2025
AI FAIR@KSU
for Faculty & Staff

DAY 1: APRIL 1

9:45 a.m.: Welcome & Opening Remarks
Dylan Goldblatt

10 a.m.: Virtual Keynote Speech
Dr. Jeanne Law

Finding Your Footing: Navigating Generative AI Across Disciplines
Staying current with generative AI can be overwhelming, but faculty can confidently integrate it across disciplines. This keynote covers practical strategies for using AI in teaching while preserving autonomy, introduces the OpenStax Writing Guide GPT to foster AI literacy, and presents a KSU-designed prompting framework to enhance student learning. A live demo will showcase Custom GPTs as cognitive scaffolds, boosting engagement without replacing expertise.

Faculty will leave with actionable insights to embrace AI as an ally in preparing students for AI-driven workplaces.

DAY 2: APRIL 2 • KENNESAW

Presentations — Prillaman Hall Atrium

8:30 a.m. | Welcome
The doors will open and faculty and staff will be invited to come inside as day 2 launches!

8:45 a.m. | Opening Remarks
Ryan McLemore

9 a.m. | Student Use of AI: A Conversation With Two Undergraduates
Jessica Joachim and Olivia Ruiz

Join us for "Student Use of AI: A Conversation With Two Undergraduates," where two students will share their perspectives, experiences, and opinions on using artificial intelligence in academic, personal, and professional contexts. This interactive session will provide valuable insights into how students are leveraging AI tools, their thoughts on AI's benefits and challenges, and AI's role in their educational journey. Following the presentation, there will be a Q&A session, offering KSU faculty the opportunity to ask questions and gain a deeper understanding of student use of AI. This session is designed to foster meaningful dialogue and collaboration between students and faculty around the evolving role of AI in higher education.

10 a.m. | Investigating the Unexpected: Methods for Managing Unstructured Information for Research
Dylan Goldblatt

In today's data-rich research environment, unstructured information—ranging from free-text documents and multimedia files to social media feeds—often holds untapped potential and hidden insights. This lecture explores robust methods for managing, analyzing, and deriving meaning from such unpredictable data sources. We will delve into strategies for data cleaning, text mining, natural language processing (NLP), and forcing structured output, providing a comprehensive toolkit for researchers who wish to turn chaotic data into actionable knowledge. Through case studies and practical demonstrations, attendees will learn how to design workflows that anticipate the unexpected, leverage computational techniques for structure extraction, and ultimately enhance their research outcomes by embracing the complexity of unstructured information.

11 a.m. | Enhancing Instruction With Microsoft Copilot Chat
Microsoft

This session will introduce faculty to Microsoft Copilot, showcasing its capabilities and practical applications in an educational setting. Participants will learn how to leverage Copilot to enhance productivity, streamline content creation, and support instructional activities with advanced AI tools. Presenters will also showcase how to introduce Copilot Chat to students and share ways that faculty can integrate it into curriculum.

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

Presentations — Prillaman Hall Atrium

1 p.m. | Introduction to Skillsoft's CAISY AI Simulator
Cayla Howard

This workshop introduces learners to CAISY. CAISY provides interactive, scenario-based content powered by AI where a learner can practice new skills in a safe space. This AI simulation content allows learners to choose roles and practice specific skills by responding to AI prompts. The CAISY AI simulator rates your responses as if it were an HR representative employing best practices for the given situation.

2 p.m. | Inference at the Edge: How to Work Securely and Offline with Language Models
Dylan Goldblatt

As language models continue to revolutionize the way we process and generate text, concerns regarding data security, privacy, and dependency on cloud infrastructure have become increasingly prominent—especially in sensitive academic and research settings. This lecture provides a comprehensive exploration of how to deploy and operate language models securely in offline, edge-computing environments. We will cover techniques for model compression, quantization, and efficient inference, alongside best practices for maintaining data security and privacy. Through demonstrations and case studies, attendees will gain insights into optimizing language model performance on local hardware while ensuring compliance with stringent security requirements. This session is ideal for researchers and academic staff who need to safeguard sensitive data without sacrificing the benefits of advanced natural language processing capabilities.

