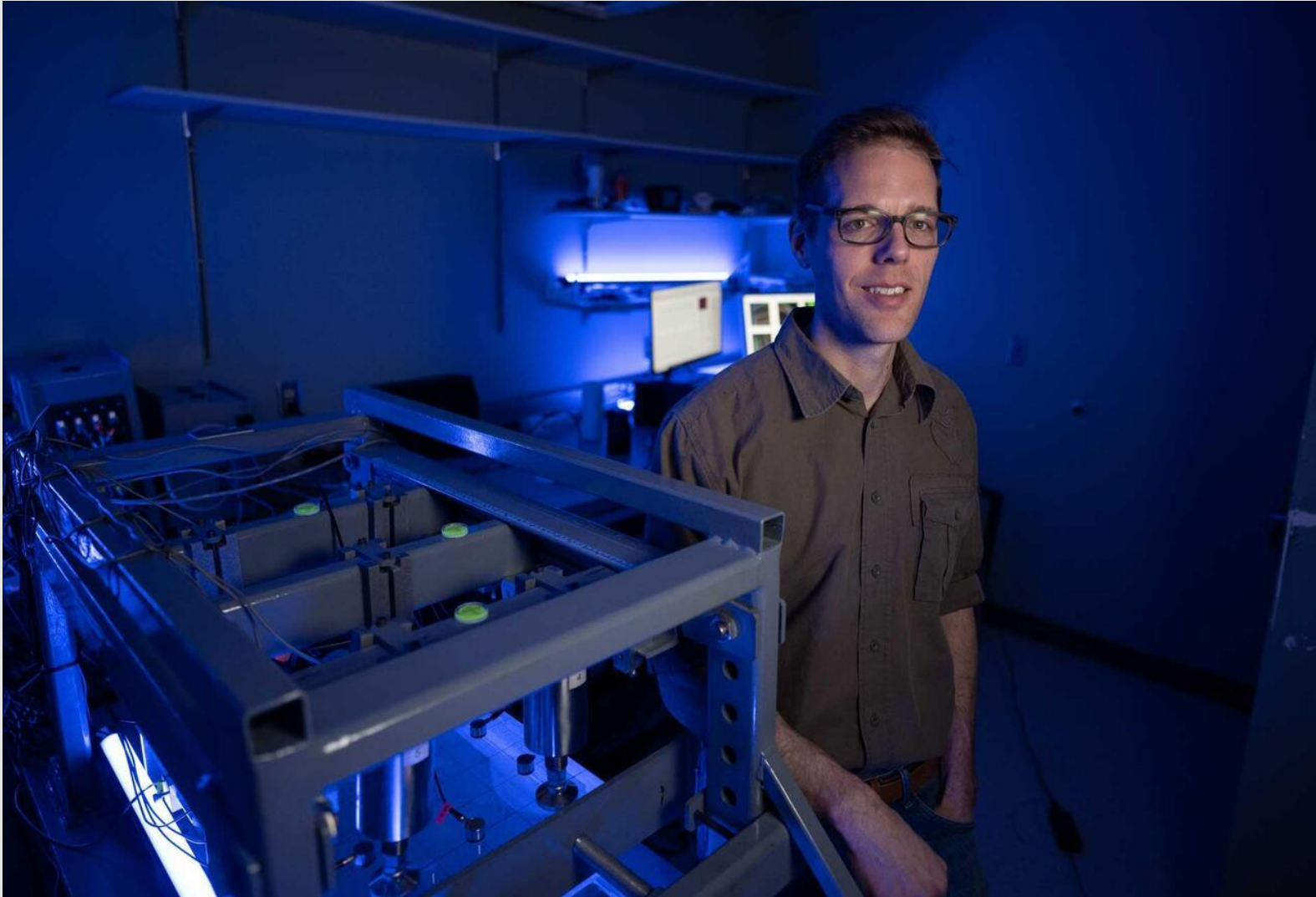
NEWSLETTER



UofM Researcher Dr. Kevin Berisso Secured \$1.2M to Advance Commercial Vehicle Safety

The grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation supports innovative tire monitoring technology to improve roadway safety, fuel efficiency, and fleet performance nationwide.

