Embracing Al: Institutional Recommendations

Dr. Brian Lofman

Technology Learning Support Council
April 18, 2025



PRESENTATION OBJECTIVES



1. Review exploratory research conducted on Al adoption at institutions and organizations

2. Describe the emerging framework of recommendations

3. Discuss key lessons learned

EXPLORATORY RESEARCH



GOAL

To develop a comprehensive set of recommendations for embracing Al at the College

RESEARCH CONDUCTED

- Books & articles
- Webinars & podcasts
- Websites & interviews primarily U.S. based educational institutions and organizations
- Information via email

EMERGING FRAMEWORK



12 Sets of Overlapping,Non-Exhaustive,& Institutional LevelRecommendations

RECOMMENDATIONS



- 1. Institutional Readiness (measurement)
- 2. Work Group (help lead charge—definitions, guidelines, etc.)
- 3. Baseline Data (student & employee group surveys)
- 4. Institutional Leadership (VPs/use cases)
- 5. Professional Development (faculty & staff)
- 6. Student Preparation for Workforce (learning goals)

RECOMMENDATIONS (continued)



- 7. Institutional Culture (exploration/experimentation)
- 8. Policy Matters (v. more general guidelines)
- 9. Institutional Al Strategy (strategic plan/planning activities)
- 10. Budget for Al (set aside of available resources)
- 11. Audit of Vendor & Service Providers
- 12. Order & Timing for Implementation (no one best order)

KEY LESSONS LEARNED



- → Exploration and experimentation under broad guidelines is more critical to start than establishing rigid policies. Allow for inspiration and innovation to lead the way.
- → It will likely provide effective to integrate learning opportunities and professional development as seamlessly as possible into regular workflow, ongoing tasks, and use cases.
- → Developing employee skills is more important than the use of any specific GenAl tool.

But...

KEY LESSONS LEARNED



- → Ensuring an internal firewall for GenAl applications is essential if confidential information and sensitive data will be entered into GenAl tools. It may be most practical to purchase a tool that all employees can use.
- → The optical timing for Hartnell to move forward with an institutional approach is NOW – no time like the present!