

# Lavonda Li (She/Her)

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Impact-driven program manager in tech, AI/ML and (3+ yrs), driving projects from concept to delivery, with full ownership and international market growth; proven success across industry leaders and startups.

## EDUCATION (FULLY FUNDED BY SCHOLARSHIPS)

<b>Stanford University</b>	CA, USA
<i>Materials Engineering, MS</i>	Sep 2024 – Mar 2026
<i>Stanford Ignite (mini-MBA)</i>	GPA: 4.0/4.0
<b>University of Cambridge</b>	England, UK
<i>Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology, BA &amp; MEng</i>	First Class Honours (full GPA)

## WORK EXPERIENCE

<b>Intuitive Surgical</b>	Jun 2025 – Present
<i>Product Manager   Da Vinci Robotic Surgical Systems</i>	Sunnyvale, CA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Drove a 0→1 ML haptics software innovation on <i>da Vinci 5</i>, from concept to prototype to formal resourcing, cutting out-of-range forces by 30% and uniting 40+ senior stakeholders toward next-gen haptics adoption.</li><li>Shaped product and clinical strategy through 50 surgeon interviews; authored Phase-0 deck securing cross-functional leadership alignment for clinical trials and contributed to GTM across Japan and Korea.</li></ul>	
<b>FANUC</b>	Feb 2025 – Jun 2025
<i>Product Manager Cohort   Market Expansion</i>	Stanford, CA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Owned the full product lifecycle of a collaborative-robot program, from defining the POA and market research to MVP launch and growth, leveraging a tiered-leasing model that drove profitable entry.</li><li>Interviewed 100+ R&amp;D stakeholders to validate product fit, refine features, and GTM strategy.</li></ul>	
<b>Sanofi</b>	Oct 2023 – Sep 2024
<i>Program Manager   Lifecycle Management</i>	Cambridge, UK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Drove 10% month-over-month revenue growth by building strong, trust-based relationships with 50 physicians.</li><li>Launched targeted educational initiatives and professional events that positioned our biologic as the preferred choice in a crowded market, surpassing competitors and securing key hospital procurement wins.</li></ul>	
<b>Novartis</b>	Jun 2022 – Sep 2023
<i>Program Manager   Outreach &amp; Partnerships</i>	London, UK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Led launch marketing for a new biologic, organizing global medical conferences (1,000+ HCPs) and delivering competitor analyses that shaped product positioning and HCP outreach strategy.</li><li>Formed strategic partnerships with key hospitals and KOLs to drive adoption and support regional initiatives.</li></ul>	
<b>Neuromuse (Startup)   Board Advisor (Former COO)</b>	May 2023 – Present
<i>AI-powered music creation for everyone. Check out <a href="#">here</a>.</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Developed tailored MVP for market validation and iterated the model with tech team to improve product-market fit; established collaborations with renowned singers, producers, and musicians.</li></ul>	
<b>MeetCam (Startup)   Board Advisor (Former CEO)</b>	Oct 2019 – Present
<i>Edtech specializing in UK &amp; US curriculum and admissions success.</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Led an 8-member executive team, recruiting and training 200+ Oxbridge/Ivy tutors to support 500+ students; achieved 100% positive feedback and improved grades for 80% of students, driving sustained profitability.</li></ul>	

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (Selected)

<b>Stanford Translational AI Lab</b>	Sep 2024 – Present
<i>Graduate AI Researcher   Advisor: Prof Feifei Li, Prof Ehsan Adeli</i>	Stanford University, Mayo Clinic
<b>Vision-Language and LLM framework for conversational echocardiography diagnosis.</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pre-trained a DINOv2-based vision–language model on 160K ultrasound video–text pairs from PubMed-OA, achieving a 20% diagnostic improvement toward a conversational QA AI tool for cardiologists.</li><li>Built a LLM-derived knowledge graph, integrated with the Python OpenAI API, to enhance contextual information retrieval from private datasets and reduce hallucinations within the framework.</li></ul>	

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (Continued)

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**Cambridge DNA Nanotechnology Lab**  
Master's Thesis | Advisor: *Prof Lorenzo Di Michele*

Oct 2022 – Jun 2024  
*University of Cambridge*

**Programmable membrane engineering with DNA origami for synthetic biology.**

- Engineered curved DNA origami “line-actant” nanostructures and integrated them into phase-separated lipid vesicles to create programmable, biomimetic membrane systems, validated by AFM and fluorescence imaging.
- Quantified curvature-dependent changes in lipid domain size via image segmentation, demonstrating stable, tunable raft-like domains and proposing mechanisms for domain coarsening and molecular transport.

