VSCS-TLT AI (Artificial Intelligence) Retreat Agenda

August 8, 2024 | Vermont State University at Randolph Campus

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8:30 – 9:00   **Arrival & Refreshments**
Judd Hall

9:00 – 9:15   **Welcome from TLT Sponsors**
Judd Hall   Kellie Campbell, VSC CIO, Nolan Atkins, VTSU Provost, and Deborah Stewart, CCV Academic Dean

9:15 – 10:45   **Keynote**
Judd Hall   Authentic Intelligence: Preventing AI from "Hijacking" Education – Dr. Stephen Aguilar

10:45 – 11:00   **Break**
Judd Hall

11:00 – 12:15   **Morning Sessions**
Conant 101   Utilizing an Equity and Justice Lens to Understand Bias in the Machine – Hilary Ivy
Clarke 300   Exploring Generative AI Tools for Research and Academia – Miranda Axworthy & Susan Currier
Conant 103   CCV Presents: Faculty Approaches for Teaching with GenAI – CCV Faculty
Clarke 314   Exploring Generative AI for Pedagogical Uses – Jen Garrett-Ostermiller
Clarke 304   Apple Devices and AI – Ian Camera
Clarke 301   Microsoft Copilot for Beginners – Amy Moore
Conant 104   Unlocking the AI Alchemist: Co-Creating with Artificial Intelligence – Sarah Chambers

12:15 – 12:45   **Break & Buffet Lunch**
Judd Hall

12:45 – 1:45   **Panel**
Judd Hall   Securing Student Data in the World of AI – Panel Discussion led by Kellie Campbell

1:45 – 3:00   **Afternoon Sessions**
Clarke 301   Microsoft Copilot Advanced – Amy Moore
Conant 101   Lessons from the Wild: Case Study Review of AI Implementations – Hilary Ivy
Clarke 300   Talking About the Intersection of AI and Accessibility – Accessibility Team
Clarke 314   Analyzing the Implications of AI – Jeff Tunney
Clarke 304   Apple Devices and AI – Ian Camera
Conant 103   Readiness for AI – Kellie Campbell, Patty Turley, Sarah Chambers

3:00 – 3:15   **Closing, Evaluation, Raffle, & Snacks**
Judd Hall

Session Details

Keynote

Authentic Intelligence: Preventing AI from "Hijacking" Education – Stephen Aguilar, Associate Professor of Education at USC Rossier School of Education and Associate Director of the USC Center for Generative AI and Society
9:15 – 10:45 | Judd Hall

Description: Can AI 'hijack' education? Probably not, but we should still remain vigilant and understand our role in an AI-infused world. In this talk I will delve into the rapidly evolving world of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in education, posing critical questions about the future role of instructors, staff, and students.

I'll explore the benefits and efficiencies AI brings, such as scalability, consistency, and the ability to generate personalized content. I will highlight the advancements in AI technology, demonstrating how AI systems have become increasingly sophisticated at tasks traditionally performed by human educators, such as grading, personalized lesson planning, and even direct instruction.

Yet, we shouldn't be seduced by the "efficiency" arguments related to AI adoption. The second half of my talk will focus on the potential downsides of an over-reliance on AI in education. These include the loss of human interaction and mentorship, the risks of data privacy infringement, and the potential for AI to reinforce existing biases or create new ones in education.

Goals:
1. Understand the key differences between narrow AI, generative AI, and general AI, and implications for each on education.
2. Know the current advances of AI in education.
3. Think through their role and how AI can be used to improve their work, while mitigating the risks posed by AI use.

