



DigiEduHack Challenge Challenging the Foundations of Education

The Future of Work - Building Competences

Technological, cultural and structural changes affect the way we work.

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Technological, cultural and structural changes affect the way we work. Automation and AI will lift productivity and economic growth, but millions of people worldwide may need to switch occupations or upgrade skills. We know that the growing use of new technologies changes the structures and practices of work around us. There are changes in the way people work as well as in the types of pressures they are facing. There is an urgent need for universities to ask themselves, what kinds of future managers or employees are we educating?

How to prepare for the challenge?

Get acquainted with the challenges that lie ahead for both the higher education sector and work life at large. We are talking about a mismatch between supply and demand of competences: what is being taught at universities does not always match with the exponentially changing needs of work life. Get to know the terminology -- what is the difference between knowledge, generalist skills,

specialist skills, attitudes, competencies, competences, etc.

Why is it important to find a solution to this challenge?

Higher education institutions need to become more proactive rather than reactive in their approaches towards building competences. We need to recognise new ways of measuring and identifying competences -- forecasting for the future. The societal impact of universities is very much tied in with the knowledge, skills and competences of our graduates and what they bring to work life.

What is the possible impact of a good solution?

We develop work life pedagogical solutions for Aalto University and on a national scale for other higher education institutions in Finland. Testing solutions at Aalto University can bring much value to our current and future students.

What is the expected outcome of this challenge?

We are looking for anything that builds value to the learner. Whether it is a pedagogical framework, teaching innovation, application, technical solution, partnership plan -- you name it! Make sure you think about higher education from a non-traditional perspective as well. Do we need degrees and credits? How does life-long learning fit into the picture? Is teaching and learning online, offline or something else?