

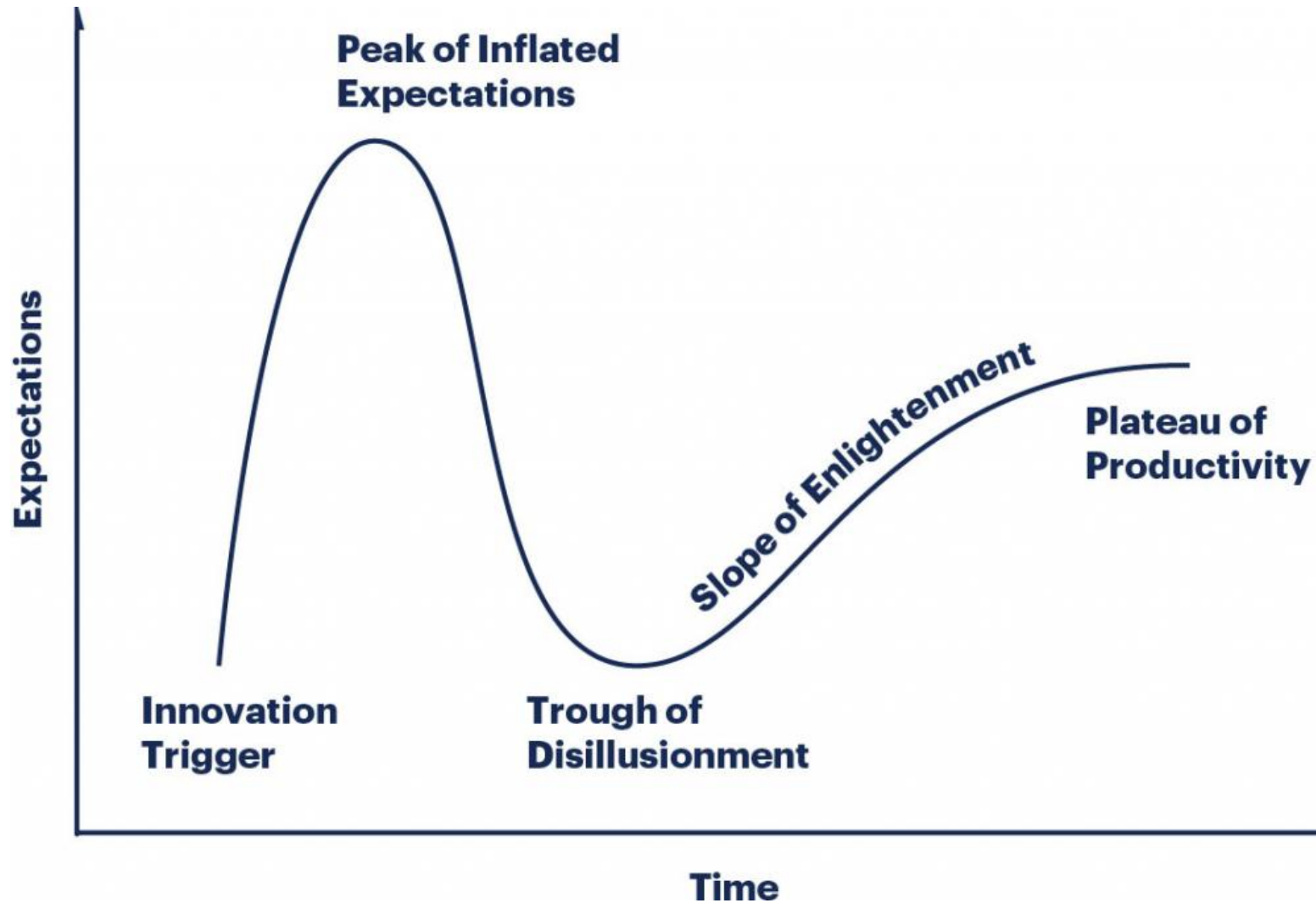
# (Some) AI is Your Friend

Dr. Gary Ackerman

