

Global trends in higher education: Why it matters in the North American region?



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The good news...

The current and future environment is a "fertile land" for more and better higher education

The challenging news

... we don't know how the current and future social, economic, political and technological shift will impact higher education (and its internationalization)

...and sometimes it looks like not too many people care about it

A challenging geo-political environment

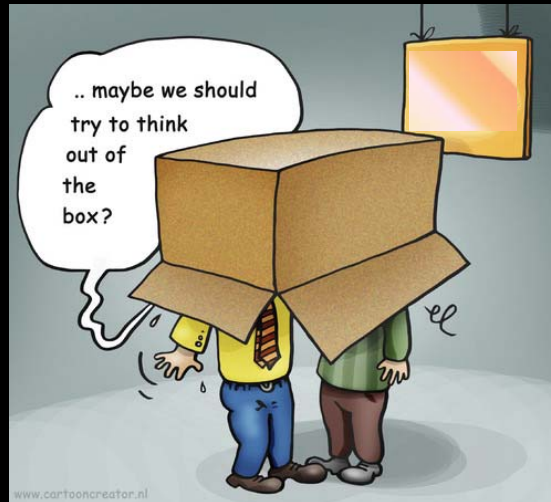


Are universities just reacting, emulating or they are proactively engaged in fostering change?

A contested terrain



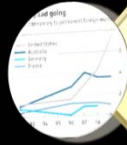
And why this matters?



The North American region *An artificial construct or a tangible reality?*



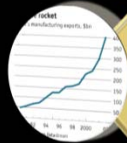
3 Facts about NAFTA's regional economy



In 2016, total trilateral merchandise trade, as measured by the total of each country's imports from its other two NAFTA partners, amounted to nearly USD \$1.0 trillion – more than a threefold increase since 1993.

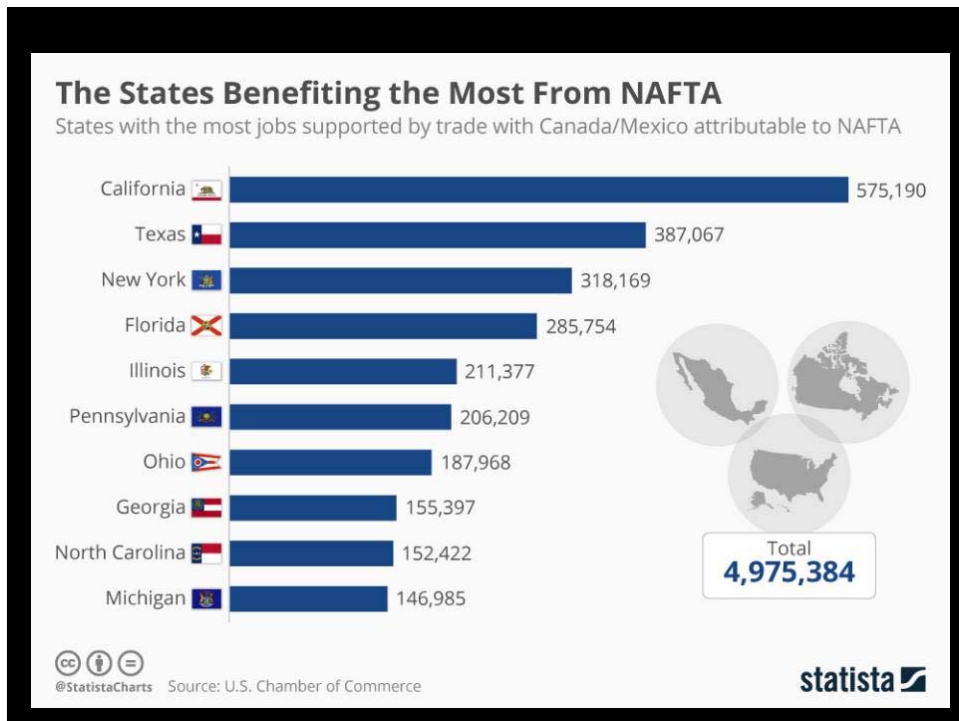
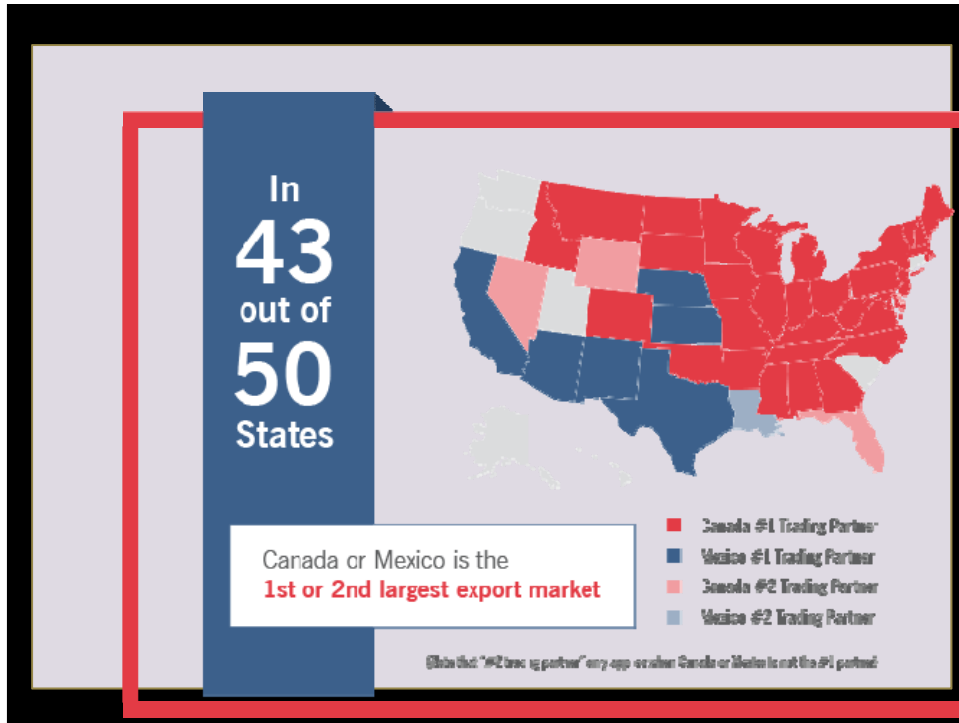


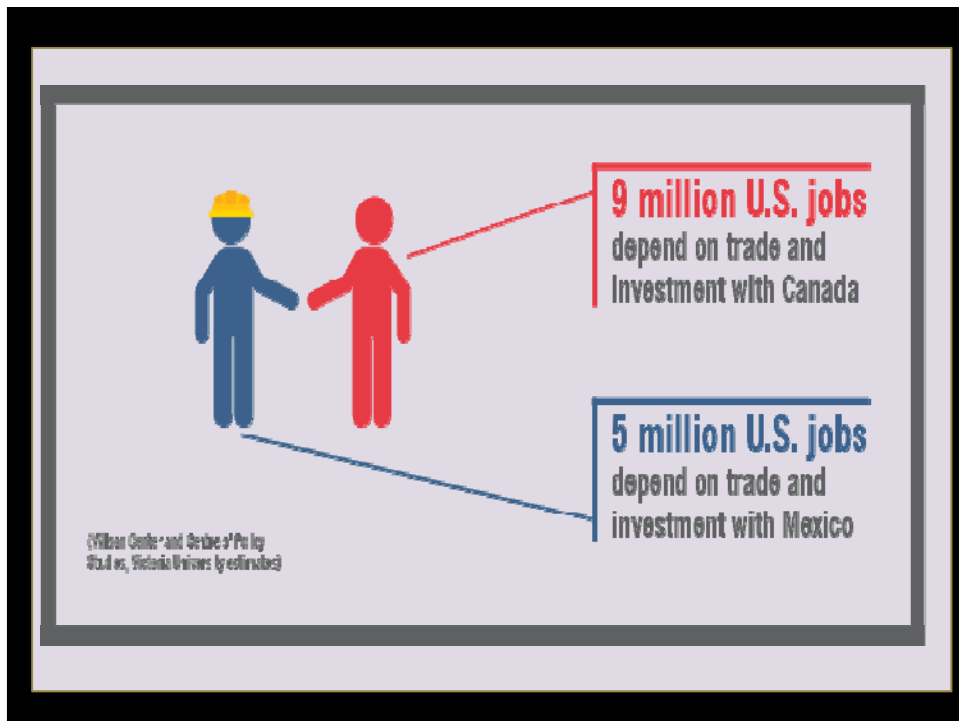
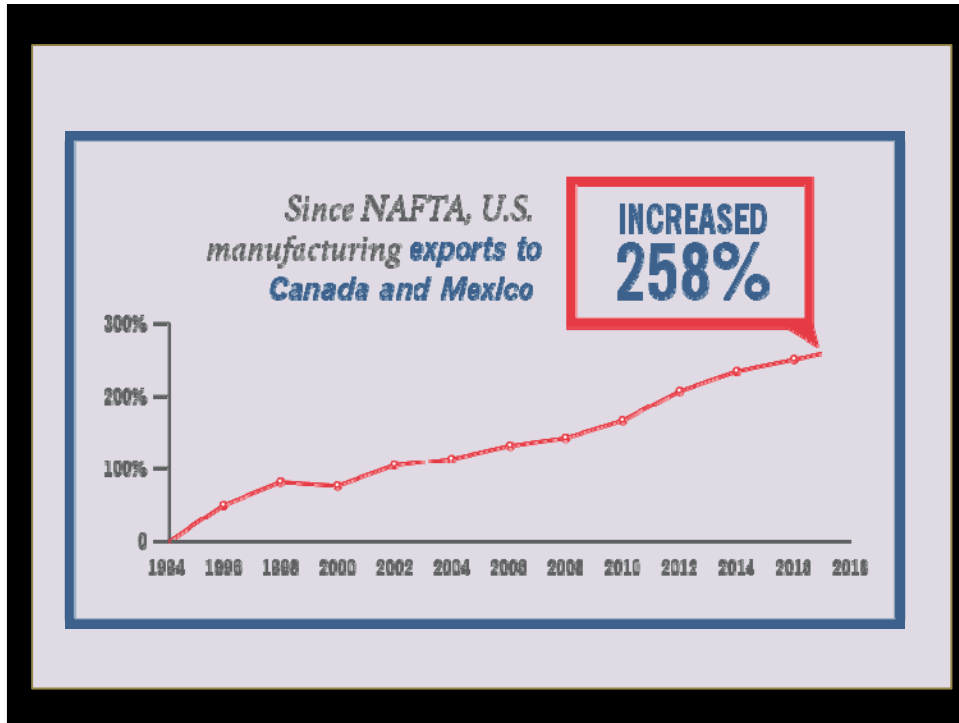
In 2016, NAFTA partners represented 28% of the world's gross domestic product (GDP) with just less than 7% of the world's population.

