

INSIDE
HIGHER ED



Envisioning Higher Education's Future



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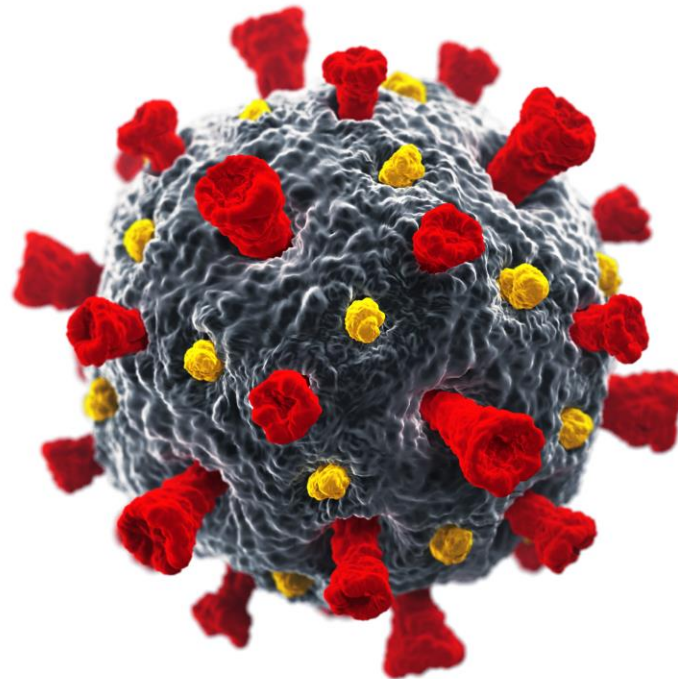
Predicting the Future?



The Current Landscape of Higher Ed

- Financial strain
- Changing demographics
- Growing public doubts about value of degree
- Pressure on colleges to provide greater access
- Slow, steady embrace of digital (learning and otherwise)

COVID's Impact



Envisioning What's Ahead, With Mission in Mind

“Despite the tyranny of today’s immediate, this is a time when presidents, in collaboration with their campus community and their trustees, should lead a review of how they can fulfill their institutional mission post- COVID -- or even whether that mission needs to be revised.”

