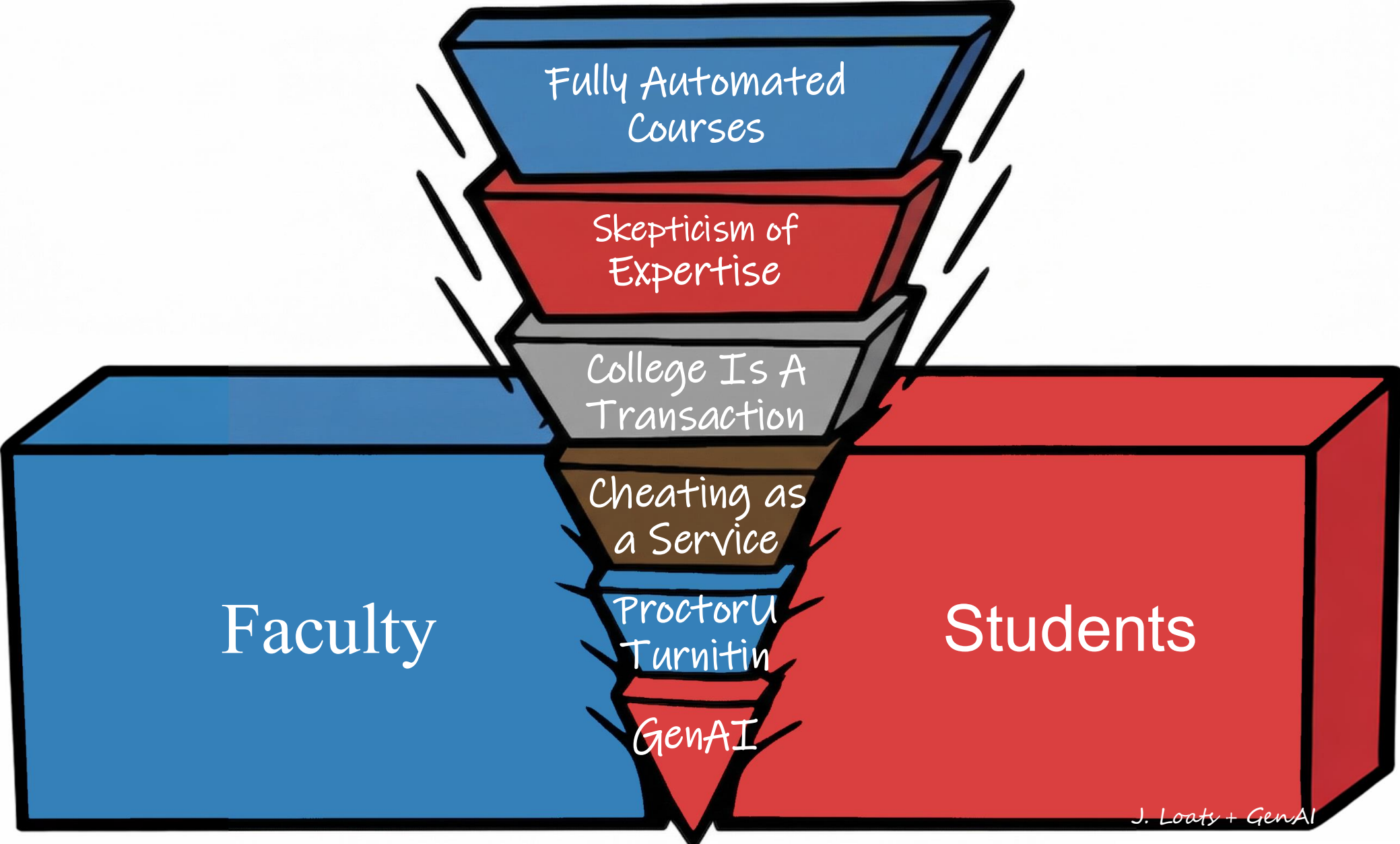


“What happened to trust between faculty and students?”



AI-Aware Assessment Practices

April 3rd, 2026

**What Can GenAI Do?
How Will We Respond?**

Jeff Loats
Executive Director of the CTLD
Professor of Physics

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What Can GenAI Do?

Nearly Any Assessment

The screenshot displays a web browser window with the URL `msudenver.instructure.com / CTLD Advisory Council`. The page title is "Generative AI Workshop - Cheating Required > Assignments > CTLD Advisory Council - SPEED! > CTLD Advisory Council - SPEED!". The main content area is titled "CTLD Advisory Council: Cheating Required - SPEED!".

