

AI Planning and Activities

September 2026

Overview

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) has progressed from use-case identification into focused development, testing, and enterprise enablement. The AI Development team recently updated the Research Collaborator - Darwin agent to integrate Kuali data and improve overall processing speeds. Additionally, the AI Steering Committee has identified 17 priority use cases that the AI development team will develop. In addition, CITS is actively discussing and finalizing licensing and support for additional enterprise tools including ChatGPT, Claude, and Gemini.

Research Collaborator – Darwin July 2026 Update

Research Collaborator - Darwin was improved to use Kuali Award and Proposal data, along with other efficiency improvements. These enhancements strengthen the tool's ability to support research collaboration and related research-development activities by incorporating additional institutional information while maintaining fast responses.

AI Steering Committee Prioritizes the Next Use Cases

The AI Steering Committee met to review the university's emerging AI opportunities and decide which use cases should move forward next.

The following uses cases were selected by the Committee as top priority and are currently in planning or development by the CITS AI development team:

- CLIPPY: IRB Application Support Tool
- IACUC
- The Educationalist
- Community Engagement
- HR & Talent Lifecycle Intelligence
- One UMB Connection Agent
- Clinical data-governance discovery

CLIPPY: IRB Application Support Tool

Developed in NebulaONE with partner CloudForce, **CLIPPY** is an AI-assisted support tool designed to strengthen Institutional Review Board (IRB) applications before formal submission.

- **Purpose:** Provides immediate, UMB-specific feedback to assess and improve the quality, completeness, and submission of applications.
- **Audience:** UMB investigators, researchers, research coordinators, IRB analysts, and internal research teams.
- **Taskforce Members:** Research & Scholarship AI Task Force members Emilie Ludeman, Christopher Webster, Dustin Lee, Michelle Medeiros, George Unick, Hanae Saito, Sherry Bohn, Casey Jackson, Vondel Mahon; liaisons Emily Hurst.
- **Current Status:** In pilot testing with internal IRB teams to ensure accuracy and workflow fit. Human review remains central and CLIPPY assists, but never replaces, formal IRB decisions.

IACUC: Animal Research Application Support

Building on the CLIPPY model, UMB and CloudForce are developing a similar AI-assisted tool tailored specifically for Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) workflows.

- **Purpose:** Helps animal-research teams catch potential issues early, boost submission quality, and cut down on administrative back-and-forth.
- **Audience:** UMB investigators, researchers, research coordinators, IACUC analysts, and internal research teams.
- **Taskforce Members:** Research & Scholarship AI Task Force members Emilie Ludeman, Christopher Webster, Dustin Lee, Michelle Medeiros, George Unick, Hanae Saito, Sherry Bohn, Casey Jackson, Vondel Mahon; liaisons Emily Hurst.
- **Current Status:** Currently in active development with CloudForce.

The Educationalist: Faculty Teaching Companion

An institution-wide advisory tool designed to centralize UMB teaching resources and provide source-linked guidance on instructional practices, academic policies, and faculty development.

- **Purpose:** Delivers timely, evidence-informed advice on instructional design, active learning, and assessment, while connecting faculty with FCTL experts for specialized consultation.
- **Audience:** UMB faculty (new, adjunct, clinical, experienced) and Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning (FCTL) support teams.

- **Taskforce Members:** Teaching and Learning AI Task Force members Benjamin Yelin, Philip Dittmar, Eric Belt, Patricia Tordik, Cheryl Fisher, Shannon Tucker, Sarah Murthi, MJ Bondy, Cory Stephens, and Paul Sacco; liaisons Jenny Owens and Susan Bindon
- **Current Status:** Pre-planning has started.

Community Engagement

An AI-enabled resource that keeps UMB's Collaboratory information up-to-date and provides a conversational way to discover community-engagement programs, partnerships, activities, and resources.

