

# HDCS OUTLOOK

FALL 2016 HDCS NEWSLETTER

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## HDCS WELCOMES STUDENTS BACK WITH FALL RECEPTION.....

By Matt Oltremari

Back-to-school can be a trying time for students as they become familiar with campus, find their buildings or classrooms, meet faculty, and get to know fellow classmates. With those transition experiences in mind, the Department of Human Development and Consumer Sciences (HDCS) held its first-ever Student Welcome Reception at the beginning of the fall semester.

On Tuesday, September 6th, new and returning students gathered at the Cameron building to learn about what to expect in the HDCS programs during the semester, meet the program

coordinators and other faculty members and staff, and enjoy time for fellowship with other students. Light snacks and refreshments were also available for the students to enjoy.

In addition to the reception, the event also featured a fragrance/cosmetics fair, sponsored by Macy's. Representatives from Macy's and various cosmetics vendors provided free product samples and make-overs to attendees.

A great time was had by all in attendance. We would like to encourage HDCS students to be on the lookout for more events coming in the future.



Dr. Holly Hutchins addresses HRD students.



Representatives from Macy's having a good time.



HDCS students enjoying the Welcome Reception.

# RETAILING AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

## HELPING STUDENTS PREPARE FOR THE NEXT STEP .....

By Matt Oltremari

Developing students and preparing them for the “real world” are two goals for any institute of higher learning. The Department of Human Development and Consumer Sciences (HDCS) at the University of Houston believes that and strives to provide opportunities to our students to help achieve those goals. During the fall 2016 semester, Retailing and Consumer Science (RCS) hosted two events to better prepare students for the interview and job search process.

At the **Interviewing Training Day**, held on Wednesday, October 5th, students were given the opportunity to sit through sessions on topics to help prepare them for the interview process. Information on résumé writing, dressing for successful interviewing, and interviewing techniques was provided by the speakers on hand. In addition, the opportunity to sit down one-on-one with business professionals was offered during an executive table talks period.



Target associates speak to students about resume writing during the Interviewing Training Day event.

Representatives from Caridas Consulting Group, Dillard’s, Jos. A. Bank Clothiers, Kroger, Target, Redwing Boots, Texas Retailers Association, and The Home Depot took part in the Interviewing Training Day event.



Steve Springer, Store Manager at Jos. A. Bank, talks with an RCS student about men’s fashion during the Interviewing Training Day event.

At the annual **Movers & Shakers** event, held on Wednesday, October 19th, RCS students enjoyed the benefit of having potential employers come to them! By signing up for time slots, attending students were able to sit down for a brief interview with one or more of the many companies on hand for internships and/or permanent positions. Representatives from Academy, Dillard’s, Elizabeth Anthony, HEB, Joan Pillow Bridal Salon, Kroger, Nordstrom, Target, and Wal-Mart visited with students throughout the morning.

Following the interviews, event attendees had the privilege of listening to presentations by Melissa Whitehead (SVP Store Operations for Charming Charlie) on retail

innovation, Roz Pactor and a panel of expert fashion & lifestyle bloggers on how to be a successful blogger, and Sydney Gerbracht (Freelance Consultant for Media and Marketing) on pursuing passions.

HDCS would like to thank all of the students, companies and professional representatives for taking part in these two wonderful events!



Representatives from Academy and Joan Pillow conduct interviews with RCS students during the Movers & Shakers event.



Tenniqua Hayes, HR Coordinator with Kroger, interviews an RCS student during the Movers & Shakers event.

# GLOBAL RETAILING STUDENT BEGINS CAREER IN RETAIL INDUSTRY .....

By Matt Oltremari

As she continues her studies for the Master's in Global Retailing, UH student Veronica Quiroga has already started her career in the retail industry. Veronica recently accepted a position as the Social Media Coordinator for Francesca's in the corporate office. She sat down with us to share some thoughts on her decision to pursue a degree in Global Retailing and how it has prepared her for her new position.

