HUMAN[X]

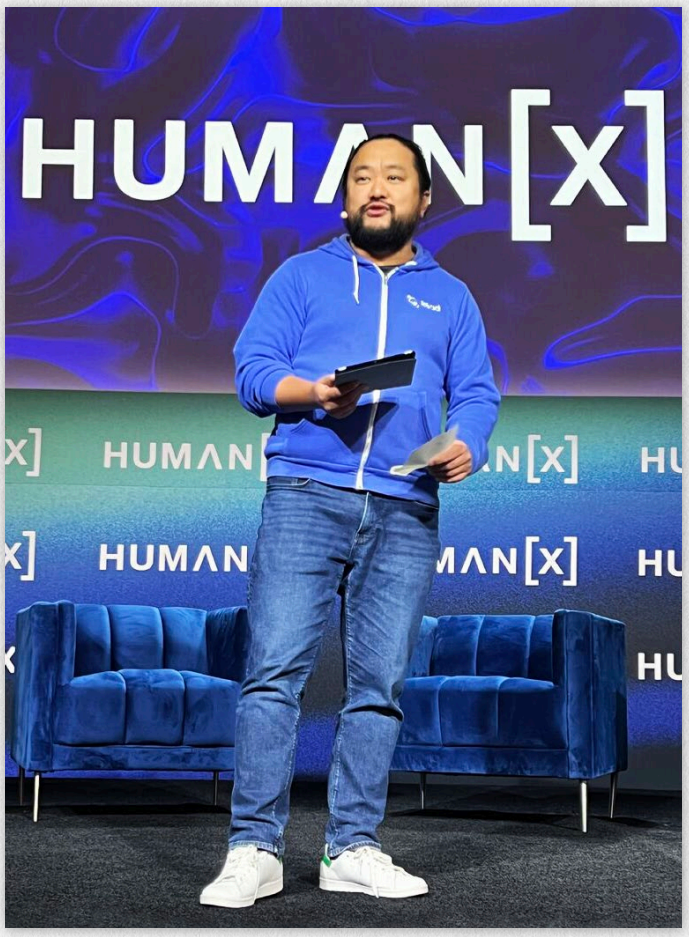
THE STATE OF AI: Lessons from HumanX 2025

Read the official conference copilot of HumanX

THE STATE OF AI

Edited by: Stefan Weitz, CEO of HumanX, with David Shim, Co-Founder and CEO of Read AI

Stefan Weitz, *HumanX*



David Shim, *Read AI*

While there were many diverse AI-related topics discussed at the inaugural HumanX conference, three particular themes emerged as the most prevalent among speakers and attendees. These themes, which we detail below, provide a summation of the top industry insights, trends, and forecasts provided by the subject matter experts of HumanX.

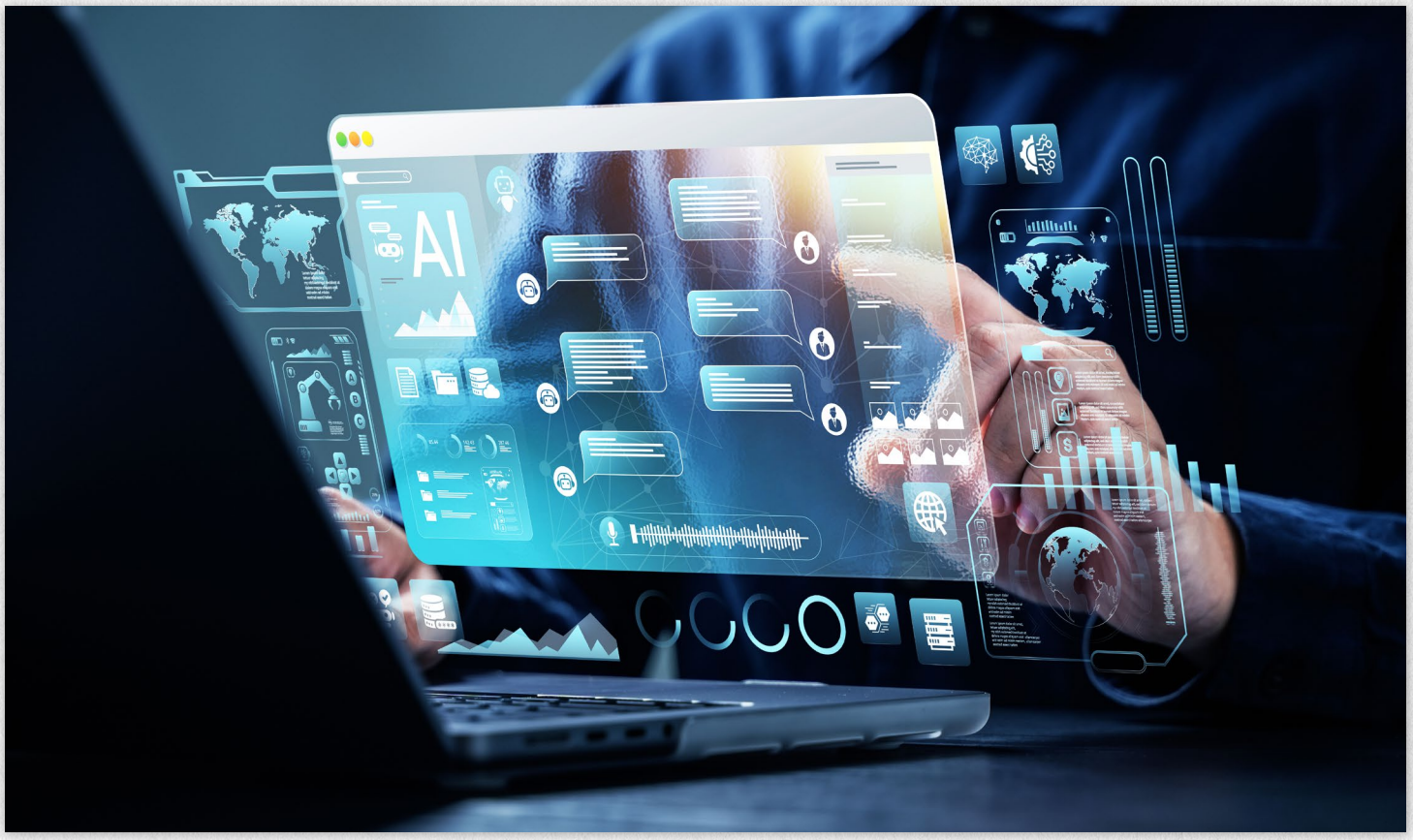
What follows is a detailed report of major talking points throughout the conference, as gathered and provided by Read AI.