- **Purpose:** Automates the collection and organization of community-engagement information while helping users find relevant resources and connections.
- **Audience:** UMB students, faculty, staff, community-engagement administrators, and community members.
- **Taskforce Members:** Community Engagement AI Task Force members Oprah Patterson, Kyla Liggett-Creel, Lydia Watts, Nadine Finegan-Carr, Danielle Harris, Aaron Graham, Joanne Morrison, Erin Rummel, Tom Rivera, Chris Hardwick, and Wendell Macklin; Steering Committee liaison Kenneth Wong.
- **Current Status:** Requirements review has begun.

HR & Talent Lifecycle Intelligence

A coordinated suite of AI-supported tools for minimum-qualification screening, candidate matching and internal talent identification, and hiring-policy and compliance guidance.

- **Purpose:** Speeds hiring and improves consistency, equity, compliance, and audit readiness while preserving HR and hiring-manager decision-making.
- **Audience:** HR professionals, recruiters, hiring managers, department administrators, the Office of International Services, applicants, and UMB employees.
- **Taskforce Members:** Administrative Efficiency AI Task Force members Kevin Donegan, Luke Quell, Ethan Donnelly, Semhar Okbazion, Mark Wozniak, Scott Stefan, Angie Hines, Frank Lancaster, Jussi Isojarvi, Diana Vass, Jon Bratt; liaisons Malika Monger and Peter Murray.
- **Current Status:** Will begin once HCM goes live.

One UMB Connection Agent

A centralized, AI-powered "front door" navigation agent that interprets user intent to seamlessly connect students, faculty, and staff with the right UMB resources, offices, announcements, and school-specific agents across all seven schools.

- **Purpose:** Streamlines institutional wayfinding and reduces misrouted inquiries by providing 24/7, context-aware routing across decentralized campus systems—improving service visibility while preserving staff capacity for complex, high-touch support.
- **Audience:** Prospective and current students (including working adults and online learners), faculty, administrative and research staff, and central departments seeking to improve service discoverability.
- **Taskforce Members:** Student Services AI task force members Isabell May, Margo Stebbins, Heather Moore, Sheena Jackson, Nakiya Schurman, Alexis Guethler, Sam-Saunders-Consroe, James Mszanski, Kayla Kozak, Meghan Fields; liaison Alex Hortis.
- **Current Status:** To be started.

Clinical data-governance discovery

A clinical AI governance framework that makes dataset representativeness a required consideration during the selection, development, validation, deployment, and monitoring of AI tools.

- **Purpose:** Helps ensure clinical AI is fair, safe, reliable, and equitable across diverse patient populations through consistent assessment and monitoring practices.
- **Audience:** Clinicians, clinical informatics and data-science teams, AI governance and compliance teams, and patients who benefit from equitable care.
- **Taskforce Members:** Clinical Care AI Task Force members Nileshkumar Dubey, Qoot Aklhubaizi, David Bunnell, Michelle Pearce, Veronica Quattrini, Shivakumar Narayanan, Galina Arbitman, Kesha Johnson, Seung Kee Choi; liaisons Yolanda Ogbolu
- **Current Status:** To be started.

AI Steering Committee Other Use Cases

The planning and implementation of the remaining use cases selected by the Committee will occur once the use cases listed above are completed:

- Enterprise Virtual Teaching Assistant (VTA)
- Enterprise Policy, Knowledge & Compliance Intelligence Platform
- Intelligent Document Intake, Review & Structuring Initiative
- Pre-AST - Pre-Award Support Tool
- Post-ARC - Post-Award Research Compliance AI Navigation Tool
- Student Success & Retention AI
- Student360 - Connecting the Full Student Experience
- AI Admitted Student Melt Reduction Navigator
- Personalized AI Walkthroughs for High-Anxiety Spaces
- Integration of AI within the electronic health record system(s)

Enterprise Virtual Teaching Assistant (VTA)

A course-bounded, LMS-integrated virtual teaching assistant that provides 24/7, source-linked academic and logistical support within active courses.

- **Purpose:** Gives students timely course-specific guidance and helps faculty manage recurring questions, instructional materials, and low-stakes formative feedback while maintaining faculty oversight.
- **Audience:** Students, faculty, and teaching teams across participating UMB schools and programs.
- **Taskforce Members:** Teaching and Learning AI Task Force members Benjamin Yelin, Philip Dittmar, Eric Belt, Patricia Tordik, Cheryl Fisher, Shannon Tucker, Sarah Murthi, MJ Bondy, Cory Stephens, and Paul Sacco; liaisons Jenny Owens and Susan Bindon
- **Current Status:** Planned for implementation.