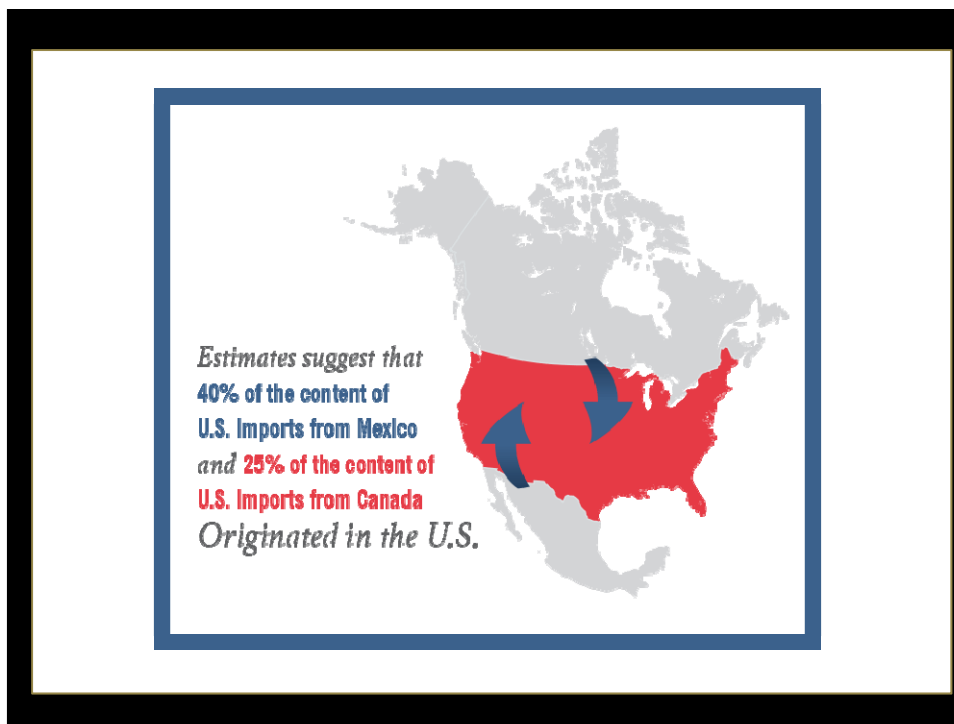


Since the implementation of NAFTA, the North American economy has expanded, with the combined GDP for Canada, the U.S. and Mexico reaching USD \$21.1 trillion in 2016.









Too much has changed...



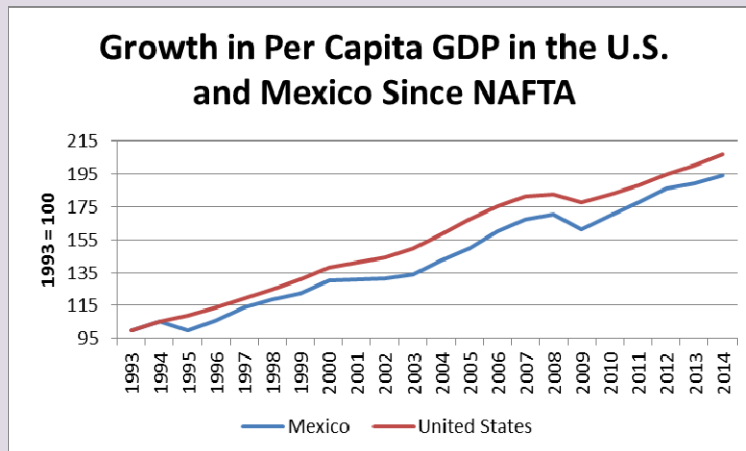
An increasingly integrated region

..with significant disparities



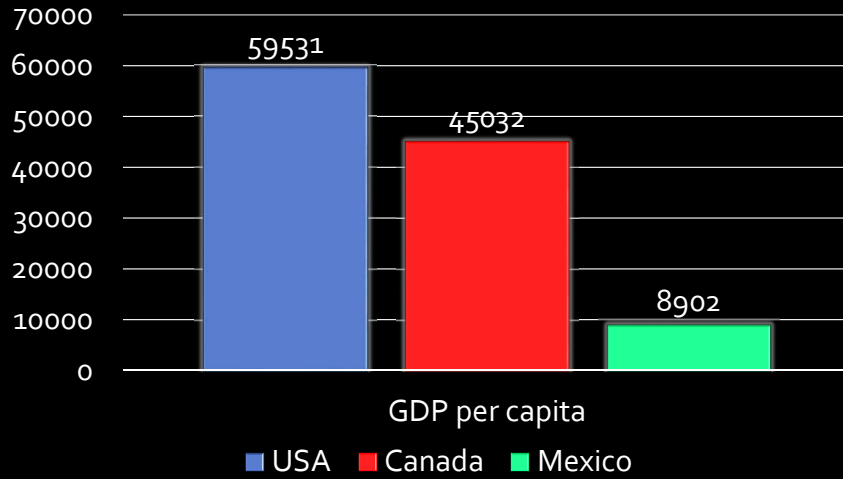
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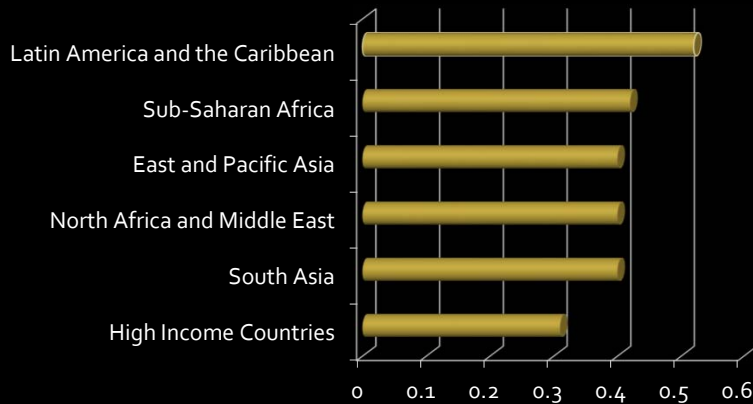


Source: [International Monetary Fund](#)

Still with acute asymmetries GDP Per Capita (Current USD)



Gini Index of Social Inequity



0: Equity of Total Income
1: Inequity of Total Income

Source: Luis F. Lopez-Calva y N. Lusing

**Poor are not only too far
away..**

***...but closer
to home.***



Nearly 20 percent of America's children—and 13 percent of all Americans—live in poverty.

The Brookings Institution.

A global trend...



...with a recent induced disruption

The recent history of engagement



A net gain, but...

Shift of
productive
infrastructure:

- Increase (decrease) in jobs
- Opening (closing) of companies

Increasing gaps between
those who have (know)
and those who don't
have (know)

The "Exclusion" effect

Challenging our assumptions

Geographical proximity will result in geo-economic-political integration

Economic integration will lead to harmonization of institutional frameworks

The increased integrated regional economy will require the support of a "North American" pool of talent

Tertiary education will become increasingly harmonized

...is that true?

The future...



The global scene

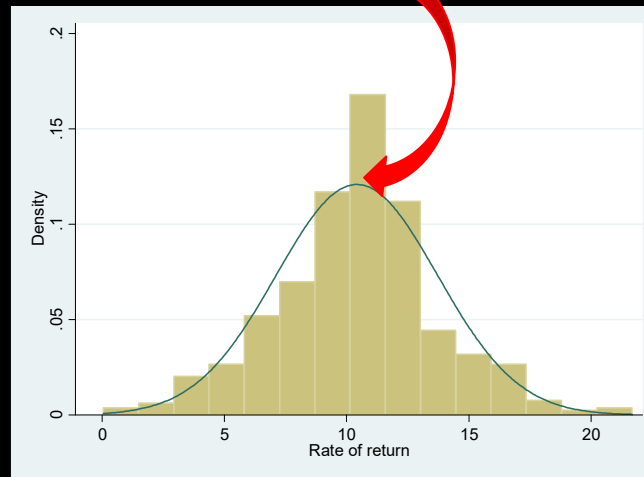
On the importance of more (and better) higher education

...and its internationalization

A typical question:

Is higher education a good investment?

Average rate of return to year of schooling is **10.4%**



Source: Montenegro, C.E. & H.A. Patrinos (2013). Returns to Schooling around the World. The World Bank

Economic returns by educational level and region*

Region	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	GDP/pc (PPP 2005)	N
World	10.3	6.9	16.8	6,719	74
Middle East and North Africa	9.4	3.5	8.9	3,645	7
South Asia	9.6	6.3	18.4	2,626	4
Eastern and Central Europe	8.3	4.0	10.1	6,630	7
High Income Economies	4.8	5.3	11.0	31,748	6
East Asia and Pacific	11.0	6.3	15.4	5,980	6
Latin America and Caribbean	9.3	6.6	17.6	7,269	20
Sub-Saharan Africa	13.4	10.8	21.9	2,531	24

* Latest available year between 2000-2011

Source: Montenegro, C.E. & H.A. Patrinos (2013). Returns to Schooling around the World. The World Bank

However... returns are declining



Source: Montenegro, C.E. & H.A. Patrinos (2013). Returns to Schooling around the World. The World Bank

...and even the ones having access
to higher education, not always
reap the benefits

**...but is it only about
money and jobs?**

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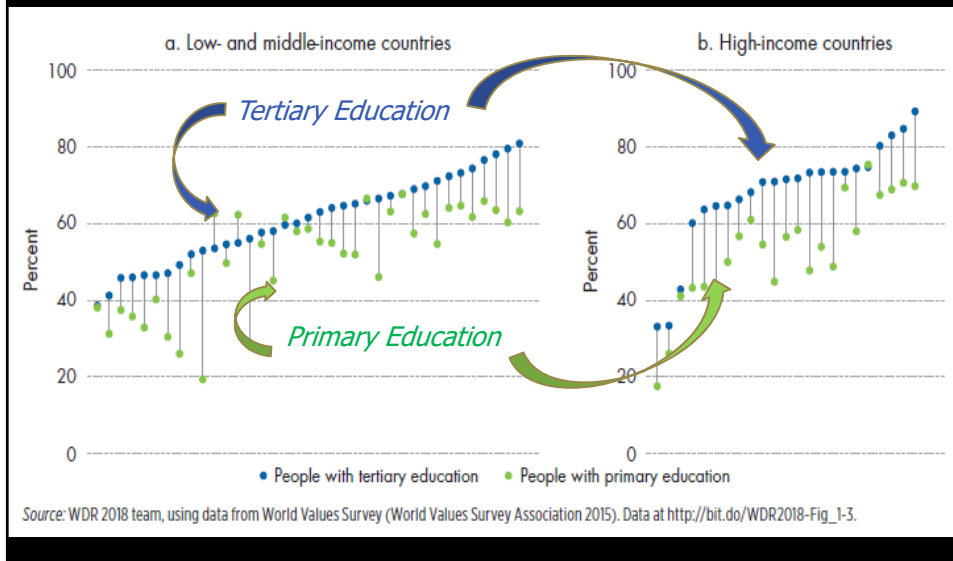
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**Higher Education as a key
enabler of social development**

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Percentage of population that believes it is "absolutely important to live in a democracy," by country and level of education



LIFE EXPECTANCY

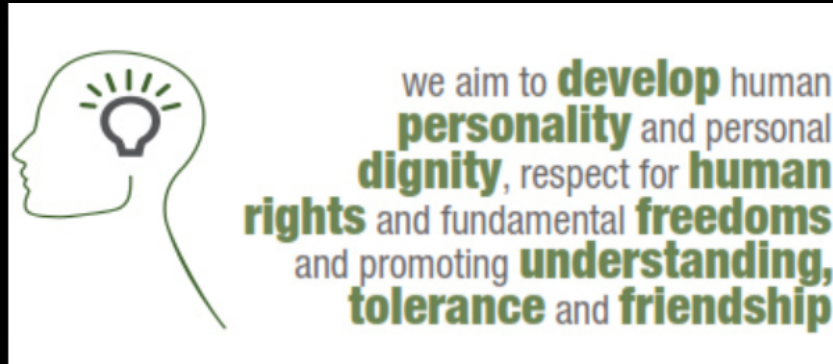


Education means a longer life.
People who graduate from college live at least 5 years longer than people who don't finish high school.

