Faculty Senate

M2023.11.28 Motion to Recommend Adoption of AI Policy

Originator: Faculty Senate Academic Policies Committee

Whereas,

The Faculty Senate Academic Policies Committee was charged with investigating the impact that recent artificial intelligence tools (i.e. ChatGPT) might have on academic integrity at the University on February 22, 2023. The Committee was asked to propose policies to address any issues that are warranted based on its research into the issue,

Whereas,

The Academic Policies Committee created a taskforce co-chaired by Dr. Melanie Conroy, World Languages and Literatures and Dr. Andrew Hussey, Economics, and made up of the following members: Dr. Edith Gnanadass, Education; Dr. Elliott Casal, English; Dr. Srikar Velichety, Management Information Systems; Dr. Sue Hull-Toye, ITS; Dr. Alistair Windsor, Mathematics and IIS; Dr. Steve Strain, Biomedical Engineering; and Dr. Martha Robinson, Management and Lambuth Liaison. The taskforce was charged with researching this issue, writing a report, and developing a policy on the use of AI for the University,

Whereas,

The Academic Policies Committee reviewed the report and proposed policy developed by the taskforce. A draft of the proposed policy was sent via email to the faculty senators for review on October 26, 2023.

Be it resolved that,

The Faculty Senate recommends that the University adopt the following AI policy:

AI Policy

Recognizing both the diverse potential benefits and challenges of generative AI across academic areas, instructors have the discretion to set their own policies for the application of these AI tools in their courses. Such guidelines should be detailed in the course syllabi and clearly conveyed to students. As in all instances of academic misconduct, instructors should report impermissible use of AI to the Office of Student Accountability.

Students are prohibited from employing generative AI tools to complete exams or assignments (including papers, projects, computer programs, oral presentations, or other course requirements), unless given explicit permission from their course instructor. Unauthorized use of generative AI is treated as use of unauthorized assistance from another individual. Regardless of the course AI policy, all notable uses of generative AI should be acknowledged by the student in writing or via citation at the time of assignment submission; when unsure, students should err on the side of full disclosure. If students are unsure of the permissibility of the use of generative AI
in a specific course context, it is their responsibility to seek clarification from their instructors prior to its use.

Recipients:
Faculty Senate
Dr. David J. Russomanno, Provost
Dr. Sue Hull-Toye, Assistant Chief Information Officer
Ms. Amber Bush, Associate Dean of Students for Student Accountability