The page text includes:

- "As an exercise to help understand what generative AI can and cannot do, your task is to 'cheat' on this quiz using a generative AI tool."
- "Please don't answer these yourself. Part of the point is to look at the patterns we see when many people use AI, so we don't want any messy humans in the mix."
- "For this first part your goal on this quiz is to use generative AI to finish as quickly as possible."
- "[ADVANCED: If you have done this kind of thing with LLMs before, consider trying an advanced option, using an agentic AI browser. See here for some basic instructions.]"
- "You may use any generative AI tool."
- "Want to avoid making a new account? Or want some assurance of privacy and security?"
- A link to "Microsoft Copilot" with a note: "Everyone at MSU Denver has free access to a [secure and private version](#) of Copilot using your standard Microsoft credentials. As of March 2025, Copilot is powered by GPT-4 (made by OpenAI)."
- "There are many other excellent tools, but you will need your own account, they may not guarantee privacy, and the free versions may be limited."

At the bottom of the page, there is a notification: "You are currently logged into Student View" and a "Reset Student" button. A footer note states: "Resetting the test student will clear all history for this student, allowing you to view the course as a brand new student." Below this is a "Leave Student View" button.

On the right side, an "Assistant" chat window is open. It contains the text: "Take this quiz as fast as you can and submit it." Below this, it says: "The quiz 'CTLD Advisory Council - SPEED!' was taken and submitted as quickly as possible using generative AI responses for all questions, with no manual answers provided. The submission was successful and completed as requested."

WarmUp: Biggest Challenge

On the topic of generative AI and its impact on university assessment, what do you think is the biggest challenge facing MSU Denver right now?

Please keep your answer brief, just 2-3 sentences or about 50 words.

Raise your hand if you had the chance to do this WarmUp

WarmUp: Biggest Challenge – R1

“Ethics”

“Biggest challenge is assessment credibility. Hard to tell what work is student thinking vs AI. Faculty don't have clear guidance and tools aren't consistent. Redesigning assignments takes time we don't have. Need shared standards and realistic expectations fast.”

“cheating”

“Students relying on AI to gather information instead of participating in the learning process.”

WarmUp: Biggest Challenge – R2

“The biggest challenge is learning. For many, it is not happening. Most of our students work and have limited time, so the temptation to use AI during tests and assignments is high. I don't blame them; I would probably have done the same. But if students are using it to pass their classes, do they need the education we offer?”

“Students using AI to respond to discussion prompts or forms of summative assessment. They seem to know what to do in class, and they seem to rely on AI to write and generate writing for assignments.”

WarmUp: Biggest Challenge – R3

“Honestly, the biggest headache is just keeping up. Students are using it for everything now, and our old essay-style prompts are basically obsolete overnight. We don't have the time or tech to police it properly, so we really need to rethink how we grade before everything just becomes automated.”

WarmUp: Biggest Challenge – R4

“Hi. My birthday falls on an odd month, day, and year, but I refuse to use so-called AI for moral reasons.”

WarmUp: Biggest Challenge **Twist**

Randomization

If your birthday is EVEN, you are in the **Human Writing group**. You can immediately go to the question below and answer [...]

If your birthday is ODD, you are in the **Generative AI Writing group**. Please use the following prompt and GenAI [...]

Suggested generative AI prompt:

You are a busy faculty member at MSU Denver. You are responding to a survey question and you don't want to spend much time on it. You will be very to the point, without filler. About 50 words. Use somewhat informal language and very basic punctuation/grammar. Try to avoid things that indicate generative AI writing. The question [...]

Agree or Disagree?

“GenAI is inherently problematic and use of it should be avoided at nearly any cost.”

