



## **FutureScape Issue 4 – August 7th 2009**

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### **Welcome to Issue 4 of FutureScape**

FutureScape is the fortnightly(ish) research and insights newsletter from Fast Future. We hope you find it of use and interest and look forward to receiving your feedback, contributions and suggestions for future issues.

In this issue we look at 'Jobs that don't yet exist' and offer you the chance to participate in the research process.

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### **Jobs that don't yet exist**

We are undertaking a very short cycle project on the kinds of jobs that will be created in 10-20 years' time through advances in science and technology. Based on our initial research we've identified and defined ten new job roles that could become reality within 10-20 years time.

Now it's your turn! Please let us have your suggestions and descriptions of the kinds of new jobs that you think could emerge over the next 10-20 years as a result of advances in science and technology. Our timescales are very tight (the project was only approved this afternoon) and so we'd need your feedback by the end of Monday 9th August. If you have any suggestions please reply to this email.

To help stimulate your thinking we've also included a list of 20 additional titles of jobs that don't yet exist. Once we have your feedback we will then compile a longer list and ask you to vote on your favourites. Please do take a few minutes to share your thoughts.

### **1. Personal Entertainment Programmer (1)**

Designers of in-person or electronic activities that will meet the need for individualised services.

### **2. Genomics Developer / Architect / Baby Designer (2)**

With the unravelling of the human genome, new roles could emerge to design personalised enhancements and select the genetic make-up of your unborn child.

### **3. Resource Use Consultant**

As environmental awareness rises, roles could emerge for advisors who help individual citizens grade the impact of every action / purchase / item and manage down the ecological footprint of our lifestyles and purchases.

### **4. Personal Enhancement Advisors**

Advances in new materials and nanotechnology, cognitive science, natural therapies and pharmaceuticals will offer an increasingly broad range of legal (and illegal) personal enhancements. These could be used to give sports people a competitive edge, enhance our memory capacity when studying for exams or increase the strength and endurance of soldiers in the field. Roles could emerge professionals who take a holistic approach advising across a full range of possible enhancements.

### **5. Psycho-Customiser**

Future generations of mobile phones could offer a range of applications to help monitor and manage stress levels and counsel us on key decisions. Tomorrow's retail assistant could perform behavioural assessments to help customise our devices to match our personality type.

## **6. Nano-Medic (2)**

Advances in nanotechnology offer the potential for a range of sub-atomic 'nanoscale' devices, inserts and procedures that could transform personal healthcare. A new range of nano medicine specialists will be required to administer these treatments.

## **7. Vertical Farmers**

There is growing interest in the concept of city based vertical farms, with hydroponically-fed food being grown in multi-storey buildings. These offer the potential to dramatically increase farm yield and reduce environmental degradation. The managers of such entities will require expertise in a range of scientific disciplines, engineering and commerce.

## **8. Spaceline Pilots (1)**

With Virgin Galactic and others pioneering space tourism the need for space trained pilots will arise.

## **9. Climate Change Reversal Specialist**

As the threats and impacts of climate change increase, a new breed of engineer-scientists will be required to help reduce or reverse the effects of climate change on particular locations. They will need to apply multi-disciplinary solutions ranging from filling the oceans with iron filings to erecting giant umbrellas that deflect the sun's rays.

## **10. Hydrogen Fuel Station Manager (3)**

A Ford Motor Company study found that Hydrogen could be cost-competitive with gasoline if refuelling stations were mass-produced. The hydrogen would be produced on-site, so managers would need an entirely different set of skills than those required in today's gas stations.

In addition to the jobs described above, we have also identified a further 20 interesting possibilities:

1. Professional VR Citizen
2. Second Life Lawyer
3. Human to Machine Download Controller

4. Machine Linguist
  5. Complexity Manager / Gaiantologist
  6. Robot Mechanic
  7. Chief Health Officer
  8. Telemedicine Technician
  9. Farmer of Genetically Engineered Crops and Livestock
  10. Spaceport Designer
  11. Space Tour Guide
  12. Terraformer of the Moon and Other Planets
  13. In-Company Gene Screener
  14. Drowned City Specialist
  15. Quarantine Enforcer
  16. Biorefinery Operative
  17. Holographer
  18. Virtual Reality Actor
  19. Narrowcaster
  20. Dirigible Pilot
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References:

1) Joyce L Gioia '21st Century Career Planning' published by WFS in 'The Futurist' Magazine [www.wfs.org](http://www.wfs.org)

2) 'Leona's Blog' (suggested by Kay E. Strong)  
<http://systems.tinum.net/?p=211#comments>

3) Hannah Clark,  
[http://www.forbes.com/2006/05/20/jobsfuturework\\_cx\\_hc\\_06work\\_0523jobs.html](http://www.forbes.com/2006/05/20/jobsfuturework_cx_hc_06work_0523jobs.html)

What future jobs would you add to this list? We look forward to receiving your feedback, and contributions.

## About Fast Future

Fast Future is a research and consulting firm which focuses on helping clients anticipate and develop innovative responses to the forces, patterns of change and ideas shaping the future. To book Rohit for a speech or workshop, or to discuss your research and consulting needs please contact [rohit@fastfuture.com](mailto:rohit@fastfuture.com) or call +44 (0)20 8830 0766

## Forthcoming Dates for your Diary

This is a selection of 'future focused' events that we think could be of interest. Those marked with an R are the ones where Rohit is speaking and / or chairing the event.

*September 14th- 15th (R)*, Driving Sustainability - The Future of Sustainable Transport Technology, Reykjavik Iceland. Cost - 69,000 Icelandic Krone (US\$550)

*September 18th - 20th (R)*, Get Inspired - International Association of Facilitators European Conference, Oxford, England. Cost - IAF Members £592.25 / Non Members £649.75

*October 14th-16th (R)*, Visioning 20.20 – Escaping the Age of Stupid, 5<sup>th</sup> European Futurists Conference, Lucerne, Switzerland. Cost €1040 - 20% early bird discount for bookings before July 31st

*October 21st -24th*, Poptech 09 – America Reimagined, Camden Maine, USA. Cost US\$3,500

*November 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> (R)*, Courage! – 7<sup>th</sup> Annual European Food Service Network CEO Conference, Cologne, Germany.