Clarivate

From Assistants to Agents
What's Next for Academic AI?

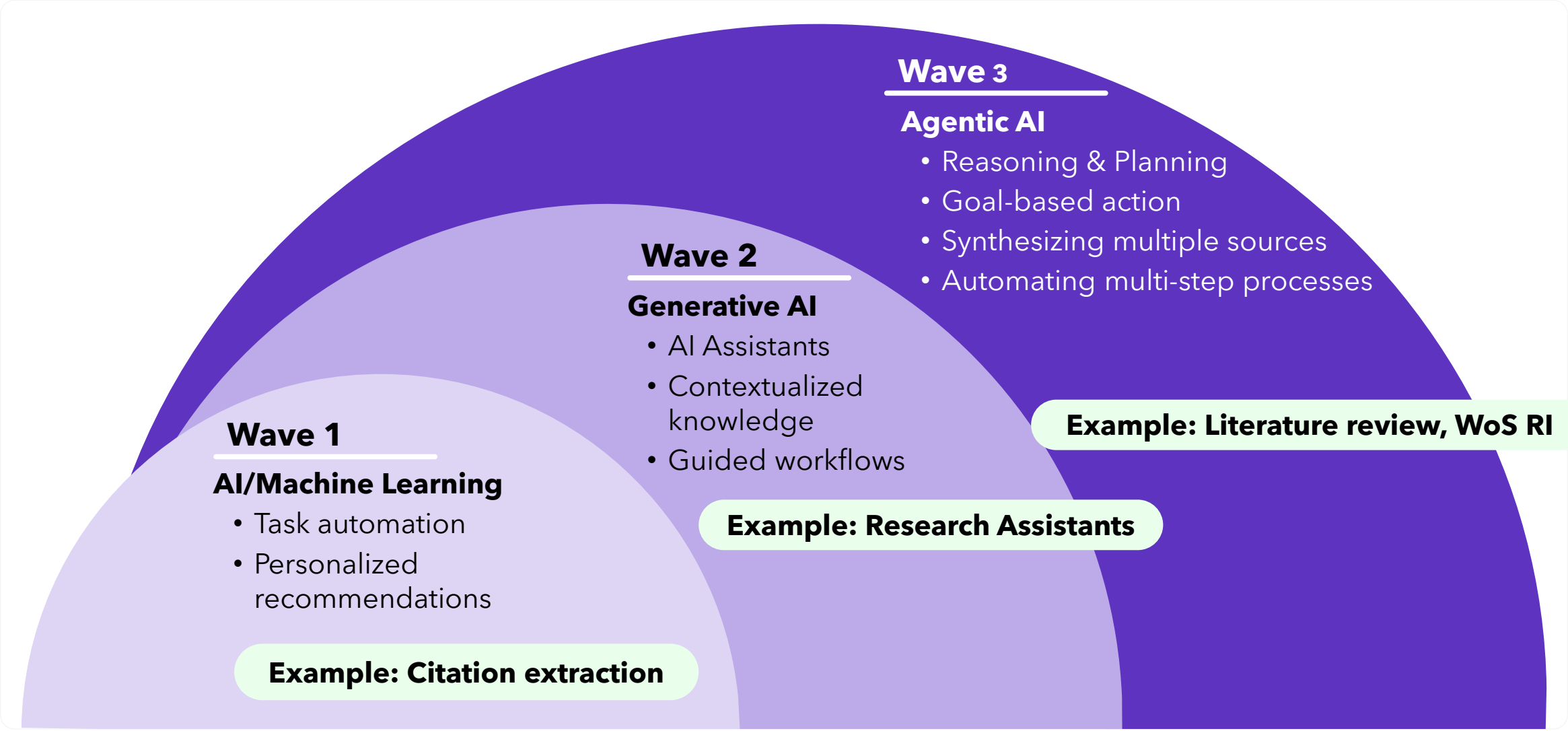
Christine Stohn | Marta Enciso

October 2025

In this session

- What are Agents?
- Agents at Clarivate
- Designing for AI Literacy
- Agents in the library
- Connecting the dots: MCP
- Pulse of the library

The next wave of AI is here: Agents



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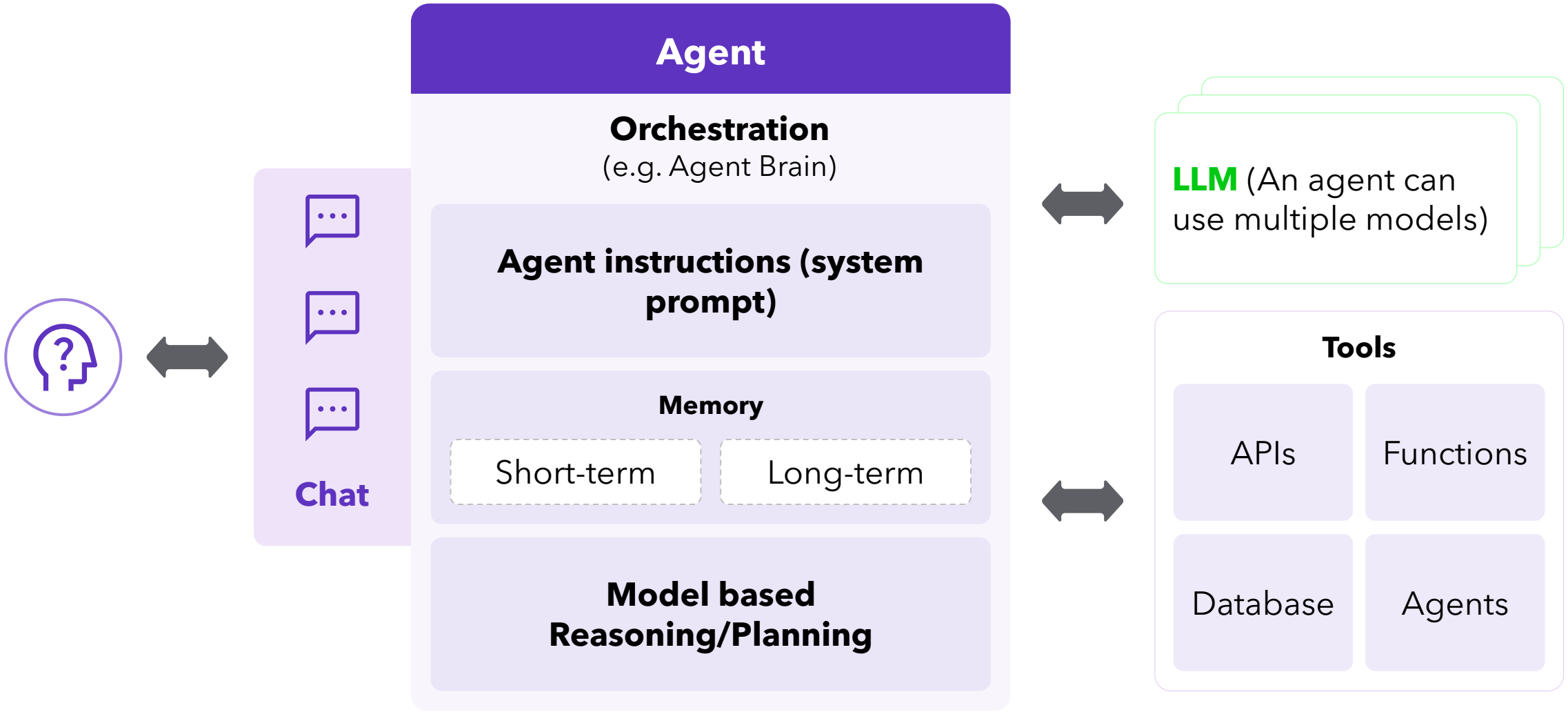
Agents


Agent
Orchestration
(e.g. Agent Brain)
Agent instructions (system prompt)
Memory
Short-term
Long-term
Model based Reasoning/Planning
Chat
LLM (An agent can use multiple models)
Tools
APIs
Functions
Database
Agents

