UTHealth Houston | McWilliams School of Biomedical Informatics

AI Assessment in an Academic Medical Center

May 15, 2025

Dr. Susan H. Fenton

susan.h.fenton@uth.tmc.edu

Background

- Enterprise, protected AI resources available
- Prompt engineering and MS Copilot training offered
- University-wide AI council formed
- Workgroup on AI for Teaching and Learning established

Methods

- Needs assessment survey suggested for faculty and students
- HR wanted to include a staff needs assessment
- Create a draft
- Many reviews
- Distributed on January 28th anonymously
- Closed on February 24th

Responses (8 min average)

Respondents	Number	Percentage
TOTAL	1,376	10.3% of 13,300
Faculty	375	27.2%
Staff	692	50.3%
Students/Trainees	309	22.5%

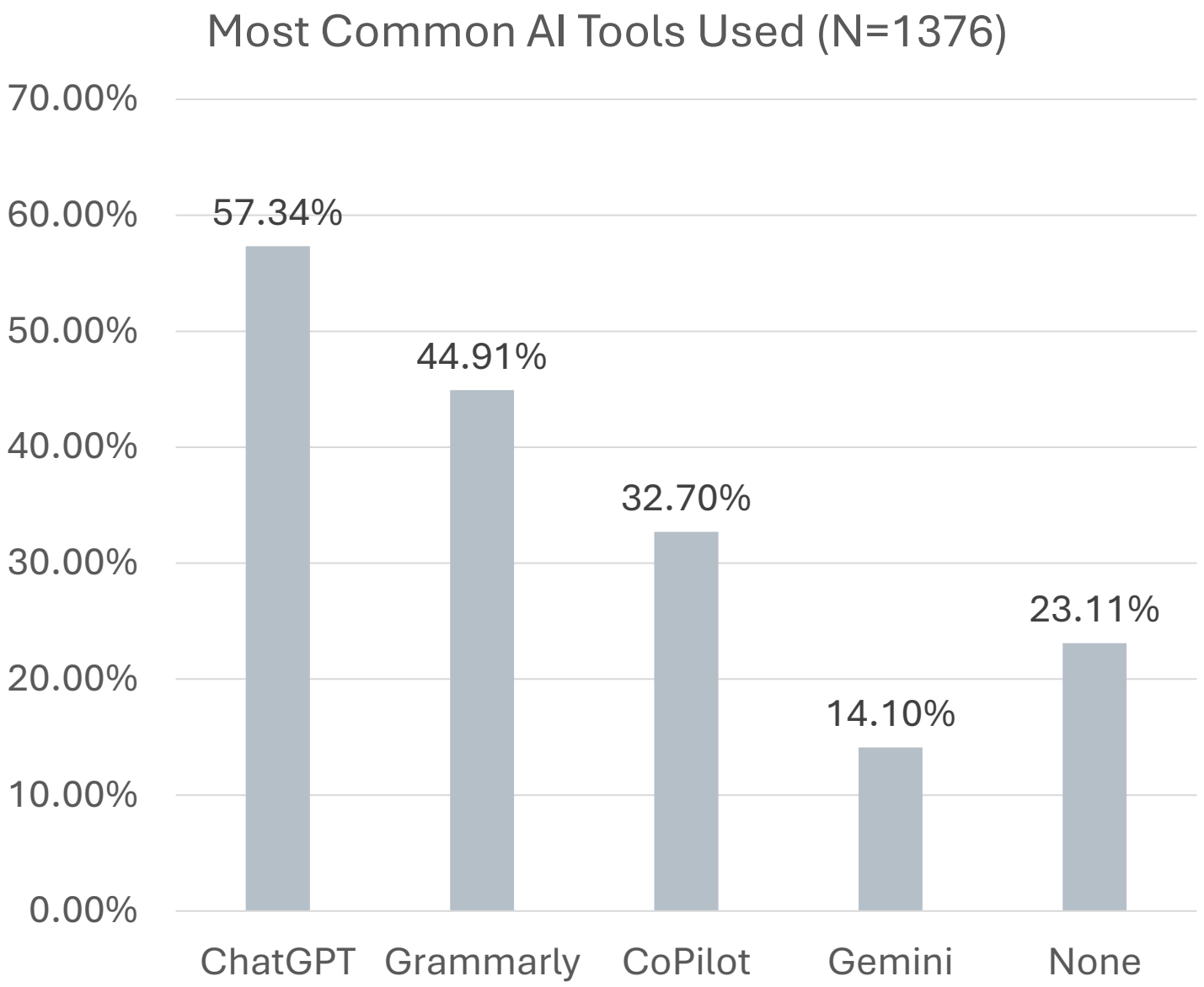
Response by School/Unit (N=1350)

