

PRODUCT CONFERENCE'26 BROCHURE

PRODUCT EVERYWHERE
SEE IT. SHAPE IT. SHIP IT.



Northeastern
University



APMC
Aspiring Product Managers Club

Our Sponsor



Event Partners



Location

West Village F & West
Village G, Northeastern
University

Sunday

15th March

Time

8 AM – 7 PM

Agenda

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

08:00AM-09:00AM
West Village F020

Registration & Breakfast

09:00AM-09:10AM
West Village F020

Opening Remarks

09:10AM-09:45 AM
West Village F020

Keynote Session

Product is a Mindset, Not a title:
By Liat Berry (Google)

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

ACT1 – SEE IT: Vision, Discovery & Opportunity

10:05AM-10:55AM
West Village F020

Panel Discussion

How Great PM's Find Problems Worth Solving

Pallavi Razdan (Koch Industries), Lisie Lillanfeld (Google), Federico Lucifredi (IBM), Aravindh Krishnan (Fidelity Investments) Iris Naimark (GrubHub)

10:05AM-10:55AM
West Village WVG 104

Panel Discussion

Product Beyond Software: Building Where There's No Playbook

Hakan Sonmez (IBM), Heena Mordani (Shark Ninja), Tran Pham (Cengage), Ila Lama (Beacon Communities), Tima Iqbal (Shark Ninja), Ashish Bhatia (Audible)

10:05AM-10:55AM
West Village WVG 106

Individual Session: Fireside Chat

Your Customer Doesn't Care About AI

Tim Howd (Doordash)

Agenda

11:10 AM - 12:10 PM

ACT 2 – SHAPE IT: Strategy, Systems & Execution

11:10 AM - 12:10 PM

West Village F020

Panel Discussion

AI That Ships: Moving Past Demos to Products People Actually Use

Devon Tietjen (Eden), Liat Berry (Google), Rajesh Lingam (Adobe), Vijayalakshmi Narasimhan (eBay), Shruti Jain Lynch (Dell), Ashish Bhatia (Audible), Arihant Jain (TikTok), Peter Mariner (Fidelity)

11:10 AM - 12:10 PM

West Village WVG 104

Panel Discussion

Building Trust as a PM in Complex Organizations

Hakan Sonmez (IBM), Federico Lucifredi (IBM), Aravindh Krishnan (Fidelity Investments), Anitha Nagaraju (Everquote), Luis Armenta (Red Hat)

11:10 AM - 12:10 PM

West Village WVG 106

Panel Discussion

Breaking into Product: Paths, Pivots, and What Actually Matters

Soumyaa Passari (Granite Technologies), Subash Rajaseelan (SiQl.ai), Tran Pham (Cengage), Ashwini Nagathan (FundCanna), Vijeta Sharma (Walmart) Pallavi Razdan (Koch Industries)

12:10 PM - 03:00 PM

12:10PM-01:10 PM

West Village F020

Lunch Break

Agenda

12:10 PM - 03:00 PM

ACT 2 – SHAPE IT: Strategy, Systems & Execution

01:10PM-03:00 PM

West Village F020

Protothon Finale

Top 5 teams, i.e., Team Cougars, The Iterators, Uexecute, Quaffle, NUmach, will present their prototype for the problem statement provided for 2 weeks of no-code hackathon

01:10PM-03:00 PM

West Village WVG 104

Ask Me Anything:

Real Talk on Building Your Career in Product

Subash Rajaseelan (SiQl.ai)

03:20 PM - 05:30 PM

ACT 3 – SHIP IT: Execution, Scale, Growth & Leadership

03:05PM-03:20PM

West Village F020

Panel Discussion

Women in Product: Leading, Building, and Shipping Without Boundaries

Lisie Lillanfeld (Google), Liat Berry (Google), Vicky Li Horst (Product Coach), Soumyaa Passari (Granite Technologies), Vijayalakshmi Narasimhan (eBay), Haley Hauptfeld (Optum)

03:20 PM - 04:30 PM

West Village WVG 104

Panel Discussion

Shipping Your Career: Navigating Growth, Pivots, and the Long Game

Shruti Jain Lynch (Dell Technologies), Tima Iqbal (Shark Ninja), Heena Mordani (Shark Ninja), Arihant Jain (TikTok), Anitha Nagaraju (Everquote)

