

# 2025 Annual Research Symposium

Promoting Safety at the Human-Digital Interface

**Presented by UL Research Institutes**  
July 21-23, 2025

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## Quick Facts

**Who** UL Research Institutes

**What** 2025  
ULRI Annual Research Symposium

**When** Monday, July 21, through  
Wednesday, July 23, 2025

**Where** The Conrad Hotel,  
Washington DC  
950 New York Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
202.844.5900

### Purpose

The UL Research Institutes' Annual Research Symposium strives to accelerate discovery by collaborating with leaders from various organizations and scientific fields in support of our commitment to address one of the world's grand challenges — that of promoting safety at the human-digital interface.

Safety science is at the heart of what we do and distinguishes us as a nonprofit research organization dedicated to the public good. We define safety science as a multidisciplinary approach that engages the ingenuity of top minds across scientific fields to engineer a safer, more secure, and more sustainable world in which every individual can thrive.

We look forward to engaging subject matter experts through oral presentations, panel discussions, and expo booths. By bringing together top scientific minds across organizations and disciplines, we seek to identify new collaborations and accelerate actionable discovery that will help resolve today's increasingly urgent challenges.

### Theme: Promoting Safety at the Human-Digital Interface

A growing percentage of the world population uses AI/digital technologies to get information, conduct business, and stay in touch with one another. Advances in artificial intelligence are creating huge improvements in medicine, science, education, and creative works.

The Digital Safety Research Institute (DSRI) at UL Research Institutes helps make digital systems safer by providing methodologies and prototypes for AI/digital safety assessments to protect individuals in an increasingly complex digital landscape. DSRI works tirelessly to solve some of the growing digital challenges with other safety-minded research partners.

At this year's symposium, we'll explore AI/digital safety and its impact on education, individual and societal health, and its ability to foster resiliency for a sustainable future.

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Please contact the Office of Partnerships  
with any questions at  
[researchsymposium@ul.org](mailto:researchsymposium@ul.org)

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### Attendees

Researchers, Partners, educators and subject matter experts of all experience levels with active programs or interest in the symposium theme, will attend. This will include ULRI leadership, advisory board members, and other key partners and stakeholders.

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## UL Research Institutes Overview

UL Research Institutes is known throughout the world for rigorous independent research that uses science-based knowledge to counter or mitigate risks to humanity and our planet. We strive to help build a safer world in which everyone can live longer and healthier lives.

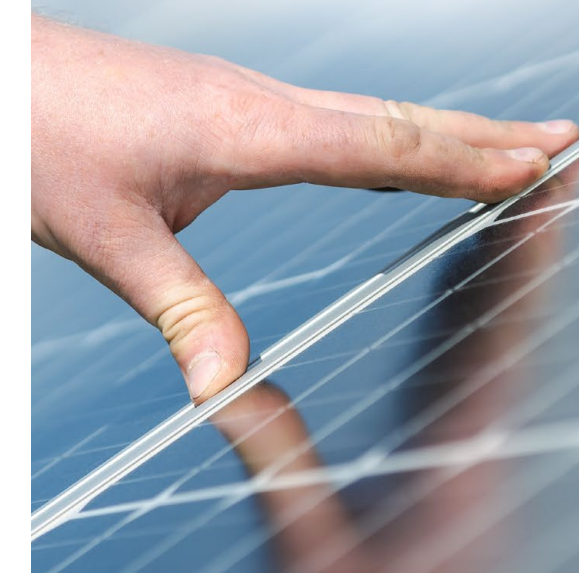
It's a far-reaching aspiration to which we're particularly well suited. Our history and our reputation enable us to tap into a deep reservoir of trust and credibility across the global safety science community, extending and amplifying our work as we address today's complex challenges.

The UL enterprise's revised structure — which now includes UL Standards & Engagement and UL Solutions as well as UL Research Institutes (ULRI) — also compounds our impact. Even as each of our three distinct UL organizations independently pursues our shared mission, we coordinate as appropriate to drive transformative safety progress that no other enterprise could produce.

Here at ULRI, we focus our efforts on three global grand challenges that reflect both our mission and our expertise. Through our grand challenge commitments, we work toward:

### #1

**Building  
resilience for  
a sustainable  
future**



### #2

**Advancing  
individual  
and societal  
health in the  
21st century**



### #3

**Promoting  
safety at the  
human-digital  
interface**



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## UL Research Institutes Overview

We lay the foundation for holistic solutions to a broad array of grand challenge issues through our work at the following institutes and offices.

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### Chemical Insights Research Institute (CIRI)

Helps to detect, reduce, and eliminate the dangers that environmental and chemical pollutants pose to human health.

[Dr. Russell Thomas leads CIRI.](#)



### Digital Safety Research Institute (DSRI)

Aims to help make digital systems safer by providing methodologies and prototype tools for AI/digital safety assessments to protect individuals and society in an increasingly complex digital landscape.

[Dr. Jill Crisman leads DSRI.](#)



### Electrochemical Safety Research Institute (ESRI)

Conducts comprehensive experimental and modeling research on a range of energy storage technologies, from lithium-ion to novel and new battery chemistries as well as other energy forms such as hydrogen, to lay the foundation for safe and reliable energy storage and energy generation systems.

[Dr. Judy Jeevarajan leads ESRI.](#)



### Fire Safety Research Institute (FSRI)

Examines emerging fire safety issues through field testing, laboratory studies, and modeling to equip the world's fire services with life-saving information, support fire safety professionals, and enhance community safety education.

[Dr. Steve Kerber leads FSRI.](#)



### Materials Discovery Research Institute (MDRI)

Studies new materials at the atomic, nano, and meso scales. MDRI's research highlights both risks and applications, including ways we might harness new materials to advance sustainability, safety, and health.

[Dr. Stuart R. Miller leads MDRI.](#)



### Office of Partnerships

Builds out, oversees, and manages major ULRI partnerships, including competitive sponsored research activities, awards, prizes, the Advisory Board to the Chief Research Officer, our annual research symposium, and relationships with other key organizations.

[Deepa Shankar leads the partnerships office.](#)



### Office of Research Experiences & Education (OREE)

Broadens student understanding of safety science and contributes to the cultivation of future safety scientists by building resources, building pathways, and building the field. OREE creates educational materials and designs research experiences that span the entire education continuum.

[Dr. Kelly Keena leads OREE.](#)