[Read Full Story](#)



Dr. Thomas Goebel Selected for Prestigious Fulbright Award to El Salvador

The international scholarship recognizes leadership, academic excellence and global engagement and will support technical assistance, education and outreach initiatives in volcanically active regions.

[Read Full Story](#)



CCRE Launches CLEAR Initiative to Support Shelby County Criminal Justice Data Tracking

Center for Community Research and Evaluation is launching a new research unit focused on improving the transparency, accessibility and usability of Shelby County's criminal justice data by integrating data from five county agencies to better track case outcomes.

[Read Full Story](#)



School of Public Health and the Canada International Scientific Exchange Program

Programs signed a Memorandum of Understanding to advance public health diplomacy, education and global collaboration as well as expand experiential learning, research and international engagement.

[**Read Full Story**](#)



National Earthquake Monitoring Leaders to Convene at the University of Memphis

Annual Advanced National Seismic System meeting highlights CERl's national leadership in earthquake research and hazard mitigation.

[Read Full Story](#)



FedEx Institute of Technology Launches AI Immersive Training Program

This one-day experience focusing on fundamentals will equip professionals with the knowledge, tools and confidence to navigate the AI-driven future.

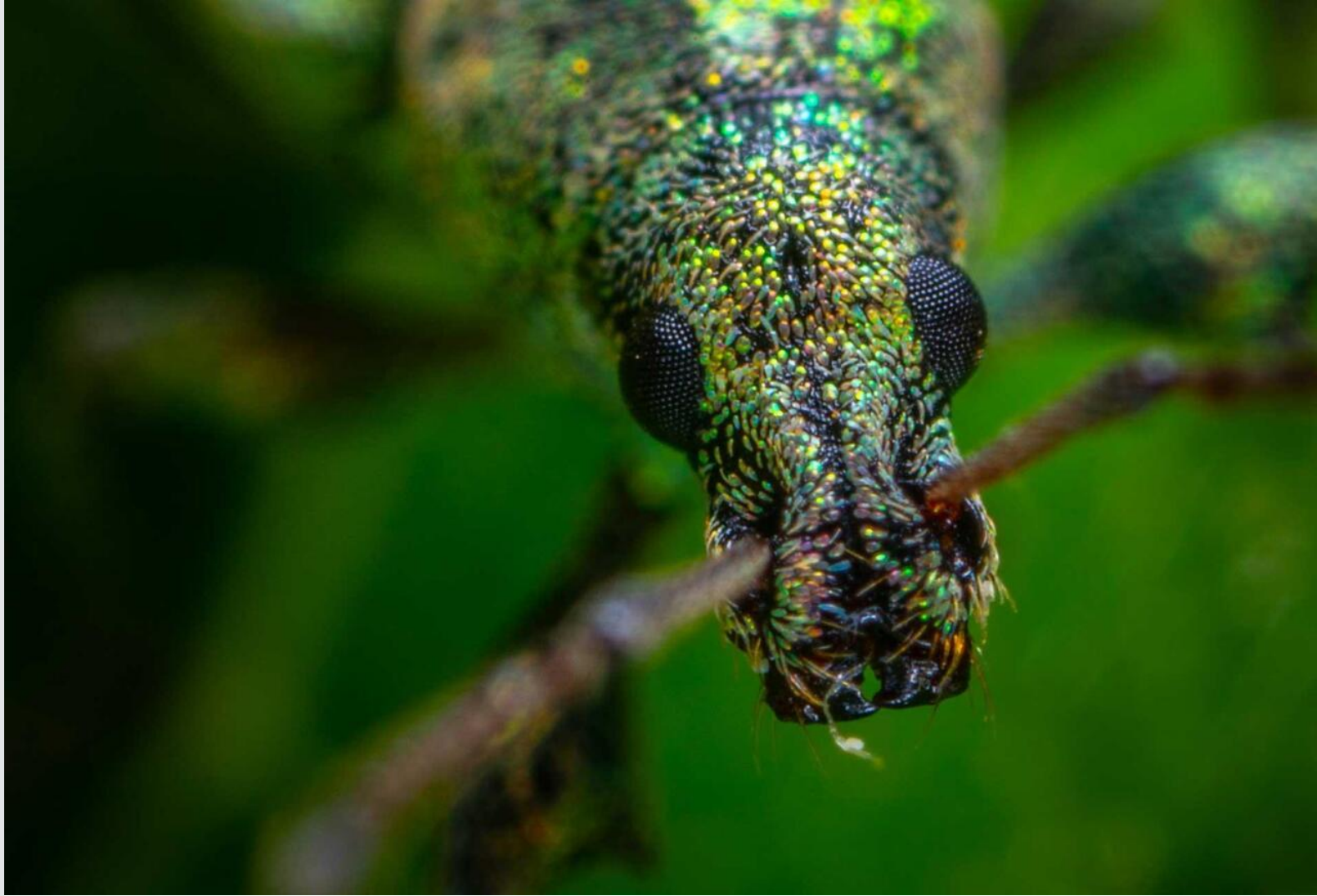
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FLEET Center Convenes Industry Leaders at Indianapolis Motor Speedway for Tech Forum

