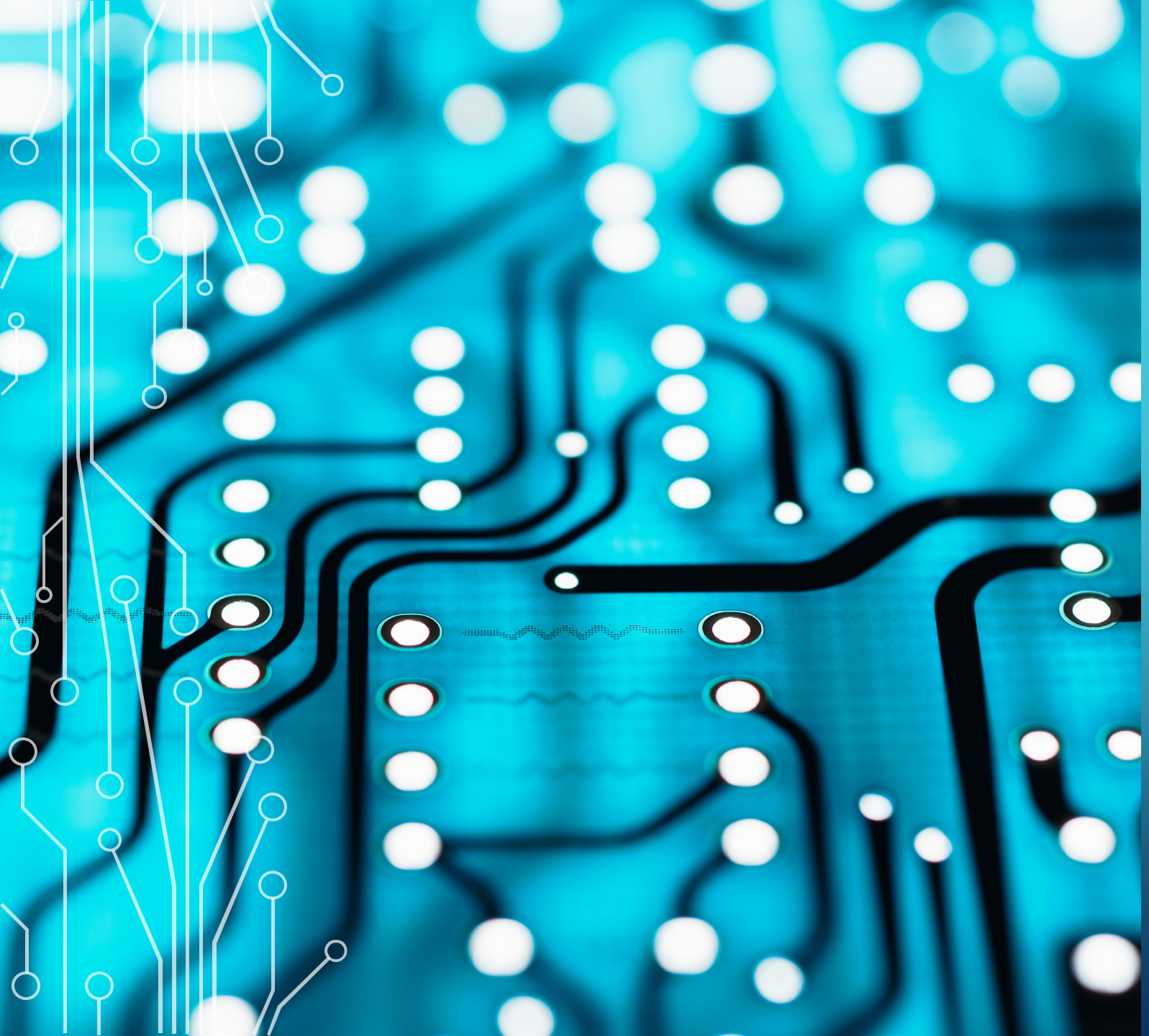
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

IAL

JUNE 2026



WHAT IS AI ?

