Footsteps on the Sands of AI for Higher Education

Moving Beyond Adhoc

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Ubiquitous AI

AI has transitioned from science fiction to everyday reality

AI education market worth USD$1767 mill in 2023

AI permeates aspects of academia, supporting both faculty and students

AI is reshaping the education landscape

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University Context

University of Southern Queensland

- Successful distance and online education
- 70% of students study full time online
- Recognizes the importance of AI in online and virtual learning
- Actively exploring AI's potential
- Grappling with ethical dilemmas

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AI's Impact Areas

- Academic Efficiency
- Learning Design
- Learner-Centric Assessment

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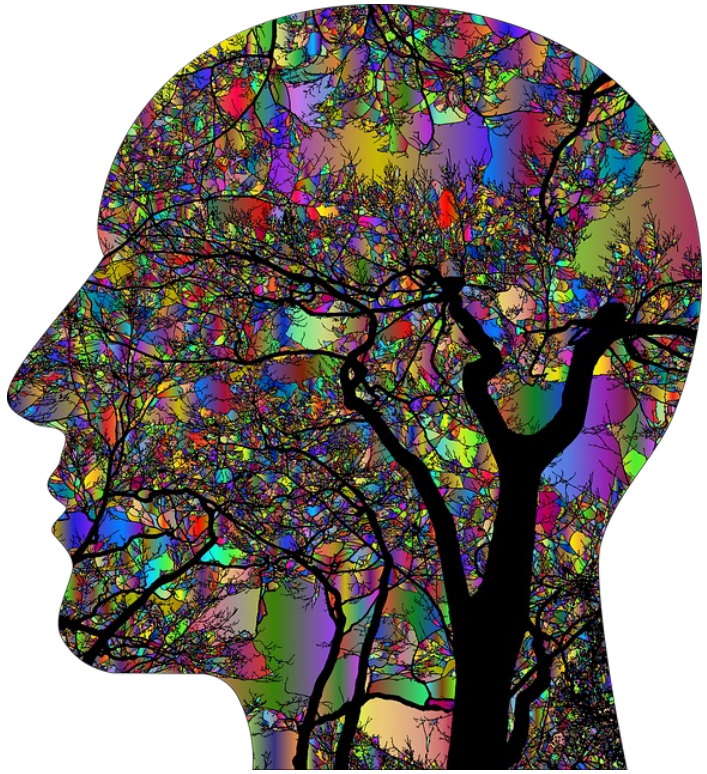
Academic Efficiency

Streamline	Streamline administrative tasks
Automate	Automate repetitive processes
Enhance	Enhance overall efficiency
Foster	Foster AI fluency and build capacity
Develop	Develop positive mindsets



