TRAILS
Trustworthy AI in Law & Society

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS
TRAILSCon 2027

Agency and Agentic AI

Building Trust Through Research and Practice

March 3–4, 2027 | George Washington University

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: November 20, 2026 **Submit Proposal**

TRAILS is now accepting proposals for interactive breakout sessions at TRAILSCon 2027, Agency and Agentic AI: Building Trust Through Research and Practice. We are looking for sessions that pair rigorous interdisciplinary research with lessons from practice. Proposals on AI's impact on law and society beyond the theme are also welcome. We welcome proposals from researchers and practitioners in academia, government, law, industry, and civil society.

Agency refers to the ability of people and institutions to understand, choose, and control how AI affects them. That ability is being tested as "agentic" AI systems increasingly act on our behalf by making decisions, negotiating, purchasing, and searching for information. What happens to human agency when we delegate to machines? Who becomes accountable, whose voice shapes adoption, and how do people make sense of systems that act faster than they can follow?

All breakout sessions will be hosted on March 4, 2027, at GW's University Student Center in Washington, DC. Sessions will be 60 minutes long with an audience size of 16–30 attendees. All speakers must be on-site for their session.

Speakers will receive complimentary registration to TRAILSCon 2027 and are responsible for their own travel expenses.

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Audiences

Each session should serve researchers and at least one of the following audiences:

1. Federal policymakers and standards bodies
2. State and local governments
3. Courts and the legal profession
4. AI evaluators and auditors
5. Organizations building or adopting AI
6. AI users and the public

Session Topics

The topics below illustrate the range we hope to explore at TRAILSCon 2027 and serve as starting points. We welcome proposals that address one or more of these topics or related questions:

Copyright and Provenance of Data and Content

- *Copyright law and litigation involving AI-generated content and AI training data*
- *Watermarking, detection, and other provenance tools*
- *Cross-border data governance*

Trust Measurement

- *Measuring trust in AI systems and agents*
- *Testing and evidence for AI governance*
- *Trust and accountability in AI procurement*
- *Organizational oversight of AI systems and agents*

Voice in AI Adoption and Governance

- *Weighing costs and benefits of AI adoption*
- *Worker participation in AI deployment*
- *AI governance at the federal, state, and local levels*
- *Delegation, accountability, and liability*

Gist-Based Sensemaking

- *How AI users make sense of AI outputs and risks*
- *AI disclosure and risk communication*
- *Agentic AI and consumer protection*

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Session Formats

All sessions must be interactive or participatory. Suggested formats include facilitated roundtables, case study deep dives, and mini-workshops. Sessions must have at least two presenters who work in different sectors (e.g., academia and government).

Selection Criteria

- Fit with the conference theme or broader TRAILS mission
- Relevance to one or more of the audiences listed above
- Connection between research or evidence and real-world practice, with clear takeaways for attendees
- Diversity of sectors, disciplines, and perspectives among speakers
- Use of interactive or participatory formats
- Clarity and quality of the proposed session description

Proposals that primarily promote a product, service, or organization will not be considered.

Submit a Proposal

Complete the online CFP submission form before **11:59 p.m. ET on November 20, 2026**. Early submissions are strongly encouraged. Applicants will be notified of decisions by December 11, 2026.

About TRAILS

The Institute for Trustworthy AI in Law & Society (TRAILS) is a research institute funded by the National Science Foundation and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Led by the University of Maryland with George Washington University, Morgan State University, and Cornell University, TRAILS studies how to make AI more trustworthy and how to give the people it affects a voice in how it is used. Our research spans copyright and content provenance, trust measurement, voice in AI adoption and governance, and sensemaking around AI.
Learn more at https://www.trails.umd.edu/.

University of Maryland · The George Washington University, Washington, DC · Morgan State University · Cornell University