3 p.m. | Artificial Intelligence and "Cheating": Resilient & Adaptive Courses for the Age of AI
Michael Kingston

Concerns about students "cheating" with generative AI tools are consistently ranked among the top concerns of higher education faculty. This interactive presentation unpacks both the challenges and opportunities that generative AI tools present for traditional assessments and learning tasks. Participants will explore how providing clear, purpose-driven guidance on AI use, combined with modeling responsible AI use in course design and delivery, can drive student engagement and improve outcomes – without compromising academic integrity. Participants will leave this session with actionable steps for using AI tools and guidance to enhance course design and delivery and reduce the risk of "AI cheating".

To empower faculty to use AI tools and guidance to reframe concerns around "AI cheating" into opportunities to engage with AI tools and build critical student AI literacy. Faculty will reflect on how students already use generative AI, reframe what "cheating" is for the AI age, and explore opportunities to model AI-use best practices within courses.

4 p.m. | Enhancing Research Efficiency with Copilot Chat and Agents
Microsoft

This presentation will show academic researchers how to use Microsoft Copilot Chat and Agents to enhance their research workflows. Learn how Copilot Chat can streamline literature reviews, support article copyediting, and assist in drafting proposals. Additionally, discover how Copilot Chat Agents can enhance your workflows like automatically generating project documentation, and reducing knowledge and technical debt while supporting graduate students.

Participants will discover use cases for Microsoft Copilot Chat and Agents for academic research, learn how to leverage Microsoft Copilot Chat for research workflows, and learn how to automate research administration and other workflows to be more efficient.

5 p.m. | Closing Remarks

DAY 2: APRIL 2 • KENNESAW

Walk-Up Tables & Demonstrations — Prillaman Hall Lobby

8:30 a.m.–Noon

Enhancing Research Efficiency With Microsoft Copilot Chat & Agents
Microsoft

Discover how academic researchers can use Microsoft Copilot Chat and Agents to enhance their research workflows. Learn how Copilot Chat can streamline literature reviews, support article copyediting, and assist in drafting proposals. Additionally, learn how Copilot Chat Agents can enhance your workflows like automatically generating project documentation, and reducing knowledge and technical debt while supporting graduate students.

Join us to explore these powerful tools and transform your research practices. Participants will discover use cases for Microsoft Copilot Chat and Agents for academic research, learn how to leverage Microsoft Copilot Chat for research workflows, and learn how to automate research administration and other workflows to be more efficient.

Exploring the Use of AI in Administrative Tasks
Lori Meadows

Learn about admin use of AI. Lori Meadows aims to raise awareness about ways admin support can capitalize on AI technology while providing ideas for use and demos of what it can do. The demo will include examples of prompting, the creation of agendas and minutes, and budget forecasting.

Guidance and Best Practices for AI Use at KSU
Christine Harkreader, Trish Weber, Christian Lucas, Jessica Joachim, and Olivia Ruiz

Learn best practices for maximizing the benefits of AI in your academic pursuits and professional work while adhering to the university's code of conduct. The table will provide accessible information and answer questions regarding appropriate AI usage within the university environment. Furthermore, collected data on frequently asked questions will inform future AI initiatives to address community interests and concerns.

Microsoft Copilot Prompting
Monica Hall and Kelly Harden

This table introduces learners to the art of crafting effective prompts for AI tools like Microsoft Copilot. This training covers various techniques and strategies to optimize the use of AI in generating creative content, answering questions, and improving productivity.

Noon–1 p.m. | Break

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Walk-Up Tables & Demonstrations — Prillaman Hall Lobby

1–4 p.m.

Getting Started With Microsoft Copilot
Kimber Williams and Cayla Howard

Join us to delve into the exciting world of Microsoft Copilot, a powerful AI (artificial intelligence) tool. This workshop is perfect for beginners and will explore topics like generating creative content, answering questions, and even proofreading your writing. Whether you're looking to write a compelling story, create a unique image, or simply make your day-to-day tasks easier, this workshop will help you master AI at KSU!

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Leveraging GitHub for Academic Research
Microsoft

Did you know that GitHub is free for anyone in education? Come to this session to learn more about how academic researchers can leverage GitHub for version control, collaboration, and project management, ensuring their research is organized and accessible. Additionally, the session will introduce GitHub Copilot, an AI-powered tool that assists in code writing and problem-solving, enhancing productivity and innovation. Finally, this session will walk you through the steps of getting started with GitHub today.

