

FLAS FORWARD **TOGETHER** SYMPOSIUM

27 | AUGUST
2025

AI: Changing how we Work, Teach and Learn



Above Image Created by Abode Express Generative AI

Acknowledging and Honouring the Land:



The above 'water colour painting of Humber's Lakeshore Campus' was created by ChatGPT.

Humber College is located within the traditional and treaty lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit. Known as Adoobiigok, the “Place of the Alders” in Michi Saagiig language, the region is uniquely situated along Humber River watershed, which historically provided an integral connection for Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Wendat peoples between the Ontario Lakeshore and the Lake Simcoe/Georgian Bay regions. Now home to people of numerous nations, Adoobiigok continues to provide a vital source of interconnection for all.

FLAS Forward Together Symposium

August 27, 2025

North Campus, BCTI 5th Floor



Logo Video Created using Abode Firefly (GenAI).

AI: Changing how we Work, Teach, and Learn

Generative AI is rapidly reshaping the landscape of higher education, challenging long-held assumptions about how we work, teach, and assess student learning. This year's FLAS symposium invites faculty, staff, and administration from across FLAS to explore the transformative potential and the pressing questions surrounding generative AI and its use at Humber.

2025 FLAS Symposium Committee:

Candace Iron
Barbara Cam
Marylou Di Placito
Megan MacNeil
Arl Viaje

This symposium would not be possible without the support of FLAS Senior Dean, John Stilla, and the contributions made by all of today's presenters, moderators, and participants.

Thank You for sharing in and contributing to today's discussions.



Above image created by Adobe Firefly (GenAI)

8:00 - 8:30	Registration Coffee and tea are provided	BCTI 5 th Fl.
8:30 - 9:15	Opening Land Acknowledgement (Laura Josephs) Welcome, Goals for the Day (John Stilla) Changes in FLAS (John Stilla)	BCTI 5 th Fl. MS Teams: Join
9:15 - 9:45	Plenary Discussion on GenAI Presenters: Mona Bayani-Keyvani, Lynn Boulanger, Peter Stevens, Estefania Toledo, Marta Wnuczko	
9:45 - 10:05	Sip & Chill Mobile Resources Cart	
10:05 - 11:20	Breakout Sessions I	
Session 1A	<i>"The Futures of My Work": A Course Learning Module</i> Presenters: Erin Harvey and Elena De Gregorio	N 201 MS Teams: Join
Session 1B	<i>Personalizing The Learning Journey for ESOL Students: Using Generative AI to Enhance Communication Skills</i> Presenter: Thi Thanh Truc Le	N 209 MS Teams: Join
Session 1C	<i>Leadership at Work</i> Presenter: Megan MacNeil	N 210 MS Teams: Join
Session 1D	<i>Equity in Practice: A Faculty Guide to Academic Accommodations</i> Presenters: Estefania Toledo, Leah State, Niall O'Connor, and Roshi Wagley	N214 MS Teams: Join
Session 1E	<i>Brains Over Bots: Critical Thinking in the Age of Artificial General Intelligence</i> Presenter: Arundati Dandapani	N 223 MS Teams: Join
Session 1F	<i>"Could we? Should we?": Implications for GenAI in the Polytechnic Classroom</i> Presenter: Mary Grace Lao	N 226 MS Teams: Join
11:20 - 11:50	Support Staff 101 - Who Are We? Presenters: Anthony Riga and Tamia Cox	BCTI 5 th Fl. MS Teams: Join
11:50 - 12:45	Lunch and Fun Lunch is provided and there are meaningful prizes Moderator: Megan MacNeil	