- **A** branch of computer science dedicated to building systems capable of performing tasks that normally require human intelligence. Instead of following a strict set of pre-written rules, AI systems learn from data, recognize patterns, and make decisions or generate content on their own.

HOW IT LEARNS

AI isn’t "thinking" like a human brain does. It relies on a few key technologies:

Machine Learning: A method where computers are trained on massive datasets to figure things out without being explicitly programmed.

Deep Learning & Neural Networks: Complex, multi-layered structures inspired by biological brains designed to analyze highly complex data like speech or photos

HOW OLD IS AI?

- Artificial intelligence is roughly **70 years old** as a formal field of academic study, with the foundational concepts dating back over 80 years to 1943
- The origins and evolution of AI span several key milestones:
- **1943:** The first mathematical model of an artificial neural network was developed, establishing the groundwork for how computers could simulate the human brain

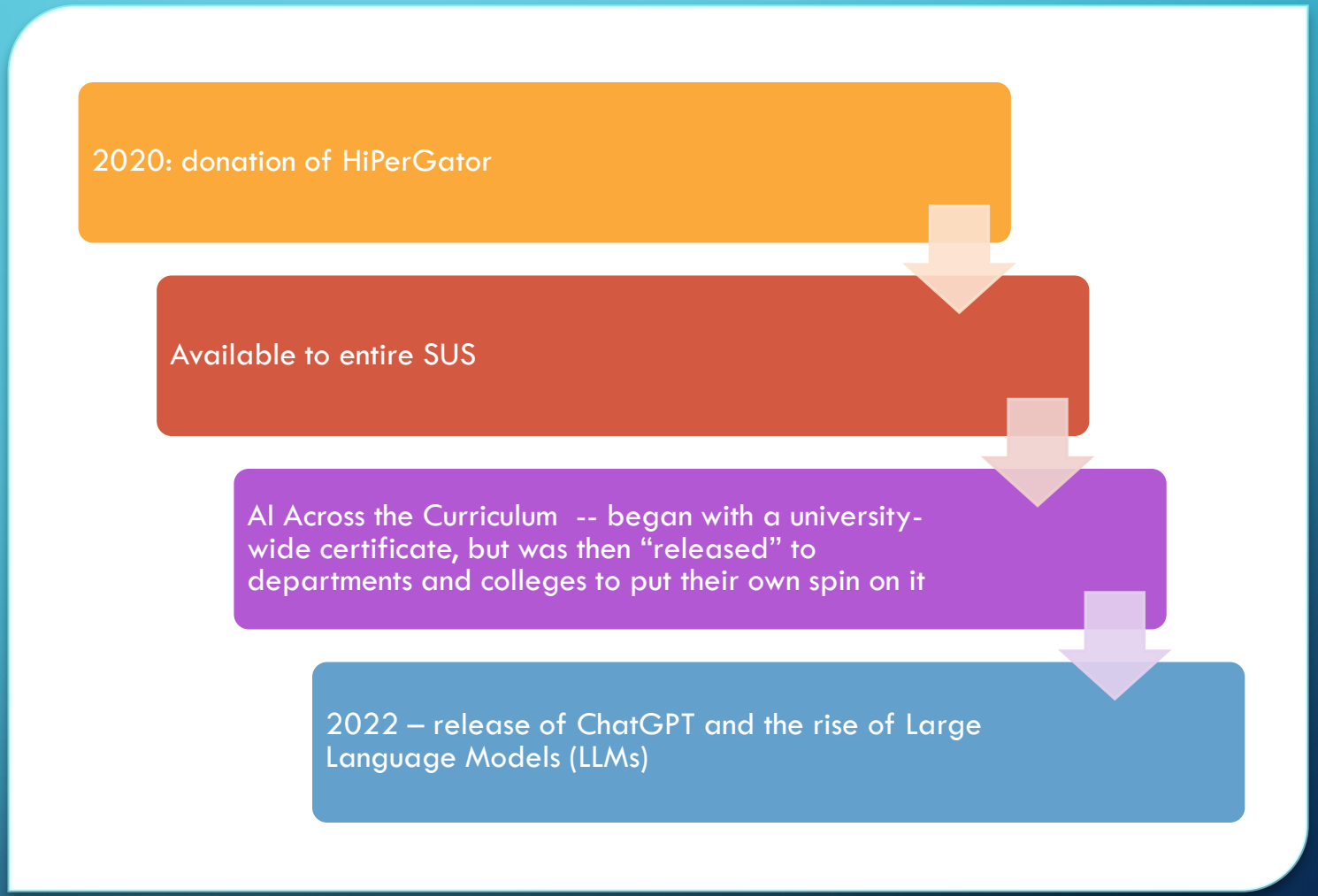
- 1950: Alan Turing introduced the Turing Test as a way to evaluate a machine's ability to exhibit intelligent behavior equivalent to—or indistinguishable from—that of a human.