Agents at Clarivate

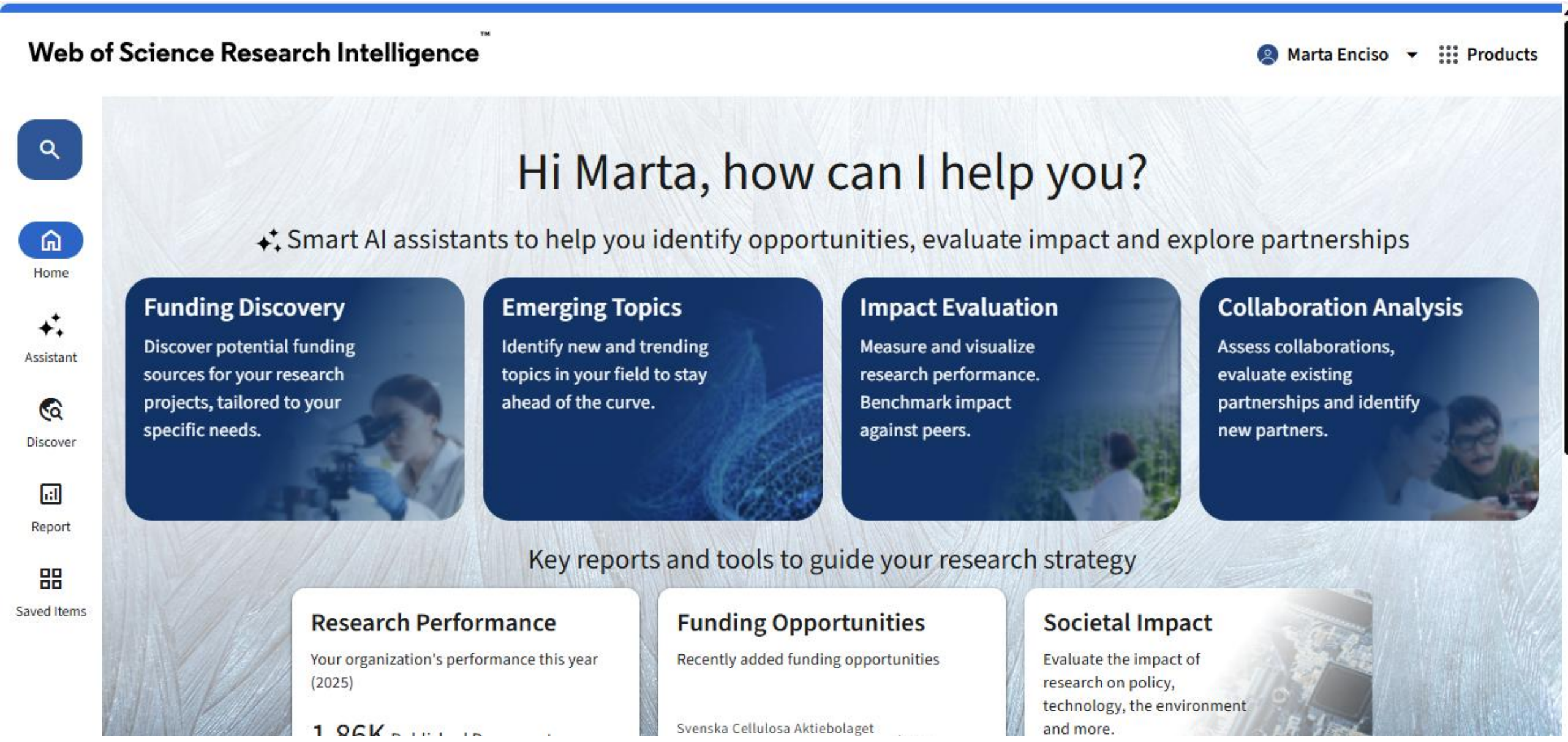
AI Frontdoor Agents at Clarivate

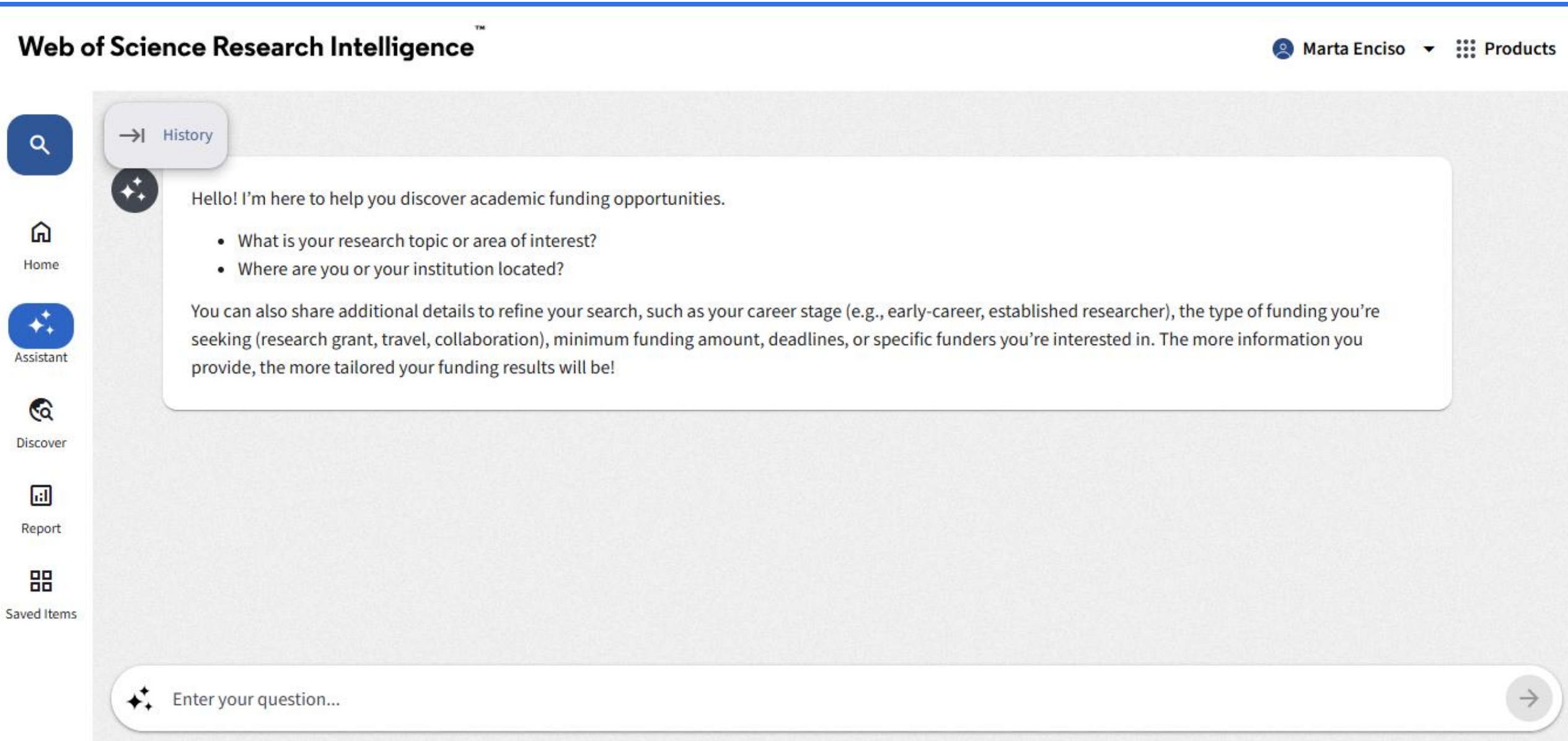
First Clarivate use cases:

1. **Web of Science Research Assistant**
   - **Literature review agent**
     Released: April 2025
   - **Topic exploration agent** *(Planned for Q4, 2025)*

2. **Web of Science Research Intelligence**
   - **Funding agent**
   - **Emerging Topics**
   - **Impact evaluation**
   - **Collaboration analysis**
     Partner release: Q3, 2025