1 HUMANX 2025 CONFIRMS ERA OF AGENTIC AI

- The overwhelming dominance of the words "agents" and "agentic" (over 1,000 combined mentions across all stage sessions at HumanX) demonstrates how the industry has moved beyond foundational models to autonomous systems.

- With nearly 6 mentions per session of agent-related terminology, this isn't just a buzzword–but rather, the central focus of innovation as it stands today.

- As we move toward 2026, we will see agentic AI moving beyond experimental phases toward practical implementation across industries. While 2025 has been called "the year of agents," by 2026 we'll see more reliable, specialized agents handling increasingly complex workflows.



2 ARTIFICIAL GENERAL INTELLIGENCE: FROM THEORY TO REALITY

- While artificial general intelligence (AGI) remained a significant focus at HumanX 2025 with 744 total mentions (4.28 mentions per session), the data reveals a notable shift from philosophical speculation toward practical implementation strategies and real-world applications.

- While some debate whether AGI will ever fully materialize, the focus has shifted to building systems that augment human capabilities rather than replace them. This pragmatic approach emphasizes creating value through specialized AI applications rather than pursuing AGI as an end goal.

3 OPEN SOURCE AI EMERGES AS KEY PLAYER

- Combined mentions of “open source” (285) highlight growing industry discussions between traditional, proprietary approaches, and more collaborative, open models, signaling a major paradigm shift for the industry.

- Data shows open source is no longer an exclusive approach adopted by few, but is central to strategic conversations within the AI industry.

- This was more than likely influenced by DeepSeek’s arrival on the market, whose open-source model achieved competitive performance with proprietary systems at significantly lower deployment costs.

- DeepSeek’s 129 mentions outpaced established player Anthropic (86), representing a significant shift in industry attention. However, OpenAI is still on top with 224 overall mentions (1.29 mentions per session).

The top 3 LLM companies mentioned by HumanX speakers were:	
OpenAI	**224** overall mentions / **1.29** mentions per session
deepseek	**129** overall mentions / **0.74** mentions per session
ANTHROP\C	**86** overall mentions / **0.49** mentions per session

OBSERVATIONS FROM HUMANX 2025

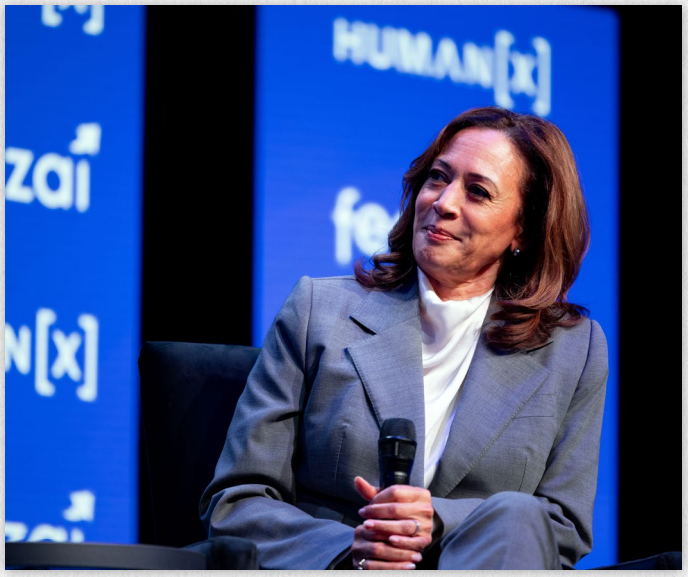
Trust as the Foundation for AI Adoption

Trust–now more than ever–is critical to the future of AI. Vice President Kamala Harris noted that 70% of Americans distrust AI due to misinformation concerns and job security fears.

