Sustaining Educator Impact in the Age of Cognitive Offloading

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Fearlessly curious.

Housekeeping

- **Webinar Recording will be shared with all attendees within 2 days.**
  - Access all recordings at *packback.co/events*

- **Ask all questions with the Q&A feature.**
  - The Q&A feature will allow for questions to be answered by all panelists.

- **Use the chat for discussion and sharing.**

- **Panelists & Packback team members will be monitoring the Q&A and using the chat to share resources.**

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Today's Panelists

Kelsey Behringer
Chief Executive Officer
Packback

LaKisha Barrett
Associate Dean and Biology Professor
Austin Community College

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Forbes

As 2025's Demographic Cliff Looms, How Far Will College Enrollment Fall?

Michael T. Nietzel Senior Contributor ⓘ
Michael Nietzel, former college president, writes on higher education

The year 2025 has long been predicted to be the time when higher education reaches the much ballyhooed and dreaded "demographic cliff," where the number of high school graduates begins a prolonged decline.

HIGHER EDUCATION

As more question the value of a degree, colleges fight to prove their return on investment

A bachelor's degree still pays off, at least on average and in the long run. Yet there's growing recognition that not all degrees lead to a good salary

NBC NEWS   SUBSCRIBE

POLITICS NEWS

Poll: In a dramatic shift, Americans no longer see four-year college degrees as worth the cost

The latest NBC News poll shows two-thirds of registered voters down on the value proposition of a degree. A majority said degrees were worth the cost a dozen years ago.

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The time to reckon with AI agents in digital learning spaces is now

We need ed tech and AI companies collaborating to prevent widespread fraud

ANNA MILLS
OCT 19, 2025

♡ 60   💬 40   ⟳ 12   Share

Note: I imagine you, like me, might be suffering from call-to-action burnout. So I apologize in advance for yet another call! I think this is a big threat, and I also think some things can be done in the near term if we raise awareness.
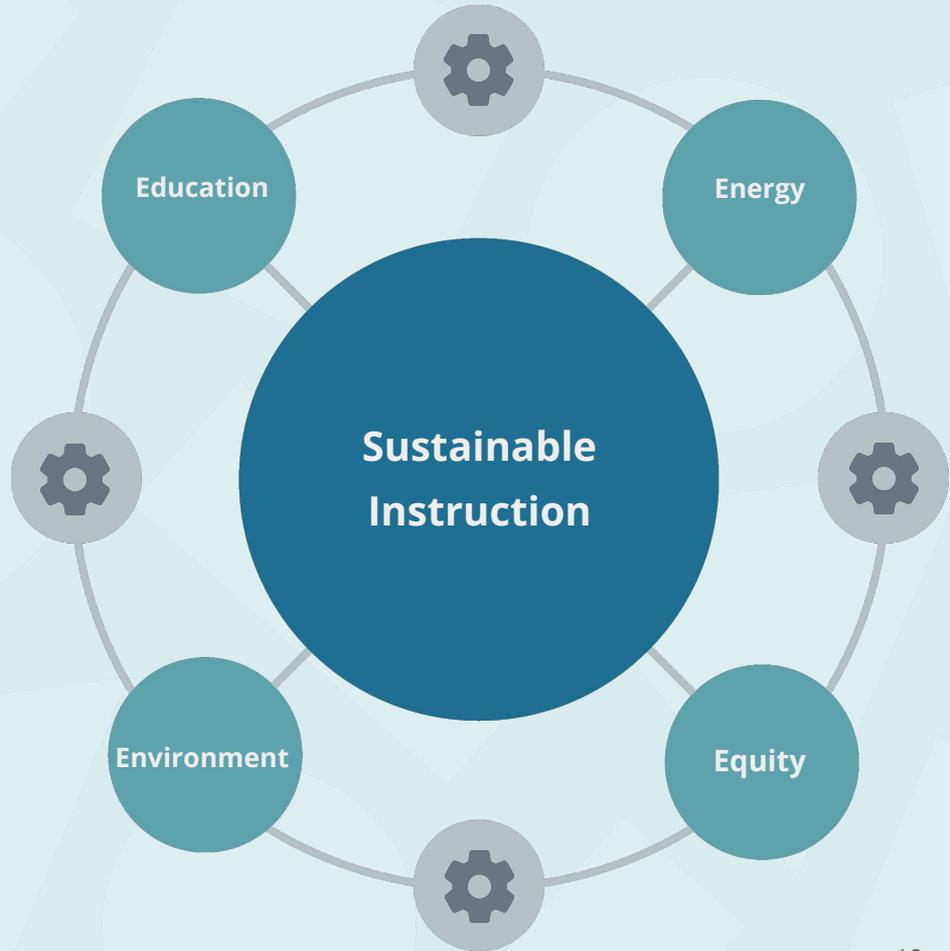
With agentic AI, we know it's going to take <u>more work</u> to get students to the <u>same academic benchmarks,</u> **so how do faculty sustain their historical impact**, *without spending more capital,* **in the face of cognitive offloading?**
Can AI be a solution, rather than just a blight?