Agenda

03:20 PM - 05:30 PM

ACT 3 – SHIP IT: Execution, Scale, Growth & Leadership

03:20 PM - 04:30 PM
West Village WVG 106

Panel Discussion

Retention Over Launch: Building Products People Come Back To

*Tim Howd (DoorDash), Bruno Germand (Instagram),
Vijeta Sharma (Walmart), Luis Armenta (Red Hat),
Rajesh Lingam (Adobe)*

03:20 PM - 04:30 PM
West Village F020

Protothon

Winners Announcement

04:45 PM - 05:30 PM
West Village F020

Closing Remarks

Devon Tietjen (Eden)

05:30 PM - 07:30 PM

05:30 PM - 07:30 PM
All locations

Networking Reception

*Open networking, speaker meet-and-greet,
informal conversations.*

 Meta



NETWORK WITH SPEAKERS FROM

Shark|NINJA

ebay

zoom



Walmart*



KOCH

Fidelity

audible

IBM

Adobe



workday

toast



JPMORGAN CHASE & Co.



Red Hat

Cengage



BEACON
communities

bill

DOORDASH



Red Hat

Granite

SigIQ.ai

Keynote Session



Aspiring Product
Managers Club

9:00 AM - 09:45 AM | West Village F020

Product is a Mindset, Not a Title

In this keynote, Liat Berry shows how product thinking goes far beyond job titles or software features. Drawing from her experience in chip design at Apple and Nvidia and her work with Google TPUs, she explains how hardware constraints limit every software capability. She encourages the audience to notice product decisions in everyday objects. Using the shift from Alexa to Gemini as an example, she highlights how product leaders adapt to changing technologies. The session ends with a simple challenge showing that product thinking already exists in daily problem-solving.

About the Speaker

Liat Berry, Senior Product Manager at Google, drives product innovation for Tensor Processing Units (TPUs), the AI accelerators powering large-scale machine learning systems like Gemini. Previously at Amazon and Apple, her work spans AI infrastructure, voice technologies, and hardware engineering from silicon to cloud.



By Liat Berry

Sr. Product Manager, Google

Panel Session



**Aspiring Product
Managers Club**

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM | West Village F020

How Great PMs Find Problems Worth Solving

In product management, the hardest challenge isn't building, it's deciding what deserves to be built. This panel explores how experienced product leaders cut through the noise of feature requests, stakeholder pressure, and industry hype to uncover the problems that truly matter.

Moderated by Pallavi Razdan, the discussion brings together perspectives from AI innovation, open-source infrastructure, financial platforms, and large-scale marketplaces. The panelists will share how they recognize meaningful signals, build conviction around problem statements, and align teams before a single line of code is written.

Because great PMs don't just ship features—they focus their teams on solving the right problems.

So the real question is:

How do you know when a problem is truly worth solving?

How do great PMs know which problems truly matter? What signals help them separate meaningful opportunities from noise? This panel explores how experienced product leaders identify, frame, and prioritize the problems that shape successful products.

Panel Speakers



Aspiring Product
Managers Club

How Great PMs Find Problems Worth Solving



Lisie Lillianfeld

Senior Product Manager, Google

At Google, Lisie leads generative AI experiences across Gboard and TalkBack, building products that blend creativity, accessibility, and AI. From launching AI-generated sticker experiences to developing Gemini-powered image descriptions for blind users.



Federico Lucifredi

Product Management Director, IBM

Federico Lucifredi, Product Management Director at IBM, leads IBM's Ceph Platform, the foundational technology powering fourteen enterprise-grade products, including Red Hat Ceph Storage and IBM Cloud Block Storage.



Aravindh Krishnan

Senior Manager Platform Product Management, Fidelity Investments

Aravindh brings a strong blend of product strategy, analytics, and platform thinking, currently focusing on solutions within Fidelity's Stock Plan Services and non-qualified deferred compensation products.

Panel Speakers



Aspiring Product
Managers Club

How Great PMs Find Problems Worth Solving



Iris Naimark

Senior Product Manager, GrubHub

Iris works on building digital product experiences within the fast-paced food delivery ecosystem. Before Grubhub, Iris was a Digital Product Manager at Panera Bread, where she led the overhaul of the catering eCommerce platform and drove feature enhancements to create a seamless digital ordering experience.



Pallavi Razdan (Moderator)

Senior Product Manager, Koch Industries

Pallavi leads cross-functional teams of product managers, designers, and engineers to scale multi-million-dollar SaaS platforms. Her work spans defining product strategy, driving execution, and mentoring emerging product and QA leaders—balancing long-term vision with practical delivery.

