

A CAIO vision for higher education

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The proposition

A Chief Artificial Intelligence Officer for a Higher Education Institution is a strategic bridge between AI capability and institutional reality. The role connects academic purpose, faculty and student support, administrative execution, institutional data and accountable governance.

The conversation requested

Explore a founding CAIO mandate at Adani University through a structured 90-day discovery and pilot phase. Agree the remit, sponsors, resources, decision rights and evidence needed before extending the office or its work.

Why Adani University

The university's published direction connects multidisciplinary education, research, industry engagement and ethical leadership. Its published AI initiatives provide a relevant basis for exploring coordinated institution-wide adoption.

Explore the working website and opportunity map

Decision brief, evidence register and pilot planner

Independent candidate proposal; no appointment, vacancy, institutional endorsement or access to Adani Group resources is implied. Pilot scopes and targets require agreement with the university.

One mandate. Shared ownership.

Stakeholder	Contribution of the CAIO function
Leadership	Translate institutional priorities into reviewed AI initiatives and evidence-based decisions.
Faculty	Support non-technical faculty with practical training, course design and reviewed teaching tools.
Students	Connect learning guidance, mentoring and service support with human escalation.
Administration	Redesign workflows with visible ownership, approvals and correction history.
Parents	Improve published information and consent-based service communication.
Governance	Connect policies, compliance responsibilities and trustworthy evidence.
Innovation	Coordinate research and incubation experiments with academic and specialist teams.
Data	Establish definitions, permissions and provenance before institutional reporting.

Decision rights

The CAIO coordinates strategy, adoption and the opportunity portfolio. Academic and functional authorities retain final decisions. IT, security, data and legal specialists assess their respective risks and requirements. Leadership approves the mandate and resources.

A credible operating standard

Each pilot needs an owner, an approved data scope, a baseline, a human review process and an observable measure. Admission, assessment, progression, discipline and employment decisions remain with authorised people.

24 areas of opportunity

The website contains all 235 use cases from the candidate brief. The first pilots below are proposed starting points, not deployed institutional services.

Area	Proposed first pilot
01 Academics and Teaching-Learning	Faculty-reviewed course companion
02 Faculty Development	Faculty AI practice studio
03 Student Learning and Support	Source-linked student helpdesk
04 Examinations and Evaluation	Faculty-reviewed question bank
05 Administration	Accountable approval workspace
06 Admissions	Admissions policy assistant
07 Marketing and Outreach	Reviewed outreach content desk
08 HR and Employee Lifecycle	Employee onboarding companion
09 Finance and Accounts	Finance query and exception register
10 IQAC and Accreditation	Continuous evidence and quality ledger
11 Registrar Office	Traceable student-service requests
12 Hostel Management	Resident service and maintenance desk
13 Maintenance and Facilities	Asset maintenance register
14 Transportation	Transport planning and incident desk
15 Cafeteria and Mess Food	Mess demand and feedback planner
16 Research and Publications	Source-verified research assistance
17 Innovation, Incubation, and Startups	Incubation experiment workspace
18 Intellectual Property	IP disclosure and deadline register
19 Events and Conferences	Event delivery and impact workspace
20 Design Labs and Creative Studios	Design research and prototype studio
21 Placement and Career Services	Career readiness companion
22 Alumni Relations	Opt-in alumni mentoring directory
23 Library and Knowledge Resources	Library discovery assistant
24 Legal, Compliance, and Policy	Policy and obligation register

The first 90 days. The first year.

Days 01–30 / Listen and map

Meet leadership and functional teams. Map systems, data ownership and institutional priorities. Assess readiness and support needs. Record baselines and prepare an AI opportunity report.

Decision: Agree sponsors, mandate, priorities and pilot selection criteria.

Days 31–60 / Design and prepare

Prioritise useful, feasible applications. Build bounded pilot workflows. Train selected faculty and staff. Draft an AI-use policy and department-specific adoption plans.

Decision: Approve pilot scope, resources, data access, measures and reviewers.

Days 61–90 / Pilot and evaluate

Launch approved pilots with a limited cohort. Review quality, turnaround, adoption and feedback. Begin AI literacy activities and present a reviewed institutional roadmap.

Decision: Continue, revise or stop based on evidence; define the CAIO office workflow.

Months 04–12 / Scale what works

Extend successful academic and administrative workflows. Develop governance, student skills, faculty support and research or innovation initiatives with their institutional owners.

Decision: Agree the next portfolio and funding using measured benefits and reliability.

Initial pilot candidates

Faculty practice studio; continuous evidence and quality ledger; accountable approval workspace; source-linked student helpdesk; policy and obligation register.

Timings are proposed planning phases. Delivery depends on scope, data readiness, institutional approvals and available specialist support.

From experience to execution

A multidisciplinary foundation

Engineering education and embedded-software training; academic association at SVNIT Surat; teaching and academic administration at Babaria Institute and SVBIT; government digital operations at GSCSC; and senior academic administration at Karnavati University. AI self-learning and AI-assisted project development connect these experiences to the proposed mandate.

PRAMAAN

An interactive demonstration of evidence ownership, provenance and review. The related assurance system is documented as an implementation baseline.

[Explore PRAMAAN](#)

NIRANTAR

A working quality-assurance prototype with illustrative data, metric ownership and reporting-cycle workflows.

[Explore NIRANTAR](#)

KU-IDMS

A working institutional-data prototype with synthetic records, role-based workflow and review history.

[Explore KU-IDMS](#)

KU-RISE

A documented synthetic demonstration of constraint-based timetable generation and independent validation.

[Explore KU-RISE](#)

The recruiter applications are evaluation versions, with browser-local state. They do not establish production deployment at Adani University or reproduce every backend service of an institutional installation.

Sources and contact

[Adani University: vision and mission](#)

[Adani University: institutional overview](#)

[Adani University: published AI initiative](#)

[Career profile and contact](#)

Institutional sources consulted 7 September 2026. Candidate narrative supplied by Ankit Prajapati.