

# AI Sovereignty Starts in a Lab, Not a Cloud

How open research at CMU is building the foundation for self-hosted AI

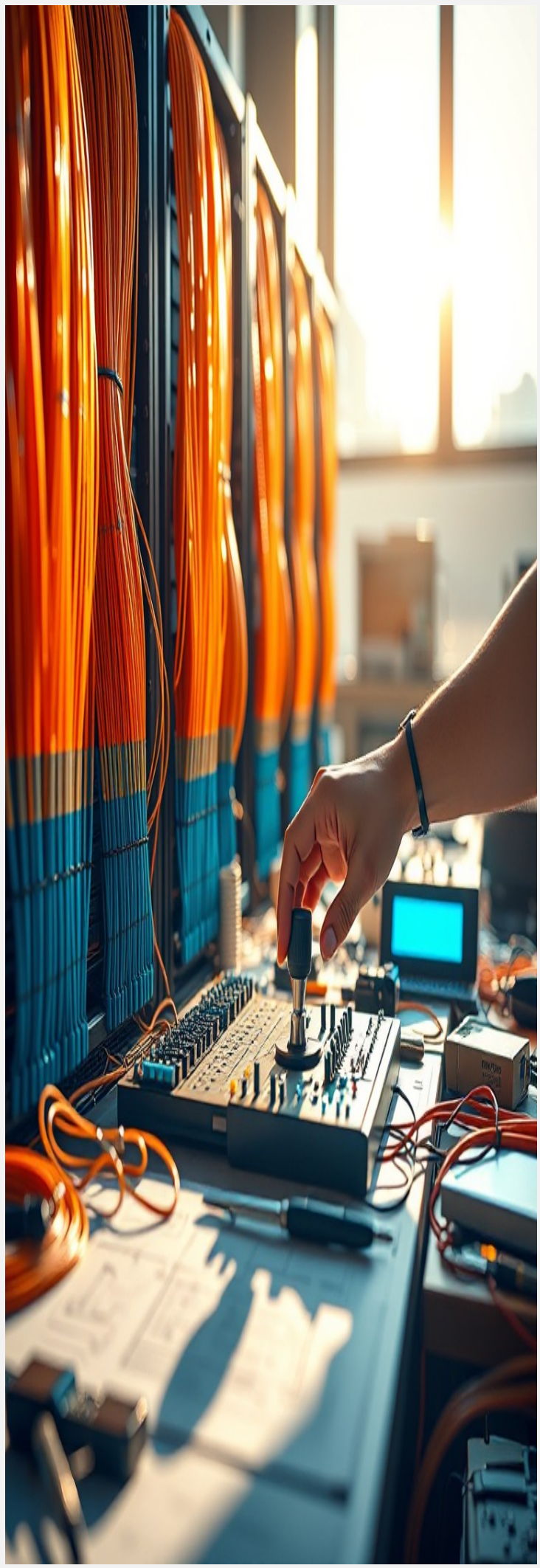
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THE DATA

**NSF CAREER Awards**

Eleven Carnegie Mellon University faculty members received NSF CAREER Awards in 2026 for early-career research projects.

These awards are the NSF’s most prestigious honors for early-career faculty, supporting research that integrates education and innovation.

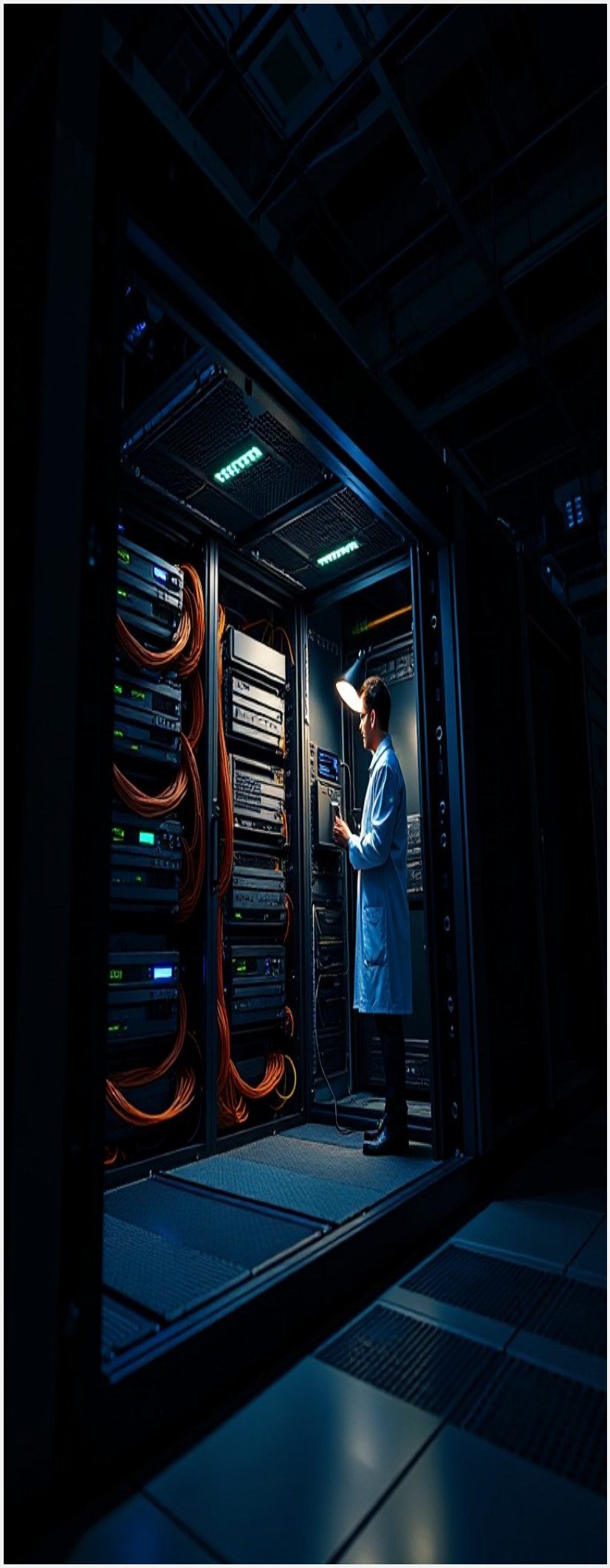


Source: Carnegie Mellon University · Published November 20, 2026
https://www.cmu.edu/news/stories/archives/2026/november/nsf-career-awards-support-wide-ranging-research-at-cmu

# 01

## Open Research Fuels Open AI

Their work—on 3D chip integration, machine learning systems, and generative simulation—explicitly emphasizes open-source infrastructure, scalable frameworks, and public training data. This is not a corporate AI strategy; it’s the blueprint for sovereign AI: research that is not only accessible but designed to be replicated, extended, and deployed locally by independent teams and startups.



# 02

## The Real AI Stack Is Built in the Lab

Projects like Tathagata Srimani’s 3D integrated circuits and Tianqi Chen’s open ML systems aren’t just academic exercises. They’re foundational technologies for on-prem inference, low-latency AI, and energy-efficient computation—exactly the kind of infrastructure that enables self-hosted, private AI. These researchers are not waiting for cloud providers. They’re designing the hardware and software that will power the next generation of sovereign AI, right in the open, with no gatekeepers.

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