The NATION'S HEALTH
A PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

www.thenationshealth.org/sdoh

Higher education as the last place in the formal education system to build tolerance and "otherness" awareness



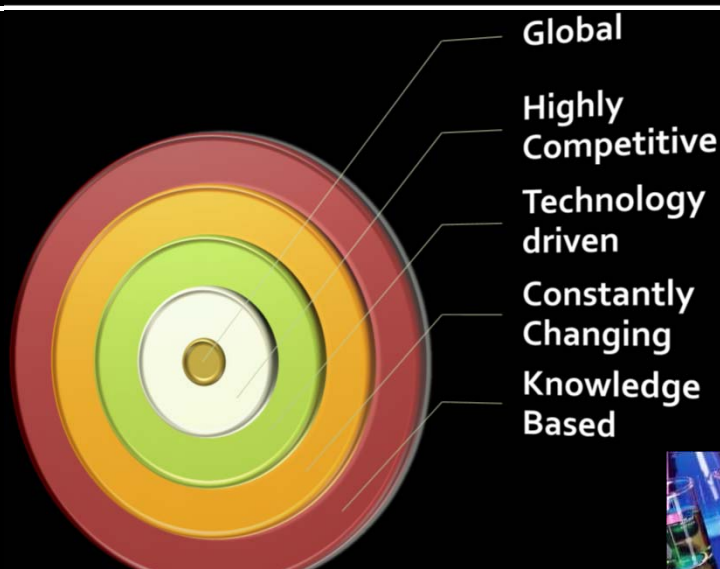
A renewed role for higher education:

Towards globally-minded and internationally abled, but locally-engaged citizens



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A new economy and society



A globalized economy

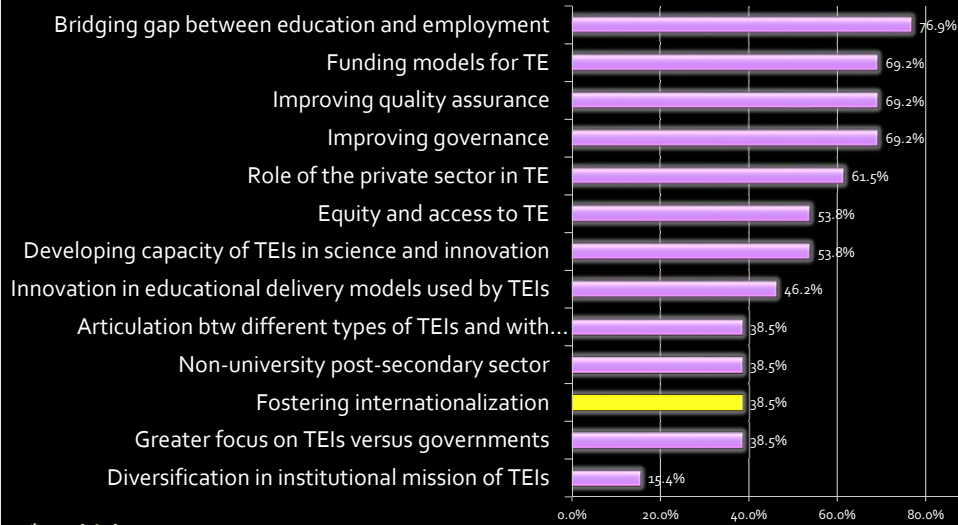


Mexican Salsa

- Made in The Netherlands
- With ingredients from Morocco.
- Distributed by a Chinese company
- For sale in Delhi.

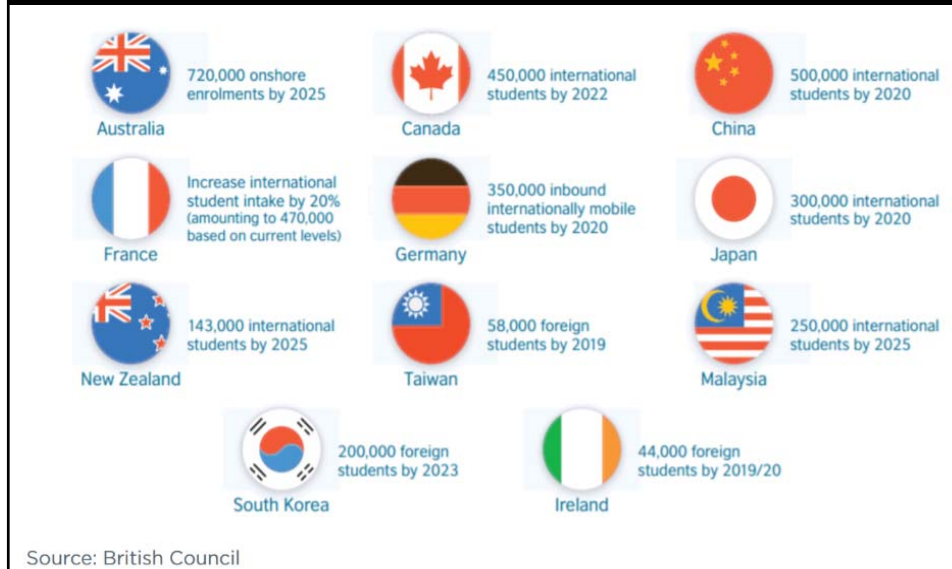
Do governments care about internationalization?

What priorities will be emphasized in higher education in the next 5 years? *



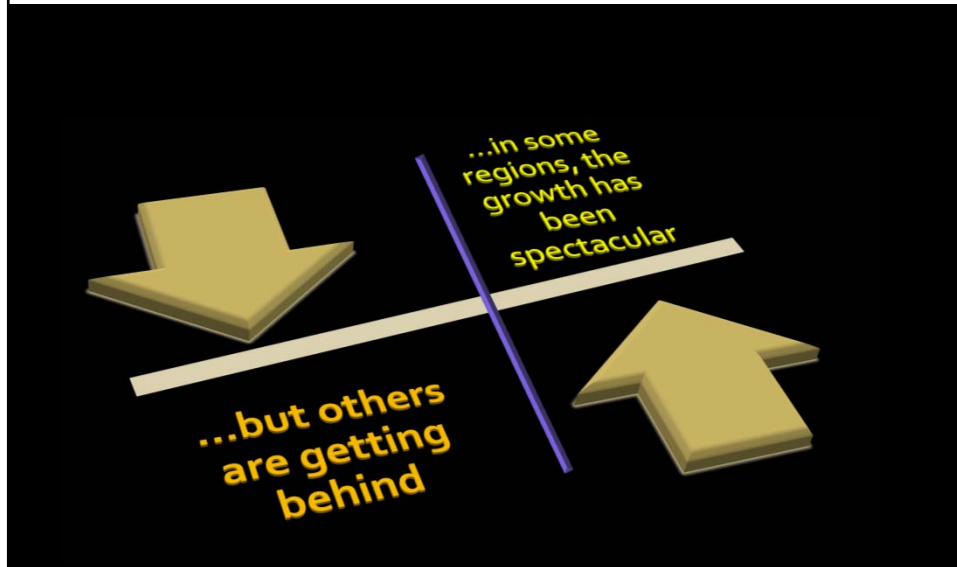
However...

