

# FORESIGHT

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW FORESIGHT STUDENTS.....

By: Kimberly Daniels

Each semester, UH welcomes new students to the Graduate Foresight program who come from differing backgrounds, life experiences, undergraduate, and sometimes other graduate programs interested in using futures studies in ways unique to their ambitions. This fall semester is no exception. Whether enrolled as a candidate for the 12-credit hour certificate program or the 36-credit hour master's program, each brings his or her own understanding of the world to engage with the faculty and other students about emergent changes that signal an expected future. And, each gains research-driven practice in exploring possible alternative futures that guide and inform present-day strategy.

New to the program this year are: Lesia (pronounced "Lasha") Fejer, Gregg Dunn, Jonathan Casiano, Hannah Kim, Collin Sledge, Yannis Kavounis and Tim Murphy. The snapshot profiles of some, presented below, provide a glimpse of the distinguishing résumés that characterize the newest members of our Houston Foresight community.

Lesia works for the British Government as a Science & Innovation Officer to build the stepping-stones for future



Lesia Fejer

scientific discovery and innovations for the benefit of the UK. Prior to working for the British Government, she studied a myriad of topics, in-depth, at Texas A&M University, including biomedical sciences, anthropology, psychology, international development theory, and science & technology policy.

Having earned a Master of Art (MA) degree from the Bush School of Government and Public Service, Lesia sees futures studies as the right opportunity for furthering her career pursuits. Growing up, she played five different sports at an advanced/competitive level, and was given the opportunity to represent the USA in two different sports at the Junior Olympics. Although it's been a while she has

competed, Lesia will not pass up a chance to play in the future or to go to a game.

Gregg has worked in the auto industry for 25 years, and has been a member of the United Auto Workers union the entire time. He believes the union is a good counterbalance to the auto company for which he works, and continues to labor effectively alongside of union colleagues in good as well as hard times. Gregg has always



Gregg Dunn

been fascinated by the future, and presently is concerned with future implications of advances in technology and automation...pondering questions such as: "What might happen to our manufacturing base? How can we work to keep pace with the ever-changing world? What kind of jobs will be displaced by automation? What kind of jobs will be created? How will humans fit into the changing work environment?" Gregg readily admits that he is not solely focused on the auto industry regarding the future; however, it encompasses a significant part of the work that he does.

Jonathan is a development writer for Baylor College of Medicine. Prior to his role at Baylor, Jonathan worked as



Jonathan Casiano

a communications specialist and paralegal at the law firm of Bain and Barkley, and as a copywriter for the Houston-area marketing agency, DrumBeat Marketing. After obtaining a BA in Interpersonal Communication, he interned in the communications office of the Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, before earning Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree from The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

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## NEW FORESIGHT STUDENTS .....

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Hannah is currently a Talent and Analytics Manager at Campbell Soup Company. She has over 10 years of cross-functional experience in finance, HR, and strategy across the CPG, retail, and hospitality industries. With a passion for learning, Hannah's ultimate goal is to become a foresight strategist to help individuals and organizations achieve their goals through a future-focused, measured approach. Hannah loves to challenge herself in marathons and travel around the world trying different cuisines and learning languages and cultures.



Hannah Kim

foresight and how it is being used, and can be used, in application to the energy sector. Collin was sold. He is particularly interested in the possibility or probability of new economic realities brought about by converging exponential technologies. Managing transition to the fourth industrial revolution is a fascinating economic challenge to Collin. As well, he is interested in the ways in which the world may respond to climate change and increased extreme weather instances, particularly in tropical developing nations. His interests are basketball and stand-up comedy, and his not-so-guilty pleasures are Kanye West albums and Tarantino movies.



Collin Sledge

Collin is a recent UH graduate with a Bachelor of Art (BA) in Economics. He learned about the Foresight program as an undergraduate from Dr. Andy Hines, while pursuing a minor in Energy and Sustainability. Andy spoke about

We welcome our Fall 2017 new Foresight students, and look forward to how they will help positively shape futures studies as a discipline and through foresight practice.

