

2

0:00:00

What is the future of Gen Z?

1

0:00:12

Well, students of the future, this is a very, very difficult question. My experience so far, everybody is talking about Gen Z, we see already different sub-generations. So what I witnessed is that students' cohorts are changing year after year. This is because of the fast pace of technology, which has an impact on the economy. And little by little is having a very important impact on the society at large. So for this reason, it's very difficult to make a prediction. What I think and I kind of hope is that although the, you know, the main feature, the main characteristic of the Gen Z will be kind of maximized. So, instant gratification, very short or relatively short attentional span, span of attention, sorry, or a little more attention to their fulfillment and more than a work ethic per se, like probably was happening in the previous generation, this will be maximized. There will be more and more part of students that will tend to understand the meaning of what they do rather than getting an education because later on they can get a job, you know, that will challenge a lot the system, the society, including the university. So if this is going to increase, on the other hand, my feeling is that the same kind of students are really looking and they are in great need of re-establishing physical social networks, physical bonding with other peers. And that's why I think that the university can really play a role they will become a physical agora where people which are students, staff and professor with same kind of interest, they meet together and they establish relationships. So it will be, I think that the university will play a very important role, more than we think, because Right now, young students or university students, they get along together, you know, at night, they go to club, pubs, wherever, but probably one of the place where they spend most of the time, at least at the ACP, this is our experience, probably a little bit unique compared to others, is actually school. But we need to give them many opportunities to gather a school for classes, but more importantly for group works or living together the experience of learning. And this is happening in smaller groups. So it cannot happen in very large groups. Like I said before, the design of the campus, of the university campuses will change a lot and will converge more towards favoring, you know, developing skills and doing group work, working together. So that will be changing also what the students want and what we need to do as an educator in order to second their needs, whether they are expressed as need or they're actually latent because there's a huge really demand for sociality among the very young generation but I unfortunately were we as older generation we're not really keeping the right opportunity to them as older generation we're not really keeping the right opportunity to them because the structure of the university in the society is not really aligned with what they need right now.