

AIED Custom Bots/GPTs Subgroup Collaborative Document

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Welcome!

This is a collaborative document for participants in the [AI in Education](#) subgroup on Custom Bots/GPTs. This subgroup is dedicated to sharing resources and information about custom bots built by educators for use in higher education. “Custom bots” broadly encompasses AI-powered apps, projects, agents, simulations, and more. Everyone is welcome and no technical expertise is needed to join the conversation.

For a quick view of our showcase series, please visit the subgroup [bulletin board](#).

To watch recordings of past meetings, visit our [👥YouTube Playlist](#).

Announcements

New Custom Bots Community Slack!

Join us at → https://join.slack.com/t/aiedcustombot-k3p5500/shared_invite/zt-37Injo31f-X1hJtxFHKSrmHzY71ubl~A

 Live Workshop

Make PALS: Personalized AI Learning Simulations
Custom Bots/GPTs Showcase
AI in Education


Casandra Silva Siblin
Host and Lecturer
City University of New York


Kyle Chalupczynski
Professor, TLT Faculty Fellow
Penn State Behrend

 **26 Sep 2025**
12:00pm ET



Workshop Topics:

- Four ways to scale AI in courses
- Tailored assignments for personalized learning
- “Build Your Own PAL” tool for building custom GPTs
- Strategies to maintain pedagogical quality & integrity

AI in Education Custom Bots/GPTs September Showcase

Friday, September 26, 2025 - 12:00pm ET

Registration: <https://lu.ma/p9qcefnt>

Kyle Chalupczynski, M.B.A., is a Professor of Management Information Systems at Penn State Behrend's Black School of Business and a 2024-2026 TLT Faculty Fellow. With nearly a decade of business analyst experience at GE Transportation and ERIE Insurance, he brings practical industry perspective to AI implementation in education. Since adopting generative AI in November 2022, Kyle has developed

the PALS (Personalized AI Learning Simulations) framework, now expanded to include multiple specialized chatbots across various courses, along with faculty development tools that enable instructors to create their own AI-enhanced assignments.

Kyle will share his experience developing and implementing the **PALS framework** across multiple courses at Penn State Behrend, demonstrating how custom **GPTs** can transform educational experiences at various scales. He'll showcase **four distinct implementations** with different approaches: a comprehensive introduction to MIS course where students navigate industry-specific scenarios throughout the semester, a streamlined supplemental integration in an advanced course, a reflection-based approach for a NetSuite lab course that helps students understand business value behind technical skills, and additional implementations that demonstrate the framework's flexibility across different teaching contexts.

Each implementation creates custom, tailored assignments that adapt to individual student contexts and choices, providing personalized learning experiences while maintaining consistent learning objectives. Kyle will also introduce the "**Build Your Own PAL**" **chatbot**, a tool designed to make the PALS framework accessible to any faculty interested in implementing similar approaches. This bot automates the creation of narrative arcs, assignment instructions, and custom GPT configurations, enabling instructors to implement AI at their comfort level without requiring technical expertise.

Attendees will gain practical insights into implementing AI at different scales, from enhancing single assignments to transforming entire courses, while maintaining pedagogical quality and academic integrity.

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If you are interested in presenting at a future showcase, please fill out the Custom Bots/GPTs Showcase [Subgroup Interest Form](#). Thank you!

Casandra


Casandra.s@gmail.com

Custom Bots/GPTs Subgroup Leader

Past Meetings

 YouTube playlist of past meetings:

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLuhK1dmBMNAqBmvpU3LNTlio3jmFpDzYz&feature=shared>

	Date	Resources	Presenters	Topics	Bots 
1	4/8/24	(not recorded; notes were the beginning of this current doc)	-	Open Discussion	
2	5/9/24	(not recorded)		Joint subgroup meeting and workshops with Instructional Design	
3	6/17/24	Recording Notes	Casandra Silva Sibilin	Overview of custom bots/GPTs & demos of OpenAI, Poe platforms Sample use case, for faculty: GPT to help build GPTs	Meta-Edubot
4 (Showcase #1)	7/18/24	Recording Notes	John Swope Tina Austin Thomas Thesen	Building MicroApps Bots for Science and Medicine Sample use cases, for students: guided case studies, grant proposal, debate partner, organizing readings in a syllabus, answering popular questions related to a class/office hours, AI patient actor, teaching	MicroApps Template Regenerative Medicine Mentor AI Patient Actor

				assistant	LaTeX Master Helper
5 (Showcase #2)	8/13/24	Notes Recording	Kyle Falbo Minh Anh Trinh Yinlin Chen	Sample use cases for faculty: Syllabus Support, Learning Platform Transition	Syllabus/Syllabi Edits for Equity Brightspace Helpdesk Chatbot
6 (Showcase #3)	9/16/24	Notes	Jeanne Beatrix Law Laura Yost	GPT to support instructors with first-year composition. Zapier Chatbot to support nutrition habits.	First Year Composition Assistant Openstax Writing Guide Assistant Nutrition Man
7 (Showcase #4)	10/24/24	Notes	Sasha Sidorkin Tiffanie Zaug	GPT for electrical engineering - troubleshooting. Open vs. closed; comparison of platforms.	
8 (Showcase #5)	11/12/24	Notes	Andy Lucchesi Cristián Espinoza	Building GPTs with multiple capabilities. Canvas-embedded, RAG-enabled tutorbots; multiple agents.	KIRO GPT
9 (Showcase #6)	12/2/24	Notes	Amber Hedquist	Practical methods for integrating AI tools into workplace processes; strategies for designing, testing, and collaborating on custom GPTs.	Cromarty Legitur

