SESSION SUMMARY | 10:00 AM | JOE C. THOMPSON CONFERENCE CENTER, UT AUSTIN

Fireside Chat: A Conversation about Humanity, AI and the Age of Abundance for All

Brett Alexander Hurt	Founder & CEO, Love Conquers Fear; Co-owner, Hurt Family Investments
Moderator: Henrik Johansson	CEO & Founder, Nordus Group

The session in brief

Brett Hurt argued that hope, not fear, should guide how we respond to AI. He framed AI as a general-purpose technology on the scale of electricity: one that can expand human capability, accelerate science and reduce scarcity, provided we redesign how we work and stay in charge of the outcomes.

Key takeaways

- Fear contracts human agency. Much of the West's pessimism about AI is cultural programming; optimism is notably higher in parts of Asia. Choosing "existential hope" is a decision, not naivety.
- AI is like electricity: it will touch every trade and profession, from software to plumbing. The best way to prepare is to become genuinely expert in using it.
- The biggest gains come from stepping back and redesigning a business or industry from an AI-first perspective, not from automating today's tasks a little faster. 3D-printed construction (such as ICON's work) shows what rethinking a whole industry looks like.
- Human plus AI is the winning combination. Radiology was predicted to disappear; instead, demand and throughput grew as doctors and AI worked together.
- Energy is the foundation for everything else. Compute is constrained by power, so an "all of the above" strategy is needed: solar, geothermal, fusion and small modular nuclear reactors.
- Structures such as Public Benefit Corporations and mission-aligned governance help make sure breakthroughs, especially in health, are shared broadly. Capitalism can be upgraded rather than abandoned.
- He sees the next ten years as one of the greatest entrepreneurial opportunities in history, and noted that today's AI models are the worst we will ever use.

Action points for attendees

1. Pick one everyday business task (drafting, research, training material, customer replies) and do it with AI every day for two weeks.
2. Run a "two steps back" session with your team: if you built your business today with AI, what would you stop doing, and what new offering would you create?
3. Look at where human plus AI could increase capacity in your organization rather than simply reduce headcount.
4. Factor energy availability into any long-term plans that depend on compute or data centers.

5 Explore mission-aligned governance (for example a Public Benefit Corporation model) if broad social benefit is part of your purpose.

In their words

> *“Human plus AI is the magic solve.”*
>
> Brett Alexander Hurt

Prepared by SACC Texas from the session recording for in-person attendees of the SACC Summit 2026. Points are paraphrased and condensed; they are not a verbatim transcript. Speaker names and titles as listed on the official Summit agenda at sacctx.com.