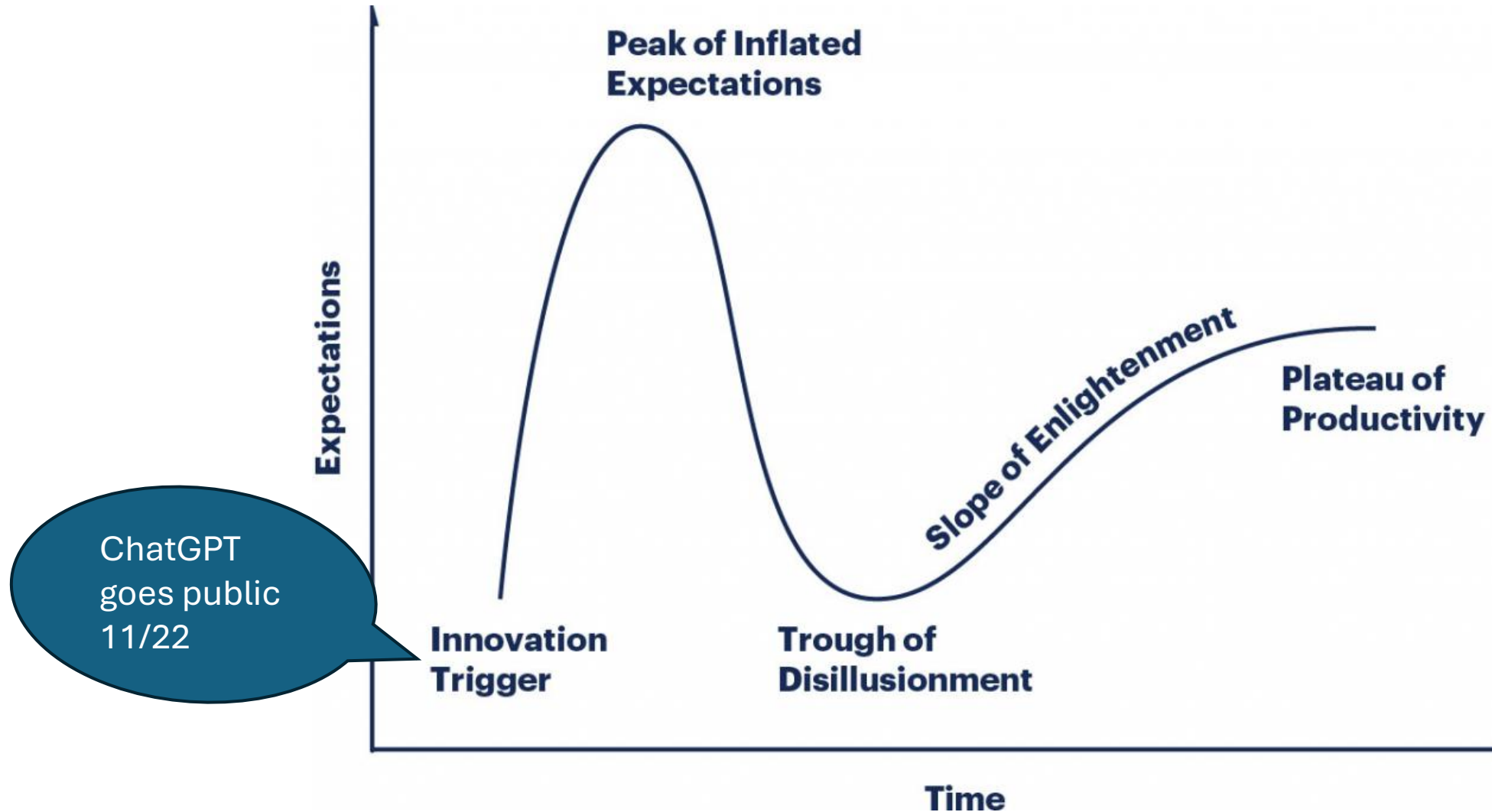
Director, Teaching and Learning Innovation