**Q: Why did you initially choose the Global Retailing program?**

A: During my undergraduate studies, I was always fascinated with the different cultures outside of the United States. My interest in different cultures and how they influence the way business is conducted attracted me to the Global Retailing program. Before making the decision to pursue my master's degree, I had many questions. I met with Professor Barbara Stewart, who kindly answered

all of my questions and provided great insight about the program. Upon extensive research, the Global Retailing program was an evident career path for me.

**Q: What is your expected date of graduation?**

A: I will graduate from the Global Retailing program in December 2017.

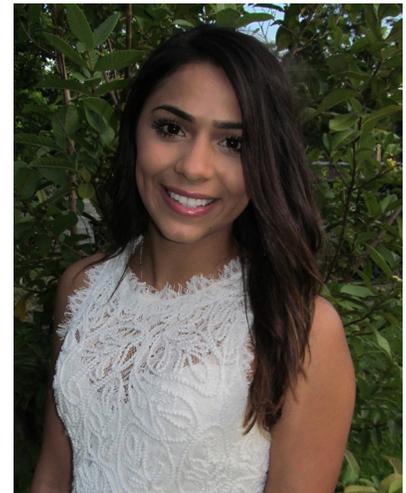
**Q: How has the Global Retailing program prepared you for your new position?**

A: It has taught me responsibility, communication, leadership and how to be an accountable teammate. In the Global Retailing program, a large portion of our assignments are in groups. This has helped me in my current position because it has equipped me with essential skills to incorporate in my immediate team.

**Q: What lessons did you learn while in the program? Any advice for future students?**

A: I learned that anything is possible when you apply yourself and have a vision for your future.

For future students: Enjoy every second of the program, and get to know your instructors. Every single one of my Global Retailing professors have left a positive influence on me. They will help guide you in the right direction, and more importantly they are the greatest mentors you'll have.



Veronica Quiroga

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# NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION DIGITAL SUMMIT STRESSES TECH IMPORTANCE .....

By Matt Oltremari

Two Retailing and Consumer Science (RCS) students took advantage of a great opportunity to learn about the importance of technology in retail at the National Retail Federation® (NRF®) Student Program at Retail's Digital Summit. Breanna Avila and Brooke Pappas attended the event, held in Dallas, TX on September 26th and 27th, along with approximately 250 undergraduate and graduate students from around the country.

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# RETAILING AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

## NRF DIGITAL SUMMIT

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Speakers from Dick’s Sporting Goods, Under Armour, PetSmart, Target, and Macy’s shared how their companies are using new technology to change the customer experience. Students also had networking opportunities with many of the same retailers, along with JC Penny, HEB, and Kohl’s to discuss jobs available in retail technology and to ask questions



Brooke Pappas (L) and Breanna Avila (R) attend the Student Program at the NRF Digital Summit.

that related to their studies.

“The convention really brought together the technological side of retail and the part big data and analytics play in providing the best service possible,” said Breanna.

To make their experience even better, Breanna and Brooke, had their airfare, hotel and conference registration covered by NRF.

## FASHION ICON VICTOR COSTA VISITS

By Matt Oltremari

On Tuesday, November 15th, fashion icon and designer, Victor Costa, visited the UH campus to speak with Retailing and Consumer Science students about his life in fashion and the current and future state of the industry. Accompanied by his wife, Jerry Ann, and inspired by an exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum called

“Manus vs. Machina” (or Hand vs. Machine), Costa displayed pieces done by both hand and machine. The examples demonstrated the way that designers have evolved in the process of creating their dresses.

Victor Costa, a former UH student in the Human Development and Consumer Sciences department himself, is an award-winning fashion designer who is internationally known for haute couture copies that are more reasonably priced than the originals. His dresses have been sold at the finest stores in the world and have been worn over the years by celebrities such as Joan Crawford, Brooke Shields, Ivana Trump, Penelope Cruz, and Malin Ackerman.

Nearly 160 students, faculty, staff and special guests attended Costa’s presentation.



Dresses on display during Victor Costa presentation.



Victor Costa and his wife, Jerry Ann.

