



Higher Education's Great Upheaval

A Time for Leadership

PA Commission for Community Colleges



A Little About Me

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Father of two (2 & 4) whose 529’s
aren’t looking great this week

A lightbulb sits on a dark wooden block. In the background, a spiral-bound notebook is visible. The scene is dimly lit, with the lightbulb being the primary light source.

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- The Big Picture

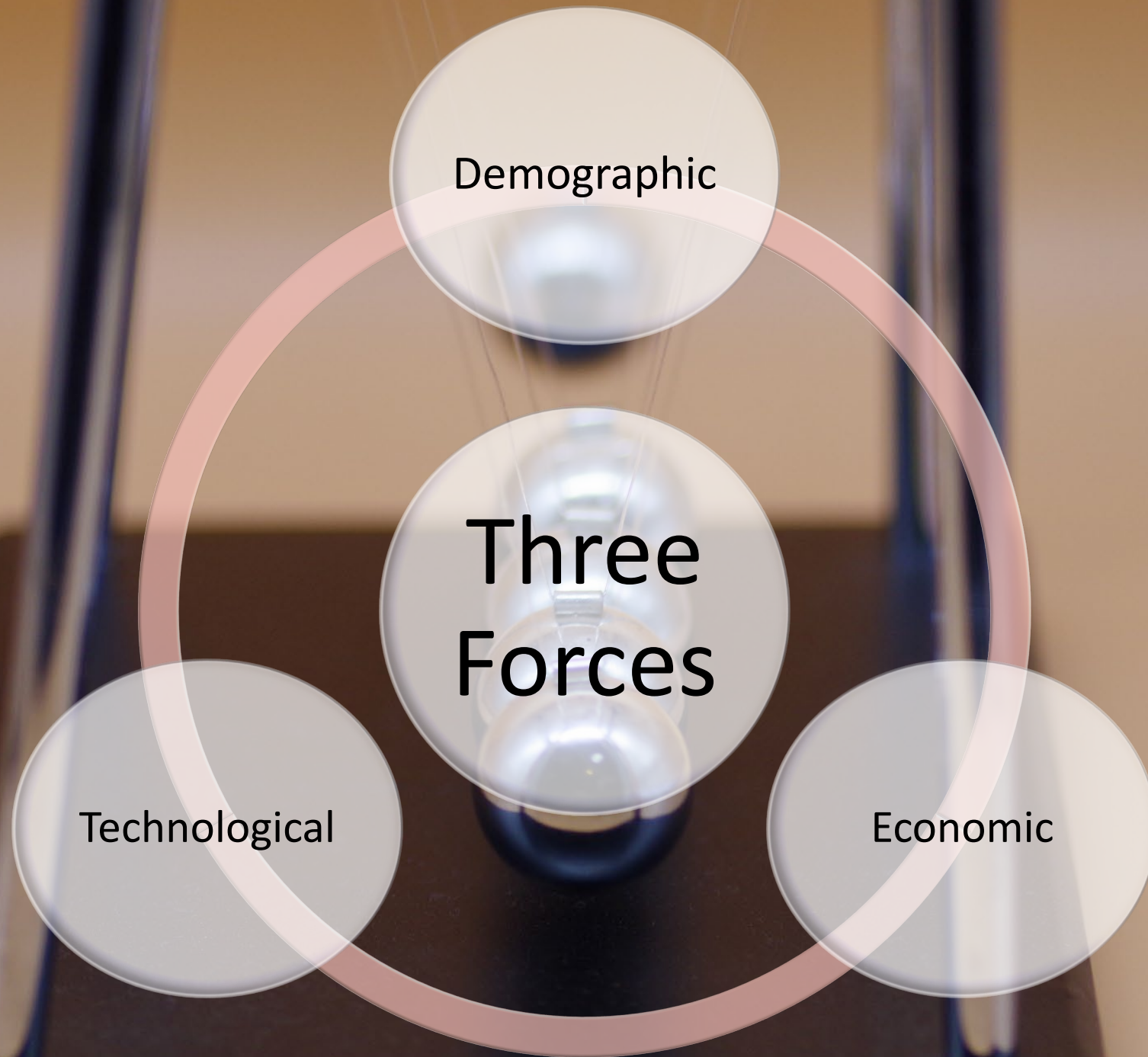
- New Realities for Higher Ed

- Notes from the Road

A person in a dark suit is holding a glowing lightbulb with both hands. A large, semi-transparent yellow arrow points from left to right, passing through the lightbulb. The arrow contains the text 'Industrial economy' on the left and 'Global knowledge economy' on the right. The background is dark and out of focus.

