

RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL AGENDA

Jan. 15, 2026 | 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm | Teams

Welcome and Introductions

1. Items for Adoption
 - 1.1 Agenda: Jan. 15, 2026
 - 1.2 Minutes: Nov. 13, 2025
2. Business
 - 2.1
3. Discussion
 - 3.1 Knowledge Mobilization – Iris Lesser & David Dobson
4. Reports
 - 4.1 Research Office report – see attached
 - 4.2 Human Research Ethics Board report – no report
 - 4.3 Teaching & Learning Advisory Council report – Victora Surtees, see attached
 - 4.4 Senate Research Committee report – no report
5. Roundtable Discussion (time permitting)
6. Information Items
 - 6.1 Library Orders – Janelle Sztuhar
 - 6.2 Faculty Microlectures & Centres, Labs, & Institutes Showcase – February 26, 2026
7. Adjournment:
 - 7.1 Next meeting: March 19, 2026, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Please see the [Research Office website](#) for more information on events and funding opportunities.

RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

Nov. 13, 2025 | 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm | Teams

Present: Noah Schwartz, Cynthia Thomson, Garry Fehr, Ash Lalani, Ronald Adjekum, Victoria Surtees, Lin Long, Shawn Geniole, Opeyemi Adesina, Trevor Beugeling, Janelle Sztuhar, Joanne Robertson, Christine Elsey, Simon Lambek, Ismail El Sayad, Geetanjali Gill, Tetsuomi Anzai, Kathleen Rodgers, Keith Carlson

Recorder: Natalie Vanderleest

Regrets: Kim Albert, Cindy Jardine, Irwin Cohen, Jacob Spooner, Lenore Newman, Shelley Canning, Jatinder Mann, Janice Nagtegaal, Kim Daley, Leona Oakman, Yvette Fairweather, Allyson Jule, Amanda Wurz, Anastasia Anderson, Barnabe Assogba, Brianna Strumm, Chris Schinckus, Harley Gordon, Homa Rafiei Milajerdi, Irwin Cohen, Jacob Spooner, Jon Thomas, Juliana Schneider Medeiros, Lara Duke, Lauren Erland, Lenore Newman, Luisa Giles, Mariano Mapili, Martha Dow, Martin Warkentin, Masud Khawaja, Michael Hitch, Olav Lian, Paul Fontaine, Rita Dhungel, Shelley Canning, Wade Deisman, Andrea Sator, Zina Lee, Nikki Martyn, Nipuni Jayetileke, Marlie Murphy

Welcome and Introductions

1. Items for Adoption

Agenda: Nov. 13, 2025

1:30 1.1 MOTION: THAT the agenda for the March 20, 2025, RAC meeting be approved as presented.
Christine Elsey, Joanne Robertson CARRIED

Minutes: Sept. 18, 2025

1.2 MOTION: THAT the minutes from the Sept. 18, 2025, RAC meeting be approved as presented.
Christine Elsey, Joanne Robertson CARRIED

2. Business

2.1

3. Discussion

1:33 3.1 ROSA/Major Grant Holder Changes – Garry Fehr

- In the past, you could apply for a Research Option or a Scholarly Activity and be eligible for a Major Grant Holder Release.
- We now have close to double the number of people applying for ROSA's, plus we don't have the same sources of funding. Some established researchers holding Tri-Council funding were getting two releases and some early career researchers were not able to secure a Research Option release. There is now a tightening of budgets over the past few years and there is less funding available to pay for releases. The changes have been made to provide more faculty with the opportunity to secure time for their research,

instead of limiting the opportunities to a few established researchers.

- The Major Grant Holder Release application is simple, it is not competitive, and you do not need to submit a report like the ROSA.
- Faculty can no longer hold both the Major Grant Holder Release and an additional ROSA at the same time. The Major Grant Holder application has not changed.

1:50 3.2 AI in Research – Simon Lambek & Opeyemi Adesina

- Opeyemi Adesina presented a power point presentation titled “Ethics of Artificial Intelligence”. Discussion followed. Power point presentation slides are attached.
- Simon Lambek presented a power point presentation titled “Generative AI and Democracy”. Discussion followed.
- Both Opeyemi and Simon are willing to present their work on AI in anyone’s courses.

2:54 3.3 University's Open Education Strategy feedback – Janelle Sztuhar

- Janelle Sztuhar presented a power point presentation called “Building an Open Education Strategy for UFV”.
- Power Point was attached to Agenda Package
- Collecting feedback through Padlet. The link was put on the Teams chat and the QR code is on the power point slides. The library is hoping to collect all feedback by the end of November.
- If anyone has further comments or questions, please contact Janelle Sztuhar or Claire Hay.

