New Models in business and education – A different perspective

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New Models of Business

The traditional model of business relied on hierarchical structures, where decisions were made at the top and cascaded down to lower levels. However, this model has become outdated in today's fast-paced world, where decision-making needs to be agile and adaptive. New models of business are emerging that are more flexible, collaborative, and innovative.

One such model is the networked organization, where companies collaborate with each other to achieve common goals. This model is particularly useful for small businesses that lack the resources to compete with larger corporations. By working together, these businesses can pool their resources and expertise to create a more significant impact.

Another model that is gaining popularity is the platform business model. This model is based on the idea of connecting buyers and sellers through a digital platform, creating a marketplace that is efficient, scalable, and profitable. Companies like Airbnb, Uber, and Amazon have successfully implemented this model disrupting traditional industries and creating new opportunities for entrepreneurs.

The circular economy is another model that is gaining traction, particularly in response to the growing concern over environmental sustainability. This model is based on the idea of creating a closed-loop system, where waste is minimized, and resources are conserved. Companies like Patagonia and Interface have successfully implemented this model reducing their environmental impact while also improving their bottom line.

New models of education

Recent years, new models of education have emerged that are aimed at improving the quality of education and preparing students for the challenges of the 21st century. These models are characterized by a focus on skills rather than content, personalized and experiential learning, and the importance of collaboration and community. Here are some of the new models of education that are gaining popularity.

Project-Based Learning (PBL)

Project-based learning is a student-centred approach to learning that involves students working on a project over an extended period of time. The projects can be interdisciplinary and can involve real-world problems or challenges. Students are guided by a teacher but are encouraged to work independently and collaboratively to solve problems, develop skills, and create products or solutions. PBL is often used in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) education but can be applied to any subject area.
Competency-Based Learning (CBL)
Competency-based learning is a system of education that focuses on the mastery of specific skills or competencies rather than the completion of courses or grades. Students work at their own pace and demonstrate their mastery of skills through assessments such as tests, projects, and portfolios. CBL allows students to progress based on their individual needs and abilities and can be particularly effective for students who struggle in traditional classroom settings.

Personalized Learning
Personalized learning is an approach to education that tailors instruction to the individual needs, interests, and abilities of each student. It can involve a variety of strategies such as adaptive software, project-based learning, and individualized instruction. Personalized learning allows students to work at their own pace, focus on areas of interest, and receive individualized support and feedback from teachers.

Experiential Learning
Experiential learning is an approach to education that emphasizes hands-on, real-world experiences. Experiential learning can take many forms, including internships, service learning, and project-based learning. It allows students to apply their knowledge and skills in real-world contexts, develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and gain valuable experience and connections in their field of interest.

Community-Based Learning
Community-based learning is an approach to education that focuses on the importance of community engagement and collaboration. Community-based learning can involve partnerships between schools and local organizations, businesses, or government agencies. Students work on projects that address community needs and collaborate with community members to develop solutions. Community-based learning can help students develop a sense of civic responsibility, leadership skills, and a deeper understanding of the challenges facing their communities.

These new models of education are designed to better prepare students for the challenges of the 21st century. They represent a departure from traditional models of education that focus on memorization and standardized testing. However, implementing these new models of education can be challenging. They often require changes to curriculum, assessment, and teacher training. They also require a shift in mindset from both teachers and students, who may be accustomed to more traditional models of education.

Despite these challenges, the benefits of these new models of education are clear. They can help students develop the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in a rapidly changing world, and they can help schools and communities better meet the needs and challenges of the 21st century. As such, it is important for educators, policymakers, and communities to continue to explore and implement these innovative models of education.

Commentary on the above
The above discussion on new models for business (see Part A) and education (See Part B) was taken directly from a query on ChatGPT. There were no human changes to the text. We
asked the question “what are the new models for business and education” on the ChatGPT and received an answer in seconds. We reframed the question slightly and received very similar results. We conclude that if a similar question is asked by other people, they would also get similar results. We changed the question to “what new models for business and education are due to COVID-19 pandemic” and obtained a slightly different result. The ChatGPT program answered that the Covid 19 pandemic has led to significant disruption in traditional models toward new models – these include Online learning, Blended learning and Personalised learning. Thus, there were still many similarities in these answers.

We then asked ChatGPT how do new models for business and new models for education interrelate?

The answer is below.

“As an AI language model, I don't have personal opinions or beliefs, but I can provide you with some information.

New models for business and new models for education are interrelated as they both respond to changes in the global economy and society. Business models are constantly evolving with the introduction of new technologies, changing consumer behaviors, and emerging market trends. These changes require businesses to adapt their strategies and operations to remain competitive.

Similarly, education models are also changing to respond to the needs of the 21st-century workforce. The traditional model of education focused on memorization and rote learning is no longer sufficient to prepare students for the rapidly changing job market. New education models are being developed to provide students with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in the digital age, such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration.

In summary, new models for business and education are interrelated as they both respond to the changing needs of the global economy and society. The success of businesses and individuals depends on their ability to adapt and embrace these new models”.

Predicting technology impacts

Technology advances often have far-reaching impacts in unexpected ways. Many experts predicted that the Internet’s main impact would be in communication and sharing of sources. Not many experts predicted that it would end up causing the “death” of the “river of gold” of newspaper car and property ads.

There is little doubt that ChatGPT will have some enormous impacts on our society in the future. It will be interesting to see what happens, but education will likely be impacted.

ChatGPT has many positive aspects. These include that it is free, open to everyone and incredibly easy to sign up and use. Because of this it is widely used. Other advantages are that its conversations mimic human interaction, and it is continually improving. However, it does have disadvantages. One of the biggest is that ChatGPT or any other AI chatbot is that
it cannot be used as an authoritative source of information. At the time of writing (June 2023), the technology still relies on content from the internet, as in 2021. We all know the internet is filled with misinformation, so taking its answers at face value is always a mistake. You must be able to understand what you want ChatGPT to do and also interrogate its results to use it effectively. The fact that it depends on data is a drawback. If there is little or no data available, it will not be able to respond. For an elaboration of the advantages and disadvantages https://www.calendar.com/blog/the-advantages-and-disadvantages-of-chatgpt/

ChatGPT is also called an AI (Artificial Intelligence) type of application. ChatGPT uses its huge resources and some clever programming to mimic human communication, which is why it may be an issue for teaching. Some teaching advisors have already reacted by calling for students to have face-to-face assessments. Because it was designed for human communication it is actually very poor at intuitive mathematics – ChatGPT vs. World's Hardest Exam - YouTube

Chess programs have been around for many years. Even as far back as 30 years ago one of the authors could not beat a chess program after the beginner level. As a novice player how could he hope to compete with a computer program running hundreds of thousand variations and combination calculations. It doesn’t stop him from enjoying a game and playing with another human being.

It may be that AI programs like ChatGPT will adapt and learn to be more individually targeted. We can see elements of this in voice recognition programs that learn and improves its recognition of the user. The combination of AI programs that learn and adapt to individual circumstances could have far reaching impacts. One example of this is the emerging medicine technique using an individual DNA to guide decisions when treating medical conditions.

**What has changed and what has not changed?**

Humans have used their intelligence to learn and adapt to change for hundreds of thousand years and whilst change in some areas may be more significant in recent years, there is really nothing fundamentally different to how we adapt as humans. We must adapt to changes in all areas, particularly in technology, or risk being left behind.

What has not changed is the fundamental need to use EQ (Emotional intelligence) between human interactions. It does not matter if you are selling education products or nuclear submarines, the result of the interaction, all things being equal (the product being satisfactory), will often depend on the human aspects. What are the people behind the product and services like? Are they smart? Are they attentive? Are they trustworthy? Are they ethical? Can we get along with them? Can we respect them? Do we like them as people?

You may ask “what have these questions got to do with the product or service”. We would argue they have everything to do with it. Think of products and services you have bought in the past. Think of how happy and confident that you bought the right product when buying from someone you didn’t like versus when you bought from someone you did like? Are you confident that the product or service will have a backup if there is a problem or need help.
UBSS provides courses that use the latest in technology and educational methods. However, the confidence of students is still reliant on the UBSS organisation and its people.

The below photograph shows an interesting snapshot on what some people think about ChatGPT.

References

ChatGPT demonstration: https://chatgptdemo.net/ Viewed 07/06/2023.

ChatGPT vs. World's Hardest Exam - YouTube (or see https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fi1e-B60cok) viewed 10/06/2023.


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