12:45 - 1:00	Pushpin Topic 1: FLAS Academic Integrity Committee Moderator: Megan MacNeil	BCTI 5 th Fl. MS Teams: Join
1:00 - 2:10	Breakout Sessions II	
Session 2A	<i>Understanding Disabilities: How to be an ally</i> Presenters: Lauren Abela and Jessica Rotolo	N 209 MS Teams: Join
Session 2B	<i>The Flexible Learning Circle: Sparking Insights, Questions, and Ideas</i> Presenters: Jessica Freitag and Colleen Ball	N 210 MS Team: Join
Session 2C	Critical Thinking and AI <i>Critical Thinking Through AI Images</i> Presenter: Erik Mortensen <i>From Prompt to Product: Redesigning Writing in the Age of AI</i> Presenter: Hasti Havari Nasab	N 214 MS Teams: Join
Session 2D	<i>Exploring Creativity as a Pathway to Rigour</i> Presenters: Estefania Toledo and Beth Washburn	N 223 MS Teams: Join
Session 2E	<i>AI and Sustainability in the Classroom</i> Presenters: Sandra Leutri & Office of Sustainability	N 226 MS Teams: Join
2:10 - 2:20	Pushpin Topic 2: SAM Presenters: Candace Iron and Marylou Di Placito	BCTI 5 th Fl. MS Teams: Join
2:20 - 2:30	CIHW Healthy Break Presenters: Healthy Break Partners, CIHW	
2:30 - 2:40	Pushpin Topic 3: Faculty Mentorship Program Presenters: Alyson Renaldo and Marylou Di Placito	
2:40 - 2:55	FLAS P3 Projects Presenter: Estefania Toledo	
2:55 - 3:50	FLAS Celebrates Success and Closing (John Stilla) Moderators: Candace Iron and Marylou Di Placito	

Session Descriptions

Breakout Sessions: 10:05 AM - 11:20 AM

1A "The Futures of My Work": A Course Learning Module

Presenters: Erin Harvey and Elena De Gregorio

Online Chat Monitor: Jessica Freitag

Room: N 201 | MS Teams: [Click here to join](#)

In this session, we'll focus on using a visible thinking tool called a futures cone to imagine the short and long-term impacts of technologies on a student's professional work or career. We'll explain how to facilitate the activity, how and when to engage with AI, and how to extend the activity to a creative element in a student's professional portfolio. This session's content was developed for a non-linear, modular, sustainability-themed WRIT course being piloted this year.

1B Personalizing The Learning Journey for ESOL Students: Using Generative AI To Enhance Communication Skills

Presenter: Thi Thanh Truc Le

Online Chat Monitor: Anabel Antunes

Room: N 209 | MS Teams: [Click here to join](#)

In this presentation, I will share the teaching resources and findings from a Priority 3 research project that I led this past year. This project seeks to address the limitations of the traditional one-size-fits-all approach to language education by exploring the use of generative AI tools to provide personalized learning experiences for ESOL students. It features an 8-module generative AI-assisted intervention that allows students to customize their learning experiences by selecting relevant modules and using AI-generated materials to develop targeted communication skills.

1C Leadership at Work

Presenter: Megan MacNeil

Online Chat Monitor: Anthony Riga

Room: N 210 | MS Teams: [Click here to join](#)

A collaborative campfire conversation about leadership - what it looks like in our workspaces, what it CAN look like, best practices, etc.

1D Equity in Practice: A Faculty Guide to Academic Accommodations

Presenters: Estefania Toledo, Leah State, Niall O'Connor, and Roshi Wagley

Online Chat Monitor: Sonia Lewis

Room: N 214 | MS Teams: [Click here to join](#)

This interactive session introduces faculty to Humber's updated academic accommodation process, including the new student registration system, a detailed walkthrough of Humber/Guelph-Humber's accommodation process, and online faculty training modules.

Participants will leave with practical strategies and confidence in their role supporting student

Session Descriptions

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accommodations—while preserving academic integrity and course standards.

Learning Outcomes - By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Understand the legal obligations under the Ontario Human Rights Code and AODA.
- Navigate Humber's accommodation process, including the new student registration system and what it means for faculty.
- Distinguish between essential course requirements and flexible teaching practices.
- Access and engage with Humber's Academic Accommodations Modules and support resources.

