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European education priorities (declared)

- to ensure high quality education
- to meet the requirements of the labor market
- to ensure appropriate degree programs
- to adapt programs to employers' demand
- to improve standards and quality of programs

can the European higher education area be improved?

" globalizing higher education"



DEMAND

- growing demand for higher education worldwide
- enrolment ratio increased from 14% to 45% in the last 20 years
- over 50 countries have a ratio of over 50%

#### European System

- not based on market
- state ownership and financing
- state monopoly (mostly)
- highly bureaucratized
- static structure
- generating parasitical environments
- tuition fees low or absent

# American System

- based on market
- balance of private and public players
- grounded on competition
- hierarchy of ranked universities
- retaining value at all its levels
- scholarship and grants for merit
- tuition fees high for private and public



JOBS

#### The CHALLENGES

- inventing goals and ways of thinking
- skills hybridization
- mutating from "silo" university to complex, liquid process
- " preparing students for jobs that don't exist yet!"

#### The OBSTACLES

- weak leaders
- bureaucratized staff
- legalistic norms
- passive faculties (when not parasitical)
- mercenary army of adjunct lecturers





- hard and soft skills need to be integrated
- learning about things is CEREBRAL
- learning to make things is EXPERENTIAL

#### Plurality of different skills

- to think clearly
- to exercise critical reasoning
- to handle information efficiently
- to manage technology individually
- to appropriate, possess, and maintain knowledge

#### Academic skills +

- talent to communicate
- openness to take criticism
- readiness to overcome multiple failure
- easiness to interact with different peoples

BRAND

Students looking for:

a degree guaranteeing immediate employment

Companies looking for:

graduates' immediate productivity upon hiring

Brand & brand value

- guaranteed by elite universities

- because of selectivity
- because of scarcity
- "living brand" graduates
- focusing on excellence

- pursued by universities

- by adding services
- not focusing on excellence

COST

- students/clients are demanding tangible/intangible values in return for investment
  - "money for value": complex and strategically relevant
  - cluster of factors: technology, automation, pedagogy, knowledge management

- academic activity
   and convenience, efficiency, comfort,
   safety, customer satisfaction
- escalating of services
   plurality of services on campus,
   off-campus, the region, the world

- "micro programs" shrink teaching to only essential directly-related to major courses
- "nano degrees" intended to insert students directly into a precise profession
- \$ 1.2 trillion: American students debt for public and private college | \$ 20,000 public college, 45,000-60,000 private college cost x year

# **TECHNOLOGY**

- impacting students' desire to learn
- "possession of knowledge" "possession of knowledge" LOCATION
  - in students minds or in their smartphones?

- perception of no need to know / learn what already possessed
- continual outsourcing one's knowledge base to Google, is not learning

 quick access to information still slower than brain operational speed

- Internet does not CONTEXTUALIZE, contextual knowledge develops in the brain

PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY

The process of technology transfer

from the external educational entity

to the inner individual entity

- individualized technology in teaching
  - reformatting of classroom structure "smart classroom"
    - redesigning academic professions the professor "the maieutic facilitator"
      - filtering knowledge and better interaction in and outside of the classroom
        - students "hands on" approach in learning
          - verification of knowledge acquisition

Result: higher degree of creative problem-solving skills and rational speculation

**AUTOMATION** 

- transfer of intelligence from human brains into machines advancing at fast pace
- many routine tasks migrating to automation

- new category: "non traditional students"
- looking for knowledge, desiring to expand their minds, to interact, to engage

- meaning for traditional higher education
- fast-training, short-training
- instant-training, continuous training

- to rethink hard and soft structures
- degrees, programs, courses
- up-to-the-minute "bite-sized"

THE STUDENT

#### THE YOUNG INDIVIDUAL

- now remolded into a global one
- liberated from tradition
- more individual than ever
- more in charge
- in need to navigate liquidity and uncertainty
- strongly projected into "the pursue of happiness, here and now!"

#### **GLOBAL HIGHER EDUCATION**

- the world needs more international higher education, not less
- internationalization means integration into the global context
- higher education is itself a factor of HIPER-CONNECTION

- internationalization is not merely expansion across the world
- reformatting all features: programs, faculty staff + language and communication
- adopting advanced technology, automation, advanced management

- cultural competence acquisition redefined as "global cultural competence"
- principles of liquidity and ubiquity:

  Global Higher Education

CONCLUSION

- universities think in terms of degrees, the market does not
- academy more integrated relationship with vocational training
- filling the gap between training for work and learning for life
- navigation and communication across different disciplines
- "experience education" as an actual teaching philosophy and practice

higher education does not need to be reformed, it needs to reinvent itself

... a new way of thinking is urgently needed

THANK YOU
FOR
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