Big conversation—Future vision for University Education in the next 10 years.

Title: A Futures Curriculum for the University of Birmingham

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In the future, University education will be a mixture, combining school curriculum and online education. Universities will develop a new education platform or system to better optimise their resources, improve network services, and reduce costs so that both home students and international students can share similar school fees. Then Universities should think about increasing efficiency and consider ways to ensure students get the best out of school resources without wasting their money. I believe that universities will apply big data and machine learning, internet + in order to integrate information to develop an effective learning framework for students, such as online learning. Based on current traditional teaching, I imagine that students will be able to use their laptops anywhere to enrol in the class community by multi-media teaching. Both students in the classroom and on the computer could interact with lecturers. More open discussions, close communications will appear. Universities should smartly arrange the curriculum so that students can timely consolidate new knowledge. The teaching system will have a virtual assistant for each student to guide them through practice problems in the example class, probably with portable equipment in the classroom. Universities could organise more tests for students to help them enhance their propensity for stress, but in customised and personal ways with the view to enhancing knowledge and self-reflection so that students won't care about comparing themselves with other students and will focus on themselves. Innovation around the study process is significant for increasing student interest and improving study experiences. Maybe we still need to learn teaching methods from kindergartens, which divide students into groups and teachers' play the role of instructing to develop young students' potential and imagination and cultivating new mind-sets, developing the advantages of offline interactions.

Engaging in university is not just about study for knowledge but about learning a wide range of skills and access to resources, especially building extensive networks and supporting each other to make rapid progress. Universities should consider new concepts and help students establish a valuable network.

Innovation of the curriculum will involve a mixture of multi-subjects. My Mathematics with Business Management programme is very good; however, the integration is not enough. Universities should create new courses to integrate the subjects as a whole, but not just a sum of two separate subjects. There should be a focus on more practical things, especially integration with industries. Providing more chances for students to apply what they learn into practice. A variety of cutting-edge, scientific, in-depth research with the cooperation of

enterprises will be greatly helpful. In addition, company visits and project involvements are necessary for all students. Whatever the programme, there will always be unique ways to combine practice and inspire students to innovate.

To correct the current flaws, universities will need to design more skills programmes into degree study, focusing on developing students' critical analysis, communication, problem solving skills and adaptability. Student still have much free time to manage themselves but they will be guided by universities about what resources to they can use and how to use them, like adding online employability skills courses as part of the programme (without putting much pressure on students). These would differ from credit courses, organising forums and boot camps to increase student initiatives and provide opportunities to every student.

Though there are some convenient platforms for student recruitment in University, the selection criteria is still strict. Excellent students get the opportunity to become better whilst some ambitious students, in the process of improving their employability, struggle to get one opportunity. They hope to gain work experience, to learn more things, but the employer also requires the skills that the student is hoping to enhance through the experience. From my perspectives, recruitment is not just about selecting existing talent –increasing differences and missing unique potential. Recruitment is about discovering and supporting potential talent, which can be cultivated to adapt to various business needs. Some talent, however, can only be found after employment in the workplace. There is a gap, but I believe every student has great potential that can be found and developed in real work, especially those with great ambition. Students expect that universities will help us to reduce this gap and present us with more practical opportunities to grow our experiences and skills.

Universities have started many innovations in the education sphere and have achieved progress; but changes never end and progress never ends. When universities really realise the vision of integrating knowledge, skills, networks and technology there will be more and more modern talent appearing and education will achieve a sustainable societal development by optimising recourses. I believe it won't be far away, maybe 10 years, or 20 years.