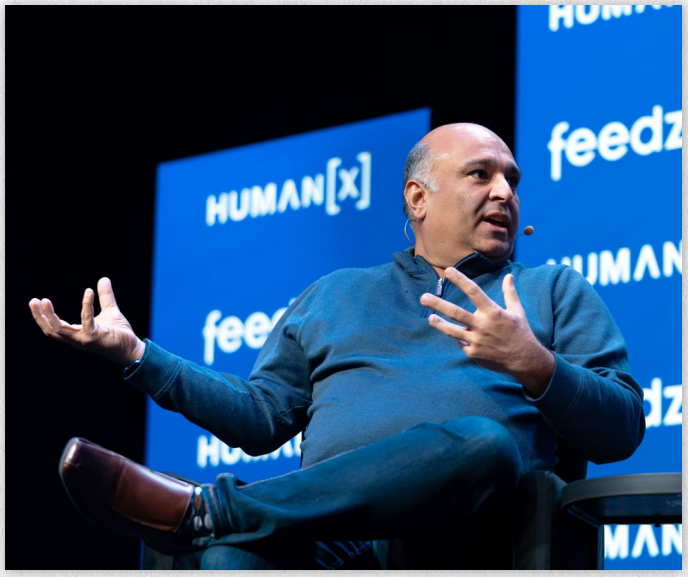
To mitigate this, Rayid Ghani, Professor at Carnegie Mellon, advocated for user-centered approaches that prioritize impacted communities over corporate interests. This was reiterated by Nuno Sebastião (Co-Founder, CEO, and Chairman of Feedzai), who reinforced the sentiment by stating "people over profits."

Likewise, Sarah Franklin (CEO of Lattice) asserted that trust is becoming the "anchor tenant of the AI economy" as organizations navigate the difference between automation and autonomy. The critical question then becomes whether users can trust AI to act autonomously on their behalf, requiring leaders to build trust as AI systems make decisions without guaranteed certainty.

The throughline: tech companies must prioritize responsibility alongside innovation.



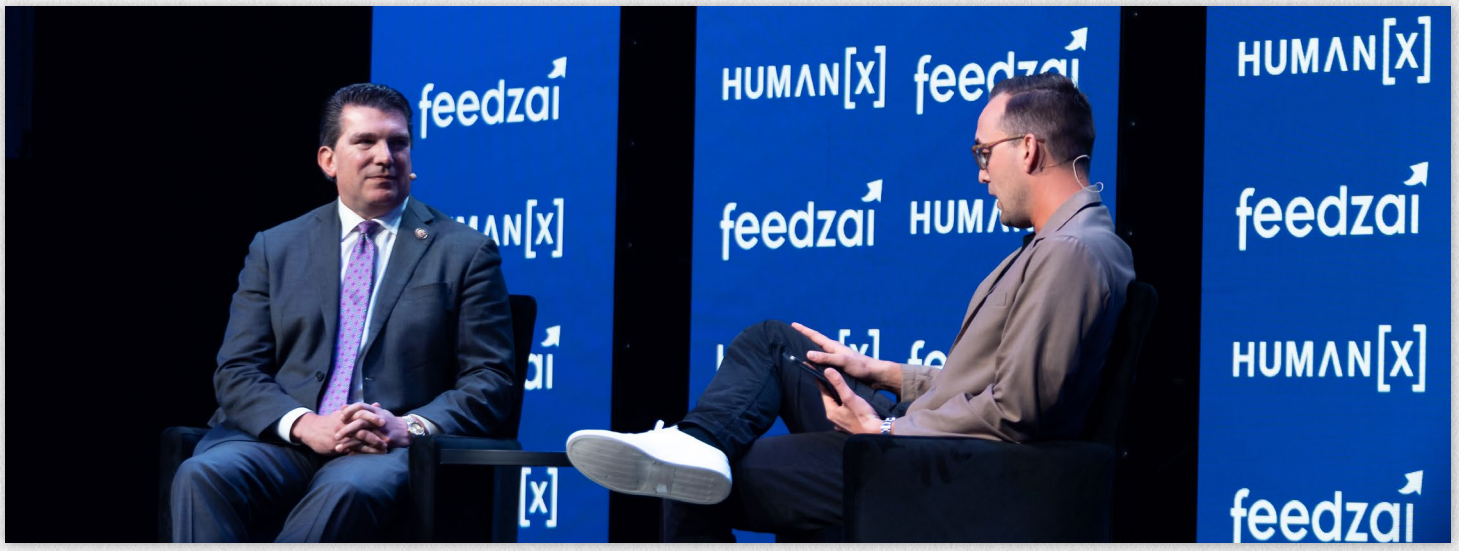
Kamala Harris, *49th Vice President of the U.S.*



