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Schedule for AI and Creative Education Symposium

2 July 2026, 9.30am – 5pm

Hellenic Centre, 16-18 Paddington Street,
Marylebone, W1U 5AS

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9.30 Coffee

10.00 Welcome in the Great Hall

Karen Stanton, Vice-Chancellor.

10.05 Overview of the day

Dave White, Dean of Academic Strategy (Online), UAL Online.

10.15 Demystifying generative AI: what it does well, where it breaks, and implications for arts education

Rebecca Fiebrink, Professor, CCI.

In this talk Rebecca will consider generative AI as a system based on pattern recognition and probabilistic prediction, rather than intelligence or truth. This will frame thinking on where tools like large language models are effective and where they fail.

Drawing on examples from the Creative Computing Institute, Rebecca will show how students and researchers are using AI to develop new creative practices while critically interrogating its limits. This work frames generative AI as a technology to engage with actively and critically, highlighting the vital role arts universities can play in shaping how these systems are designed, understood, and used in society.

10.50 Trained to stop learning: How students are experiencing assessment and learning in an age of AI

Mack Marshall, Editorial Coordinator, Wonkhe.

Mack will speak to the recent research by Wonkhe which investigated the use of AI in the production of assessed work: “Students are submitting work they cannot fully explain, facing AI policies that do not function in practice, and responding strategically to assessment systems that reward production over understanding.”

Encouragingly, many of the report’s suggestions on improving this picture resonate with UAL teaching and assessment practices but there is always more that can be done to reduce anxiety and promote critical thought. In this talk Mack will highlight key points relevant to us as a specialist institution.

11.35 Coffee + Staff AI Demos and Experiments:

Chris Follows, Senior Educational Developer, Emerging Technologies and **Grzesiek Sedek**, Lead Specialist Technician L&T Digital Performance Lab, CCW.

Ian Truelove, Research and Innovation Coordinator, UAL Online.

Gabriele Brambilla, Lecturer in Digital Practices BA Interior and Spatial Design, Interior Futures, Chelsea College of Arts.

Mayra Berrones, Specialist Technician AI and Data Science, Creative Computing Institute.

Damien Borowik, Learning Technologist, Central Saint Martins.

Chris Rowell, Digital Learning Producer Community, Learning and Teaching Directorate.

Ray Grewal, Lecturer/Researcher, Performance, Central Saint Martins.

Lynn Kiang, Senior Lecturer, BA Graphic Design, Camberwell College of Arts.

Gabi Tropia, Course Leader, MA Performance Screen, Central Saint Martins.

12.00 Using, and not using, Copilot Chat

Vikram Singh, Solutions Architect, Digital and Technology, **Paul McMullan**, Head of Product Teaching and Learning, Digital and Technology and **Dave White**, Dean of Academic Strategy, UAL Online.

Copilot Chat is the UAL supported means of access to generative AI, but for many of us it is not the only AI that we need to use in our teaching and learning. This session will outline the benefits of using Copilot Chat and suggest guidance on the responsible use of other forms of AI.

- **How to access Copilot Chat:** data security and the AI models it has the potential to access (Vikram Singh).
- **The necessary use of other forms of AI:** what to take into account (Paul McMullan).
- **The UAL AI Principles:** how do different types of AI sit with the Principles (Dave White).

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12.45 Lunch

Staff AI Demos and Experiments.

13.45 Students' perspectives: AI use in practice

A series of lightening talks, hosted by **Chris Rowell**, Digital Learning Producer, Learning and Teaching Directorate.

- **Iris Gitik** MA Art & Science, CSM.
- **Omna Dhawan** MA Global Fashion Retailing, LCF.
- **Ana-Maria Margarit** BA Fine Art (with Creative Computing) Y4, CSM & CCI.
- **Jay Leung** BA Fashion Imaging and Illustration Y3, LCF.
- **Hayley Jay** BA Fine Art Photography Y3, Camberwell.
- **Richard Ward** MA Academic Practice & CCW Digital Learning staff.

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14.35

Great Hall

From guidance to practice: course teams responding to AI

Hosted by **Ruth Powell**, Head of Digital Learning Practice, Learning and Teaching Directorate.

Electric Dreams: The “Generative Turn”.

Natasha Bonnelame, Programme Director Digital Learning, London College of Fashion and **Andy Lee**, Learning and Teaching Innovation Lead, London College of Fashion.

Using Kate Crawford and Vladan Joler’s visualisation map as a starting point, *Electric Dreams* explores the histories of technology to prompt reflection on disciplinary practice and the future of education.