Panel Session



**Aspiring Product
Managers Club**

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM | West Village WVG104

Product Beyond Software: Building Where There's No Playbook

In the world of product management, not everything can be fixed with a quick patch or a software update. This panel explores what it means to build products when the stakes are physical, emotional, and long-lasting. Moderated by Hakan Sonmez, the discussion moves beyond traditional software playbooks to examine product development in hardware, education platforms, and complex systems.

Through experiences spanning robotics, beauty technology, learning platforms, and storytelling-driven systems, the panelists will share how product leaders approach decisions when there is no “undo” button. From managing trust in hardware products to designing experiences that shape daily rituals and navigating multi-stakeholder environments in education, the conversation highlights the unique challenges of building products that live in the real world.

As technology expands beyond apps and screens, the panel invites the audience to consider a bigger question: What does product management look like when what you build cannot simply be updated—but must be right the first time?

Panel Speakers



**Aspiring Product
Managers Club**

Product Beyond Software: Building Where There's No Playbook



Heena Moradani

Product Manager, Shark Ninja

Heena has spent the last several years leading innovation in home robotics, progressing from Product Manager to Senior PM and now steering core product development for intelligent home solutions



Tran Pham

Product Manager, Cengage Group

Tran leads the development of a cloud-based coding platform used to support digital learning at scale. Tran manages roadmap development and cross-functional collaboration to continuously improve platform capabilities and customer experience.



Ashish Bhatia

Senior Product Manager, Audible

Ashish is a seasoned product leader with over 20 years of experience building AI-driven products across global technology companies. He currently serves as Senior Product Manager at Audible, where he focuses on enhancing search and content discovery experiences to make content more intuitive and delightful for users.

Panel Speakers



Aspiring Product
Managers Club

Product Beyond Software: Building Where There's No Playbook



Ila Lama

IT Project Management, Beacon Communities LLC

Ila specializes in IT transformation, AI adoption, and change management, driving large-scale programs that bring people, systems, and strategy together. From building digital roadmaps to training employees, she focuses on ensuring technology delivers real operational impact.



Tima Iqbal

Associate Product Developer, Shark Ninja

At SharkNinja, Tima works on breakthrough products like Shark CryoGlow, named one of TIME's Best Inventions of 2025, helping bring cutting-edge beauty technology from concept to consumer. Tima built experience across product, analytics, and AI-driven solutions



Hakan Sonmez (Moderator)

Principal, Product Manager, IBM

He leads products in Infrastructure Automation Software, shaping how enterprises manage and scale complex cloud and edge environments. Before this, he managed product portfolios across IoT and AI applications, helping drive strategic initiatives

Fireside Chat



**Aspiring Product
Managers Club**

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM | West Village WVG106

Your Customer Doesn't Care About AI

With AI dominating product roadmaps, it's easy to forget a simple truth: customers don't want AI—they want their problems solved. In this fireside conversation, Tim Howd shares insights on how product teams can move beyond hype and focus on delivering real value. Through examples from real-world product decisions, he explores why the most impactful AI often works quietly behind the scenes.

If customers don't care about AI, what should product teams actually be building?

About the Speaker

With a career spanning some of the most influential tech companies, Tim has built and led products that solve complex problems for millions of users. Before DoorDash, he drove product innovation at Hyatt, where he led strategy for authentication and account systems, pioneering AI-powered prototyping tools, multi-agent automation workflows, and a cybersecurity vision that unified login experiences across global platforms.



Tim Howd

Senior Manager, Product
Doordash

Panel Session



**Aspiring Product
Managers Club**

11:10 AM - 12:10 AM | West Village F020

AI That Ships: Moving Past Demos to Products People Actually Use

Everyone has seen an impressive AI demo, but far fewer have built AI products that work reliably at scale. This panel moves beyond the hype to explore what it truly takes to turn AI experiments into real, trusted products. Moderated by Devon Tietjen, the discussion brings together leaders working across hardware, infrastructure, enterprise tools, and consumer platforms.

From the physical limits of AI compute to the challenge of building evaluation frameworks, explainability, and secure data systems, the panelists will unpack the “machinery” behind AI that actually ships. Drawing on experiences from companies like Google, Adobe, Dell, Audible, and eBay, the conversation reveals the hidden work required to make AI scalable, responsible, and useful in the real world.

What does it really take to move from a viral AI demo to a product people trust every day?