4. Reports

3:02 4.1 Research Office report – see attached

4.2 Human Research Ethics Board report – no report

4.3 Teaching and Learning Advisory Council report – see attached

4.4 Senate Research Committee report:

"The Senate Research Committee has discussed and formed the Research Excellence Award Selection Committee"

- December 1, 2025 is the deadline for nominations

3:06

5. Roundtable Discussion (time permitting)

6. Information Items

3:11 6.1 Sabbatical Applications – Due Nov. 15, 2025

6.2 Microlectures and Centre Showcase– February 26, 2026

7. Adjournment: 3:13pm

MOTION to Adjourn – Cynthia Thomson, Shawn Geniole

7.1 Next meeting: Jan. 15, 2025, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Please see the [Research Office website](#) for more information on events and funding opportunities.

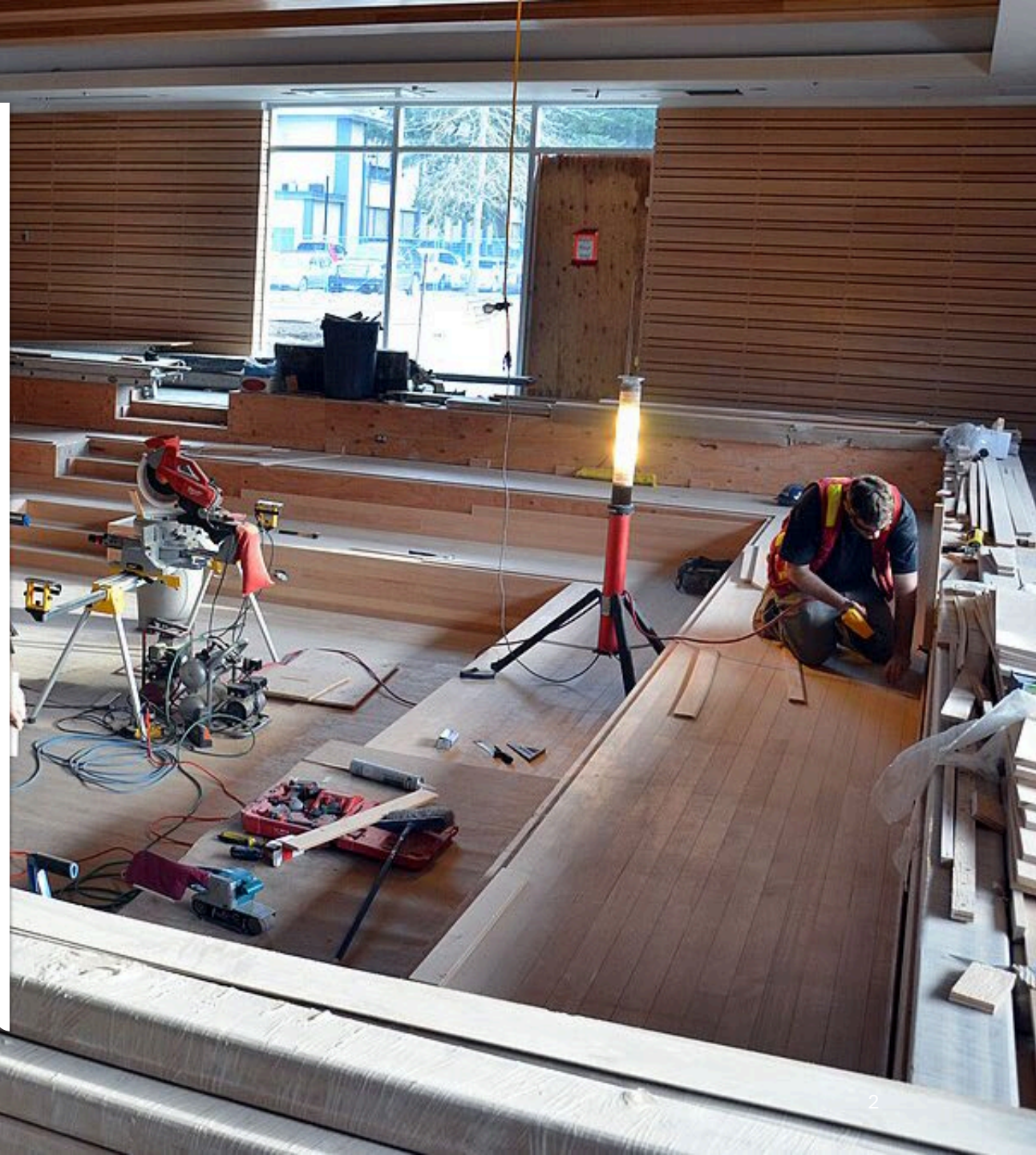
Ethics of Artificial Intelligence

Dr. Opeyemi Adesina
Associate Professor & Director
School of Computing

Territorial Acknowledgment

“Long before Canada was formed, the Stó:lō (people of the river) occupied the land on which UFV is located. They lived in the Fraser Valley and lower Fraser Canyon of British Columbia and they spoke Halq'eméylem, also known as the upriver dialect.”

