Higher education is one of the areas where a lot of remarkable changes occur every year. It makes serious impacts on a student’s perspective on education and the learning outcomes. Education trends are dynamic in nature. The way of preparing young people for the workforce is shifting. And it’s not just a small shift; it’s a huge, culture-shaking one. If you’re paying attention, you’ll see various groups — students, employers, educators — changing their behavior in response to this paradigm shift. It will be replaced by a lifelong path of continued education that revolves around real, marketable skills and is responsive to how industries change over time. While there are many factors influencing the direction of post-secondary education around the world, there are particularly noteworthy for influencing recent innovation: significant skills mis-matches between graduates’ abilities and jobs available, reduced return on investment for students and reduced government spending and technology impact on education. These major shifts in higher education are opening opportunities for new approaches and new actors to help support post-secondary learning and skill development. The educational trends witnessed in the year 2019 are as follows.

1. Significant skills mis-matches between graduates’ abilities and jobs available:
   There is a worry that what students learn at university will not necessarily give them the skills needed for the jobs available. This skills mis-match is particularly acute in fields like computer science where real-world practice easily outpaces academic curricula.

1.1 Evolving skillset requirements are forcing a total rethink around how we train young people.
   More than ever before, the future is unknowable. Business moves so quickly — due to advances in artificial intelligence, shifting consumer behaviors, and other trends — that new industries and professions are continuously being created. Employees will need to master skills that can’t even be predicted.
   This paradigm shift will nudge everyone out of their comfort zone. Young people must rethink how best to gain the skills employers need. Business leaders must change how they hire and train employees. And educators of all stripes must revamp their teaching.
1.2 Competency-based education (CBE) lowers costs and reduces completion time for students. Given the massive mismatch in employer needs and worker skills, there are many companies working with corporations to ensure employees are rightfully skilled. There is an increase in CBE, which allows students to apply their work and life experience to their education. These degree programs tend to be less expensive, self-paced, and more career-oriented. If students—either through workplace training, outside reading, or purely life experience—happen to have the competence and knowledge required for a particular subject, they can take the test and get credit without having to take a class. It is too early to predict the efficacy of these programs, but their popularity with students and employers continues to rise. One of the more successful models has been Pluralsight, which is an online platform for IT and software developer training. Its focused, industry-updated content, and close ties to employers are key success factors. A unique model to address this mismatch is Revature’s platform, which utilizes university partnerships and close collaboration with employers to deliver a program where students pay their tuition over a two-year period after they are employed. Helping students learn new skills becomes all the more important as the economy and jobs change. As workers face the lifelong demand for new skills, more colleges are looking at offering shorter-term credentials, either in place of or embedded in traditional degree programs. Others are partnering directly with industry to design career-specific programming for their students.

1.3 Fostering authentic learning: Students learn by experiencing and creating, and colleges and universities will have to keep pace if they are to offer students hands-on, real-world experiences as learning evolves. As students take more ownership of their learning, the nature of teaching is changing. Faculty must balance a student-centered approach while still effectively but subtly facilitating. This is challenging when institutions emphasize research over instruction, and programs that recognize the importance of instruction are essential.

1.4 Progressive companies are already dropping the degree requirement — and this will happen more and more. Employers have long used the college degree as a “signal” (a psychological shortcut we use to make smart decisions) that a candidate is worthy of being hired. But now companies like Google, Apple, and Bank of America are starting to recognize that students who forgo college in favor of more targeted training can often be more valuable. With unemployment rates at a 50-year low, other companies will inevitably join them. There are far better signals on which to base hiring decisions, and companies are slowly starting to realize this. It’s a trend that will quickly pick up steam.

1.5 Education will become leaner and more outcomes-driven. For students to meet their goals quickly, there will be no place for “nice to haves,” only “must haves.” Everything is either critical to their understanding and success, or an opportunity for them to become distracted, confused, or overwhelmed. There will be more of a focus on learning to rather than learning about. We’ll see a growth in understanding around what makes learning stick. Success behaviors will be built in. For example, courses will include more opportunities for students to reflect on their learning and performance. This incubation time is needed for the development of insight. They will also include tactics for helping students gain the fortitude they’ll need to cope with the setbacks that come with learning new and complex skills.

1.6 A major shift toward lifelong “just in time” learning. It’s becoming more and more clear that frontloading a whole career’s worth of training into a four-year program “just in case” graduates need it when they start working is expensive and ineffective. A lifelong process where employees can access relevant trainings “just in time” to use them when they need them is better on almost every front. It spreads out the cost naturally, improves retention, and keeps the information updated and relevant in industries that evolve overnight.
1.7. Businesses will take on the lion’s share of the training.
Already, graduates are not prepared to hit the ground running once they’re hired. Most require extensive training to make them work ready. And as time goes on, it will become crucial for companies to create and nurture a culture of constant learning and growth. It’s the only way they’ll be able to keep up with the technological, economic, and consumer behavior changes that continuously disrupt industries. How businesses train will change also. They’ll move away from focusing so much on the consumption of ideas and focus more on application and feedback. This is where insight and fortitude are developed — two factors that are often unaccounted for in both traditional higher education and training inside companies.

