



Global Education Futures Forum - California

Towards learner-centered lifelong learning

1-3 APRIL 2015

Rosewood Sand Hills, Menlo Park, California

In conjunction with Global Technology Symposium

Our vision

We envision creative communities with a cause at the heart of 21st-Century learning. We believe that the world needs societies driven by innovation on a mass scale that are able to address global challenges, - now more than ever before. While this goal seems a very distant and long-term, the road toward this goal lies in the field of education & learning. Sustainable innovation roots in an everlasting constructive collaboration between open-minded people of different backgrounds and experiences that unite around common and significant cause. We believe that the role of education is to start producing innovative and cooperative communities that may sustainably innovate and shape a better world together. This happens through making education & learning desirable, sustainable, creative, collaborative, personalized and life-long.

Forum purpose

The California forum will explore main changes in education driven by technological innovations, major social & economic transformations, and personal & collective demands for education that meets 21st century needs.

- We assume that education of the future is the learner-centered, community-based, life-long, 24/7, open & flexible process integrated into our daily routines and enhanced by diverse technologies. This education should cater to many learner needs previously unattended by formal education systems - and it will involve many new solutions for online and face-to-face learning.
- While we may understand some aspects of future learning ecosystems, our collective path towards this desirable future is still unclear, and impactful necessary interventions and initiatives are still under-recognized. The purpose of our collective work in California would be to understand the possible pathways into the desirable future of education.
- Keynotes and panel discussions with education innovators and thought leaders will set the stage for the Rapid Foresight session that will focus on a set of key topics of exploration. The participants of GEF-California will also co-design a Future Learning Challenge - the first global open-source contest of education startups and innovation that encourages solutions 'from the future'.

Rapid Foresight Session

Major event of the Forum will be Rapid Foresight session for 100+ diverse experts from all around the globe. Rapid Foresight is a participatory methodology that helps organizations and communities sense and articulate challenges and opportunities of the emerging future as well as develop capacities needed to effectively address them. Group work may last from several hours to several days and involves trend mapping, analysis of opportunities & challenges, and design of actionable initiatives. We will hold 2,5 days session for that purpose. More about participatory process is here ([link to website](#)).

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RF groups structure

Participants are carefully selected to represent critical forces that shape education worldwide and different roles participants play. These participants work with group curators & facilitators with impressive experience in participatory formats as well as in innovations in education. Each group will be working with:

- International expert from our Advisory Board
- Specialist in Rapid Foresight Methodology
- Moderator in multi-stakeholder processes

Please, see biographies of our experts below.

Forum theme selection

Based on our vision and on the premises of key global trends, we have chosen four key themes to develop throughout Rapid Foresight session in California. It is our belief, that these key elements are crucial to the future of learning ecosystem, and truly address global challenges such as demographic & labor trends, next big technology shift, and inevitable change of consumer-based paradigm. These questions are equally important to learners, to education institutions, business & governments, and to NGOs, and they set a radical challenge for innovators around the globe. We invite you to explore these themes with us, and we encourage you to bring your experience, ideas and questions to the table.

Future Learning Challenge

Global Education Futures brings innovative learning to life in a range of settings. With the support of our network of leading global partners, we deliver innovative solutions into the real world, where they can be applied by schools and universities, by business and social entrepreneurs, by cities and regions. We envision a range of possibilities in building resilient learning cities and communities, in creating systemic and innovative solutions and products, in evolving our educational systems into life-long learning cycles. As a first step we will launch the first & only **Future Learning Challenge**, with criteria for startups designed “from the future” by Forum participants based on the united vision of the future of education.

GEF Forums results

We are fans of tangible outcomes. From our past experience, collaborative foresights create tons of new ideas, projects, and partnerships - but here everything depends on you. We can guarantee three outcomes of the series of GEF Forums:

- **Global Education Futures Agenda.** Maps of the future of education co-created during the Forums will be published as the Global Education Futures Agenda report (to be presented, among others, during the World Economic Forum 2016). All Forum contributors will be named as contributors.
- **Future Learning Challenge.** Based on the vision created in GEF-California, its participants will co-design the first global ‘open-source’ learning innovation challenge that will be launched in May 2015
- **Future Learning Leaders Program.** Ideas and key concepts of the Forums will be transferred into an international educational program for collaborative education leaders. The pilot program will be conducted in late 2015.

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Key themes of the Forum

Theme 1: How to create global online learning platforms that serve better world's education.