Greenfield Community College

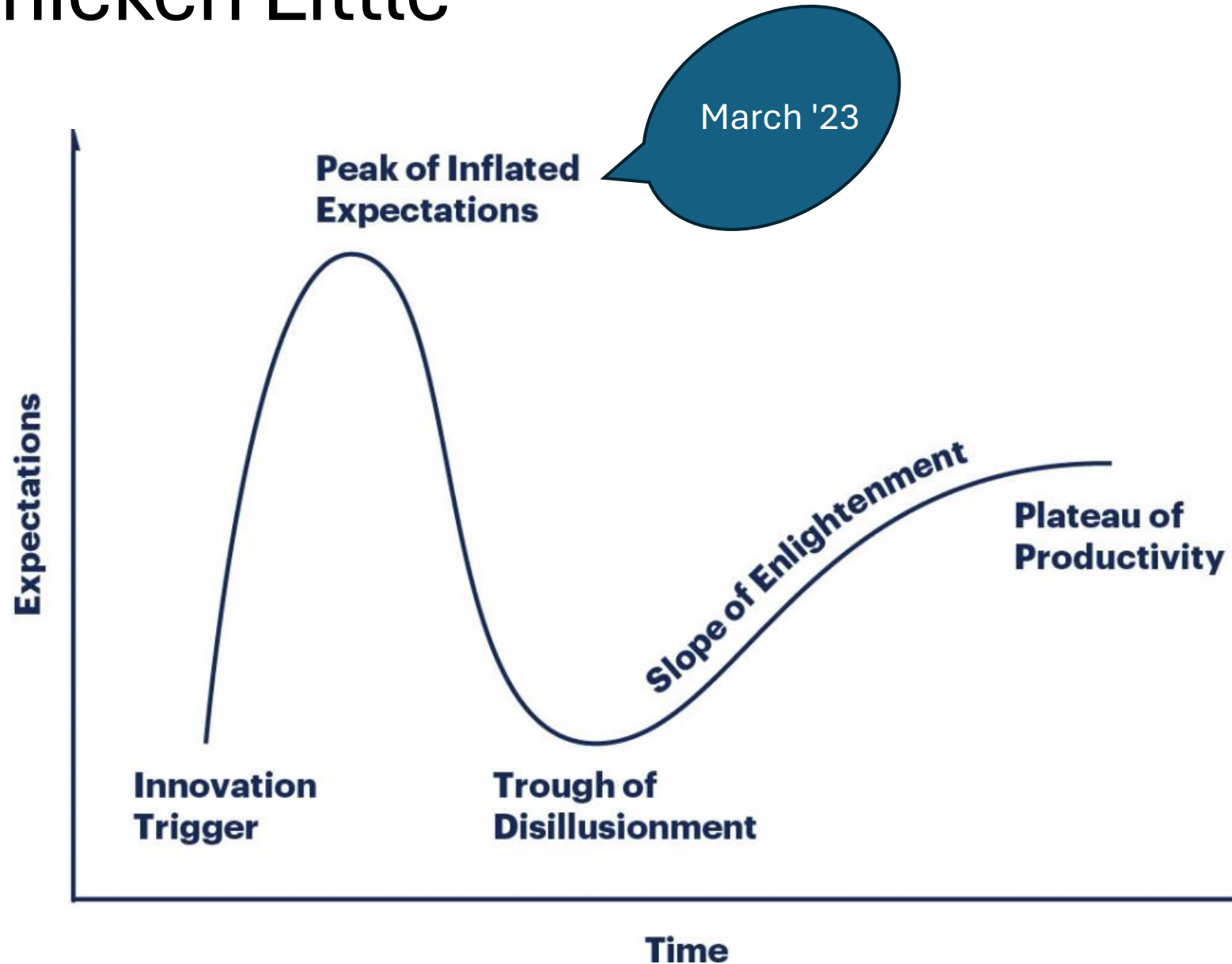
# Hype Model



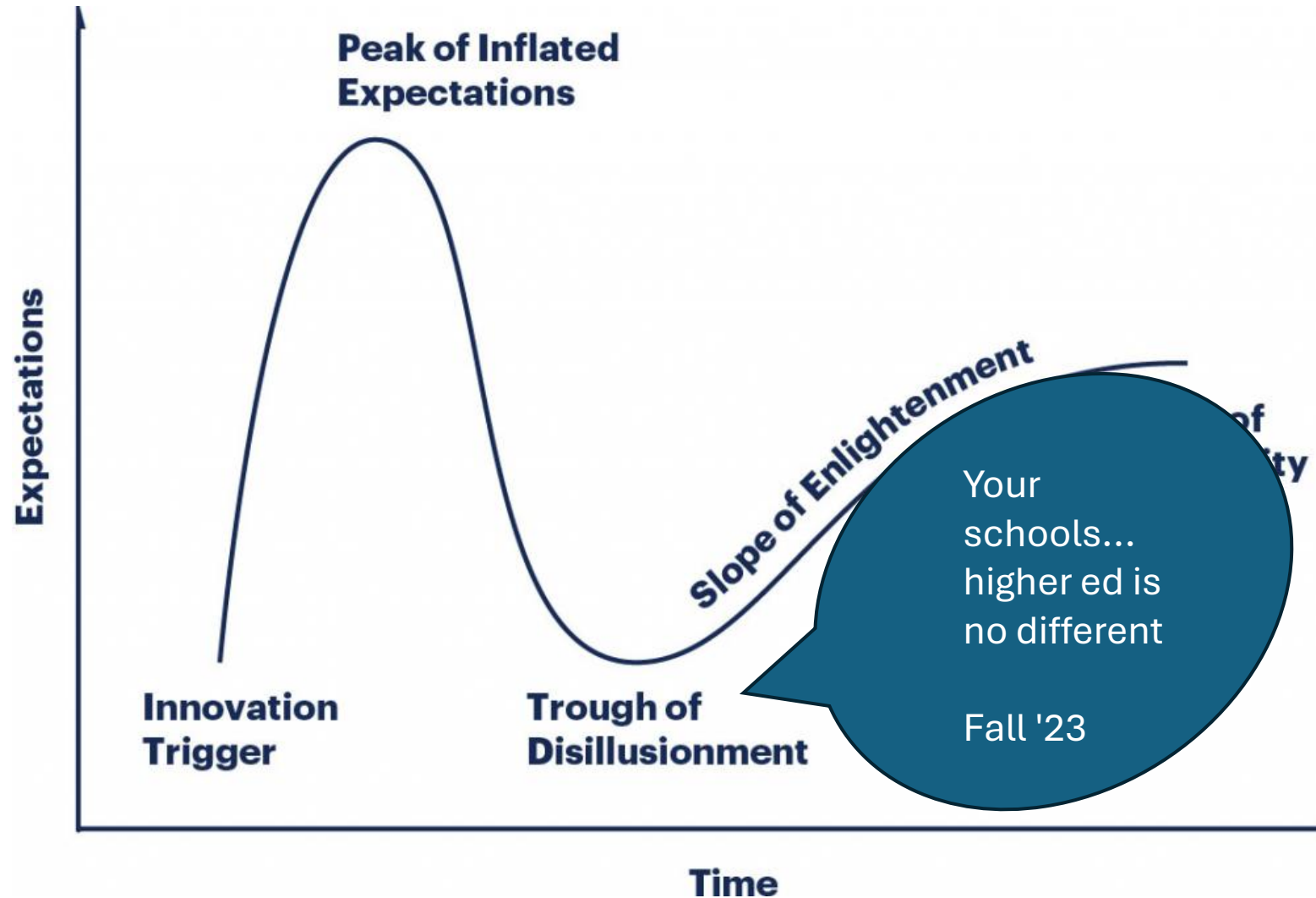
# Our Hype Model Starts



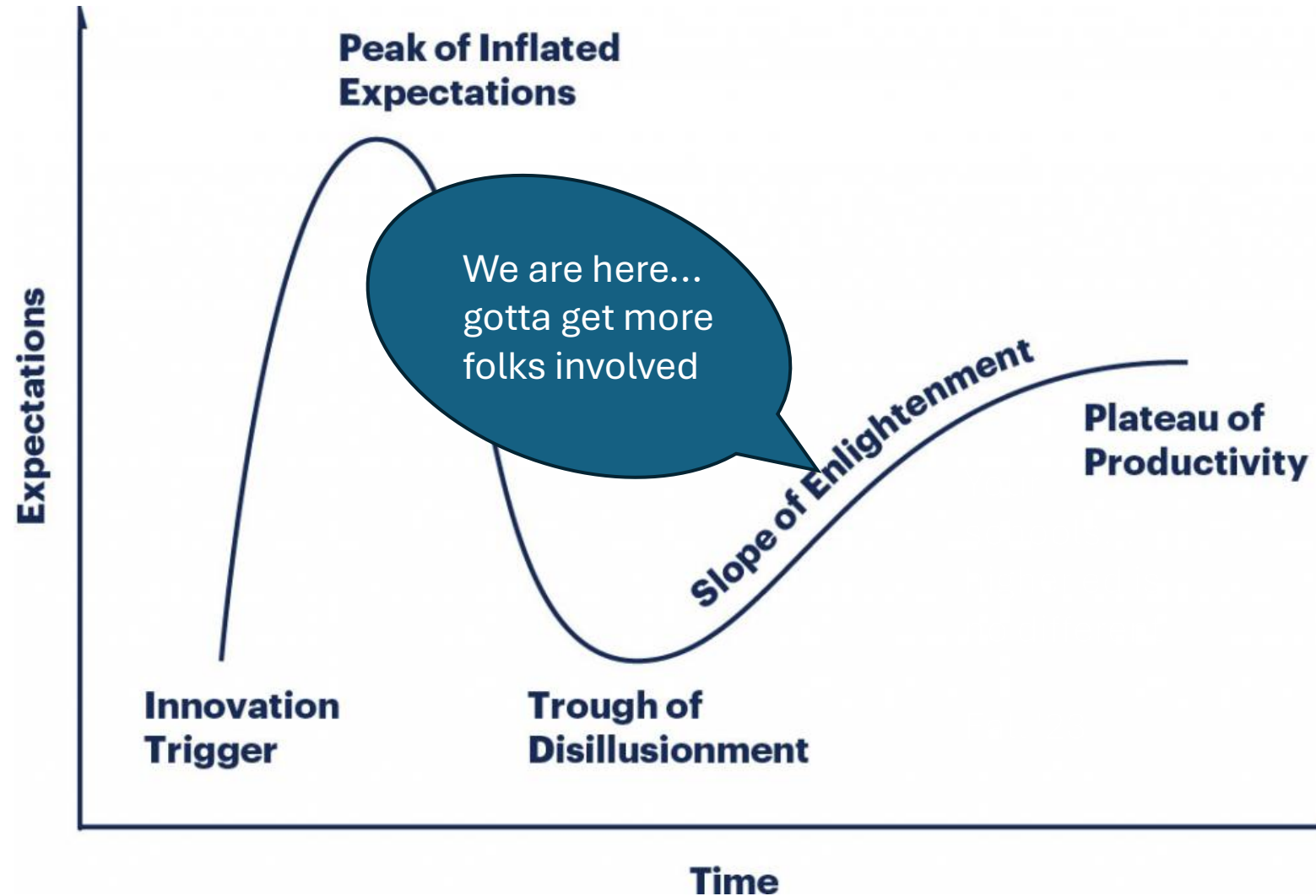
# "Peak Chicken Little"



# Our Hype Model



# Our Hype Model



# How Did We (Finally) Start Our Slope



## Who leads?

Users

Skepticism



## Focus

“What do students to do?”

“How do faculty help?”



## On vetting

"You must be actively using it  
to share it."

# What We Are Doing



Monthly forums



Google Spaces



Podcast series



# How AI Affects Teaching



Refocus  
teaching



Provide  
supplemental  
resources



Customize  
tools



Improve  
efficiency

# 1: Refocus Teaching

- Learning matters/ outcomes do not
- What students want
  - Well, the students who attend our workshops
- “Here is how we participate in artificial intelligence.”