1.8 Experts from various fields will step up to provide the required ongoing education.
I predict the current system will eventually be replaced by a lifelong path that begins with one or two years of foundational and niche-focused “last mile” education — either taken separately or bundled together — with four more years of continuing education spread over the rest of our careers. Experts and professionals on the cutting edge and front lines of their respective fields will leverage their knowledge to keep the workforce of tomorrow up to speed.

2. Reduced return on investment for students and reduced government spending:
Around the world, tuition fee at universities is rising at a much faster rate than inflation and challenging students’ return on investment. Reduced government funding and higher operating costs are driving the need for change at universities. One way students can evaluate whether to invest in higher education is through potential wage premiums—namely if what students would earn with their education is higher than what they would earn without it. An important element in understanding the return on investment of higher education is the cost of the degree. Another aspect influencing recent innovations is the increase in tuition and fees, which stems from a mix of factors including reduced government funding and increased spending on amenities to attract students. Universities are responding with cost cuts and seeking alternative revenue sources.

A lot has been made of the crushing levels of student debt, which was estimated at more than $1.2 trillion in 2015 according to CNBC. Meanwhile, employment rates for college graduates continue to stagnate. Understandably, the new watchword for students seeking to pursue higher education is “return on investment.” This trend puts the onus on colleges and universities to present a credible value proposition built on key differentiators. Educational marketing has surged in response to increased competition for students with strong demands from what they expect from a college degree.

3. Information and Communication Technology impact on education:
As invasive as technology is in our lives as a whole, it is no surprise that the field of higher education is responding with innovations of its own. Online learning, while not a new trend, continues to advance in sophistication and opportunity, with over 70 percent of institutions offering some form of distance learning (Hanover Research, “2016 Trends in Higher Education Marketing, Enrollment, and Technology”).

Online education technologies — such as collaborative multimedia instruction — are now common in the traditional classroom as well. Today’s students expect to be immersed and engaged in their academic experience, with technology serving as a vehicle for personalized exploration and discovery. From guest lectures via Skype to interactive smart boards to “ramification” of learning challenges, the educational landscape is more technology dependent than ever before.

3.1 Online education explode
Online education has become an increasingly accepted option, especially when “stackable” into degrees. Online and semi-synchronous education will replace most of the traditional classroom as the benefits of having students learn at their own pace and on their own schedule become more and more apparent. They’ll primarily learn by watching videos, listening to audio recordings, participating in virtual or augmented reality simulations, and so
forth. At the same time, course designers and instructors will need to find ways to infuse the right amount of structure and hold students accountable. This alternative education is in its infancy right now. That will change and it will change fast as more people realize there’s a far smarter, less expensive, more valuable way to prepare young people for the work force.

3.2 Online Program Managers
As online enrollments rise, online program managers (OPMs) are working with colleges and universities to provide online options for students. OPMs help traditional universities build and maintain their online degree or program offerings, while opening new and flexible options to nontraditional students. OPM providers contract with institutions of higher education to create, market, and recruit for online degree and non-degree programs. In return, OPMs earn a percentage of the revenue or tuition from the online programs offered at public colleges and universities. MIT now offers a supply chain management degree with a portion of the curriculum online through edX before students enter the on-campus program. Arizona State University allows students to take the first year online as part of the Global Freshman Academy. In both programs, students complete a portion of the degree online and then apply for the on-campus, full degree at a fraction of the price.

3.3 Transnational education
Pathway programs facilitate increasing transnational education, which serves as an additional revenue stream for universities. International students are increasingly attractive to universities, as they allow expanded reach and programs offered at different price points. Students from China, India, Saudi Arabia, and South Korea account for more than 50 percent of students who go abroad to earn their degree. Studies by the Boston Consulting Group show significant increases in the number of international students at American colleges and universities. Schools with online programs are also depending on foreign enrollments as a way to increase revenues. This is particularly true among adult learners who want 24/7 access unrestricted by time zones and geographic borders. Trend-setting colleges are actually expanding with physical locations overseas, in places like China and Qatar, where they can better compete on the international level. Globalization – whether physical, virtual or both – represents a major change for higher education leaders who must rethink their strategies to better attract a wider diversity of students, in the United States and abroad.

3.4 Open-Access Research
Global advocates are calling for publicly funded research to be available through open-access sites, rather than behind paywalls of subscription-based journals. The University of Iowa also announced a new open-source online journal, providing open access to the research and creative scholarship of the university.

