

University of the future: Why is it taking us so long?

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Keywords: personalized learning, learning ecosystem, Challenge-Based Learning, education transformation, future university

Type of contribution: Workshop

Duration: 120 min

Number of Participants: 30

Target audience: teachers, policy advisors, education management, education support officers

1 Abstract

Many universities world-wide are working towards the university of the future because current models are not sufficient anymore. With the fourth industrial revolution and growing interconnectivity between society, industry and technology, we should connect more to the ecosystems around the university, collaborate more with learners and experts from industry, and support personalized learning paths in a diverse, inclusive, and accessible learning environment (Eindhoven University of Technology, 2020; Ernst & Young, 2018; FICCI; Ernst & Young, 2018; KTH, 2019; MIT, 2022).

If we all agree this is the future, why is it taking us so long?

At Eindhoven University of Technology, TU/e innovation Space started a [project to design the university of the future](#) (Reymen, 2021). We envision to co-create a model suitable for our international partners as well, because we believe the future university will intensively collaborate with international peers. After a short presentation of our preliminary design, we go in-depth discussing the constraints of the model in the current time. Next, we work in groups with the perspectives of different stakeholders, detailing what this vision means for the system (rules and regulations, politics, the institution), ecosystem, and personalized learning (individual learning paths, group learning, belonging) in the future.

2 Purpose of the workshop

This workshop is a validation of the work of our project at Eindhoven University of Technology. The result of this workshop with a Jigsaw exercise (Kousa, 2015) is an overview of the frictions of the presented model from the different perspectives: attention points for our future design. Additionally, we also hope to create an international sounding board from the participants of this workshop who will be updated and consulted at a later stage of the project of TU/e innovation Space.

3 Time planning

Time	Topic	Aim
10	Introduction on the project (presentation)	Provide a shared story/aim
15	What are the challenges you encounter when you were to create the change now? (group discussion)	Get participants into the right mindset
15	Plenary presentations on group discussions and reflection by project team	Arrive to overall conclusions on the current frictions
25	Group discussions on detailed topics, being university systems, ecosystem, personalized learning (round 1 – same hat within groups*)	Get an overall picture on topics from one perspective
25	Discussions on detailed topics (round 2 – interdisciplinary: different hats within groups)	Highlight frictions: Overall picture on topics from different perspectives
10	Groups present: Frictions for the future	Arrive to an overview of joint challenges
10	Feedback moment	General discussion
10	Wrap up and follow up	Potential commitment for an international sounding board

* Hats: Students, the management, society, teachers, researchers, professional learners, industry. Participants change perspectives X1 if time allows.

4 Biographies

[Isabelle Reymen](#) is the scientific director of TU/e innovation Space and professor design of innovation ecosystems. She started TU/e innovation Space with the ambition to structurally change education and after 7 years she is the director of an award winning team with never-ending ambitions.

[Chantal Brans](#) is the program manager education innovation and the manager of the future university project. With her background in psychology she especially invested in the change process within the institute.

[Ana Valencia](#) is an excellent education designer and project manager of the project searching for the awarding of the learning of students. In the past few years she has done ample research on assessment of Challenge-Based Learning.

[Dominique Fürst](#) is the project leader of the partner collaborations within the project. She is responsible for the current collaborations with the partners and is able to test the future directions with the current partners directly.

[Marcello Sala](#) is the project leader of 'Designing the University of the Future' within TU/e innovation Space. With his background in industrial engineering, he is mainly focused on new business models for the university.

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