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## FORESIGHT PRODUCES INAUGURAL FOREST FUTURES NEWSLETTER .....

By: Andy Hines

As part of a collaborative research project between the University of Houston's Foresight program and the US Forest Service in setting up a Horizon Scanning system for the latter, we've published our first *Forest Futures* newsletter. Horizon scanning involves identifying emerging trends in the internal and external environment relative to an organization or an issue of concern, with the goal being to understand the driving forces that give insight to the

most probable future, and forces of change suggestive of alternative future outcomes.

The newsletter is just one of a number of action steps identified by the US Forest Service Strategic Foresight Group toward using communications and science delivery tools to engage interested stakeholders as to relevant futures research with respect to forests, and features "emerging trends of importance to natural resource planners, managers and policy makers."

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## HOUSTON FORESIGHT PRODUCES ON THE HORIZON SPECIAL ISSUE.....

By: Kimberly Daniels

Houston Foresight advances its endeavor to produce high-quality foresight work that helps businesses, governments, institutions, and students anticipate and prepare for the future by publishing 11 out of 13 articles featured in *On the Horizon's* 2017 special issue: Student Needs 2025 and Beyond. Production of this collaborative work by UH faculty, students and alumni, on behalf of Lumina Foundation, points to emerging student needs with respect to a student's life as a whole and the innovative responses required to address them.

The articles contributed by Houston Foresighters to this *On the Horizon* special issue are:

- "Why Student Needs" - Andy Hines (UH faculty) and Juan Suarez (Lumina Foundation project sponsor), pp. 141-144 --- highlights three ways in which the study on student needs took a unique view of higher education, centered around a theme of focusing on student as opposed to institutional needs.
- "Framework Foresight for Exploring Emerging Student Needs" - Andy Hines, pp. 145-156 --- demonstrates how the Framework Foresight method can be effectively used for exploring the future of a topic such as student needs.
- "The Future of Student Life: Living" - Maria Romero (alumna), pp. 157-160 --- points to shifting values relative to student health and wellbeing.
- "The Future of Student Life: Learning" - Katie King (alumna), pp. 161-164 --- suggests students will increasingly gravitate toward new learning models focused on experiential learning, personalized learning and non-traditional education systems if needed.
- "The Future of Student Life: Working" - Jason Swanson (alumnus), pp. 165-168 --- touches on the critical uncertainty posed by AI, automation and general

technological advances and how they will reshape work.

- "The Future of Student Life: Playing" - Laura Schlehber (alumna), pp. 169-172 --- explores how purposeful play is spreading into virtual space.

- "The Future of Student Life:

Connecting" - James Breaux (alumnus), pp. 173-176 --- finds that students will become increasingly connected to their extended families, communities and AI, using technological interfaces to facilitate such connections.

- "The Future of Student Life: Participating" - Johanne Schutte (alumnus), pp. 177-180 --- proposes hacking as a form of civic participation, points to ways in which students may become actively engaged in civic life, including through the use of hacking, and purports the need for strategic reconciliation between hackers and the hacked for the greater good of society.

- "Nine Emerging Student Needs" - Andy Hines, pp. 181-189 --- indicates that nine emerging needs of future students could be used strategically by higher education institutions to guide and inform planning, as well as to generate innovative ideas for university offerings.

- "Future of Student Housing" - Yasamina McBride (student), pp. 190-196 --- argues that many on-campus housing facilities meet the need of today's students not those of future students increasingly attracted to technologically improving virtual classrooms, and recommends assessment of these trends by universities so as to make better choices for their campuses.



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## ON THE HORIZON SPECIAL ISSUE .....