(Source: Xwexwílmexwawt)





Source: https://stockcake.com/i/robot-plays-chess_225348_42360

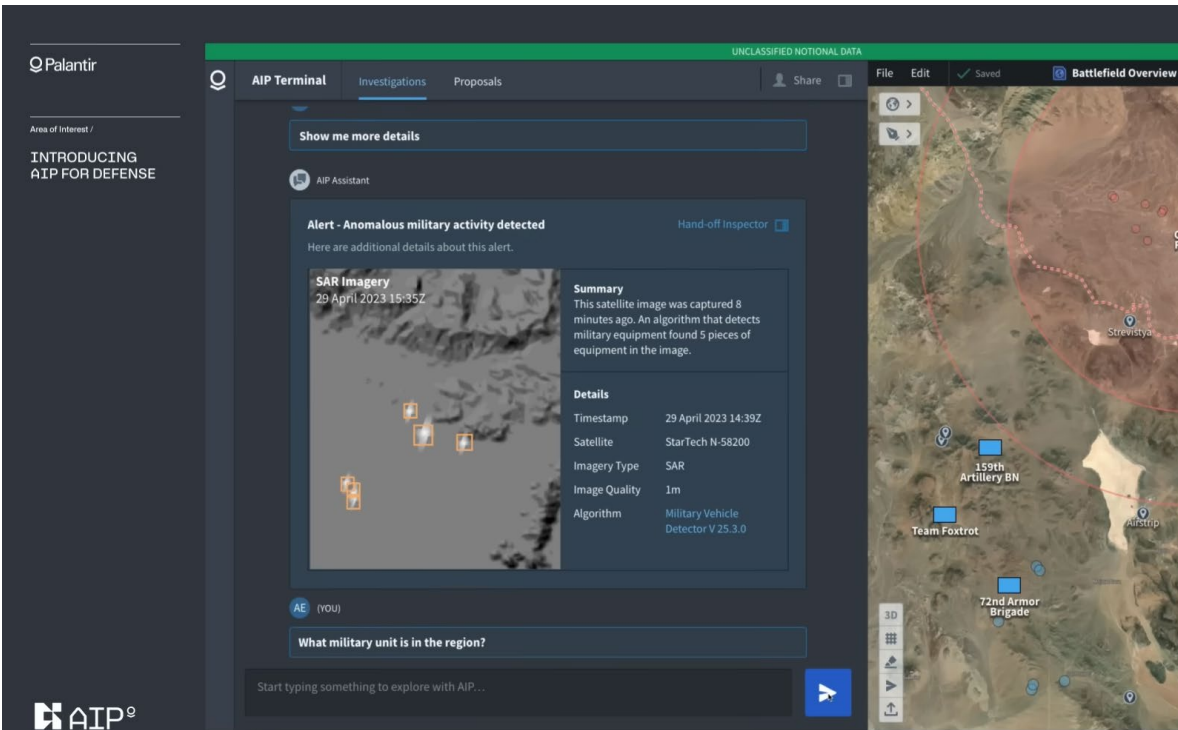
What is AI?

“... the simulation of human intelligence by a system or a machine.” (Xu et al., 2021)

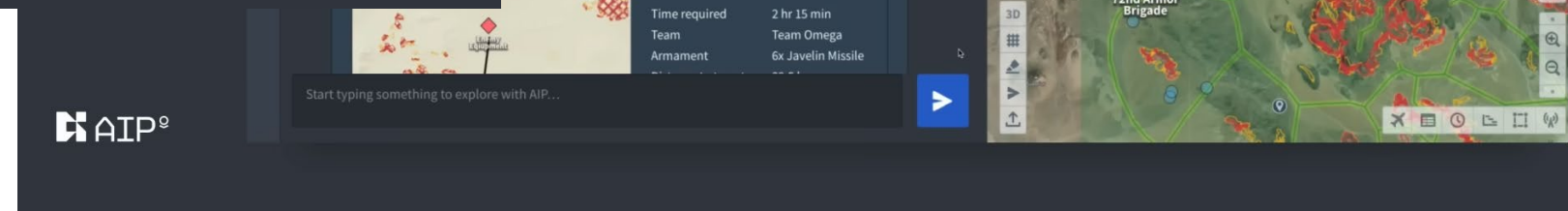
Benefits of AI?

