Forward Thinking: Changing World, Changing Times, Changing Schools

Pamela H. Scott

East Tennessee State University, scottp@etsu.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://dc.etsu.edu/etsu-works

Part of the Higher Education Commons

Citation Information

This Conference Proceeding is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Works at Digital Commons @ East Tennessee State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in ETSU Faculty Works by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ East Tennessee State University. For more information, please contact digilib@etsu.edu.
Forward Thinking: Changing World, Changing Times, Changing Schools

Copyright Statement
This document was published with permission from the publisher. It was originally published in the Proceedings of the Joint Meeting of the Academic Business World International Conference and International Conference on Learning and Administration in Higher Education.

This conference proceeding is available at Digital Commons @ East Tennessee State University: https://dc.etsu.edu/etsu-works/3056
Forward Thinking:
Changing World, Changing Times, Changing Schools

Pamela Howell Scott
East Tennessee State University

ABSTRACT

When we utilize past events and current knowledge to anticipate what is coming next through a combination of possibility thinking and intuition we are better prepared for future challenges and opportunities, discover innovative strategies, and remain proactive in the pursuit of meaningful change. This is forward thinking. The complexity of global change directly impacts present and future educational change. Education, in its institutional sense, historically focused on initiatives designed to benefit individuals and society. An examination of the institution of education and its benefit for society is occurring as policy-makers and individuals face the impact of financial issues, technology, and changing demographics. The essential question for change agents, decision makers, and stakeholders is three-pronged. How do we, (a) sort out truth, (b) maintain our moral compass, and (c) lead positive change? This paper explores an understanding of the forces of change, emerging issues impacting education, and the economic and information shifts impacting society. A potential answer to the essential question presented for consideration is grounded in the concept of forward thinking which is facilitated by knowledge and mindfulness.