Enterprise Policy, Knowledge & Compliance Intelligence Platform

A secure, conversational front door to UMB policies, procedures, forms, service information, and compliance resources distributed across multiple systems.

- **Purpose:** Delivers cited, plain-language guidance and next steps to reduce search time, repetitive inquiries, inconsistent policy interpretation, and compliance risk.
- **Audience:** Faculty, staff, departmental administrators, supervisors, central service teams, research administrators, and students seeking institutional guidance.
- **Taskforce Members:** Administrative Efficiency AI Task Force members Kevin Donegan, Luke Quell, Ethan Donnelly, Semhar Okbazion, Mark Wozniak, Scott Stefan, Angie Hines, Frank Lancaster, Jussi Isojarvi, Diana Vass, Jon Bratt; liaisons Malika Monger and Peter Murray.
- **Current Status:** Planned for implementation.

Intelligent Document Intake, Review & Structuring Initiative

An AI-assisted document-intelligence initiative that automates first-pass review, extraction, completeness checks, and structured summaries for high-volume administrative documents.

- **Purpose:** Reduces manual review and rework, flags exceptions earlier, and improves accuracy, turnaround time, and compliance while keeping staff and faculty in the decision loop.
- **Audience:** Procurement and contracting staff, Academic Personnel and Tenure coordinators, technology-transfer staff, sponsored-research administrators, corporate-contracts teams, faculty, and external partners.
- **Taskforce Members:** Administrative Efficiency AI Task Force members Kevin Donegan, Luke Quell, Ethan Donnelly, Semhar Okbazion, Mark Wozniak, Scott Stefan, Angie

Hines, Frank Lancaster, Jussi Isojarvi, Diana Vass, Jon Bratt; liaisons Malika Monger and Peter Murray.

- **Current Status:** Planned for implementation.

Pre-AST — Pre-Award Support Tool

A research-navigation assistant that helps investigators and research teams understand pre-award requirements, workflows, systems, and support resources before submitting proposals.

- **Purpose:** Provides clear, source-linked guidance for grant preparation, budgeting, routing, compliance, and proposal development to reduce administrative friction and strengthen submission readiness.
- **Audience:** Faculty investigators, research administrators, departmental grant staff, and research teams preparing proposals.
- **Taskforce Members:** Research & Scholarship AI Task Force members Emilie Ludeman, Christopher Webster, Dustin Lee, Michelle Medeiros, George Unick, Hanae Saito, Sherry Bohn, Casey Jackson, Vondel Mahon; liaisons Emily Hurst.
- **Current Status:** Planned for implementation.

Post-ARC — Post-Award Research Compliance AI Navigation Tool

An AI-assisted guide for navigating post-award research administration, compliance obligations, and ongoing award-management workflows.

- **Purpose:** Helps research teams identify requirements, deadlines, and institutional resources so they can manage awards more consistently and reduce administrative burden and compliance risk.
- **Audience:** Principal investigators, research administrators, post-award staff, departmental business offices, and sponsored-Taskforce Members.
- **Taskforce Members:** Research & Scholarship AI Task Force members Emilie Ludeman, Christopher Webster, Dustin Lee, Michelle Medeiros, George Unick, Hanae Saito, Sherry Bohn, Casey Jackson, Vondel Mahon; liaisons Emily Hurst.
- **Current Status:** Planned for implementation.

Student Success & Retention AI

A student-support initiative that helps identify needs earlier and connect students with timely academic, financial, wellness, and institutional support.

- **Purpose:** Strengthens proactive outreach and coordinated support to improve persistence, well-being, and student success while maintaining appropriate human judgment and privacy safeguards.

- **Audience:** UMB students, student-support professionals, academic advisors, program staff, and student-services leadership.
- **Taskforce Members:** Student Services AI task force members Isabell May, Margo Stebbins, Heather Moore, Sheena Jackson, Nakiya Schurman, Alexis Guethler, Sam-Saunders-Consroe, James Mszanski, Kayla Kozak, Meghan Fields; liaison Alex Hortis.
- **Current Status:** Planned for implementation.

