

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method comprising:
 - determining, by an assistant executing at one or more processors, content for a conversation with a user of a computing device;
 - maintaining a list of computing devices that are associated with the user and operating the assistant;
 - determining capabilities of each of the computing devices on the list to provide modalities to alert conversations with the user;
 - selecting, by the assistant, a modality to alert the user of the conversation;
 - selecting, by the assistant from the list of computing devices and based on the capabilities of the computing devices to provide the modalities to alert conversations with the user, one of the computing devices that has a capability to alert the user of the conversation with the modality selected by the assistant and based on the content and information associated with the user; and
 - causing, by the assistant, in the modality, a signaling of the conversation with the user with the one of the computing devices selected by the assistant.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - determining, by the assistant, based on the information associated with the user, a ranking for the content; and
 - selecting a length of notification of the content presented to the user based on the ranking for the content.
3. The method of claim 2, further comprising:
 - selecting a detail level of the notification of the content presented to the user based on the ranking for the content.
4. The method of any one of claims 1-3, further comprising:
 - selecting, by the assistant, based on the content and the information associated with the user, a surface for signaling the conversation to the user in the modality,
 - wherein the signaling of the conversation is at the surface.

5. The method of claim 4, further comprising:
 - determining, by the assistant, whether the surface is configured to signal initiating the conversation in the modality,
 - wherein selecting the surface for signaling the conversation to the user in the modality is further based on the determination that the surface is configured to signal initiating the conversation in the modality.

6. The method of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the modality includes an audible output.
7. The method of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the conversation with the user is a subsequent conversation with the user, the method further comprising:
 - receiving, by the assistant, an indication of an inquiry from the user; and
 - responsive to receiving the indication of the inquiry from the user, outputting an indication of an initial conversation that indicates a reactive response to the inquiry from the user,
 - wherein causing the signaling of the subsequent conversation with the user occurs after outputting the indication of the initial conversation that indicates the reactive response to the inquiry from the user.
8. The method of any one of claims 1-6, wherein the assistant causes the signaling of the conversation with the user prior to receiving any indication of input from the user.
9. The method of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the computing device comprises the one or more processors or a computing system comprises the one or more processors.

10. A computing device comprising:
at least one processor; and
at least one memory comprising instructions that when executed, cause the at least one processor to provide an assistant configured to:
determine content for a conversation with a user of the computing device;
maintain a list of computing devices that are associated with the user and operating the assistant;
determine capabilities of each of the computing devices on the list to provide modalities to alert conversations with the user;
select by the assistant a modality to alert the user of the conversation;
select, based on the content and information associated with the user and based on the capabilities of the computing devices to provide the modalities to alert conversations with the user, one of the computing devices that has a capability to alert the user of the conversation with the modality selected by the assistant; and
cause, in the modality, a signaling of the conversation with the user with the one of the computing devices selected by the assistant.

11. The computing device of claim 10, wherein the assistant is further configured to:
- determine, based on the information associated with the user, a ranking for the content; and
 - select a length of notification of the content presented to the user based on the ranking for the content.
12. The computing device of claim 11, wherein the assistant is further configured to:
- select a detail level of the notification of the content presented to the user based on the ranking for the content.
13. The computing device of any of claims 10-12, wherein the assistant is further configured to:
- select, based on the content and the information associated with the user, a surface for signaling the conversation to the user in the modality,
 - wherein the assistant is further configured to cause the signaling of the conversation at the surface.
14. The computing device of claim 13, wherein the assistant is further configured to:
- determine whether the surface is configured to signal initiating the conversation in the modality,
 - wherein the assistant is further configured to select the surface for signaling the conversation to the user in the modality based on the determination that the surface is configured to signal initiating the conversation in the modality.

15. The computing device of any one of claims 10-14, wherein the modality includes an audible output.
16. The computing device of any one of claims 10-15, wherein the conversation with the user is a subsequent conversation with the user, the assistant being further configured to:
- receive an indication of an inquiry from the user; and
 - responsive to receiving the indication of the inquiry from the user, output an indication of an initial conversation that indicates a reactive response to the inquiry from the user,
- wherein the assistant is further configured to cause the signaling of the subsequent conversation with the user after outputting the indication of the initial conversation that indicates the reactive response to the inquiry from the user.
17. The computing device of any one of claims 10-16, wherein the assistant is further configured to cause the signaling of the conversation with the user prior to receiving any indication of input from the user.
18. The computing device of any one of claims 10-17, wherein the computing device comprises a mobile phone, a tablet computer, a computerized watch, a home assistant device, a television, a server, a laptop computer, a gaming system, or an automobile system.
19. A computer-readable storage medium comprising instructions that, when executed cause at least one processor of an assistant server system to perform the method of any one of claims 1-9.
20. A computing system comprising means for performing the method of any one of claims 1-9.