The proliferation of open educational resources (OER): Adoption of OER has been driven largely by efforts to reduce the costs associated with higher education, though perhaps the most powerful potential outcome of OER is the opportunity for institutions to develop a broader set of investments in course development and infrastructure.

3.5 AI will continue to change the skill set we need
An oft-quoted 2013 Oxford University whitepaper forecasts that 47 percent of jobs could be lost to technology over the next 20 years. The good news is there are some things machines can’t do as well as humans (or at all) — critical thinking, the ability to innovate and solve problems, the ability to communicate, collaborate, and practice other “soft skills.” There will be a much sharper focus on ‘soft skills’ across the board. This trend will drive individuals to master these skills on their own so they can compete for the jobs robots and computers can’t do. Educators will change how they teach in order to better impart these skills. And businesses will change the way they train their employees.

Some other new trends are:

Cross-institution collaboration: As campuses have evolved into hotbeds for entrepreneurship and discovery, higher education has become widely regarded as a vehicle for driving innovation. The focus of this trend has shifted from understanding the value of exploring new ideas to finding ways to
replicate that exploration across unique and diverse learning institutions. Ongoing research examines how institutions can nurture cultures that promote experimentation. A significant element in advancing this movement is the call for higher education to accept failure as an essential part of the learning process.

The rise of new forms of interdisciplinary studies: Multidisciplinary approaches to higher education are being introduced by institutions that see valuable alternatives to a traditional, singular degree path. Faculty members, administrators, and instructional designers are creating innovative pathways to college completion through interdisciplinary experiences, nanodegrees, and other alternative credentials, such as digital badges.

Conclusion:
The new education policy with economic and political pressures giving direction for future planning in higher education system. But, it is a time for rethinking the roles of educators pertaining to higher education in society at local, national and international level. These trends make it clear that change is coming. The global economy moves quickly, and industries can’t stay competitive unless the model for training the next generation of employees moves right along with it. How we prepare students for the future needs to change, too. We must question all our assumptions and rethink who our educators are, what we’re teaching, how and when we’re teaching it, and how much we’re charging for it. When we put our minds to it, we can reimagine an education system that works for everyone.
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Global Events Calendar

Go Beyond Basic CRM for Better Customer Service

Digital Transformation Of The Automotive Retail Industry: What You Need To Know Now
The house with the golden windows

The little girl lived in a small, very simple, poor house on a hill and as she grew she would play in the small garden and as she grew she was able to see over the garden fence and across the valley to a wonderful house high on the hill - and this house had golden windows, so golden and shining that the little girl would dream of how magic it would be to grow up and live in a house with golden windows instead of an ordinary house like hers.

And although she loved her parents and her family, she yearned to live in such a golden house and dreamed all day about how wonderful and exciting it must feel to live there.

When she got to an age where she gained enough skill and sensibility to go outside her garden fence, she asked her mother is she could go for a bike ride outside the gate and down the lane. After pleading with her, her mother finally allowed her to go, insisting that she kept close to the house and didn't wander too far. The day was beautiful and the little girl knew exactly where she was heading! Down the lane and across the valley, she rode her bike until she got to the gate of the golden house across on the other hill.

As she dismounted her bike and lent it against the gate post, she focused on the path that lead to the house and then on the house itself...and was so disappointed as she realised all the windows were plain and rather dirty, reflecting nothing other than the sad neglect of the house that stood derelict.

So sad she didn't go any further and turned, heart broken as she remounted her bike ... As she glanced up she saw a sight to amaze her...there across the way on her side of the valley was a little house and its windows glistened golden ...as the sun shone on her little home.

She realised that she had been living in her golden house and all the love and care she found there was what made her home the 'golden house'. Everything she dreamed was right there in front of her nose!
Founded by Pallavi and Harshal, KC offers every type of learner a place to focus on their goals without hampering their academic progress. If you are an artist, a musician or a sportsperson, KC also ensures that you have a quiet place away from the stress and pressure to take care of your basic academic requirements. Their goals are to help individuals—both kids and adults—to carve their own niche. The Air-conditioned room helps you keep your cool and your focus! They offer tea, coffee and dry snacks at MRP rates. Wi-Fi is available for internet access. They don’t allow cellphones inside the study area. They offer lockers to store the heavy books, bags and your phone. Learners at various stages of their lives—students, professionals, learners who are eager to jump back into academics or give competitive exams are all welcome at our KC. Our members range from 13 years old to 70 years old.
Students Suggestions

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We cannot accomplish what we have initiated without your contributions. We would like to receive your inputs in the form of:

- Articles
- Photographs
- Artwork
- Puzzles

Any other suggestions

You can also, join our team and help in making better, this monthly newsletter. Send your contributions at vaishali.dawar@nmce.ac.in. Do come ahead and make this Library initiative a successful one.