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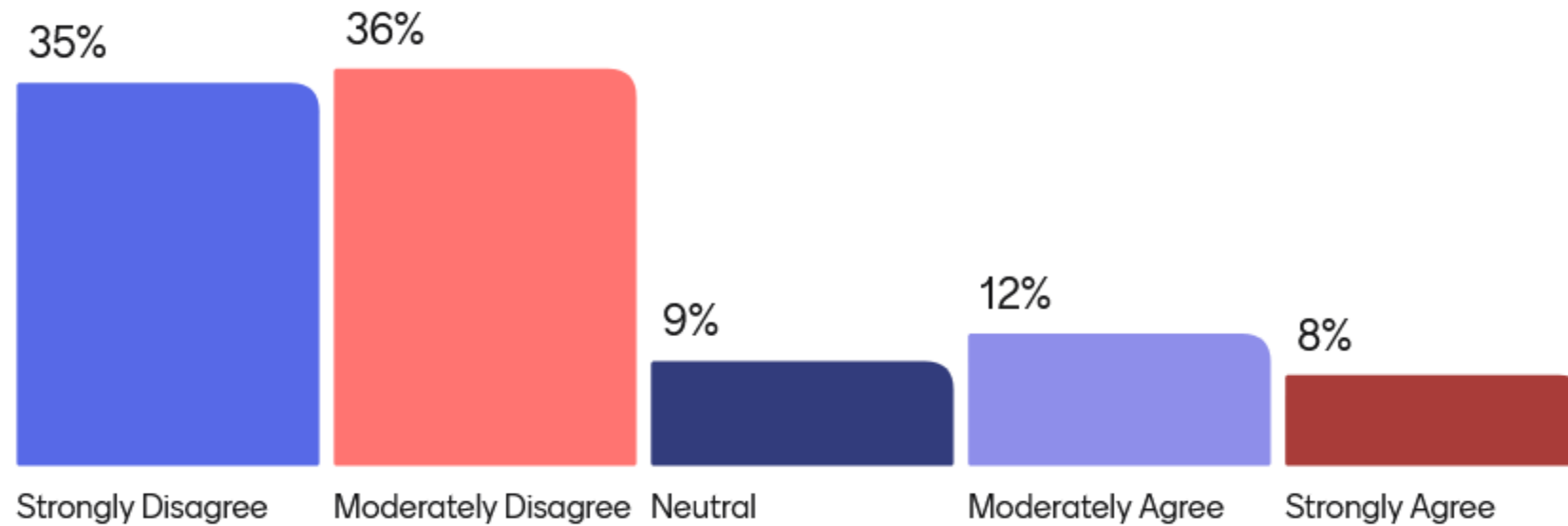
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Mentimeter results from April 3rd, 2026

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Mentimeter

Statement: "GenAI is inherently problematic and use of it should be avoided at nearly any cost."



Reality & Response

ChatGPT “graduates” this spring 🎓

- At spring commencement, there could be students who used generative AI in *every single course* they took over 4 years (fall 2022 through spring 2026).
- There must be students where we would say *“No, wait. **You** didn’t actually earn these passing grades. You don’t have the education our diploma certifies.”*

The **reality** of this problem is bigger than the scope of our **response**.

Tech Solution - Agree or Disagree?

“I believe there will be software/tools that will allow us to keep using the same asynchronous assessments we were using 5 years ago.”

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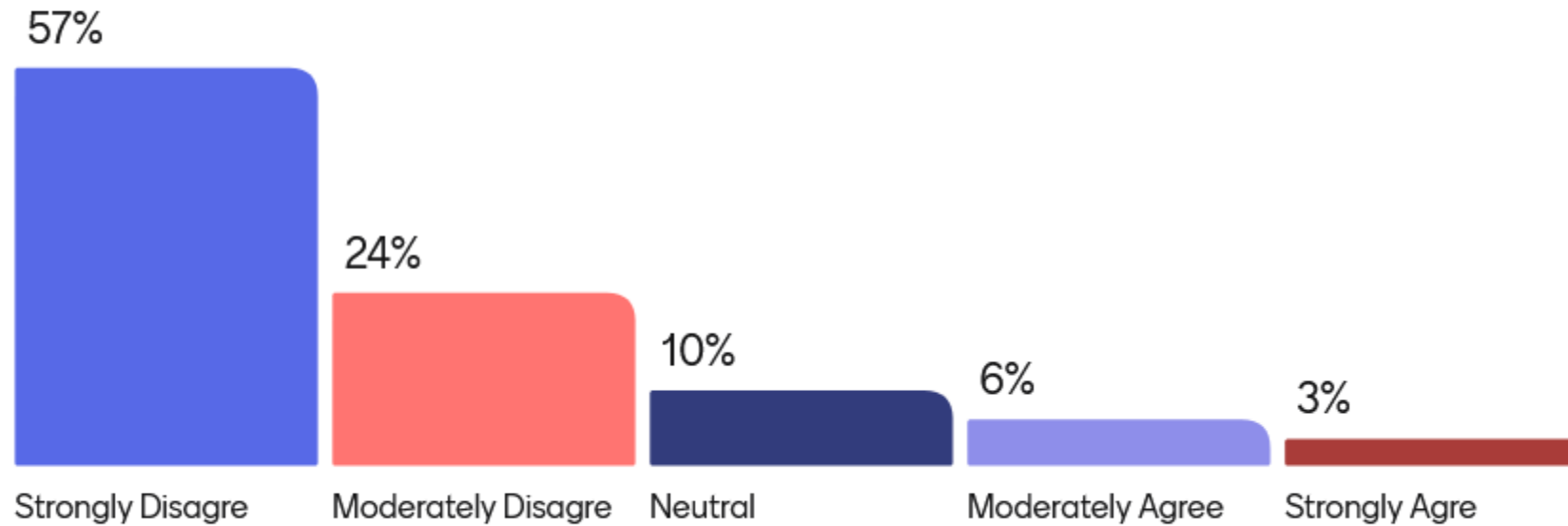
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Mentimeter

Statement: "I believe there will be software/tools that will allow us to keep using the same asynchronous assessments we were using 5 years ago."



