

From Awareness to Automation: Building Digital Capabilities in Libraries

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## Outline

- Awareness and Automation: Building Capabilities
- Automation Projects
- Conclusion

## Navigating the Post-ChatGPT Information Landscape

lead in the post-ChatGPT era

**New Expectations in a GenAl World** 

- Digital and Al Literacy:
  - Libraries must equip staff and users with AI and digital skills to stay relevant
- Enhanced Efficiency Expected
  - Faster, more accessible services

# Rethinking Data and Digital Literacy

• Tap on digital skillsets to empower the NTU community so that we are aligned to the University's success.

We must build staff capabilities to adapt, evaluate, and

Our current process for embargo checking on research publications is timeconsuming. We need more manpower to hire specialized staff for Al and data analytics Can we automate this? Can we upskill current staff instead of hiring?

# Awareness and Automation: Building Capabilities

An approach and answer to building digital capabilities

## Building Capabilities Through Automation -Al Tools + Skills + Empowerment Model

- **Empower Staff** Upskill staff to drive automation projects
- Build Skills Train teams in automation development and maintenance
- Ensure Ethics Integrate responsible AI practices (e.g., when using GAI for automation work)
- Strengthen Data Literacy Cultivate a foundation for automation

# Digital Transformation: Building Capabilities

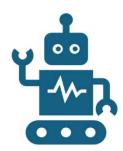
#### **Approaches**



Al Ethics and Staff Skills Development

#### **Activities**

Al and Digital Literacy
 Programme for Staff



Automation & Project Incubation

- Consultation and Clinic
   Sessions for Project Leaders
- Co-creation of Automation Solutions such as:
  - Guided Application: Certificates from Data
  - Automating Repository Upload Reminders

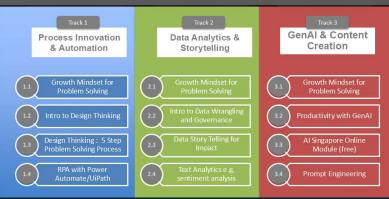
#### **Impact and Capabilities**

- Instilling a Growth Mindset
- Building up Data Literacy for automation readiness
- Empowering project leaders
- Guiding and mentoring colleagues on the digital transformation journey

## AI Ethics and Staff Skills Development

## Al and Digital Literacy Programme

- Tools taught:
  - **Power Automate**
  - Online Generative Al applications
  - Microsoft Excel Power Query



- Topics covered:
  - Ethics of Generative Al use
  - Data cleaning and organisation
  - Data governance
  - **Design Thinking basics**
  - **Growth Mindset**

This programme is our cornerstone for developing sustained digital capabilities among library and administrative staff.

#### Library's Role:

- Leading AI and Digital Literacy programme for Library and other administrative departments
- Designing workshops to help staff thrive as the organisation undergoes digital transformation

# **Automation Projects**

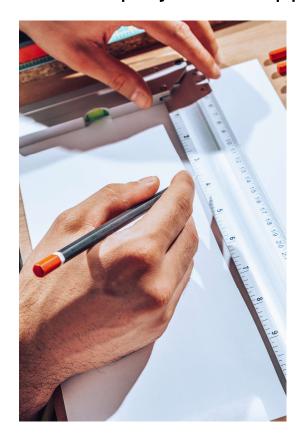
A skills-capability building approach

## **Automation Projects**

#### **Our Approach:**

Using real automation projects as opportunities to grow practical digital skills and

confidence.



#### **Projects Supported:**

- 10+ collaborations and projects of varying degrees of complexity
- Directly worked multiple teams and colleagues

#### Tools Used:

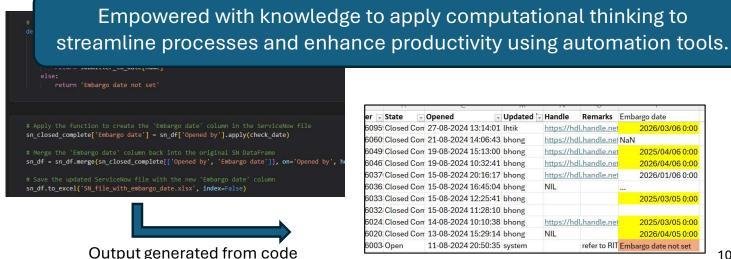
- Power Automate
- Python
- GAI Tools (e.g., Python scripts generation, automation workflow ideation)
- Excel

## Case 1 – From Manual Embargo Checks to Automation: Building Automation Workflow and Data Validation Skills

- Objective: Ensure data integrity, streamlined workflows, and protect sensitive research.
- Capability Building: DI-led consultations and coaching equipped the team with data validation and workflow design skills.
- Ownership: Empowered the team to lead and refine the automation process more independently.

