



SERC Talks: "Not All Skills Are Created Equal: Agility and Innovation in STEM Education"

October 12, 2022 | 1:00 PM ET

Dr. Richard DeMillo,

Professor and Charlotte B. and Roger C. Warren Professor of Computing, Chair, School of Cybersecurity and Privacy, Founding Director, C21U Georgia Institute of Technology

INNOVATING STEM READINESS

- □ Today's session will be recorded.
- ☐ An archive of today's talk will be available at: www.sercuarc.org/serc-talks/ as well as on the SERC YouTube channel.
- ☐ Use the Q&A box to queue up questions, reserving the chat box for comments, and questions will be answered during the last 5-10 minutes of the session.
- ☐ If you are connected via the dial-in information only, please email questions or comments to SERCtalks@stevens.edu.
- ☐ Any issues? Use the chat feature for any technical difficulties or other comments, or email SERCtalks@stevens.edu.

October 12, 2022 SERC USE ONLY | 1





SERC Talks: "Not All Skills Are Created Equal: Agility and Innovation in STEM Education"



Dr. Richard DeMillo

Professor and Charlotte B. and Roger C. Warren Professor of Computing, Chair, School of Cybersecurity and Privacy Founding Director, C21U Georgia Institute of Technology

Moderator: Dr. William Rouse

SERC Research Council Member; Senior Fellow, Office of the Senior Vice President for Research,

McCourt School of Public Policy, Georgetown University



October 12, 2022



The Systems Engineering Research Center (SERC) is a federally funded University Affiliated Research Center managed by Stevens Institute of Technology.

Any views, opinions, findings and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Department of Defense, OUSD (R&E), nor the SERC.

No Warranty. This SERC - Stevens Institute of Technology Material is furnished on an "as-is" basis. SERC and Stevens Institute of Technology makes no warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied, as to any matter including, but not limited to, warranty of fitness for purpose or merchantability, exclusivity, or results obtained from use of the material. SERC and Stevens Institute of Technology does not make any warranty of any kind with respect to freedom from patent, trademark, or copyright infringement.

This material has been approved for public release and unlimited distribution.

October 12, 2022 SERC USE ONLY | 3



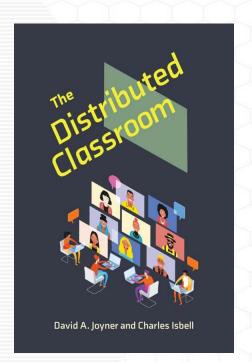


NOT ALL SKILLS ARE CREATED EQUAL: AGILITY AND INNOVATION IN STEM EDUCATION

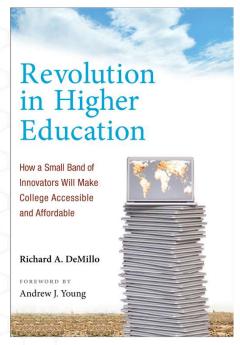
RICHARD DEMILLO
CHARLOTTE B. & ROGER C. WARREN PROFESSOR OF
COMPUTING
CHAIR, SCHOOL OF CYBERSECURITY AND PRIVACY
FOUNDING DIRECTOR, C21U
CREATING THE NEXT®



https://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3753524



https://mitpress.mit.edu/9780262046053/the-distributed-classroom/



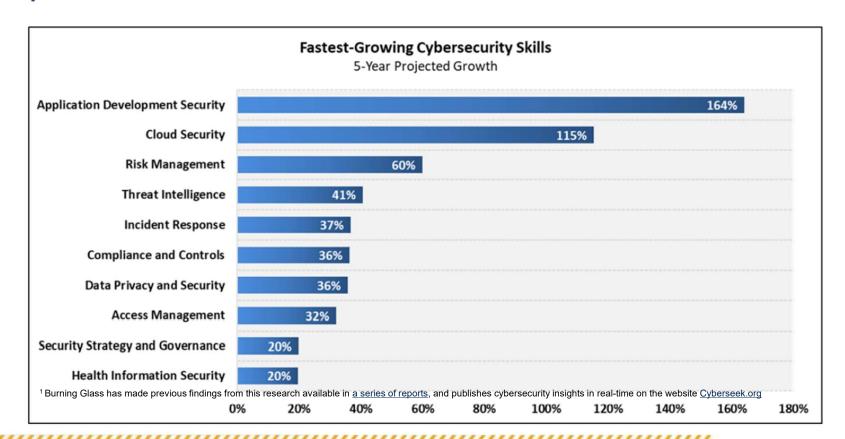
https://mitpress.mit.edu/9 780262533614/revolutionin-higher-education/

SEPT 2020: I WAS ASKED TO CREATE A SCHOOL OF CYBERSECURITY AND PRIVACY AT GEORGIA TECH

WHAT ARE THE CYBERSECURITY SKILLS OF THE FUTURE?