3. **PQ Chat with a document**
   Release: Q3, 2025


Web of Science Research Intelligence™
Marta Enciso
Products
Home
Assistant
Discover
Report
Saved Items
Hi Marta, how can I help you?
Smart AI assistants to help you identify opportunities, evaluate impact and explore partnerships
Funding Discovery
Discover potential funding sources for your research projects, tailored to your specific needs.
Emerging Topics
Identify new and trending topics in your field to stay ahead of the curve.
Impact Evaluation
Measure and visualize research performance. Benchmark impact against peers.
Collaboration Analysis
Assess collaborations, evaluate existing partnerships and identify new partners.
Key reports and tools to guide your research strategy
Research Performance
Your organization's performance this year (2025)
Funding Opportunities
Recently added funding opportunities
Svenska Cellulosa Aktiebolaget
Societal Impact
Evaluate the impact of research on policy, technology, the environment and more.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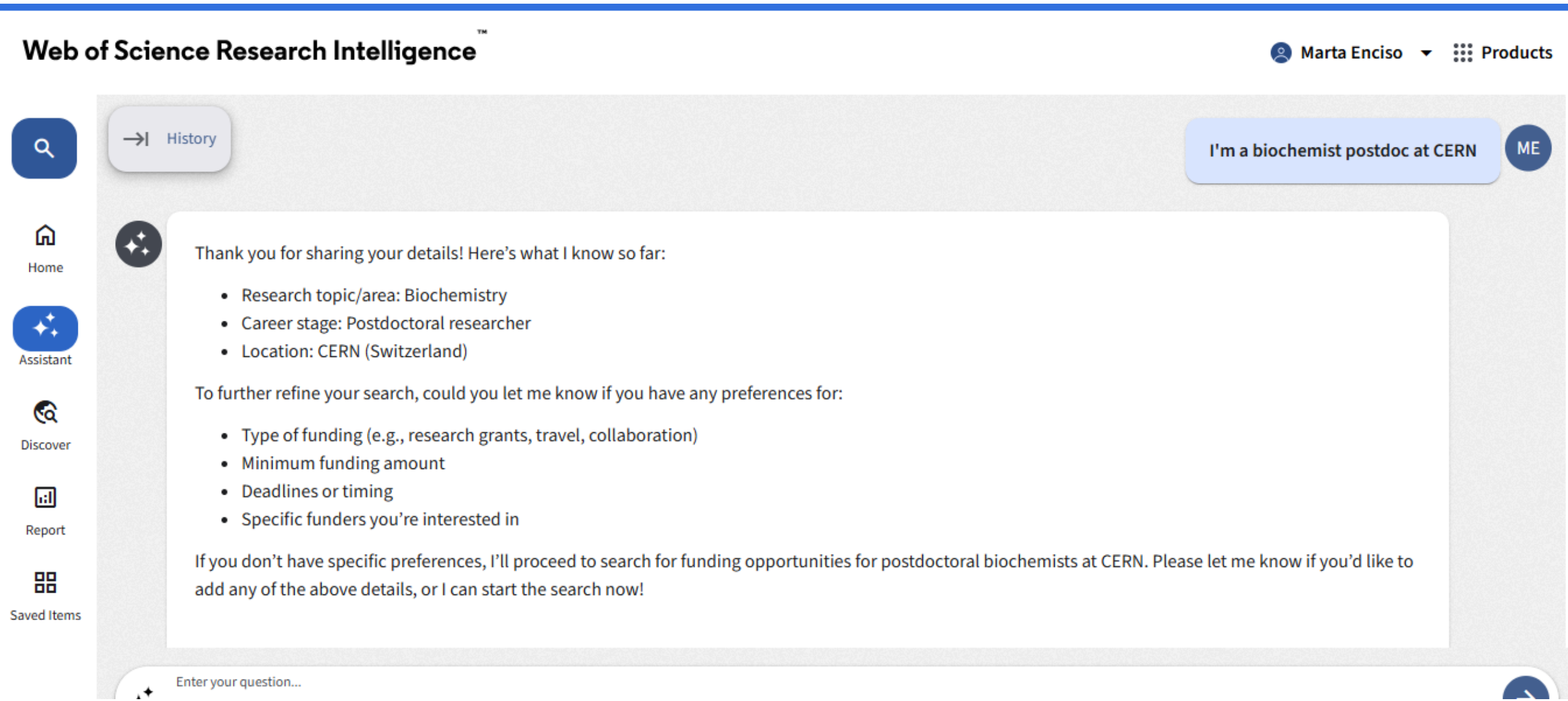
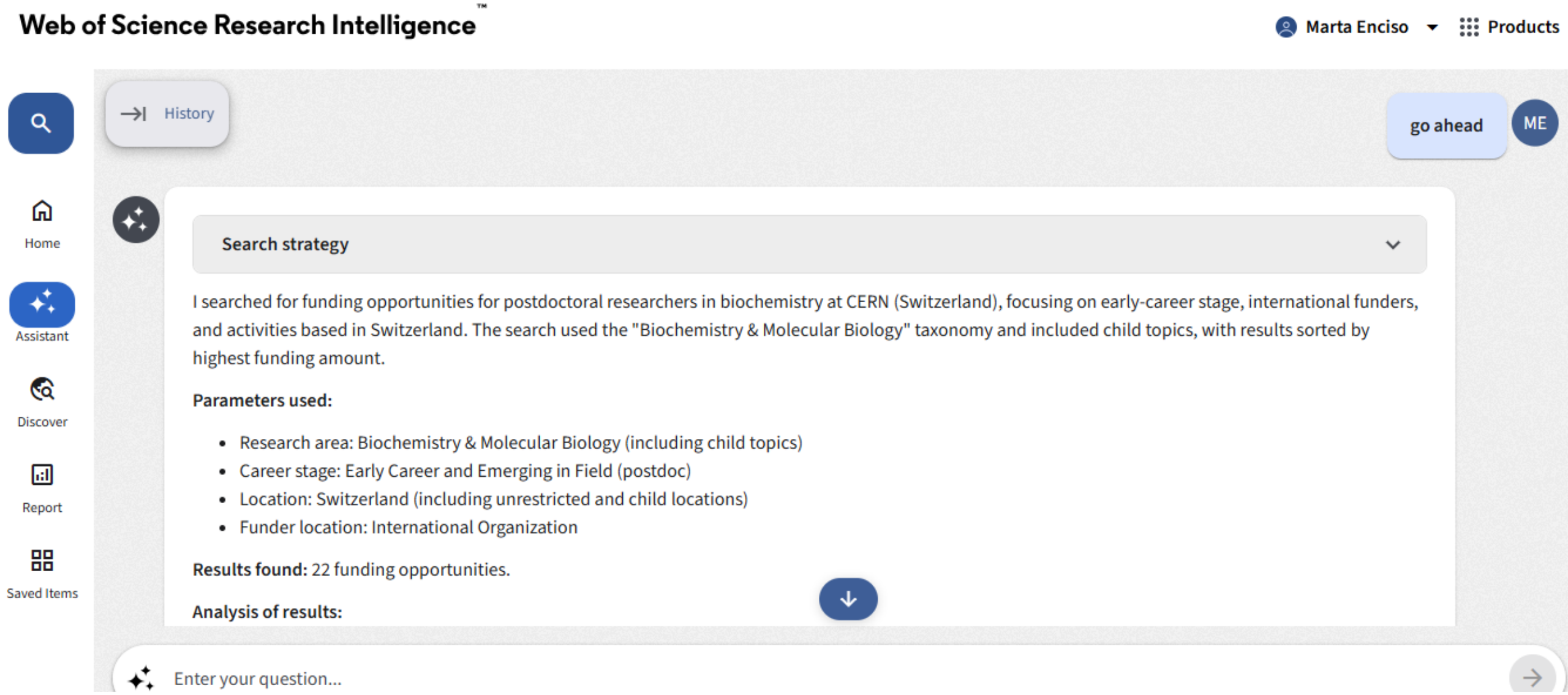
Saved Items
Hello! I'm here to help you discover academic funding opportunities.
What is your research topic or area of interest?
Where are you or your institution located?
You can also share additional details to refine your search, such as your career stage (e.g., early-career, established researcher), the type of funding you're seeking (research grant, travel, collaboration), minimum funding amount, deadlines, or specific funders you're interested in. The more information you provide, the more tailored your funding results will be!
Enter your question...


Web of Science Research Intelligence™
Marta Enciso
Products
History
I'm a biochemist postdoc at CERN
ME
Home
Assistant
Discover
Report
Saved Items
Thank you for sharing your details! Here's what I know so far:
Research topic/area: Biochemistry
Career stage: Postdoctoral researcher
Location: CERN (Switzerland)
To further refine your search, could you let me know if you have any preferences for:
Type of funding (e.g., research grants, travel, collaboration)
Minimum funding amount
Deadlines or timing
Specific funders you're interested in
If you don't have specific preferences, I'll proceed to search for funding opportunities for postdoctoral biochemists at CERN. Please let me know if you'd like to add any of the above details, or I can start the search now!
Enter your question...


Web of Science Research Intelligence™
Marta Enciso
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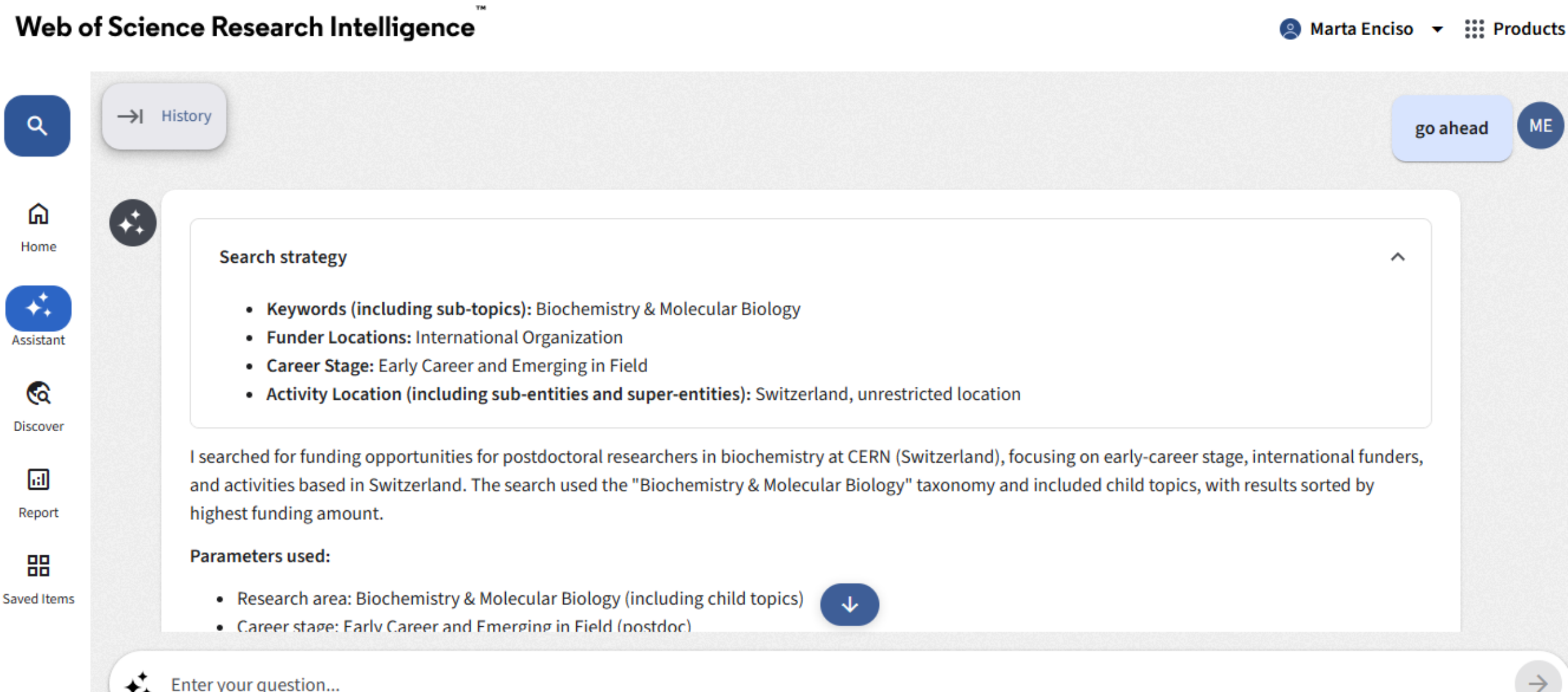
Search strategy
I searched for funding opportunities for postdoctoral researchers in biochemistry at CERN (Switzerland), focusing on early-career stage, international funders, and activities based in Switzerland. The search used the "Biochemistry & Molecular Biology" taxonomy and included child topics, with results sorted by highest funding amount.
Parameters used:
Research area: Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (including child topics)
Career stage: Early Career and Emerging in Field (postdoc)
Location: Switzerland (including unrestricted and child locations)
Funder location: International Organization
Results found: 22 funding opportunities.
Analysis of results:
Enter your question...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Marta Enciso
Products
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Search strategy
Keywords (including sub-topics): Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
Funder Locations: International Organization
Career Stage: Early Career and Emerging in Field
Activity Location (including sub-entities and super-entities): Switzerland, unrestricted location
I searched for funding opportunities for postdoctoral researchers in biochemistry at CERN (Switzerland), focusing on early-career stage, international funders, and activities based in Switzerland. The search used the "Biochemistry & Molecular Biology" taxonomy and included child topics, with results sorted by highest funding amount.
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Research area: Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (including child topics)
Career stage: Early Career and Emerging in Field (postdoc)
Enter your question...