					MahiBot
10 (Showcase #7)	1/6/25	Notes Recording	Iain Coggins Jerilee Petralba Jaime Hannans	Custom GPTs to enable students to navigate complex texts through a dialogical process and promote reading. Playlab App for prospective applicants and students; supporting after-hours questions.	
11 (Showcase #8)	2/11/25	Notes Recording	Ashley Etemadi	Human Judgment Skills; Why, How, and When Might We Use Chatbots; Guiding Principles.	Negotiation Conflict Management
12 (Showcase #9)	3/11/25	Notes Recording	Renee Parker	How to build bots with Poe step by step; Sample bots for action mapping, rubrics, SMEs for instructional design.	
13 (Showcase #10)	4/8/25	Notes Recording	Daniel Ernesto Ronderos Lopez Carsten Bergenholtz	Students as educators; innovative pedagogy; custom bots for architecture & design; human-centered intelligence Custom bot for philosophy of science; scaling to large classes; troubleshooting.	
14 (Showcase #11)	5/6/25	Notes	Brent Warner	Building AI bots to gamify language learning for multilingual students; game-based strategies; Playlab apps;	

		Recording		advanced voice.	
15 (Showcase #12)	6/10/25	Notes Recording	Jason Gulya James Bedford	GPT for art of film class; role-play, flipped interaction, critical thinking. GPT/module for educators to gain AI literacy.	
16 (Showcase #13)	7/14/25	Notes Recording	John Swope Tina Austin	Building MicroApps Various Use Cases for GPTs Building Strategies	
17 (Showcase #14)					

Resources Created by Participants

[Think You Can't Create Your Own Chatbot? Well, You Can!](#) (Laura Yost)

[Educational Custom Bots Starter Kit](#) (Casandra Silva Sibilin)

[Teaching in Higher Ed podcast](#) (Bonni Stachowiak)

[prompt4all](#) (Jeanne Beatrix Law)

[Student-Made Bots: An Educator's Toolkit](#) (Casandra Silva Sibilin)

[How to Train Your Own AI Chatbot](#) (Liz Bohon)

Custom Bots Platforms Tracker

These are collaborative notes - please add yours!

Platform	Pricing/Notes	+ Pros	- Cons	Student accessibility (e.g. do students need to set up an account to access?)	Last Updated
Amazon Bedrock		Amazon platform with open source and close source models, accessible via API			
Amazon Web Services PartyRock	Free for now	AWS platform for creating GenAI tools			
Anthropic	Need to be Pro subscriber \$18/ month with annual subscription discount; \$216 billed up front. \$20 if billed monthly. Pricing	API accessible LLMs Good quality, less expensive than OpenAI; access to Google docs, shareable Projects			
BoodleBox	Some free features				
Chainlit		UX Python library for creating conversational bots			

Chatbase	\$19/mo for 2 bots Conversation logs available Very simple interface Open bot user access, link or iframe pricing	The most intuitive interface for non-coders. Easy to share a bot with a link. Keeps logs of interactions.	Like many other skins, have issues with tabular or repetitive data; probably due to parsing. Little customer support		
CustomGPT	7-day free trial \$89/month billed annually for 10 agents pricing				
Cody.ai	Pricing				
Google's Gems			Cannot be shared with others?		6/5/25
HeyGen (video avatars)		Fully interactive + can be customized with instructions	Expensive		
HuggingChat	FREE	Free and open source HuggingChat Assistants - now with web search and RAG support Limited models	If user not registered, limited daily messages. Does not allow uploading of documents, but you can link to public documents for it to use in its responses		
Meta Studio	Set up on meta console OR log in through Instagram and start a new chat with meta Instructions Step-by-step guide		seems to only work on phone, not desktop		7/1/24

Microapps (developed by John Swope)					7/23/25
Microsoft Copilot	(may be free depending on institutional partnership)	Advanced model AI assistance for building	Subscription discontinued 7/10/24 — Available again, renamed “agents”? Can only be shared by colleagues but not students? Very long link, not intuitive to access		6/1/25
Mistral	Instructions	French AI company, very good models, including some MoE ones.			7/1/24
Mizou		Easy to set up	Free - up to fifty uses per day - Subscription (expensive - billed yearly)		
n8n					
NotebookLM	FREE	Easy to upload PDF files (up to 20) and then include additional posted notes	Can add instructions and now share a project with a public link, essentially making it like a custom bot (June 2025)		6/6/25
OpenAI GPTs	Need to be Plus subscriber \$20/month Pricing	Advanced model Can upload documents. The most robust use of irregular data in knowledge	Subscription to create. The end user has to have at least a free ChatGPT account to access a custom bot. Has		7/14/25

Local AI Tools - Run on Your Laptop

- Ollama <https://ollama.com/>
- LM Studio
- GPT4All
- llama.cpp : <https://github.com/ggerganov/llama.cpp>
- TheBloke: collection of quantized models for using locally, <https://huggingface.co/TheBloke>
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Other Resources

General

[How to create a custom bot using Poe](#)

[How to Build Your Own Customized Chatbot](#) - free chapter from Levy and Albertos (2024 Teaching Effectively with ChatGPT)

[How to create a GPT](#) (MIT Sloan)

OpenAI

[Creating a GPT](#)

[GPT Builder](#)

[GPTs vs Assistants](#)

[FAQs](#)

Prompts Libraries

[Mustvlad ChatGPT system prompts](#)

Networking

Are you interested in connecting and collaborating with others in this subgroup?

Please visit our:

 [subgroup directory](#)

And join our:

   [Custom Bots Community Slack](#) **(new)**!