"Information Renaissance Leadership for the Knowledge-Value Era"

Jay Edwin Gillette

Fulbright-Nokia Distinguished Chair
in Information and Communications Technologies
University of Oulu, Finland 2014-2015

Professor of Information and Communication Sciences
Center for Information and Communication Sciences
Ball State University, USA

1: The Information Renaissance Context

What we call the Information Revolution is actually a Knowledge Revolution. . . . The key is not electronics; it is cognitive science.

Peter Drucker

Innovative context of our era: "Welcome to the Information Renaissance"

1.   New era—Knowledge Society driven by an Information Economy

1.1 Challenging innovation, yet not unprecedented in human history

1.2 Like European renaissance (e.g.: Italy c. 1500; Britain c. 1600; unfolding and following regionally and worldwide, still today)

2.   "Is this the Information Revolution?"

2.1 No—a post-revolutionary era. In American context, not 1776.

2.2 In the American context it's 1803; Thomas Jefferson and the revolutionaries are in the White House—getting ready to send out Lewis and Clark to explore the territory we've already bought but haven't explored.

2.1: Characteristics of the Information Renaissance

2.1 Overarching Characteristics of Renaissance Times

    2.1.1 Positives: rapid, great human progress

    2.1.2 Negatives: clash of paradigms generates major social conflict

2.2 Irresistible Force (new paradigm) Meets Immovable Object (old paradigm)

    2.2.1 At the end of the story, the Irresistible Force always wins, yet the Immovable Object alters its vectors (river of Grand Canyon)

    2.2.2 Renaissance & reformation (progress paradigm) generates counter-reformation, which uses the techniques of progress to counter the new paradigm;

    2.2.3. Results in upheaval & change: top to bottom, bottom to top

2.2: Characteristics of the Information Renaissance

2.2.1 Management versus Leadership

- Management is about consistency and order
- Leadership is about vision and change

Question: which do people and organizations need? (Answer: both)

2.2.2 Yes, but how much? In USA, too much management and not enough leadership

- Renaissance times call for leadership vision and change
- People and organizations will change if they can see the vision

3: Succeed and Prosper in the Information Renaissance

Succeed and Prosper in the Information Renaissance, as Person, as an Organization

3.1 Succeed as a Person—Become a Renaissance Man or Woman

3.2 Succeed as an Organization—Add knowledge value to everything you touch

3.1 Succeed as a Person

3.1 Succeed as a Person — Become a Renaissance Man or Woman

3.1.1 Exemplars = Leonardo da Vinci, Vittoria Colonna

3.1.2 Be a "T-person" – both broadly comprehensive (T-crossbar), deeply competent (T-base) , as one complete person
-- *Breadth* of comprehension (goal of liberal arts education)
-- *Depth* of competence (goal of professional education)

3.1.3 Breadth informs adaptability; Depth informs utility
-- *Adaptability* to succeed in rapid change (adapt to environment)
-- *Utility* to prosper by adding value (find a need and fill it)

3.2 Succeed as an Organization

3.2 Succeed as an Organization — Add knowledge value to everything you touch

3.2.1 Concept from Japanese theorist Taichi Sakaiya *The Knowledge-value Revolution, or, A History of the Future*

3.2.2 Incorporate knowledge-value in all products/activities (in whatever it is you do)

3.2.3 Gillette in ICT work: Knowledge premium in 3-Ds (design, development, deployment)
-- Sakaiya's example = Hermès tie [or scarf]
-- Gillette example = Mercedes-Benz or BMW vehicles

4: Conclusions and Recommendations

4.1 Our species comes into its own: Homo sapiens, "Humans who know"--Have confidence in the future; lead innovatively

    4.1.1 Humans have seen and done this before; have confidence

    4.1.2 lead innovatively with confidence, from clarity of context

        -- ("Morale is itself a strategic advantage")

4.2 Succeed: renaissance times call for renaissance men and renaissance women—a challenge we can meet

4.3 Prosper: build organizations that add knowledge value to everything they touch—we're on the way

4.4 Be Homo sapiens--Use information networking to leverage knowledge we have and can discover

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Ball State University, Muncie, IN 47306 USA
jaygillette@bsu.edu