Student360 — Connecting the Full Student Experience

A connected student-services experience that brings together key information, resources, and support pathways across the student lifecycle.

- **Purpose:** Makes it easier for students and support teams to navigate services, resolve questions, and coordinate timely assistance across institutional touchpoints.
- **Audience:** UMB students, student-services staff, advisors, program administrators, and school-based support teams.
- **Taskforce Members:** Student Services AI task force members Isabell May, Margo Stebbins, Heather Moore, Sheena Jackson, Nakiya Schurman, Alexis Guethler, Sam-Saunders-Consroe, James Mszanski, Kayla Kozak, Meghan Fields; liaison Alex Hortis.
- **Current Status:** Planned for implementation.

AI Admitted Student Melt Reduction Navigator

An AI-enabled outreach and navigation tool that helps admitted students complete critical enrollment steps and stay connected before matriculation.

- **Purpose:** Provides timely, personalized guidance on enrollment tasks, resources, and deadlines to reduce avoidable attrition between admission and enrollment.
- **Audience:** Admitted students, enrollment-management and admissions staff, school/program administrators, and student-support teams.
- **Taskforce Members:** Student Services AI task force members Isabell May, Margo Stebbins, Heather Moore, Sheena Jackson, Nakiya Schurman, Alexis Guethler, Sam-Saunders-Consroe, James Mszanski, Kayla Kozak, Meghan Fields; liaison Alex Hortis.
- **Current Status:** Planned for implementation.

Personalized AI Walkthroughs for High-Anxiety Spaces

An AI-enabled wayfinding experience that provides personalized, accessible walkthroughs of unfamiliar spaces such as hospitals and courthouses.

- **Purpose:** Helps visitors prepare for and navigate high-anxiety environments, reducing confusion and supporting more equitable access to services.

- **Audience:** Patients, families, community members, new visitors, hospital and courthouse operations staff, and partner organizations.
- **Taskforce Members:** Community Engagement AI Task Force members Oprah Patterson, Kyla Liggett-Creel, Lydia Watts, Nadine Finegan-Carr, Danielle Harris, Aaron Graham, Joanne Morrison, Erin Rummel, Tom Rivera, Chris Hardwick, and Wendell Macklin; liaisons Kenneth Wong; with hospital, courthouse, and community partners.
- **Current Status:** Planned for implementation.

Integration of AI within the electronic health record system(s)

An AI-enabled clinical documentation and decision-support capability that securely synthesizes information from the electronic health record to support coordinated patient care.

- **Purpose:** Helps clinicians locate and organize relevant patient information, improve documentation and handoff summaries, and support clinical reasoning while maintaining clinician review and oversight.
 - **Audience:** Clinicians, care coordinators, nursing and pharmacy teams, medical students and house staff, quality-improvement teams, and patients benefiting from safer transitions of care.
 - **Taskforce Members:** Clinical Care AI Task Force members Nileshkumar Dubey, Qoot Aklhubaizi, David Bunnell, Michelle Pearce, Veronica Quattrini, Shivakumar Narayanan, Galina Arbitman, Kesha Johnson, Seung Kee Choi; liaisons Yolanda Ogbolu.
 - **Current Status:** Planned for implementation.
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Enterprise AI Tools: Procurement and CITS Support

UMB is procuring enterprise AI tools that can be officially supported through the Center for Information Technology Services (CITS). Enterprise licensing agreements are being created for the following AI tools:

- ChatGPT
- Claude
- Gemini

UMB is expanding access to these enterprise AI tools to give the community a safer, more seamless experience. These additions build upon existing tools like **Microsoft Copilot** (free and paid* versions) and **NebulaONE** to provide:

- **Enhanced Security & Support:** Consistent administrative oversight and dedicated user assistance.

- **Flexible Capabilities:** Tools built to power both daily productivity and specialized, mission-focused projects

*Paid version of Microsoft Copilot includes Claude and GPT LLMs