Rayid Ghani, *Professor at Carnegie Mellon*

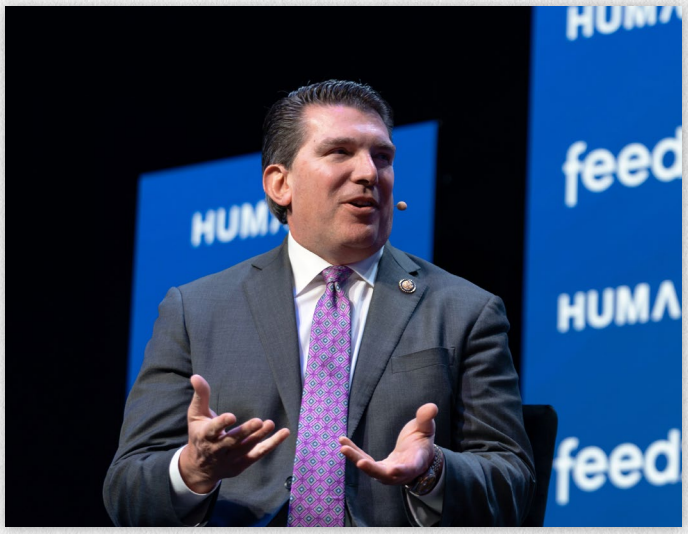
AI Regulation and Governance

As AI gains autonomy, trust and governance become essential. Swami Sivasubramanian of AWS emphasized implementing responsible AI with guardrails, highlighting **PwC's integration of automated reasoning in their Maestro platform** to meet regulatory requirements.



Representative Jay Obernolte emphasized a sectoral approach to AI regulation, advocating for empowering existing regulators rather than creating new bureaucracies. Both he and VP Harris highlighted the need for international rules and norms.

Swami Sivasubramanian, *AWS*



Jay Obernolte, *Task Force on AI*

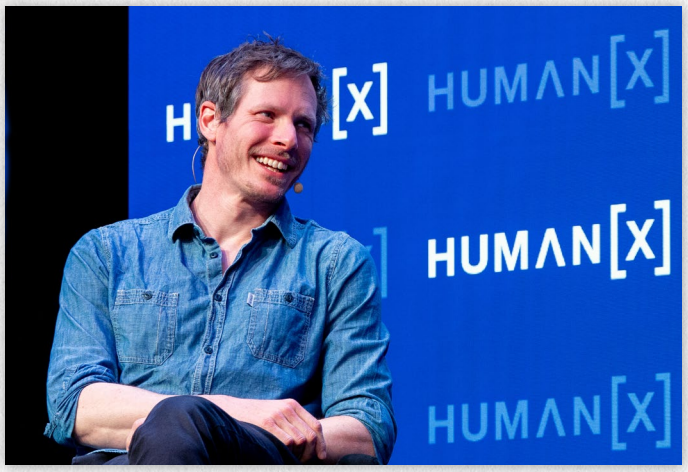
The Next Technological Revolution

Thomas Wolf predicted that humans will become increasingly dependent on AI for daily tasks, similar to how we've become reliant on internet connectivity. He suggested that just as we've forgotten how to navigate without smartphones, future generations won't remember a time before fully autonomous vehicles.

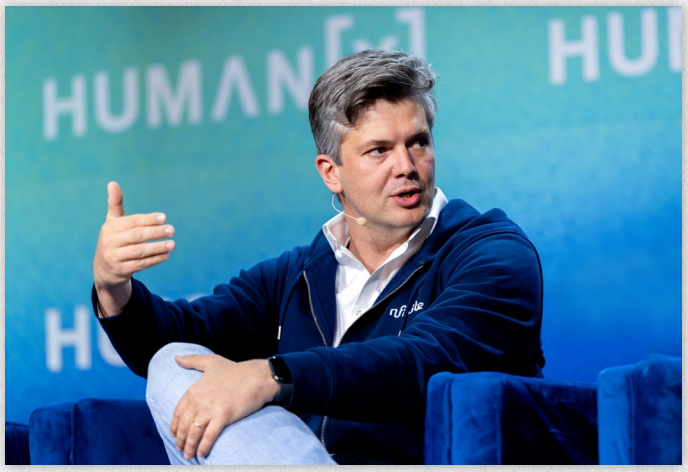
David Shim, CEO of Read AI, explained that "Current AI systems miss crucial context by ignoring human reactions. The next technical revolution will be about creating a 'narration layer' that captures real human behavior—smiling, nodding, quick response times—fundamentally changing how AI interprets human interactions." These insights are already integrated into the Read AI platform for more accurate outcomes.

