- **Question: How to tackle AI-generated fake theses?**

  A fake thesis is a university thesis, not written by the alleged author ("ghostwriter"), but by somebody else; linked to fraud and plagiarism

- **Objective of a good thesis**

  A university thesis should present novel knowledge chunks together with their proof (Master or doctoral dissertations)

    - OK, if AI can assist research, f.i. preliminary version of the state of the art
    - KO, if the whole or important sections are fully AI-generated

- **Origin of this intervention**

  I am volunteer in a non-for-profit association helping foreign students in Lyon in charge of scientific dissertations

  I wrote two books regarding good practices for PhD dissertations

  I gave PhD students some courses regarding dissertation writing

Dr. Robert Laurini

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- **Indicators of suspicion of fraud**

  Written in good English whereas usually the student's style is low

  Few references

  No novel ideas and argumentation

  The writing style is different

  The used arguments are verbose and looked very common-sense

  No fresh data are used for proof construction

  Generative-AI: *a talkative parrot but with a prodigious memory!*

- **Possible outcomes**

  Fully AI-generated dissertations: not acceptable.

  Locally AI-assisted dissertations: why not as a first draft!