

The integration of Artificial Intelligence during the initial planning phase of the FAMU Mentorship Bridge System served as a technical guidance tool to ensure alignment between project objectives and operational constraints. Rather than acting as a primary driver of project logic, the AI was utilized to validate the structural integrity of the Project Charter and to refine the formal language used in the business justification documents.

Influence on Feasibility and Guidance The AI provided critical guidance regarding the allocation of project resources. While the team had already identified the "mentorship gap" as a core problem, the AI helped categorize the specific risks associated with alumni engagement. This assisted in the decision to pivot the project scope toward "micro-mentorship" and the centralization of institutional knowledge. This direction ensures that the system remains viable for a single-semester development cycle by reducing the technical and logistical overhead required for complex, manual mentor-matching algorithms.

Confirmation of Strategic Direction The AI's feedback largely confirmed the team's existing strategic approach. It reinforced the necessity of a searchable knowledge base, the "Rattler Roadmap" as a sustainable alternative to traditional networking tools. The most significant shift resulting from the AI's guidance was terminological. By replacing "hidden curriculum" with "institutional knowledge" in the Business Narrative, the team was able to better articulate the system's value proposition as a professional asset for the university ecosystem.

Observed Limitations A notable limitation was the AI's tendency to suggest generic, corporate-centric features that did not align with the specific community context of an HBCU. The AI lacked the nuanced understanding of our mission, requiring the team to filter out suggestions that compromised the project's cultural authenticity. Consequently, the AI was restricted to an advisory role for risk identification and linguistic refinement, while all core design decisions remained strictly student-led.