**Industrial
economy**

**Global knowledge
economy**



A Newton's cradle with five silver spheres hanging from a metal frame. The spheres are in motion, creating a blurred trail. The background is a warm, brownish-gold color.

Adaptation

Disruption

- Looking Backward

- Looking Forward

- Looking Sideways

Four New Realities

The ongoing
proliferation of
new distributors
and providers

The demand for
any time, any place
education

The rise of just-in-
time education

A pivot from inputs
to outcomes

Four New Realities

The ongoing
proliferation of new
distributors and
providers

A person in silhouette is sitting at a desk, looking out a window. The background shows a city scene with trees and buildings. A large, semi-transparent circle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing a list of bullet points.

- Career-focused

- Flexible

- 24/7 access

- Low-cost

Four New Realities

The demand for
any time, any
place education



Traditional Models

- Fixed-timed
- Fixed-location
- Bundled

New Models

- On-demand
- Flexible
- Unbundled

Four New Realities

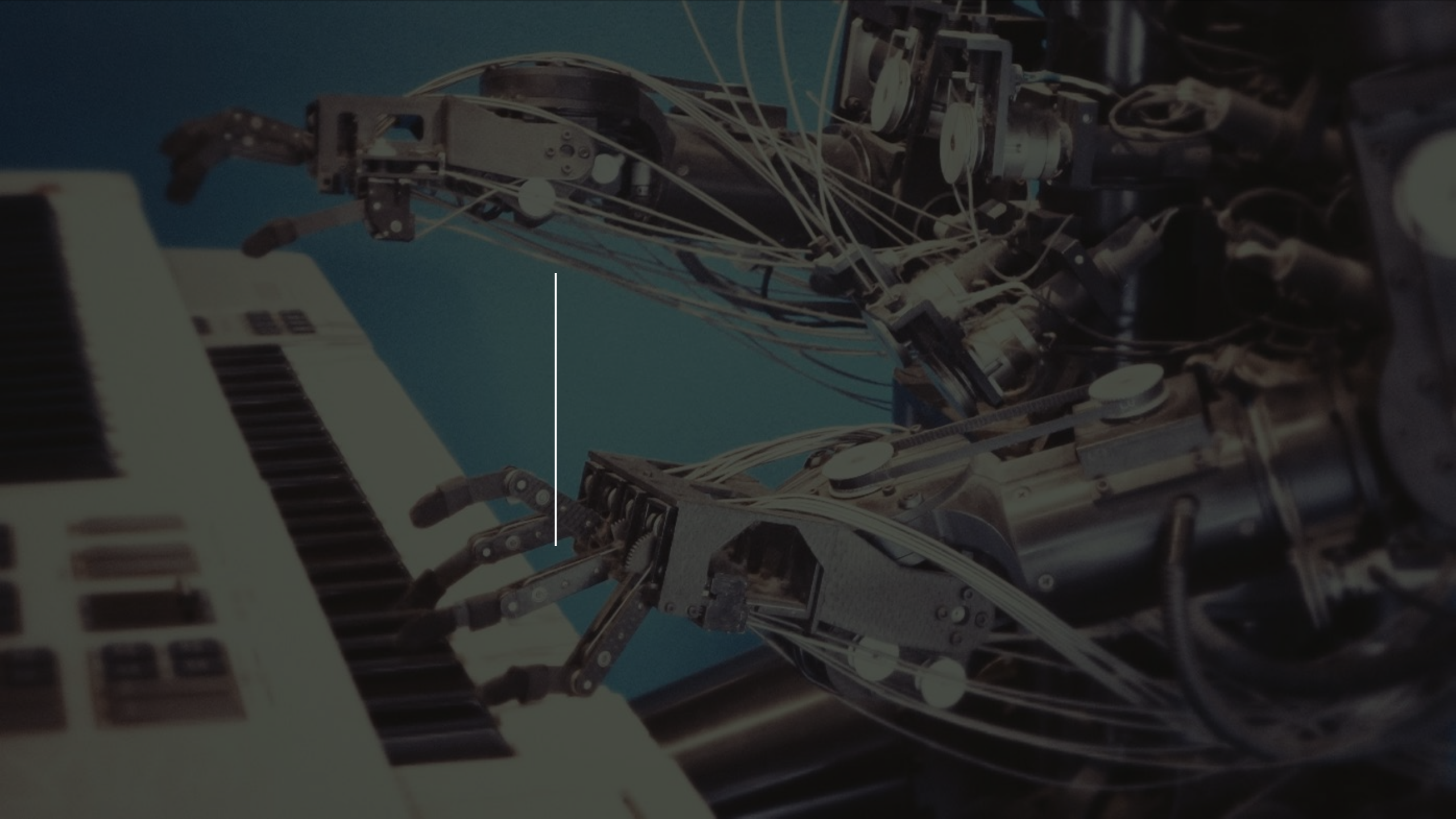
The rise of
just-in-time
education

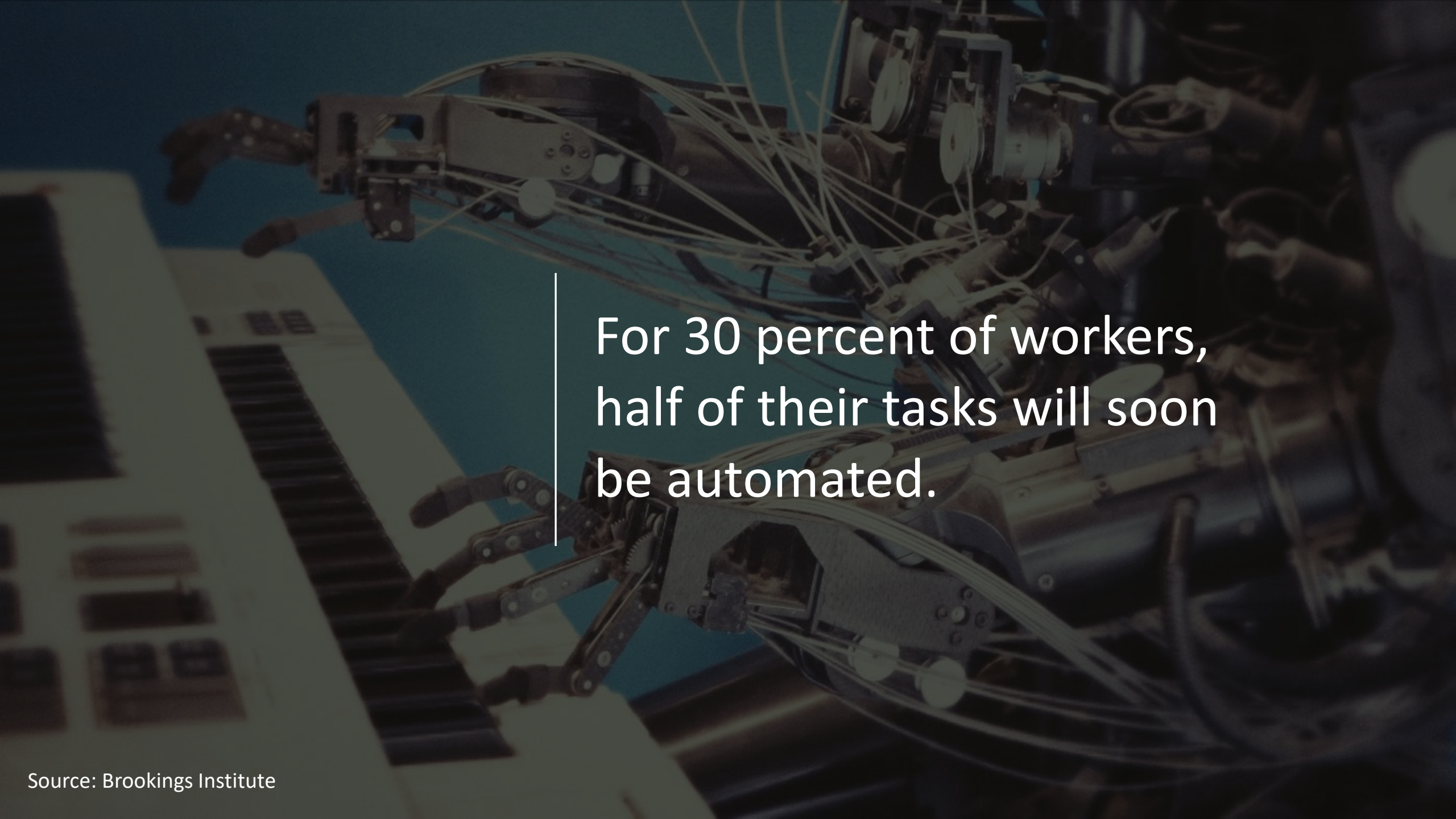


“Half of what is known today was
not known ten years ago...”