Compassionate Conversations & Criticality.

Sam Barber, Senior Lecturer in Strategic Design MA DM Branding Design Innovation, London College of Communication.

Exploring the experience of MA Design Management students through the lens of Generative AI.

AI in Learning and Assessment: Emerging Approaches.

Denise Kwan, Senior Lecturer Cross Course Year 3 Coordinator, Fine Art, Camberwell College of Arts.

Pedagogical reflections on the integration of Generative AI within the Contextual Studies module drawing on first-hand experience as module leader in supporting student learning in an evolving technological landscape.

Friends Room

The Artificial Intelligence Research Group

Introduced by **Rupert Norfolk**, Programme Director of Fine Art, Camberwell College of Arts.

The Artificial Intelligence Research Group (AIRG) is a community of practice spanning artists, lecturers, technicians, education developers, digital learning producers and school managers across Camberwell, Chelsea and Wimbledon. The group is deliberately cross-disciplinary and non-hierarchical.

AIRG’s weekly meetings are dedicated to rethinking what creative and critical practice means in the face of the challenges AI presents to notions of originality, creativity and imagination.

Introduced by Rupert Norfolk, six members of the group will discuss insights from a range of institutional perspectives:

Jheni Arboine, Senior Education Developer, CCW
Marsha Bradfield, Course Leader MA Intercultural Practices, Central Saint Martins, Senior Lecturer Fine Art and AI Consultant, Camberwell College of Arts
Chris Follows, Senior Education Developer, CCW.
Galia Kollektiv, Senior Lecturer in Fine Art, Chelsea College of Arts.
David Musgrave, Acting Course Leader, MAFA, Chelsea College of Arts.
Tom Tlalim, Course Leader, MA Sound Arts, Wimbledon College of Arts.

15.10 Break

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15.20

Great Hall

Gut the data centres and use them for hydroponics: encouraging dissent through teaching critical & creative AI

Wesley Goatley, Reader in Technology Futures & Critical Climate Computing and co-developer of the upcoming MA Responsible AI for the Creative Industries, London College of Communication.

In this talk, Wesley explores the question: what does an ethically-engaged and responsible method of teaching AI in an art school look like? Through this, how can we prepare our students (and ourselves) to be empowered practitioners with AI tools, while teaching socio-technical literacy and critical scepticism?

Friends Room

Brave New World? justice for creators in the age of GenAI

Darryl Clifton, Programme Director for Illustration at Camberwell College of Arts and **Rachel Hill**, CEO of the Association of Illustrators.

"Brave New World? Justice for creators in the age of GenAI", shows the devastating impact generative AI is having on creators' jobs by using the evidence of more than 10,000 creators across music, writing, illustration, photography and performance. "... we are at risk of losing our creators who are the beating heart of our celebrated creative industries, worth £124.6 billion to the UK economy."

Darryl Clifton will be in conversation with Rachel Hill, CEO of the Association of Illustration and one of the key players in the authorship of Brave New World. We will explore some of the report's findings and ask what critical resistance to AI looks like for creatives and their advocates.

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15.50

Great Hall

AI: Threat or promise? Critical information literacy's role in keeping a balance

Rowan Williamson, Associate Director of Library Services and Support.

While AI complicates how we handle information, it dramatically expands who can participate in society. This presents both challenges and opportunities (threats and promise!) How do we keep these in balance? Rowan will discuss how critical information literacy offers us the tools to maintain this balancing act. AI hasn't created the need to teach information literacy, but it raises the bar. We must teach people not just how to find information, but how to interrogate it, challenge it, and understand the systems that produce it in the context of AI. Rowan will talk about the work of embedding AI into our information literacy curriculum to draw on existing expertise and develop new pedagogical practices to hold this balance.

Friends Room

Generative media: inventing methods of using AI in creative video and audio practices.

Mick Grierson, Professor and Research Leader, CCI.

While education institutions focus on the pros and cons of text generation by AI, UAL must also consider the algorithmic production of media in various forms.

In this talk Mick will draw from their extensive R&D work with machine learning and AI to explore how hybrid 'beyond text' practices are developing. Mick will then outline how they can be incorporated into teaching and student work without damaging creative intention or by burning inordinate amounts of energy.

16.30 Individual reflections and collective responses in the Great Hall

Hosted by **Dave White**.

Discussions prompted by collective responses to key questions emerging from the day.

17.00 Drinks

Staff AI Demos and Experiments.

19.00 Close