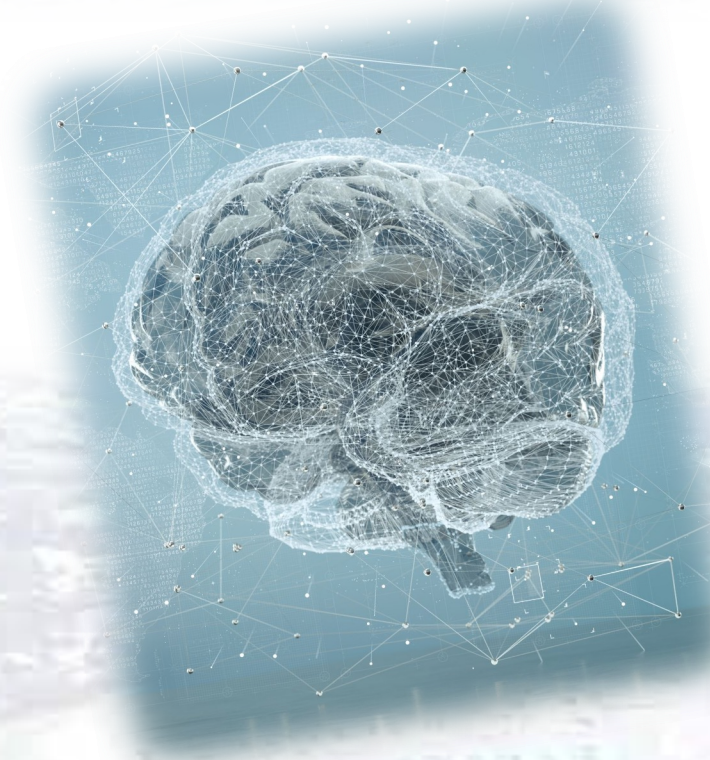# Artificial Intelligence in Academic Nursing

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Background

- Artificial intelligence (AI) is not new (Robert, 2019).
  - Siri, Alexa, Google Maps, etc.
- In nursing education, AI has been used to augment student learning (De Gagne, 2023).
- Large Language Models = ChatGPT, have evolved into powerful writing tools (De Gagne, 2023).
- Challenging in higher education in relation to academic integrity (O'Connor & ChatGPT, 2023; Norris, 2023).
- As exponential improvement in LLMs is expected, the call from the academy is for faculty to consider ways to leverage LLMs (TAMU-CC DLAI, 2023).

Purpose

- Attempt to leverage ChatGPT in academic nursing
- Argumentative essay assignment revised to purposefully expose students to the use of ChatGPT

Methods

- Faculty ChatGPT exploration
  - Exploration result:
    - Well written output
    - No supportive evidence
    - Missed some rubric criteria
    - Same prompt entered = different argument points = level of concern
- Existing argumentative essay assignment revised with the option to use ChatGPT or not.
  - Academic integrity statement
  - Reflective journal component

Student Exemplars

- "… spent a considerable amount of time rewriting almost all the evidence paragraphs…"
- "… contrary to the overall scientific method. I found myself engaging in confirmation… and (then) searching for evidence…"
- "…seems strange to rely solely on a computer for evidence-based information."
- "… AI takes away the writer's voice."
- "… writing a persuasive essay should be done with scholarly works depending on the stance… it would be a good resource to help creative juices flowing if you are having a writer's block…"

Results

- ~ 1/3 of the students used ChatGPT
- Most found it useful for stimulating ideas unrelated to the assignment.
- Most faced challenges with finding the supportive evidence.
- Missed key elements on the rubric.
- Was not always exact = Output largely depended on the quality of the input.
- Limitations:
  - The revision was a pilot attempt to leverage ChatGPT and has not been systematically studied.
  - The option was applied to only one assignment. (2 cohorts)
  - ChatGPT use was self-reported.

Implications

- AI and LLMs are and will continue to be a major part of nursing academia.
- LLMs are predicted to improve exponentially
  - Choice: fight it or embrace it

What to do….
- Teach responsible use to stimulate ideas.
- Consider other, more tactile methods of assessing student learning.

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References available on request.