World Academy of Art & Science
World Academy Forum on the
Future of Global Higher Education

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Education

- Education is a social technology for human development.
- Education is the means by which society passes on to future generations the essential knowledge and skill accumulated in the past in a concentrated and abridged form, so that today’s youth can start off at the highest point attained by their forefathers.
- Education is the technology of civilization and conscious social evolution.
Dawning Revolution in Education

- **Demography** – huge capacity deficit to meet the needs of growing populations, rising expectations and higher incomes in developing countries

- **Social** – rapid social change necessitates new and different types of knowledge and skills

- **Technology** – unprecedented capacity to extend the reach, specificity, quality & efficiency

- **Employment** – growing mismatch between skills of the labor force & needs of society

- **Finance** – budgetary pressures on public spending and rising cost of private investment in education

- **Globalization** – educational markets are expanding from local to global
Conference Objectives

- Identify the social needs to be met
- Catalog the challenges to be addressed
- Focus on emerging opportunities
- Formulate the questions to be answered
- Explore complementary & alternative approaches
- Identify potential contributors & collaborators
- Propose next steps
Ask the Big Question

- If you were asked to design a system of education to provide accessible, affordable, relevant world-class education to all humanity, how would you do it?