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Parameters used:

- Research area: Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (including child topics)
- Career stage: Early Career and Emerging in Field (postdoc)
- Location: Switzerland (including unrestricted and child locations)
- Funder location: International Organization

Results found: 22 funding opportunities.

Analysis of results:
There is a strong presence of international and European professional societies and foundations supporting biochemistry postdocs in Switzerland, with 22 opportunities available. The majority of funders are professional societies (11) and private foundations (10), with one multinational organization. Award types are diverse: conferences/events (8), travel grants (7), fellowships/postdoctoral awards (5), collaboration/networking (4), and research project grants (4). Most opportunities are for early-career researchers, but 14 also support mid-career applicants. Funding is available in EUR (16), USD (5), and some unrestricted. Deadlines are mostly confirmed (14) or anticipated (8), with upcoming dates in 2026. Eligibility is broad, with many grants open to academic institutions and some to non-profits, government, or commercial entities. Switzerland is well-represented, but many grants are also open to applicants from other European and global locations.

History
Home
Assistant
Discover
Report
Saved Items

mmary: The EMBO Global Lecture Series fosters international collaboration by supporting lectures delivered by EMBO Members, Young Investigators, and ing researchers. Priority is given to engagements involving scientists from EMBC Associate Member States, focusing on biochemistry and molecular biology.

Award Type: Conferences, Events or Seminars

Funder: European Molecular Biology Organisation (EMBO), Professional Society or Association, International

Deadline: (Confirmed)

Amount: 3,500 EUR

Career stage: Early Career and Emerging in Field

View All Funding Opportunities →

Suggestions for query refinement:

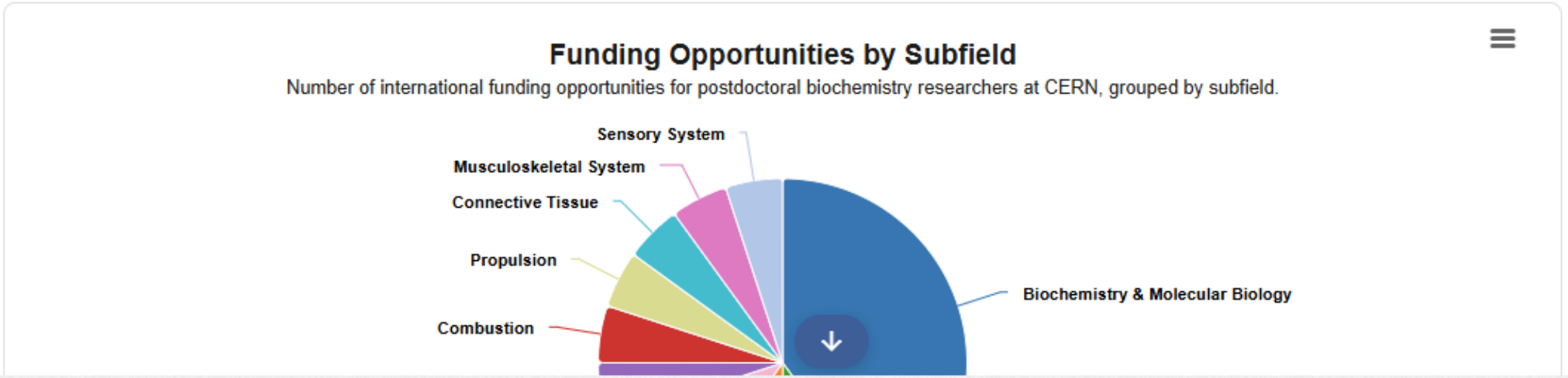
- If you want to focus on a specific subfield (e.g., protein engineering, molecular biochemistry, clinical chemistry), let me know.
- You can filter by award type (e.g., only fellowships, only travel grants).
- If you have a minimum funding amount or a specific deadline, I can narrow results.
- Interested in opportunities from a particular funder or country? Specify for a more targeted list.
- Adjacent topics: computational biology, medicinal chemistry, biophysical chemistry, synthetic biology, or biochemical engineering—these may yield additional relevant opportunities. Let me know if you'd like to explore these!

Enter your question...

- **Connective Tissue:** 1 opportunity
- **Musculoskeletal System:** 1 opportunity
- **Sensory System:** 1 opportunity

This distribution shows that the majority of international opportunities for postdoctoral researchers at CERN are concentrated in biochemistry and molecular biology, with additional options in biotechnology, bone marrow research, and several other specialized areas. If you wish to focus on a particular subfield, I can refine the search further.

Bar Chart | ✓ Pie Chart | Treemap Chart | Data Table



Enter your question...

From Front door to back end: AI Assistant Orchestration in the Library Platform

Our vision: providing librarians an alternative experience - interact with the Library Platform through AI orchestration

Main conversational interface that understands user intent and coordinates specialized responses.

Knowledge and Support Agent

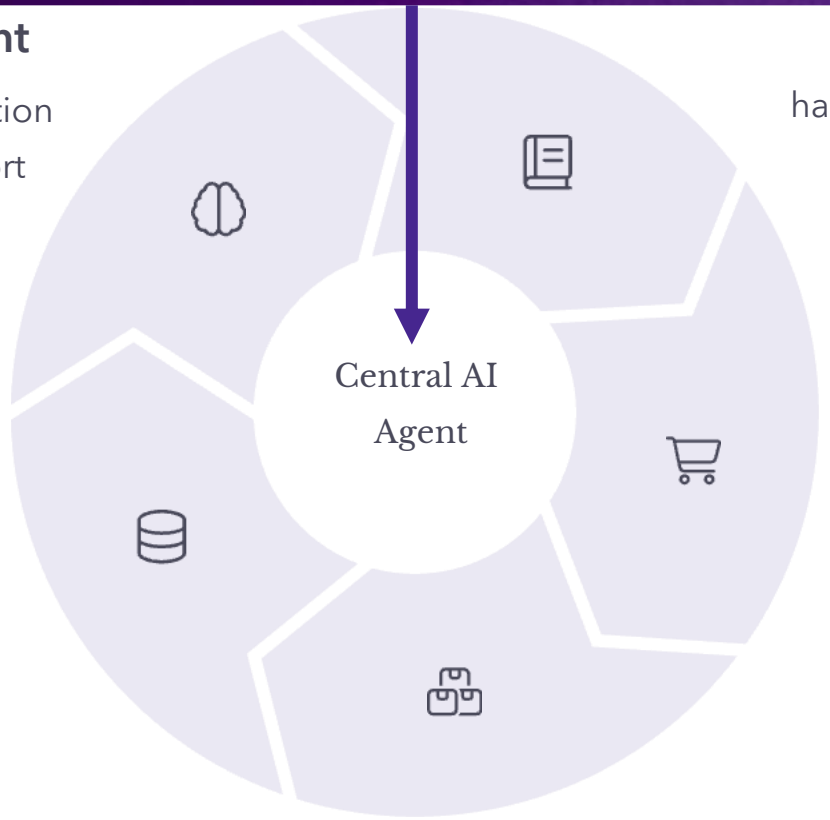
Handles queries regarding documentation and Knowledge, connection to support agent/chat

Selection Agent

Handles queries , provides intelligent recommendation and marketplace related tasks

Resource Management Agent

Handles electronic and physical resources queries and related inventory tasks



Analytics Agent

Handles queries related to Analytics Subject Areas, OTB reports and Dashboards and report operation tasks

Metadata Agent

handles cataloging requests, MARC records, and bibliographic data management

Acquisitions Agent

Handles purchasing and invoicing workflows, vendor management, and budget related tasks

Fulfillment Agent

Manages circulation desks and resource delivery processes

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Designing for AI literacy

Designing for AI literacy: What we've learned so far

- **Transparency builds trust:** Highlighting sources, enabling users to validate and cite, in context
- **Explainability matters:** Making it easy to develop, adapt and re-produce research strategy
- **Grounding is key:** Base outputs on vetted scholarly content is key
- **Support critical thinking**: Prompting users to go deeper and explore assumptions

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Keeping humans in control:

- Prompt design and quality testing
- Evaluation of outputs

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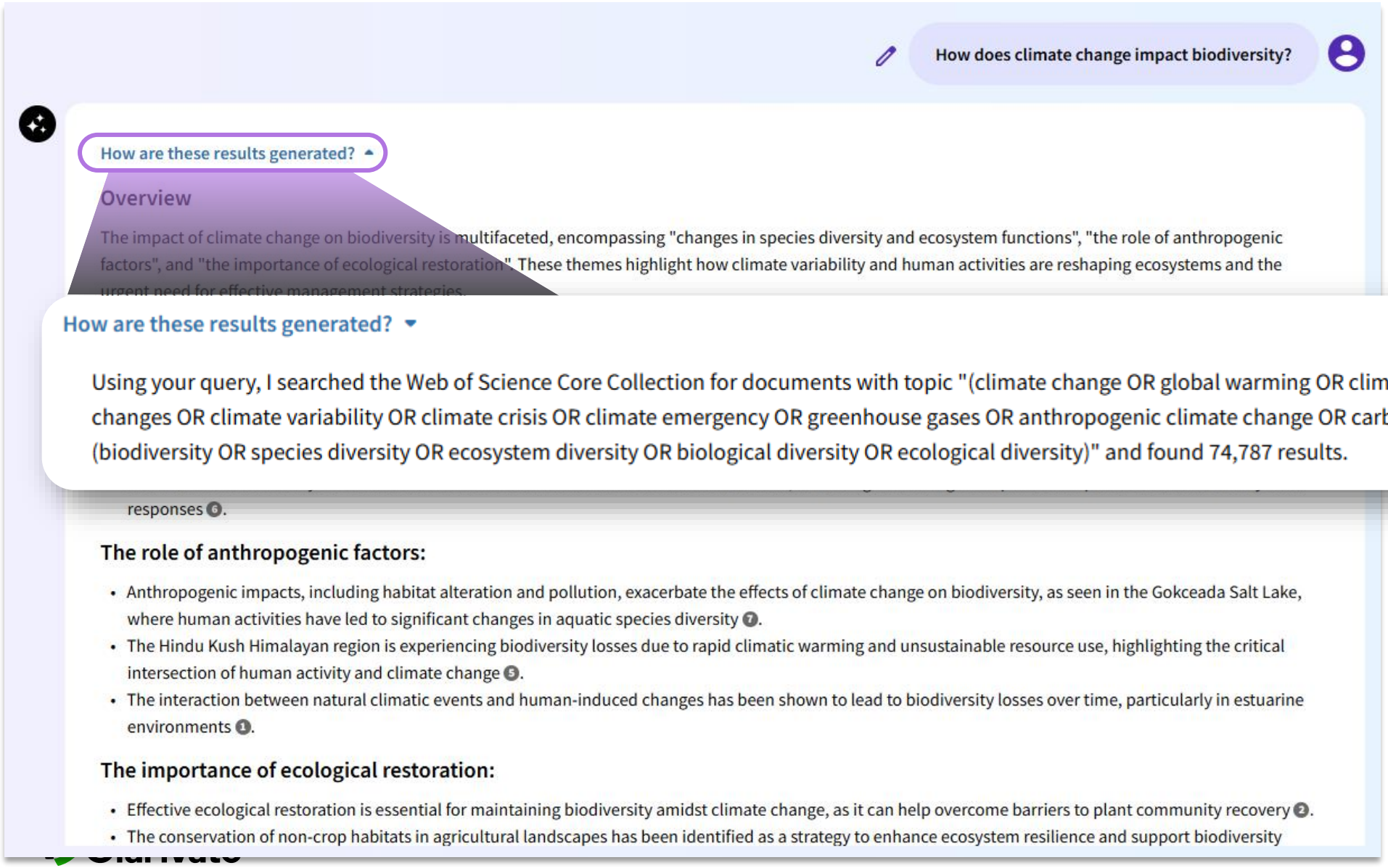
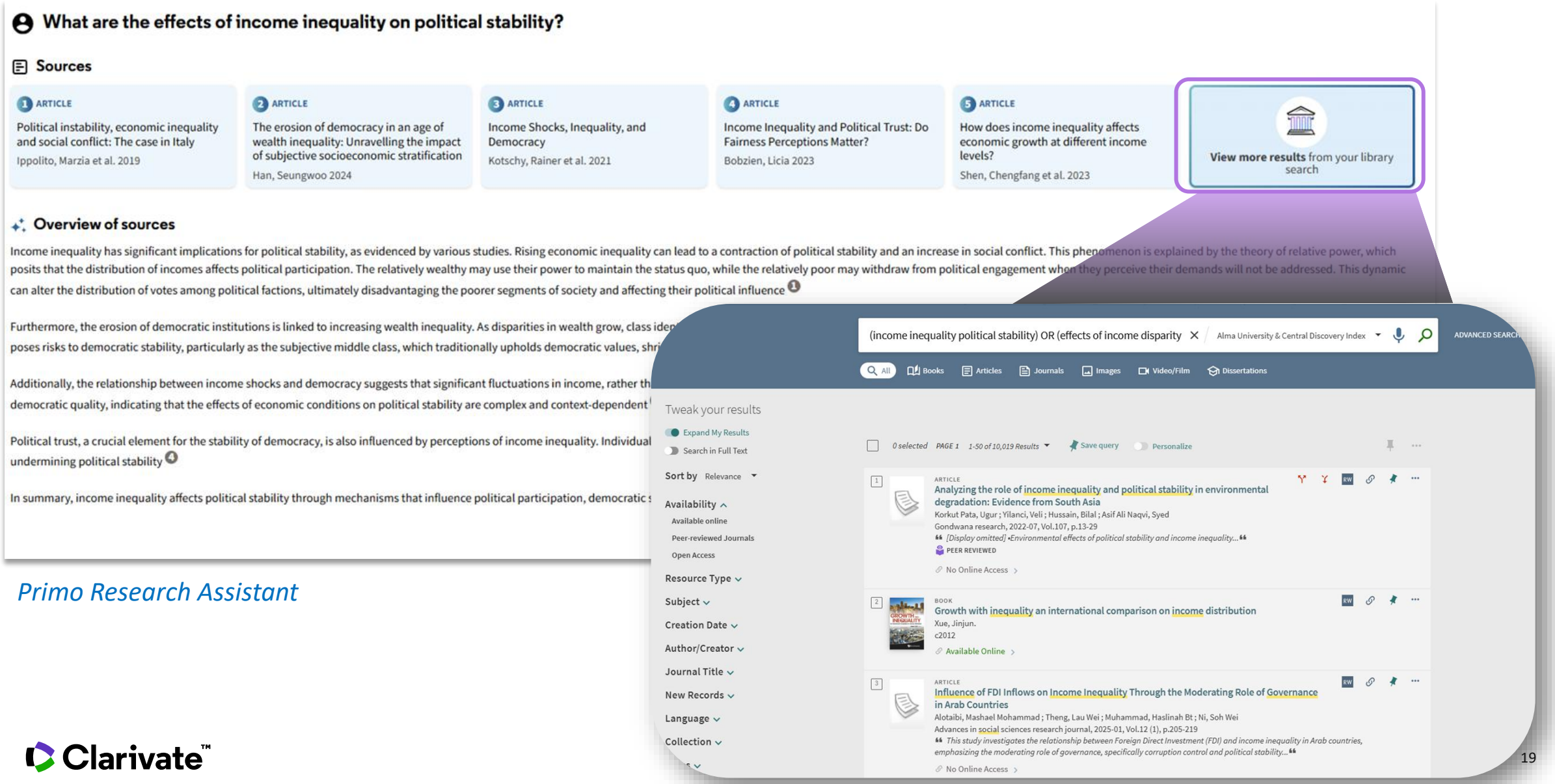
Reinforcing AI literacy principles through product design



