


Monday Matters: AI in teaching

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To:Dodge, Gail <gdodge@odu.edu>

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 1 attachments (60 KB)

AI Funding Opportunity 2023.pdf;

Dear Colleagues:

I know we are all struggling to comprehend the changes that AI technologies such as ChatGPT will bring to our teaching. On the one hand many of us are concerned that it will lead to more academic dishonesty. On the other hand, it is a tool that our students must learn to use, while also learning to think critically. How can we use this technology to improve our teaching and student learning? The College of Sciences is offering small grants to faculty who want to spend time studying this issue over the summer and developing innovations for their courses. Please see the attached document for details about how to apply.

David Courson in Chemistry alerted me to the following issue:

We do not have a clear institutional policy on the use of AI tools in classrooms. As a result, some instructors are using TurnItIn with AI-detection. These systems are extremely limited and are capable of significant false positives. I have seen a lot of discontent on online forums from both professional writers and students saying their work gets flagged as AI-generated despite not using AI tools during its production. This phenomenon has spread to ODU. I personally suggest we not use these classifier tools, limiting TurnItIn to plagiarism checks. At the very least, if AI-detection will be used in a course, students need to be told to write in a program, like Google Docs, that automatically does activity/version tracking, or to enable it in other programs. This is the only reasonable defense against false-positive assignments that I have come across.

I appreciate David's insight. I also welcome suggestions on ways that the college can assist you with teaching challenges related to AI or other issues.

Best Regards

Gail

Upcoming Events and Deadlines:

- [Graduation](#) – advanced degree ceremony Friday May 5
- [Graduation](#) – undergraduate ceremony Saturday May 6

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