

Dear ,

Thank you to those who were able to attend our recent AI in Education Community of Practice session on Monday 23 February, which focused on AI for assessment, feedback and marking. For colleagues who were unable to join us, we are sharing this wrap-up of the discussion and key themes that emerged, along with details of upcoming events and opportunities. The session focused on AI in assessment, marking and feedback practices, grounded in two UCT examples:

- A Human Biology course pilot exploring AI-supported marking of short-answer questions in large anatomy and physiology cohorts, with attention to feedback quality and fairness.
- An Accounting initiative developing a marking engine that digitises handwritten scripts, applies detailed rubrics, and generates feedback at scale, running in parallel with human marking to test reliability and bias.

We are especially grateful to our presenters Dr Paul Steyn (Human Biology) and Prof Ilse Lubbe, Chris Guattari-Stafford and Anthony Rogers (Accounting) who shared lessons and experiences from their projects so openly.

Key reflections from the session

Several themes surfaced across the room and online discussion:

Transparency and trust

There was strong agreement that any use of AI in marking should be clearly communicated to students. Transparency was positioned as a minimum condition for trust.

Human-in-the-loop

Participants emphasised the importance of retaining human oversight, particularly for borderline cases, high-stakes decisions and nuanced interpretation.

Assessment design and front-end work

AI-supported marking requires significant planning upfront: clearer rubrics, stronger alignment with learning outcomes, and explicit articulation of what counts as evidence in student responses.

Standardisation and governance

There were suggestions that faculty- or institution-level guidance may be needed over time to ensure consistent and responsible approaches.

Equity and the human factor

In disciplines where argument, context and positionality are central, concerns were raised about bias, interpretive nuance and structural inequalities. These questions remain critical as experimentation continues.

Slides and resources

You can access the [slide deck](#) from the session, for those who would like to revisit the framing of the discussion, the project snapshots shared by Human Biology and Accounting, and the key questions posed around AI-supported marking, feedback and assessment design. You can [access the list of questions](#) posed by participants.

The group discussions focused on the condition and emerging principles to consider for the use AI in assessment, feedback and marking at UCT. For your convenience, [notes about the ideas discussed](#) in the groups have been summarised.

We also used Wooclap during the session for rapid feedback and reflection. If you would like to explore using Wooclap in your own teaching, the [CILT guide is available](#).

If you are interested in learning more about current AI-related projects at UCT, including the [2025 AI Teaching Innovation Grant recipients](#), further information is available.

Next CoP session

Our next AI in Education Community of Practice session will take place on Monday, 23 March.

Topic: GenAI and the future of the academic essay

Time: 12:30–14:00

Venue: CILT Office

Floor 7, PD Hahn Building

Upper Campus

Green Meeting Room

Format: In person (online attendance will be observation only)

An updated calendar invitation will follow. Kindly contact [Cath Robb](#) if you are attending in person for catering purposes.

Assessment Scale

In collaboration with the University of the Free State, we are co-hosting the following in-person workshop: Redesigning your assessments for GenAI using the AI Assessment Scale (AIAS) facilitated by Prof Mike Perkins from the British University, Vietnam, one of the authors of the AI in Assessment Scale. Please see the flyer and [sign-up](#) via the link or QR code.

Event details

Date: Friday, 13 March

Time: 09:00 - 13:00

Venue: Hlanganani Junction

Chancellor Oppenheimer Library

Upper Campus UCT

AI and Assessment Symposium

Assessment in the Age of AI: Do's, Don'ts and Don't Knows for Current Practices Co-hosted by the University of Cape Town and Stellenbosch University

Date: 1 April 2026

Time: 09:00–16:00

Venue: Kramer Law Building, UCT

Registration to attend is open, and the abstract submission deadline has been extended to Friday, 27 February. If you are working on AI and assessment in your discipline, through research, policy, or practice, we encourage you to submit an [abstract and/or register and join](#) the conversation.

We look forward to seeing you on 23 March or at one of the other aligned events. The strength of this Community of Practice lies in the willingness to share early experiments, voice uncertainties and collectively shape responsible practice. Please stay connected via the CoP's [MS Teams channel](#) where news and updates will be posted.

Warm regards,

Sukaina Walji

On behalf of the AI in Education Community of Practice

