Artificial Intelligence in higher education environment - challenges and perspectives

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Abstract

Artificial intelligence instruments are fully developed and increasingly present in various fields, including education. There has been a strong dynamic of artificial intelligence in recent years, and a growing concern among university management to analyze how artificial intelligence could help both teachers and students in the learning process. The challenges regarding artificial intelligence exist at every educational level, but in this pilot research study, the educational process in higher education within the university environment was chosen. The purpose of the pilot research study is to discover the receptivity of teachers and students to the integration of artificial intelligence in the educational process. The main objectives are: to identify the factors that influence the use of artificial intelligence in their activities; to discover the causes that determine reluctance towards artificial intelligence tools; to learn the risks and the benefits of integrating artificial intelligence into the educational process and to find out the main changes needed for using artificial intelligence instruments to improve the effectiveness of the teaching and learning process.

The paper is based on a pilot research study conducted in the Faculty of Administration and Public Management from the Bucharest University of Economic Studies. The research sample consists of 46 full professors and associated teaching staff. The main research instrument is the questionnaire developed and administered online through the Google Forms platform. Data processing and analysis are carried out with JASP. The results reflect the degree of receptivity of teachers regarding artificial intelligence tools, the main benefits and risks estimated by integrating these tools into the teaching and learning process. The results can contribute to changing the content of some curricula, teaching and learning methods, involvement of teachers in influencing the quality of education and the effectiveness of teachers alike.

Keywords: artificial intelligence, higher education, teaching and learning process

Introduction

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