# GLOBAL RETAILING STUDENT REFLECTS ON TIME AT UH AND LOOKS TO THE FUTURE .....

By Matt Oltremari

Rakesh Salian, graduating from our Global Retailing program, recently sat down with us to reflect on his time at UH and to look at what is to come for him in his new career.

**Q: Why did you choose to pursue a Masters in Global Retailing?**

A: I have a lot of experience in retail and have an MBA in Marketing. Today, it's all about globalization, whether it's education or business. Hence, I thought Global Retailing will be the best option to compliment my prior experience and take it to the next level.

**Q: Have you been working while attending school?**

A: Yes, I have been working as a Teaching Assistant for my professor, Dr. Shirley Ezell, since fall 2015. I have also been managing the operations of a company called New Living since August 2016.

**Q: How will your Global Retailing degree help you become successful after graduation?**

A: Through the Global Retailing degree, I have learned about different cultures and demographics, as well as global political, economic, social and technological conditions. I've had the chance to analyze several case studies, which highlight the past/current/future challenges, as well as opportunities for retailers. I have met several retailers who have shared their insights with me about their businesses. I am sure these learnings will help me do well in the retail

industry.

**Q: What lessons have you learned in the classroom that will last into your career?**

A: I had the opportunity to work in multi-cultural teams. This has given me a first-hand experience of communicating with students from different countries. We often shared our best practices and cultural habits with each other. I have also improved on my presentation skills, as we had weekly case study presentations in class. Other important skills that I have honed in the last 2 years are time management, project management, working under pressure and handling challenging situations, analyzing financial data, and team management. As a manager in the retail sector, I am certain these skills will prove to be most important for my success in the long run.

**Q: What would you like to be doing professionally in the next 10 years?**

A: I would like to diversify my portfolio in business management to make myself eligible for jobs with higher responsibilities. That said, I would prefer to work for just one company and grow internally, rather than switching jobs. In addition, I would love to teach Management-related courses to students pursuing Masters or MBA degrees.

**Q: What advice do you have for students interested in obtaining an advanced degree?**

A: As a student interested in an advanced degree, start planning as early as possible. Decide in what



Rakesh Salian

career options you are interested. A few years of work experience will be great before starting an advanced degree. For instance, if you have been working as a marketing representative for a while and you really like it, then I would suggest you to be more specific in choosing a degree related to marketing. Otherwise, I would say a more general option is a wise decision, so that you have more than one field from which to choose. There is no set rule, and what's most important is to know the purpose of getting an advanced degree. Get in touch with the faculty members of the respective programs and get as much information as possible about the courses. I would also strongly recommend to work and study at the same time, so you can implement all the learnings from school in your job and make it work real-time.

# HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

## ARTICULATE EXPANDS E-LEARNING ACCESS FOR HRD STUDENTS .....

By Matt Oltremari

Having the proper tools to go along with course instruction is an invaluable piece of student success. Thanks to Articulate, UH Human Resource Development (HRD) students have access to such a tool to aid in their course work in Instructional Design.

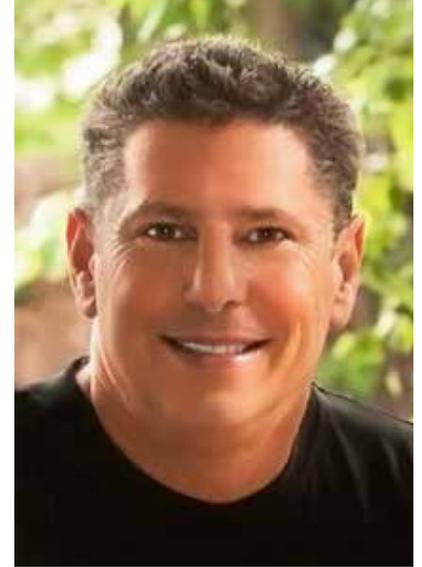
Articulate, a global leader in e-learning development, provides software, services, and content to more than 60,000 organizations in over 150 countries.