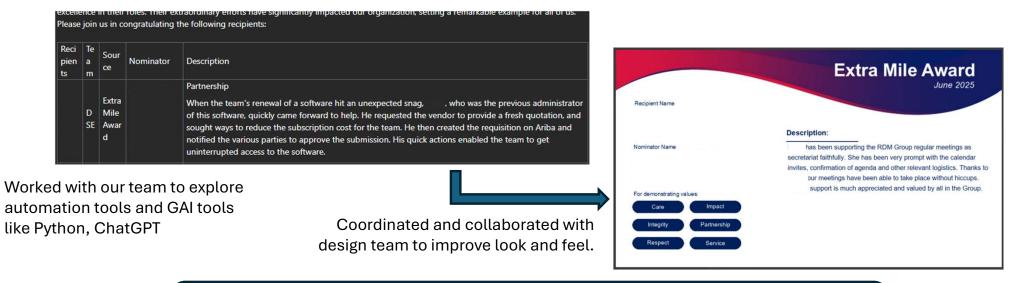


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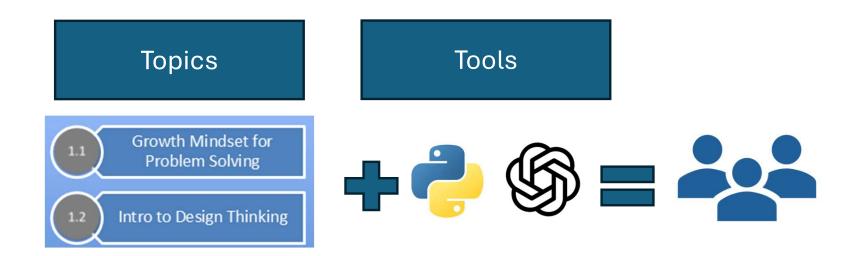
# Case 2 – Guided Application 2: Automating Certificates from Data

**Objective:** Automate staff recognition by streamlining monthly award announcements and generating personalized certificates to ensure consistent, polished celebration of achievements.



Al and Digital Literacy Programme, combined with coaching and collaboration, built the confidence and know-how to design, implement, and manage an automation solution.

# Case 2 – From Learning to Action: Staff-Initiated Automation Enabled by the AI and Digital Literacy Programme

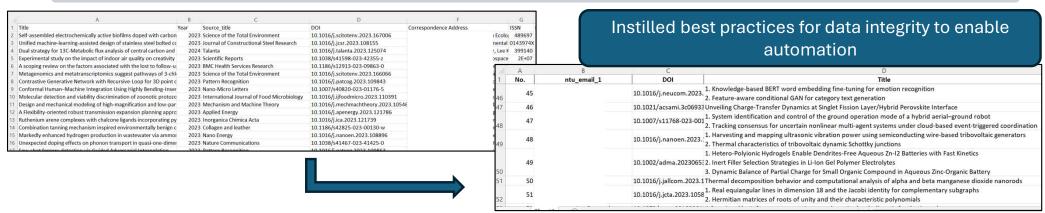


Al and Digital Literacy Programme, combined with coaching and collaboration, built the confidence and know-how to design, implement, and manage an automation solution.

# Case 3 – Automate identifying of new NTU research papers for addition into the Institutional Repository

Objective: Streamline copyright-compliant NTU research submissions to our institutional repository

- Identify new publications that can be added into DR-NTU
- Transform, clean, and merge data: Scopus, DR-NTU, copyright policies
- Collate & format new publications into a mail merge document for NTU authors



# Case 3 – Automate identifying of new NTU research papers for addition into the Institutional Repository

How we are building digital capabilities

- Enhanced staff's data literacy by applying more advanced Excel techniques (e.g. Excel VBA, formulas) with the help of GenAI tools for efficient data cleaning and transformation needed for the automation.
- Instilled best practices for data integrity to enable automation

# Future Directions & Conclusion

# What We Learned About Driving Digital Transformation with Automation

- Start small: Pick automation projects that solve clear problems.
- Use tools as learning opportunities, not just solutions.
- Build confidence through coaching, collaboration, and celebrating progress.

### Conclusion

We are in the midst of a watershed moment, with the explosive growth of new AI technologies. The genie has been set free and will never be put back again.

Institutions around the world, not just Libraries, will be transformed in the coming years. Here at NTU Library, we have adopted a capability building approach.

"As technology evolves, our greatest asset will be our people. Building digital capabilities—skills, mindsets, and cultures—will empower us to thrive in a rapidly changing landscape."

# Thank you