

University of Toronto AI Task Force Overview & Updates

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Current AI use at U of T: Pulse and SERU survey data

Faculty, librarians and staff

- 17% use several times / week or daily
- 52% never use

Common administrative uses:

- Text generation & editing
- Search
- Transcription
- Image & video generation & editing

Undergraduate students

- 19% use several times / week or daily
- 34% never use

Common uses:

- Research
- Brainstorming
- Drafting & revising writing

Hopes and concerns from faculty, librarians and staff

• Hopes:

Increased efficiency with routine, administrative and transactional tasks

Balance automation with human judgement

Support professional development

Predict student needs

• Concerns:

- Quality, accuracy, and homogeneity of AI-generated output

- Biased output

- Impact on the environment

- Security of sensitive information

- Replacing jobs and reducing human interaction

AI Task Force – Overview

Working Groups & Advisory Areas



Task Force Goals & Principles

Goals:

- Engage members of the community to develop a vision and strategy to guide the University's AI activities
- Guide the integration of AI within our teaching, learning, and administrative processes and frameworks
- Ensure alignment with our core values and mission

Principles:

- Implementation of AI reflects informed consideration of anticipated impact and risks (social, ethical, environmental)
- Make choices that:
 - Build thriving communities
 - Enhance or expand human capabilities and capacities
 - Uphold institutional values and key areas of University mission

Task Force: Activities, Timelines & Deliverables

- **Spring 2024:**
 - AI Task Force & working groups established
 - **Fall 2024-Winter 2025: Working Groups & Task Force meeting monthly**
 - Consultations with faculty, staff, students and other stakeholders
 - Response to emergent issues e.g., use as a study aid, procurement
 - **Winter 2025: Recommendations to Task Force from Working Groups**
- **Spring 2025: Task Force report with strategic direction for AI at U of T:**
 - Guiding principles
 - AI decision-making and governance
 - Recommendations from each working group area
 - Path forward: Technology, AI literacy and upskilling

We are an Institution dedicated to the development of human potential



What is the role of AI?

- Supporting people and their development
- Supporting a community dedicated to learning and discovery
- Principles of
 - Responsible, relevant use
 - Transparency
 - Accountability
 - Equity
 - Safety
 - Alignment with our mission



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Critical questions: What is the role of AI in our institution?

- What skills or competencies do students, faculty and staff need to use AI effectively within their university work?
- How will changes in the way people do their work in the future affect what we teach and how we learn in the university?
- What elements of the university will most easily adapt to the changes brought about by AI?
Which elements will require the most change?
- AI is often cited as a way to improve “efficiency” – what does that mean in a human-centered institution?
 - Efficiency is important in operations
 - What are alternative ways to describe the potential benefits of AI that also align with educational and institutional priorities?

Working Groups: Anticipating a future where...

Teaching & Learning

Assessment is rethought

Research

AI accelerates the research process

Student Services

Student support is augmented

People Strategy & Admin

Transactional work is automated

Ops & Planning

AI forecasts inform University planning

Tech & Data Gov

AI work is shaped by digital trust

Recommendations toward an AI-ready institution

- AI literacy: understand how AI works, and how to use AI tools safely and effectively
- AI-ready data infrastructure and collection processes
- Secure AI tools: general and specialized, for research, teaching and administrative work
 - LLMs for text and image generation, but also chatbots, data analysis, process automation, pattern detection, etc.
- Process for identifying and prioritizing use cases that address individual and institutional priorities
- Support to develop, implement or fine-tune AI tools and approaches
- Protocols for testing the quality of AI output, including for accuracy and bias, and for tracking and assessing the impact of AI

Current support & resources for GenAI across U of T

Supporting Safe & Effective Use of AI

AI @ U of T website: <https://ai.utoronto.ca/>

Centre for Research & Innovation Support (CRIS): [GenAI Considerations in Academic Research](#)

Information Security: [Use artificial intelligence intelligently](#)

Libraries: [GenAI tools and Copyright Considerations](#); GenAI Digital Literacies Framework

Support for Teaching & Learning

VPIUE: [Generative Artificial Intelligence in the Classroom: FAQ's](#)

CTSI: [Teaching with Generative AI at U of T](#)

UTSC: [Using GenAI: Faculty](#)

UTM: [Building AI Literacy](#)

A&S: [Assessment Design and Generative AI; Generative AI Policies and Resources](#)

Example Projects & Initiatives

[LEAF+ Generative AI in Teaching and Learning](#)

2 current [LEAF](#) projects: "Customized Generative AI Chat Tools for Large UG Molecular and Cellular Biology" and "Integrating Generative AI Tutoring Systems for Personalized and Timely Feedback to Enhance the Learning Experience"

VPIUE Discovery Series: [Conversations with Students about AI](#)

CTSI: [U of T Teaching Examples](#)

CTSI: [Virtual Tutor Initiative](#)

Libraries: [AI for Image Research in Art and Architecture](#)

Upcoming activities

- **AI Roundup – January 22, 12:00-1:00pm:**
Each month, the AI Roundup reviews AI news and we pick a few items to discuss and explore. [Register here](#)
- **For further updates, consultations & resources: [Task Force Updates SharePoint](#)**
- **Questions and feedback: ai.taskforce@utoronto.ca**