



Artificial Intelligence: SUNY FACT2 Task Group & SUNY Task Force Reports

SUNY Online Summit
February 29, 2024



SUNY Artificial Intelligence Panel

Faculty Council on Teaching and Technology (FACT²) AI Task Group Report

- Jeffrey Riman, Fashion Institute of Technology (Co-Chair)
- Billie Franchini, University at Albany (Co-Chair)

Strategic **R**esearch **I**n**V**estment (STRIVE) Task Force Report

- Education Working Group - Billie Franchini, University at Albany (member)
- Social Impact: Ethics and Trustworthiness Working Group – Jason DeCruz, University at Albany (Co-Lead) and Atri Rudra, University of Buffalo (Co-Lead)
- Workforce and Industry Working Group – Jeffrey Riman, Fashion Institute of Technology (member)



FACT²

Faculty Advisory Council
on Teaching & Technology

Task Group on Optimizing AI in Higher Education

Co-chairs Jeffrey Riman, FIT
Billie Franchini, UAlbany

Overview

Timeline

Group formed in May 2023, will complete its work in May 2024

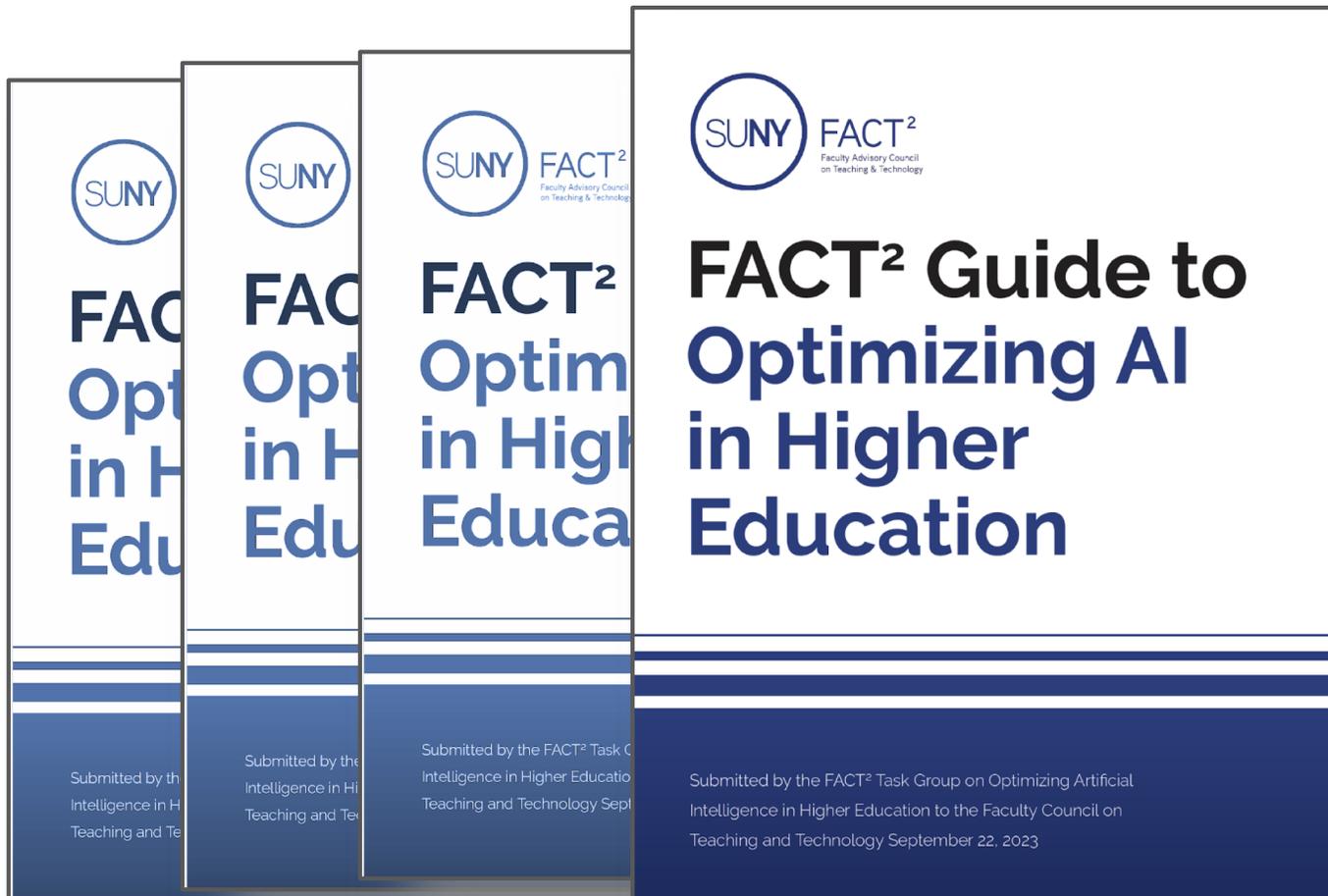
Goals

- Investigate the opportunities and challenges presented by the emergence and rapidly growing availability of AI tools
- Provide resources to support faculty in best practices for using AI

Group composition and organization

- 50+ members representing 11 SUNY Campuses, SUNY Online, SUNY Administration, and five campuses outside SUNY
- Work conducted in subcommittees with specific areas of focus

First Milestone: Guide to Optimizing AI



Current and ongoing work of subcommittees

Guide: Developing second edition of guide, to be published in April. Expanded content in all topics.