- 1955-1956: Computer scientist John McCarthy formally coined the term "Artificial Intelligence". In the summer of 1956, he organized the Dartmouth Workshop, which is widely celebrated as the official birth of AI as an independent field of research.

- 1960s-1990s: The field experienced rapid early enthusiasm followed by decades of reduced funding and interest known as "AI Winters".

- 2010s: Massive computational power and large datasets allowed deep learning and neural networks to achieve breakthroughs in image and speech recognition.

UF'S AI INITIATIVE, BRIEFLY



AI ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

- Taught in every college, touching every discipline
  - Generative AI
  - Computer Vision
  - Robotics
  - Remote Sensing
  - Digital Twins
  - FinTech
  - Machine & Deep Learning
- Music faculty member: https://vimeo.com/1172995302?share=copy&fl=sv&fe=ci

AI & COMPOSITION

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA SCHOOL OF MUSIC

UF
FLORIDA

AS OF LAST YEAR,

AI Across the Curriculum

14,000
STUDENTS ENROLLED IN AI COURSES ANNUALLY

1,000
UNDERGRADUATE UNIVERSITY-WIDE AI CERTIFICATE STUDENTS

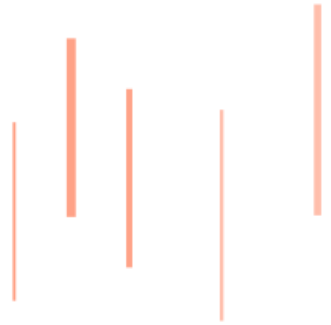
300+
AI FACULTY

230+
AI COURSES

AI-Prepared Students

360+
AI STUDENT CLUB MEMBERS

140
UNDERGRADUATE AI RESEARCH SCHOLARS



AI Education for All

12,000
EDUCATORS TRAINED IN AI FOR THE CLASSROOM

AI² Center has trained 12,000 higher ed and K-12 faculty and administrators through its microcredential, workshops, webinars, conferences, trainings and more.

80+
AI INFORMATIONAL VIDEOS

Explore cutting-edge AI developments with discussions and insights from UF faculty, administrators and students. View them on our YouTube channel

www.youtube.com/@AIatUF

50+
AI RADIO MINUTES

60-second AI minutes on WUFT-NPR radio to northeastern Florida radio listeners. Hear them here

ai.ufl.edu/ai-radio-minute/

A POWERFUL NEW TOOL BRINGS PROBLEMS …

AI Ethics

Student Dependence

Integrity of Assignments and Exams

When everything is at their fingertips, will students learn?

Mechanization of entry-level jobs

Mechanization of higher-level jobs

FACULTY RESPONSIBILITY (MY VIEW)

- Go back to basics and ask:
  - What are we trying to do as faculty members?
  - How do the old tools of instruction and assessment need to change?

