VISION FOR THE COMING YEAR

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Alternative Pathways to Education – they are sprouting up everywhere.

Employers are understanding simultaneous changes in their approaches to sourcing talent and hiring.

More and more millennials, Gen Y and Gen Z will opt out of a system that is, in their minds, unnecessarily lengthy and costly (at least to get a good first job).

There are new ways to have a career, as companies are teaching new technologies themselves – on-sight.
As Gen Z’ers graduate from high school, questions fly fast & furiously –

- Should I take out thousands of dollars in student loans?
- Will what I learn be outdated by the time I get a job?
- Will I need to learn new stuff?
- Is there a better path for the development of professional goals?

A “technical” post-secondary education is not essential for all careers as opposed to 15-40 years ago.

We will be awarded for placement in the workforce and at 4-year colleges.
Students’ overwhelming focus on employment and a “good” first job – is the skill-based most important change in higher education in the last decade.
- Fewer employers are receiving hard copies of applications – 85% are online.
- Most career counselors are not networked in each technical field.
- Employee statistics (80% employed) are not employed in what they received their degrees in.

Many colleges have responded to this change:
- The “free” college movement;
- The rise of the unaccredited enrollment;
- Enrollment decline in traditional college;
- Employers have added “technical skills” not typically taught in college to job descriptions.
SO, HOW DO WE MOVE FORWARD?

How can we plan in the best way possible?

- Perspective Transformation:
  - Change our frames of reference and reflect on assumptions in order to critically think, speak;
  - Look at the same arguments and ideas through different frameworks;
  - Show the same set of circumstances, situations and decisions at hand through different lenses (from different seats – or positions).