

AI for Good Needs a Humanist Lens

MIT students learn that tech must serve people, not just data.

Swipe for insights →

10

MIT Students in Code.Tulsa

This summer, 10 MIT undergraduates participated in the Code.Tulsa program in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The number reflects a deliberate expansion of experiential learning at the intersection of engineering and cultural context. These students were not just coding; they were embedded in tribal health systems, learning about data sovereignty, historical trauma, and community-led innovation. Their work on the Muscogee Creek Nation's first Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) required more than technical skill—it demanded empathy, historical awareness, and ethical judgment.

Source: MIT News • Published September 25, 2026

<https://news.mit.edu/2026/mit-students-gain-humanist-lens-technical-innovation-tulsa-oklahoma-0925>



01

Ethics Are the New Algorithm

AgTech AI must evolve beyond optimization of yield or resource use. It must include mechanisms for consent, ownership, and long-term community benefit. The success of any AI system in agriculture depends not on its processing power, but on its ability to respect and reflect the values of the people it impacts.



02

Curiosity Over Curriculum

For AgTech AI, this model is transformative. Future innovators won't be trained only in machine learning or soil sensors. They'll be trained in ethical reasoning, historical context, and cross-cultural communication. The most powerful AI in agriculture won't be the one with the most parameters—it'll be the one developed by someone who understands why a community refuses a drone, or why a farmer trusts a neighbor more than a model.

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