Call for manuscripts for a special issue on foresight education of the World Futures Review (WFR)

Title: Teaching Futures: The State of the Practice

Issue Editor: Peter Bishop, PhD, APF

We have been teaching and writing about the future for a long time now. The embryonic World Futures Studies Federation and the World Futures Society were compiling lists of foresight courses around the world in the late 1960s (Eldredge, 1970; Rojas, 1970; Marien, 1972). Eleonora Masini published a massive directory in her newsletter for the IRADES group (Istituto Ricerche Applicate Documentazioni e Studi) in Rome through the 1970s (Masini, 1971).

Toffler published Learning for Tomorrow in 1974, perhaps the first book on using the future in education. Since then the field has generated more than a dozen books on teaching futures, notably from Kauffman (1976), Slaughter (1993), Dator (2002), Hicks (2002), Gidley (2005) and Bishop and Hines (2012).

All to say, we have been teaching futures and writing about it for more than 50 years now. It’s more than a possibility or an aspiration. It’s a real practice. So it’s time to assess the state of that practice. What do we do when we teach futures? What are we teaching? And why? What should we be teaching and why? How does what we teach about futures or how we teach differ from other subjects? What are the successes? The failures? What are the scenarios for the future of this practice? How could it be improved and why?”

You may also write about your own experience teaching futures. What do you teach that is unique or different from other foresight educators? How has your teaching foresight evolved over time. We are interested literally anything that makes a contribution to our general understanding of what foresight education is and/or should become.

The submission process is two steps –

- The first step is to submit an abstract or an outline of your idea. Be sure to state clearly the main point(s) you are making. So the abstract or outline is more than just what the article will be about (the topic); it should state what you are going to say about the topic.

- Please submit your abstract/outline to Peter Bishop at peter@teachthefuture.org by December 15, 2017.

- The second step is to submit your manuscript once your idea has been accepted. Articles will be peer-reviewed and may be either short articles (1000 words), provided that you are able to explain and support your main point in a few words, or long articles (4000-8000 words), provided that they do not contain extraneous material.

- Jim Dator, editor of the WFR, will give you technical details about style and how to submit your manuscript to the WFR when your abstract is approved.

- Deadline for you to submit your manuscript formally to WFR is March 1, 2018.

If you have any questions, please contact Peter Bishop at peter@teachthefuture.org.
References