Morning Sessions

Morning Session 1: Utilizing an Equity and Justice Lens to Understand Bias in the Machine – Hilary Ivy, CCV Instructor

11:00 – 12:15 | Conant 101

Description: In this session, we will examine the issue of bias in AI systems through the lens of equity and justice. We will explore how historical and societal biases can be inadvertently encoded into AI algorithms, leading to discriminatory outcomes. The session will discuss strategies for identifying and mitigating bias, such as diverse and inclusive training data, algorithmic fairness techniques, and ongoing monitoring and auditing. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of the importance of addressing bias in AI to promote equity and justice.
Goals:
1. Understand how historical and societal biases can be inadvertently encoded into AI algorithms, leading to discriminatory outcomes.
2. Learn strategies for identifying and mitigating bias in AI systems, such as diverse and inclusive training data, algorithmic fairness techniques, and ongoing monitoring and auditing.
3. Gain a deeper understanding of the importance of addressing bias in AI to promote equity and justice.

Morning Session 2: Exploring Generative AI Tools for Research and Academia – Miranda Axworthy, Reference & Teaching Resources Librarian at CCV & Susan Currier, Faculty Librarian at VTSU

11:00 – 12:15 | Clarke 300

Description: Generative AI has revolutionized the information landscape, impacting research, creativity, and education. In this interactive session, VSCS reference librarians will introduce a curated selection of generative AI tools specifically tailored for academic use. Attendees will have the opportunity to explore these tools firsthand, engage in practical demonstrations, and participate in a collaborative discussion about use cases.
Goals:
1. Navigate at least one generative AI research tool.
2. Discuss how to use generative AI research tools in own scholarship and/or with students.

Morning Session 3: CCV Presents, Faculty Approaches for Teaching with GenAI – CCV Faculty
11:00 – 12:15 | Conant 103

Description: CCV's Academic Council-Artificial Intelligence (AC-AI) Workgroup held regular discussions about teaching and learning with AI throughout the spring semester. Join us to hear the highlights from those discussions, which include how they are discussing AI with their students, creating course statements and policy, building AI literacy, promoting a culture of academic integrity, and incorporating AI into teaching strategies and content. Bring your questions, experiences, and ideas to engage in this interactive session!

Goals:

1. Learn how faculty are engaging with students on the use of GenAI in the classroom.
2. Consider examples of AI policy statements to incorporate into the course syllabus.
3. Share approaches to AI in the classroom.

Morning Session 4: Exploring Generative AI for Pedagogical Uses – Jen Garrett-Ostermiller, Director of the VTSU Center for Teaching & Learning Innovation
11:00 – 12:15 | Clarke 314

Description: This workshop examines ways educators can use AI chatbots to enhance teaching and learning, aligned with effective pedagogy and teaching methods. This session will include hands-on experience using chatbots to explore possibilities and limitations for teaching practice.

Goals:

1. Identify strategies for effectively interacting with a chatbot.
2. Describe the elements of an effective structured AI prompt.
3. Describe pedagogical situations where AI chatbots can be beneficial.
4. Use a chatbot to complete an education-related task.

Morning Session 5: Apple Devices and AI – Ian Camera, Higher Education Leadership Executive at Apple
11:00 – 12:15 | Clarke 304

Description: Please join us to explore how machine learning and artificial intelligence resources function on Apple devices. We will discuss where the different tools run, how they are trained or prepared for use, and how to capture and examine their output and potential impact on academic work. We will start with what is available now, and then consider the new resources (Apple Intelligence) which will be available when Apple's operating systems are updated in the fall.

Goals:
1. Identify different uses for machine learning and artificial intelligence tools.
2. Identify where the analysis is being performed (locally or in the cloud) for a range of ML and AI tools which are available on Apple devices.
3. Describe the data sets used to train different AI algorithms.

Morning Session 6: Microsoft Copilot for Beginners – Amy Moore, CCV Faculty
11:00 – 12:15 | Clarke 301

Description: Beginning in February 2024, the VSCS Educational license with Microsoft provides free access to Copilot with **Protected** data which offers faculty, staff, and students the ability to work with a Generative AI tool based on OpenAI's ChatGPT 4 and higher with the ability to disallow the bot from saving, using, or sharing anything submitted to the bot. This provides protections we all need to work with a Generative AI tool safely and securely work in our academic environment without violating copyright and Academic standards and policy.