Mark Schwartz, EVP of Sales, who leads the global direct sales and channel management teams for Articulate, has generously donated free, fully-functional 120-day licenses of Articulate Storyline 2 for the undergraduate and graduate

Instructional Design courses. The licenses give approximately 150 students each term access to utilize the latest e-learning software for their projects. First offered as a gift for the HRD graduate program, Schwartz then generously expanded the offer, beginning this past summer, to include the undergraduate program as well.

HRD would like to thank Mark Schwartz and Articulate for their continued support of our program.

For more information on Articulate, visit [www.articulate.com](http://www.articulate.com).



Mark Schwartz

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## HRD STUDENTS PRESENT PROJECTS AT UH SUGAR LAND .....

By Matt Oltremari

A reception that promoted the innovations of several College of Technology programs was hosted by Dr. Renu Khator, Chancellor and President of the University of Houston, on September 22nd. The event was attended by supporters from Fort Bend County and the City of Sugar Land, UH representatives, and other special guests.

The College of Technology and other programs from the Sugar Land campus showcased innovative and creative demonstrations and presentations by both students and faculty. Reception attendees were given the opportunity

to visit with the presenters to discuss the successes in their respective areas of study.

Three students from our Human Resource Development (HRD) and Executive Human Resource Development (ExHRD) programs had the opportunity to take part in the event and present their projects:

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## UH SUGAR LAND

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- **Courtney Higgins** (HRD) – presented a video entitled “HR Instructional Design Internship Experience”
  - **Michaela Costa** (HRD) – presented a video entitled “Train the Train Project”
  - **Steven Woods** (ExHRD) – presented a video entitled “Change in Leadership Reflection”
- Courtney, Michaela, and Steven represented the HRD and Ex HRD programs well and their time and effort are greatly appreciated!



From L to R: Steven Woods (ExHRD student), Dr. Holly Hutchins (Associate Professor/HRD Coordinator), Matt Oltremari (HDCS Program Manager), Michaela Costa (HRD student), Courtney Higgins (HRD student), Dr. Marcella Norwood (Associate Professor/HDCS Department Chair).

## HRD PROGRAM BENEFITS FROM SUPPORT OF FORMER STUDENT

By Matt Oltremari

Jay Clancy, a 1995 Master’s in Human Resource Development (HRD) graduate from University of Houston, has been involved with the HRD program for a number of years - as a student, on the advisory board, and as a business professional mentoring students.

Clancy is the founder and owner of Strategic Ascent, a company that creates and facilitates learning and performance solutions that help employees become optimal performers in their working environments. Strategic Ascent was founded in 2000 and has consulted for large and small companies across many industries to help them improve their organizational results.

Three years ago, Strategic Ascent began offering internship opportunities to students in the HRD program

to help them meet their degree course requirements and to better prepare them for a career in learning and development. As a result, six former interns are currently working as employees with Clancy’s team.

“Our work with students helps them learn to apply the solid academic foundation they receive in the UH HRD program in real-world business contexts,” says Clancy.

As another way of helping better prepare HRD students for their careers, Clancy and Strategic Ascent offer a series of face-to-face and webinar sessions. These Learning Consulting Foundations sessions are free to current and recently-graduated students and help develop a well-rounded set of skills for performing the basics in learning consulting projects.

“My advice to students,” adds Clancy, “is to ‘geek out’ in your profession and

get in over your head! Staying on a steep learning curve is the best way to get the most out of life.”

For more information on Strategic Ascent, contact [jayclancy@strategicascent.com](mailto:jayclancy@strategicascent.com).



Jay Clancy

# FORESIGHT

## INTRODUCING FALL FORESIGHT STUDENTS

By Andy Hines

**Glenn Akins** serves as Assistant Executive Director of a large faith-based non-profit, based in Richmond, VA. He has spent the last 36 years helping churches pioneer their next chapters of service to their communities. Coaching, conferencing, and consulting comprises the bulk of his work. He enjoys learning and acquiring new skill sets to improve his service among his constituents. Though a product of Midwestern cities, Glenn has spent most of his adult life in the Southeast and has enjoyed the cultural differences. His primary hobby is raising Old English Sheepdogs.



