Deliberate Innovation, Lifetime Education is the title of a report issued by Georgia Tech’s Commission on the Next in Education. The Commission recognized that higher education is facing large challenges and even bigger opportunities. Higher education is changing faster than ever, driven by demographic, financial, political, social and technological pressures.

The role of universities has expanded. It is not only about education, research and service but also about social responsibility and economic development. In these new roles, excellence in technology, science and engineering will be essential prerequisites. Universities that rise up to the challenges of the times will thrive and those that do not will stagnate or disappear. In order to be among the thriving, universities must restructure to be inherently innovative, dynamic and agile. This talk will provide a look at innovative approaches and new ideas related to fundamental education that reduce costs, improve the effectiveness of current methodologies, and increase opportunities and accessibility for lifelong learning.

The pandemic has reinforced the need for change and the ability to change. The talk will also explore some of the lessons of the pandemic and how they point to potential models for the future of higher education.