

# AI in Higher Education: Challenges & Opportunities

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# Outline

The (inter)national picture

Our approach at Leeds

Challenges

Opportunities



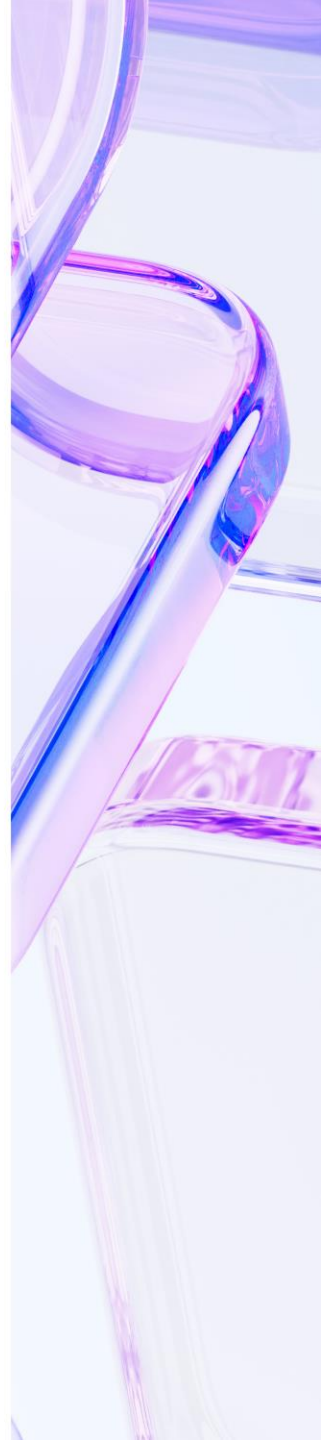
# The (inter)national AI picture

## Student perspectives

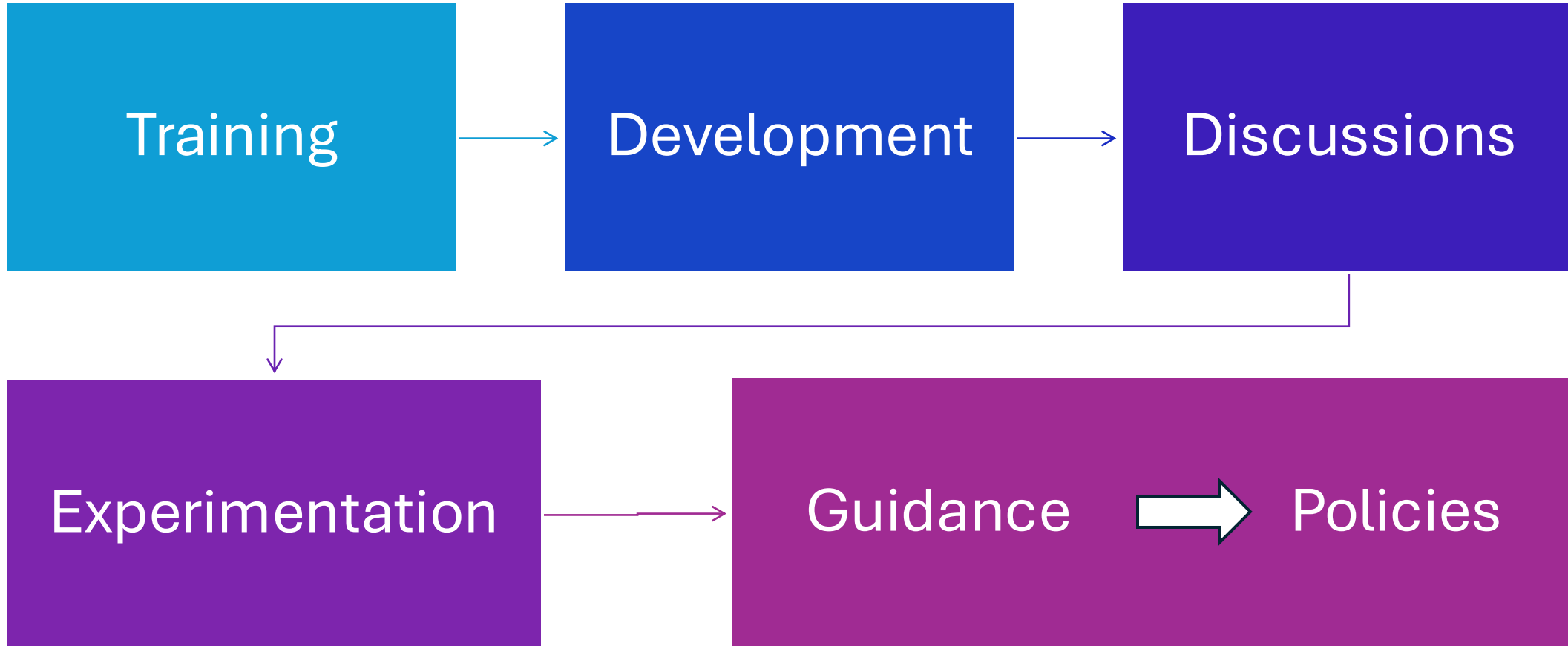
- AI is embedded in daily life
- AI for academic support
- Guidance needed
- Confidence crisis
- Employment concerns