73 days





For 30 percent of workers,
half of their tasks will soon
be automated.



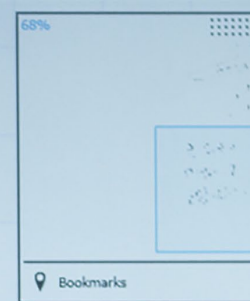
Four New Realities

A pivot from
inputs to
outcomes



From Inputs to Outcomes

- *Competency-based curriculum*



Time as a constant





~~Time as a constant~~

Time as a variable

Outcomes as constant

From Inputs to Outcomes

- *Competency-based curriculum*
- *Evidence-based credentials*

Degree Awarded: Bachelor of Arts 23
 Major : English
 Theatre
 Inst. Honors: Cum Laude

SUBJ NO.	COURSE TITLE	CRED GRD	PTS R
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TRANSFER CREDIT ACCEPTED BY THE INSTITUTION:

Advanced Placement Exam

Ehrs: 2.00 GPA-Hrs: 0.00 QPts: 0.00 GPA: 0.00

INSTITUTION CREDIT:

Term:	Fall Term				
ASTR 101	Our Solar System	1.00 B-	2.67		
EDUC 101	Social Foundation of Education	1.00 B+	3.33		
FOUN 097	Poetry, Identity, Community	1.00 B+	3.33		
PHIL 100	World Philosophy	1.00 B+	3.33		
THEA 102	Theatrical Rehearsal/Perform	0.25 A	1.00		
Term:	Ehrs: 4.25 GPA-Hrs: 4.25 QPts: 13.66 GPA: 3.21				

SUBJ NO.	COURSE TITLE	CRED GRD	PTS R
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Institution Information continued:

THEA 240	Directing the Play	1.00 A	4.00
Term:	Ehrs: 4.25 GPA-Hrs: 4.25 QPts: 16.00 GPA: 3.76		

Term:	Spring Term		
BIOL 122	General Biology	1.00 B	3.00
ENGL 204	Creative Writing: Poetry	1.00 A	4.00
ENGL 217	Modern American Drama	1.00 A	4.00
THEA 261	Inner Journey-Sam Shepard	1.00 A	4.00
Term:	Ehrs: 4.00 GPA-Hrs: 4.00 QPts: 15.00 GPA: 3.75		

Term:	Fall Term		
CLAS 242	Archaeology of Greece	1.00 B+	3.33
ENGL 2NT	English Nontraditional	1.00 A	4.00
ENGL 308	Seminar in Writing Poetry	1.00 A	4.00
ENGL 340	Empire and Archipelago	1.00 A	4.00
UNIV 222	Exam of Daily Press in U.S.	1.00 A-	3.67
Term:	Ehrs: 5.00 GPA-Hrs: 5.00 QPts: 19.00 GPA: 3.80		

Term:	Spring Term		
CAPS 430	Applied & Interactive Theatre	1.00 B	3.00
ENGL 299	Survey of English & American L	1.00 A-	3.67
ENGL 308	Seminar in writing Poetry	1.00 A	4.00
THEA 265	Divising Performance	1.00 B	3.00
Term:	Ehrs: 4.00 GPA-Hrs: 4.00 QPts: 13.67 GPA: 3.41		