Challenges and themes to be explored by this group:

- What are the frameworks & overarching models that can drive the development of global learning platforms & global learning infrastructure (MOOCs & connected learning, BigData for learning analytics etc.). Should we expect the 'organic' emergence of new educational standards, or should we aim for collaborative design of these standards?
- The future of MOOCs: are we going to move from one-to-many MOOC model to many-to-many global connected learning platforms? If so, what are the driving principles of such future platforms?
- How should the diversity of cultural contexts on national & regional levels be acknowledged and retained? How to avoid the 'imperialism' in massive online education?
- How can the learner communities gain more control over the content? How can the content be co-created? What are the regulatory barriers (e.g. IP legislation) that can block the development of open education models?
- Evidence-based online pedagogy - what can we expect in next 10 years? Should the sets of pedagogical data be shared by global learning platforms, and on what principles?

Theme 2: How will new models of knowledge creation be organized?

Challenges and themes to be explored by this group

- How will the science transform in the era of Engelbard's 'instant knowing' that ends 'Gutenberg Era'? What will be the role of knowledge generation, and how the knowledge will be generated? Who and how will provide the 'worldview' for the education?
- What will be the role of Artificial Intelligence in organization of knowledge creation processes?
- The balance of pragmatism vs. academic Freedom in the future: is there a future of autonomous research agenda (e.g. is there a role for classical universities that seek to generate the 'frontier' knowledge)?
- What will be the role of different types of knowledge beyond scientific (e.g. poetic, intuitive etc.) - will new languages of knowing emerge, and what are they?
- What are the frontier and future technologies of thinking that may emerge?
- How will the collaborative models of 'living knowledge' in communities of practice be organized? Will such collaborative knowledge generation replace the hierarchies guiding the 'division of intellectual labor'?
- What will be the future of IP in knowledge generation, and what are the productive models that should spread in the future?



Theme 3: How will viable mass-scale models of personalized education be built?

Challenges and themes to be explored by this group

- What competence based models can support life long learning, including metaskills? What new layers of competence models are required if we move beyond professional education (e.g. 'existential' competencies)?
- What technologies will support personalized learning beyond development of knowledge and cognitive abilities? (e.g. simulators that train social skills; biofeedback and other technologies for personal development; educational robotics; etc.)
- How should personalized learning be integrated with collaborative learning: what tools are / will be required?
- What should be the environments for socialization & group processes if personalized learning goes mass-scale - especially for children and teenagers?
- What are the future requirements for organization & personalization of learner's data (e.g. continuity of learner's progress tracking when moving between platforms / providers, tracking of experiential learning, tracking of progress beyond formal educational contexts etc.)?
- What kind of financing tools can help in emergence & spreading of mass-scale personalized education? (e.g. 'direct talent investment', education insurance, investment into teams etc.) Can new currencies (incl. cryptocurrencies or online reputation ranks) help turn personalized learning into a mass-scale phenomenon?

Theme 4: How to increase the resilience of our cities and communities through collaborative learning?

Challenges and themes to be explored by this group

- Creating practices of urban resilience: how should local learning communities (with a cause) be organized and maintained?
- How can education help maintain personal & collective well-being & harmony (e.g. preventive medicine models based on educational efforts)?
- What types of education can create healthier families: e.g. support to motherhood and parenthood, improving of child-parent and intergenerational relations?
- How can learning in crisis / learning to overcome crisis be organized? (e.g. hazards, ethnic conflicts, economic crises etc.)
- What designs of new public spaces can support learning?
- How can next generation smart environments (e.g. Internet of Things) help create productive scenarios for urban learning?
- Transformation of urban living: how can education help tap abundant resources of community members?

Future Learning Challenge

Solutions from the future

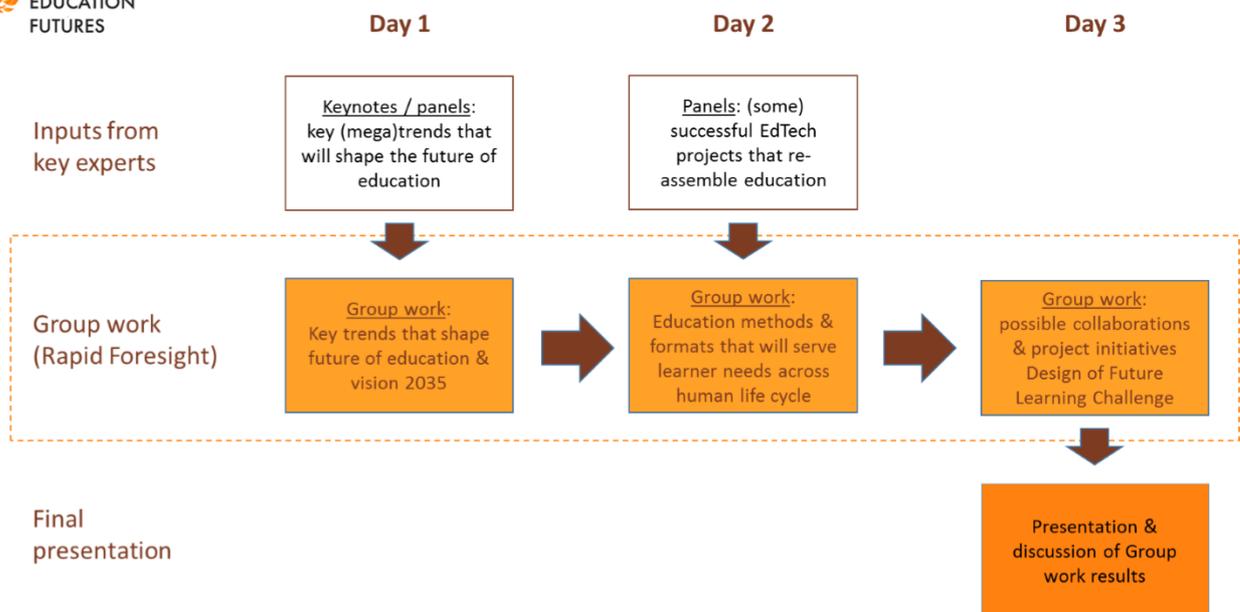
We envision a range of possibilities in building resilient learning cities and communities, in creating systemic and innovative solutions and products, in evolving our educational systems into life-long learning cycles.