- Efficiency (resource optimization)
 - Improve productivity and QoS/Output
 - Accelerates innovation
 - Enhanced safety
 - Reliability than humans in some tasks
- ...

Use Cases: Defense

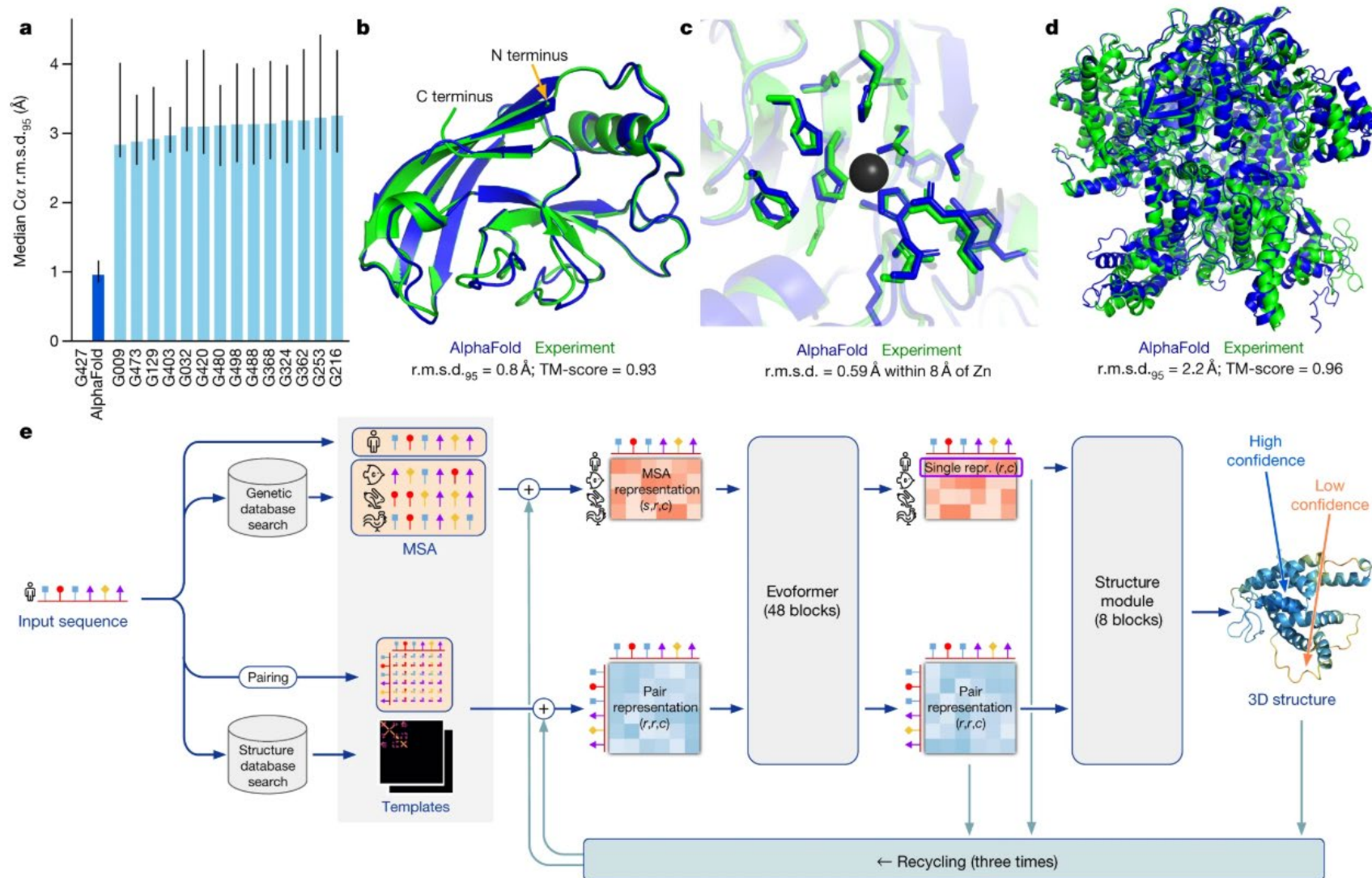


(Unaudited)	Third Quarter	
	Amount	
Revenue	\$	1,181,092
Year-over-year growth		63%
	Amount	Margin
Income from Operations	\$ 393,256	33%
Adjusted Income from Operations	\$ 600,540	51%
Cash from Operations	\$ 507,664	43%
Adjusted Free Cash Flow	\$ 539,862	46%
Net Income Attributable to Common Stockholders	\$ 475,599	40%
Adjusted Net Income Attributable to Common Stockholders	\$ 528,709	
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 606,515	51%
GAAP EPS, Diluted	\$ 0.18	
Adjusted EPS, Diluted	\$ 0.21	