Participants will discover use cases for GitHub and GitHub Copilot for academic research, learn the onboarding process for setting up an education account on GitHub, learn how to join the group of GitHub users affiliated with KSU, and explore how to tie in GitHub Copilot in VSCode at no cost.

Reimagining Assessments: Balancing Human Insight and Generative AI with Bloom's Taxonomy
Marcus Green and Ashely Moore

Reimagining Assessments: Balancing Human Insight and Generative AI with Bloom's Taxonomy is a 60-minute interactive demonstration created to help participants with strategies for integrating Generative AI tools into their course assessments. This hands-on demonstration provides an opportunity to align assessment prompts with Bloom's Taxonomy. Moreover, participants will have the opportunity to discuss different avenues for leveraging Generative AI for their course assignments and the need for human intervention. By the end of this demonstration, faculty participants will gain clarity regarding balancing Generative AI with the necessity of human insights. The purpose of this demonstration is for faculty to discuss Generative AI tools used in creating effective prompts that align with and support their course learning objectives.

Faculty will discuss the use of Generative AI tools for course assignments and prompts aligned with the course learning objectives based on Bloom's Taxonomy. They will also discuss the need for human intervention when forming learning objectives through generative AI.

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

DAY 3: APRIL 3 • MARIETTA

Presentations — Student Center Ballrooms

8:30 a.m. | Welcome

The doors will open and faculty and staff will be invited to come inside as day 2 launches!

8:45 a.m. | Opening Remarks

Ryan McLemore

9 a.m. | Student Use of AI: A Conversation With Two Undergraduates

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11 a.m.–Noon | Break

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

DAY 3: APRIL 3 • MARIETTA

Presentations — Student Center Ballrooms

12 p.m. | Enhancing Instruction With Microsoft Copilot Chat
Microsoft

This session aims to introduce faculty to Microsoft Copilot, showcasing its capabilities and practical applications in an educational setting. Participants will learn how to leverage Copilot to enhance productivity, streamline content creation, and support instructional activities with advanced AI tools. We will also showcase how to introduce Copilot Chat to students and ways that you can integrate it into your curriculum.

Participants will learn the core functionalities of Microsoft Copilot, explore practical use cases for Copilot in areas like content creation and student support, and learn best practices for integrating Copilot into daily instructional tasks. They will also explore use cases for faculty to frame how students can use Copilot for learning and assignments.

1 p.m. | Artificial Intelligence and "Cheating": Resilient & Adaptive Courses for the Age of AI
Michael Kingston

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To empower faculty to use AI tools and guidance to reframe concerns around "AI cheating" into opportunities to engage with AI tools and build critical student AI literacy.

By the end of this presentation, faculty will be able to reflect on how students already use generative AI, reframe what "cheating" is for the AI age, and explore opportunities to model AI-use best practices within courses.

2 p.m. | Closing Remarks

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DAY 3: APRIL 3 • MARIETTA

Walk-Up Tables & Demonstrations — Student Center Ballrooms

8:30–11 a.m.

Enhancing Research Efficiency w/ Microsoft Copilot Chat & Agents
Microsoft

Microsoft representatives will show academic researchers how to use Microsoft Copilot Chat and Agents to enhance their research workflows. Learn how Copilot Chat can streamline literature reviews, support article copyediting, and assist in drafting proposals. Additionally, discover how Copilot Chat Agents can enhance your workflows like automatically generating project documentation, and reducing knowledge and technical debt while supporting graduate students.

Participants will discover use cases for Microsoft Copilot Chat and Agents for academic research, learn how to leverage Microsoft Copilot Chat for research workflows, and learn how to automate research administration and other workflows to be more efficient.

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Guidance and Best Practices for AI Use at KSU
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11 a.m.–Noon | Break

Walk-Up Tables & Demonstrations — Student Center Ballrooms

Noon–2 p.m.

Enhancing Instruction With Microsoft Copilot Chat and Agents
Microsoft

Microsoft's AI experts will introduce faculty to Microsoft Copilot, showcasing its capabilities and practical applications in an educational setting. Participants will learn how to leverage Copilot to enhance productivity, streamline content creation, and support instructional activities with advanced AI tools. We will also showcase how to introduce Copilot Chat to students and ways that you can integrate it into your curriculum.

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Introduction to Skillsoft's CAISY AI Simulator
Cayla Howard

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