Microsoft

Accelerate AI innovation across campus with nebulaONE® by Cloudforce

Empower students, faculty, and researchers to gain an academic edge with a secure AI platform built on Microsoft Azure

Empowering higher education with AI

Nearly all higher education institutions are planning for AI,[1] and some are already adopting it to gain a competitive edge. But implementation challenges remain:
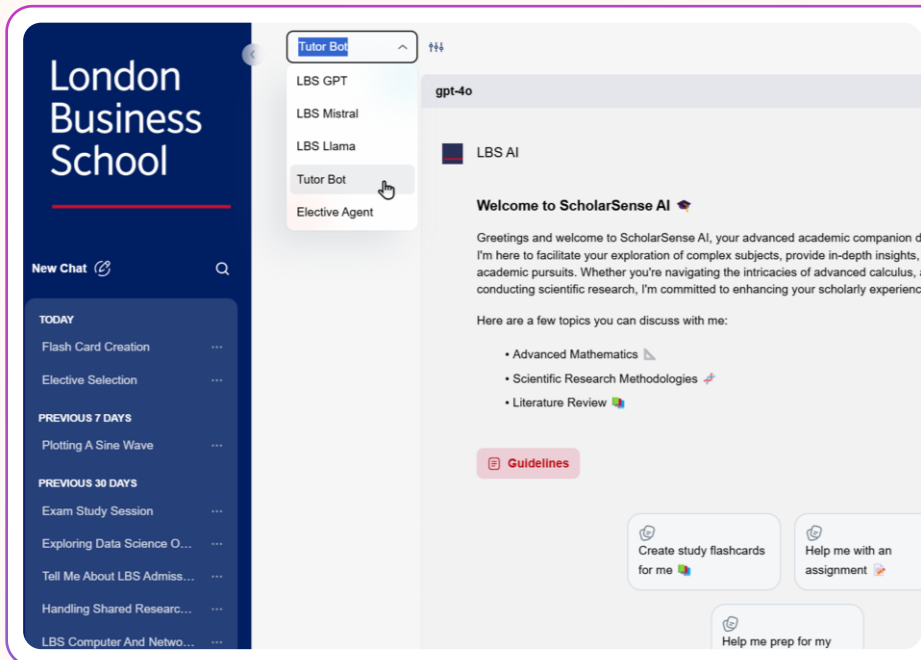
- Accelerating AI implementation to remain competitive
- Ensuring all students have equitable access to generative AI
- Managing budget limitations to support GenAI initiatives
- Navigating IT governance, security, and regulatory requirements

89%
of institutions are engaged in AI strategic planning in some capacity[1]

Accelerate AI innovation across campus with nebulaONE by Cloudforce

A conversational GenAI gateway, nebulaONE empowers students, faculty, researchers, and staff to harness cutting-edge AI models to reimagine learning experiences and drive institutional efficiency.

Rapid time to value
Offer AI access for all in just a few weeks with no-code setup and lightning-fast deployment.

Easy to use
The intuitive chat interface drives quick adoption, and it can be customized to match your institution's branding.

Powerful, affordable AI
Enhance learning and drive efficiency with a scalable AI platform that consistently offers low cost of ownership.

Built on Microsoft Azure, nebulaONE is your gateway to Azure AI

- **Data control:** Stay in control of your institution's data with enterprise-grade security, a commitment to privacy, and easier compliance with privacy laws like FERPA, GDPR, and HIPAA to safeguard user data.

- **Model flexibility:** Leverage 1,800+ foundation AI models from Microsoft, OpenAI, Meta, DeepSeek, and more, including LLMs and SLMs, to customize and fine-tune task-specific GenAI agents and experiences.

- **Trustworthy AI:** Deploy secure, private, and compliant AI with Microsoft's responsible AI principles and built-in protections to help prevent harmful content, bias, misuse, and other unintended risks.

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[1]Jenay Robert. 2024 EDUCAUSE AI Landscape Study. Research report. Boulder, CO: EDUCAUSE, February 2024.