This panel pulls back the curtain on the engineering, product decisions, and trade-offs that make that leap possible

Panel Speakers



Aspiring Product Managers Club

AI That Ships: Moving Past Demos to Products People Actually Use



Ashish Bhatia

Senior Product Manager, Audible

Ashish is a seasoned product leader with over 20 years of experience building AI-driven products across global technology companies. He currently focuses on enhancing search and content discovery experiences to make content more intuitive.



Liat Berry

Senior Product Manager, Google

Liat Berry, Senior Product Manager at Google, drives product innovation for Tensor Processing Units (TPUs), the AI accelerators powering large-scale machine learning systems like Gemini. She led initiatives at Amazon, spanning AWS FSx and Alexa AI



Devon Tietjen (Moderator)

CEO & CTO, Eden

Devon brings a founder's mindset to product building, leading Eden, technology strategy, and product development while shaping how the company brings ideas to market. Before Eden, He worked as a technology consultant and co-founded Generation M.A.D



Arihant Jain

Product Manager, TikTok

Arihant Jain, Product Manager at TikTok, specializes in AI/ML solutions to improve content quality and engagement. With experience at Visa and A.T. Kearney, he brings technical expertise and product strategy to AI-driven innovation.

Panel Speakers



Aspiring Product
Managers Club

AI That Ships: Moving Past Demos to Products People Actually Use



Peter Mariner

Director, Product Dev, Fidelity Investments

Peter leads innovation within FCAT, Fidelity's advanced research and technology division. He focuses on identifying emerging technology trends and building scalable solutions that support millions of customers. His career spans systems analysis, strategy, and product leadership.



Rajesh Lingam

Sr Technical Specialist, Adobe

Rajesh is building the invisible infrastructure that makes products reliable at scale. At Adobe, he leads GenAI evaluation infrastructure powering LLM validation across products like Acrobat AI Assistant, ensuring AI systems are measurable, testable, and ready.



Vijayalakshmi Narasimhan

Lead Product Manager, eBay

At eBay, where she drives product strategy for large-scale cloud and infrastructure platforms supporting global e-commerce systems. Before joining eBay, She worked at Meta, where she led technical infrastructure programs



Shruti Jain-Lynch

Sr Product Manager, Dell Technologies

Shruti Jain-Lynch leads strategic product initiatives at Dell, focusing on innovation and user-centric design. With expertise in software engineering and research, she has been recognized as a Young Alumni Honoree for Innovation & Success by UMass Lowell.

Panel Session



**Aspiring Product
Managers Club**

11:10 AM - 12:10 AM | West Village WVG 104

Building Trust as a PM in Complex Organizations

In startups, decisions can happen across a desk. In large organizations, even small product changes require alignment across teams, stakeholders, time zones, and priorities. In this panel, leaders from companies like IBM, Red Hat, Everquote, and Fidelity unpack what it really takes to build trust and influence in environments where authority alone isn't enough.

From navigating organizational politics and managing cross-functional dependencies to delivering hard truths early and earning credibility with engineers and executives, the conversation reveals the often unseen skills behind successful product leadership.

When every decision requires alignment across multiple stakeholders, how do product managers earn the trust needed to move things forward?

Join the conversation and discover how great PMs build trust before they build products.

Panel Speakers



Aspiring Product
Managers Club

Building Trust as a PM in Complex Organizations



Hakan Sonmez

Principal, Product Manager, IBM

He leads products in Infrastructure Automation Software, shaping how enterprises manage and scale complex cloud and edge environments. Before this, he managed product portfolios across IoT and AI applications, helping drive strategic initiatives



Federico Lucifredi

Product Management Director, IBM

Federico Lucifredi, Product Management Director at IBM, leads IBM's Ceph Platform, the foundational technology powering fourteen enterprise-grade products, including Red Hat Ceph Storage and IBM Cloud Block Storage.



Aravindh Krishnan

Senior Manager Platform Product Management,
Fidelity Investments

Aravindh brings a strong blend of product strategy, analytics, and platform thinking, currently focusing on solutions within Fidelity's Stock Plan Services and non-qualified deferred compensation products.

Panel Speakers



Aspiring Product
Managers Club

Building Trust as a PM in Complex Organizations



Luis Armenta (Moderator)

Principal Product Leader, Red Hat

Luis is a seasoned product and technology leader who has driven innovation across global technology companies, including Red Hat, Microsoft, IBM, and Intel. Most recently, Luis served as Principal Product Manager for Red Hat & 365 Copilot & Cloud Efficiency at Microsoft, where he led product initiatives.