Quick Poll #1

Please answer with the polling function!

How do educators sustain their impact in an age where students are increasingly disengaged?

Education: What Does it Mean to Root Teaching in Pedagogy?

Quick Poll

Please answer with the polling function!

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Framework of Support

Zimmerman's model of Self-Regulated Learning (SRL), is a proactive approach that enables learners to take responsibility for their learning process, research shows that self-regulated students are more engaged in their learning.

Clear goals
Define the destination and milestones.

Deliberate practice
Focused effort to improve skills.

Frequent, actionable feedback
Timely guidance for improvement.

Opportunities to revise
Iterate and re-attempt based on feedback.

Motivation & agency
Foster ownership and desire to learn.

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How can I apply this in practice?

Have one or more required long-form writing assignments or projects in a semester? Apply Zimmerman's Self-Regulated Learning (SRL) model to shift effort upstream and throughout the writing process (where learning happens), rather than just at submission.

Break up one assignment into smaller, more iterative activities:

1| Forethought Phase (Before Writing)
Ask students to submit a 1-page Planning & Purpose Memo (graded for completion or light quality).

2| Performance Phase (During Writing)
Ask students to pause mid-draft and provide a draft along with a light reflection (could be a peer assignment), OR utilize a AI-powered tool that provides writing feedback.

3| Self-Reflection Phase (After Submission)
Ask students to submit a short reflection along with their final draft that reflects on their confidence, support acquired, what they learned, and how they would assess their final product as well as their growth *during the process*.

This can be written, a video submission, or a post-submission conversation or presentation.

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Energy: How Can AI Scale Faculty Capacity While Maintaining Connection?

AI For Writing Feedback

- **Find students in your class who match specific criteria.**

- **Send an individualized feedback message to students by email.**

Match & Message

- **Find students in your class who match specific criteria.**

- **Send an individualized feedback message to students by email.**

Environment: How Does the Educational Environment Impact Teaching and Learning?

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Self Determination Theory

For *Intrinsically Motivated* learning to occur:

- **Purpose**
- **Autonomy**
- **Mastery**

Must be in alignment which leads to: Self-driven, engaged and effective learning

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Mastery-Based Feedback

Student Choice & Trust

Connection to Purpose

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Student-led Discussion

Asked by **A Curious Mind**
Student

0

How does the case of Henrietta Lacks challenge our understanding of informed consent and the ethical responsibilities of the medical and scientific communities?

Module 7 unit 3: Henrietta's cancer cells were taken without her knowledge or consent in 1951, during treatment at Johns Hopkins Hospital. These cells, later known as HeLa cells, became one of the most important tools in medical research, contributing to breakthroughs in vaccines, cancer treatments, and more. However, neither Henrietta nor her family were informed or compensated, raising serious ethical concerns about consent, patient rights, and the exploitation of marginalized individuals in scientific research. Her case has since become a pivotal example in discussions about medical ethics and bioethics. I remember learning about this in psychology in a previous semester and I was really surprised something like that actually happened. I think now we are much much better about consent with regards to procedures but even giving out information you or your parents.
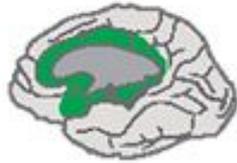
Sources   **View All**

🔗 **The immortal cells of Henrietta Lacks - Robin Bulleri**
Website | , 2016 | **https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=22lGbAVWhrohttps:/...** ⧉

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Equity: How Can AI be a Tool for, or Against, Equity and Access?

Universal Design for Learning (UDL)

A set of principles for curriculum development that give all individuals equal opportunities to learn

Affective networks:
THE **WHY** OF LEARNING

How learners get engaged and stay motivated. How they are challenged, excited, or interested. These are affective dimensions.

Stimulate interest and motivation for learning

Recognition networks:
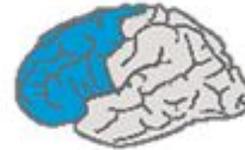THE **WHAT** OF LEARNING

How we gather facts and categorize what we see, hear, and read. Identifying letters, words, or an author's style are recognition tasks.

Present information and content in different ways

Strategic networks:
THE **HOW** OF LEARNING

Planning and performing tasks. How we organize and express our ideas. Writing an essay or solving a math problem are strategic tasks.

Differentiate the ways that students can express what they know

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Q&A

Want to See More?

Schedule a Live Demo with Our Team

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