**Bes Pittman Baldwin** has a broad research background that includes preclinical research and development of novel implantable cardiovascular devices and clinical trials experience in oncology, immunology, infectious diseases, neurology, and women's health. She served in a variety of roles at academic research organizations and biotech, pharmaceutical, and CRO companies, including positions in project management, clinical site monitoring, research protocol development, data quality assurance, research study coordination, analysis of global feasibility, and development of country and site strategies for projects in all phases of clinical development. Bes currently works for a global pharmaceutical company based in Belgium, crafting operational strategies for clinical trials of drugs in development.



**James Doughman** is a born-and-raised Texan and currently resides in Spring, TX, with his daughter and

fiancé. He currently works within the Cyber Defense Department at AIG as a CISSP Certified, Information Security Analyst. He has gathered valuable skills while previously working as a System Administrator, Network Engineer, Forensic Analyst, and PCI-DSS Compliance Consultant. James graduated from Sam Houston State University with a degree in Computer Science specialized in Information Assurance. His hobbies include motorcycles, firearms, and technical tinkering.



**Steve Lohrenz** is a Principal Consultant with a technology company. He has 18 years of experience in IT, having been a network administrator, programmer, systems analyst and software architect before his current role. He currently resides in California with his wife and son. They have also lived in Ireland and Montana. His hobbies include hiking, aikido and developing cool things with software.



**Yasamina ('Mina) McBride** is pursuing the MS in Foresight to help organizations and individuals both anticipate and exact more influence over the environment of continuous change that exists in the 21st century. Currently, she works with a team at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health's Center for Health and Global Environment.



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# FALL FORESIGHT STUDENTS .....

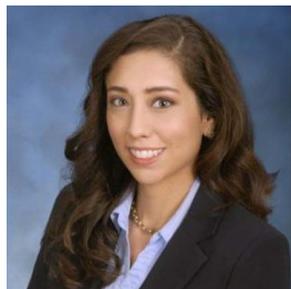
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The team produces Executive Education for Sustainability Leadership programs designed to enable senior leaders to learn powerful, new strategies that position sustainability as a driver of organizational engagement, authenticity, agility, innovation, and change-capability. As a corporate and independent trainer, she has led corporate training programs, produced and facilitated workshops, developed curricula, and designed instructional materials. An ALB graduate from Harvard University, her research interests include peak performance and how to affect behavioral change on an organizational and individual level.

**Tim Morgan** has had a lifelong fascination with the future. A natural optimist, he has constantly looked forward to how technological and social changes could improve life for everyone. To this point, Tim's primary outlet for futurism has been a voracious reading habit in science and technology-related fields, along with philosophy, sociology, economics, history and a host of other subjects. His interest in the future lead him to Science Fiction at an early age. This interest culminated in becoming president of the Dallas Future Society between 2011 and 2015. The Dallas Future Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to promoting Literature, Science, Art, and Music primarily via literary Science Fiction conventions, lectures, and other events. Several years ago, Tim attended our week-long certificate course and finally found the time to pursue the full degree.



**Natalie Pacheco** has over 13 years of experience working for a Fortune 500 Financial Services company in San Antonio, TX. Her experience has varied from call center operations, speech-to-text analytics, agile project management, and interactive voice response systems. She



currently works as a decision scientist, where she helps the company make the best decisions backed by data. Her undergraduate degree is a Bachelor of Arts in Business with a focus on Accounting. Natalie spends her free time reading, painting, baking, and learning ballet. She and her husband, Jason, have two 'fur-babies'...a cat named Chicken and a dog named Rainbow.

**Ileana Perez** is a pre-graduate student seeking the Certificate in Strategic Foresight. She is currently employed as the financial coordinator for the Texas Center for Superconductivity at the University of Houston. Ileana received a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance from Bauer College of Business at the University of Houston in 2013.



