**March 23, 2023**

**Circulation: 28,665**

## College to Open Artificial Intelligence Center Downtown in April

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BY ABRAHAM GALVAN

Since opening in September, Miami Dade College (MDC) North Campus' state-of-the-art Artificial Intelligence (AI) Center has been preparing students and the community for tomorrow's AI workforce.

The 13,000-square-foot center at 11380 NW 27th Ave. is designed to upskill existing professionals and elevate AI awareness in Miami through classes, workshops, lectures and other activations.

The center has added AI Thinking, an artificial intelligence introductory course for any student who wants to learn about the significance of AI.

"It's an intro that can get students who are not necessarily computer science students excited about how to integrate AI into anything that they do and understand what it means," said Antonio Delgado, MDC's vice president of innovation and technology partnerships. "So far, we already have over 100 students taking the class in different sessions at the AI center."

The center has also implemented a new artificial intelligence course that is applied to business classes.


Since Miami Dade College North Campus AI center opened in 2022, 100 people have taken the class.

"This is the first time that we offer this class that was approved by the Department of Education," Mr. Delgado said. "We are exposing how AI applies to business careers in management, supply chain and marketing."

Set to open on April 18, MDC is initiating another AI center at the downtown Miami Wolfson Center at 300 NE Second Ave. These centers were made possible through funds donated by nonprofits, like the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and the National Science Foundation, as well the Miami Downtown Development Authority.

"The idea is we see that AI is really taking over in everything that we do and it's going to increase in the workforce," Mr. Delgado added. "We're bringing these AI centers to connect closely with the students at their home campuses."

MDC is using these spaces to go beyond the classroom. The AI center at the North Campus has already created a robotics club, offers AI speaking sessions to the community and is connecting students with startup AI companies.

About 513,000 new jobs will be created in the AI field by 2029, according to The US Bureau of Labor Statistics. Those jobs include occupations like software developer, machine learning engineer and robotics scientist in fields such as health care, manufacturing, cybersecurity, retail, construction, supply chain management, business information technology and transportation.

"This is really the synergy for the AI center to do more than just classes," Mr. Delgado said, "and to create an ecosystem around artificial intelligence."