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- “Emerging Student Needs Disrupting Higher Education”, pp. 197-208 - Andy Hines --- points to two potential disruptive shifts for higher education (a shift in the balance of power from institutions toward students, and a shift in the purpose of higher education away from job preparation), and considers practical and social implications of these shifts.

We would also like to acknowledge the review team: Peter Bishop, Terry Collins, Terry Grim, and April Koury, for making sure the articles were up to standard.

\*Photo source: <https://www.luminafoundation.org/fosn-insights>

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## HOUSTON FORESIGHT 2017 RESEARCH PROJECTS .....

By: Andy Hines

The Houston Foresight Program continues to develop its research capability, drawing on our network of faculty, alums, and, of course, the students.

We completed a project on “The Future of Work 2050 for NASA’s Langley Research Center.” The project used scenario planning to create long-term views of the future of work. The scenarios will be used to “wind tunnel” the current plans and activities of NASA, and enable them to make the appropriate adjustments to their current strategy. The goal was to stretch thinking out to the world of work in 2050 and then “bring it back” to a strategic approach and initiatives that could be started in the present. The Houston Foresight team consisted of Andy Hines (PI), alumna Maria Romero (Project Manager), and students Tim Morgan, George Paap, and Mathew Palubicki.

We also completed a project with Kimberly Clark Corporation on “Technology in Baby and Childcare Products To 2030” that will be briefed at their headquarters this fall. It is currently confidential, so we are not yet able to share it. The five-month study focused on consumer attitudes, highlighting parents and the growing subcategory known as “baby tech.” The findings offer specifically long-term strategic insights

with respect to the use of technology in products for babies and young children. The foresight methodologies used included Horizon Scanning, Three Horizons, and Causal Layered Analysis as well as pieces of Houston Foresight’s Framework Foresight approach. The Houston Foresight team consisted of Andy Hines (PI), faculty Alex Whittington (Project Manager), and students Tim Morgan, Justin Ochs, Cindi Stuebner, and Mathew Palubicki.

We have also continued our collaboration with the Northern Research Station of the US Forest Service. The purpose of the project has been to help them set up a Horizon Scanning system. Indeed, it is up and running, as our joint team has tagged 855 scanning hits to our online library at this point!

The Houston Foresight team for 2017 consisted of Andy Hines, alumni Johann Schutte and Maria Romero, and students Kurt Callaway, and Kimberly Daniels.

These research projects provide great experience for our students. I would like to thank our sponsors Dave Bengston and Mike Dockry at the Forest Service, Clay Bunyard at Kimberly Clark, and Rich Antcliff and Sara McRae at NASA. We are always on the lookout for new Sponsored Research Projects, so please contact us at [houstonforesight@gmail.com](mailto:houstonforesight@gmail.com) if we can help!

## 2017 APF SEATTLE GATHERING: GLOBAL HEALTH FUTURES.....

By: Andy Hines and Kimberly Daniels

Attendance by some at this year's Association of Professional Futurists (APF) conference, held in Seattle, WA July 27-29, was delightfully nostalgic on one hand, and aspiringly forreaching on the other. Seattle was the original gathering location for the APF in 2002, the year it was founded. This year's agenda of exploring human health and well-being in relation to the earth and its ability to sustain us also involved a passing of the baton from veteran members to the next generation of APF'ers, commissioned with the task of taking the organization



forward into its next 15-year study of and practice with respect to the emerging future. Others in attendance, perhaps for the first time or following a number of recurrent times, were collectively enthused at this APF conference being in many ways exceptional with respect to pre-gathering tech-driven events, conference sessions and speakers, a post-gathering hiking event, as well as the comradery among professional futurists, educators and students. As in prior years, foresight professionals, educators, alumni and students in association with the University of Houston's Foresight Graduate program, **Houston Foresight**, were populous in number among conference attendees, and perhaps, most excited by the outcome of Friday evening's awards presentation in recognition of notable achievements in futures work.

