

# Lavonda Li (She/Her)

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Experienced (5+ yrs) product manager/strategist in tech, AI/ML and robotics, driving products from concept to launch and GTM scale, with full ownership and market growth; proven success across industry leaders and startups.

## EDUCATION (fully funded by scholarships)

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

## WORK EXPERIENCE

<b>Intuitive Surgical</b>   <i>Product Manager Intern</i> <i>Inventor of da Vinci, the world's best surgical robot.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Drove a 0→1 force feedback innovation on <i>da Vinci 5</i>, from concept to prototype to formal resourcing, cutting out-of-range forces 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 leadership alignment for multi-site clinical trials and contributed to GTM across Japan and Korea.</li></ul>	Jun 2025 – Present Sunnyvale, CA
<b>FANUC</b>   <i>Product Manager Intern</i> <i>World leader in industrial robotics and factory automation.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Owned the full product lifecycle of a collaborative-robot program, from market research to launch and growth, built on a free-access, 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>	Feb 2025 – Jun 2025 Rochester Hills, MI
<b>Sanofi</b>   <i>Growth Product Manager</i> <i>Medicines and vaccines that reach billions worldwide.</i> <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>	Jan 2024 – Oct 2024 Cambridge, UK
<b>Novartis</b>   <i>Product Marketing Manager</i> <i>Advancing therapies that transform millions of lives.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Led product marketing and competitive intelligence for a biologic, organized global medical conferences (1,000+ HCPs) and delivered competitor analyses that shaped positioning and HCP outreach.</li></ul>	Jun 2023 – Dec 2023 London, UK
<b>Neuromuse</b> (Startup)   <i>Board Advisor (Former CPO)</i> <i>AI-powered music creation for every musician. 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>	May 2023 – Present
<b>MeetCam</b> (Startup)   <i>Board Advisor (Former CEO)</i> <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 100+ Oxbridge/Ivy tutors to support 200+ students; achieved 100% positive feedback and 80% grade improvement, driving sustained profitability.</li><li>Developed and launched new products through startup collaborations, generating strong market traction.</li></ul>	Oct 2019 – Present

## LEADERSHIP (Selected)

<b>Association for Women in Science (AWIS)</b> – Palo Alto   <i>Executive Chair</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>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.</li></ul>	Jan 2025 – Present
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**Stanford Materials Research Society** | *Professional Development Chair* Jun 2025 – Present

- Led career-planning for graduate students, built industry partnerships and alumni connections, and ran a professor–student lunch series to expand mentorship and recruiting opportunities.

**Stanford University Theater & Opera** | *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** | *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.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (Selected)

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**Stanford Translational AI Lab** Sep 2024 – Present

*Graduate Researcher* | Advisor: [Prof Feifei Li](#), [Prof Ehsan Adeli](#) *Stanford University, Mayo Clinic*

***Vision-Language Model (VLM)-LLM framework for automatic echocardiography reporting.***

- Conducted in-domain pre-training on VLMs using 160K cardiology image-text pairs curated from the PubMed-OA dataset, achieving a 20% performance improvement over baseline for cardiology diagnoses.
- 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.
- Clinically validated the echocardiography interpretation system, realizing diagnostic workflow automation.

**Cambridge Bionano Engineering Lab** Jun 2021 – Jun 2023

*Researcher* | Advisor: [Prof Ljiljana Fruk](#) *University of Cambridge*

***Enzyme sensitive protein-based drug nanocarriers for reprogramming of pancreatic cancer.***

- 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.

***Biosensor for enhanced extraction of cell-free DNA from urine for non-invasive cancer screening.***

- Synthesized and optimized magnetic iron oxide nanoparticles with guanidine moieties or gold hybrid shells, balancing surface charge and magnetism for high DNA affinity; sensor design's patent filed.
- Optimized cfDNA binding/elution with modified nanoparticles in synthetic urine, evaluating preservatives, buffers, and salts; standardized pre-analytical protocols for PCR and NGS.

## PUBLICATION (Selected)

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- **Li, L.**, et al. "Bioorthogonal Optimized Virus Immuno-Nanomedicine (BOVIN)." *Nature Communications*.
- **Li, L.**, et al. "Parabiosis, Assembloids, Organoids (PAO)." *Advanced Science*, 2025. DOI: [10.1002/advs.202511671](#)
- **Li, L.**, et al. "Cell Viability, Drug Screening, and Mechanism Study Under Mild Phototherapy Integrated Chemotherapy (PIC)." *Advanced Science*, 2025. DOI: [10.1002/advs.202502836](#)

## 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.

## 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.