

CoinToss: The Stablecoin Debate



**GEORGIA
FINTECH
ACADEMY**
UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY
CENTER PARC STADIUM

755 Hank Aaron Dr SE
Atlanta, GA 30315

FREE

November 14, 2025
8:30AM - 1.00 PM



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SUPPORT
FROM



Where Curiosity Meets Innovation: Reflections from CoinToss

Thank you to everyone who joined us for CoinToss: The Stablecoin Debate. Our community showed up with energy, curiosity and a genuine desire to understand where the future of money is headed. More than 120 people from across industry, academia and the student community spent the morning together exploring an issue that is shaping global financial innovation in real time.

Events like this remind us why the Georgia Fintech Academy exists. Our mission is to connect talent, industry and opportunity across the state. We design spaces where students can learn directly from the leaders who are building the next generation of financial services, and where professionals can engage with the next wave of emerging talent. When our community comes together with an open mind, everybody walks away better equipped for what comes next.

Thank you to our moderators, panelists, planning team and partner organizations for helping us bring this conversation to life. Most importantly, thank you to our students and industry friends who continue to support the Academy's work and push us to do more.

We look forward to seeing you at the next event and continuing to shape the future of fintech together.



Laura Gibson-Lamothe

Executive Director - Georgia Fintech Academy



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Thank You to Our Speakers

A special thank you to the leaders who shared their time, expertise and perspective at CoinToss: The Stablecoin Debate. Your insights shaped meaningful conversations for students, professionals and partners across Georgia's fintech community.

Session 1: Stablecoin as a Medium of Exchange

Moderator: Jessica Garcia Keenum, Counsel, Alston & Bird

Jorge Jimenez - President & Co-Founder, Juniper Payments

Ed Fleischmann - President & GM, North America Partners, Corpay

George Kushner - Founder & CEO, H2cryptO

Session 2: Stablecoin in the Economy

Moderator: Tony Erwin, Principal Consultant, Skyrocket Financial Solutions

Animikh Sen - North America Product & Strategy, Visa

Kevin Carroll - Executive Director, Payments, RaceTrac

Luther Maday - Co-Founder, Stablecoin Partners

Jonathan O'Connor - Division President, Third Party Payments, Synovus

Session 3: Stablecoin as a Product

Moderator: Jeff Gapusan, Executive Director, Fixed Income, Academy Securities

Kevan Williamson - Chief Technology Officer, Georgia's Own Credit Union

Patrick Cuff - VP, Government Relations, Fiserv

Erica Woods - Head of US State and Local Public Policy, Stripe

Planning Committee

- Laura Gibson-Lamothe, Executive Director, Georgia Fintech Academy
- Glen Sarvady, Advisor, 154 Advisors
- Jonathan Godbey, Clinical Associate Professor of Finance, GSU Robinson College of Business
- Robert Williams, Product Development Director, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago
- Laveda Pullens, Program Director, Georgia Fintech Academy



CoinToss: The Stablecoin Debate

Overview: The Georgia Fintech Academy hosted **CoinToss: The Stablecoin Debate on November 14, 2025**, at **GSU's Center Parc Stadium**, bringing together more than 120 leaders, students, and innovators for a focused discussion on the future of stablecoins. The event's purpose was to strip away hype, challenge assumptions, and explore where stablecoins fit within the broader financial ecosystem.



Setting the Stage

The morning began with **Glen Sarvady** of 154 Advisors, who provided foundational context on the policy and design complexities behind stablecoins. His remarks framed the day's discussions around why stablecoins matter now, both as a technological innovation and as a policy challenge. ([Link to presentation](#))

Following the keynote, attendees participated in **three panel discussions** examining stablecoins through distinct lenses:

1. **Stablecoin as a Medium of Exchange**
2. **Stablecoin in the Economy**
3. **Stablecoin as a Product**



Each session included a **Mentimeter poll**, capturing real-time audience sentiment. The results were converted into percentages to illustrate how perspectives aligned across the group.

Audience Insights

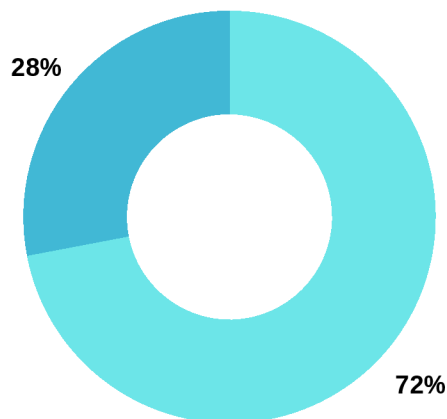
1. Stablecoin as a Medium for Exchange

Question: Do stablecoins improve or complicate payments?

Participants highlighted the potential for faster, more efficient cross-border transactions but noted that interoperability and value clarity will be critical to mainstream adoption.



Poll Result:



- 72% believed stablecoins improve the payments landscape.
- 28% felt they complicate it or remained unconvinced.