THE FUTURE

AI will continue to find new applications

This will lead to cultural change

THE RISE OF AGENTS

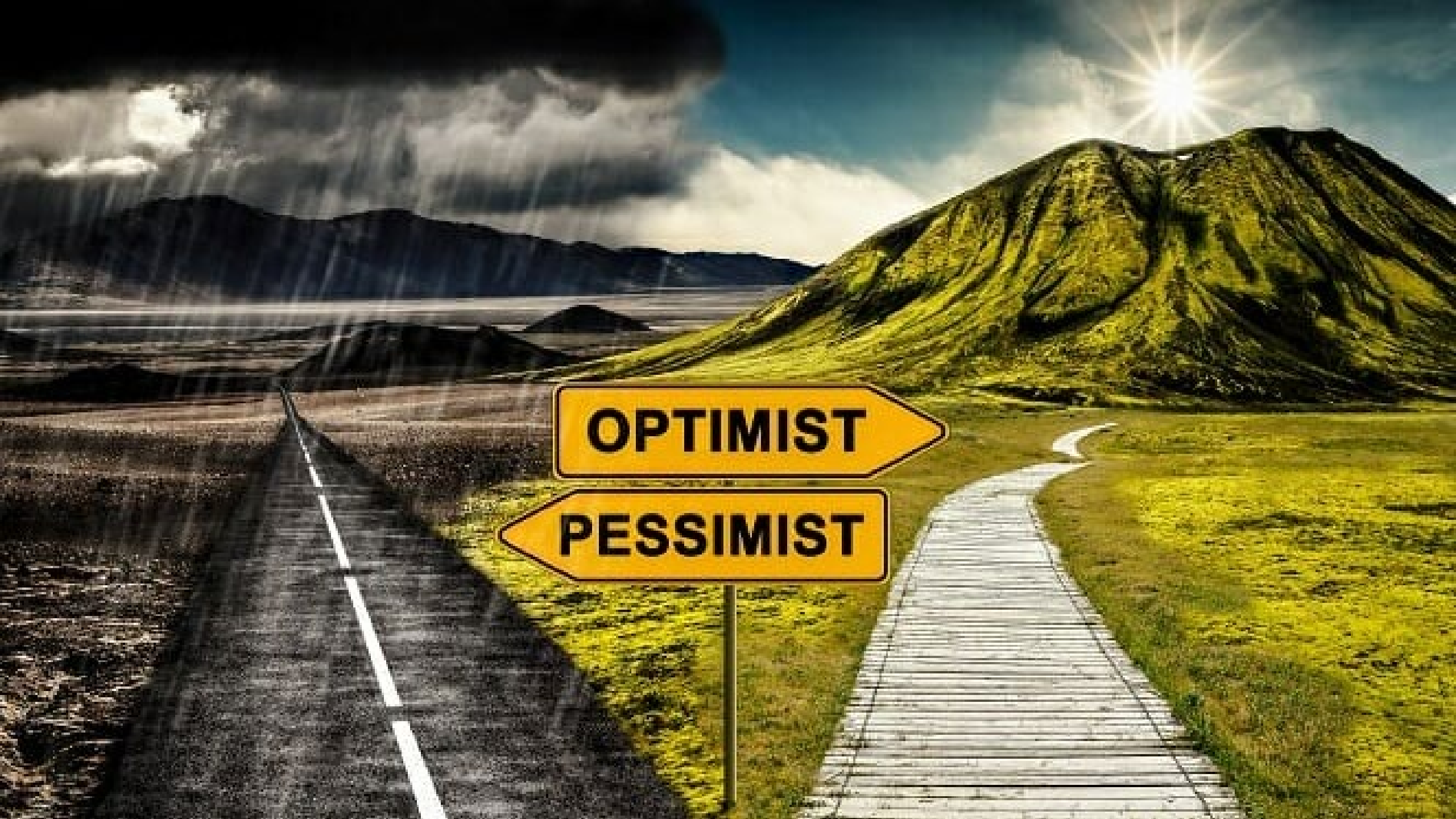
ChatGPT just answers questions. It doesn't "do" anything else

Agents will take actions, either guided by humans or autonomously

They are here, and they will ultimately number in the hundreds and perhaps thousands on your campus

How do we get them to respect privacy, your policies, and communicate seamlessly?

Example: Open Claw


OPTIMIST
PESSIMIST