1E Brains Over Bots: Critical Thinking in the Age of Artificial General Intelligence

Presenter: Arundati Dandapani

Online Chat Monitor: Marylou Di Placito

Room N 223 | MS Teams: [Click here to join](#)

As classrooms and workplaces are increasingly shaped by the anticipation (or fear) of artificial general intelligence (AGI), one truth stands firm: critical thinking remains one of the most essential and future-proof skills across all sectors. This session offers a grounded and realistic look at the current and future state of AI, exploring how postsecondary students, faculty, and staff must reframe their understanding of skills, assessment, and competency to prepare for a rapidly evolving world of intelligent systems.

Through real-world examples, primary and secondary research, and speculative AGI scenarios, we will explore how to strengthen the human core of work—critical thinking—while developing the technical fluencies needed for success in data- and AI-rich environments. Participants will learn how to cultivate uniquely human strengths such as ethical reasoning, curiosity, systems thinking, and adaptability—skills that machines cannot replicate but which are vital in the age of automation.

Rooted in the interdisciplinary mission of Humber's Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences, this session highlights how critical thinking, communication, and analytical literacy are foundational to student engagement, success and lifelong learning. The session will also offer ideas and examples of practical strategies that are and could be employed to update pedagogical practices, rethink evaluation methods, and co-create inclusive, future-facing learning environments that reflect the realities of today's learners and tomorrow's world of work.

1F "Could we? Should we?": Implications for Gen AI in the Polytechnic Classroom

Presenter: Mary Grace Lao

Online Chat Monitor: Candace Iron

Room: N 226 | MS Teams: [Click here to join](#)

In the spring faculty retreat, there were considerable discussions around Gen AI's impact on student learning. The discussion focused on the negative consequences of Gen AI and academic integrity and the lack of resources available for faculty. It is also possible that there simply is not enough time in our days to do our own research and learn more about Gen AI. However, we know that faculty within our

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1F departments (and other faculties) and colleagues from other institutions have adopted Gen AI, with some building it into their curriculum design.

Where do we go from here? How can we bridge the polarizing opinions on Gen AI for a more collaborative response across FLAS? This workshop is designed for faculty to reflect on Gen AI even before getting into the classroom. More specifically, faculty will collaborate with each other to identify and critique pedagogical and ethical implications of Gen AI in the polytechnic classroom. Such considerations include (but are not limited to): evolving industry needs, skills development, privacy and use of third-party applications, accessibility and affordability, and student consent.

At the end of the workshop, participants will create documents that we can contribute towards an "AI readiness toolkit." Such documents can be decided upon by participants on the day of the workshop, but some ideas include: a checklist or roadmap for faculty to decide how much Gen AI to adopt in the classroom, a syllabus of Gen AI works (videos, articles, etc.), AI policy language to include in the Critical Path.

Session Descriptions

Breakout Sessions: 1:00 PM - 2:10 PM

2A Understanding Disabilities: How to be an ally

Presenters: Lauren Abela and Jessica Rotolo

Online Chat Captain: Megan MacNeil

Room: N 209 | MS Teams: [Click here to join](#)

Jessica and Lauren will share from lived experiences what it means to be an ally to the disability community. Participants can expect to leave with a better understanding of visible/non-visible disabilities, inclusive language practices, AODA-friendly presentation resources, and organizations to consider getting involved in (or encourage our students to).

2B The Flexible Learning Circle: Sparking Insights, Questions, and Ideas

Presenters: Jessica Freitag and Colleen Ball

Online Chat Monitor: Kimberley Prince

Room: N 210 | MS Team: [Click here to Join](#)

Join this informal campfire conversation to exchange ideas about flexible learning. Whether you're experimenting with new strategies, adapting assessments, exploring delivery modes, or finding ways to support student choice while balancing faculty workload, this is a space to reflect, ask questions, and connect with others working toward more accessible, adaptable, and inclusive learning environments.