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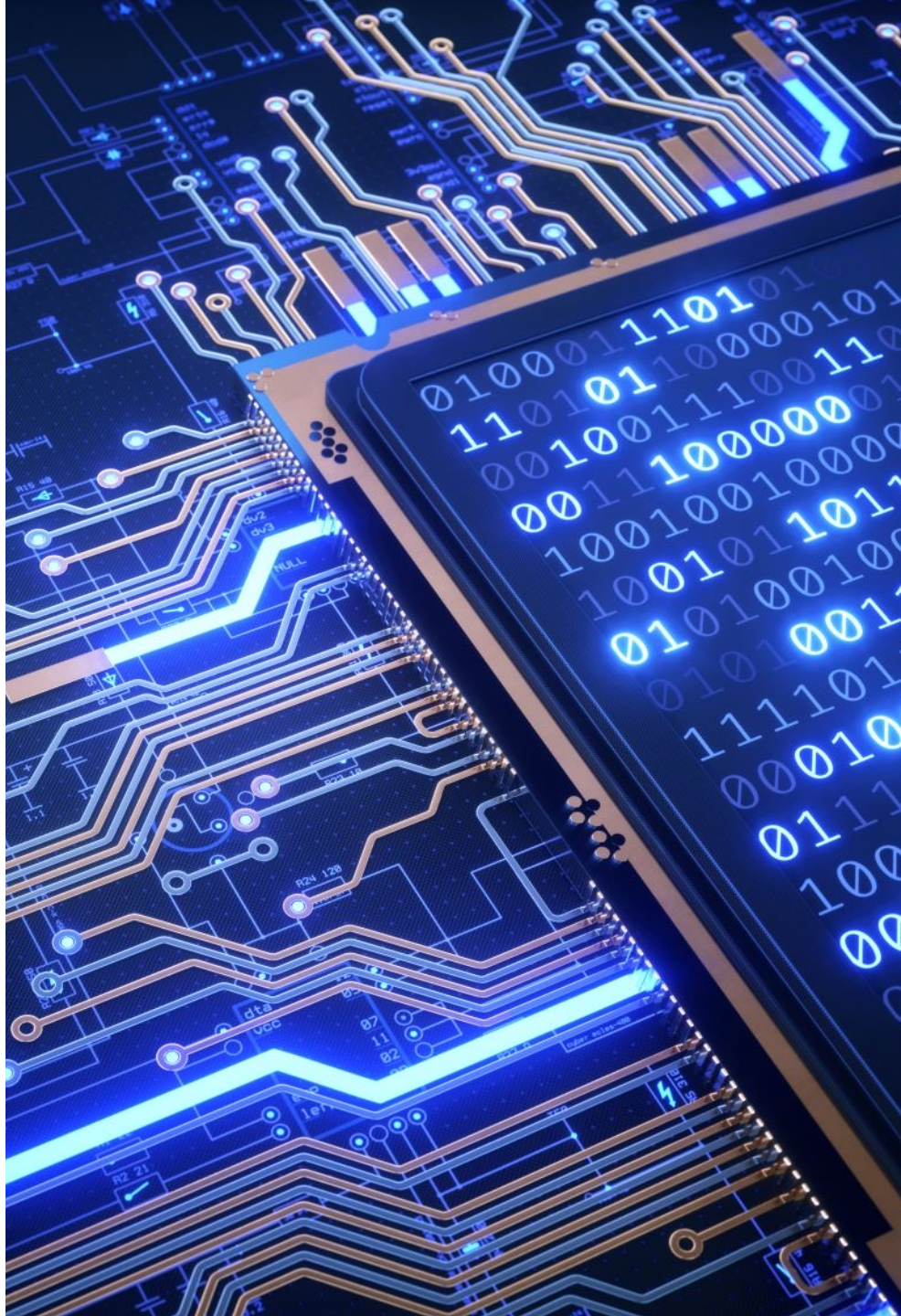
Academic Efficiency

- Access to GenAI is a game changer
- Copilot, ChatGPT, Claude
- Prompt engineering
- Ethics – should the AI tool be credited?



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Learning Design

- Assist in creating personalized learning experiences
- Automated feedback
- Adapting content to individual needs
- Quick creation of learning artefacts

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Learning Design

Learning design is influenced by the relationship between the teacher and the learner and with the inclusion of technology the learner and the technology.

AI use means the power of the students to control their learning journey is heightened and the teacher has a role in which they are mediating an environment for this to flourish.