**Dave Ramirez** has experience in increasingly responsible roles within marketing at several companies. Notably, he has served as marketing director for two publishing companies, where he was responsible for managing all marketing, licensing, operations, and sales activities. One company focused on the energy industry and the other company developed fantasy and sci-fi graphic novels and children's books. During this time, he has managed large, complex events & product launches in several large cities including New York, Chicago, San Diego, Los Angeles, and Frankfurt, Germany. His leadership has helped his employers win several industry awards. Lastly, Dave also has extensive experience assisting start-ups with marketing strategy and communications technology. He earned a BS in Media Studies from the University of Houston - Clear Lake.



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# FORESIGHT

## FALL FORESIGHT STUDENTS .....

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**Andrea Ratzlaff** was born and raised in the Ozarks in Arkansas. She moved to Virginia in 1997 and outside of 6 months living in San Diego, has been there ever since. After earning a BS in Nursing in 2004 from Old Dominion University, she spent about 6 years working as an ICU nurse. In 2007, she began her MS in Nursing, but had to put that on hold about a year into it due to life (had kids). From there, she worked as a Clinical Research Coordinator for the major oncology group in her area for almost 7 years. Most recently, she has been working as a contractor for a medical software company based in New York and is finally getting back to school to finish her graduate degree. When she's not working or studying, Andrea is busy spending time with her three kids, reading, or traveling.

**Daniel Riveong** loves to connect the dots between individual behaviors, social dynamics, and the technology that enables them. He has over 18 years of experience in technology and advertising. The past few years, he has conducted a few foresight workshops in Asia. Most recently, he helped establish the first data science training program in Indonesia. Previously, he led the Asian regional office for a San Francisco-based digital consultancy. A relentless learner, he has attained certificates in design thinking, risk management, and data science from UC Berkeley, Stanford University, and Coursera/Johns Hopkins, respectively.



**Bo Roe** is passionate about leading creative teams to drive business growth through culturally relevant innovation. Over the past 11 years, he has led projects in Brazil, China, Colombia, Japan, France, Mexico, Switzerland, Turkey, and the US. In his most recent



role as Director, Innovation at Newell Brands, Bo and his team led over 100 future-oriented innovation sessions, delivering over 300 innovation platforms currently in development. His professional experience includes global work in consumer insights, creative problem-solving facilitation, innovation strategy development, and industrial design. Bo holds a B.S. in Industrial Design from Georgia Tech and a graduate certificate in Creativity, Innovation, and Change Management from the State University of New York. He has completed consumer insights training at both RIVA and the Burke Institute. Bo is defined by his insatiable curiosity, recently spending his spare time taking photographs from high altitude balloons, sailing, brewing beer, and dancing with his wife, two kids and dog to made up songs in the kitchen of their mid-century home in Kalamazoo, MI.

**Cyndi Whitecotton** is a Behavior Researcher who enjoys connecting people to their favorite organizations through meaningful experiences. She is currently researching how people perceive, interpret, interact and respond in a media rich world. Her focus to date has been on the decision-making processes users experience as they adopt or reject digital technologies. Additionally, she applies best practices in the areas of content analysis, user experience and quantitative behavioral research. By combining her knowledge in the areas of Media Psychology, Technology and Futures Work, she can assist organizations to create for how their audiences live and work in this digital age.



## EXPLORING THE FUTURE... WITH MISC

By Andy Hines

The bonds are strengthening between foresight and design. We recently received our first physical shipment of beautiful new magazines as part of the Houston Foresight Program's collaboration with MISC. MISC is published by Idea Couture... "where design meets business, insight meets foresight, and empathy meets economics." One of our alums, Emily Empel, the co-head of futures, joined the firm a few years ago after spending time with Disney, and raves about the combined power of foresight and design (and she instigated the program's collaboration with the magazine). We are listed as a co-publisher along with KAOSPILOT (a hybrid business and design school for entrepreneurship, creativity, and innovation), CEDIM (takes a design,



innovation and business approach to education), and OCAD (Strategic Foresight and Innovation). What an amazing set of collaborators!

Our first contribution will be released in the spring 2017 "game-changer" issue, "Exploring the Future of Anything and Everything." It's a

two-pager that introduces readers to our program and our core approach of Framework Foresight with highlights of four recent student framework projects. The layout is quite elegant. I'd say more but I can't give away the story before the issue is out!