Requirements: Attendees should bring their favorite computing devices – laptops, tablets, or cell phones – in order to participate in this interactive session. The installation of Microsoft Edge (Microsoft's browser) prior to attending the session is strongly recommended. Demonstration will be conducted on Windows 11 using Edge. *No prior Generative AI experience required.*

Goals:
1. Access and use Copilot from any browser along with extra tools in Edge.
2. Explore the Copilot environment with Bing as well as the Sidebar in Edge.
3. Construct basic prompts for image and text with this Generative AI tool.
4. Keep professional and student information secure with Copilot.

5. Keep updated with developments with the Copilot tool available through VSCS's license.

Morning Session 7: Unlocking the AI Alchemist, Co-Creating with Artificial Intelligence – Sarah Chambers, Director of Learning Technologies at VSC
11:00 – 12:15 | Conant 104

Description: Ladies and gentlemen, esteemed colleagues, and curious minds, welcome to our interactive retreat session on co-creating with AI! Today, we embark on a journey that transcends sci-fi stereotypes and dives into the heart of innovation. So, put on your metaphorical lab coats, because we are about to unlock the AI alchemist within each of us. (This intro was co-created with AI)
Goals:
1. Participants will describe how to co-create with AI by completing activities that explore the use of different AI tools in a creation process.
2. Demonstrate the ability to integrate AI features (e.g., chatbots, recommendation engines) into daily tasks or workflows during follow-up activities.

Panel

Securing Student Data in the World of AI – Panel Discussion led by Kellie Campbell
12:45 – 1:45 | Judd Hall

Description: This panel will explore how the VSC secures student data in this new world where different AI models frequently ingest data. Panelists will share how we view student data using different lenses, including an IT lens, a legal lens, an academic lens, and a student success lens.
Goals:
1. Participants will identify the different ways the VSC keeps student and other private information safe.
2. Participants will understand the importance of using AI responsibly and safely.

Afternoon Sessions

Afternoon Session 1: Generative AI Beyond Writing - Amy Moore, CCV Faculty
1:45 – 3:00 | Clarke 301

Copilot and other Generative AI tools can be used far beyond writing emails and draft papers. We'll explore various professional time saving uses of Generative AI. Primary platforms used in this session will be Copilot (Microsoft – VSCS licensed version) and Gemini (Google – instructor has paid version, but free version is fine as well). Will focus on keeping uses needing the security of content to using Copilot only.

Requirements: Attendees should bring your favorite computing devices – laptops, tablets, or cell phones – in order to participate in this interactive session. The installation of Microsoft Edge (Microsoft's browser) prior to attending the session is strongly recommended. Demonstration will be conducted on Windows 11 using Edge and Chrome. *No prior Generative AI experience required* but participants who have experience to share will be well suited to participate.

Goals:
1. discover new and different ways to use Generative AI in their classroom, course development, and other professional work
2. discover what Generative AI does not do well
3. share successes and failures with Generative AI tools

Afternoon Session 2: Lessons from the Wild, Case Study Review of AI Implementations – Hilary Ivy, CCV Faculty
1:45 – 3:00 | Conant 101

Description: This session will present a series of case studies highlighting real-world implementations of AI systems across various industries. We will analyze the successes, challenges, and lessons learned from these deployments, covering topics such as project planning, data management, model selection, and performance evaluation. The session will also discuss the organizational and cultural factors that influence the success of AI implementations based on the facilitator's own experience developing adversarial testing protocols at Google. Attendees will gain valuable insights from these real-world examples across public, private, and non-profit sectors to inform their own AI projects, strategies, and instructional materials.