Sridhar Ramaswamy, CEO of Snowflake, emphasized that the real value of AI lies in making the technology so seamless that people use it without thinking, comparing this transformation to how mobile phones revolutionized computing access for billions worldwide.

Similarly, Debanjan Saha (CEO of DataRobot) predicted that AI will "seep into pretty much everything," like the evolution of the internet. Alexandre de Vigan, Founder and CEO of Nfinite, described the current AI landscape as a "massive revolution" while Rahul Ponnala (Co-Founder and CEO of Granica) forecasted significant value accruing in physical infrastructure, objects using AI, community connections, and data management.



Thomas Wolf, *Hugging Face*



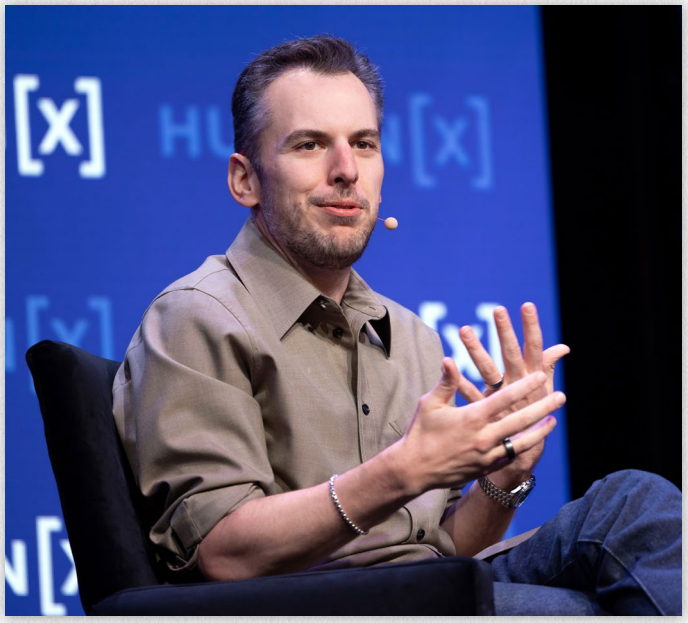
Alexandre de Vigan, *Nfinite*

Artificial General Intelligence as a Productivity Enhancer

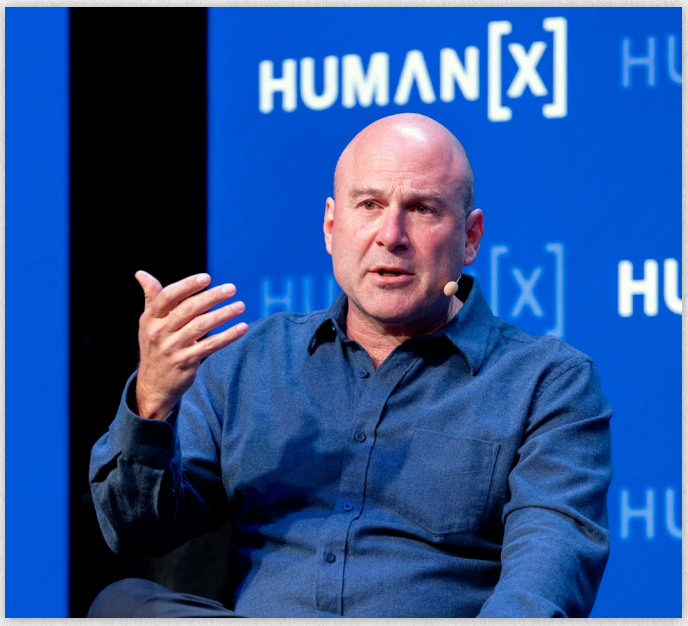
Congressman Obernolte challenged the notion of imminent artificial general intelligence, arguing that current AI lacks higher-order understanding, reasoning, and symbolic structures. He described today's AI as "a stochastic parrot" predicting the next word without true comprehension or agency. Simultaneously, Congressman Obernolte predicted AI "will be the single best tool that mankind has ever invented for enhancing human productivity," a sentiment mirrored by nearly all speakers at the HumanX conference.

For instance, Mike Krieger (CPO of Anthropic) predicted that we'll see "autonomy and cloud moonshots" where AI models independently make novel discoveries in fields currently limited by human exploration speed. This represents a fundamental shift from reactive AI to systems capable of advancing human knowledge.

Along the lines of human/machine relationships, Sean White (CEO of Inflection AI) suggested designing AI as "tools to help people, tools to augment people." Similarly, Nikola Mrksic, Co-Founder and CEO of PolyAI, noted that AI empowers workers by handling mundane tasks, allowing them to focus on complex problems requiring empathy and expertise.