I recently used an image of my TV hero, Agent Dale Cooper of Twin Peaks, to note synchronicity, or when multiple signals from different places are telling you something. I heard a dissertation on the role of scenarios in foresight and design from newly minted Dr. Danila Zindato, who visited with us in fall 2015, at a design school in Italy. I wrote about future-friendly design in the new PDMA product handbook. And, well, for years many professional futurist colleagues have been exploring design and foresight together. I suppose sometimes the signals get louder!

## "FUTURE OF STUDENT NEEDS" WORK ON LUMINA SITE

By Andy Hines

It is great to see the follow-up work we did for the original "Future of Student Needs 2025 and Beyond" get published on the student-powered section of the Lumina Foundation's website. A key recommendation of the original work was to set up a portal for students to provide input into the discussion on the future of higher education.



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# FORESIGHT

## “FUTURE OF STUDENT NEEDS”

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So much of the work being done and discussion takes on the institutional perspective – the student voice is often overlooked, so we thought it would be cool to have students engage with our content about the future.

After some internal discussion, the client agreed and we worked with Smallbox, a design agency, to provide content for the site. We commissioned a separate and smaller team and generated a wide range of content about the future of student needs that was designed to provide an interesting and interactive experience for site visitors. There’s quite a range of interesting material to play with: the full report, key insights, blog posts, emerging needs, and more to come!



From L to R: – Top row: Andy Hines, Alex Whittington, Johann Schutte, Maria Romero. Bottom row: Katie King, Jason Crabtree, Ben Lummis, Will Williamson.

## HOUSTON FORESIGHT AT THE WORLD FUTURE SOCIETY 2016

By Andy Hines

The Houston Foresight program was once again well-represented at the World Future Society (WFS) and Association of Professional Futurists (APF) summits, held in Washington DC from July 22-24, 2016. Congratulations to Julie Steele and the new team at WFS for simply pulling this conference off, given that they took over only a few months before the conference. As usual, I spent more time focusing on APF

matters and doing a lot of catching up with old friends.

### **WFS Best of Houston**

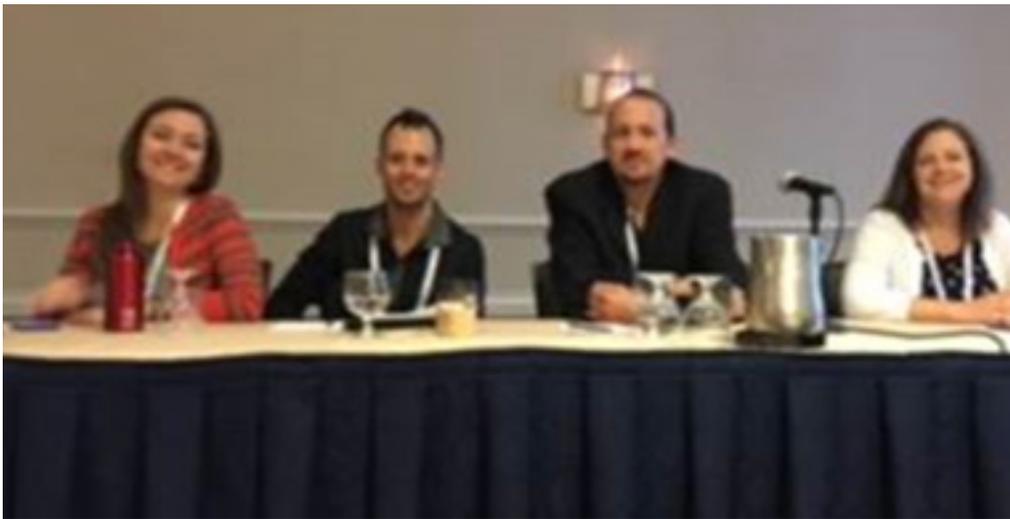
Our 16th “Best of Houston” session was another great success. The students shared the highlights of their projects, as well as commenting on their experiences as foresight students. This year’s session featured four students:

- Katie King: The Future of School Spaces and Schedules
- Johann Schutte: The Future of Human Effort Towards First Contact
- Eric Kingsbury & Ciara O’Connell: Social Robotics: Four Scenarios

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# WFS 2016

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From L to R: Katie King, Johann Schutte, Eric Kingsbury, Ciara O'Connell

## APF Activities

The APF had its sold-out Pro Development Day at the Hillyer Art Space, in the artsy Adams Morgan neighborhood. It was a very lively mix of advice, talks, and group discussions. My personal favorite was a two-hour reflection by Hawaii futurist, Jim Dator, on his career as a futurist.

I have been involved with running this program since its inception and I think it's really important to recognize good foresight work. I am very pleased to note that our own Professor Emeritus, Oliver Markley, has become a two-time winner of the APF Most Significant Futures Works Award (MSFW). He won a prize for

editing the "Symposium on Intuition in Futures Work," an article collection published in the Journal of Futures Studies. The full list of 2016 award winners is below:

### Category 1 - Advance the Methodology and Practice of Foresight and Futures Studies (Note: All three are equal winners...no "places")

- Scenario Exploration System; Laurent Bontoux (JRC), Daniel Bengtson (former JRC), Aaron B. Rosa (HRCFS), John A. Sweeney (HRCFS/ CPPFS)

- Symposium on Intuition in Futures Work, Edited by Oliver Markley, Article collection, Journal of Futures Studies, Sept. 2015.

- What Works, by Sohail Inayatullah

### Category 2 - Analyze a Significant Future Issue

- The Future of Protein. The Protein Challenge 2040: Shaping the Future of Food. Forum for the Future, Report, 2014.

### Category 3 - Illuminate the Future Through Literary or Artistic Works

- Humans Need Not Apply, by CGP Grey, Video

We did not have any winners at the APF Student Recognition competition this year. It suggests increasingly tough competition. Last year, our students swept the individual graduate school category, and I thought this year entries were quite on par. So, it looks like we'll have to up our game for next year!

## In other news...

Dr. Hines gave the pre-conference Master class "Introduction to Foresight," which is a terrific opportunity to introduce people to the future and how we teach the future at Houston Foresight. He also presented the final version of the APF Foresight Competency Model. He and the team worked on it for much of the last year, and it was great to see it come to fruition.

# HOUSTON FORESIGHT SCENARIO WORKSHOP IN DUBAI

By Marilyn Jones

Dr. Andy Hines, assistant professor and program coordinator of the University of Houston Foresight program, traveled to Dubai in November and led team members from the General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners Affairs (GDRFA) through a scenario planning and implications workshop. The project is exploring how the work of the GDRFA will be different from now until 2030. In addition to the scenario planning activity, the project involves a horizon scan and a final report that pulls it all together. Horizon scanning is a process used by futurists for identifying, collect, and analyzing “signals” of future changes. These signals provide clues to emerging trends and issues of the future.

Dr. Hines serves as the principal investigator; and, Alexandra Whittington, lecturer in the Foresight program is leading the project with responsibility for the ongoing activities. Foresight program graduate students Katie King, Eric Kingsbury, Maria Romero, and Mark Sackler are also assisting with the project.

“Through the Future Foresight Foundation, our research program continues to gain momentum; and, we have had a great learning experience so far. We are quite pleased to provide real-life project experience for our students,” said Dr. Hines.

See the Houston Foresight blog ([www.houstonforesight.org](http://www.houstonforesight.org)) for more news about how the grad program prepares futurists.



From left: Maryam Abdulrasool Abu Maleh, Maryam Mohammed Bin Hammad al Saabri, Dr. Andy Hines, Faisal Abdullah Bin Belaila, and Dr. Rami Salah Abdalla Al Gharaibeh

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## ENDOWMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Contribute to our permanent endowment, which supports student scholarships and program enrichment. To find out how you can help, contact Vernon King at [veking@central.uh.edu](mailto:veking@central.uh.edu). Your contribution entitles you to a tax deduction and provides long-term support for HDCS and student scholarships.