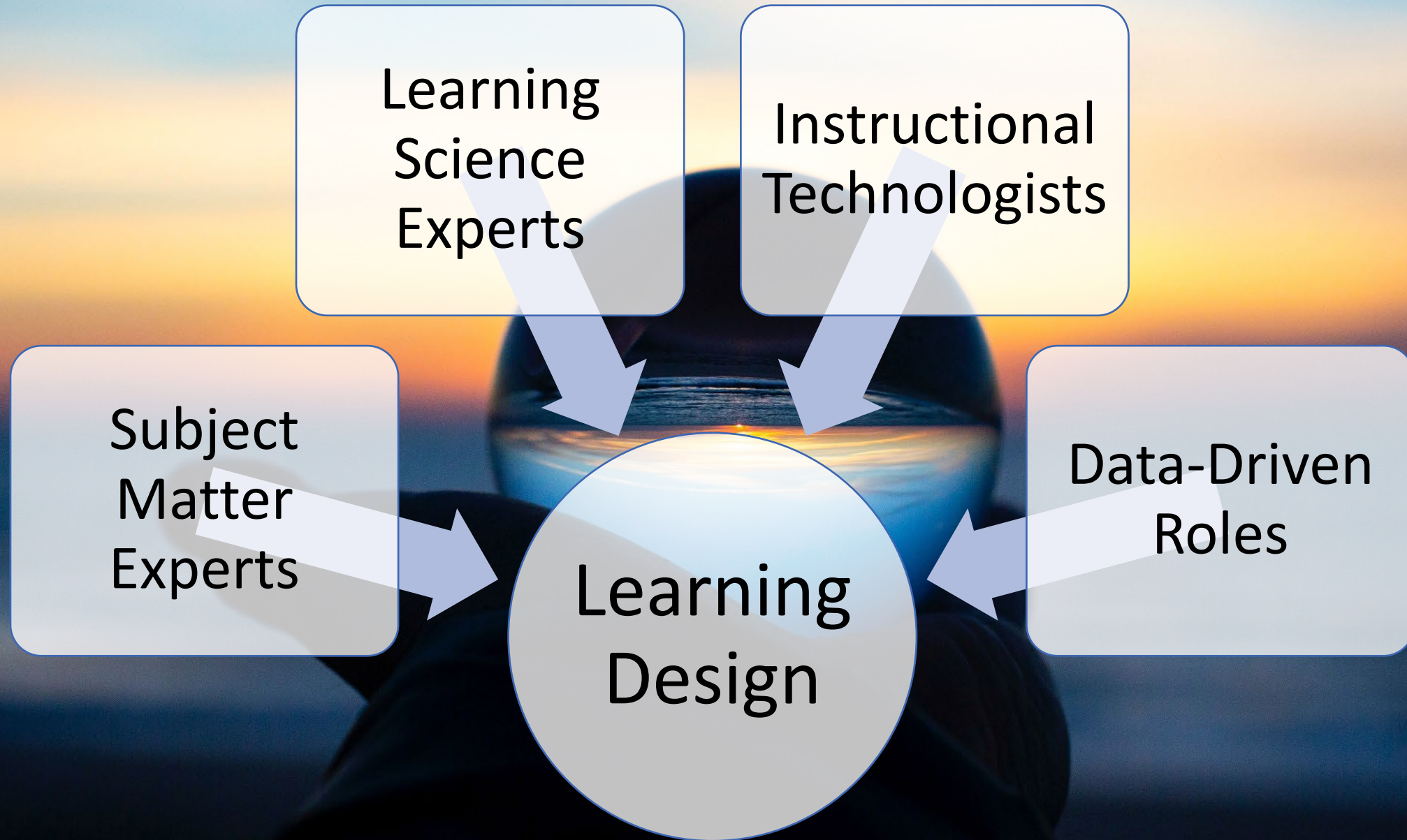
A silhouette of a person standing on a dark, jagged rock formation, looking out over a vast, starry night sky. The Milky Way galaxy is visible, stretching across the frame. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image, separated by horizontal lines.

WHAT THEY KNOW

WHAT THEY CAN DO

EVIDENCE OF ACHIEVEMENT

DIGITAL, LEARNER-OWNED CREDENTIALS



From Inputs to Outcomes

- *Competency-based curriculum*
- *Evidence-based credentials*
- *Skills connected to industry and community needs*



Reform – Transformation - Reinvention

TURN
TO CLEAR
VISION

scottjvanpelt@gmail.com

Reform – Transformation - Reinvention

TURN
TO CLEAR
VISION

A man in a dark suit is seen from behind, standing at a fork in a gravel path. He is looking back over his right shoulder with his right hand on his head, suggesting confusion or a difficult decision. In his left hand, he holds a dark briefcase. The path splits into two directions, leading into a misty, overcast landscape with green grass and a grey sky. The overall mood is one of uncertainty and contemplation.

Adaptation or Disruption?

-
- Expanding enrollment strategies
 - Investing in lifetime learning
 - Radically switching gears

A photograph of a two-lane asphalt road winding through a dense forest. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow that filters through the trees. The road has a dashed yellow center line and solid white edge lines. The trees on the right are more brightly lit by the low sun, showing some autumnal colors, while the trees on the left are in deep shadow.

Notes from the Road

- *Know your learners*
- *Build a coalition of the willing*
- *Define your value*



Keep the Conversation Going

- **Connect on LinkedIn:** [linkedin.com/svanpelt](https://www.linkedin.com/svanpelt)
- **Connect via email:** scottjvanpelt@gmail.com
- Keep an eye out for our sequel to “The Great Upheaval” from JHUP in Fall 2025/Spring 2026