2C Critical Thinking and AI

Room: N 214 | MS Teams: [Click here to join](#)

Online Chat Monitor: Anabel Antunes

Critical Thinking Through AI Images

Presenter: Erik Mortensen

In some of my courses I use AI generated artwork to create course logos and visuals for concepts and ideas. I have the students analyze the image to see what it captures and what it misses. It helps to generate discussion and critical thinking; as well as having students see the ways that AI can have flaws or gaps in its interpretations of prompts and ideas.

From Prompt to Product: Redesigning Writing in the Age of AI

Presenter: Hasti Havari Nasab

My presentation helps faculty respond to the growing presence of AI tools such as ChatGPT in students' writing, not by banning them, but by redesigning writing assignments to account for how students now brainstorm, revise, and make rhetorical decisions with AI. Instead of focusing on fear or plagiarism, I'll guide participants through specific, hands-on strategies rooted in

backward design, Universal Design for Learning (UDL), and critical pedagogy.

We'll begin by reviewing examples of AI-generated writing emails, essays, cover letters and identifying what they got wrong: tone, specificity, and elements of critical thinking. I will then demonstrate how to

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revise a traditional assignment to include an AI “checkpoint” (e.g., use ChatGPT to generate an outline or a draft), along with a reflection prompt asking students to explain what they kept, rejected, and why. The redesigned assignment will allow students to use AI tools at specific stages, such as brainstorming, drafting, or revising while requiring them to submit a reflection explaining what the AI tool generated, what they chose to keep or change, and why. This approach will strengthen their critical thinking as well.

I will, then, share an example of a redesigned writing assignment, such as a reflective essay prompt that integrates AI use ethically and transparently. I will review a sample rubric that evaluates how students use AI in the writing process, with a focus on revision, voice, and critical engagement. This discussion will help faculty think about adapting similar strategies in their courses.

2D Exploring Creativity as a Pathway to Rigour

Presenters: Estefania Toledo and Beth Washburn

Online Chat Monitor: Candace Iron

Room: N 223 | MS Teams: [Click here to join](#)

Goal: To introduce and model the use of art-based assessments in liberal art courses, address concerns about academic rigour, and share real examples that enhance student engagement, comprehension, and well-being.

Learning Outcomes

- Describe the pedagogical rationale for integrating art-based assessments in liberal art courses
- Identify key benefits of creative assignments, including increased student engagement, deeper comprehension, and enhanced well-being
- Recognize common concerns related to academic rigour and learn strategies to address them through structured expectations and reflective components. Evaluate student work using appropriate criteria that emphasize both creative expression and conceptual understanding.

2E AI and Sustainability in the Classroom

Presenters: Sandra Leutri & Office of Sustainability

Online Chat Monitor: Marylou Di Placito

Room: N 226 | MS Teams: [Click here to join](#)

A thought-provoking session that challenges the assumption that digital and tech-based solutions are always the most sustainable. This presentation will explore the environmental impacts of technology — from device lifecycles to digital carbon footprints — and encourage a balanced, critical lens when integrating technology into solutioning, exploring how to make more informed choices in an increasingly digital world.

FLAS

Senior Dean's Certificate of Recognition 2025

This year, we are pleased to once again award the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences Senior Dean's Certificates of Recognition, which acknowledge and celebrate students who have demonstrated exceptional commitment, contribution, leadership, and impact in different learning environments within FLAS.

Thanks to all who took the time to nominate a deserving learner.