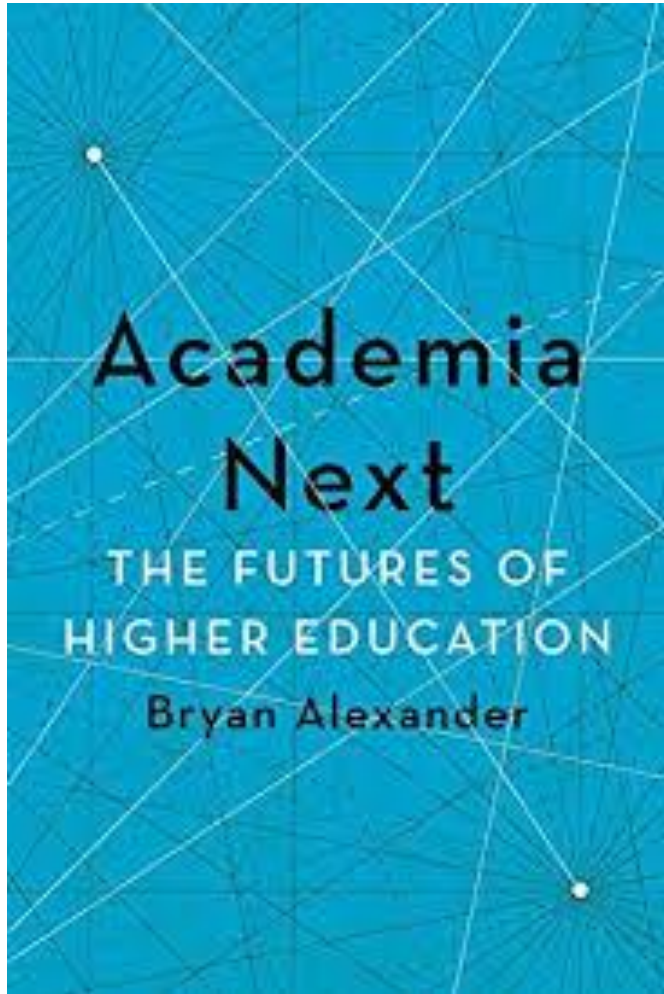
--Susan Resneck Pierce

Possible Visions

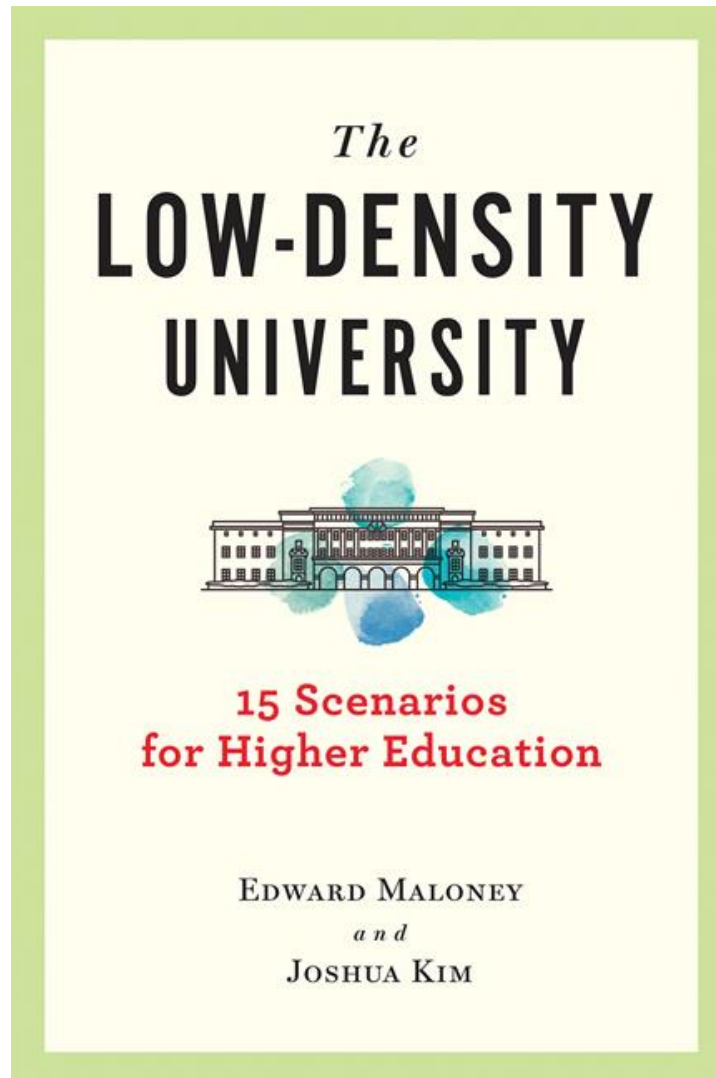


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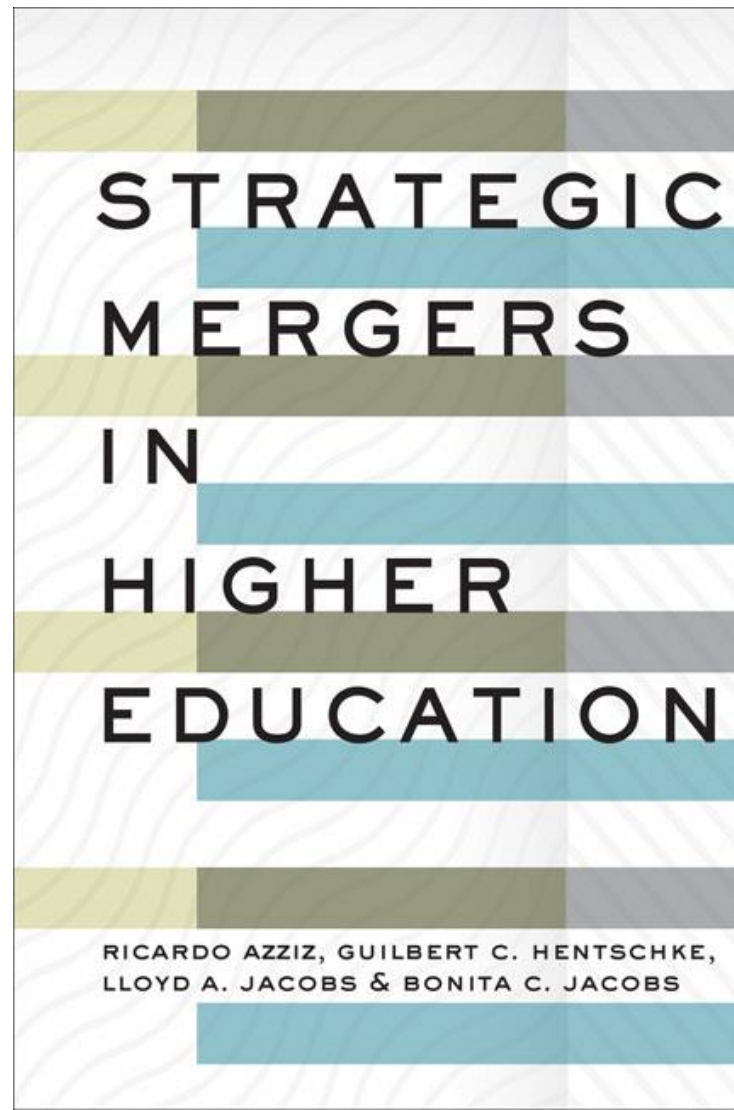
Academia Next



The Low-Density University



Mergers (or Other Forms of Collaboration)



Steve Mintz's 3 Challenges

- **Business model challenge** requires “cost savings, higher student retention rates and revenue enhancements.
- **Student satisfaction challenge** demands cohorts, more mentoring, high-impact practices, experiential learning.
- **Political challenge** requires emphasizing collaboration over competition.

John Simon on “Owning the Future”

- **The Great Decline:** coming demographic cliff, increased competition from rest of the world for students and professors.
- **The Great Unknowing:** all that is unknown for today’s students (about future of work, what
- **The Great Unbundling:** As higher ed loses stranglehold on credentialing, colleges will need to respond with new approaches that focus on what they do uniquely.

How Is Higher Ed Like a Troubled Double-Decker Jet?



Wikimedia Commons

Strategic Planning? Try Redesigning Instead

1. Planners plan – designers solve problems.
2. Use constraints to encourage creativity.
3. Determine constituents' needs, which may not be what they say they need.
4. Engage in prototyping.
5. Resource the early adopters, and let consensus follow later.
6. Don't try to do everything.

--David Haney, former president of Centenary U

The Challenge (and Opportunity) Ahead

- Looking ahead while the present is so demanding
- Will be financial realities that demand action (and almost certainly provoke opposition from faculty and staff members)
- Will the direness of the situation create openings to push change that wasn't possible before?

With Thanks ...