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Learner-Centric Assessment

Provide insights into student performance

Identify areas for improvement

Offer timely feedback

Leverage AI as a support tool

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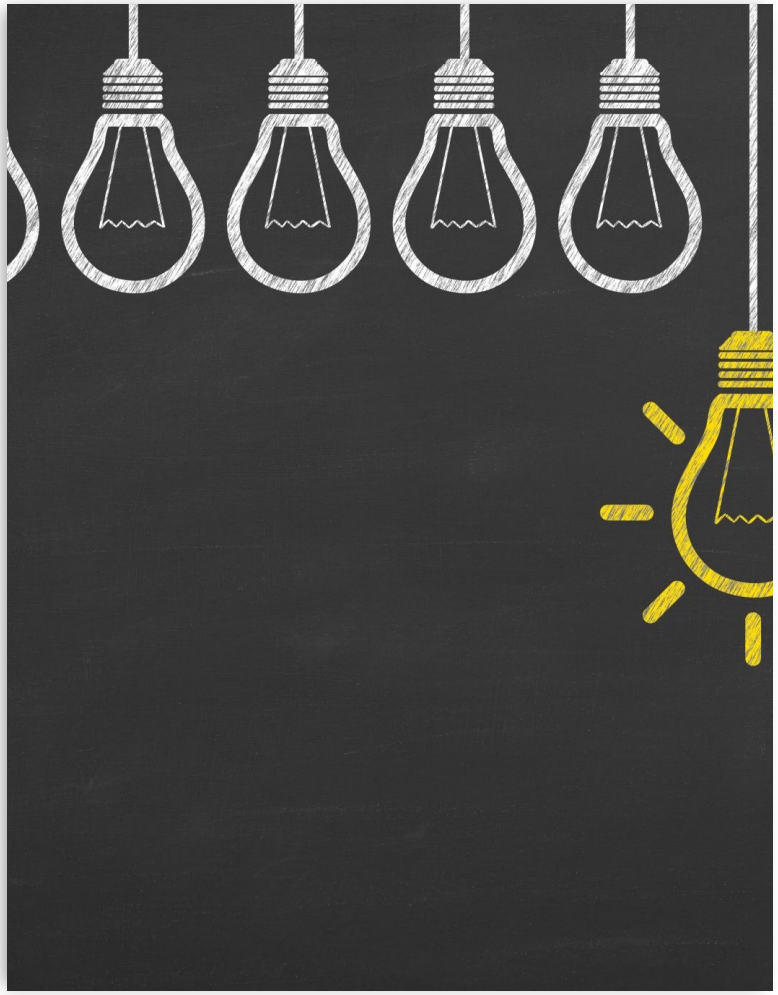
Learner-Centric Assessment

AI integration is an opportunity to reimagine **what we are assessing** and **how we are assessing**, and above all **why we assess** students at all.



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Learner-Centric Assessment

How and when should GenAI be used for assessment?

- Not to be used at all
- May not be an advantage to use
- Assessment design encourages AI use

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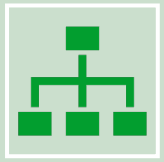
Moving Beyond Adhoc



Consolidation into more systematic whole-institution planning that goes beyond the initial adhoc approach.

The area in most need of digital transformation is teachers and teaching.

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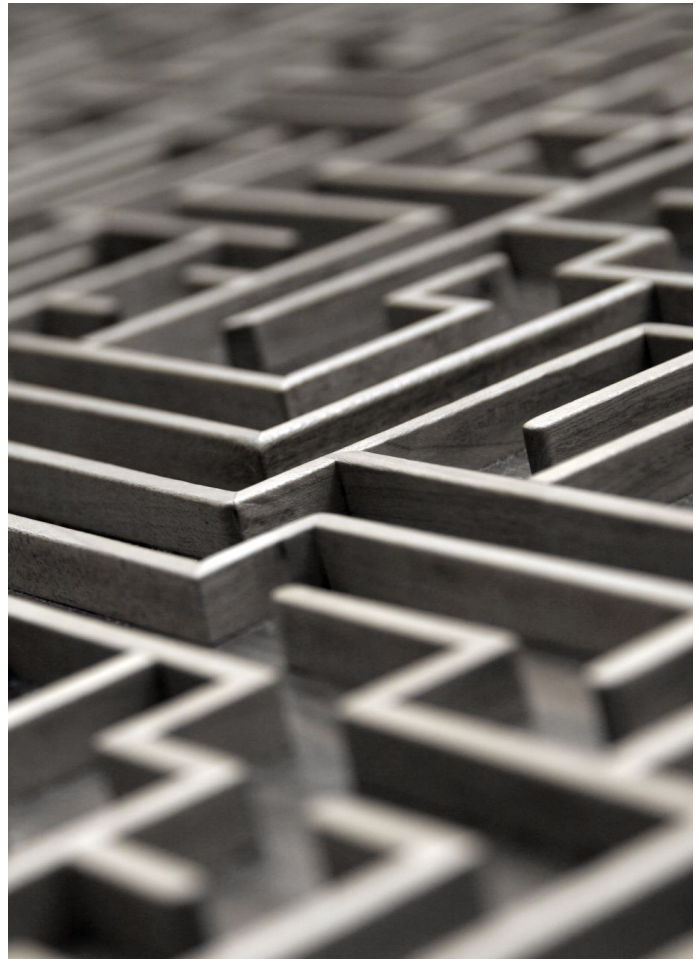
Moving Beyond Adhoc

Designing and implementing an AI framework for education is one way forward to shift the current practice from ad-hoc to planned and implemented with intention and meaning.