School (Total,%)	Faculty (%)	Staff (%)	Student/Trainees (%)
MMS (598, 44.3)	204 (34.1)	256 (42.8)	138 (23.1)
CSON (32, 2.4)	21 (65.6)	8 (25.0)	3 (9.4)
MSBMI (180, 13.3)	34 (18.9)	34 (18.9)	112 (62.2)
SBHS (19, 1.4)	2 (10.5)	14 (73.7)	3 (15.8)
SOD (116, 8.6)	67 (57.8)	34 (29.3)	15 (12.9)
SPH (94, 7.0)	45 (47.9)	28 (29.8)	21 (22.3)
Other (311, 23.0)	0	311 (100.0)	0

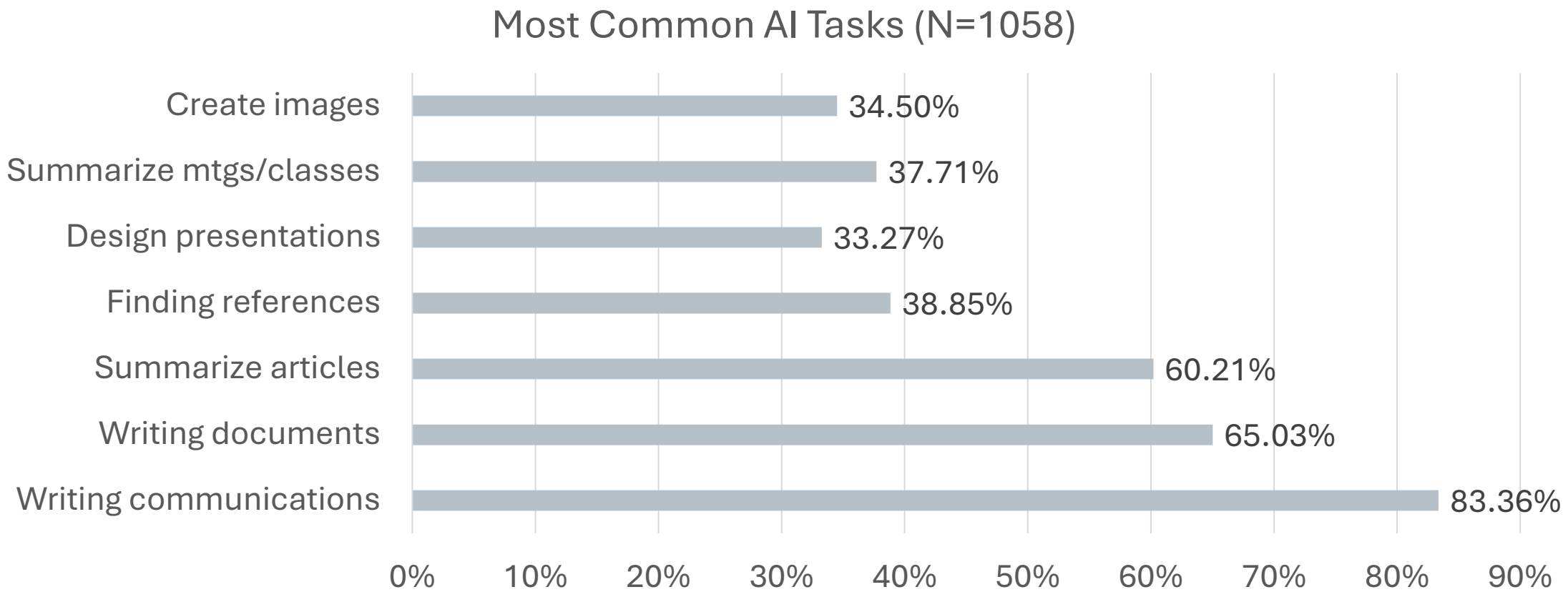
Selected Survey Statements

Question	Faculty	Staff	Students
Feel pressured to include new technology in their roles	107/371 (28.8%)	196/681 (28.8%)	102/304 (33.6%)
Believe the use of AI in their role is inevitable	348/372 (93.5%)	613/671 (91.4%)	285/302 (94.4%)
Believe AI use by faculty is an unfair advantage	58/364 (15.9%)	-	58/300 (19.3%)
Believe AI use by students is an unfair advantage	110/362 (30.4%)	N/A	75/301 (24.9%)
Believe AI use by staff is an unfair advantage	N/A	141/659 (21.4%)	N/A
Fully understand the legal/copyright implications of using AI tools	146/370 (39.5%)	333/654 (50.9%)	168/303 (55.4%)

Most Common AI Tools Used (N=1,376)



Most Common AI Tasks (N=1,058)



Key Findings

Respondents are AI-Ready

90%+ of faculty, staff, and students believe AI is inevitable

Over 60% of faculty want legal and ethical training

OPPORTUNITY: A motivated population, ready to engage with AI, is calling for structured, guided support.

Faculty and Students Want Guardrails

88% of students say faculty use of AI is or will be beneficial.

Faculty agree, but have concerns about fairness and critical thinking

Students value AI, but want clarity on acceptable use

OPPORTUNITY: Develop shared expectations to ensure AI supports, not replaces, strong teaching and learning.