Goals:

1. Analyze real-world case studies of AI implementations across various industries, focusing on successes, challenges, and lessons learned.
2. Understand the organizational and cultural factors that influence the success of AI implementations, based on the facilitator's experience developing adversarial testing protocols at Google.
3. Gain valuable insights from real-world examples across public, private, and non-profit sectors to inform attendees' own AI projects, strategies, and instructional materials.

Afternoon Session 3: Talking About the Intersection of AI and Accessibility, An Interactive Discussion – VSC Accessibility Team

1:45 – 3:00 | Clarke 300

Description: AI impacts institutional policy, processes, and teaching and learning, which calls for a conversation on how this emerging technology impacts digital accessibility and disability. The TLT (Teaching & Learning with Technology) Digital Accessibility committee proposes a discussion-based session that explores the intersection of AI and Accessibility with a focus on its impact on disability, online learning, and student accommodations. Our goal is to interact with the audience by exploring both the potential benefits of AI in increasing accessibility for the disabled, and the potential challenges, including: ethical concerns that examine topics such as institutional and algorithmic biases, privacy, and reliance on the efficacy of AI technology; emerging and established technologies such as generative AI, captioning, vision simulations, and document remediation; student accommodations around the use of AI, and; AI accuracy and potential dependency on AI that may impact creativity, representation, and inclusion. Though our main topic will be disability, digital accessibility, and AI we expect that our introduction of these topics will expand into how AI impacts various persons and communities, and our institutions. This will be an open discussion moderated by a small panel that will prompt the audience to respond with thoughts, questions, experiences, and challenges. Through this topic's elevation, this committee seeks to examine and develop instructional strategies and institutional discourse in anticipation of continued examination of the potential of AI technology.

Goals:

1. Discuss AI and accessibility in a manner that informs institutional and instructional practices and policy.

2. Share ideas, questions, and experiences.

3. Understand emerging impact on disability, accessibility, and AI technology.

Afternoon Session 4: Analyzing the Implications of AI – Jeff Tunney, Associate Director of the VTSU CTLI

1:45 – 3:00 | Clarke 314

Description: This workshop aims for participants to describe and analyze key issues and risks of AI regarding ethics, equity, and policy. The session provides background information and critical perspectives while positing challenging questions and provoking discussion rather than providing clearly defined answers.

Goals:

1. Describe practices that support privacy and security.

2. Describe practices for using generative AI in academic scholarship.

3. Discuss how inequity, bias, environmental impact, and misinformation intersect with generative AI technology.

4. Analyze how compatible with AI their existing course is.

Afternoon Session 5: Apple Intelligence – Ian Camera, Higher Education Leadership Executive at Apple

1:45 – 3:00 | Clarke 304

Description: Please join us to explore how machine learning and artificial intelligence resources function on Apple devices. We will discuss where the different tools run, how they are trained or prepared for use, and how to capture and examine their output and potential impact on academic work. We will start with what is available now, and then consider the new resources (Apple Intelligence) which will be available when Apple's operating systems are updated in the fall.

Goals:

1. Identify different uses for machine learning and artificial intelligence tools.

2. Identify where the analysis is being performed (locally or in the cloud) for a range of ML and AI tools which are available on Apple devices.

3. Describe the data sets used to train different AI algorithms.

Afternoon Session 6: Readiness for AI – Kellie Campbell, Patty Turley, Sarah Chambers

1:45 – 3:00 | Conant 103

Description: Participate in a discussion about how the VSC is planning for AI throughout the system with Patty Turley, VSC Legal Council, Kellie Campbell, VSC CIO, and Sarah Chambers, Director of Learning Technologies. Topics will include a review of the AI Policy and AI readiness from an AI strategy perspective. We will also explore ways we can unite and align on thoughtful adoption practices.

Goals:
1. Participants will identify legal and ethical concerns regarding AI usage in Higher Education.
2. Participants will explain how IT Shared Services is approaching AI usage for faculty, staff, and students.

Closing, Evaluation, Raffle, & Snacks for the Drive Home

3:00 – 3:15 | Judd Hall