In recognizing the futures work of professional futurists and those in academia, the APF strives to present models of excellence for emulation by foresight practitioners

as well as for greater understanding by others. This year, the APF recognized people along three areas of achievement: APF Leadership, Most Significant Futures Work and Outstanding Student Work --- tier-awarded acknowledgement through the APF Student Recognition Program. The Houston Foresight community proudly accepted awards across each of the three areas of achievement.

### APF Leadership

- **Dr. Peter Bishop:** retired Associate Professor and Director of the UH Foresight Graduate Program, founder and director of Teach the Future recognition as a founding APF board member, creating/developing the APF Professional Development seminars, and for long-time service as the membership chair.
- **Jennifer Jarratt:** UH Foresight Graduate Program alumna, a consultant/coach with Leading Futurists --- recognition as a founding APF member, past board chair, first membership chair, and chair of professional development and nominating committees.
- **Dr. Andy Hines:** UH Foresight Graduate Program alumnus, Assistant Professor and Program Coordinator of the UH Foresight Graduate Program, speaker, workshop facilitator and consultant through his firm Hinesight --- recognition as a founding APF member, first board chair, past executive director, chair of the Most Significant Futures Work and Professionalization Task Force, and Compass editor.
- **Jim Matthews:** UH Foresight Graduate Program alumnus, founder of the Futures Network LLC



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# APF SEATTLE GATHERING .....

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--- recognition as a founding APF member, treasurer, first chair of the finance committee, creating a stable financial system, and Compass editor.

## Most Significant Futures Work

Among the dozen judges were UH Foresight Graduate Program Masters alumnus Jim Lee, Certificate alumni Robin Jourdan, Liz Alexander and Dave Hamon, as well as Emeritus Professor Dr. Oliver Markley.



We salute **Dr. Andy Hines** as one of this year's award winners. Dr. Hines' submission falls under Category 1: Advance the methodology and practice of foresight and futures studies ---

- **Let's Talk about Success: A Proposed Foresight Outcomes Framework for Organizational Futurists, Andy Hines** *Journal of Futures Studies*, June 2016, 20(4):1-20. Introduces a framework to help organizational futurists and their clients get clear on intended outcomes and the achievement of success involving the integration of foresight into the organization. "Significantly advances the foresight profession by helping to resolve one of the most vexing problems facing the professional futurist: "How to define and measure success at four inter-related levels (Practitioner, Project, Organizational, and Field), in each of three principal phases of futures work (Learning, Deciding and Acting)."

## Outstanding Student Work

Among the judges were UH Foresight Graduate Program former Adjunct Professor Terry Grim, Masters alumni Dr. Kay Strong and Dr. Verne Wheelright, and Certificate alumna Dr. Liz Alexander.

Each of our three graduate student individual submissions won recognition for outstanding work by students in futures studies ---

- **2nd Place:** "The Future of Quantified Self - Personal Sensors and Analytics", **Tim Morgan**, UH Foresight Graduate Program Masters candidate.
- **Honorable Mention:** "The Future of Poverty in Burkina Faso", **Kimberly Daniels**, UH Foresight Graduate Program Masters candidate.
- **Honorable Mention:** "The Future of Outdoor Recreation", **Bo Roe**, UH Foresight Graduate Certificate Program.

A surprise for all present at the awards ceremony physically and online was the announcement of a new category of recognition, The Frewen Award, in honor of our very own **Dr. Cindy Frewen**, UH Foresight Graduate Program alumna and adjunct professor, for 7 years of dedicated service as APF board chair. Under Dr. Frewen's leadership, APF membership has grown to be 500 strong, and has expanded to include regional gatherings, professional development opportunities, the Compass, and online Futures Conference, and mentoring program and more.



Hats off to all of our Houston Foresight 2017 APF Award winners, and their strong contribution to the foresight field. And cheers to those in our foresight community already thinking about the 2018 APF Awards program and submissions for recognition of exceptional futures work.