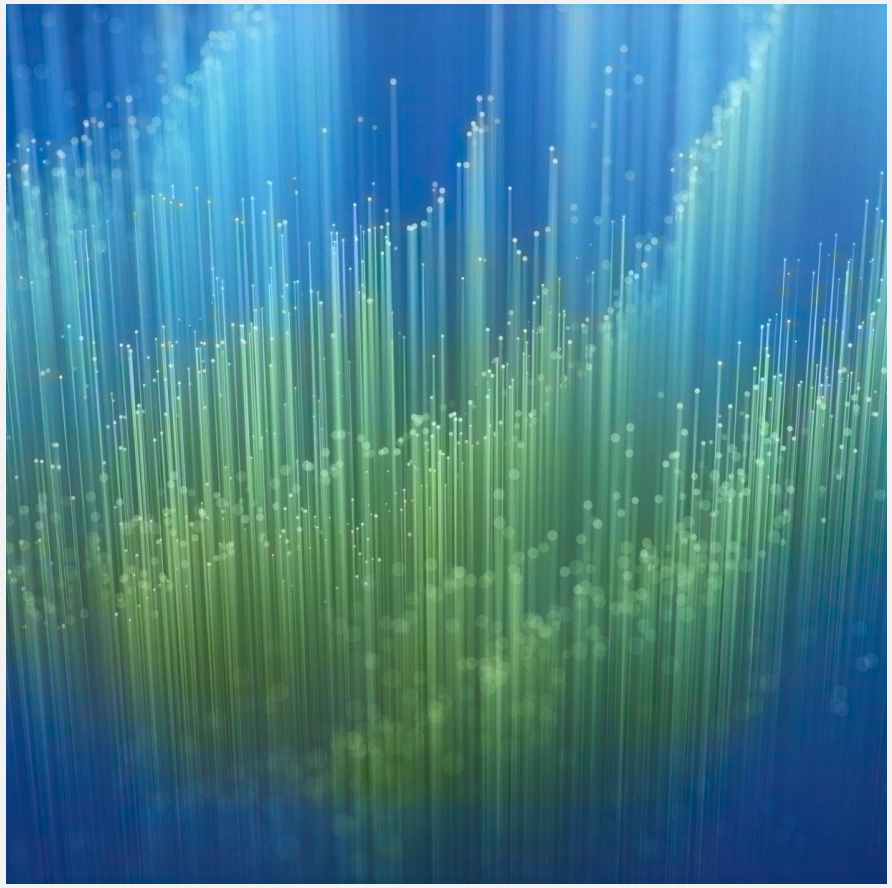
Staff Engagement Can Drive Impact

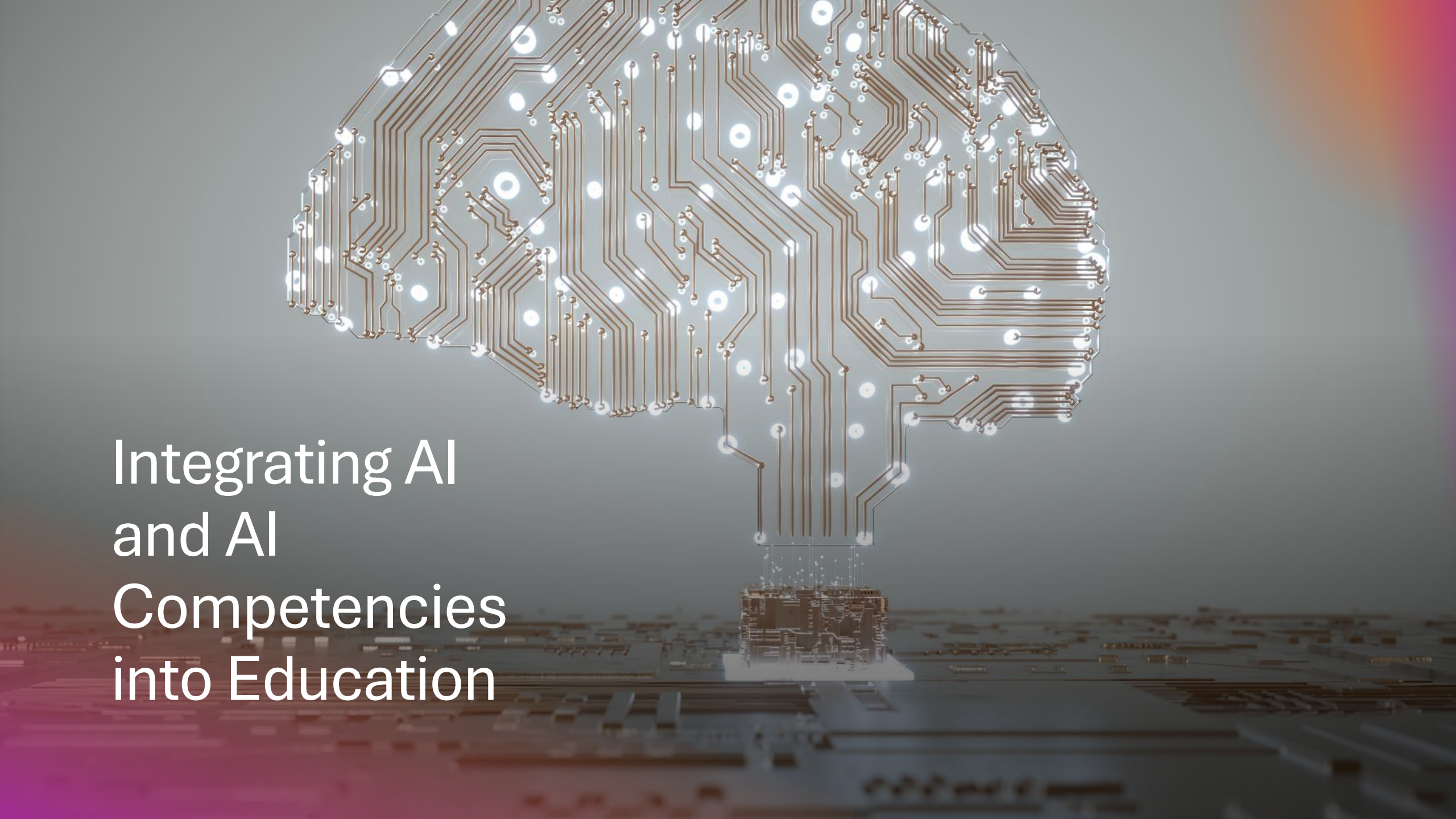
557 found AI beneficial

560 said it improves efficiency

Concerns are focused on clarity, access, and training

OPPORTUNITY: Investing in staff training will improve operations and extend the impact of AI





Integrating AI and AI Competencies into Education

Impact of AI on Education

It changes everything!

