University of Pittsburgh appoints Responsible AI Advisory Board chairperson

Andy Hannah, chair of the University of Pittsburgh's Responsible AI Advisory Board
Liaison International

By Jordyn Hronec - Associate Editor
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The University of Pittsburgh has appointed a chairperson to head its Responsible AI Advisory Board.

Andy Hannah, who is president of AI and data science solutions for higher education admissions software company Liaison International and an adjunct professor of analytics at Pitt, has been appointed to the role. Hannah will lead the advisory board's strategic direction with the goal of creating a university-based institute for responsible AI applications. The board will be made up of experts who will also serve as community ambassadors who ensure that the institute's initiatives are attuned to the specific challenges and opportunities in the Pittsburgh region.

"The advisory board will play a crucial role in guiding the ethical, legal, and social considerations related to AI development and deployment," Hannah said in a release. "We're excited to collaborate with an interdisciplinary group that brings together diverse perspectives and expertise. This multidimensional approach will help us navigate the complex landscape of AI, fostering innovation while ensuring responsible practices and addressing the intricate challenges that this technology presents in our ever-evolving society."

In addition to his current role at Liaison, Hannah co-founded a company called Othot in 2014, which is now part of Liaison and has a presence in Carnegie. Othot utilizes AI to provide colleges and universities with data and analytics that allows them to better engage, enroll and retain students.

"Responsible AI is about the people, the communication, and the applications of this powerful technology, and Andy is ideal for this appointment," Michael Colaresi, associate vice provost for data science at the University of Pittsburgh, said in a release. "He understands the fast-moving applications of AI, best practices, and societal implications. As a faculty member, he appreciates our focus on students and helping them be the future of the workforce, but he also has practical and valuable industry experience. We are fortunate to have him chair the advisory board and be an important part of the leadership team in Responsible Data Science at Pitt."

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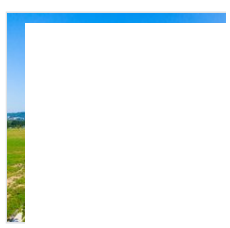

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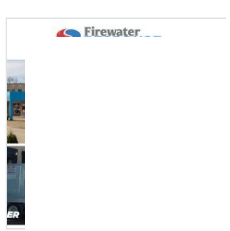

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