Anitha Nagaraju

Sr Technical PM, Everquote

Senior Technical Product Manager at Everquote, where media meets machine intelligence. Anitha leads the vision and strategy for AI and Identity solutions, successfully validating and launching GenAI-powered features for media & enterprise customers.

Panel Session



**Aspiring Product
Managers Club**

11:10 AM - 12:10 AM | West Village WVG 106

Breaking into Product: Paths, Pivots, and What Actually Matters

There's no single path into product management. Some PMs start as engineers, others come from consulting, education, operations, or even sales. In this panel, leaders from companies like Walmart, Cengage, Koch Industries, FundCanna, and SigIQ.ai share the real stories behind how they entered product, and what actually mattered along the way.

Moderated by Soumyaa Passari, the discussion moves beyond the usual advice about resumes and certifications to explore the skills that truly signal product potential. From shifting from "building" to "deciding," to demonstrating product sense, curiosity, and systems thinking, the panelists unpack how different career pivots can become powerful advantages in product roles.

What really helps someone break into product: the right background, or the right mindset? Join the discussion to discover the signals, pivots, and lessons that actually open the door to a PM career.

Panel Speakers



Aspiring Product
Managers Club

Breaking into Product: Paths, Pivots, and What Actually Matters



Tran Pham

Product Manager, Cengage Group

Tran leads the development of a cloud-based coding platform used to support digital learning at scale. Tran manages roadmap development and cross-functional collaboration to continuously improve platform capabilities & customer experience.



Pallavi Razdan

Senior Product Manager, Koch Industries

Pallavi leads cross-functional teams of product managers, designers, and engineers to scale multi-million-dollar SaaS platforms. Her work spans defining product strategy, driving execution, and mentoring emerging product.



Soumyaa Passari (Moderator)

Senior Product Manager, Granite Technologies

a Senior Product Manager at Granite Telecommunications who ships fast and ships smart. Currently, they own the end-to-end strategy and delivery of Granite's new developer platform, from PRD to onboarding, powering secure APIs, standard workflow

Panel Speakers



Aspiring Product
Managers Club

Breaking into Product: Paths, Pivots, and What Actually Matters



Ashwini Nagathan

Salesforce Product Manager, FundCanna

A product professional working at the intersection of SaaS platforms, enterprise systems, and data-driven product development. Ashwini focuses on building scalable CRM-driven solutions



Subash Rajaseelan

Chief of Staff, Product Management

a builder who lives at the intersection of AI, product, and 0→1 execution. At SigIQ, Subash is helping build AI-native 1:1 tutors, working across product, GTM, operations, & talent to reimagine how learning happens in the age of AI.



Vijeta Sharma

Staff Product Manager, Walmart

Vijeta, a Staff Product Manager at Walmart, brings 15+ years of expertise in product strategy and innovation. She's driven healthcare tech transformations at Practice Fusion and eClinicalWorks, specializing in Agile, stakeholder management, and cross-functional leadership.

Protothon Finale

01:10 PM - 03:00 PM | West Village F020

The Protothon Finale will showcase innovative product ideas from the top 5 teams, with judges from **Instagram, TikTok, Eden, FundCanna, Google, and Everquote** are providing feedback and evaluating the submissions. Come see how students tackle real-world challenges faced by university students.

Individual Session



Aspiring Product Managers Club

01:10 PM - 03:00 PM | West Village WVG 104

Ask Me Anything: Real Talk on Building Your Career in Product

In this candid AMA-style session, Subash Rajaseelan, Chief of Staff at SigIQ.ai and EdTech founder, shares the mindset shifts behind building a product career from the ground up. From boarding a one-way flight from Chennai to Boston to founding the Aspiring Product Managers Club and launching student-built products, his journey highlights the principles: asking for opportunities, choosing growth over repetition. What does it really take to go from aspiring PM to real product builder? Join the conversation and bring your questions.

About the Speaker

A builder who lives at the intersection of AI, product, and 0→1 execution. At SigIQ, Subash is helping build AI-native 1:1 tutors, working across product, GTM, operations, & talent to reimagine how learning happens in the age of AI. Subash's builder mindset started earlier, as Co-Founder of the Aspiring Product Managers Club (APMC) at Northeastern



By Subash Rajaseelan

Chief of Staff, Product Management, SigIQ.ai

Panel Session



**Aspiring Product
Managers Club**

03:20 PM - 04:30 PM | West Village F020

Women in Product: Leading, Building, and Shipping Without Boundaries

Product leadership today isn't just about managing roadmaps, it's about building systems and platforms that impact millions of people. In this panel, leaders from companies like Google, eBay, Optum, and Granite share how they are building and shipping products at massive scale across AI infrastructure, cloud platforms, healthcare technology, and enterprise systems.