Issues to Address

- General AI Literacy
- Equitable access to different tools
- Potential for policy impact
- Orientation and understanding to effective, ethical use
- When to use AI; when to evaluate AI competencies
- Teaching and assessment

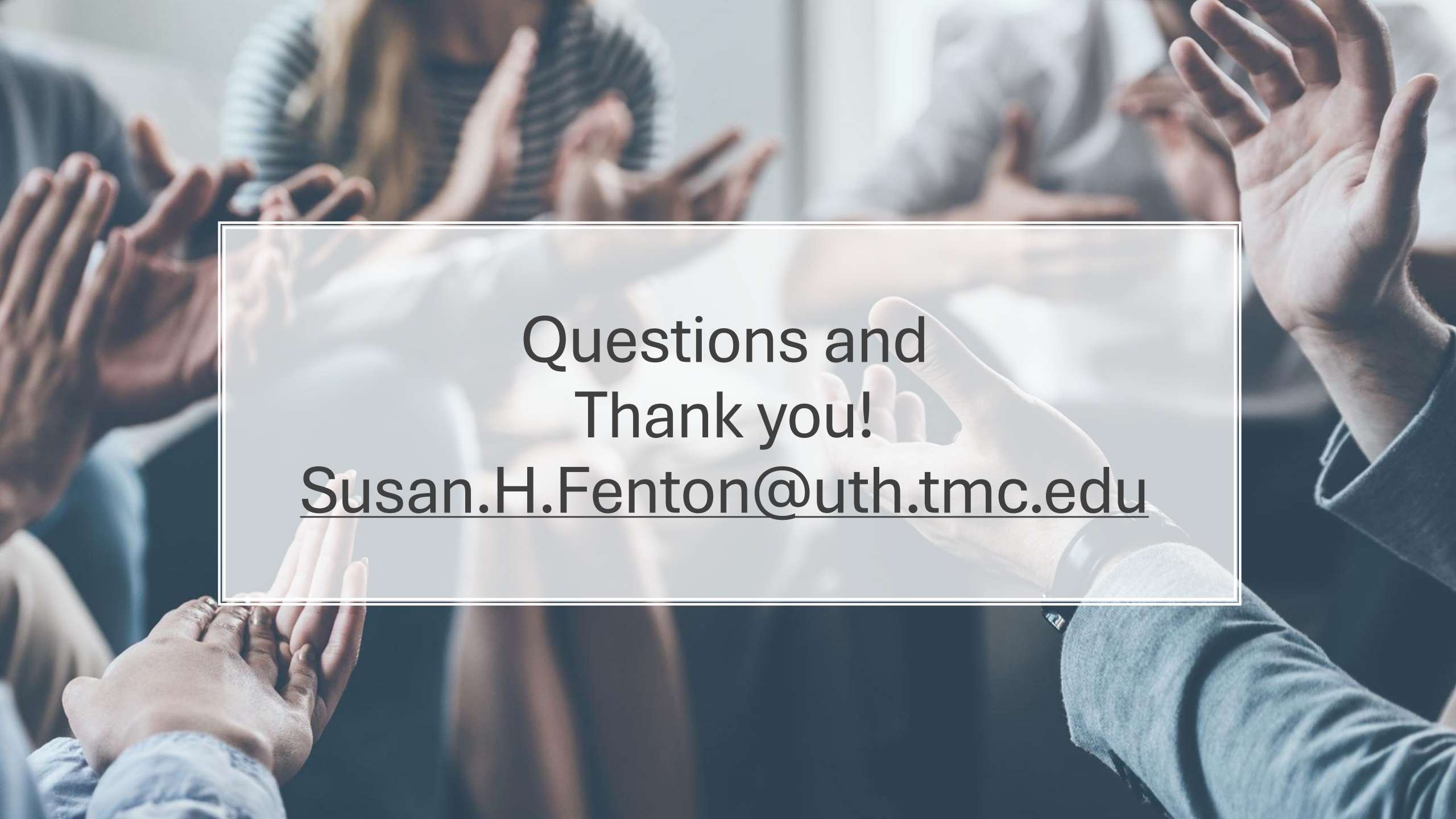
Summary

Rewiring the plane as it flies

Setting expectations at all levels

Developing university-wide training

Continual revision



Questions and
Thank you!

Susan.H.Fenton@uth.tmc.edu