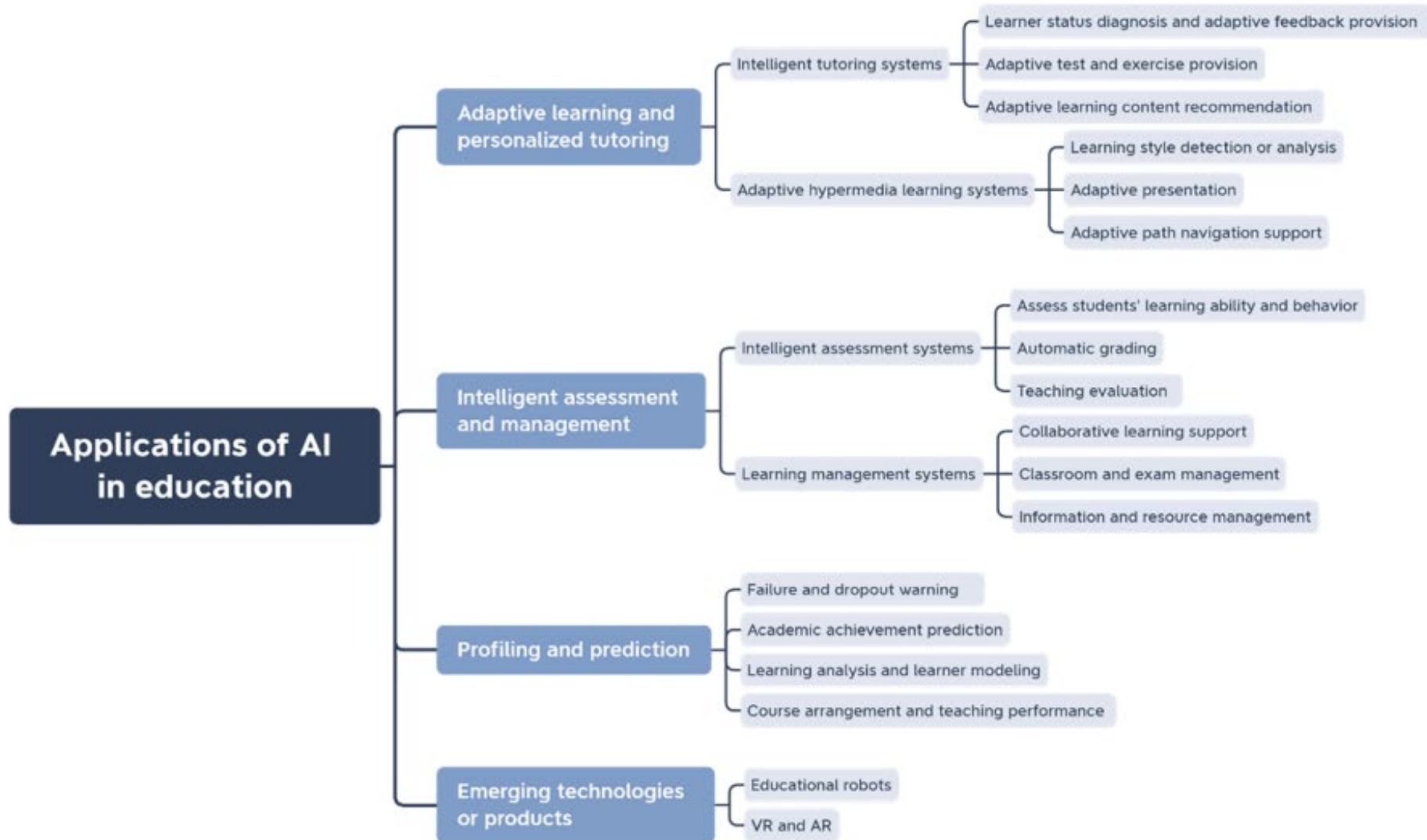


**Market Cap:
416 (billion USD)**

Use Cases: Healthcare



Use Cases: Education



Use Cases: Research

- Idea development and research design
- Content development and structuring
- Literature review and synthesis
- Data management and analysis
- Editing, review, and publishing support
- Communication, outreach, and ethical compliance



