

AI IN HIGHER ED: A MOMENT OF CHANGE, AND A CHANCE TO LEAD

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You've probably noticed that AI is everywhere—on your newsfeed, in your classroom, maybe even in your inbox. In higher education, it's more than just a trend. It's a conversation we have to engage in, a shifting landscape we have to navigate. How do we prepare students for an AI-shaped future while ensuring their learning is meaningful, ethical, and human-centered? How do we support faculty and staff as they try new things, ask hard questions, and build new practices? What does an AI-ready institution look like—and how do we move from simply being ready to leading the conversation?

What makes this moment different isn't just the arrival of new tools. It's the way those tools are pressing on long-standing questions we all wrestle with in higher ed every day. About what counts as learning. About what support really looks like. About how we build trust in systems that are still taking shape. At UAGC, we are already having those conversations, in curriculum teams, in policy discussions, in faculty learning communities, and on Zoom calls. And, from my perspective, that's the work. Not just chasing the next big integration, but in making sense of what matters. Together.

There's a lot happening. A lot to track and consider. A lot to learn.

And here at UAGC, we're not just watching this transformation unfold; we're actively shaping it. As Faculty Fellow for AI Strategy, I've been invited to help guide our institution through this moment not by offering quick fixes or one-size-fits-all solutions, but by listening, connecting, and building alongside you. My role is rooted in real questions: How do we integrate these technologies in ways that are meaningful, ethical, and human-first? How do we support the innovators *and* the skeptics? How do we ensure students are empowered, not overwhelmed?

That work is already underway. Across our community, faculty and staff are experimenting with AI tools in their daily practice, reimagining workflows and assignments, and designing for creativity and care. We're building frameworks to support intentional use, piloting new approaches to curriculum design, and investing in scalable systems to help us learn as we go.

One example? We've [launched a suite of AI-assisted course development tools through the Course Design Hub](#). These resources are designed to support instructional designers and faculty at every stage of the course revision process—from writing outcomes and scaffolding weekly learning to building assignments and checking alignment. And we're actively road-testing this pipeline right now in partnership with several departments, helping unlock time, creativity, and deeper coherence in course design.

How Do We Keep Up? Together.

This moment isn't static. It's evolving quickly. But keeping up doesn't just mean staying informed. It means staying connected to each other, to evolving practices, and to the values that guide our decisions. It means noticing what's working, surfacing lessons learned, and sharing ideas early and often, so no one feels like they have to figure this out alone.

We don't need all the answers right away. But we do need places to ask better questions, reflect on our journeys, and build smarter, more sustainable approaches to AI adoption. That's where two new communication efforts come in.

Two Ways to Stay Connected

To help support this ongoing conversation, we're launching two new communication efforts—each designed to keep you informed, inspired, and in the loop.

First up: A new **AI Edge Newsletter**. Each issue will offer a snapshot of what's happening in the world of AI, both in higher ed in general and right here at UAGC. Expect short updates, curated news links, examples from your colleagues, and low-lift ideas you can try in your own work. The goal is to keep it relevant, human, and useful - something you'll actually want to read (and contribute to!).

The Newsletter will be one way to track our learning in real time. To surface what's emerging, what's messy, what's showing promise. We'll highlight different voices and different entry points because no one's starting from the same place, and no one should have to figure this out alone. [Sign up to receive The AI Edge newsletter.](#)

Second: We're kicking off a new **AI Corner** right here in *The Chronicle*. This recurring series will highlight how faculty and staff across UAGC are engaging with AI through experimentation, exploration, and critical reflection. Some stories might focus on tools or hacks. Others may ask tough questions or share lessons learned. All of them will help surface the practices, tensions, and opportunities shaping our institutional journey with AI.

Think of the AI Corner as a space to pause and reflect on the bigger picture, removed from the triage of day-to-day tasks and instructional labor. Here, we'll share not just what we're doing, but how we're thinking and what we're noticing along the way. It's where the human side of this work can breathe.

Have something you're trying? Curious about? Wrestling with? Let us know. These spaces are for you, and it all works best when it reflects the diversity of experience across our community.

Head over to [AI @ UAGC](#) for AI Events, *The AI Edge*, and AI Resources.

[Contribute to The AI Edge Newsletter.](#)

[Contribute to the AI Corner of The Chronicle.](#)