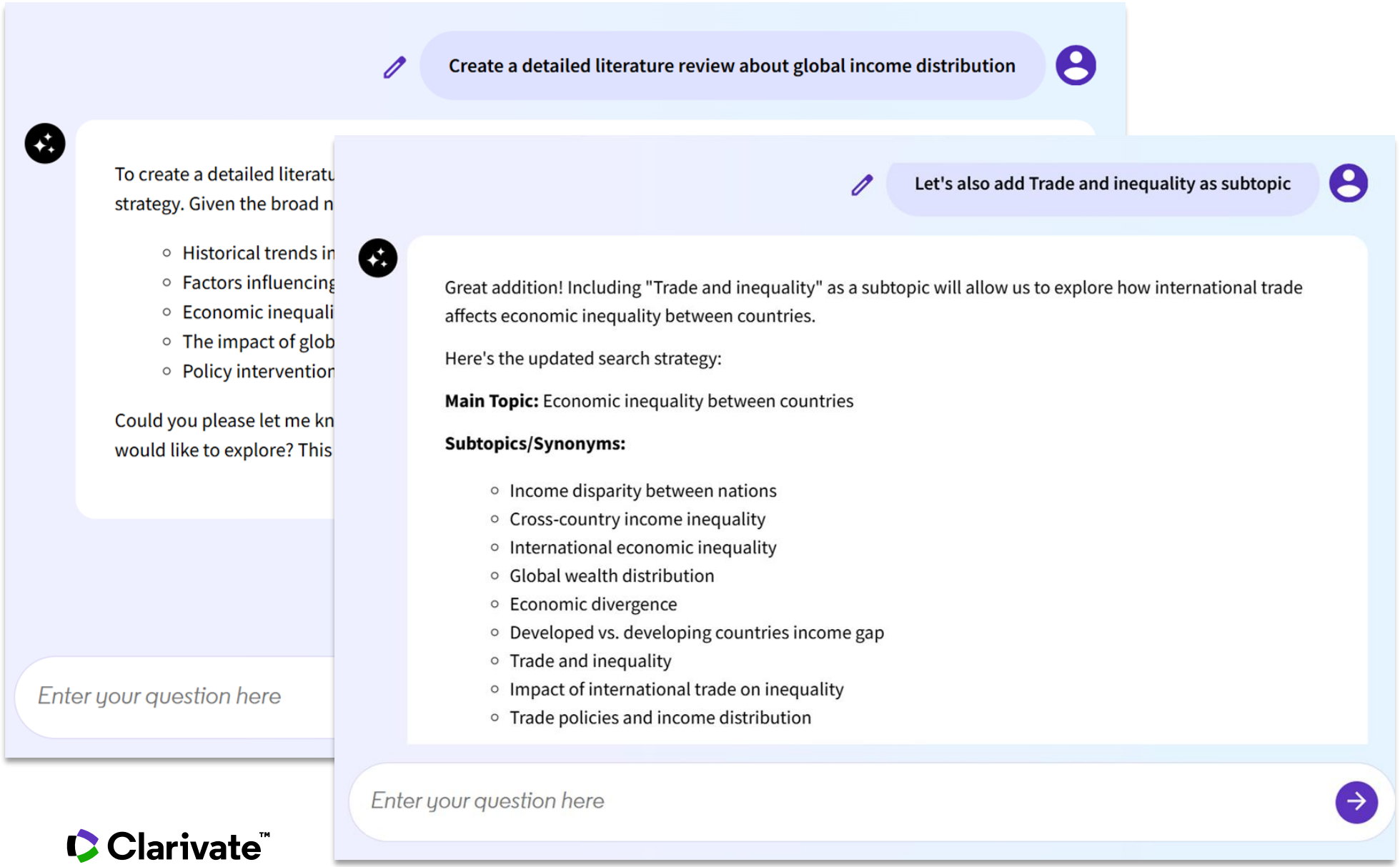
Web of Science Research Assistant

Reinforcing AI literacy principles through product design



Primo Research Assistant

Reinforcing AI literacy principles through product design



Web of Science
Research Assistant
Literature Review agent

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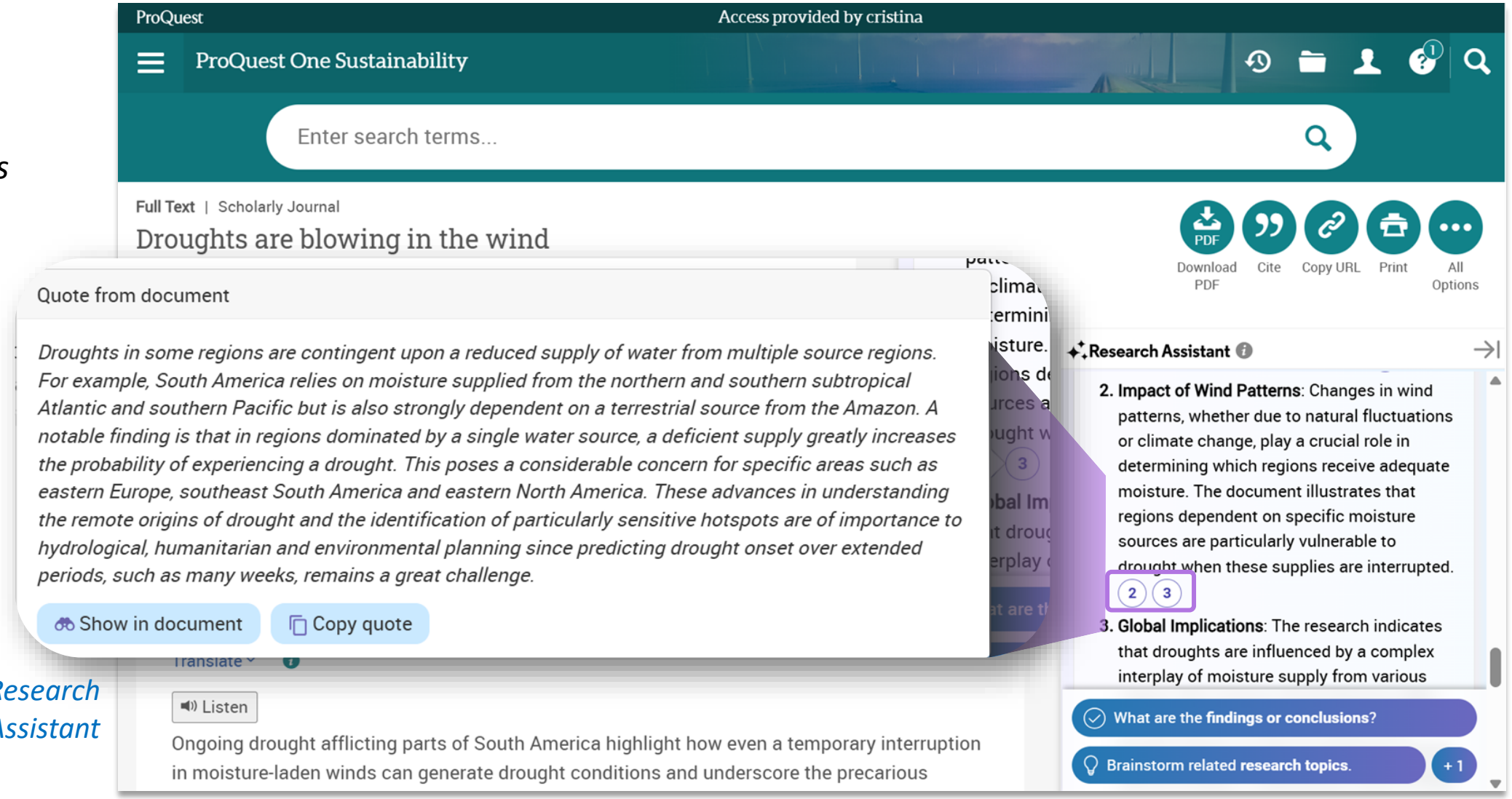
Reinforcing AI literacy principles through product design

Impact:
+20% returning users



ProQuest Research Assistant

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Agents in the library

Agents in libraries and academia – Some basic ideas

Institutional student assistant

- Can answer questions about anything on the Institution's website
- Can find information about specific curricula, courses or research projects
- Can find material in the library
- Chat with course material to support the student's learning progress

Library assistant

- Can answer any question from LibGuides
- Can act as a reference desk front door and refer to a real person when necessary
- Can determine best source of information or material based on user context
- Can find material that user needs, taking their context into account

Productivity assistant

- **In the library** – Automate time consuming tasks
- **In the institution** – Tackle tasks that require different data sources and basic decision making cycles
- **For researchers** – Guide them through tedious tasks, e.g. find funding and collaboration opportunities, fill out forms etc

Important

The Human in the loop

- The user has the last word
- Information is always referenced

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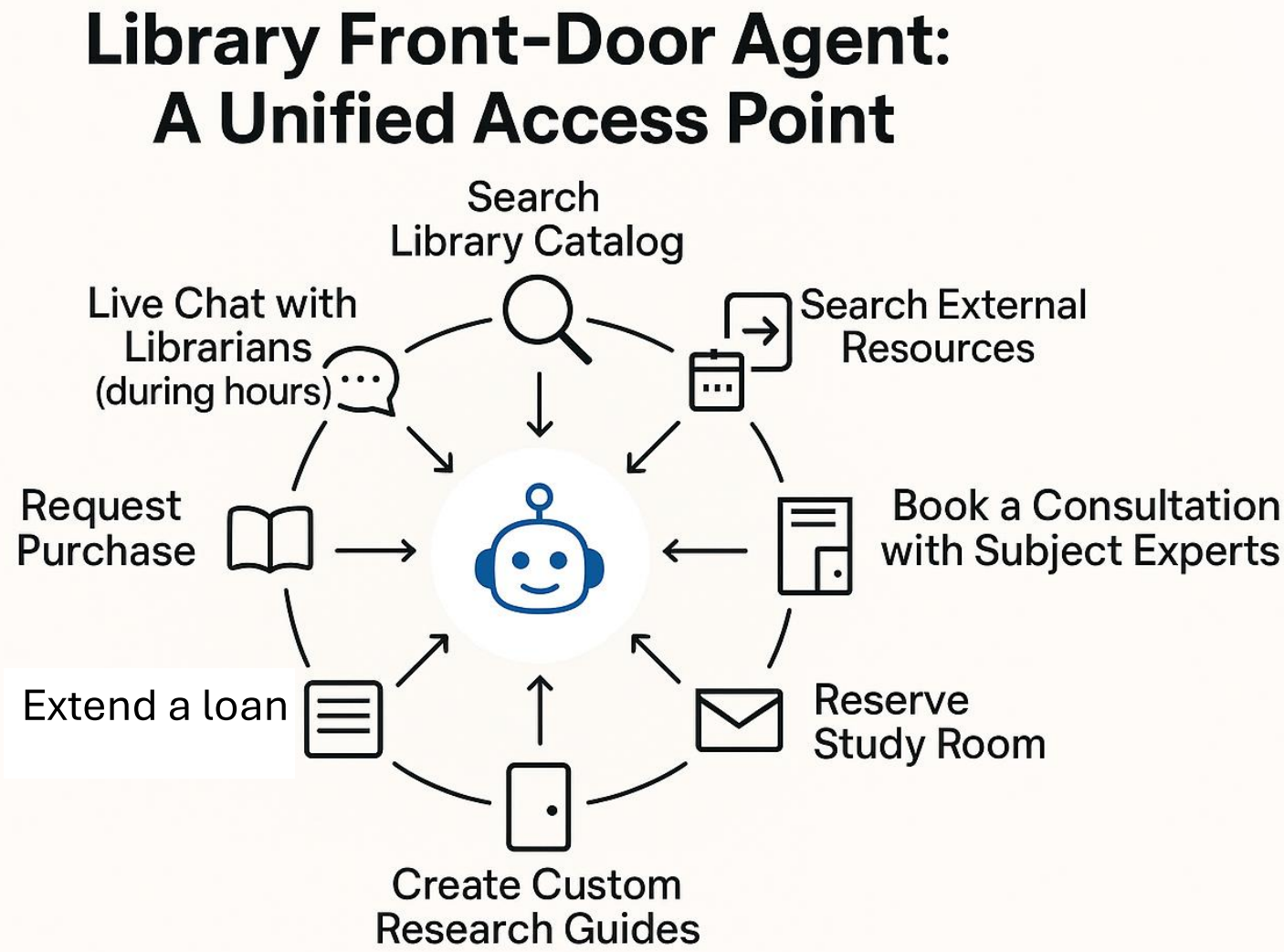
What about: A unified access point to library services

What if you could ask the library webpage any question, at any time and get an immediate answer?