Moderated by Lisie Lillianfeld (Google), the conversation explores what it takes to lead in environments where technical complexity, regulatory constraints, and reliability all intersect. From powering AI infrastructure to managing critical cloud systems, the panelists reveal how strong product leadership shows up when the stakes are real and the systems are complex.

What does leadership look like when you are not just building products, but redefining how they are built? Join the conversation and hear how these leaders are shaping the future of product without boundaries.

Panel Speakers



Aspiring Product
Managers Club

Women in Product: Leading, Building, and Shipping Without Boundaries



Lisie Lillianfeld (Moderator)

Senior Product Manager, Google

At Google, Lisie leads generative AI experiences across Gboard and TalkBack, building products that blend creativity, accessibility, and AI. From launching AI-generated sticker experiences to developing Gemini-powered image descriptions for blind users.



Liat Berry

Senior Product Manager, Google

Liat is a Senior Product Manager at Google, driving innovations in TPU technology for AI solutions like Bard and Gemini. With experience at AWS, Amazon Alexa, Apple, and Nvidia, she excels in both hardware and software.



Vicky Li Horst

Founder & Product Coach

he helps product leaders build stronger products, teams, and careers—especially in highly regulated industries like biotech, health tech, and financial services. Vicky partners with product enthusiasts to sharpen customer insights, validate product-market fit,

Panel Speakers



Aspiring Product
Managers Club

Women in Product: Leading, Building, and Shipping Without Boundaries



Soumyaa Passari

Senior Product Manager, Granite Technologies

A Senior Product Manager at Granite Telecommunications who ships fast and ships smart. Currently, they own the end-to-end strategy and delivery of Granite's new developer platform, from PRD to onboarding, powering secure APIs, standard workflow



Vijayalakshmi Narasimhan

Lead Product Manager, eBay

At eBay, where she drives product strategy for large-scale cloud and infrastructure platforms supporting global e-commerce systems. Before joining eBay. She worked at Meta, where she led technical infrastructure programs. he led technical infrastructure programs for distributed systems and private cloud platforms



Haley Hauptfeld

Senior Technical Product Manager

Haley's career at Optum reflects a strong progression from software engineering to technical product leadership, giving her a unique ability to bridge engineering depth with product strategy. Her work focuses on building scalable systems & Technical challenges

Panel Session



**Aspiring Product
Managers Club**

03:20 PM - 04:30 PM | West Village WVG 104

Shipping Your Career: Navigating Growth, Pivots, and the Long Game

Careers in product rarely follow a predictable path. In this panel, leaders from companies like TikTok, SharkNinja, Everquote, and Dell share how they navigated major pivots, from marketing to robotics, startups to global tech platforms, and engineering to AI/ML product leadership. The discussion explores how product professionals can treat their careers like a roadmap, making deliberate decisions about growth, skills, and direction.

Moderated by Shruti Jain-Lynch (Dell Technologies), the panel dives into how product managers build credibility while transitioning across industries and roles. From developing technical depth and translating user behavior into product decisions to building influence around complex systems and infrastructure, the conversation highlights the mindset required to adapt in fast-changing product environments.

What does it take to evolve your career the same way you evolve a product—through experimentation, iteration, and strategic pivots? Join the conversation to learn how these product leaders navigated the long game of building a career in product.

Panel Speakers



Aspiring Product
Managers Club

Shipping Your Career: Navigating Growth, Pivots, and the Long Game



Tima Iqbal

Associate Product Developer, Shark Ninja

At SharkNinja, Tima works on breakthrough products like Shark CryoGlow, named one of TIME's Best Inventions of 2025, helping bring cutting-edge beauty technology from concept to consumer.



Heena Moradani

Product Manager, Shark Ninja

Heena has spent the last several years leading innovation in home robotics, progressing from Product Manager to Senior PM and now steering core product development for intelligent home solutions



Arihant Jain

Product Manager, TikTok

Arihant Jain, Product Manager at TikTok, specializes in AI/ML solutions to improve content quality and engagement. With experience at Visa and A.T. Kearney, he brings technical expertise and product strategy to AI-driven innovation.