NSF-funded research center advances innovation in freight, logistics, automation and heavy-vehicle technologies

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University of Memphis Researchers Uncover Ancient Origins of Insect Smell

NSF-funded study reveals how insects evolved the genetic toolkit behind one of nature's most important sensory systems.

[Read Full Story](#)



ARPA-H, FEMA, Department of Education, NSF, SAMHSA and USDA

Learn more about recently published funding opportunities and notices from various organizations.

[See Full List](#)



Calendar of Events and Activities for Research and Innovation: June

Learn about upcoming events with Research and Innovation, the UMRF Research Park and the FedEx Institute of Technology.

[See Full List](#)

Research Awards May

Dr. James Whelan received \$4,381,335 from the Tennessee Department of Health and Substance Abuse Services.

Dr. Rachel Diner received \$506,270 from the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Thomas Sutter received \$365,000 from the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Brian Waldron received \$170,000 from the Tennessee Department of Agriculture.

Dr. Brandon Booth received \$130,075 from the Office of Naval Research.

Dr. Chrisann Schiro-Geist received \$124,394 from the Tennessee Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

Dr. Marian Levy received \$75,000 from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Dr. Ranganathan Gopalakrishnan received \$50,000 from the National Science Foundation.

Dr. Yufeng Zhang received \$50,000 from the National Science Foundation.

Dr. Ashish Joshi received \$25,387 from the Tennessee Department of Health.

Dr. Stephen Zanskas received \$21,508 from the state of Tennessee.

**Data reported on the 18 of each month. Awards finalized after the 18 will be reported the following month.*

[Full project and award details available here.](#)

Upcoming Events and Announcements



UMRF Research Park **DevMemphis: A Meetup for Memphis Software Developers**

Ansible for PHP Developers: Configure, Deploy and Update Your Server Infrastructure

Most PHP developers learn server administration the hard way: SSHing into a box, editing config files by hand and hoping the next deploy doesn't break what the last one fixed. This workshop introduces Ansible as the way out — not as a checklist of commands to copy, but as a set of concepts (declarative state, idempotency, inventory, roles) that lets attendees author their own infrastructure code. Starting from zero Ansible experience, we build up the mental model: control nodes and managed nodes, modules and tasks, then roles and playbooks. From there we work through a realistic example — provisioning a server for a PHP application, deploying the app and performing a zero-downtime update

using release directories and a `current` symlink. Attendees follow along on their own machines and leave with the concepts and working examples needed to write playbooks for their own stacks.