Faculty development: Offering series of five virtual workshops on AI and teaching in March and April. [Register](#)

Symposium: Offering full-day symposium on Tuesday, May 21 (the day before SUNY CIT begins), at the University at Buffalo

Website/Resource: Developing a sustainable web presence for resources related to AI and teaching.



SUNY **ST**rategic **R**esearch **INV**estment (STRIVE) Task Force on Artificial Intelligence

Education Work Group

Billie Franchini, Ph.D., University at Albany
SUNY Online Summit
February 29, 2024

Education Work Group - Phase 1 Scope

1. Advance and accelerate programs for (ethical and socially responsible) AI education, literacy and awareness across SUNY campuses and their stakeholder communities
2. Assess current policies and practices across campuses and develop recommendations for best leveraging of emerging AI tools to enhance teaching and learning outcomes without compromising trust and integrity.

Education Work Group - Phase 1 Outcomes

Report with key recommendations (November 2023), based on

- feedback from working group members and thought leaders using questionnaires focused on areas described under scope
- analysis of strengths and gaps in AI course and program offerings across SUNY
- review of key reports (SUNY level reports and from nationally reputed sources)

Education Work Group - Phase II (SP 2024)

Goal: Develop 3-5 year plan focused on selecting and implementing recommendations from Phase I report, with a focus on developing a SUNY-wide strategy that connects to campus strategic plans

Progress

- Initial analysis of new developments to adjust recommendations
- Initial consideration of strategies for creating connections across campuses to ensure broad impact
- Initial analysis of challenges inherent in implementing initial recommendations and preparation to address challenges



SUNY Strategic Research InVestment (STRIVE) Task Force on Artificial Intelligence

Social Impact: Ethics and Trustworthiness Working Group

Jason DeCruz, University at Albany

Atri Rudra, University of Buffalo

SUNY Online Summit

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WG members



Mila Gasco-Hernandez



Ramon Gil-Garcia

Public Administration & Policy



Winnie Chen
**Industrial &
System
Engineering**



Alessandra Buccella
Philosophy



Stefan Kehlenbach
Political Science



Maria Rodriguez
**Social
Work**



Ewa Ziarek
**Comparative
Literature**



Lindsay Hunter
**Theater &
Dance**



Jeremy Blackburn



Kenny Joseph



Siwei Lyu



Andrew Schwartz

Computer Science & Engineering

Our Goals

- Inventory of Existing SUNY initiatives, SWOT
- Incentivize collaborations and the formation of interdisciplinary research teams led by Humanities, Social Sciences, and Arts scholars working on issues related to AI and Society.
- Facilitate the exchange of ideas and the translation of insights across disciplines for the generation and pursuit of innovative joint research projects.
- Leverage large-scale funding opportunities at the Federal and State levels that specifically target Humanities, Social Sciences, and Arts-centric projects.

Challenges

- SUNY is a scattered object (like a solar system). How do you create a unified structure to organize our efforts on the social impact of AI?
- How do we facilitate and reward collaboration across campuses that are geographically spread apart?
- How do we manage the ethical and academic integrity challenges associated with instant access to AI resources?
- How do we achieve equitable access to AI resources?



SUNY Strategic Research InVestment (STRIVE) Task Force on Artificial Intelligence

Workforce and Industry Working Group

Jeffrey Riman, Fashion Institute of Technology

SUNY Online Summit

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Workforce - Phase 1 Goals

The goal is to consider AI as a cross-cutting tool and enabler to make sure SUNY has a clear strategy for how it needs to change its approach to education of the workforce; and (the funding to execute on that strategy).

Workforce Group - Phase 1 Outcomes

Report with key recommendations (November 2023), based on

- A roundtable event was held with industry leaders from a diverse who shared their concerns about training students in the ethical and professional use of AI in all domains.
- Recommendation: SUNY-wide Center for Excellence in AI where workforce partners join with SUNY leaders local and system-wide to align skills and objectives for students entering a new economy.

Workforce Group - Phase 1 Outcomes

Report with key recommendations (November 2023), based on

- **Recommendation:** Interdisciplinary Faculty hiring over 64 campuses.
- **Recommendation:** Software and Computing Infrastructure. Research and education in AI require access to substantial computing, data, and software resources, which may be most cost-effectively provided collectively. **This is now part of the Empire AI initiative.**

Workforce Group - Phase II (SP 2024)

Goal: Develop 3-5 year plan focused on selecting and implementing recommendations from Phase I report, with a focus on developing a SUNY-wide strategy that connects to campus strategic plan the needs of employers and companies seeking AI literate graduates

Progress

- Initial analysis of new developments to adjust recommendations
- Initial consideration of strategies for creating connections across campuses to ensure broad impact
- Initial analysis of challenges inherent in implementing initial recommendations and preparation to address challenges



Questions