Employers want cyber pros who can build secure infrastructure from the ground up



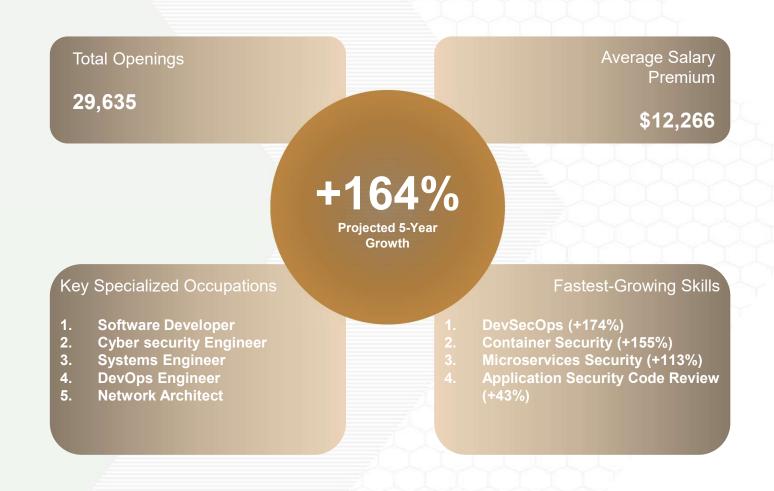
GROWING SKILLS COME WITH GROWING SALARIES



Skill	5-Year Projected Growth	Postings Oct. 2019-Sept. 2020	Salary Premium
Application Development Security	164%	29,635	\$12,266
Cloud Security	115%	19,477	\$15,025
Risk Management	60%	57,967	\$13,379
Threat Intelligence	41%	60,039	\$9,609
Incident Response	37%	23,497	\$5,683
Compliance and Controls	36%	54,770	\$12,423
Data Privacy and Security	36%	88,527	\$5,256
Access Management	32%	118,096	\$6,451
Security Strategy and Governance	20%	82,952	\$7,735
Health Information Security	20%	413,687	\$738

SKILL DRILL DOWN:

APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT SECURITY



ACADEMIA IS PREOCCUPIED WITH SKILLS THAT TAKE DECADES TO EVOLVE



TO DISCOURAGE LEARNING, DESIGN SOMETHING LIKE THIS

- Mean value theorem Kahn Academy vs Lecture 14
 - √ 30 concepts (every 2 minutes)
 - ✓ Homework that will not be graded until lecture 19. -- after the exam
 - ✓ Tyranny of content
- Most importantly: it's not how the brain learns
- The entire enterprise of higher ed is built around the long form lecture
- Almost nothing you think you know about rising HE costs is true
 - ✓ Not administrative bloat, lazy professors, or easy financial aid
 - √ 30% due to productivity stagnation
 - ✓ The rest due to

Macro economics

Bad governance

Stalled innovation



FIND PATHWAYS TO CHALLENGE EXISTING MODEL

Grounded Cognitive Learning

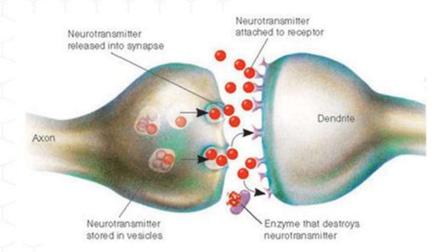
- Levity, brevity, repetition: learning and neurons stimulus/reward cycle
- Not clear how to organize a classroom to promote this
- How to afford it?

Innovative Non-Cognitive Learning

Testable

- "Almost nothing you believe is important matters..."
- Human teachers have almost no impact compared to
 - Formative assessment
 - Chunking
 - Rapid feedback

Physiological change in the brain	Effect on behavior	What we see in our classes	What we can do to foster appropriate growth
There is tremendous overproduction of	Emerging adult brains are fascinated by, and	Short attention span	Provide short breaks
neurons, dendrites and synapses	seek out, novelty and emotion; they value surprise and	Like to be entertained	Use new ideas and techniques
Followed by pruning (elimination) of unused	unpredictability.	Ask for lots of specific guidance	Don't get too predictable <u>but</u> do
neurons, dendrites, and synapses.	Emerging adults also crave structure and organization, in spite of	(seem not to be independent)	provide structure and guidelines
Details:	their attraction to		Give quick feedback
The neural connections made by emerging adult	novelty.		Be explicit
brains last a lifetime;	The things they spend		
they become "hard wired."	time on (good or bad) influence what they		Model behaviors you'd like to see in



