FT: Conversational Presence

PART I — FORESIGHT SNAPSHOT | FT: Conversational Presence | Fixed Time-Stamped Synthesis

2026 FT: Conversational Presence

Card Type	Future Technology Possibility
Series	Immersive Futures Guild — Vision 2035
Layer	1 — Atomic Foresight Object
Status	Active
Confidence	Medium
Workshop	Circle of Scholars — January 2026
Facilitator	Circle of Scholars Workshop Team
Tags	conversational-AI | social-presence | LLM | layer1 | ft
Tally.so Form	https://tally.so/r/ilrn-if-ft-convpres-2026

Large language model and multimodal AI systems are creating a new category of social presence in immersive environments — AI agents that sustain extended, contextually coherent, emotionally responsive conversation. In learning contexts this raises questions about the nature of teacher-learner relationships, parasocial dynamics, and the appropriate scope of AI as a social partner in education.

Key Drivers / Contributing Conditions:

- LLM capability scaling for contextual coherence
- Multimodal AI enabling voice, expression, and gesture integration
- Demand for 24/7 tutoring presence at scale

Tensions Carried Forward to Part II:

- When does a conversational AI agent constitute an adequate substitute for a human educator?
- How should parasocial attachment to AI tutors be understood and governed in educational contexts?

Linked Scenarios / Strands: STRAND: Social & Co-Regulated XR Learning | SCENARIO: Creative Immersion

Ways of Knowing: Tree · Garden · Lantern

PART II — COMMUNITY EVIDENCE & DIALOGUE TRACK | FT: Conversational Presence | H2 2026 — Living

T	COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION FORM — FT: Conversational Presence Submit case examples, methodological challenges, cultural perspectives, and proposed evidence criteria via: https://tally.so/r/ilrn-if-ft-convpres-2026

Part II — Scope and Instructions
This section collects community responses, case examples, and challenges to the Part I foresight snapshot above.
It opens July 1, 2026 and undergoes synthesis review in September 2026, November 2026, and January 2027.
Contributions are submitted via the Tally.so form above and appear in the registers below after editorial review.
The Part I text is not modified in response to Part II contributions; it is versioned at the Annual Handoff review.
Contribution categories: Case Example | Methodological Challenge | Cultural/Community Perspective | Proposed Evidence Criterion
Ways of Knowing accepted: Tree (evidence) | Garden (practice) | Lantern (futures)

Tensions Open for Community Response:

- When does a conversational AI agent constitute an adequate substitute for a human educator?
- How should parasocial attachment to AI tutors be understood and governed in educational contexts?

Contributor / Date	Category	Way of Knowing	Contribution Summary
[Awaiting contributions — form opens July 1, 2026]			

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