A furious competition for talent

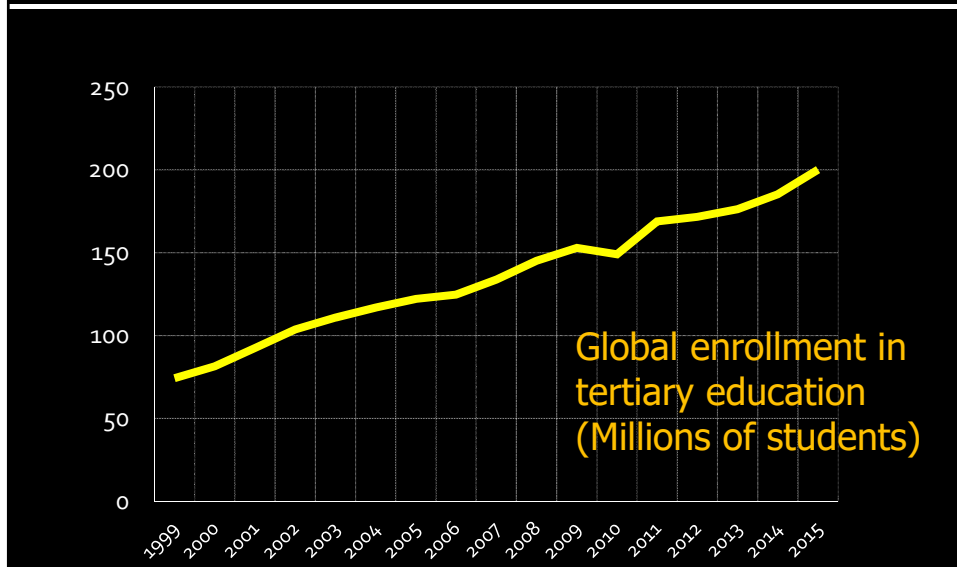


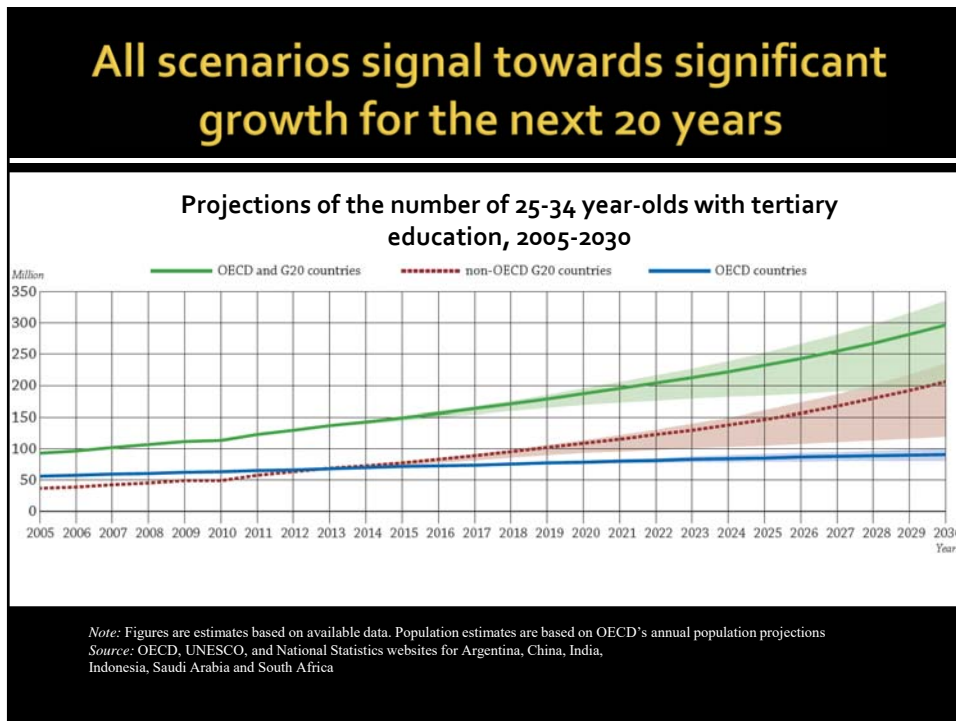
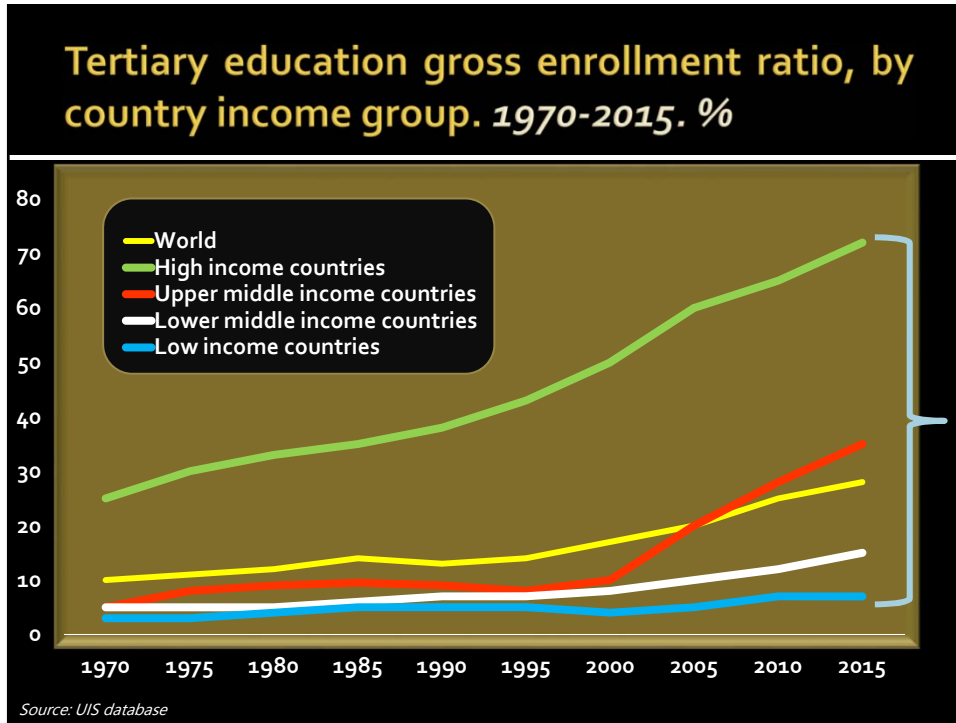
A fact...
Significant growth in higher education

More than ever more people are having access to education ...

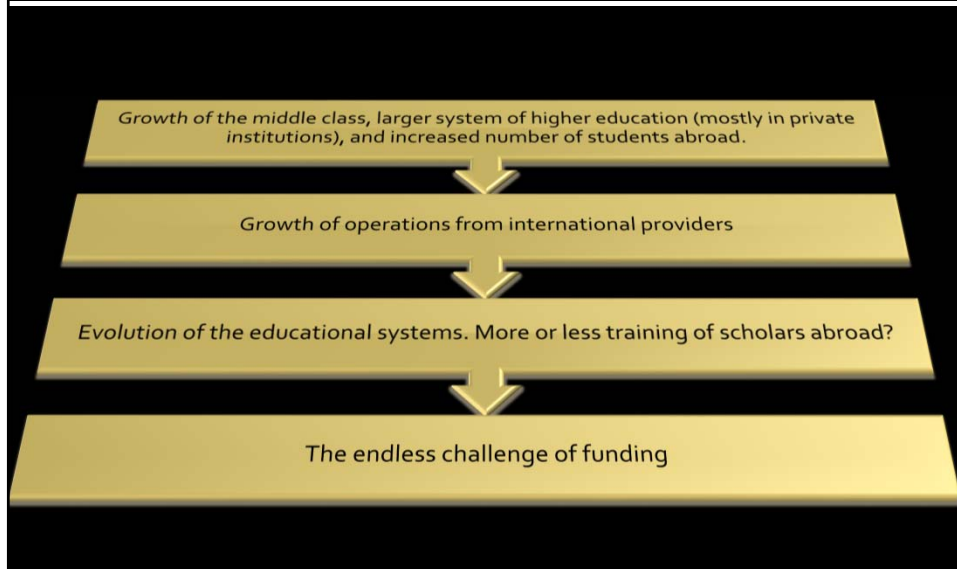


More than ever more people are having access to higher education ...



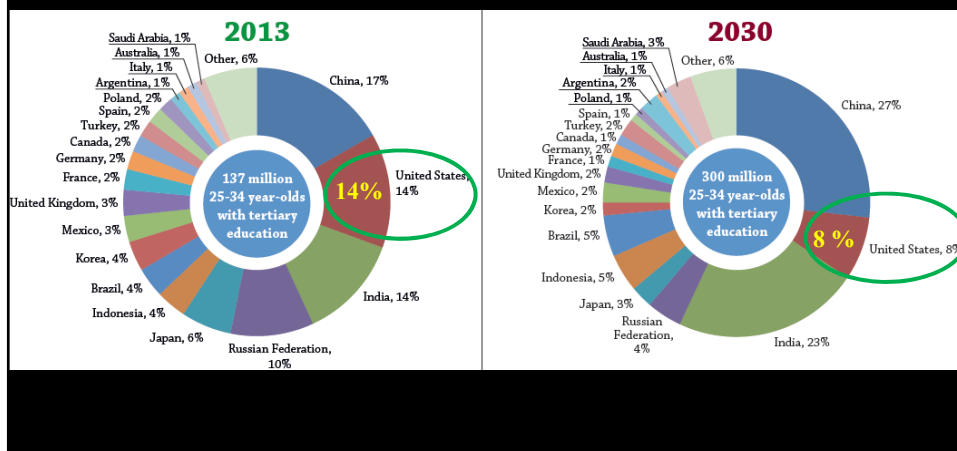


2030: Expected dramatic growth in higher education



The shifting distribution of the global stock of people with tertiary education

Global distribution of tertiary educated 25-34 y-olds in 2013 and 2030

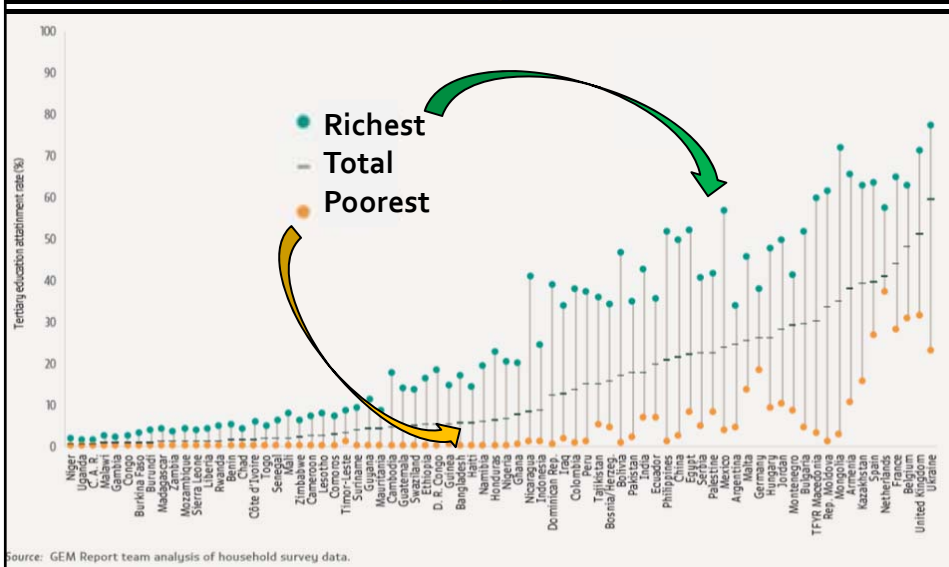


But, there is still a significant disparity in access

- **Rural**
- **Women**
- **Poor**
- **Socially disadvantaged people**



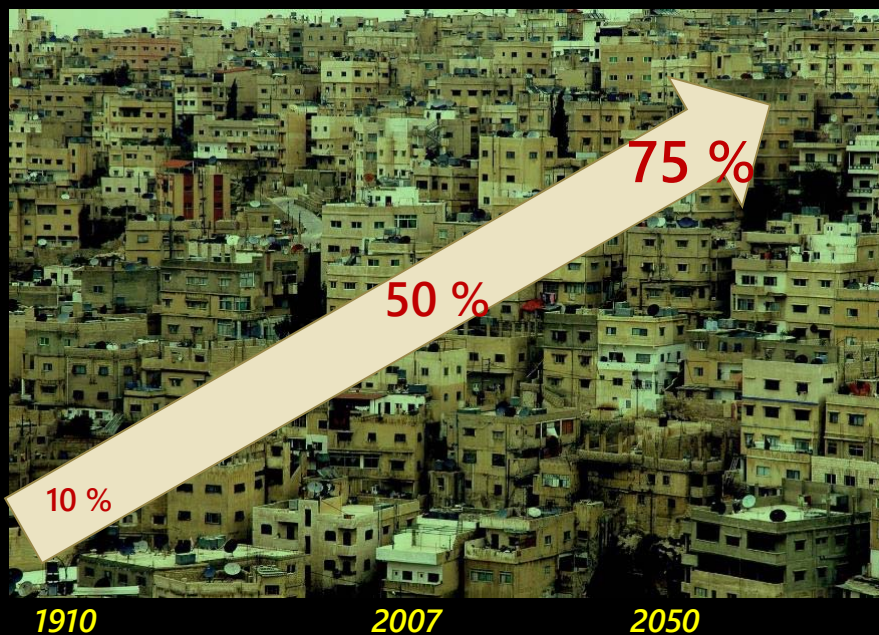
Percentage of 25-29 years old who have completed at least 4 years of tertiary education, by wealth. Selected countries. 2008-2014



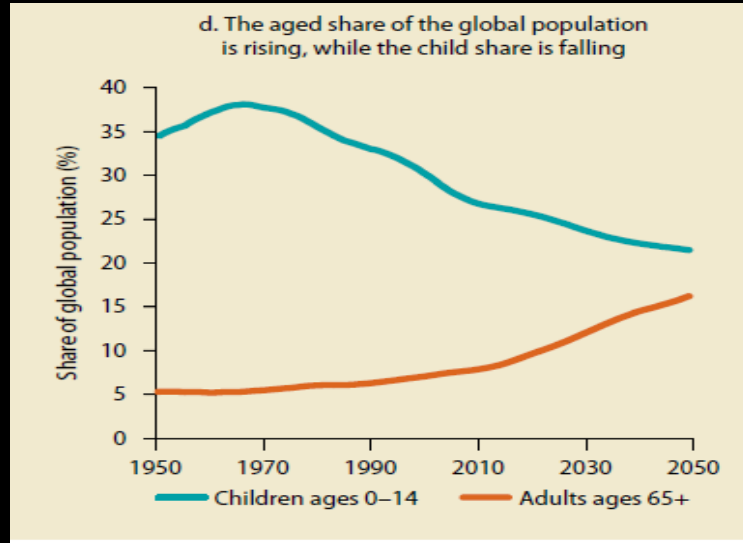
Do demographic trends matter?