As a part of the answer to these questions, we will launch the first & only Future Learning Challenge:

- Unique contest designed from the future, addressing systemic challenges in education & learning
- Collaborative design process of contest criteria through foresight session
- Our partner in this contest is [Open Education Challenge](#)
- We will launch the Challenge in May 2015.
- We will hold a short acceleration program in Singapore for the leading teams
- We will present the results and award the winner in Russia in July 2016

Through Rapid Foresight session GEF-California participants will co-design the first global open-source learning innovation challenge together. Selection criteria, its procedures and jury nominations will be collectively defined as a product of the group vision built through the session.

Forum Structure





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Forum Program

1 April 2015: Charting the future: key trends that shape education and learning

10:00 - 11:00 Introduction, GEF & GTS presentation

11:00 - 13:30 Keynote/panels on vision of the future of technology, socio-economics, socio-cultural phenomena and Big History trends.

13:30-14:30 Lunch

14:30 - 18:00 Foresight-session. Group work on mapping key trends in education. Vision of Education 2035. Discussion of opportunities and threats for diverse stakeholders.

- How to create global online learning platforms that serve better world's education?
- How will new models of knowledge creation be organized?
- How will viable mass-scale models of personalized education be built?
- How to increase the resilience of our cities and communities through collaborative learning?

18:00-20:00 Cocktails & Dinner at Stanford Faculty Club

2 April 2015: Finding our pathway into the future of education

10:00 - 11:00 **Joint session of GEF / GTS.** Keynotes / panels with pioneers in learning/EdTech innovations

11:00 - 17:00 **Foresight session (continues).** Human Learning Lifecycle: mapping of existing, emerging & new educational solutions that cater to various human needs.

13:30 - 14:30 Lunch

17:00-18:00 **Joint session of GEF/GTS.** Fire Chat with impact investors: In a search of the next big markets to invest.

18:00-20:00 Dinner / Networking

All day: **Virtual Startup Valley.** Presentations of learning innovations on screens across the venue.

3 April 2015: Projects that will bring us there

10:00 - 13:00 - **Foresight session (continues).** Discussion of existing projects & potential collaborations. Design of the Future Learning Challenge.

1330 - 14:30 Lunch

14:30 - 15:30 Joint GEF / GTS session. Presentation of promising startups in EdTech

15:30 - 17:30 Joint GEF / GTS session. Presentation of GEF group work results.

17:30-18:00 Final remarks

18:00-20:00 Dinner / Networking



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(Optional) 4 April 2015: Future is here

10:00 - 18:00 Experimental learning & study tours with California innovators. During the 'optional' day we would like to conduct several experiential study tours to various unconventional educational projects that exist in the Bay Area.

At this point, we envisage three such possibilities:

- **Experience life in San Francisco streets.** A one-day Street Retreat with Faithful Fools Ministry may be one of the most unconventional ways to experience SF and empathically connect with one of the impactful projects about the life of homeless in the Bay Area
- **Learning for social change.** Meeting change agents and education innovators at one of the most vibrant changemaker hubs of the West Coast, Impact Hub Oakland
- **Frontiers of EdTech.** We will use the advantage of our location at the heart of Silicon Valley to meet some of the leading EdTech startups in their homebases. Specific companies will be announced later.

About our partner GTS

The 12th Annual Global Technology Symposium themed “Learn, Start, Lead” will take place in April 2015 in Silicon Valley, California. The Symposium is the leading investment conference on venture capital, innovation and entrepreneurship in emerging markets. Anchor companies, startups, investors, policymakers and management gurus gather for high-energy inspirational talks, opinion leader dialogue, startup pitches and exposure to fresh ideas and market intelligence. GTS is taking a fresh approach in 2015, exploring how education intersects with innovation and investment. Participants will engage in thought-provoking discussions about global trends in education and entrepreneurship. Transform profound visions into reality.

