

Section 1: Contribution Details

Contribution	Detail
Authors Name(s)	Elizabeth Williams
Title of Submission:	Case Study: AI- Meeting the Challenges, Creating Opportunities: The University of Edinburgh Experience
Sub-Theme(s) of Submission:	Case studies of AI and ML applications in libraries;
Keywords of Submission:	Academic/Support/Librarians/Challenges/Opportunities

Section 2: Abstract Text

Case Study: AI- Meeting the Challenges, Creating Opportunities: The University of Edinburgh Experience
University of Edinburgh's Strategy 2030 states: We will be a global leader in artificial intelligence and the use of data with integrity.

Edinburgh's AI expertise has been at the forefront of AI research for over fifty years. It established Europe's first research group into AI in 1963. The University is now one of Europe's largest centers for AI research, with researchers conducting cutting edge research into fundamental and applied AI. The Generative AI Lab (GAIL) which opened in 2023 joins the University's world-leading research and innovation in AI to develop safe solutions and systems for industry and government with the objective to bring substantial benefits to users.

The University offers over 150 courses and 40 undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in AI-related areas which graduate hundreds of AI students each year and include some of the largest cohorts of AI students in the UK. The University offers a range of further AI courses, including for working professionals and the general public. In the light of the context outlined above; the Academic Support Librarians (ASLs) team, offer guidance to direct students/staff/researchers in the ethical and responsible use of AI tools for their academic work, literature searching, summarizing, research.

This lightening talk presentation will spotlight the work of academic support librarians in this area of up-skilling their knowledge-base and providing training for students, academic staff, and peers. As well as comms and engagement with the multidisciplinary expertise that range across the Colleges, Schools (Science and Engineering, Medicine and Veterinary Medicine, Arts Humanities and Social Sciences), research institutes. I will outline the challenges and opportunities and ways we are moving forward proactively as well as feeding into and engagement with academics in discussing school level policy and dialoging with colleagues in other universities. ASLs are working on a framework for evaluating new AI tools, and support the home grown UoE AI companion-ELM (the Edinburgh access to Language Models) the university's AI innovation platform a central portal to safer access of Gen-AI via Large Language Models. Activities will be spotlighted.