TO: SUNY University Faculty Senate
FROM: Graduate Academic Programs & Research Committee
RE: Resolution: AI Tools for Research
DATE: April 5-6, 2024
LOCATION: SUNY Colleges at Cornell University, Ithaca**,** NY
RESOLUTION # 197-01-1
VOTE: For: 44 / Against: 0 (without dissent)

RATIONALE:
WHEREAS Governor Hochul in her 2023 State of the State address outlined goals to ensure a world-class student experience and doubling sponsored research, startups, and patents across SUNY; and

WHEREAS Governor Hochul in her 2024 State of the State address states that she "will launch an array of initiatives to continue building on the success of SUNY … and ensure that *all* New York's students can reach their fullest potential." Governor Hochul further praises the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) to speed up innovation and warns of the potential for "exacerbating bias, reinforcing discrimination, disseminating disinformation, or causing other societal harms. It is imperative that AI tools must be used responsibly and transparently to protect the public interest." She has pledged over $400M to create an Empire AI Consortium to "allow for the acquisition of the computing infrastructure needed to enable pioneering research and development, situating New York at the forefront of national efforts of innovation and economic development in AI"; and

WHEREAS Chancellor King, in his 2023 State of the University address, called for a doubling of research activity, which requires the University to "build partnerships throughout higher education," to commit "across the System to attract and support excellent faculty and researchers," and to "provide State-operated campuses with $10 million in annual operating resources", for which AI tools for research can be a catalyst; and

WHEREAS Generative AI has started permeating faculty and graduate student activities in education, research, and service in unprecedented ways since the release of ChatGPT tools from OpenAI (Nov. 30, 2022); and

WHEREAS The SUNY University Faculty Senate's approved resolution "196-03-1 Resolution: Addressing Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the SUNY Workplace" (January 2024) called for the Chancellor and SUNY System Administration to develop and implement clear policies and procedures for the use of AI in the SUNY workplace, recommending that UFS and campus stakeholders be involved in the process, that recommendations from FACT2 and STRIVE are included, that the Chancellor explore professional development on the use of AI, and that the Chancellor share updates on developing and implementing these policies and procedures before the 2024/2025 academic year; and

WHEREAS State[1], Federal[2], and International agencies and governing bodies[3, 4] have started designing and regulating Generative AI in the workplace and society; and

WHEREAS faculty members create scholarly output, in the form of publications, grants, and patents, review other's scholarly output, and that of students, and have to comply with regulations from federal agencies[5, 6] and publishers[7, 8], that restrict the use of AI tools in most cases [9, 10]; and

WHEREAS currently available AI tools in the workplace environment are very limited and not compliant with external bodies' expectations for an ethical use of AI; and

WHEREAS some university systems have already made available AI forums [11] and/or customized AI tools [11, 12] for the ethical use of their faculty members and students;

RESOLUTION:
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the University Faculty Senate requests that the Chancellor provide AI tools to each SUNY faculty and staff member that afford private and confidential:
- Literature searches
- Innovation support
- Patent searches
- AI checks for reviewing activities
- AI checks for grading activities, independent from the Learning Management System (LMS)
- Plagiarism checks for reviewing and grading activities, independent from the Learning Management System (LMS)
- Lesson planning and instructor productivity
- Any other research enhancing AI tools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University Faculty Senate requests that the Chancellor create a website to educate all SUNY students about the ethical and acceptable use of AI tools in education, research, scholarly and creative activity, and practice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University Faculty Senate requests that the Chancellor create a SUNY-wide forum where faculty and staff can discuss academic integrity regulations and ask questions regarding AI tools in research, scholarly and creative activity, education, and practice and their ethical and acceptable use in education, research, scholarly and creative activity, and practice.

BACKGROUND:
1. New York State Office of Information Technology Services. Acceptable Use of Artificial Intelligence Technologies. Available: https://its.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2024/01/nys-p24-001-acceptable-use-of-artificial-intelligence-technologies-_1.pdf. [Accessed: 16-Mar-2024].
2. The White House. Executive Order on the Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence. Available: https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2023/10/30/executive-order-on-the-safe-secure-and-trustworthy-development-and-use-of-artificial-intelligence/ [Accessed: 16-Mar-2024].
3. The European Commission. AI Act. Available: https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/regulatory-framework-ai. [Accessed: 16-Mar-2024].
4. European Parliament. Artificial Intelligence Act: MEPs adopt landmark law. Available: https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20240308IPR19015/artificial-intelligence-act-meps-adopt-landmark-law. [Accessed: 16-Mar-2024].

5. National Science Foundation. Notice to the Research Community on AI. Available: https://new.nsf.gov/news/notice-to-the-research-community-on-ai. [Accessed: 16-Mar-2024].
6. National Institutes of Health. Think Again Before Using Generative AI During Peer Review or as You Prepare an Application. Available: https://www.nccih.nih.gov/research/blog/think-again-before-using-generative-ai-during-peer-review-or-as-you-prepare-an-application. [Accessed: 16-Mar-2024].
7. Elsevier. Policies and Standards: The Use of Generative AI and AI Assisted Technologies in Writing for Elsevier. Available: https://www.elsevier.com/about/policies-and-standards/the-use-of-generative-ai-and-ai-assisted-technologies-in-writing-for-elsevier. [Accessed: 16-Mar-2024].
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9. Leung, T. I., de Azevedo Cardoso, T., Mavragani, A., & Eysenbach, G. (2023). Best practices for using AI tools as an author, peer reviewer, or editor. Journal of Medical Internet Research, 25, e51584. Available: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10502596/. [Accessed: 16-Mar-2024].
10. Springer. Artificial Intelligence (AI) Editorial Policies. Available: https://www.springer.com/gp/editorial-policies/artificial-intelligence--ai-/25428500. [Accessed: 16-Mar-2024].
11. Carnegie Mellon University. Generative Artificial Intelligence. Available: https://www.cmu.edu/computing/services/ai/index.html. [Accessed: 16-Mar-2024].
12. University of Michigan. AI Services. Available: https://its.umich.edu/computing/ai. [Accessed: 16-Mar-2024].