Capturing and transacting ‘value for students’ in the Digital University: the Blockchain Educational Passport

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@futurefocusedg1
HE leadership: caught between the Scylla and Charybdis of efficiency and inclusivity
25 years of HE reform:

* Opening to new providers (massification of HE)
* Opening to competition (Marketisation)

* New funding system
* New regulatory system
* Teaching Excellence Framework
* Value for money & cost efficiency
* Students as consumers
* Focus on employability
Macro-changes - Part 1

HE in transition: From core mission to social mission?

Double Helix [teaching and research]

Triple Helix [academia, business and government, Etzkowitz, et al, 2000]

Quadruple Helix and Normative business model [academia, business, government and social impact, Goddard and Vallance, 2011; Randles, 2015]

Intellectual mission

Economic mission

Social mission

Devecchi and Petford, 2015
Accountability, marketisation and mechanisation of teaching and learning?

- Value for money
- Student experience
- Student satisfaction
- Learning gains
Macro changes – Part 3
Knowledge economy, AI, IoT, blockchain
disruptive innovation

The real change is still to come.

Artificial intelligence, blockchain and the Internet of Things have the potential to disrupt what and how universities work, not just how they do research and teach.
OUR RESPONSE TO THE CHALLENGE

#BlockchainEducationalPassport
Measuring value as combined worth

1. Valuation
   A valuation is the appreciation of something based on the values we hold as determining the intrinsic and extrinsic quality of the object under valuation.

2. Accountability
   Accountability is the way in which we account for and therefore we are responsible for the efficiency and effectiveness by which we achieve what we value.

3. Evaluation
   Evaluation is the method/s by which we determine the extent to which our valuation of quality matches the parameter used to ascertain the value of the object.

VALUES
VALUE
COMBINED WORTH
But what is that we value?
A Balancing act?

Value for money
Value for industry
Value for society
Value for students
How do we currently account for personal and institutional worth?

- How do we combine the worth?
- Who owns the worth and data?
- How do we track the change overtime?
- How can we demonstrate personal and institutional value?
A knowledge procurement circular economy of value
Blockchain Educational Passport

Wallet of Learning Achievements

01
Formal Certifications
Certificates and diplomas given by public or private schools validated by the Lebanese government.

02
Informal Education
Certificates, awards, and other proofs of learning following participation in informal education, such as that provided by NGOs.

03
Non-Formal Achievements
Recognition of skills, competences and other merits gained through employment or volunteering and validated by employers or others working with the child.
#BlockchainEducationalPassport: A Distributed Learning Ledger

A traditional ledger accounting for transactions reflecting the exchange of objects of value and their final balance.

Key currency is money or gold although other currencies can be agreed by contracting partners.

A shared ledger accounting for transactions reflecting the exchange of objects of value and their final balance.

Key currency are cryptocurrencies although other currencies can be agreed by contracting partners.
Blockchain as the ‘Ledger of everything’

‘Algorithms that enable the creation of distributed ledgers are powerful, disruptive innovations that could transform the delivery of public and private services and enhance productivity through a wide range of applications.’ (Government Office for Science, 2016: 5, emphasis in the original)

‘We should think about blockchain as another class of things like the Internet - a comprehensive information technology with tiered technical levels and multiple classes of applications for any form of asset registry, inventory, and exchange, including every area of finance, economics, and money; hard assets (physical property, homes, cars); and intangible assets (votes, ideas, reputation, health, data, information, etc.). But the blockchain concept is even more; it is a new organizing paradigm for the discovery, valuation and transfer of all quanta (discrete units) of anything, and potentially for the coordination of all human activity at a much larger scale that has been possible before’ [Swan, 2015, Preface, p. vii, emphasis added]