Responsible AI development & usage

Minds and Machines (2020) 30:99–120
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11023-020-09517-8>



The Ethics of AI Ethics: An Evaluation of Guidelines

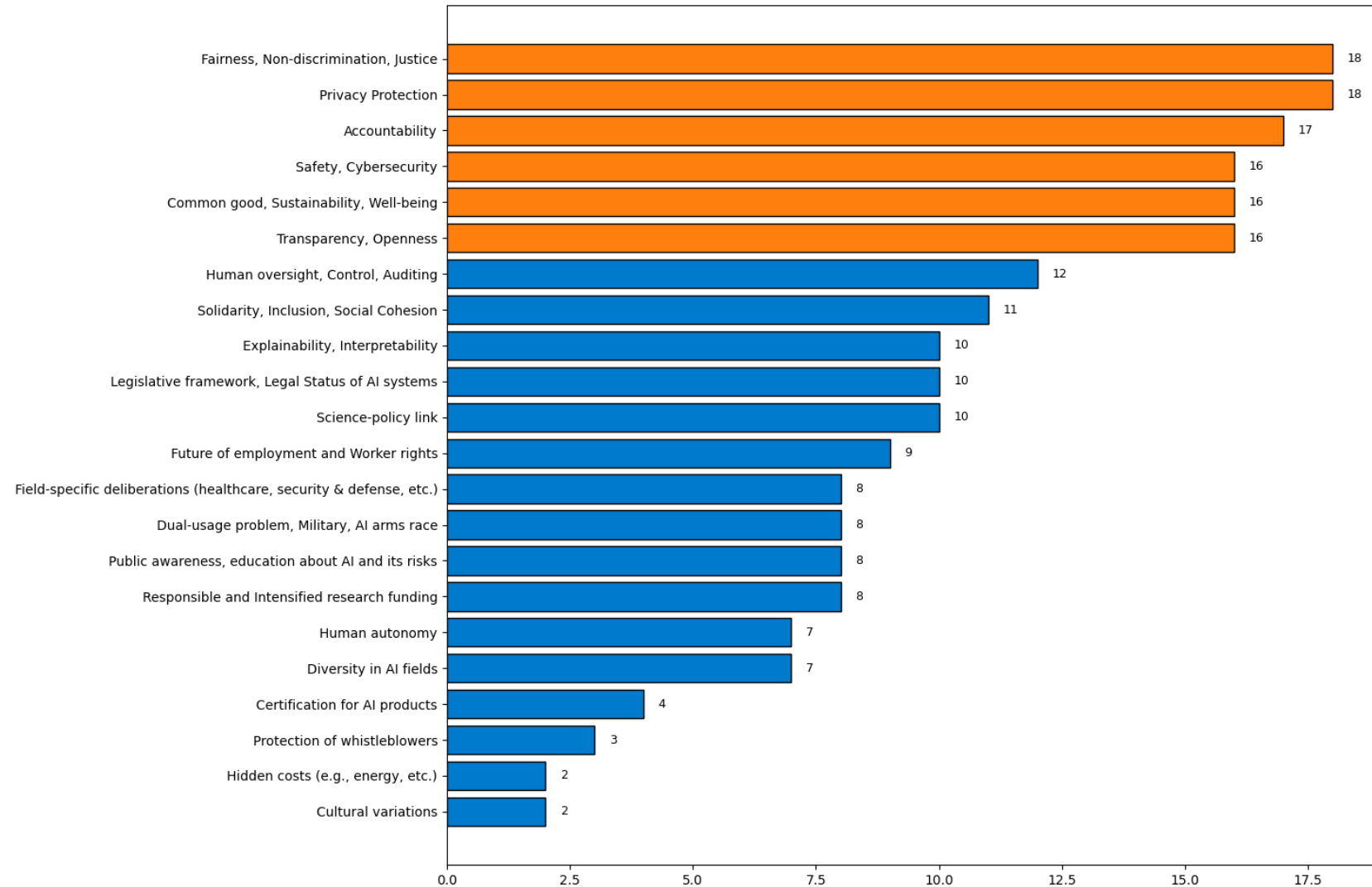
Thilo Hagendorff¹

Received: 1 October 2019 / Accepted: 21 January 2020 / Published online: 1 February 2020
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Abstract

Current advances in research, development and application of artificial intelligence (AI) systems have yielded a far-reaching discourse on AI ethics. In consequence, a number of ethics guidelines have been released in recent years. These guidelines comprise normative principles and recommendations aimed to harness the “disruptive” potentials of new AI technologies. Designed as a semi-systematic evaluation, this paper analyzes and compares 22 guidelines highlighting overlaps but also omissions. As a result, I give a detailed overview of the field of AI ethics. Finally, I also examine to what extent the respective ethical principles and values are implemented in the practice of research, development and application of AI systems—and how the effectiveness in the demands of AI ethics can be improved.