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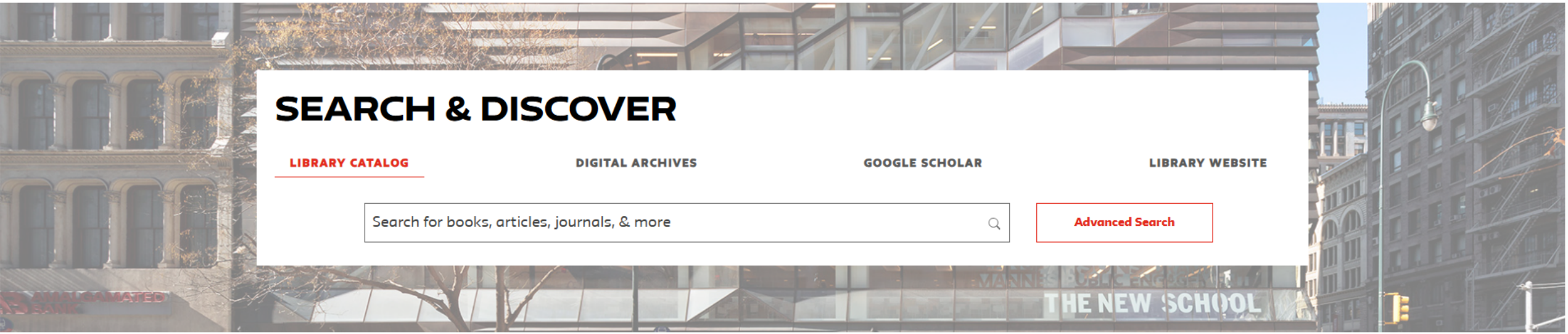


SEARCH & DISCOVER

LIBRARY CATALOG | DIGITAL ARCHIVES | GOOGLE SCHOLAR | LIBRARY WEBSITE

Search for books, articles, journals, & more

Advanced Search

QUICK LINKS

STUDENTS | FACULTY | ALUMNI

- Book a Room
- Databases A-Z
- 1-on-1 Consultations
- Printing & Scanning
- Renew Items
- Research Guides

LIBRARY HOURS

Thursday, August 7th

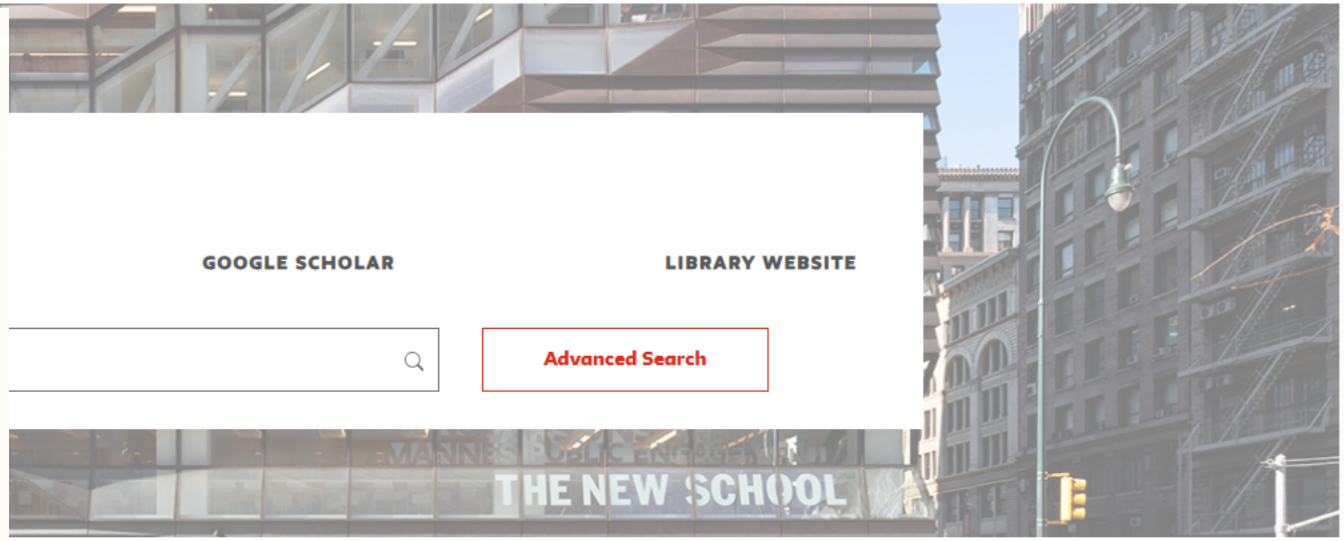
List Center Library	10:00am - 6:00pm
Performing Arts Library	10:45am - 4:45pm
University Center Library	10:00am - 8:00pm
Archives & Special Collections	Open 10 am to 5 pm by appointment. Contact the archives at archivist@newschool.edu.
Live Chat	10:00am - 5:00pm

Ask Us

Hello! How can I assist you today?

I can help you find material (books, articles, videos, images and more) or renew an item, I can answer topic related questions from the research guides and connect you to an expert for more in-depth help, either by email or by booking an appointment. I can also book a study room for you and help you to find your way in our collections and services. Just ask!

Type a message...



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The promises of MCP* (Model Context Protocol): An new (quasi) standard?

What is MCP?

- A lightweight, open protocol (JSON-RPC 2.0 based**)** that standardizes how an AI agent calls external tools (databases, apps, local resources)
- Ensures agents have access to structured, relevant, and interoperable information
- Supports modularity and composability across systems, it provides a framework for interaction between applications and tools

Why MCP Matters for Agentic AI

- Enables agents to reason and act based on shared academic context (e.g., metadata, ontologies, workflows)
- Facilitates **interoperability** between agents, models, and scholarly infrastructure
- Enhances **traceability**, **reproducibility**, and **governance** of agent behavior

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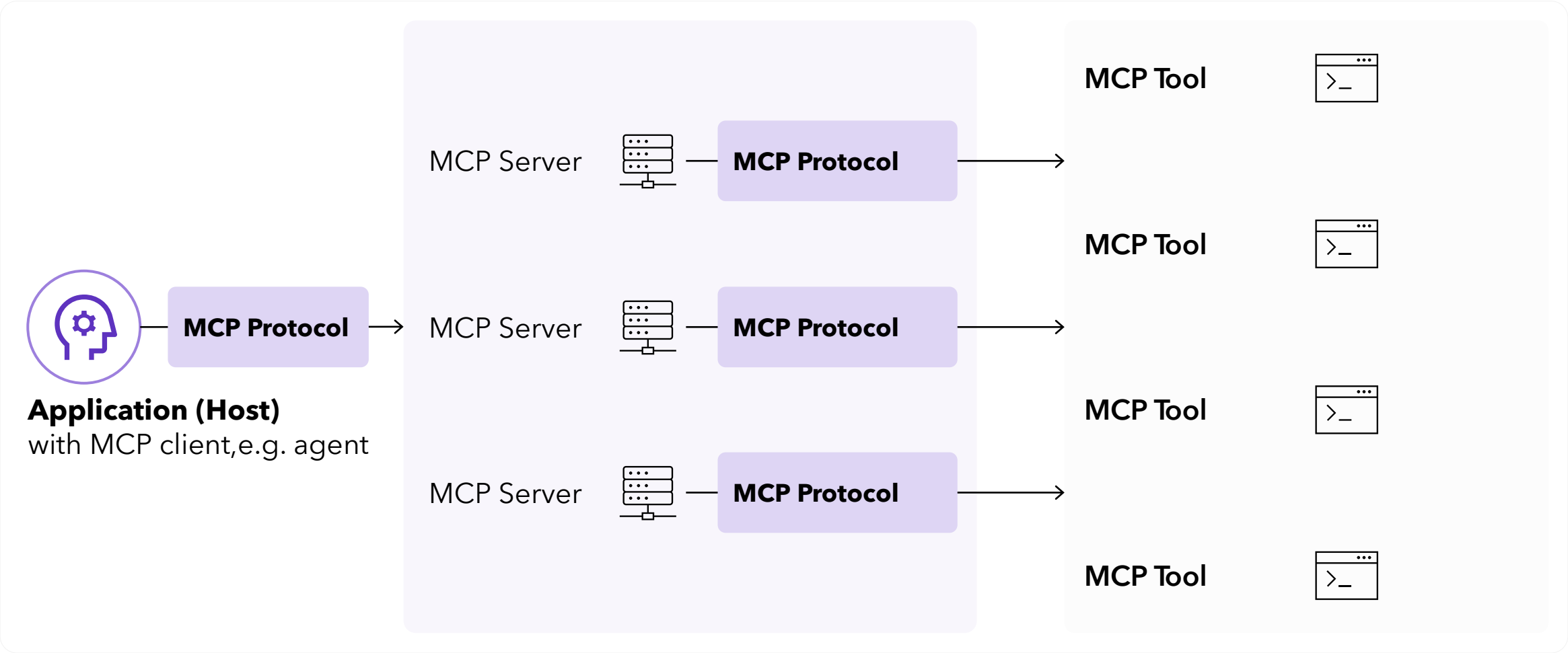
*https://modelcontextprotocol.io/introduction