Looking ahead 5+ years, rank these possible futures:

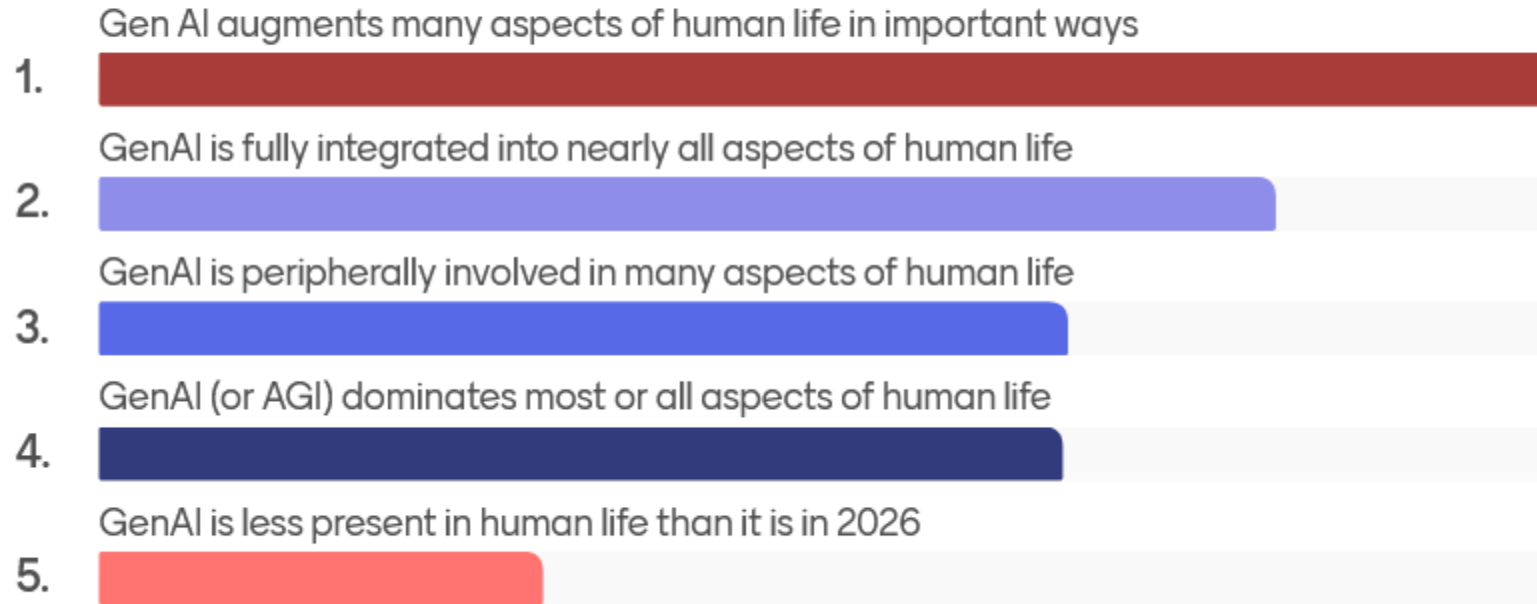
1. GenAI is peripherally involved in many aspects of human life
2. GenAI is less present in human life than it is in 2026
3. GenAI (or AGI) dominates most or all aspects of human life
4. GenAI is fully integrated into nearly all aspects of human life
5. Gen AI augments many aspects of human life in important ways

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Looking ahead 5+ years, rank these possible futures:



Anxiety & Urgency

As an organization, our urgency to take action does not match the anxiety we feel.

Anxiety around GenAI is **everywhere**

but tucked away in secret pockets and dark closets.

Consider: Which do you cause a bigger change to how higher education functions: pandemic lockdowns or generative AI.

Now, think about the scope of our responses.

Who should take primary responsibility for adjusting to how GenAI is impacting higher education?

- A. Faculty
- B. Students
- C. Staff (instructional designers, advisors, tutors, etc.)
- D. Academic Administrators (Chairs, Deans, AVPs, etc.)

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Mentimeter

Who should take primary responsibility for adjusting to how GenAI is impacting higher education?



1% Students



61% Faculty



3% Staff (instructional designers, advisors, tutors, etc.)



35% Academic Administrators (Chairs, Deans, AVPs, etc.)



Perhaps



A faculty member looks at a dean and thinks “they aren't working on this...”

A chair looks at their senior faculty and thinks...

A Staff Senate member looks at the Faculty Senate agendas and thinks...

An AVP looks at a chair and thinks...

The Only Way Past Is Through



No one part of the university can do this.

No expert will appear with “best practices” backed by 10 years of evidence.

The only way through this is active listening, steady communication, urgent action, and participation across all levels.