Keywords Artificial intelligence · Machine learning · Ethics · Guidelines · Implementation



The real issues?

- Practitioners rarely use ethical guidelines
- Ethical considerations have been politicized
- Lack of enforcement mechanisms
- Tech firms' internal structure fails to ensure accountability
- Lack of practical implementation strategies for guidelines
- Ethical guidelines are perceived to stifle activities and developments
- Lack of value-driven adoption and usage of AI systems

The next big thing?



Meta's vision is to bring personal superintelligence to everyone. We believe in putting this power in people's hands to direct it towards what they value in their own lives.

This is distinct from others in the industry who believe superintelligence should be directed centrally towards automating all valuable work, and then humanity will live on a dole of its output. At Meta, we believe that people pursuing their individual aspirations is how we have always made progress expanding prosperity, science, health, and culture. This will be increasingly important in the future as well.

The intersection of technology and how people live is Meta's focus, and this will only become more important in the future.

If trends continue, then you'd expect people to spend less time in productivity software, and more time creating and connecting. Personal superintelligence that knows us deeply, understands our goals, and can help us achieve them will be by far the most useful. Personal devices like glasses that understand our context because they can see what we see, hear what we hear, and interact with us throughout the day will become our primary computing devices.

We believe the benefits of superintelligence should be shared with the world as broadly as possible. That said, superintelligence will raise novel safety concerns. We'll need to be rigorous about mitigating these risks and careful about what we choose to open source. Still, we believe that building a free society requires that we aim to empower people as much as possible.

“Artificial super intelligence (ASI) is a type of AI surpassing human intelligence and can potentially solve problems beyond human capabilities” (Google Cloud)

– Mark

<https://www.meta.com/superintelligence/>

July 30, 2025

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Conclusion



<https://www.forbes.com/sites/neilsahota/2024/07/29/the-dark-side-of-ai-is-how-bad-actors-manipulate-minds/>

“... A[G|S]I systems may be **ethically neutral**, but it will always be in the hands of people that aren't.”
(OECD Education and Skills)

Office of Research Services

RAC Report January 15, 2026

- For Fall 2025 (September-December), the Office of Research Services and Graduate studies 64 research grant proposals to external funding agencies in various disciplines. We are waiting on those results.
- Funding agencies submitted to aside from the Tri-Agency programs (NSERC, SSHRC, CIHR) are the Canada Foundation for Innovation, BC Knowledge Development Fund, Canada Research Chairs, Heritage Canada, Organic Synthesis Summer Research Grants, Genome BC, Women's Health Research Institute, National Research Council, Victims and Survivors of Crime, Global Affairs Canada and the Vancouver Foundation. We wish all applicants the best of luck as we eagerly await results.
- ROSA applications (internal grant) **were due on October 31st** Our office is currently compiling the files for our committee to review. We aim to have the ROSA results out to applicants by the end of January 2026.
- The Faculty Student Research and Scholarly Activity (FSRSA) UFV internal grant will be open sometime in Spring 2026 as all funds for this year have been exhausted. Please check the website for further details and our office will be sending out notice when the competition opens: <https://www.ufv.ca/research/faculty/funding/internal-funding/>
- The SSHRC Explore grant will open sometime in Spring 2026 and our office will send out notice. Please check the website for further details: <https://www.ufv.ca/research/faculty/funding/internal-funding/>
- We have funding for your students! If you have students that are presenting or would like to conduct student led research under your supervision, please see the link for further details and guidelines <https://www.ufv.ca/research/students/awards-and-funding/>
- For those of you applying for grants that require a Notification of Intent (NOI) or Letter of Intent (LOI) or a Stage 1 application so some form of pre-registration, please contact Ash Lalani ash.lalani@ufv.ca to let her know regardless of if the researcher (applicant) or our office completes the submission so we can guide you through the process.
- Any faculty members that are thinking to engage with or engaging with an external partner (company, not-for-profit, municipal government, local businesses etc.) please contact Ash Lalani ash.lalani@ufv.ca as soon as possible to discuss Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDA), due diligence on the company, university overhead rate, intellectual property policy and the general process for research contracts.