Agents and tools

The MCP* architecture and MCP* tool library



https://modelcontextprotocol.io/introduction

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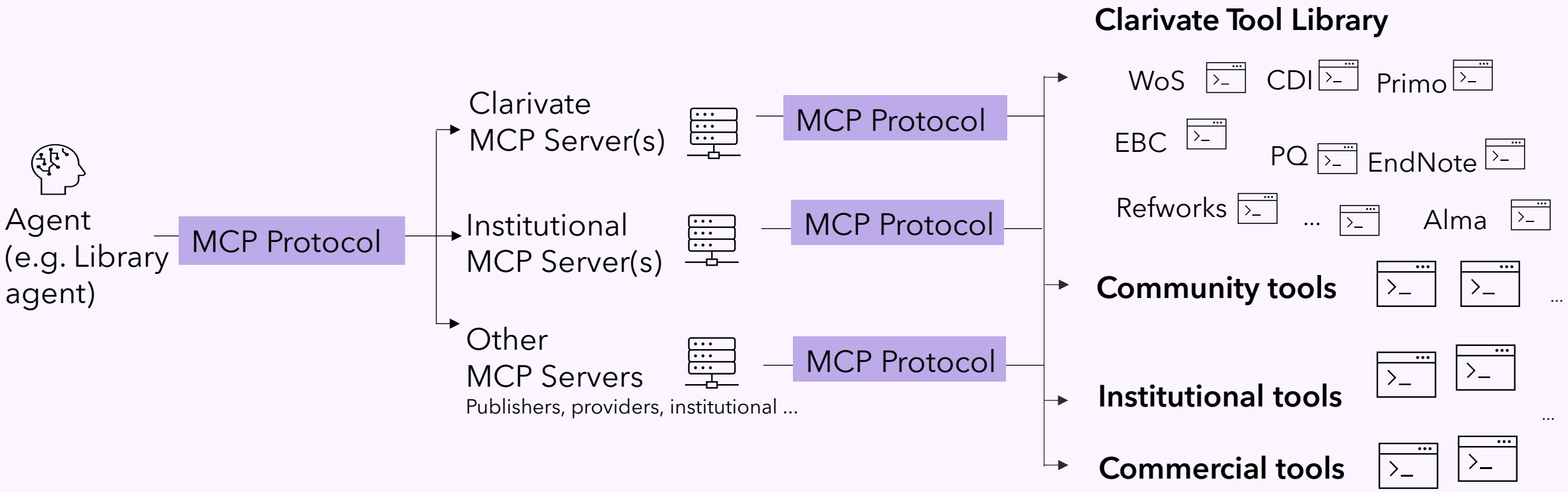
The MCP architecture

With the Clarivate context



Clarivate Agent Builder

MCP compliant – use your own agents or use the Clarivate agent builder to create one

MCP Tool library for seamless integration

- **Clarivate services**
- **Community built,** to share, adapt, and build on
- **Institutional (private)**

Low-code/no-code environment to create and deploy AI agents for research, teaching, and library workflows

Built-in tools like a prompt builder, workflow orchestration, and system connectors to accelerate development

Designed for rapid prototyping so institutions can test quickly and scale what works

Pulse of the library

The stakes are high.

We're listening, learning and applying

Following on the 2024 library survey, 2025 results are in.

- 2,032 librarians worldwide
- 77% academic librarians, 23% public & national
- 46% U.S., 23% Asia, 14% Europe, 3% ANZ
- Survey offered in 5 languages

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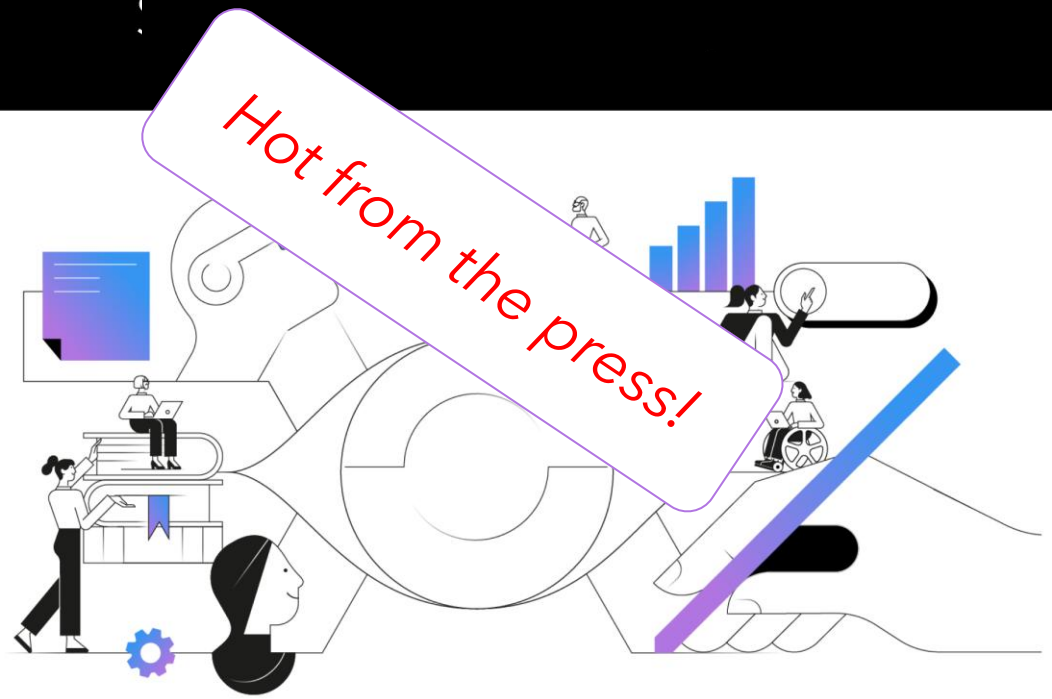
Report

Pulse of the Library 2025



What the data tells us

Steady but cautious adoption of AI, most libraries are still in evaluation mode

Skills and budgets are the key concerns

Upskilling is critically needed, but formal training is still rare

Regional divides are widening – Asia & Europe ahead, US lagging

Libraries see themselves as guardians of trust and responsible use

Get the report and survey data

AI literacy micro-course

Ongoing webinars

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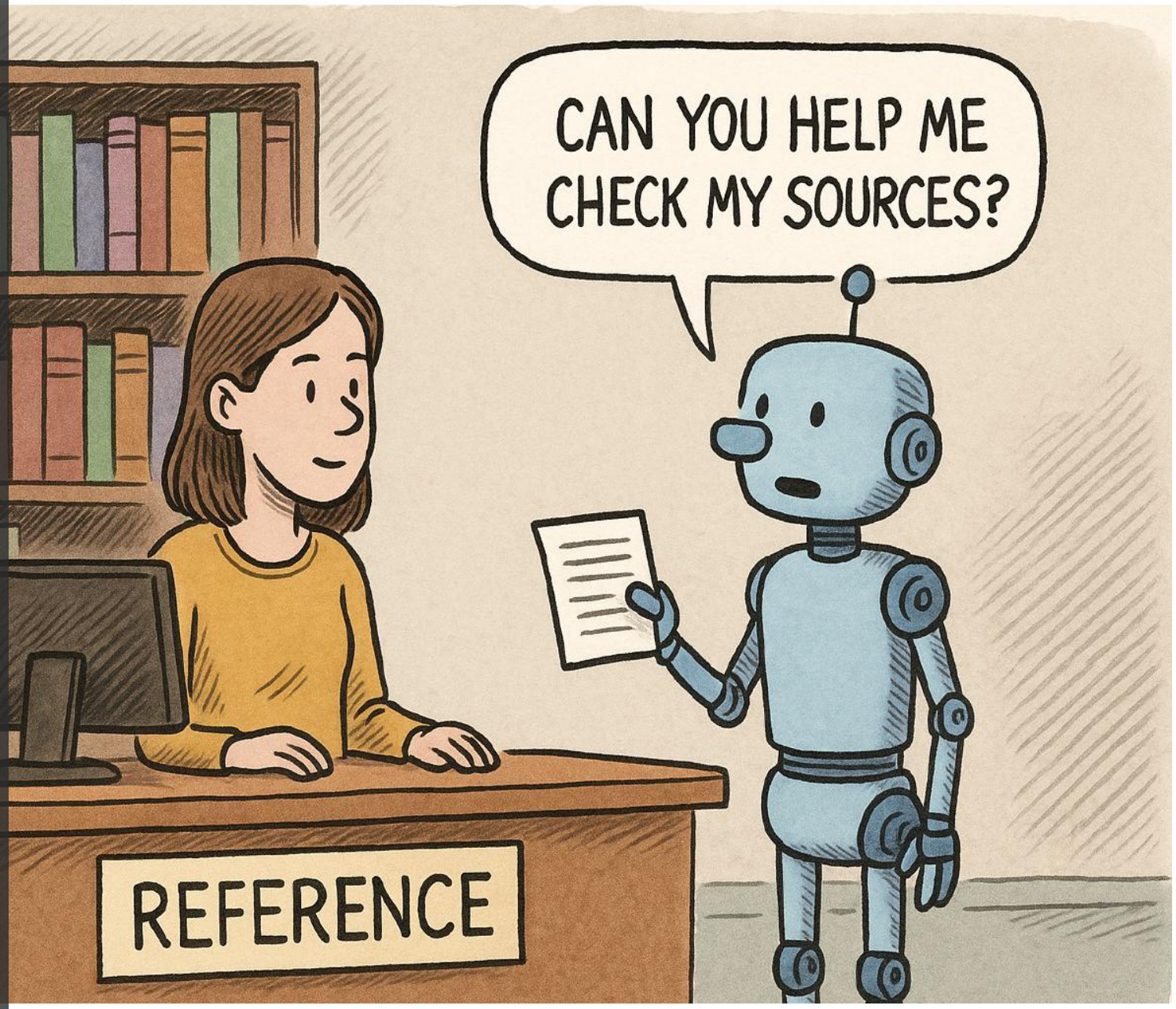
“Regardless of AI, the most critical tool for a librarian is our mind. I think AI is just another tool and I think that's an important one too. It's not replacing us.”

John Sandstrom

Head of Acquisitions,
New Mexico State University



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