## Staff perspectives

- Uneven participation and access
- Concerns: ethics, integrity, confidence
- Gaps in policy
- Creative and pragmatic use
- Need for collaboration



# The Leeds approach: We will embrace AI!





# AI challenges

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Assessment!

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Equitable access

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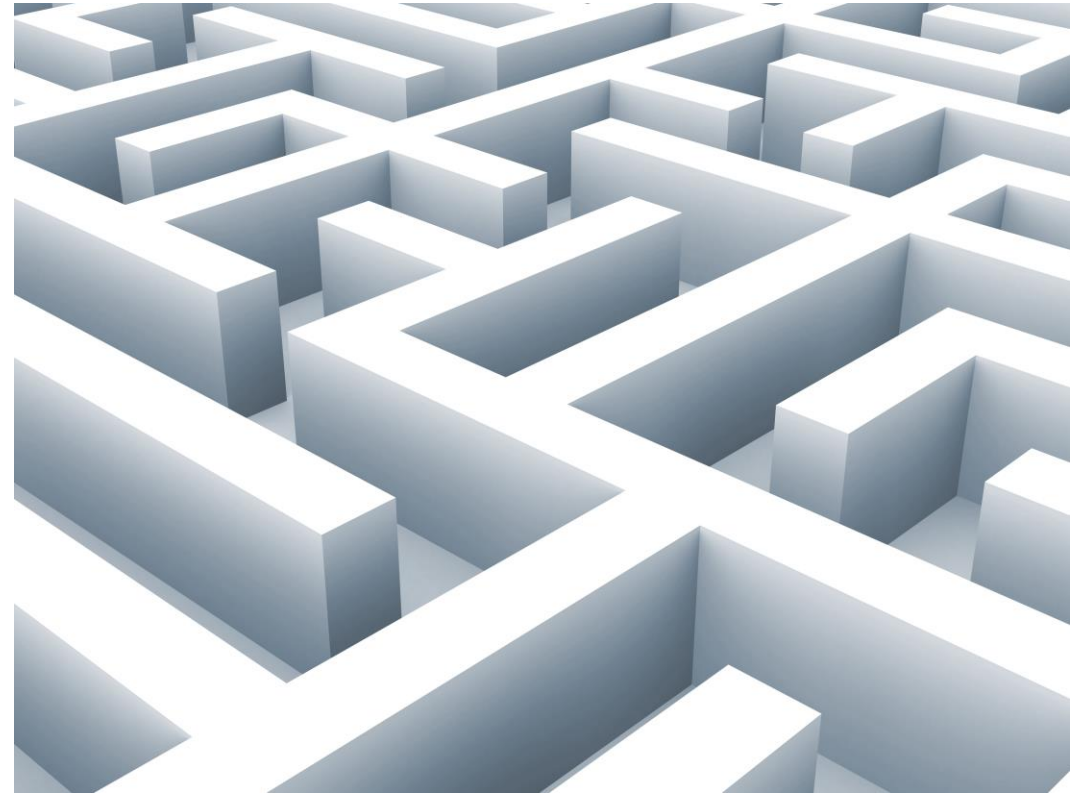
Ethical concerns

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Environmental concerns

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Current and future careers



# AI challenges – solutions?

'Traffic light' assessment categories

'2-lane' assessment?

Democratise access

Staff and student dialogue



# AI Opportunities for Education

Learning with (and from) our students



Productivity



Inclusive practice



Critical thinking and soft skills



AI literacy is a future skill for careers –  
students and our own!

# Thank you for listening

Samantha Pugh

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# References

- JISC staff perspectives on AI:  
<https://nationalcentreforai.jiscinvolve.org/wp/2025/09/02/staff-perceptions-of-ai-2025/>
- JISC student perspectives on AI:  
<https://www.jisc.ac.uk/reports/student-perceptions-of-ai-2025>
- UK Government AI Opportunities Action Plan:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ai-opportunities-action-plan/ai-opportunities-action-plan>
- Soft skills: <https://hbr.org/2025/08/soft-skills-matter-now-more-than-ever-according-to-new-research>

AI was used to help create summaries of these documents