We received many strong nominations, and from them, the following were selected as this year's recipients:

Certificate of Recognition for Global Engagement

Tu (Lucy) Luc

Nominated by Elinor Bray-Collins

Certificate of Recognition for Engagement in Online Learning

Taylor Doria

Nominated by Renee Griffiths

Flora Jiang

Nominated by Arundati Dandapani

Certificate of Recognition for Engagement in In-Person Classroom Learning

Yograj Singh Bir

Nominated by Naghmeh Saffarian-Pour

Jennifer Dobson

Nominated by Irene Kosmas

Suhird Singh Gill

Nominated by Punam Parashar

Maria Angelica Handog

Nominated by Naghmeh Saffarian-Pour

Sena Seray Karaca

Nominated by Anthony D. VanHoy

Hong Chun Lau

Nominated by Punam Parashar

Brandy Laurent

Nominated by Isabel Sousa

Baljit Singh Parmar

Nominated by Mona Bayani-Keyvani

Jonah K. Peckham

Nominated by Melanie Chaparian



FLAS

Grab 'n Go Food Banks

Thank you for bringing a non-perishable food item to today's symposium!

Your generous donation will help support the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Grab 'n Go Food Banks located at both the North and Lakeshore Campuses.

Designed with convenience and dignity in mind, the FLAS Grab 'n Go Food Banks
help ensure that no member of the Humber community goes without food.

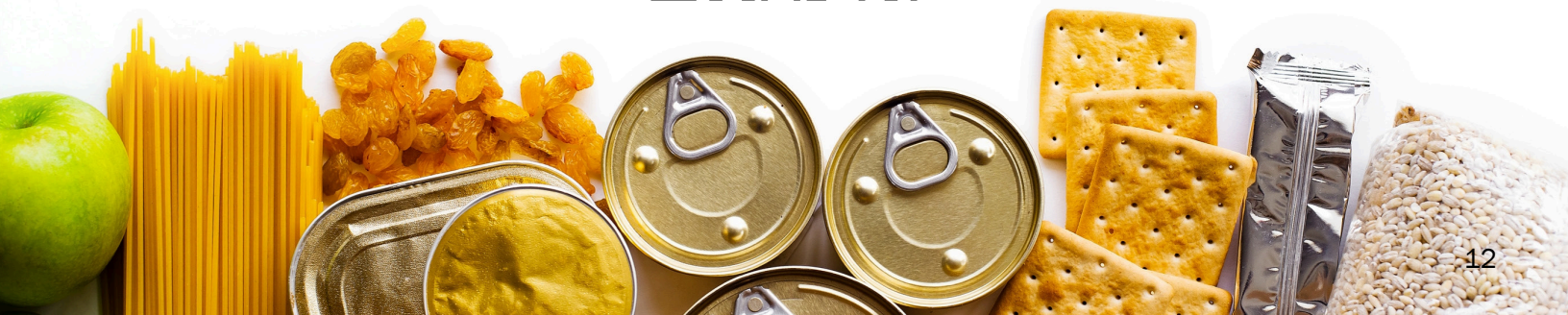
**This is a faculty-driven initiative, so, when you can, please consider donating
non-perishable food items to this worthy initiative.**

Donation Drop Off Locations:

North Campus: FLAS 5th floor LRC

Lakeshore Campus: FLAS 3rd floor MED

The FLAS Grab 'n Go Food Banks now also have a website!



SIP & CHILL MOBILE RESOURCES CART



HOW DOES IT WORK?

Professors/faculty members book the cart to arrive during a class break. The Sip & Chill Mobile Cart will be ready to join the class during break to offer students information about student resources, upcoming events, giveaways, and a complimentary beverage.

HOW DO I REQUEST A VISIT?

Professors/faculty members can schedule a visit from the Sip & Chill Mobile Resources Cart to arrive during their class breaks using the [online booking form](#) or QR code. Reservations are limited to one visit per class per semester.



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LOOKING FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT?

We've got close to 200 scholarships available this fall, valued at \$1,000+. Scholarships focus on a variety of aspects including leadership, community involvement, academic merit, and more.

Apply by Sept 21st



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1. Log in to **MyHumber.ca**
2. Click **Student Awards and Financial Aid**
3. Select **Apply for Scholarships**
4. **Sign in With Your Institution**
5. Enter your **Humber Username and Password**

QUESTIONS?

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