



Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences

ChatGPT message – February 2023

Dear Colleagues,

Dear Colleagues,

Following the email to all staff from Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic Professor Rorden Wilkinson, outlined below is statement from the Faculty Education Committee about artificial intelligence in FMHHS.

Artificial intelligence is rapidly changing the way we live and work. What it can do today will be different to what it can do tomorrow. The impact of artificial intelligence, like many technological advances, can have both beneficial and deleterious effects. On the positive side, artificial intelligence is being used in medicine to save lives by enhancing diagnostic accuracy and supporting decision-making. In our own Faculty we have leading academics at the forefront of the application of artificial intelligence for positive impact. Professor Enrico Coiera from AIHI founded the Australian Alliance for Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare and Professor Antonio Di Ieva leads the computational neurosurgery centre (Computational NeuroSurgery Lab) utilising machine learning, deep learning, and computational modelling to study diseases of neurological and neurosurgical interest. While artificial intelligence also has positive applications in education, it does pose a challenge to academic integrity and the assurance that individuals have developed their capabilities and meet required standards.

A modern University is not only about developing knowledge. It is also about the transformative power of learning and the development, the application and contextual adaptation, of capabilities (knowledge, skills, and attributes) to solve problems for positive impact in the world. As a future-focussed University, Macquarie University embraces all forms of artificial intelligence - even those such as chatGPT, Caktus, and Jasper - that are in the current media and thought to undermine academic integrity and assurance of University qualifications.

Similar to the implementation of other technological advances, such as the scientific calculator, our community (staff, students and alumni) will need to work together to understand how to use artificial intelligence tools in education with an initial focus on assessment modernisation. Our deliberations will also include consideration of the future application of artificial intelligence in workplaces as a means of enhancing the employability of our graduates.

While we embrace artificial intelligence, it is timely to remind our community that we are a values-based institution, and our core values are scholarship, integrity, and empowerment. As we empower our community to adopt artificial intelligence for positive impact, we recognise we operate with mutual trust and an expectation that our entire community adhere to our values and act with integrity. At a minimum we expect staff and students to appropriately acknowledge all sources that are used in the creation and submission of academic work. Moreover, we all should be confident in our robust quality assurance, enhancement and improvement processes (i.e., MQ Curriculum Lifecycle Policy Suite) which enable us to make timely, considered, evidence-based decisions to assure the integrity of our units and courses.

As Professor Rorden Wilkinson outlined last week, the misuse of artificial intelligence is a challenge. I encourage Faculty academics to have conversations with students about the use of artificial intelligence within their units and courses and set clear guidelines about its use within assessment tasks. As part of the unit monitoring and grade ratification processes, all academics should work with the relevant Course Director to make data-informed decisions about whether assessment tasks remain fit-for-purpose and whether a Unit Action Plan is required to address any identified issues. I also encourage information sharing within Departments and Schools, and across the Faculty to share effective practices. Department and School Directors' of Education who are also Academic Integrity Officers are well positioned to provide initial advice. They and other members of the Education and Employability portfolio leadership team will ensure a coordinated approach to information sharing across the Faculty.

Best wishes for 2023,

Cath

Catherine Dean (she, her, hers) BAppSc, MA, PhD

Principal Fellow of Higher Education Academy (PFHEA)

Graduate Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD)

Professor

Deputy Dean, Education and Employability

Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences

Wallumattagal campus

Level 3, 75 Talavera Road

Macquarie University NSW 2109, Australia