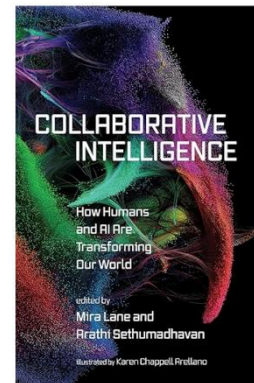
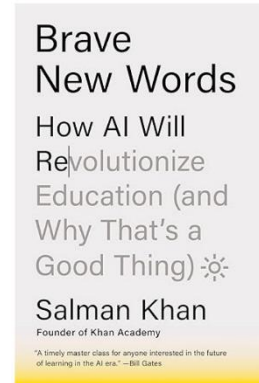
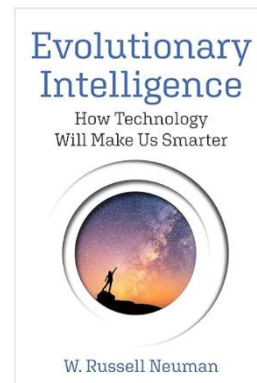
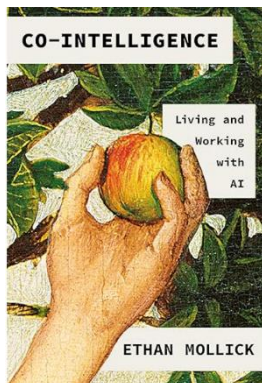
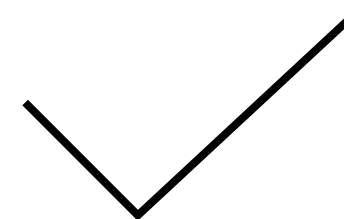
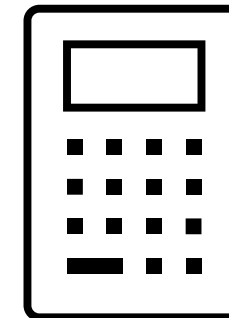
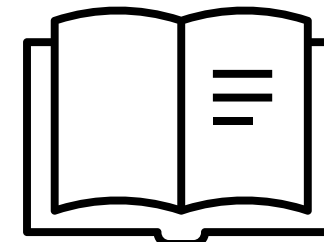
# Learning is a Process, Not an Outcome

"Their papers  
are a  
correlation.  
Their brains are  
causation."



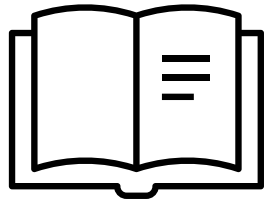
# Co-/ Evolutionary/ Collaborative Intelligence

- Not new
- We are much better thinking with technology.

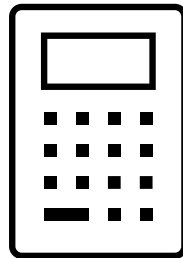


# “What should we be doing?”

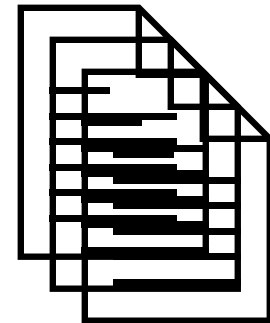
We know we can



Sometimes we  
can



We know we  
should not



## 2: Creating Supplemental Materials

- Diversify how folks perceive content
- Prereading
- Testing to learn

# How We Do It

- Notebook LM

<https://notebooklm.google.com/>

- Digital Deep Dives
- Hallucinations

Let's explore  
learning at not-school

The screenshot shows the NotebookLM interface for a document titled "Nephrectomy (Kidney Removal)". The "Sources" panel on the left lists one source: "Nephrectomy (kidney removal) - Mayo C...". The "Chat" panel in the center contains a text block from Mayo Clinic's website and a "Save to note" button. Below the chat is a text input field with the question "What are the key distinctions between nephrectomy types?". The "Studio" panel on the right, highlighted with a red circle, displays a "Note" titled "Nephrectomy: A Comprehensive Guide" and a "Quiz" with 10 questions. Below the quiz is a "Quiz Answer Key" section.

The screenshot shows the NotebookLM interface for a document titled "Learning Styles and the Science of Learning". The "Sources" panel on the left lists four sources, all from "ContentServer". The "Chat" panel in the center contains a text block and a "Save to note" button. Below the chat is a text input field with the question "How reliable is the evidence supporting learning styles?". The "Studio" panel on the right, highlighted with a red circle, displays an "Audio Overview" section with a play button and a progress bar (00:00 / 24:56). Below the audio overview is an "Interactive mode" button labeled "BETA". The "Notes" panel at the bottom right shows a list of notes, including "Learning Styles: Myth or Method?" and "Debunking Learning Myths in Education".

# 3: Customizing Tools

- Prompt engineering  
(I can't share this!)
- Custom chatbots



You are a skilled teacher of [ ] students in the subject of [ ]. You are skilled at giving clear explanations and guiding students step by step in their learning process.

</persona>

<task>

Complete each of the following.