Panel Speakers



Aspiring Product
Managers Club

Shipping Your Career: Navigating Growth, Pivots, and the Long Game



Shruti Jain-Lynch (Moderator)

Sr Product Manager, Dell Technologies

Shruti Jain-Lynch leads strategic product initiatives at Dell, focusing on innovation and user-centric design. With expertise in software engineering and research, she has been recognized as a Young Alumni Honoree for Innovation & Success by UMass Lowell. Shruti built her foundation as a software engineer, bringing deep technical credibility into every roadmap she shapes.



Anitha Nagaraju

Sr Technical PM, Everquote

Senior Technical Product Manager at Everquote, where media meets machine intelligence. Anitha leads the vision and strategy for AI and Identity solutions, successfully validating and launching GenAI-powered features for media & enterprise customers.

Panel Session



**Aspiring Product
Managers Club**

03:20 PM - 04:30 PM | West Village WVG 106

Retention Over Launch: Building Products People Come Back To

Product teams often celebrate launches—but launches alone don't build lasting products. True success lies in retention: the ability to create experiences that users return to again and again. In this panel, leaders from companies like Apple, Walmart, Instagram, Microsoft, and Amazon (Audible) explore how the world's most successful products move beyond initial adoption to build long-term user value.

The discussion dives into the frameworks, signals, and product decisions that drive durable engagement. From designing meaningful activation moments to understanding the metrics that predict Day-30, Day-90, and even Day-365 retention, the panelists share how product teams distinguish between temporary curiosity and genuine habit formation.

What separates a product people try once from a product they rely on every day? Join the conversation to learn how great product teams design experiences that users keep coming back to.

Panel Speakers



Aspiring Product
Managers Club

Retention Over Launch: Building Products People Come Back To



Rajesh Lingam

Sr Technical Specialist, Adobe

Rajesh is building the invisible infrastructure that makes products reliable at scale. At Adobe, he leads GenAI evaluation infrastructure powering LLM validation across products like Acrobat AI Assistant, ensuring AI systems are measurable, testable, and ready.



Vijeta Sharma

Staff Product Manager, Walmart

Vijeta, a Staff Product Manager at Walmart, brings 15+ years of expertise in product strategy and innovation. She's driven healthcare tech transformations at Practice Fusion and eClinicalWorks, specializing in Agile, stakeholder management, and cross-functional leadership.



Bruno Germand

Product Lead, Instagram

Bruno Germand, a seasoned product leader currently working in Product at Instagram, where he helps shape experiences used by millions around the world. Before Instagram, Bruno led product initiatives at Roku, focusing on user access, trust, and privacy.

Panel Speakers



Aspiring Product
Managers Club

Retention Over Launch: Building Products People Come Back To



Luis Armenta

Principal Product Leader, Red Hat

Luis is a seasoned product and technology leader who has driven innovation across global technology companies, including Red Hat, Microsoft, IBM, and Intel. Most recently, Luis served as Principal Product Manager for Red Hat & 365 Copilot & Cloud Efficiency at Microsoft, where he led product initiatives.



Tim Howd (Moderator)

Product Manager, DoorDash

With a career spanning some of the most influential tech companies, Tim has built and led products that solve complex problems for millions of users. Before DoorDash, he drove product innovation at Hyatt, where he led strategy for authentication and account systems, pioneering AI-powered prototyping tools.

Keynote Session



Aspiring Product
Managers Club

04:45 PM - 05:30 PM | West Village F020

Closing Remarks: Builder's Mindset

As the conference concludes, this keynote reflects on how the room transformed—from a gathering of strangers into a community of builders thinking like a product team mid-sprint. After a day of insights from leaders across companies like Google, TikTok, and Walmart, the message becomes clear: product thinking begins when we start seeing the world differently—spotting trade-offs, questioning assumptions, and recognizing opportunities to improve what exists. Celebrating the Protothon teams who turned ideas into prototypes in hours, the keynote leaves the audience with one question: when Monday arrives, will you return to consuming products—or start building them?

About the Speaker

Devon brings a founder's mindset to product building, leading Eden, technology strategy, and product development while shaping how the company brings ideas to market. Before Eden, He worked as a technology consultant and co-founded Generation M.A.D gaining experience launching and scaling early-stage ventures.



