A presentation found in a time capsule, from October 20, 2025!

Good evening, everyone! Welcome to tonight's lecture.

The Curricular Revolution: The View from 2025
Here in 2025, it may be hard to appreciate just how different education was even as late as a decade ago.

Let me describe some of its more bizarre aspects, from curriculum to classroom.
Universities used to offer a long list of majors, like this!

http://admissions.ucdavis.edu/majors/
Majors in turn were made up of courses like this.
Most courses taught basic theory, applied to synthetic examples.

http://www.seas.virginia.edu/acad/programs/engrsci/

Real world practice came only after years of study.
A typical class schedule: lectures, quizzes, and a final exam.

https://www.e-education.psu.edu/egee120/node/47
Assessments at the end of a course determined grades. Grades defined success.

Students were thus discouraged from in-depth independent exploration. Faculty were pressured to "teach to the test."
Assessments measured ability to do the work for the course just finished.

Nothing measured ability to do future work. Nothing aligned courses to future needs.
Students in a class were of the same age, with the same background, or lack thereof, in the material.
The teacher had two jobs: help the students learn, and assign grades.

Both sides felt the inherent conflict between those two functions.
At this time in history, computers and the Internet had dramatically changed business and social interactions.

Technology and Learning in 2015

So, how had technology changed education?
For the worse, mostly. Instead of removing compromises made to teach 30 or 100 students in a classroom...

...technology was used to compromise the education for thousands of students at a time.
It's not that there weren't interesting ideas in how to improve learning.
Many excellent ideas were explored on how to foster true collaborative team-based learning by doing...

...but they all missed the biggest problem.
If you put the wrong thing in the center of your theory...
... no amount of patching is going to save you.
The goal of learning is not "to know something" or even "to do something."

The goal is "to be something."
So where are we now?

Education in 2025
Today, in 2025, a university is not a collection of departments...

...but a set of venues, modeled on real life, within which learning and the application of learning naturally takes place.
Today, in 2025, a major is not a collection of bodies of knowledge...

... but a progression of roles from novice to skilled practitioner.
A course is not a set of topic modules...

... but a sequence of increasingly challenging scenarios.
These scenarios occur within the venues, providing a familiar context that students return to over time.

Through these repeated experiences, students learn both practical and general reasoning skills, and find areas where they wish to become experts.
Members in team-based scenarios are often not at the same "grade level," in the same "major," or even still a student.

As in real life, learners in different roles may be at very different points in very different careers.
The total school experience is not one of separate silos, but interacting paths.

Collaboration and mentoring across ages and careers occurs constantly. Life-long learning is inherent in the process.
Instead of *final* exams...

...we have *entrance* exams, to assess readiness to pursue advanced roles.
With progress measured by the roles and scenarios done, teachers are no longer graders.

Their role is to coach, critique, mentor and inspire.

If you need current market data, a good place to look for might be...
These changes were enabled by the intelligent use of technology.
Technology within courses enables rich learning experiences...
Technology enables just in time delivery of goal-based scenarios to ad hoc groups of students with diverse skills and careers... 

Looking for a web developer (HTML5 and CSS skills a must!) and a project manager to work on "the eBay for artists scenario" <link>! Contact...

Newbie BME looking for a graduate level medical device designer and biz school entrepreneur to work on "the portable dialyzer scenario" <link>! Contact...

... via a global marketplace of learners.
To summarize some of the key transformations in the education.

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Thank you! I'd appreciate your feedback on how I did in this challenge.

Albert Willoughby

Apprentice Historian of Education

Public Presentation Challenge #2

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Many thanks to the members of my cohort:

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