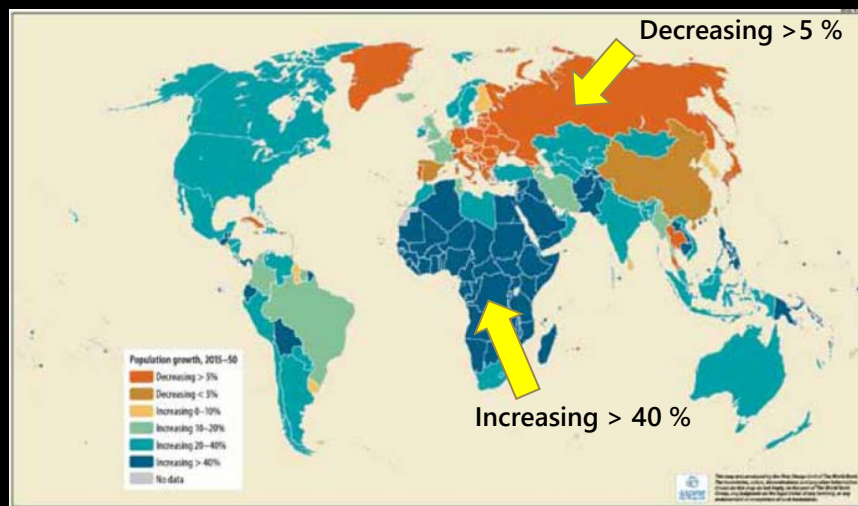
WORLD POPULATION LIVING IN CITIES



WB: World Development Report 2015



Population Growth 2015-2050



Source: World Bank, World Development Report, 2015

Ostana, Italy in the Washington Post

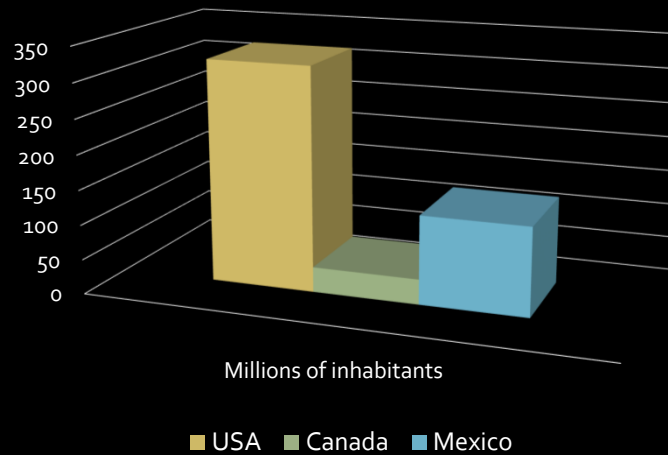
WorldViews

For the first time in 28 years, a baby has been born in this Italian town

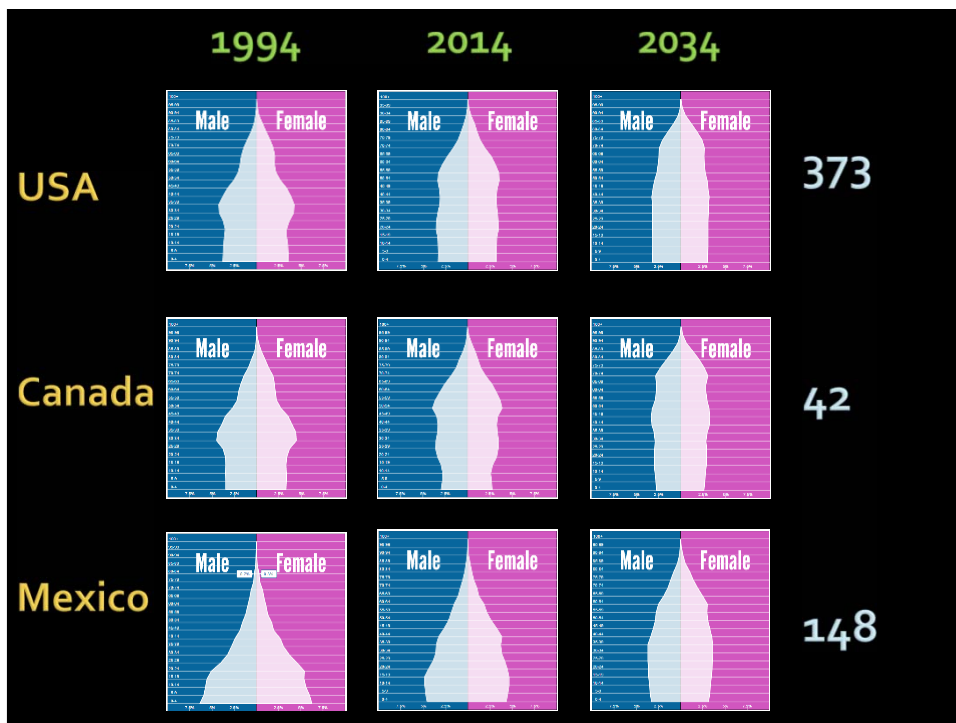
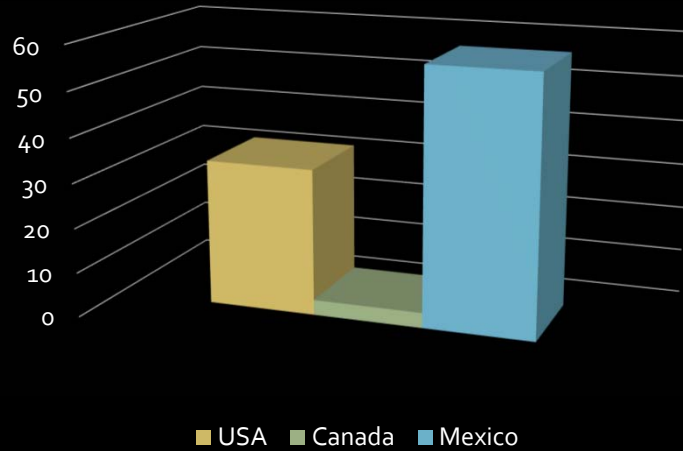


February 1, 2016
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2016/02/01/for-the-first-time-in-28-years-a-baby-has-been-born-in-this-italian-town/>

The North American Region Total Population



The North American Region Population Density (per km²)



Large or small country?: The case of Nunavut

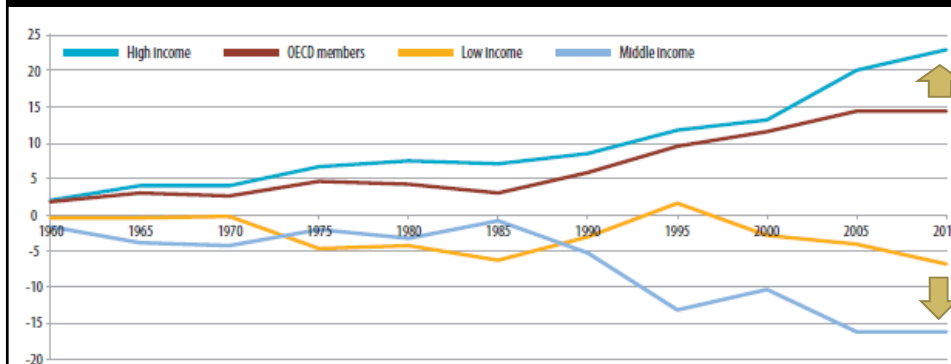


Total Area:
2,038,722 km²
(787,155 sq mi)

Total Population:
31,906 inhabitants

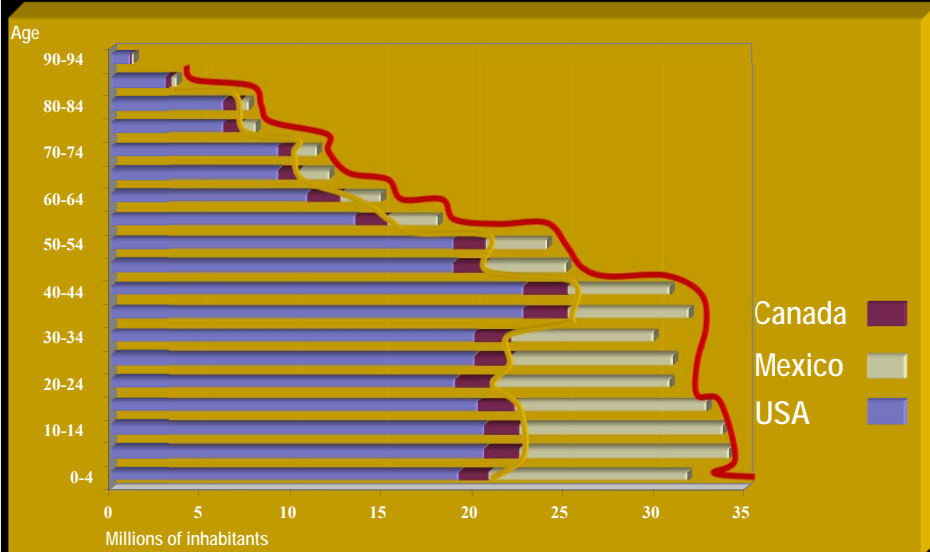
Increasing Migration Towards the Developed World

Net Migration (in millions of people). 1960-2010



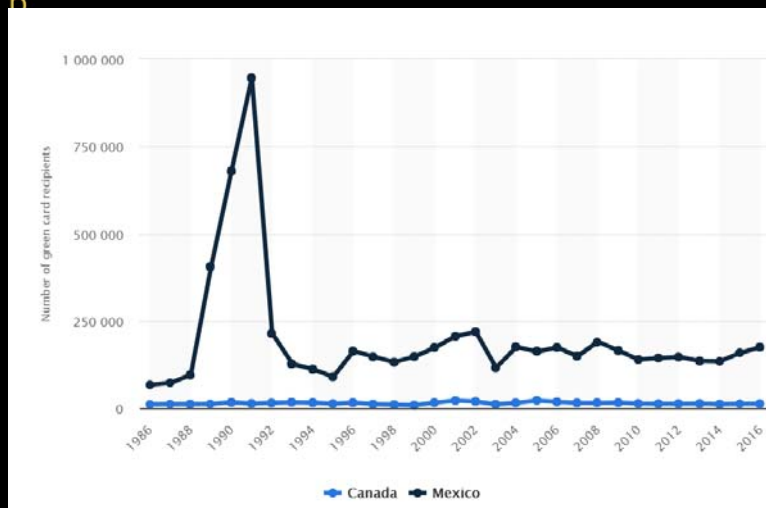
Source: World Bank (2012). World Databank: Net Migration

The demographic structure from a regional point of view



Source: Jaime Parada, CONACYT

Number of persons obtaining legal permanent resident status in the U.S. from NAFTA countries from 1986 to 2016