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AI Pedagogy Project

Augmenting learning and teaching in higher education using Artificial Intelligence

AI for Learning & Teaching Collective

Learning Design and Assessment

Academic Development

AI Tools

Research into AI impact on L&T

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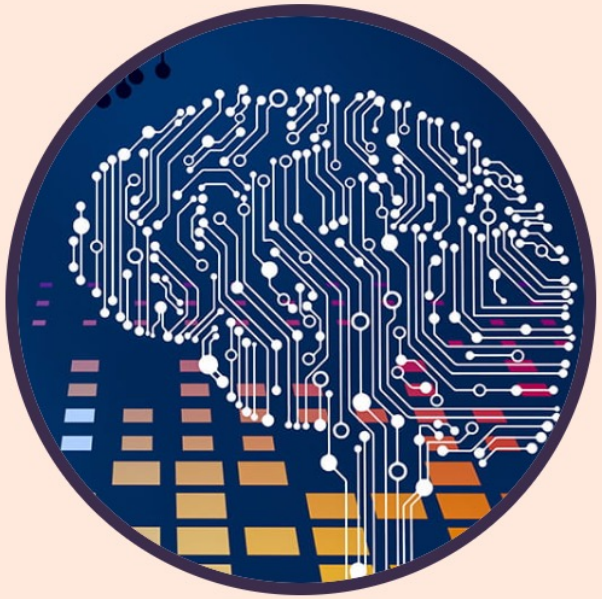
Artificial Intelligence for Learning and Teaching Collective (AILTC)

- A Community of Practice within the domain of AI
- Academic and professional stakeholders
- Share experiences, break down silos
- Symposium sessions with external and internal speakers



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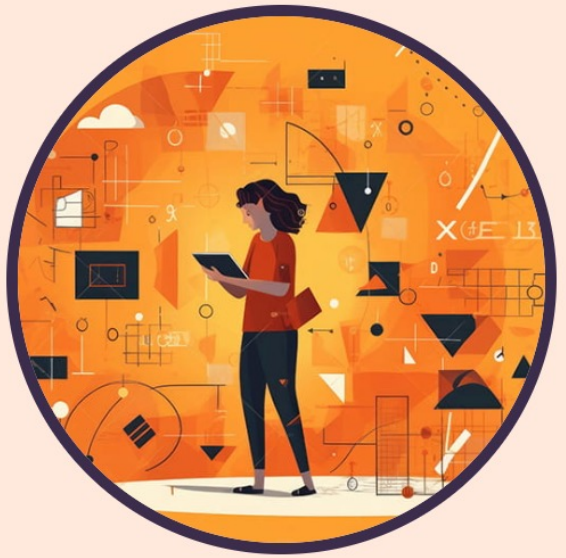
Learning Design and Assessment

- Multimodal, ongoing, goal-based to integrate AI into learning design and delivery
- Foster collaboration between instructional designers, subject matter experts and others
- Finding, piloting and planning to implement relevant AI tools and associated pedagogies



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Academic Development

- To enhance the understanding of AI in the higher education learning and teaching context
- Sharing of resources, research, and practical examples
- Seminar series
- Online modules

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AI Tools

- Development and/or integration of AI-powered tools and applications specifically designed for educational purposes, such as:
  - Chatbots for student support
  - AI-driven adaptive learning platforms
  - AI-assisted essay grading systems
  - AI-powered virtual classroom assistants

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Research into Impact of AI in L&T

- Multi-disciplinary research projects and case studies
- Evaluate the effectiveness of AI-based pedagogical approaches
- Exploration & impact of AI on:
  - student engagement
  - learning outcomes
  - teacher productivity
  - overall educational experiences.

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Thank you!

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AI Pedagogy Project
https://create.usq.edu.au/edtech/ailtc/ai-pedagogy-project/