

Community Insights: AI in Academic Writing and Publishing, 2026

A Nature Masterclasses webinar

- To what extent can AI help write or edit my paper?
- What methods can I use to verify references when using AI for literature reviews?
- How do I know what information I have to disclose about my use of AI?
- Which steps of the publication process is AI most useful for?



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Artificial intelligence (AI) is changing how research is written, reviewed and published. For some, it represents an exciting opportunity to maximise productivity, advance research and make writing and publishing more accessible across the globe. For others, it raises concerns about researcher integrity, the value of developing writing skills and the repercussions of misuse. But as the use of AI in academic publishing grows, many researchers are unsure how to approach it **confidently and responsibly**.

In this webinar, you'll learn from **distinguished panellists with expertise in AI research, education, editorial practice and policy**. Together, our experts will answer your questions on how evolving attitudes and policies impact how to practically engage with AI in your own work. You will have the opportunity to submit your own questions on AI in academic writing and publishing when you register. Covered topics will help you to:

- Understand how to discover and interpret journal AI policies
- Evaluate opportunities and risks when considering AI use
- Avoid common pitfalls that can lead to ethical concerns or rejection
- Use AI thoughtfully to enhance rather than replace your own writing skills.

This 2026 webinar will build on learnings from our [previous years' session](#), bringing new regional perspectives and reflecting on how progress in AI policies and capabilities have changed **best practice for using AI in writing and publishing**.

Session timings

Time	Registration link
Tuesday 10 November, 17:00–18:00 (GMT)	here
Thursday 12 November, 08:00–09:00 (GMT)	here
Thursday 12 November, 14:00–15:00 (GMT)	here

Experts by session

Americas: Tuesday 10 November, 17:00–18:00 (GMT)



Ellie Gendle

Head of Journals Policy – Research Integrity, Springer Nature

Ellie joined Springer Nature in 2023 as Head of Performance in the Research Integrity Group, before becoming Head of Journals Policy the following year. She leads the strategic direction of journal editorial policies, overseeing their development, implementation and ongoing compliance. Her work includes shaping Springer Nature policies in response to emerging challenges in scholarly publishing, including responsible use of AI in research and writing.



Alexia-Ileana Zaromytidou

Chief Editor, *Nature Cancer*

Alexia-Ileana completed her PhD at the London Research Institute, Cancer Research UK (now the Francis Crick Institute), followed by postdoctoral research in the lab of Joan Massagué at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. In 2019, she became the launch Chief Editor of *Nature Cancer*, where she handles a broad range of manuscripts, including those involving current AI technologies, and brings insight into how emerging methods are applied and evaluated in high-impact publishing.



Helder Nakaya

Associate Professor, Universidade de São Paulo;
Senior Researcher Hospital Israelita Albert Einstein

Alongside his roles at the University of São Paulo and Hospital Israelita Albert Einstein in Brazil, Helder performs additional teaching roles at Emory University and the University of Oxford. His research focuses on systems immunology, using large-scale biological data, network analysis and machine learning to understand immune responses, particularly in infectious diseases and vaccination, including work on predicting vaccine-induced immunity for diseases such as yellow fever.



Veda Storey

Tull Professor of Computer Information Systems and Computer Science, Georgia State University

Veda's research interests are in data management, modelling and design science research. She is particularly interested in the assessment of the impact of new and emerging technologies, including AI systems, on business and society. She plays an active role in editorial leadership and mentoring early-career researchers.

APAC: Thursday 12 November, 08:00–09:00 (GMT)



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Ching-yu Huang

Chief Editor for Immunology, *Nature Communications*

Ching-yu joined the journal in 2016 and handles submissions across immunology, immune cell biology and systems immunology. Prior to this, he was a principal investigator working in immunogenetics, T cell biology and immune signalling. In his editorial role, he handles a broad range of manuscripts, giving him a perspective on how these tools are shaping research practice and publication.



Tony Hu

Zhao-Yi Endowed Professor and Founding Dean, School of Biomedical Engineering, Tsinghua University

Tony's work combines nanotechnology, multi-omics and data-driven methods, including AI use, to advance biomarker discovery and diagnostic development. He focuses on applying computational and engineering approaches to improve how diseases are detected and understood, with emphasis on translating these methods into practical diagnostic tools. In 2025, he received the ADLM Award for Outstanding Contributions to Diagnostics and Laboratory Medicine.



Fatemeh Vafae

Professor, University of New South Wales

Fatemeh is a Professor at the University of New South Wales (UNSW), where she founded the Biomedical AI Laboratory and serves as Deputy Director (Science) of the UNSW AI Institute. A leader in AI-enabled biomedical innovation, she translates advanced artificial intelligence into deployable solutions across drug discovery, precision medicine and AI diagnostics. She is recognised internationally as one of the Top 10 Women in AI in APAC by AI Magazine (2024), and winner of the WAI-APAC Award in Health (2023).

EMEA: Thursday 12 November, 14:00–15:00 (GMT)



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Oliver Graydon

Chief Editor, *Nature Photonics*

Oliver joined the Nature Publishing Group (now Springer Nature) in 2006 to launch the journal. He has a PhD in optical communications from the University of Southampton's Optoelectronics Research Centre. He is also a Fellow of Optica. In his editorial role, he oversees the editorial operations at *Nature Photonics* and pays close attention to how AI-based tools are being applied and evaluated in high-impact publishing.



Samraat Pawar

Professor of Theoretical Ecology, Imperial College London

Samraat's research explores ecological and evolutionary dynamics using mathematical modelling and analyses of large datasets. This includes computational approaches to understanding biological systems. As part of Imperial's quantitative ecology and AI research community, Samraat is also actively involved in training researchers in data-driven modelling in ecology and evolution.



Nicki Tiffin

Professor, University of the Western Cape;
Deputy Director, South African National Bioinformatics Institute

Nicki's research integrates genomics, epidemiological and routine health data using bioinformatics to better understand disease in African populations. She also works on ethics and data governance, developing tools to support responsible research. Nicki applies AI to harmonise and analyse large health datasets, as well as in day-to-day research and administrative tasks. She is a Calestous Juma Science Leadership Fellow with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.