Mike Krieger, *Anthropic*



Sean White, *Inflection AI*

The Rise of Agentic AI

Agentic AI was the talk of the town at HumanX. Swami Sivasubramanian, VP of Agentic AI at AWS, highlighted how agents like Alexa Plus can take proactive actions, while Sridhar Ramaswamy (CEO of Snowflake) insisted that agentic AI will become commonplace in everyday tasks, from information workflows to complex underwriting processes.

Swami Sivasubramanian cited Gartner's claim that over a third of all enterprise applications will be AI or agentic AI-powered by 2028, with at least 15% of enterprise decisions becoming autonomous through AI agents. And Miranda Nash (Group VP at Oracle AI) claimed that AI agents enable 24/7 productivity without any human presence. These systems will handle tasks like creating sales forecasts, onboarding employees, and managing returns while humans are offline, dramatically increasing organizational efficiency and transforming traditional work patterns.

This aligns with observations across sessions that AI is transforming workplace dynamics, creating a new paradigm where humans direct rather than perform tasks. This shift represents a fundamental transformation in how organizational systems operate, potentially revolutionizing industries through these anticipatory capabilities.

1/3 of all enterprise applications will be AI or agentic AI-powered by 2028

15% of all enterprise decisions will be autonomous through AI agents by 2028

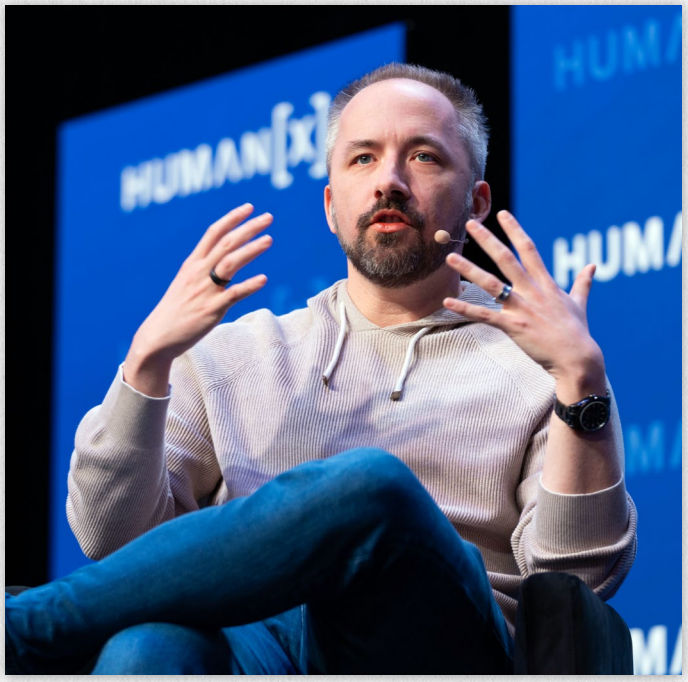
This shift will lead to a **30%** reduction in operational costs

Workforce Transformation and Skills Development

Despite current disruption, Congressman Jay Obernolte stated that he thinks AI will ultimately generate more employment opportunities than it eliminates. He cited historical precedents of technological innovation and envisioned new job categories emerging, such as personalized content creation, that couldn't be conceived before the technology existed. Similarly, Drew Houston, Co-Founder & CEO of Dropbox, suggested that AI will give employees back 5-15 hours weekly to focus on higher-value tasks within their organizations.

Thomas Wolf predicted that within the next decade, smaller work teams will accomplish increasingly significant achievements through AI tools. This democratization will enable small companies to compete with larger organizations by leveraging AI for coding, marketing, design, and communication.

CEO of Zensai, Rasmus Holst, predicted a future where young entrepreneurs can launch businesses in just a week, leveraging AI to dramatically accelerate the startup process. This democratization of entrepreneurship, he argued, will transform how new ventures are created and scaled.