- If you are interested in pursuing a Mitacs project, kindly check the Open Projects Link for Mitacs and **then please have a discussion with Ash Lalani prior to discuss process before contacting the potential partner.** Here is the open projects link [Open projects | Mitacs](#). Please let Ash Lalani ash.lalani@ufv.ca know if you have any questions.
- **Reminder:** All research grants and contracts must go through our office for a review regardless of who completes the submission to the agency. Please ensure that you are noting the appropriate overhead/indirect costs on the overhead waiver form which can be found online. As per university policy, our overhead rate is 25% unless the funder waives the rate or has a reduction of that rate noted on their website or in their instructions. A UFV overhead waiver form must also be completed if it is less than 25%. For most (but not all) Tri-Agency grants there is no overhead. If you have any questions, please contact Ash Lalani.
- **Reminder: If any faculty members are working on any grants (Tri-Agency or other funding organizations) please contact Dr. Ronald Adjekum grants facilitator at ronald.adjekum@ufv.ca with a cc to ash.lalani@ufv.ca ASAP** to help review your application and provide guidance on next steps, review, submission process etc. We have an internal process for **at least 14 business days prior to the deadline date.** This also includes those working as co-applicants with other institutions that may require a letter of support. Our office would like to help you as much as possible with your grant applications by providing numerous iterations so the farther in advance you can provide us with a draft, the better we can help.
- **Reminder:** The Government of Canada has come out with a policy relating to Sensitive Technology and Research Affiliations of Concern (STRAC) in order for researchers and university administrators to understand best practices to identify and mitigate research security threats, pursue and maintain safe research partnerships, maintain institutional reputation of a safe research organization and protect valuable research, data or potentially patentable property. STRAC policy info is located [here](#). Please contact Ash Lalani at ash.lalani@ufv.ca if you wish to discuss your own research security concerns relating to your proposed research topic or a foreign partner.
- **Reminder:** Mitacs programs are a great way to work with an external partner and also provide your students will valuable training skills. Mitacs programs do require a 50% match from an external partner which they will then match. A list of possible projects/partners will be advertised in the next research newsletter. More information about Mitacs programs can be found [here](#). Please contact Ash Lalani at ash.lalani@ufv.ca if you wish to apply.
- **Reminder:** Mitacs also has an Indigenous Pathways Stream which allows for a smaller contribution of 25% from the partner for applications that have an Indigenous partner organization and/or an intern who is Indigenous. Further information can be found [here](#). Please contact Ash Lalani at ash.lalani@ufv.ca if you wish to apply.

- **Reminder:** The Research Office and Library at UFV are currently working on some consolidated information to help researchers with their research data management plans (RDM plans). Currently there are only selected programs that require a RDM plan that would need to be completed prior to submission. They can be found [here](#). For further information regarding UFV Data Management information please visit the UFV library website located [here](#).
- **Reminder:** Major grant holders may be eligible to receive one teaching release if they are the Primary Investigator (PI) for **a major grant from only select NSERC, SSHRC, and CIHR grants**. Co-principal investigators and co-applicants are not eligible. Please see the major grant holders website for more information <https://www.ufv.ca/research/faculty/major-grant-holders/>
- **Reminder:** If are going to be working on a NSERC Alliance Advantage grant or any other partnered research grant, please ensure that you check in with the Director, Research Services & Industry Engagement to discuss if there are any partnership/security risk concerns as these are partnered research grants. NSERC Alliance grants have a rolling deadline unless specified as a special call with a hard deadline. Please contact Ash Lalani for further information if you are interested to apply.
- **Reminder:** As previously mentioned, our office has a grants facilitator, Dr. Ronald Adjekum. Please continue to direct all research grants and contracts inquiries at the pre-award stage to both Ronald and Ash Lalani, Director Research Services & Industry Engagement. For all post-award inquiries please contact Clarrie and Ryan at rgspostaward@ufv.ca

TLC Report

- **[ConnectED 2026: Teach, Learn, Transform - Indigenous Storywork in a world of changemaking at UFV.](#)**

When: April 29th

Keynote: Dr. Jo-Anne Archibald, Q'um Q'um Xiiem—UFV Chancellor and Officer of the Order of Canada

[The Call for Proposals is now open!](#) (Closes March 3rd)

- **[Teaching Inquiries into Pedagogical Practices \(TIPP\) Fund: Regenerative Sustainability](#)**

Adjudication of applications is complete and 12 projects have been awarded funding for the Winter 2026 semester. This funding is intended to support innovative practices and encourage teaching inquiries, which may lead to more formal research projects. Projects will be presented at ConnectEd.

- **Reminder: [TLC SOTL Webpage](#)**

The TLC provides resources and support for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. If you or any colleagues have published SOTL work, it can be featured on this webpage.