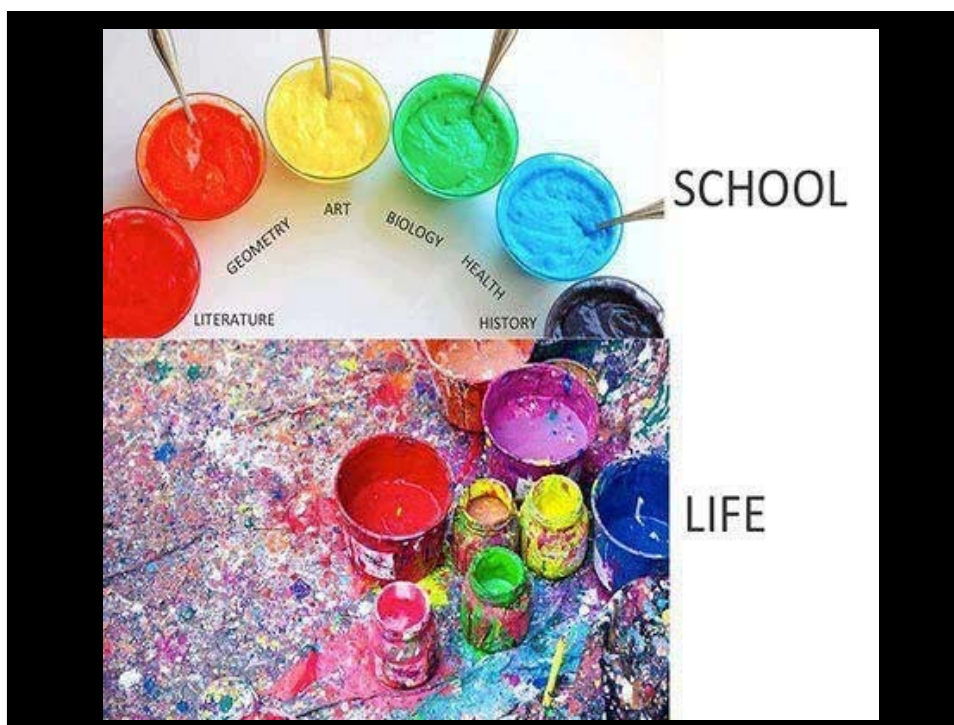


Source: Statista. 2018

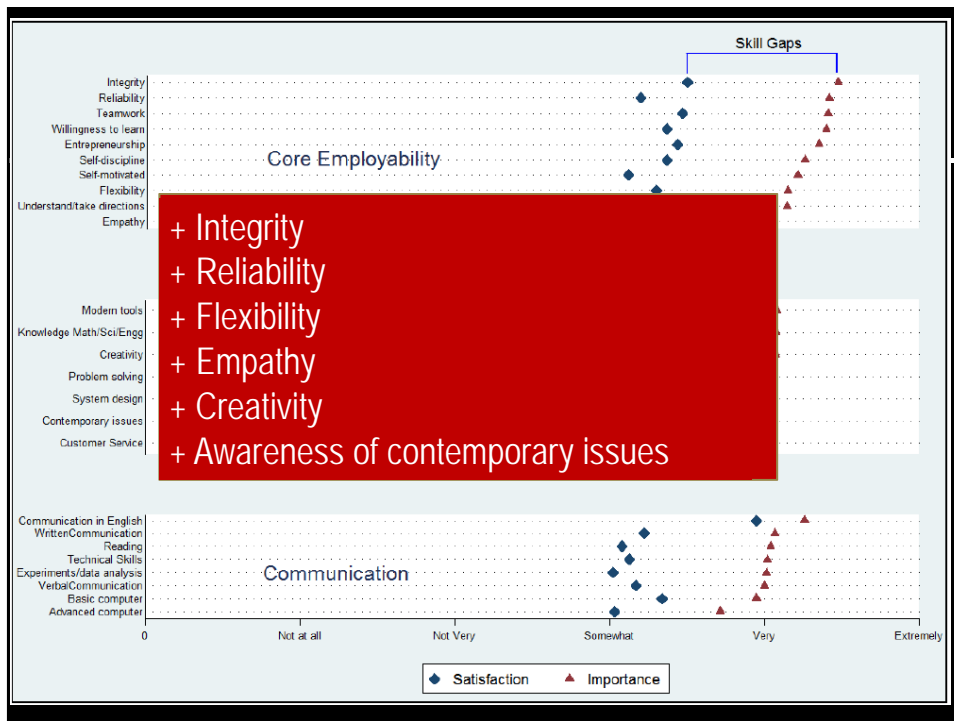
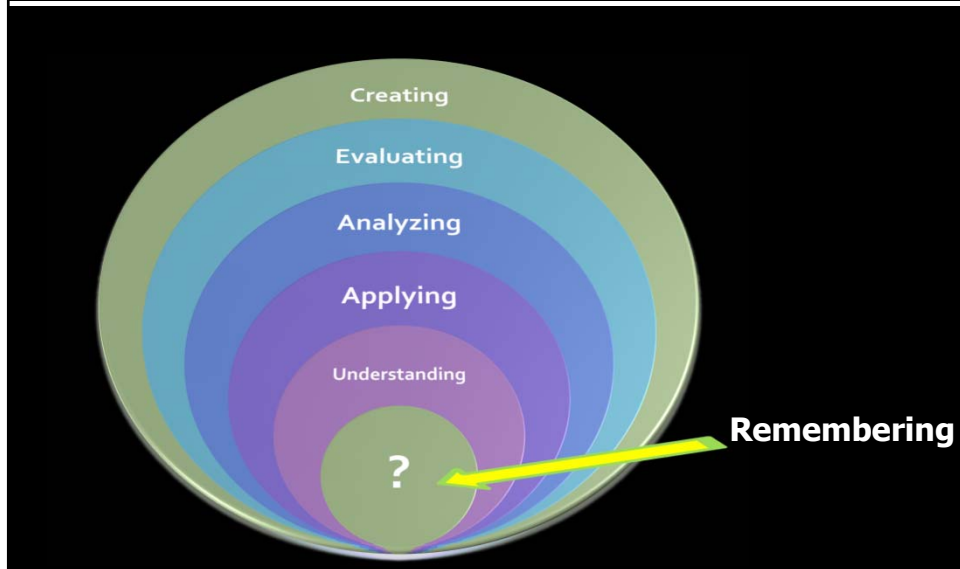
Are they going to find a job?

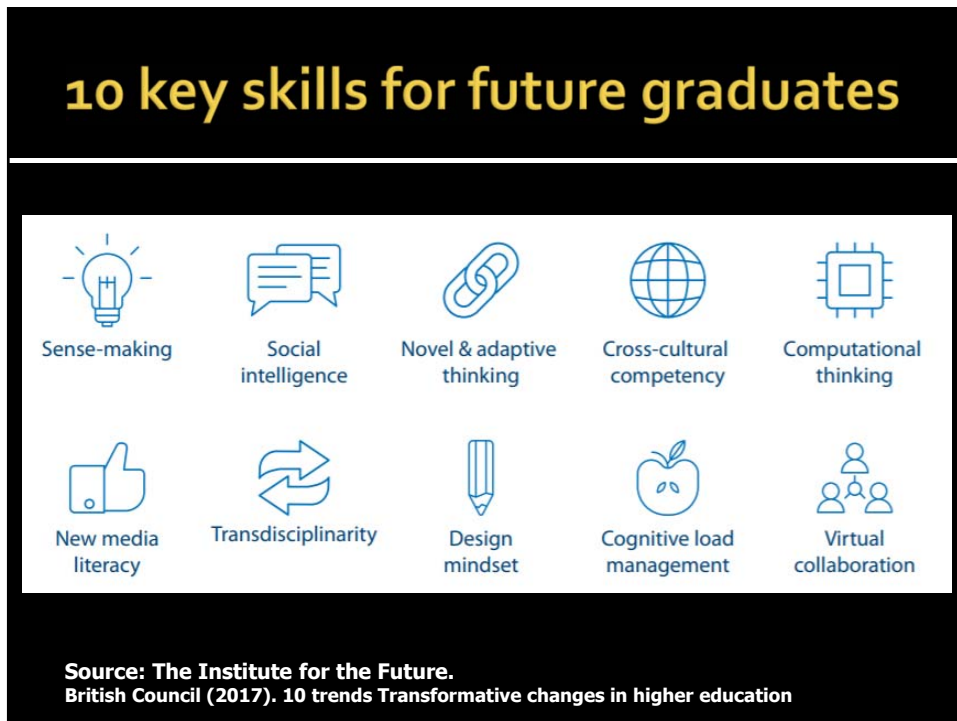
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What are students learning? Bloom's Taxonomy (Revised)





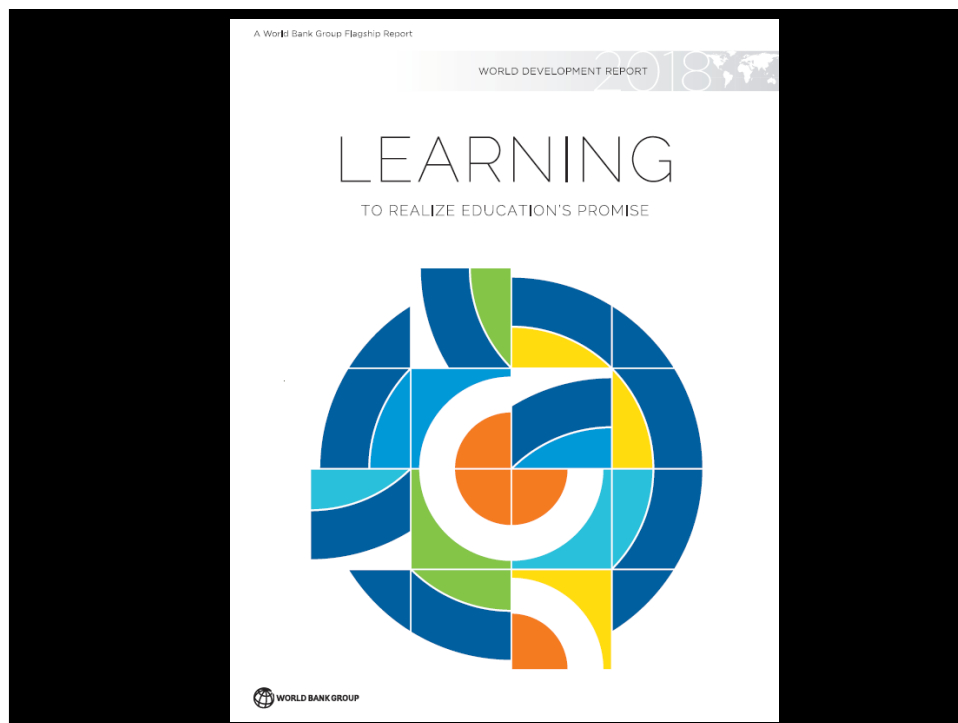
Does the learning of those skills happen...?