Drew Houston, *Dropbox*

Rasmus Holst, *Zensai*

AI's Impact on Healthcare Transformation

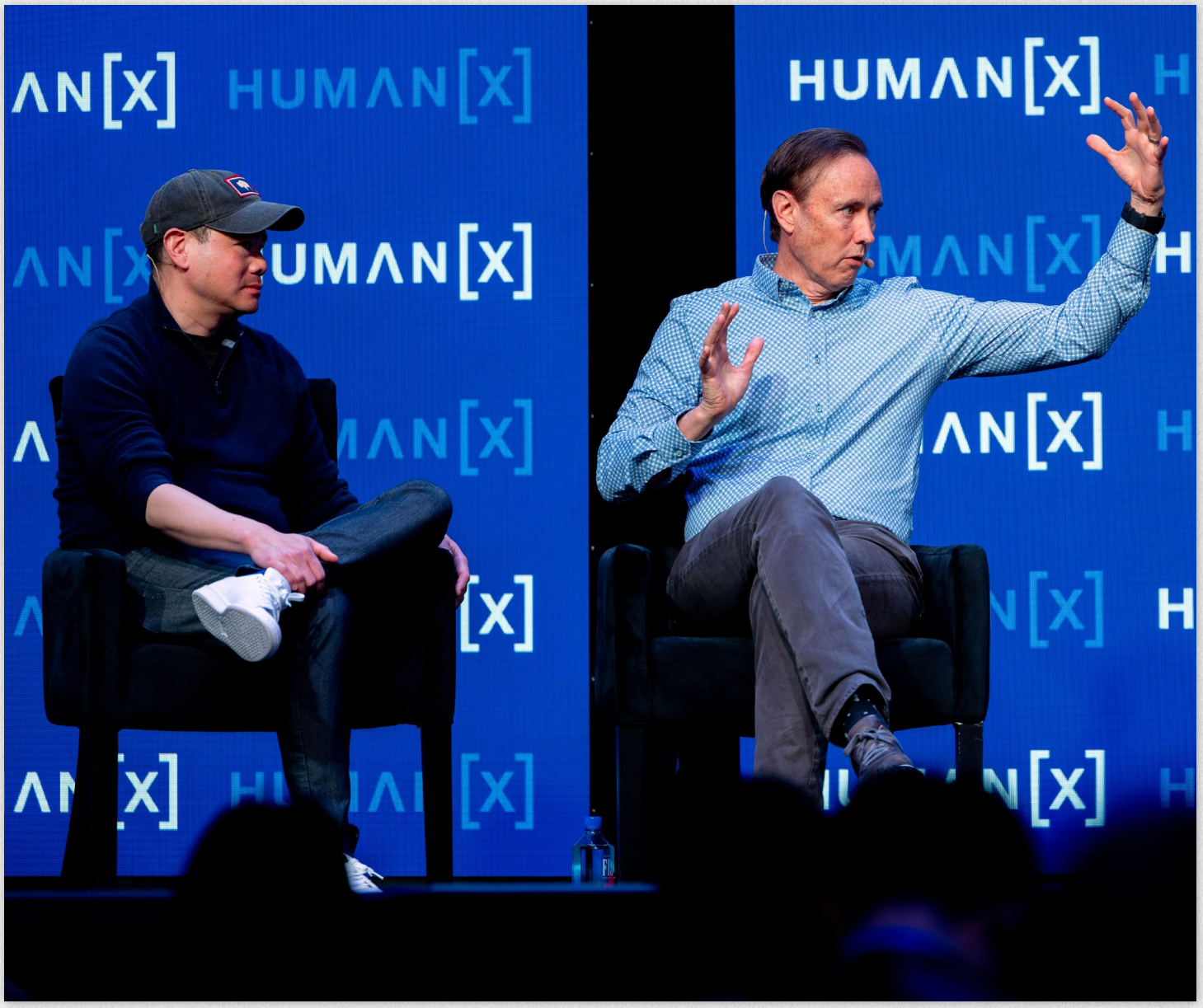
It is predicted that AI will revolutionize healthcare through personalized medicine and improved outcomes. Lynda Chin, Founder and CEO of Apricity Health, described a new generation of healthcare providers with "agentic AI behind them," while Nassib Chamoun, President, Founder, and CEO of the HDAI (Health Data Analytics Institute) noted that healthcare productivity has been flat for 30 years, making AI adoption "existential."

Kevin Weil, CPO of OpenAI, described AI as accelerating scientific progress by finding intersections between fields and speeding research by a factor of 10 in some cases. Ian Sigalow (Co-Founder and Managing Partner at Greycroft) forecasted that AI's ability to interpret DNA sequences will accelerate genetic research, fundamentally changing biotech into a software-driven industry within the next five years. This represents a paradigm shift similar to how language models revolutionized text processing.

Kevin Weil, *OpenAI*

Data Capital and Economic Impact

Data will become a critical economic asset in the AI era. Rahul Ponnala predicted "massive value" will accrue around data collection, curation, and security, potentially leading to "data capital." Building on this, Steve Jurvetson (Founder and Managing Director of Future Ventures) warned that this notion may "further accelerate the rich-poor gap" despite creating abundance, while Wesley Chan (Co-Founder and Managing Partner) of FPV Ventures compared AI's disruption to the Industrial Revolution's impact on labor markets.