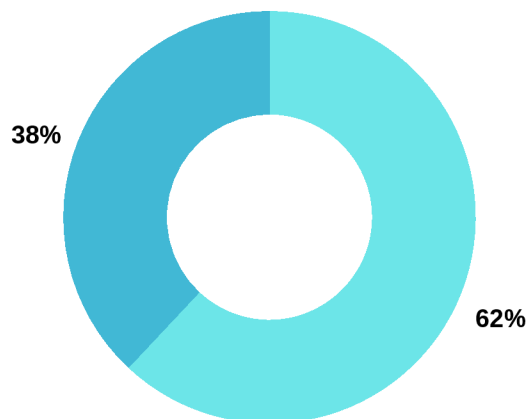
2. Stablecoin in the Economy

Question: Do stablecoins strengthen or threaten economic and consumer stability?

This discussion revealed the highest level of caution. Concerns centered on consumer protection, market volatility, and the need for clear regulatory frameworks before widespread adoption.



Poll Result:



- 38% viewed stablecoins as a strength.
- 62% saw them as a risk or were unsure.

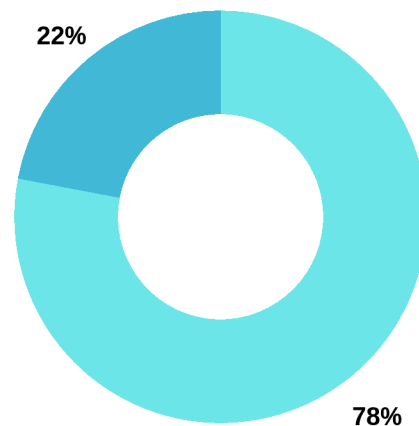
3. Stablecoin as a Product

Question: Is stablecoin infrastructure a smart investment or a costly distraction?

This session reflected the most optimistic sentiment of the day. Participants expressed confidence in the long-term potential of stablecoin infrastructure, particularly for institutions exploring new payment rails and settlement models.



Poll Result:



- 78% viewed stablecoin infrastructure as a smart investment.
- 22% saw it as a distraction or remained uncertain.

Key Themes and Highlights

Evolution, Not Revolution Consensus emerged that traditional and digital payment systems will coexist for years to come.

Stablecoins are unlikely to replace existing rails overnight but may enhance them where speed, transparency, and programmability add value.

Global Momentum

Speakers emphasized that stablecoin adoption is accelerating most rapidly in markets where trust in legacy systems is weaker. These global use cases are shaping the innovation frontier and influencing how U.S. institutions approach the technology.

The Customer Still Decides

Panelists underscored that technology adoption depends on user behavior, not novelty. Stablecoins will gain traction only when they deliver clear, tangible benefits to consumers and businesses.

Innovation May Outpace Imagination

Several speakers compared the current moment to the early internet era, suggesting that stablecoins could unlock entirely new categories of financial products and services not yet envisioned.

On and Off-Ramp Friction Shapes Value

Several leaders noted that on- and off-ramp fees could reduce or eliminate the financial inclusion benefits often attributed to stablecoins. The economics change quickly when users face gas fees or exchange charges at critical moments, raising questions about whether stablecoins actually improve access for the unbanked or simply add new layers of cost.

Trust and User Experience Still Drive Adoption

Discussion highlighted that younger U.S. consumers have high trust in existing payment systems. This puts pressure on stablecoin-based products to deliver better UX, fewer steps, and less friction. The comparison to DoorDash and Robinhood reinforced a familiar truth: people adopt tools that make their lives easier, even if the cost structure is imperfect.

The Importance of Avoiding Old Bottlenecks in New Systems

A concern raised by panelists was whether stablecoin infrastructure might unintentionally replicate the same chokepoints that exist in legacy financial systems. Designing for transparency, speed, and accessibility becomes essential if stablecoins are going to fulfill their promise instead of recreating the problems they were meant to solve.

Why This Conversation Matters

Stablecoins sit at the intersection of **policy, technology, and financial infrastructure**. They inspire both excitement and skepticism, reflecting the tension between innovation and regulation. The CoinToss event demonstrated that the future of stablecoins will not be defined by a single perspective but by **collaboration, experimentation, and shared learning** among policymakers, technologists, and financial leaders.



Visual Highlights



Candid Networking moments before the program began



Audience listening to the initial presentation



Group reflecting on polling questions



Students capturing notes and asking questions

About the Georgia Fintech Academy

The **Georgia Fintech Academy** connects students, educators, and industry leaders to advance fintech innovation and workforce development across the state. Through events like CoinToss, the Academy fosters dialogue that bridges academic insight with real-world application, preparing the next generation of fintech professionals to lead in a rapidly evolving digital economy.

If you enjoyed this recap and want to stay informed about future events, research and talent initiatives, sign up for the **Georgia Fintech Academy** newsletter at:

<https://georgiafintechacademy.org/newsletter>