Due to the curriculum

Despite the curriculum

Independently of the curriculum

Many times we don't know

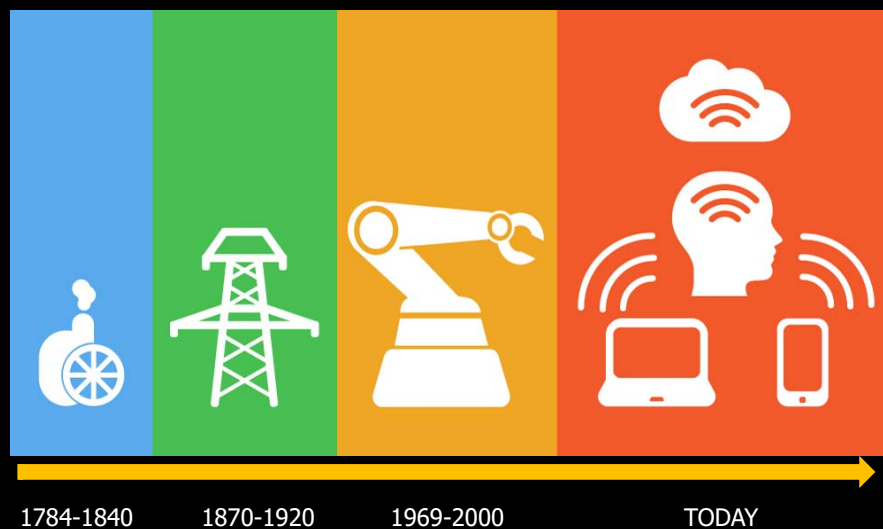


...and preparing students with a global mindset is needed.

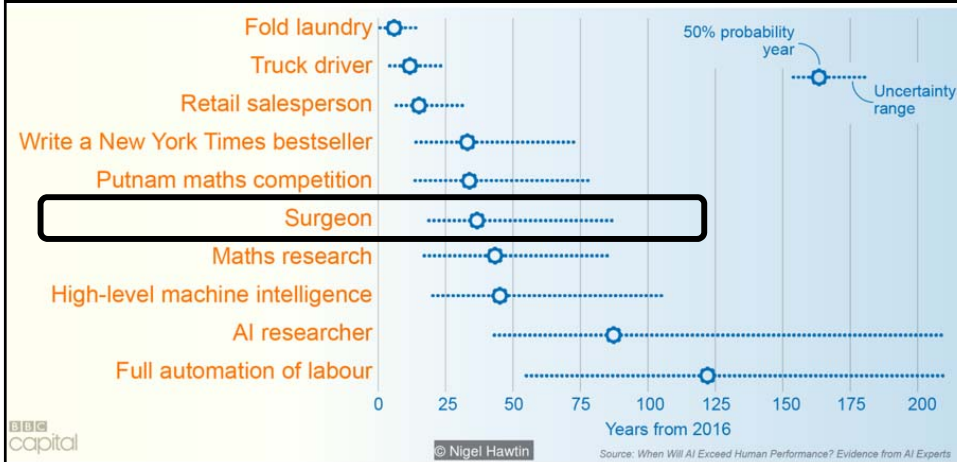
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Is higher education being affected by the ramifications of the IR 4.0?



How many years until a machine can do our job better than us?



Science fiction or reality?

AMRITA

ONE OF OUR FAVOURITE EMPLOYEES
ISN'T EVEN HUMAN

THE DA VINCI SURGICAL ROBOT AT AMRITA HOSPITAL HAS COMPLETED OVER 700 SURGERIES IN MULTIPLE SPECIALTIES IN JUST 2 YEARS

NEUROSURGERY	GYNAE-OBSCOLETICS	UROLOGY	GI SURGERY	HEAD & NECK SURGERY	CVTS
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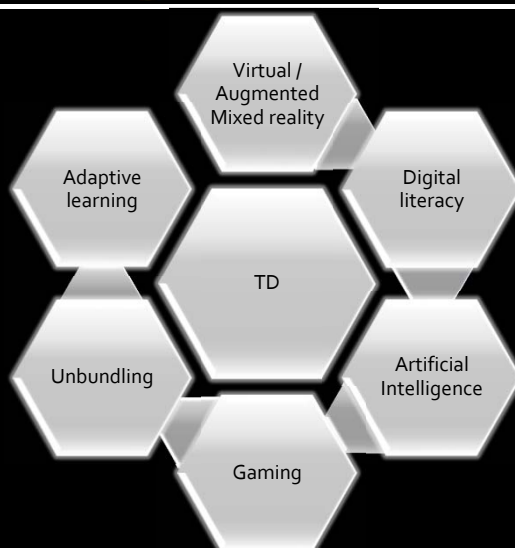
da Vinci Xi

The Da Vinci Surgical Robot at Amrita Hospital has completed over 780 surgeries in multiple specialties in just 2 years




A possible future? Reality or science fiction?

Technological developments: Direct impact on higher education



Our responsibility in HE



In the 21st century, we're facing a massive change in the technologies and types of jobs available...We can't be certain that both productivity and employment will rise.

We, as a society, need to make the commitment to guide our technologies responsibly and to capitalize on the prosperity we are creating, just as those who came before us did. That way we will ensure that AI technology creates opportunity for all, not just for a lucky few

Stephane Kasriel

What is it missing?

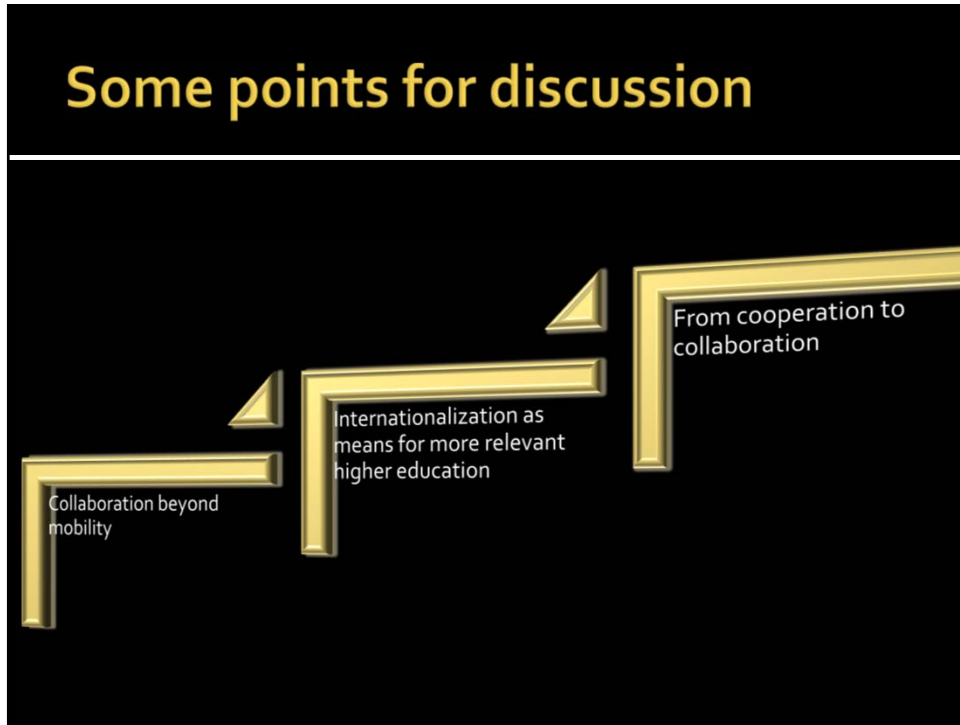
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A word of hope

A unique momentum...





Governments must act..

...But national level changes
are not sufficient...

... Higher Education Institutions
need to embrace the change
themselves.



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The Italian University in 1350



...and today's universities

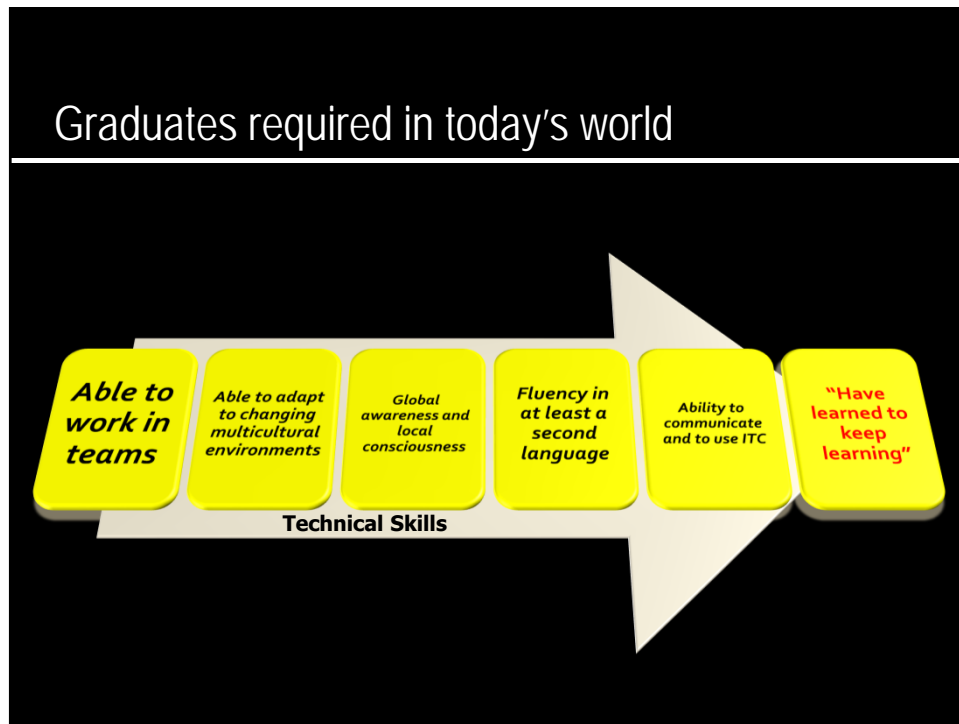
The art of ambiguity

Continuing doing the same, but waiting different results



A renewed role for higher education:

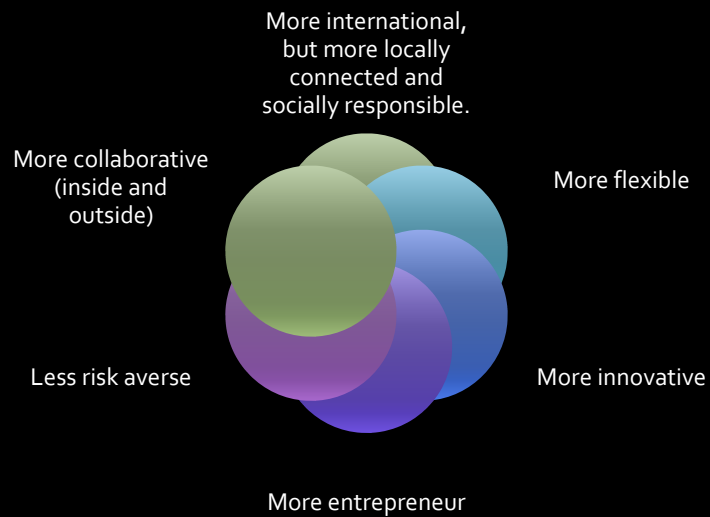
Towards globally-minded and internationally abled, but locally-engaged citizens