Come learn, share, hang out and eat pizza with Memphis software developers. This is a free event open to anyone interested in attending.

Wednesday, June 3 | 6-8 PM
UMRF Research Park | 460 Highland Ave.

[Register](#)



FedEx Institute of Technology
MEMSEC - DEFCON901
Memphis InfoSec #32

Software supply chains are one of the most targeted attack surfaces in modern development. In this session, [Saeed Fazal](#) walks through how Software Bill of Materials (SBOM) and DevSecOps practices give security teams real visibility and control over their software supply chain before an incident, not after. Practical takeaways for all skill levels.

This meetup is FREE and open to the public with Garibaldi's pizza!

Friday, June 5 | 5-7 PM
FedEx Institute of Technology | Innovation Classroom (225)

[Register](#)



FedEx Institute of Technology **Memphis Data Professionals** Microsoft Fabric Foundations — Part 1 of 3

Join us for the first session in a three-part Microsoft Fabric series designed to help professionals build a practical foundation in Fabric from the ground up.

This first session, led by Richard Adams, will focus on the core foundations of Microsoft Fabric, including what it is, how it is structured and how to think about setting it up the right way.

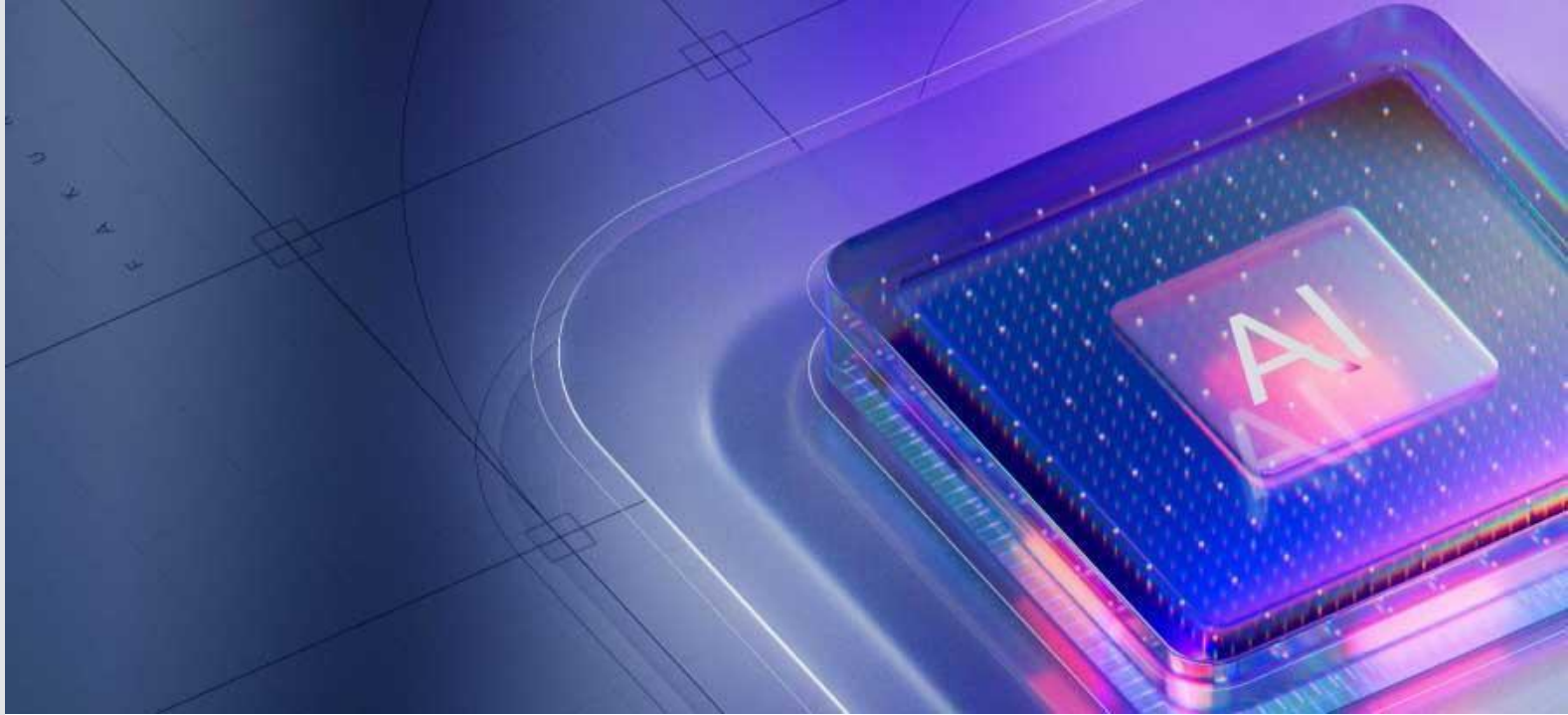
Microsoft Fabric brings together data engineering, data integration, warehousing, analytics, Power BI and AI-ready data architecture in one connected environment. This series is built for people who want to understand not just the theory, but how Fabric can actually be used in real organizations.

