

Future World 4

TECH-LED & OPEN

The boundaries between employment, education and retirement become looser. The decline in part-time study reverses and education over a lifetime has become the norm for the increasingly ageing population. Universities are no longer the main provider of higher education, as options to study become available from specialised private and industry sources, open platforms and systems which directly link individual tutors and students in a new economy of provision. Earning a degree becomes less important as badges and micro-credentials become respectable markers of educational value.

Despite intensive urbanisation globally, the concept of the individual campus becomes less important as more people choose to study from home, work or at leisure. Virtual mobility becomes a defining feature of higher education and apprenticeships, lifelong learning and hybrid models of distance and campus-based education become the norm.

Ethical norms shift to create greater social tolerance for individual profiling based on genetic screening, datafication and ubiquitous surveillance. Smart drugs for cognitive enhancement become safer, more popular, and more readily available.