UCLA boosts efficiency with nebulaONE

Situation

Leaders at UCLA's Anderson School of Management saw the potential to elevate the academic experience with AI but faced security and privacy concerns with public AI platforms. To help with compliance and data protection, they sought to deploy GenAI tools from their secure Microsoft Azure environment. They took a collaborative approach and formed a task force of students, faculty, and staff to identify high-impact use cases that would drive innovation while maintaining institutional control.

Solution

With support from Microsoft, UCLA Anderson chose nebulaONE by Cloudforce for its fully managed AI platform, seamlessly deployed in Azure with enterprise-grade security and privacy. Beyond its powerful GenAI conversational interface, school leaders sought to leverage nebulaONE for AI-powered chatbots. Cloudforce provided expert guidance, validated key use cases, and delivered hands-on training—empowering UCLA Anderson's staff to independently build and scale AI-driven solutions, maximizing long-term impact.

[1]Active user growth from December 2024 to January 2025

Result

In just two months, UCLA Anderson launched its first GenAI chatbot to support MBA students. With expert training from Cloudforce, the school has quickly developed several additional AI-powered chatbots. The initiative has earned UCLA Anderson a reputation as an AI innovator in higher education.

Impact at UCLA Anderson

485%
user growth[1]

Months after rollout, nebulaONE usage has continued increasing, improving engagement with AI.

Initial use cases :

- **Syllabi assistant:** Helps students search course catalogs and register for classes

- **Essay feedback**: Provides comments and guidance to improve student work

- **Coming next:** Built through UCLA's strategic partnership with Cloudforce, one upcoming agent will increase career coaches' time with alumni by reducing admin tasks, and another will help students adhere to resume standards.

Jumpstart your campus AI journey

UCLA demonstrated that deploying AI can quickly improve the academic experience. And, no matter their adoption stage, any institution can implement secure and cost-effective GenAI with nebulaONE.

The key to accelerating impact is to simultaneously build AI capabilities, develop skills, and leverage data. Furthermore, institutions can start driving value in their AI deployments today by following the best practices outlined on this page.

Discover and plan

AI skilling succeeds when institutions act early. Launch training and identify key use cases to drive progress, even without AI-ready data.

Connect to a curated data set. The nebulaONE platform can be set to draw on data from a single resource, like a university website, so you can get started and provide AI to all students in only weeks.

Prioritize use cases that will deliver innovation. Cloudforce can host workshops with stakeholders to determine high-impact use cases to start.

Offer multi-format training. Cloudforce offers train-the-trainer programs, workshops, and prompt-a-thons. Microsoft's AI learning hub provides fundamentals and best practices.

Deploy and inspire

Successful institutions move into full deployment by adding data sources that reveal new use cases, while also helping users build proficiency.

Connect to new data sources, such as learning management systems, to unlock new use cases. You can also mitigate risks to data privacy by using compliance tools like Microsoft Purview.

Inform and teach staff and students, using strategic communications to introduce the platform, build excitement, share a vision, and offer skilling on campus AI tools.

Maximize value with data

Scaling AI creates greater impact when institutions unify data, offer ongoing skilling, and foster a culture of innovation across campus.

Unify data with a complete data platform, like Microsoft Fabric. By reasoning over unified data from systems like finance and HR, AI can provide actionable insights throughout campus operations.

Scale AI innovation across campus. Enable students and faculty to design and deploy AI agents that drive efficiency, engagement, and academic advancement.

Offer ongoing learning. Use regular outreach and training to introduce new features, additional use cases, and best practices.

Learn more

Cloudforce

Cloudforce is an expert in developing Azure-based AI solutions. Leading universities are adopting nebulaONE to provide a secure, equitable way to transform higher education with GenAI.

- Learn more about Cloudforce's recent work in the company newsroom.
- For more detailed information or to request a demo, visit the nebulaONE site.

Microsoft

- Explore the benefits of powering your institution with Azure.
- Find out how Azure provides security and compliance from the ground up.
- Discover the AI learning hub, which has resources for AI skills for a variety of roles.
- Learn about Microsoft's commitment to empowering responsible AI practices.

Reach out to your Microsoft representative to learn more.

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