This will be a practical and approachable session for professionals in accounting, finance, operations, IT, analytics and anyone interested in building stronger data foundations with Microsoft Fabric.

Come ready to learn, ask questions and connect with others interested in data, analytics and the Microsoft ecosystem.

Tuesday, June 16 | 5:30-7 PM
FedEx Institute of Technology | Innovation Classroom (225)

Register



FedEx Institute of Technology **AI Fundamentals Immersive**

Artificial Intelligence is changing how we work, lead, communicate and make decisions. Whether you're exploring AI for yourself or preparing your organization for adoption, the AI Fundamentals Immersive course is designed to help you understand the foundations of AI and apply them with confidence.

Hosted by the FedEx Institute of Technology and led by leading researchers and practitioners, this one-day immersive training experience provides practical, accessible AI education for professionals at every level.

Participants will leave with:

- A foundational understanding of AI concepts and terminology
- Practical tools and techniques for responsible AI use
- Hands-on experience applying AI tools to real-world tasks
- Frameworks for organizational readiness and adoption
- An "AI Learner's Permit" recognizing completion of the training

Thursday, June 25 | 9 AM-4 PM
FedEx Institute of Technology | The Zone, Lobby, Fishbowl

Register



Office of Technology Transfer **Demo Day**

Join the Office of Technology Transfer for Demo Day. Meet six emerging UofM spinout companies commercializing breakthrough technologies in biotech, healthcare, AI, energy and advanced technologies. Hear directly from founders, explore investment opportunities and connect with innovators shaping the future of university research commercialization.

Wednesday, July 8 | 2-4 PM
FedEx Institute of Technology | Fishbowl (203/205)

[Register](#)



CITI Program Training Now Available in "myMemphis" Portal

The University of Memphis CITI Program training is now available in "myMemphis" portal. All researchers (including graduate and undergraduate students) will now have easy access to their CITI training. Once you click on the CITI training tile, it will take you straight to your current CITI training course.

If you have any questions, contact Research Compliance at researchcompliance@memphis.edu.



Research Study

Participation Opportunities

Research study participation opportunities should be posted to the main college/departmental website versus individual/PI links to appear in This Week.

- [Center for Information Assurance >](#)
- [Cognition, Language and Speech Lab \(CLaSLab\) >](#)
- [College of Health Sciences >](#)
- [Department of Psychology >](#)
- [Familiarity Study >](#)
- [Hearing Aid Research Laboratory >](#)
- [Pediatric Auditory Research Laboratory >](#)

If your department or college would like to have its research study participation opportunities listed, email thisweek@memphis.edu.

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