

ANNUAL REPORT

Artificial Intelligence Committee

**University of North Alabama
Florence, Alabama**

Justin W. Carter, Ph.D.

Committee Chair

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Date submitted

Submitted to: Dr. Lauren Killen
Chair, Shared Governance Executive Committee

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA

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2025-2026

I. Executive Summary

During 2025-2026, the Artificial Intelligence Committee advanced practical and responsible AI use across the University. It reviewed AI-detection software, hosted an Ethics in AI panel with the Center for Academic Excellence, and began planning a university-wide AI showcase for fall 2026.

II. The Committee's Charge (from the Shared Governance Document)

1. To evaluate and guide AI training resources such as training and guest speakers for faculty, staff, and students
2. To establish guidelines for the university's adoption of AI products like student-facing AI chatbots; while comparable to other software contracts, AI use might require additional review
3. To evaluate and further recommend the use of plagiarism detection tools
4. To create an AI Guidelines/Policy website
5. To create a baseline, adaptable syllabus statement to be included in the university syllabus management tool, Simple Syllabus
6. To handle any proposals the committee may make affecting university policy according to section C.2 "Shared Governance Procedure for Policy Change Recommendations"
7. To submit a final written report electronically by the first day of the fall semester to the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs with a copy sent to the Chair of the SGEC

III. The Committee met on the following dates:

The AI Committee met on the following dates:

- October 6, 2025
- October 20, 2025
- February 12, 2026
- March 30, 2026
- April 29, 2026

IV. What were the Committee's actions and accomplishments this year relative to each of the items of the charge?

During the 2025-2026 academic year, the committee evaluated new AI-detection software and provided recommendations to inform institutional decision-making. It also partnered with the Center for Academic Excellence to host an Ethics in AI panel discussion and began planning a university-wide AI showcase for early fall 2026. These activities directly supported the committee's charge to review AI-related tools, guide training and engagement, and promote responsible adoption.

V. What were the Committee's formal recommendations?

The committee reviewed new software designed to detect AI-generated content and provided recommendations regarding its potential institutional use. The committee considered the tool in relation to academic integrity, campus needs, and responsible implementation.

VI. What does the Committee plan to accomplish?

A. In the coming year?

In the coming year, the committee will complete planning and host the university-wide AI showcase in early fall 2026. It will also continue evaluating emerging AI tools and campus training needs while identifying practical opportunities to support ethical and responsible use by faculty, staff, and students.

B. In future years?

Review University AI guidelines and resources as technologies and needs evolve.

VII. What are the Committee's weaknesses?

AI is evolving faster than the annual shared governance cycle. Because the committee's charge spans technology evaluation, training, policy guidance, and campus communication, limited meeting time and incomplete information about rapidly changing tools can make it difficult to move from review to timely, university-wide implementation.

A. What can the Shared Governance Committee help you do to address the weaknesses?

The Shared Governance Executive Committee can assist by clarifying when an AI issue requires a formal policy pathway, connecting the committee with relevant administrative and academic units, and supporting timely routing of recommendations that require broader institutional action.

VIII. Comments

The committee appreciates the partnership of the Center for Academic Excellence and the participation of faculty, staff, and administrators who contributed to its work. Continued cross-campus collaboration will be essential as the University balances innovation, academic integrity, and responsible AI use.