

# GenAI in Education:

## MFLTC's systems approach

### Innovation OpenAI Licenses at MLFTC

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*Report prepared and submitted by  
Jennifer Werner & Punya Mishra*

***MLFTC, AI in Education, Learning Futures Collaborative***

Note: This report and more information on the *AI in Education Learning Futures Collaborative* can be found at this blog post:

<https://punyamishra.com/2024/05/15/genai-in-education-mfltc-systems-approach/>

The MLFTC AI Initiative continues to provide a systemic and strategic approach toward transforming GenAI use across MLFTC. By combining our faculty and staff applications we have begun building on the connections, community, and infrastructure we have already established to initiate systems-level change. For the Summer of 2024 we look to continue and extend our focus on empowering strategic teams throughout MLFTC as they continue solutioning. The success of our current work in the AI Innovation Challenge has furthered interest in AI solutions and encompasses a need for additional users and teams to collaborate on this initiative. With the addition of these new collaborations will continue the comprehensive AI-driven transformation across all facets of our operations.

The MLFTC AI Initiative has grown in systemic collaboration over the course of the Spring 24 Innovation Challenge. Teams across the college who have participated in this include:

Office of Data Strategy, Office of Digital Learning, Student Success Team, Marketing, Office of Global Engagement (MLF TC), Mastercard Foundation Grant Operations, Office of Research Development, Principled Innovation Team, Next Education Workforce, MLFTC EdD Innovation, Learning, Design and Technology Program, Ed Studies, EPE/ ED Leadership and Innovation, Division of Teacher Prep, Herberger Young Scholars Academy

The new initiative aims to expand to 16 teams, projects, departments, and programs.

The goal of each strategic team will be to continue development of efficiencies and best practices. In addition, we begin looking forward to extended projects into a new larger scope and scale. We see this project as relevant to all of the above areas. The table below shows the strategic team alignment across each goal.

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Creativity</b>	<b>Ethics</b>	<b>Engagement</b>	<b>Inclusion</b>	<b>Well-being</b>
Strategic team alignment	Curriculum Dev.,	Student Success and Support	Teaching and Learning	Research	Process and Operations

Taken together these projects can be classified under 5 broad categories. Each of these is described below along with a few key examples.

1. **Automation of Administrative Tasks:** This theme revolves around using AI to streamline and automate repetitive administrative tasks, improving efficiency and accuracy in processes like data management, email drafting, and event planning.

**Examples:**

- Automating the management of a scholarship application process, including generating questions and responding to inquiries.
- Using AI to draft and refine emails, create budget justifications for grants, and automate event registration data cleaning.

2. **Enhancement of Educational and Training Programs:** AI is utilized to enhance educational content and training programs by offering creative and diverse suggestions, generating instructional materials, and providing feedback on student work.

**Examples:**

- Integrating AI feedback into a teaching philosophy assignment to complement peer reviews.
- Using AI to generate suggestions for workshop activities and to outline connections between different media and educational frameworks.

3. **Support for Data Analysis and Reporting:** AI assists in data analysis and reporting tasks, helping to write and optimize SQL queries, troubleshoot errors, and automate data cleaning and processing.

**Examples:**

- Using AI to learn and check SQL code, improving the accuracy and efficiency of data reports.
- Leveraging AI to assist with Tableau and Excel formulas, ensuring accuracy and consistency in data grouping.

4. **Development of Custom AI Tools:** This theme involves creating custom AI tools tailored to specific needs, such as bots for answering program-related questions or personalized coding assistants.

**Examples:**

- Developing a GPT bot for an EdD program to provide students with information about courses and support services.
- Planning to create a coding persona familiar with specific data structures and priorities to improve collaboration and efficiency.

5. **Creative and Reflective Thinking:** AI is used to foster creative and reflective thinking, offering new perspectives, generating counterarguments, and helping to refine ideas.

**Examples:**

- Using AI to brainstorm and refine ideas for workshops and retreats, encouraging deeper reflection and creativity.
- Employing AI to present counter-ideas or complementary arguments to overcome creative blocks.

These themes illustrate the diverse ways AI can be integrated into professional tasks, educational enhancement, data analysis, and creative thinking processes within an academic environment.

In conclusion, the MLFTC AI Initiative represents a bold step towards integrating GenAI technologies into the educational framework, with the overarching goal of enhancing systemic collaboration and operational efficiency across multiple strategic teams. As we look ahead to the summer of 2024, the initiative is set to expand its influence through the inclusion of additional teams, broadening its scope and scale to encompass more facets of our operations. By leveraging AI in areas ranging from administrative automation to educational enhancements and data analysis, we are not only streamlining processes but also enriching the educational experience. The success and expansion of the AI Innovation Challenge illustrates our commitment to continuous improvement and innovation, ensuring that MLFTC remains at the forefront of AI-driven educational transformation. This forward-looking approach promises to empower our faculty, staff, and students, fostering an environment where creativity, ethics, engagement, inclusion, and well-being are intricately woven into the fabric of our institution.