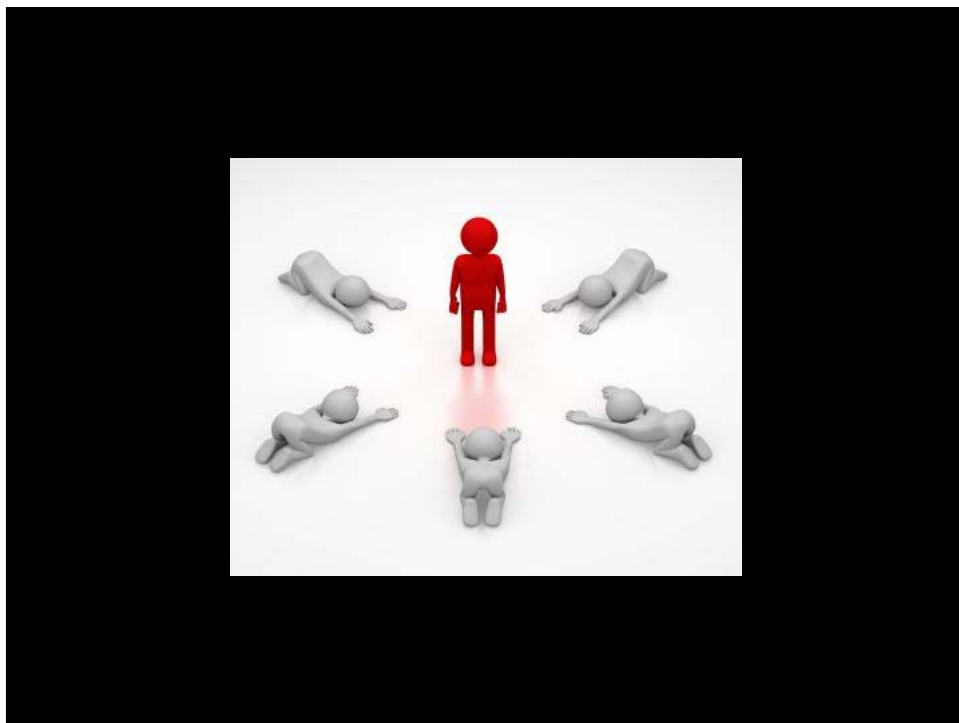
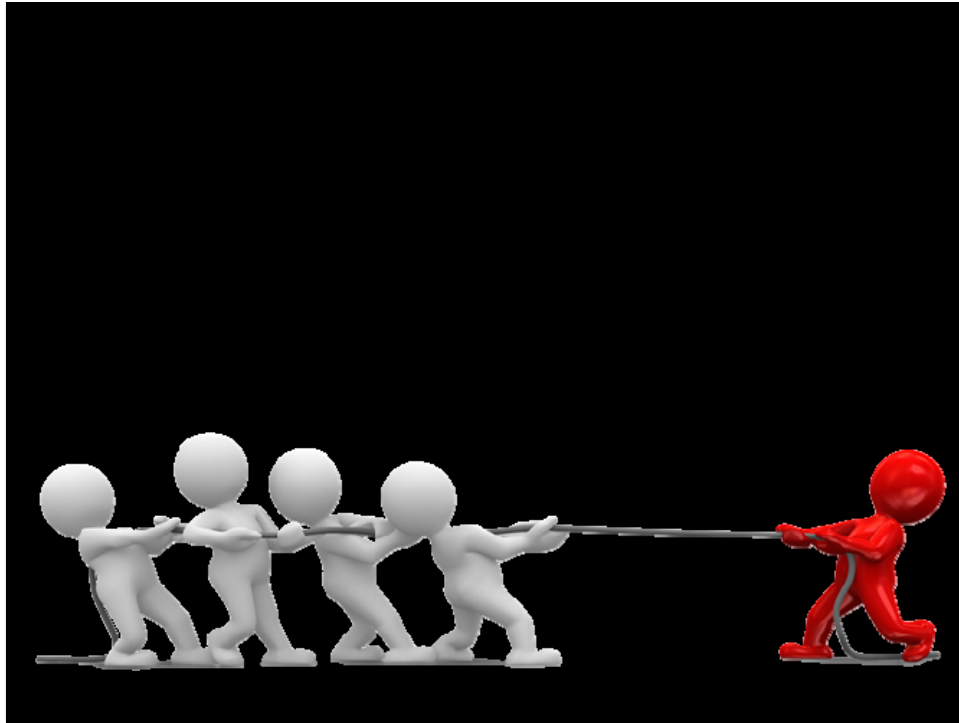
A renewed role for higher education:

But also higher education institutions as role model local and global “corporate citizens”

Some Elements for HEIs



The importance of collaboration

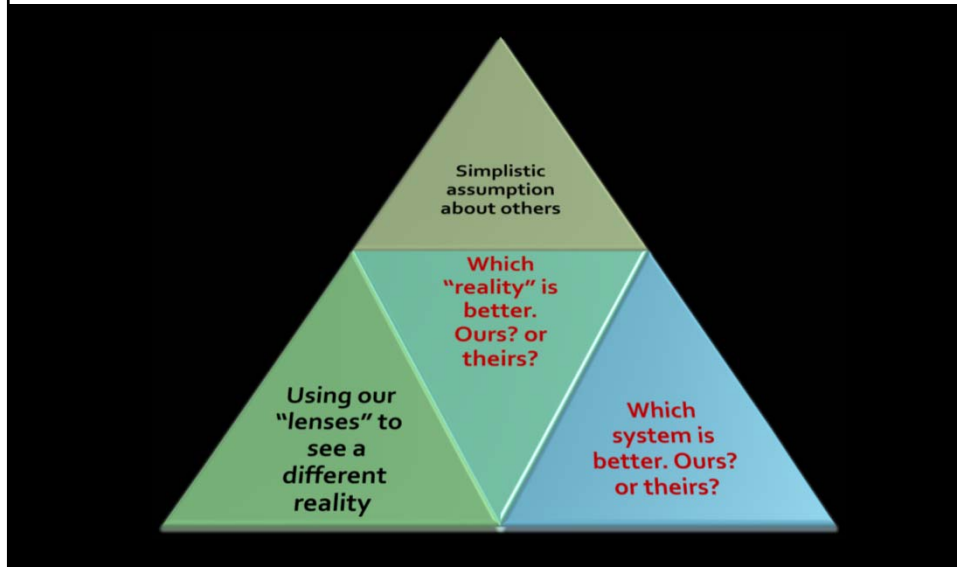




Golden key: Everybody's contribution could make a big difference

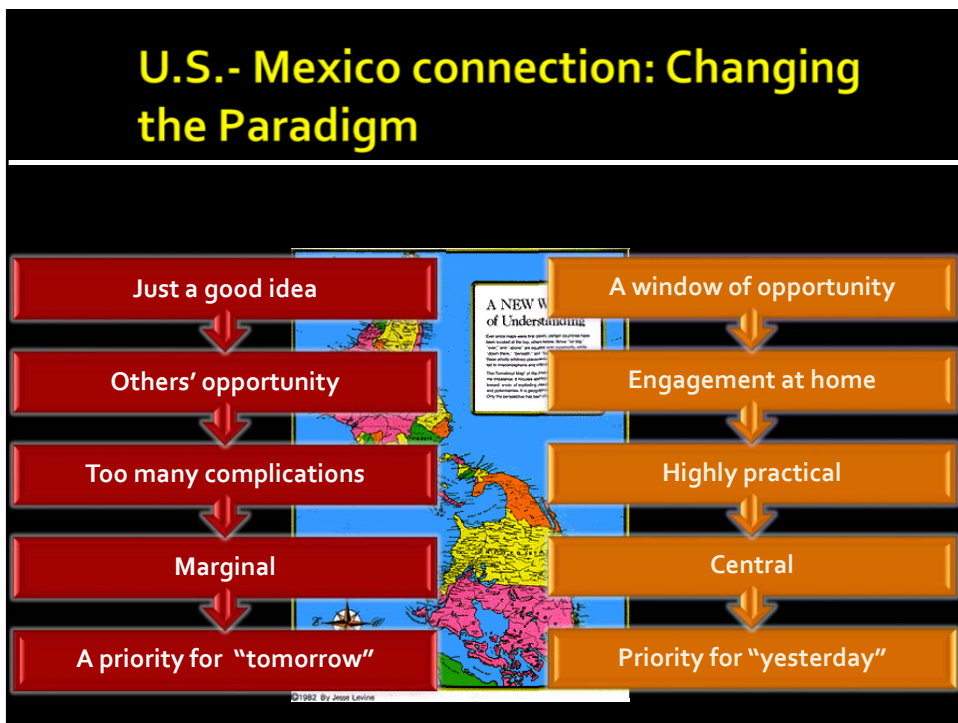
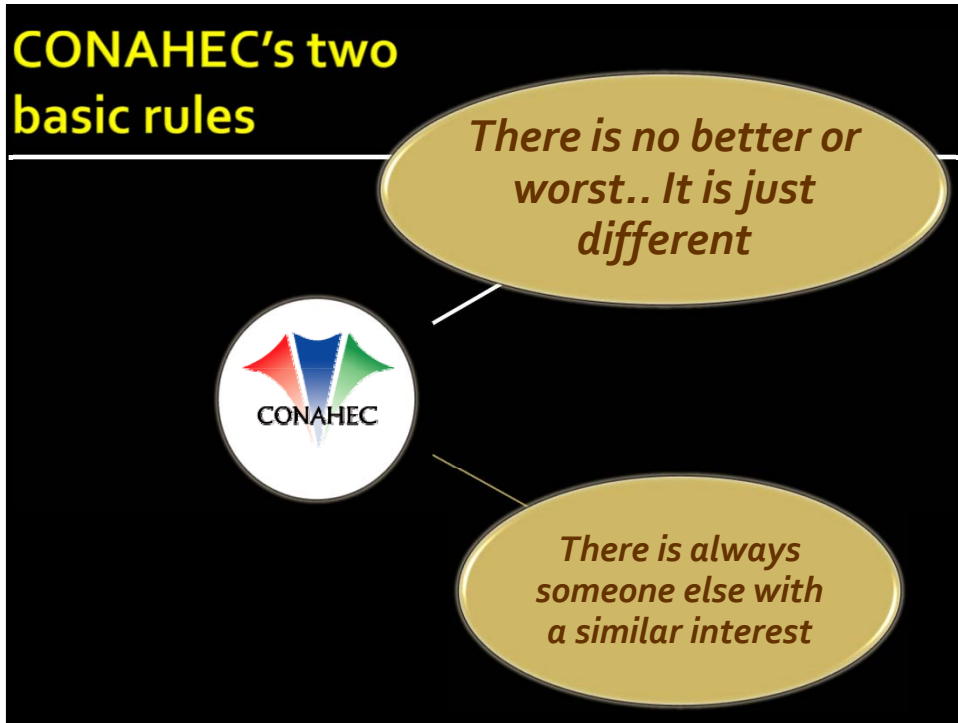


Our typical mistakes with limited understanding

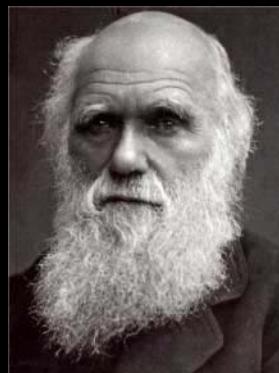


Partnering: Building Trust





“It is not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change.”



CHARLES DARWIN



“ The trouble with our times is that the future is not what it used to be ”

Paul Valéry



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<http://www.worldbank.org/education/tertiary>

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