

## **CISTalks**

Time: **2024-12-11T13:00-14:00**

Location: **BBBF-309, Yeditepe University**

Open to the public. All are invited.

# **Transforming Academic Practice: Can AI Enhance How We Learn and Teach?**

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### **Abstract**

In an era where artificial intelligence is transforming society, higher education stands at a critical juncture. This speech explores how AI can enhance—not replace—traditional academic practices in learning and teaching. Drawing from empirical research and institutional case studies, we explore strategic applications and evidence-based frameworks for AI integration that advance pedagogical effectiveness and educational outcomes. The analysis offers methodological approaches to support faculty instruction and student achievement, while preserving academic rigor in higher education contexts.

### **Biography**

Berrin Yanikkaya is a Professor of Communication Studies. She became an Associate Professor in 2010 and a full Professor in 2016. She worked at Yeditepe University for 20 years before relocating to New Zealand, where she served as the Head of the School of Communication Studies at AUT. She then moved to North Cyprus to work at ARUCAD as the Dean of the Faculty of Communication on a temporary basis. Currently, she is back at Yeditepe University as the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

Yanikkaya is the Founding Director of the University Learning and Teaching Implementation and Research Centre, YU-LEARNT, and the founding chair of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee, YEDI. She has been serving as the Head of the Community Engagement Subcommittee of the University Quality Assurance Committee since 2021. Her recent projects include updating the University Gender Equality Action Plan and ongoing research on the academic and social integration of international students.

Internationally, in addition to her academic work, she delivered a notable speech at the International Association of Universities (IAU) on reimagining education in 2023. She has also been a member of the European University Association's (EUA) Thematic Peer Groups (TPG) for two consecutive years, serving as the chair this year. Additionally, she is a member of the Strategic Council of Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI).