Welcome to today’s WCET Webcast

**February 4**

The webcast will begin shortly.

There is no audio being broadcast at this time.

An archive of this webcast will be available on the WCET website.
Redefining Liberal Arts:
The Future of Liberal Arts in a Hybrid World

February 4

#WCETWebcast

adjacentacademies + wcet
Welcome!

Use the question box for questions and information exchange.

Archive, PowerPoint, and Resources will be sent.

PowerPoint can be downloaded via the link in chat.

Follow the Twitter feed: #WCETWebcast.

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Questions from the Audience

If you have a question during the presentation, please add your questions to the question box.

We will monitor the question box and have time for Q&A at the end of the webcast.
Megan Raymond
Director, Programs and Sponsorship
WCET

Moderator
@meraymond
Speakers

Michael Horn
Author

Anh Nguyen
CEO
Adjacent Academies

Alexandra Romero,
Senior at Davidson College
What jobs are in the highest demand?

- Application software developer
- Registered nurse
- Medical technologist
- Web developer
- Data scientist

No - hybrid jobs
The basics of hybrid jobs

Hybrid jobs are those that require a combination of technical and non-technical skills.

Hybrid jobs are growing at twice the rate of the overall job market, are likely to resist automation, and pay up to 40% more than comparable traditional roles.
What are the 5 top **soft** skills companies need most

- Creativity
- Persuasion
- Collaboration
- Adaptability
- Time Management

Source: Linkedin
What are the 5 top hard skills companies need most

- Cloud Computing
- Artificial Intelligence
- Analytical Reasoning
- People Management
- UX Design

Source: Linkedin
Companies need hybrid workers to answer big questions – such as community, behavior, and space

- How do people create communities?
- How do people dine?
- How do people change locations?
Liberal Arts Students and Programs are Well-Positioned to Address the Needs of Students and Society

Although the percentage of students who major in the humanities has dropped precipitously over the last several decades, with the right opportunities these students will be leaders of the future.

How can colleges and universities support new approaches to hybrid job preparation?
Students are Already Recognizing the Opportunities in Hybrid Jobs

**Maya Vargas** Scripps ’22, wanted to study art and chose the liberal arts for a diverse and well-rounded education. Wary of post-college career insecurity and wanting her work to reach a broader audience than gallery-goers, she majored in Digital Art, enrolled in Adjacent’s summer program, and got approval to receive college credit for a remote, digital illustration internship.
Students are Already Recognizing the Opportunities in Hybrid Jobs

Alex Idonije, Davidson ‘20 (Political Science, Chinese Studies) is passionate about creating innovative, educational experiences. The possibilities to use technology to do this were clear, but the path into it was not. So he enrolled in Adjacent with no coding experience and built a passion project to help the homeless. Inspired by his new-found ability to build impactful products, he accepted a role as a software engineer at McMaster-Carr.

“Before last summer, if someone told me I’d graduate with an opportunity to work on machine learning and automation projects, I’d find it hard to believe. Now I can confidently say I’m leaving Davidson and Adjacent equipped to ethically apply my liberal arts foundation to the tech space, and with the knowledge to bring impactful ventures to life”
Meet Alexandra

Davidson College ‘20
Environmental Studies & Philosophy
Not Only do Students Win with “Hybrid” Jobs – but Universities and Societies do as well

- Higher Job Placement Rate
- Build Reputation as Innovation
- Decrease skills gap
- Reduce poverty

Soft Skills from Liberal Arts

Hard skills in technology

Hybrid Jobs
A hand full of universities are at the forefront of this “hybrid” movement.
Universities have long offered career advising and connections to summer internships, but increasingly find that they need to offer different programs that bridge the gap between students' interests and jobs to be done.

Idea #1:
More ways to “try on” related careers that fit their interests.
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More ways to “try on” related careers that fit their interests.

The art and art history department offers courses and concentrations in the field of designing packaging, and the music department offers a degree in music business that includes classes within the college of business that would allow them to manage musicians.
Idea #2:
More chances to apply their learning to real, practical problems of business and society.

In addition to having universities go deep on single theories or individual frameworks, students may benefit from learning to apply them to the real world, or better yet, apply multiple frameworks to multiple real world problems.
Idea #2:
More chances to apply their learning to real, practical problems of business and society.

To “robot-proof” our students for a future in which technology plays an increasingly important role, Northeastern University president Joseph Aoun proposes that colleges embrace what he calls “humanics,” covering technical literacy, data literacy, and human literacy skills like teamwork, creativity, and ethics.
Idea #3:
More collaboration across departments, disciplines, and institutions.

“The demands of a hybrid job market makes crossover learning between departments and disciplines urgent, as well as important,” notes Burning Glass. “For colleges and universities to prepare students for these opportunities, they will need to develop more systematic ways of cataloging and then synthesizing content assets across programs.”
Idea #3:
More collaboration across departments, disciplines, and institutions.

A new program at McMaster’s DeGroote School of Business offers a business major that includes philosophy, language, and culture requirements; a course called “Insight and Inquiry: Questions to Change to World” is designed to inform what data they collect and analyze in their accounting courses.
Idea #4: More appealing and attainable for more diverse students

Approaches that marry the intellectual benefits of liberal arts study with the practical skills required by today’s economy have the potential to broaden the variety of students who study the liberal arts -- and diversify the types of perspectives that enter the fields of business, technology, and so on.
Idea #4: More appealing and attainable for more diverse students

Harvey Mudd College has increased the proportion of its computer science majors that are female from 10% to 55% by replacing isolated coding instruction with puzzles and graphics, providing more research opportunities, and having students apply algorithms against questions from other disciplines.
conversation

Join via the question or chat box
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#WCETSUMMIT

The 2020 View of Federal Regulations and the Potential Impact on Higher Education Practice

University of Maryland Global Campus
Largo, MD
April 15-16

https://wcet.wiche.edu/events/summits/WCET-UMGC-summit
Join us for #WCET2020

Indianapolis, October 13-15
Call for proposals will open in March
https://wcet.wiche.edu/events/annual-meeting
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Access to the resources discussed during this webcast, including the archive, will be available next week.

http://wcet.wiche.edu/connect/webcasts
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