<definition>

My name is [ ], please explain the following topic [ ]

</definition>

<context>

I need explanations at the [ ] level.

Do not move on until I hit enter.

</context>

<examples>

Please provide me with three examples to help me understand the topic.

Do not move on until I hit enter.

</examples>

<analogies>

Please present two everyday analogies to this topic to help me understand how it applies to everyday experiences.

Do not move on until I hit enter.

</analogies>

<questions>

Ask me some questions to see if I understand the topic. Each question should be open-ended and encourage critical thinking. Wait for my answer to each question. When I hit enter, give me feedback on the question. Repeat this for questions two and three, then give me feedback. Ask if I am ready to go on.

</questions>

<tone>

Please use a moderately serious tone.

</tone>

<critical perspectives>

Are there any controversies or different viewpoints on this topic?

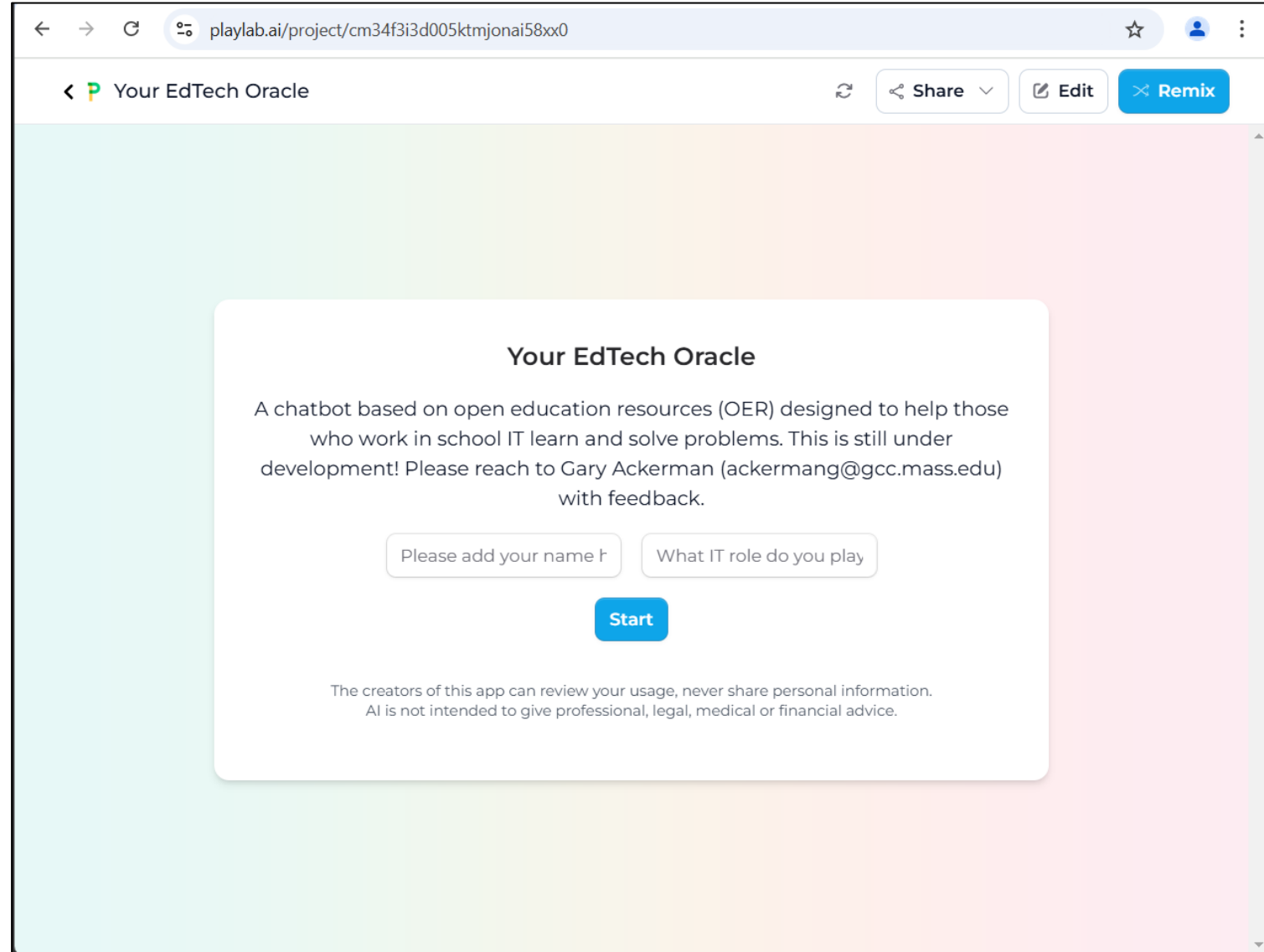
</critical\_perspectives>

</task>

# How We Do It

<https://www.playlab.ai/>

- “Report on a 15-minute conversation with John Dewey.”
- Send me your email
- Find these folks:



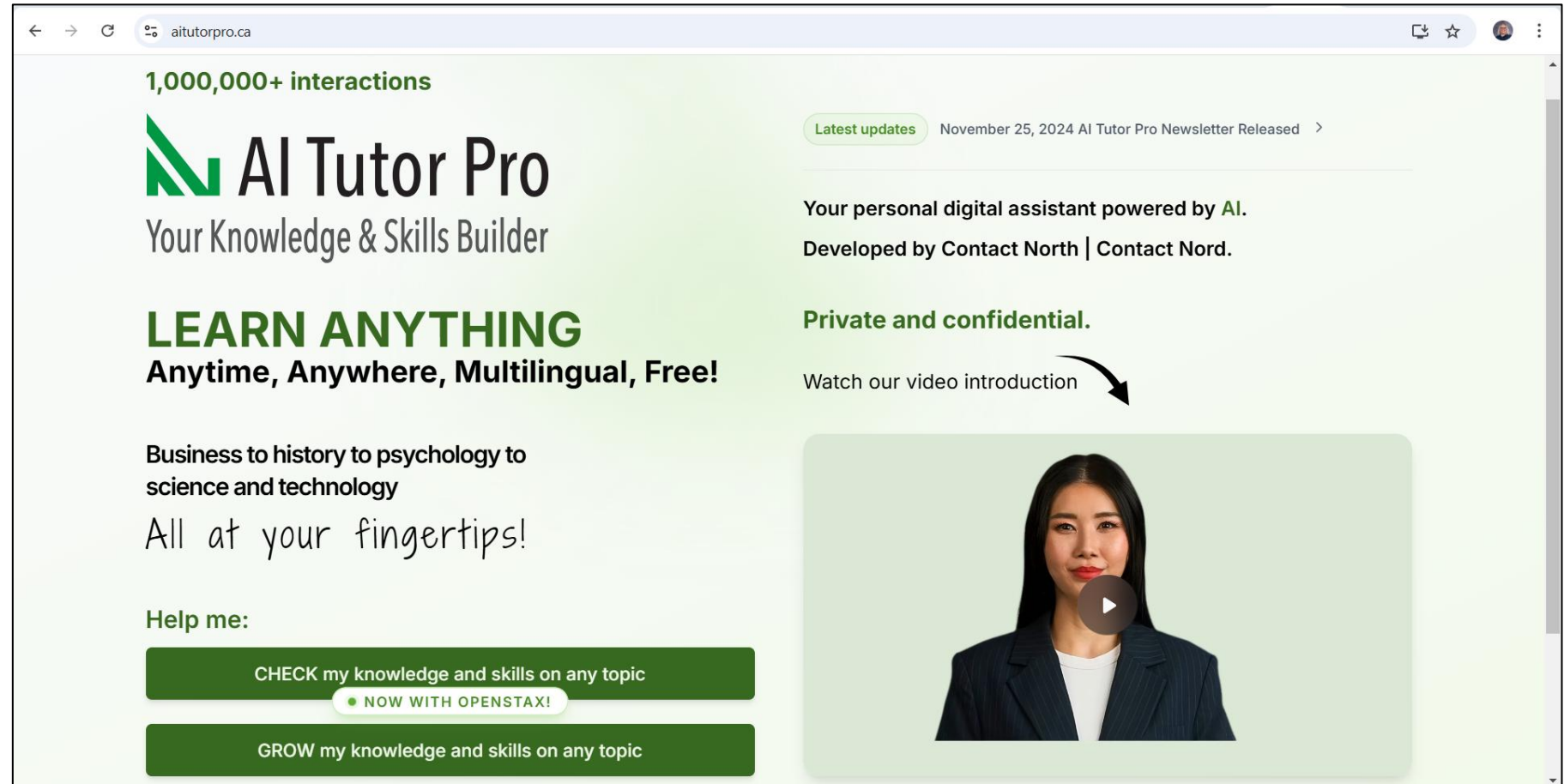
# 4: Improving Efficiency

- “Just in time” instruction

# How We Do It—Students

<https://www.aitutorpro.ca/>

- AI Tutor Pro
- Check
- Grow

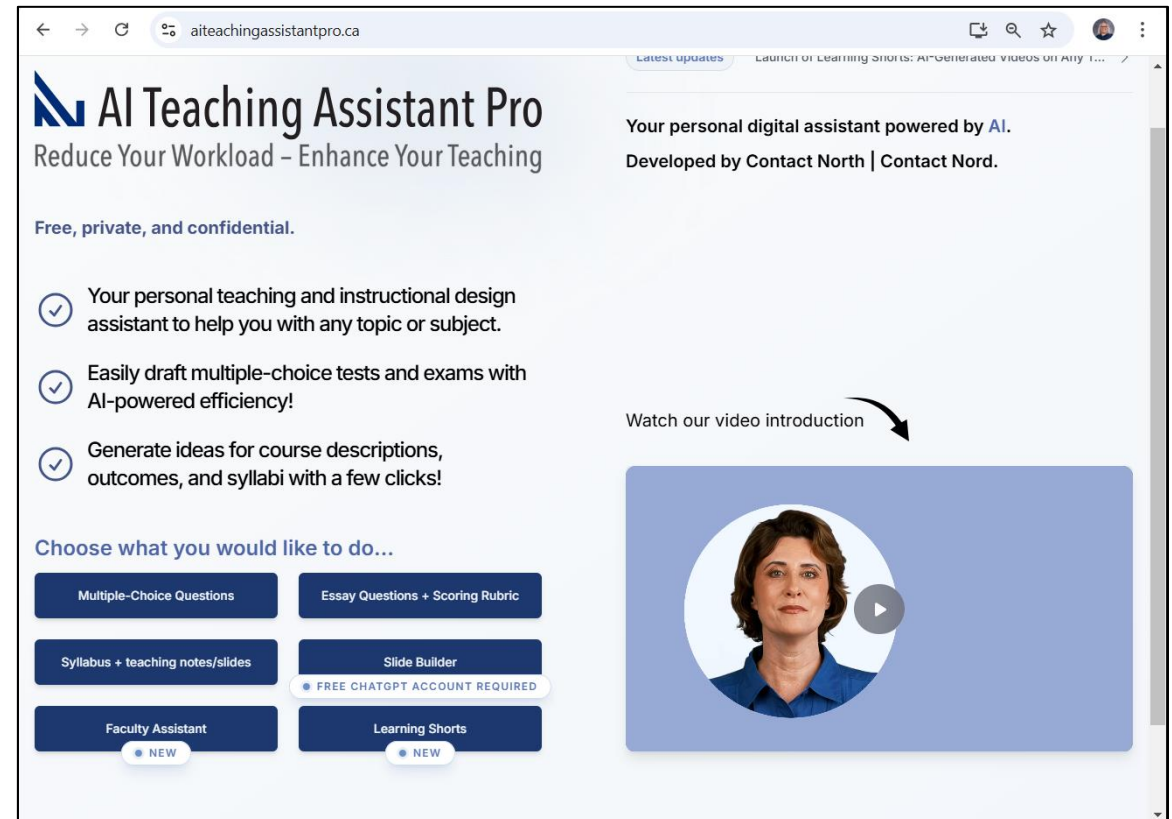


The screenshot shows the homepage of AI Tutor Pro. At the top left, it displays "1,000,000+ interactions" in green. Below this is the AI Tutor Pro logo, a green stylized 'A' followed by the text "AI Tutor Pro" and the tagline "Your Knowledge & Skills Builder". To the right, there is a "Latest updates" section with a green pill-shaped button and the text "November 25, 2024 AI Tutor Pro Newsletter Released >". Below the logo, the main headline reads "LEARN ANYTHING" in large green letters, followed by "Anytime, Anywhere, Multilingual, Free!" in bold black. Underneath, it says "Business to history to psychology to science and technology" and "All at your fingertips!". A "Help me:" section contains two green buttons: "CHECK my knowledge and skills on any topic" with a sub-button "NOW WITH OPENSTAX!" and "GROW my knowledge and skills on any topic". On the right side, there is a section titled "Private and confidential." with the text "Your personal digital assistant powered by AI. Developed by Contact North | Contact Nord." Below this is a link "Watch our video introduction" with a curved arrow pointing to a video player. The video player shows a woman with a play button overlay.

# How We Do It—Faculty

<https://www.aiteachingassistantpro.ca/>

- AI Teaching Assistant Pro
- Syllabus creator
- Questions