**Cambridge Nanoengineering Lab**  
Researcher | Advisor: *Prof Ljiljana Fruk*

Jun 2019 – Jun 2022  
*University of Cambridge*

**Enzyme-sensitive protein drug nanocarriers for reprogramming pancreatic tumors.**

- Synthesized nanocarriers from myoglobin with MMP-2/-9 cleavable peptide crosslinking, characterized disassembly, and validated in vitro 2D stability, cytotoxicity, and cell uptake in intact/disassembled proteins.
- Developed 3D co-culture spheroids to model hypoxic tumor microenvironments and validated nanocarrier effects on alleviating hypoxia. Presented work at conferences and contributed to published papers.

## LEADERSHIP (Selected)

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**Association for Women in Science (AWIS) – Palo Alto | Executive Chair**

Jan 2025 – Present

- Directed Stanford-sponsored mentoring: matched 200+ grad pairs; hosted monthly Women Executives Series; launched awards and scholarships, enhancing visibility and recognition for women in science.

**Stanford University Theater & Opera | Musical Producer**

Sep 2024 – Jun 2025

- Managed team (cast, designers, technical staff), organize rehearsal schedules, venues, and timelines, and oversee budgeting to ensure smooth production of a Broadway-style original musical *here*.
- Led marketing and promotions via social media, press releases, and ticket sales, driving audience engagement.

**Oxbridge Alumni Association | Executive Chair of Events**

Jun 2019 – Present

- Organized flagship events (Christmas Dinner, Industrial Conference) as part of a 9-member executive committee, with active members from 1,000 Oxbridge alumni. Chaired annual Freshers’ Fair.
- Managed public communication channels and established collaborations with esteemed groups.

## TEACHING AT STANFORD

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- **CS 337 AI-Assisted Care:** use AI and machine learning to make a real-world impact on human health.
- **MATSCI 170 Nanomaterials Design:** explore the cutting edge of nanoscience and nanotechnology.
- **ME 249 Designing Biomaterials:** translate a medical need into material design requirements.
- **ENGR 307 Engineering for Women’s Health:** addressing challenges across women’s every life stage.

## PUBLICATION (Selected)

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- **Li, L., et al.** “Bioorthogonal Optimized Virus Immuno-Nanomedicine (BOVIN).” *Nature Communications*, 2025.
- **Li, L., et al.** “Parabiosis, Assembloids, Organoids (PAO).” *Advanced Science*, 2025.
- **Li, L., et al.** “Cell Viability, Drug Screening, and Mechanism Study Under Mild Phototherapy Integrated Chemotherapy (PIC).” *Advanced Science*, 2025.

## PROJECTS

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- Built a **machine learning pipeline** for antimicrobial polymer discovery (collaboration with *Prof Eric Appel*).
- **Machine learning analysis** of ADC linker parameter to predict efficacy in cancer immunotherapy at *Genentech*.
- Applied AlphaFold for protein structure prediction and molecular docking for structure-based drug discovery.
- Built a **Siri-style on-device voice assistant** for clinical notes and task management, deployed at provider sites.

## SKILLS

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**Coding:** Python, C++, MATLAB, PyTorch, Pandas, AWS, GCP, Git, GitHub, Jira, SQL, Matplotlib, SFDC.

**Languages:** Bilingual in English & Mandarin, conversational in Cantonese, Japanese & French.

**Away from keyboard:** Broadway & West End Musicals, Professional Makeup Artist and Photographer.