2012 MOOC EXPLOSION

Most people focused on free, big

We focused on the Iron Triangle

- Role of productivity in rising cost
- Role of communications in access
- Role of technology in achievement

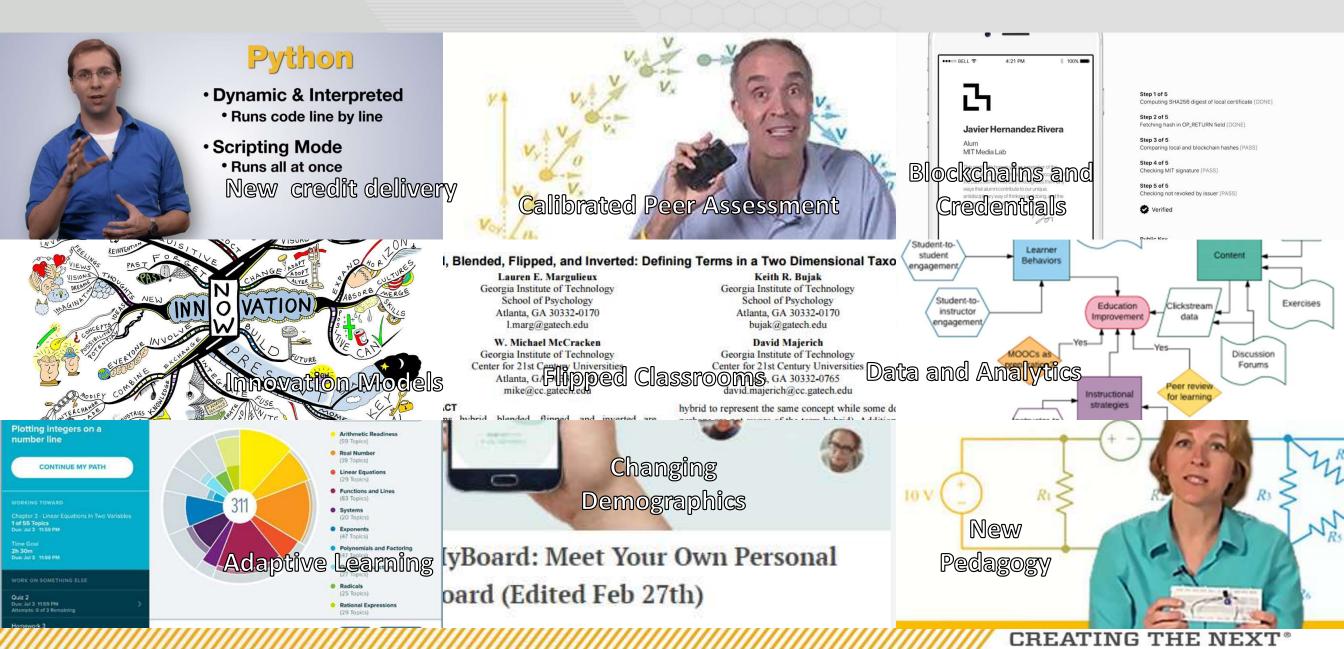
We invested in using the technology to make mastery learning feasible

- MOOC is not a videotaped lecture it is designed to align with how the brain learns
- We studied this

Online Masters in CS (OMSCS)

- Highly ranked degree
- Less than \$7,000
- Largest CS graduate program in the world
- Expanded market for graduate education in CS by 8% pa

MANY OF THE 2011 GOALS BECAME SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS





37,498









Enrollment & Fall2020

% Fall2020

100+

10,559

Graduates

3,795

- Fall 2020 New Enrollment: 2.890
- Overall Enrollment: 10,799
- U.S. Citizens & Residents (% of Enrollment): 63.4%
- International Students: 36.6%
- Men: 81%
- Women: 19%
- Underrepresented Minorities: 11.3%
- Total Course Enrollments: 14,347



- Countries Represented: 122
- U.S. States/Territories Represented: 53
- Companies Represented: 3,000+





HOW TO CHANGE HE FROM WITHIN

Change in faculty attitudes

Cannot be top down

Value of small projects

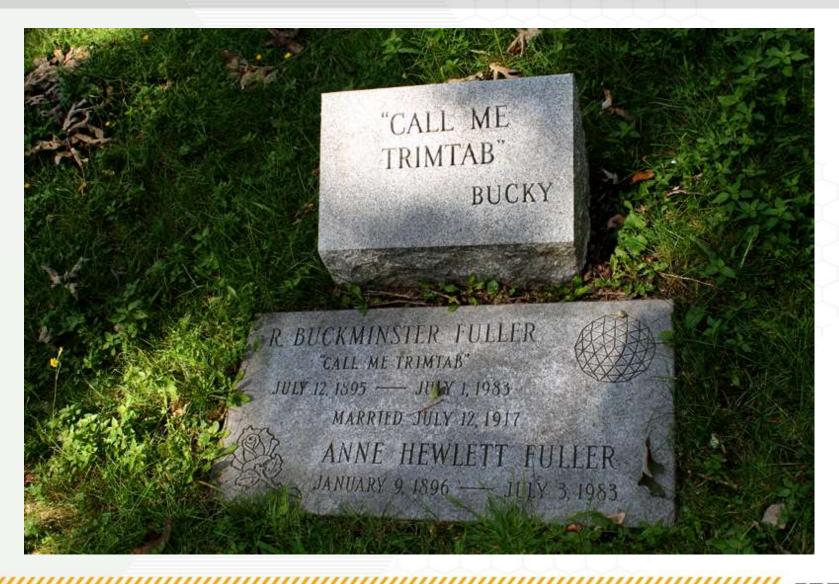
Need to find trimtabs

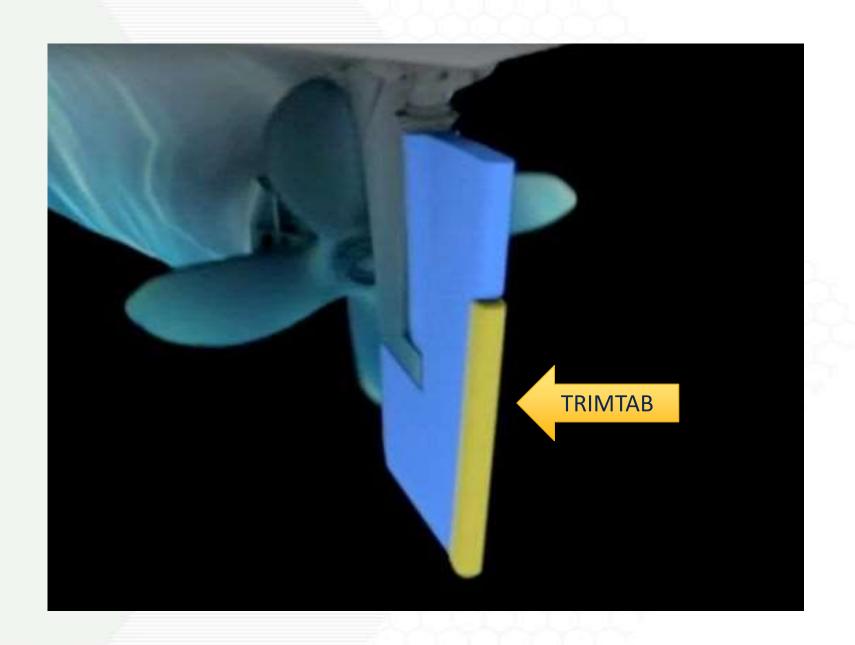
Alignment

But...

Current business models are threatened

TRIMTAB IS A METAPHOR....





COVID-19'S IMPACT



- Distributed classroom advantage
- Organized resistance to online learning disappeared
- Pandemic pause button
- Enrollment spike
- Slower pace of change
- Scaling strategy stressed



John Delacruz, an associate professor of advertising, talks with remote students via Zoom while others work in person during a class on the fundamentals of design at San José State University, (John Brecher for The Washington Post)

y Nick Anderson # □ □ □ □

 $SAN\ JOSE-Wearing\ a\ mask\ and\ Birkenstocks\ as\ he\ roved\ the\ classroom\ one\ afternoon,\ associate\ professor\ John\ Delacruz\ sought\ to\ rev\ up\ his\ students\ for\ an\ assignment\ in\ advertising\ design.\ They\ were\ each\ to\ create\ a\ poster$

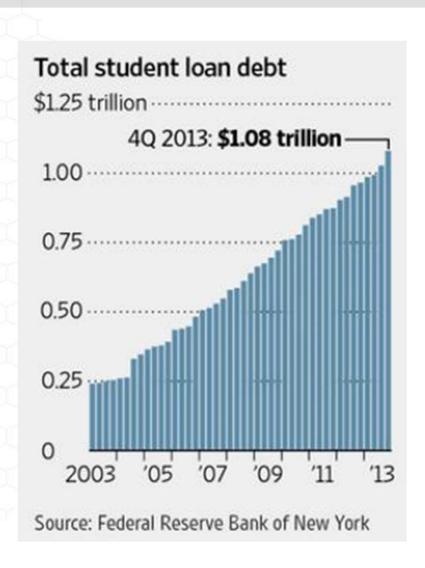


AFTER THE REVOLUTION

Infighting over online delivery is dead

Topical issues

- Student loan debt forgiveness: does not cost taxpayers
- "Not everyone needs a college degree" is true but you're better of with a degree
- Major cost of college increases not addressed at all
 - "Cost disease"
 - "Revenues cap spending"
- The world is interdisciplinary



"The thing that I was most concerned by, the fact that I have no contact with the students and that it will feel detached, turned out completely untrue — between Piazza, live office hour sessions, and all, I end up seeing more of the students, and they end up seeing more of me, compared to anything I've experienced on campus before.

I may not know their gender or race (Bobbie turns out is female, and Estelle Yeh isn't a Chinese girl with a western name but a French girl with a Thai husband;)), but I know exactly how much they know and how they've had amazing progress through the semester, from virtually no C skills and ready to drop out, to getting a strong A and getting hired as TAs the following semester. And they are not the exception, lots more stories like this. It comes at a great cost in time, not as bad once recording is done, but still comparable time effort as when teaching a regular class. I expected it would be less, since the lecture part wasn't there. But I feel that what makes the experience so positive for the students, is that we, the Instructors, do remain very much engaged with the class. And given that it's real money and real degrees at stake, you cannot not do it."

-- GT Professor

CHALLENGE FOR THE FUTURE - CONFRONT COMPLEXITY OF THE 21ST CENTURY

We've spent nearly 20 years solving 16th century problems – stop thinking of higher education as a regulated industry

Plan for 2040, when

- demographic changes,
- educational reform in K-12,
- alumni who by choice follow multiple careers paths over their lifetime, and
- a workplace where the churn of knowledge must be continually renewed

requires

- episodic,
- agile,
- intense
- engagement with younger learners that continues throughout their lives.

HOW DID THE UNIVERSITY ORGANIZE FOR INNOVATION?



- Have a philosophy for change
 - Have a sense of the future
 - Anecdotes and gut feelings no match for data
 - Don't start with the current state
 - Don't fight the existing order, make it obsolete
- Be realistic: Universities can diversify but they can't become different creatures
- No artificial time constraints
- Don't fall for the curse of too much money
- Importance of culture

"YOU NEVER CHANGE SOMETHING BY FIGHTING THE EXISTING REALITY. TO CHANGE SOMETHING BUILD A NEW MODEL

THAT MAKES THE EXISTING MODEL OBSOLETE."

-R. Buckminster Fuller

AGILITY: MAKING OLD MODELS OBSOLETE





CHURN OF KNOWLEDGE

- Globalization & Collapse of Disciplines
- Digital Transformation
- 100 Year Life

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY OF EDUCATION

- Cognitive Science & Behavioral Economics
- Ascendance of Data
- Convergence of technologies

GATSBY CURVE: INTERGENERATIONAL WEALTH ELASTICITY

- Affordability
- Character Values
- Non-Cognitive Malleability

COMMISSION ON CREATING THE NEXT IN EDUCATION



DISCUSSION







ANNUAL

RESEARCH REVIEW

2022

REGISTRATION OPEN

National Press Club, Washington DC (Hybrid)

November 15-17, 2022

More details on event webpage: https://sercuarc.org/research-reviews/ssrr-2022/

October 12, 2022 SERC USE ONLY | 2



UPCOMING TALK: NOVEMBER 9



John V. Lombardi, Ph.D,
Professor Emeritus, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Michael Gargano, Jr., Ed.D,
CEO, The Education Think Tank
Wednesday, November 9, 2022 | 1PM ET





"Innovating for STEM Readiness" Series Moderator:

Dr. William Rouse, SERC Research Council Member, Georgetown University

CONTACT

Webinar Coordinator: Ms. Mimi Marcus, Stevens Institute of Technology – mmarcus@stevens.edu
Please visit the SERC Talks page to register and for more information and updates.



Please check back on the **SERC** website for today's recording and future SERC Talks information.







www.sercuarc.org/contact-us/

October 12, 2022 SERC USE ONLY