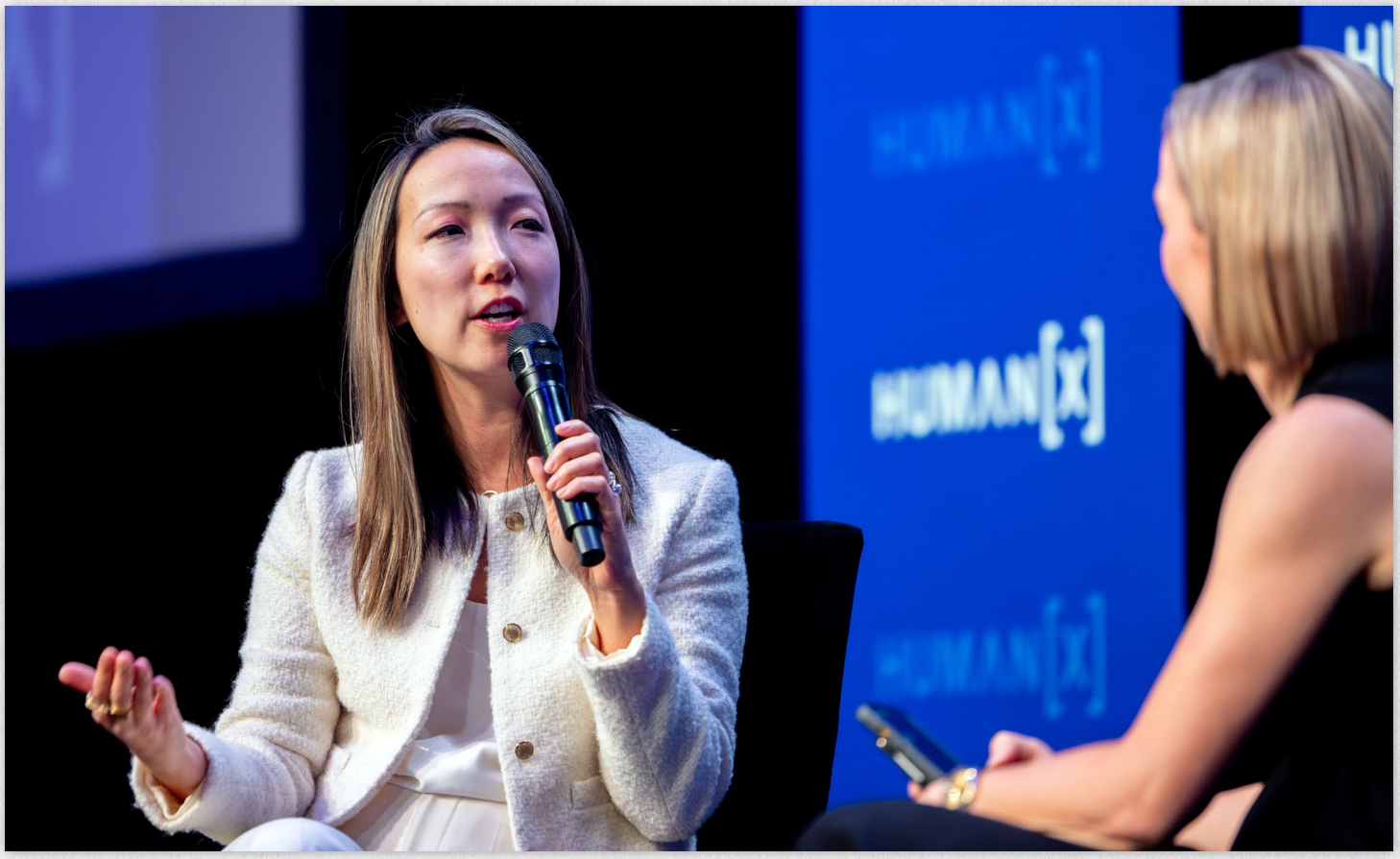


Wesley Chan, *FPV Ventures* | **Steve Jurvetson,** *Future Ventures*

Humanization and Personalization in the AI Age

David Shim of Read AI made the point that personalization is key, and winning companies are focused on building personalized models rather than global optimization models. But when real human behavior is not available, speakers argue we will turn to synthetic data, with Jen Rapp, CMO at Superside, introducing the concept. By testing brand messaging on thousands of synthetic, AI-generated personas, marketers can better observe how different demographic cohorts react to messaging and prioritize campaign elements accordingly.

Additionally, Clara Shih, Head of Business AI at Meta, predicted that AI will create incredibly hyper-personalized shopping experiences where consumers can upload photos of themselves to see exactly how products will look on them. This technology will transform beauty and fashion retail by showing customers precisely how products will appear on their unique features.



Clara Shih, *Meta*

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HumanX 2025 confirmed that AI is no longer on the horizon—it's here, reshaping industries in real time. From the rise of agentic systems and pragmatic AGI discussions to the mainstreaming of open-source models and urgent calls for trust, governance, and workforce readiness, the conversations at HumanX were anything but hypothetical.

What emerged was a portrait of an industry at a pivotal inflection point: moving from potential to implementation. As AI becomes more autonomous, personalized, and embedded into our daily systems, HumanX is where the critical debates are taking place—and where the next era of innovation is being shaped.

Attendees can access full session summaries and transcripts through **Read.ai**.