

EDITORIAL

## Paradigm Shift: A Need of the Hour in the Techno Era

Krishna Dilip Murthy

Department of Biomedical Sciences  
& Therapeutics  
Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences,  
Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Kota Kinabalu,  
Sabah, Malaysia

It is time to cogitate as to **“how and what”** we teach in the medical faculties/schools. We are aware that the generation of students is different; called the “Z”-generation. So, in keeping with the trends in the field of globalization, IR 4.0, artificial intelligence and the techno era, there is a need to change and become flexible to meet the demands of the artificial intelligence and the era. The future generations will be the Centennials who will adapt heutagogy (pronounced as: hyoo-tuh-goh-jee) principles to learn what they are passionate about. Heutagogy was first defined by Hase and Kenyon (2000) as a form of “self-determined learning”. So, in other words, pedagogy (the art and science of teaching children) and andragogy (the art and science of teaching adults) periods are almost over or take a back seat. In simpler terms, pedagogy is faculty-centred education; andragogy is student-centred education is not enough<sup>1</sup>. Heutagogy is self-directed, transformative and the present thing<sup>2</sup>. We need to be aware and cognizant of this fact in order to cater to our clients of the next generation.

As John Dewey once said: “If we teach today’s students as we taught yesterday’s, we rob them of tomorrow. This is so, true...”

Right now it is  
Yesterday’s curriculum  
Taught by today’s teachers  
For tomorrow’s professionals

We need to change by 'bridging the inter-generational gap'. We need to adapt to the drastic changes taking place in the field of medical education and blend the technology to suit the needs. We have to be aware that there is a plethora of information in the World Wide Web (www) and there are the digital media available to access too. We need to be creative and innovative in developing our lecture plans and delivery methodology. We need to incorporate OER, MOOC, videos, flipped classrooms and other modes to see that our students have more attention span and access to them as and when they need. Not all students learn at the same pace. Therefore, the learning is now "technology-driven" in the techno-era. The present-day generation is "net-centric", where the internet can provide the necessary resources for a self-directed learning experience<sup>3</sup>. There is a process of reflection on the part of the learner which increases the attention and cognitive processes in learning. This also reinforces the catchword of "lifelong learning"<sup>4</sup>. This not the final step as the peer role and technology have a say in what we learn and how we learn to lead to pedagogy and cybergogy which is becoming the in-thing in education. So, let us all teachers make an

honest change in our outlook (paradigm-shift) and change for the betterment of tomorrow's generation of doctors.

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