By Devon Tietjen

CEO & CTO, Eden

Networking Session

05:45 PM - 07:00 PM | West Village F020

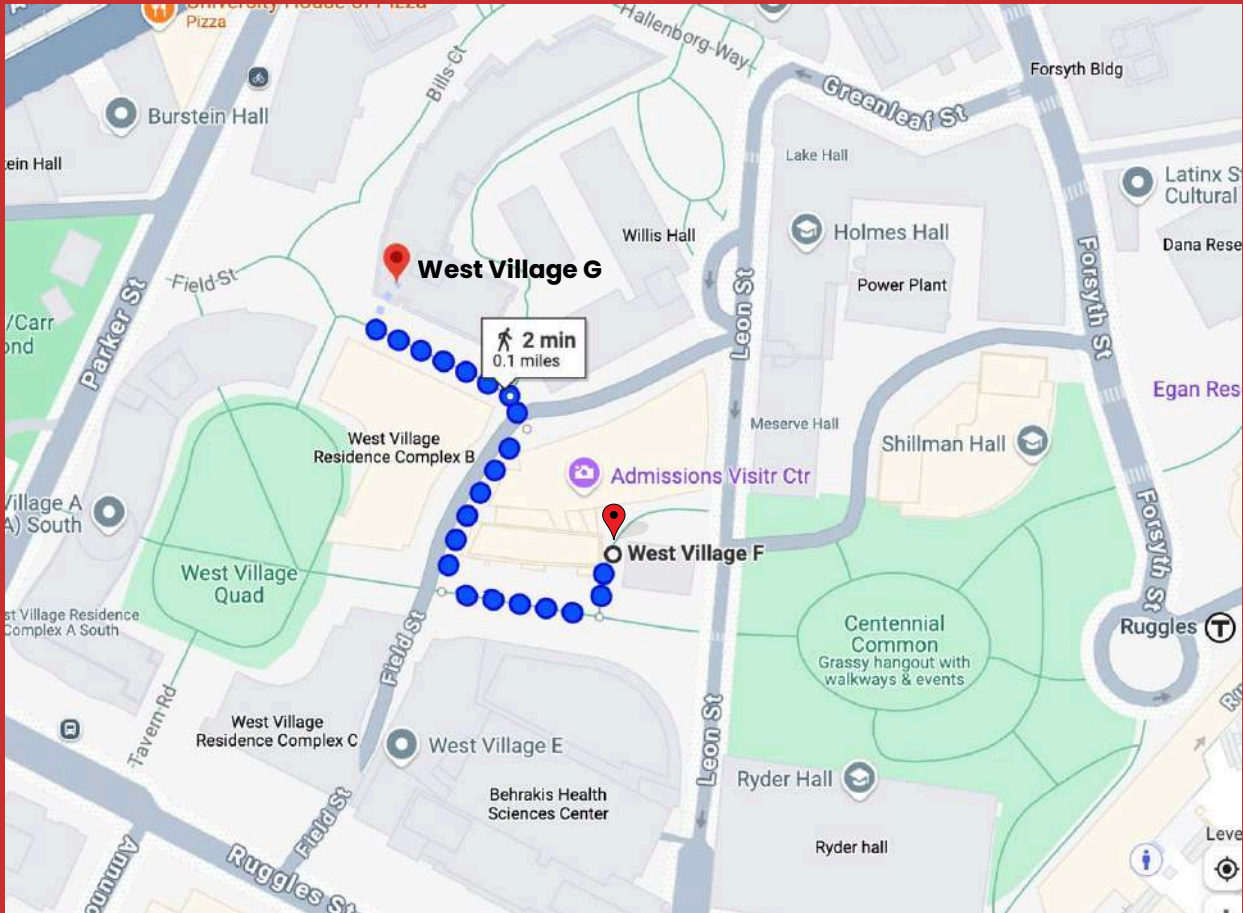
Wrap up the day with an open networking reception designed to continue the conversations sparked throughout the conference. This is an opportunity for attendees to connect directly with speakers, panelists, and fellow builders in a relaxed and informal setting.

Meet product leaders from companies including Google, Red Hat, Adobe, Meta, TikTok, Apple, Instagram, Amazon (Audible), DoorDash, IBM, Red Hat, Dell Technologies, eBay, Walmart, SharkNinja, Shark Beauty, Everquote, Fidelity Investments, Visa, Granite Telecommunications, Verizon, Optum, Cengage Group, Koch Industries, FundCanna, and SigIQ.ai. Ask follow-up questions from the sessions, exchange ideas, and build meaningful professional connections.

Whether you're exploring career opportunities, seeking mentorship, or simply sharing perspectives on product thinking, the reception creates space for authentic conversations. Use this time to reflect on the insights from the day, meet new collaborators, and expand your product community—because sometimes the most valuable moments of a conference happen not on stage, but in the conversations that follow.

Location

West Village F & West Village G,
Northeastern University



Our Contact



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