The screenshot shows the homepage of the AI Teaching Assistant Pro website. The browser address bar displays "aiteachingassistantpro.ca". The page features a blue and white color scheme. At the top left, the logo consists of a stylized 'A' made of blue lines, followed by the text "AI Teaching Assistant Pro" and the tagline "Reduce Your Workload - Enhance Your Teaching". Below this, a section titled "Free, private, and confidential." lists three benefits: "Your personal teaching and instructional design assistant to help you with any topic or subject.", "Easily draft multiple-choice tests and exams with AI-powered efficiency!", and "Generate ideas for course descriptions, outcomes, and syllabi with a few clicks!". A section titled "Choose what you would like to do..." contains six buttons: "Multiple-Choice Questions", "Essay Questions + Scoring Rubric", "Syllabus + teaching notes/slides", "Slide Builder", "Faculty Assistant" (marked with a "NEW" badge), and "Learning Shorts" (marked with a "NEW" badge). On the right side, there is a promotional message: "Your personal digital assistant powered by AI. Developed by Contact North | Contact Nord." Below this is a video introduction player with a play button and the text "Watch our video introduction" with an arrow pointing to the video.

# Find these slides...

hackscience.education

Teaching. Learning. Technology

HOME

ABOUT GARY

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

WRITING AND RESEARCH

GARY'S BLOG

GET GARY'S BOOKS



This is the latest web site developed and maintained by Dr. Gary L. Ackerman, an instructional technology and online learning professional who “says stuff, sometimes into microphones, and types on keyboards.” Currently, Gary is living and working in New England.

He is serving as the director of teaching and learning innovation at a Massachusetts community college and designing courses to include active learning for community college and workforce institutions.

NEERO 2025: Teaching in an Age of AI  
NELMS 2025: (Some) AI is Your Friend

