

Woody L. Hunt College of Business

Faculty Development Opportunity: AI

Introduction

The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in business education is transforming the way students learn and interact with real-world applications. To maintain academic excellence and ensure our faculty remain at the forefront of AI advancements, the Woody L. Hunt College of Business is committed to supporting faculty development in this critical area. By providing funding for AI-related professional development, we aim to equip faculty with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively incorporate AI into their teaching and research.

Purpose

The purpose of this initiative is to:

- Enhance faculty knowledge of AI applications in business education and research.
- Encourage the adoption of AI-driven teaching methodologies and tools.
- Foster innovation in course design, curriculum development, and research methodologies.
- Support faculty in integrating AI into their research, enabling new insights and academic contributions.
- Strengthen the college's position as a leader in AI integration within business education and research.

Faculty Development Funding

Hunt College strives to support four faculty per department per academic year to attend Artificial Intelligence (AI) seminars, workshops, or related professional development opportunities.

Eligibility

Full-time faculty who have not received funding for a similar activity within the academic year are eligible to apply (exceptions may apply, depending on budget availability). Faculty who hold endowed chairs and professorships are encouraged to invest those resources in their development.

Request and Approval Process

Interested faculty members must submit their request (via email) to their department chair at least four weeks prior to the seminar or workshop date. The request must include:

- A description of the seminar/workshop and a URL with detailed information about the seminar or workshop
- Its relevance to their professional development.
- The benefit to the faculty member and the college.
- A detailed budget.

The department chair will review the request and provide a recommendation for final approval by the Dean's office. Faculty should submit all materials to their department chair, who will then forward all materials and department approval to Dr. Erik Devos, Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development.

Deliverables

Faculty members who receive funding are expected to:

- Submit a brief summary report (1-2 pages) within four weeks of completing the seminar/workshop to Dr. Devos and their department chair
- Share key takeaways with their department and/or in a faculty development session.
- Implement at least one AI-related innovation in their teaching or research and report on its impact through the annual evaluation process.
- Demonstrate how AI concepts learned have influenced their research, either by incorporating AI methodologies into their work or initiating AI-related research projects.

This policy underscores the college's dedication to faculty excellence and continuous learning in emerging technologies. By investing in AI education and research for our faculty, we enhance the learning experience for our students, expand scholarly contributions, and advance the college's reputation in business education and research.