Registration

Global Education Futures partners with Global Technology Symposium in the USA. [Please, register through GTS facilities](#). Registration code for GEFF participants if GEFF. Please contact us to get a promotion code that gives a special discount/fee waiver.

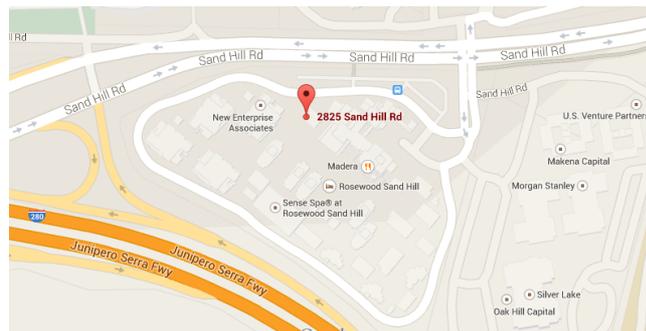
Venue

Rosewood Sand Hills, Menlo Park, California

Nestled amid 16 pristine acres in Silicon Valley, Rosewood Sand Hill melds the rich heritage of relaxed California Ranch architecture with fragrant gardens and stunning Bay Area views of the Santa Cruz Mountains. Rosewood Sand Hill guests enjoy unparalleled attention to detail and impeccable service with resort-like amenities, lush courtyard gardens and local charm.

Rosewood Sand Hill, 2825 Sand Hill Rd., Menlo Park, CA 94025, USA

T: +1 650 561 1500 E: sandhill@rosewoodhotels.com





Travel

Accommodations

GTS has arranged a special group rate at the Rosewood Sand Hill. Deluxe rooms are \$395 per night and Premiere rooms are \$445 per night, exclusive of 12% occupancy tax. Rooms are based on a first come, first serve basis and once the block is full, rooms will be based upon the hotel's availability and current rates.

GTS Special Group Rate

To reserve your room, call the hotel's reservation department at +1 (650) 561-1515 and ask for the "GTS Room Block," or click on the link above for online reservations and enter the code0315GTSC when prompted.

Parking

Overnight valet parking is available at \$25.00 per night and self-parking is complimentary.

VISAS

For assistance with your travel visas, contact Andrey Zakharenko with Russian Connections.
Tel: +1 (415) 434-0100
GTS@gettorussia.com
www.gettorussia.com

Transportation

Nearby Airports:

San Francisco International Airport (SFO) 15 miles
Mineta San Jose International Airport (SJC) 16 miles
Oakland International Airport (OAK) 39 miles

Airport Transfers

Sedan and limousine airport transfers can be arranged through the hotel's concierge. Call +1 (650) 561-1500 for more information.

Driving Directions

- **From San Francisco Airport (23.1 miles /30 minutes):** Exit the airport and take Highway 101 South towards San Jose; drive for seven miles. Take exit 414B to merge onto Highway 92 West towards Half Moon Bay; drive four miles. Take exit 8 to merge onto 280 South towards San Jose; drive 19 miles. Exit Sand Hill Rd East; loop around to take the overpass and merge onto Sand Hill Rd. Turn right at the second traffic light; the hotel entrance is on the right.
- **From San Jose Airport (23 miles /24 minutes):** Head southeast on Airport Boulevard. Merge on 880 South toward Santa Cruz; drive three miles. Merge onto 280 North toward San Francisco; drive 18 miles. Exit Sand Hill Rd East; turn right onto Sand Hill Road Turn right at the first traffic light; the hotel entrance is on the right.
- **From Oakland International Airport (39 miles /45 minutes):** Exit Airport Drive; becomes 98th Avenue. Merge onto 880 South via ramp to San Jose. Take exit 27 to merge onto Highway 92 West towards Jackson Street/San Mateo Bridge (toll USD4); drive 17 miles. Take exit 8 to merge onto 280 South toward San Jose. Exit Sand Hill Road East; loop around to take the overpass and merge onto Sand Hill Road. Turn right at the second traffic light; the hotel entrance is on the right.
- **From Downtown San Francisco (35 miles /40 minutes):** Take Highway 280 South at 6th Street entrance; drive 35 miles. Exit on Sand Hill Road East; loop around to take the



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overpass and merge onto Sand Hill Road. Turn right at the second traffic light; the hotel entrance is on the right.

- **From Downtown San Jose (22.2 miles /23 minutes):** Merge on to Highway 280 north at San Carlos and Bird Avenue; drive on Highway 280 20 miles. Exit on Sand Hill Road East; turn right onto Sand Hill Road. Turn right at the first traffic light; the hotel entrance is on the right.