

BEING A KEYNOTE ADDRESS DELIVERED AT THE ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION AND PEDAGOGY (AICEEP)

BY

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Main Theme: RETOOLING ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION FOR NATIONAL
PROSPERITY

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**The Royal Father of the day,
Chief Host, The Vice Chancellor, LAUTECH,
Our Host, The Director EDC,
My Dear Colleagues,
Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is with great pleasure that I personally welcome you to this International Conference on Entrepreneurship Education and Pedagogy (AICEEP). I do like to offer my congratulations to all of you for your decision to be available for this International Conference and Paper presentations for valuing higher education activity of this nature. Whether you are here for listing to issues or enhancing your career by presenting paper, your decision to participate in this noble academic exercise positions you for success in today's academic competition and relevance.

This forum is very significant to all of us at higher institutional levels, in view of our determination to use journal paper publications and presentations for promotion of our academic staff. I must start by thanking the organizers for inviting me to present keynote address on Retooling Entrepreneurship Education for National Prosperity. I do also like to recognise another important group that is instrumental in your quest for this conference. The entire group that work together to bring this to success-your family, your staff, your Registrar and his management team and the Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomoso, as a system.

I do like to share a story about my friend; He is a professor of Accounting and finance now. He told me about the importance of academic paper publications in our career. When his papers for promotion were sent for assessment to the Rank of Associate Professor, one of the Assessors after the results was announced told him, the Assessor said, my friend, what you presented nobody could fail you. Then he asked why? The Assessor simple said you had enough of papers even after eliminating others you were still qualified for the promotion. The real reason that you are all here today is for your future prospects and tips on how to retool entrepreneurship education for national prosperity. I'm very glad to report that the future looks very bright as you embark on the next discussions of your professional journey.

As you are all aware, (AICEEP) is organised by the Institute of Classic Entrepreneurship, Nigeria in Collaboration with Directorate of Entrepreneurship Development Studies, LAUTECH, Ogbomoso, Nigeria.

This conference aims are to bring together leading academics, scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of Entrepreneurship Education as a Pedagogy. It also provides a premier interdisciplinary platform for researchers, practitioners, and educators to present and

discuss the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns as well as practical challenges encountered, and solutions adopted through Entrepreneurship Education Pedagogy. Again, (AICEEP) is an interactive conference on new methods, concepts, workshop-tools, and best-practices for the learning and facilitation of entrepreneurship education pedagogy. We believe these issues are relevant, topical and apt as nations desirous of economic development are embracing entrepreneurship as a matter of policy, ((Nuru,2021).

More to the above, this conference is designed to support tertiary institutions' leaders desiring more entrepreneurial-oriented institutions and fostering improvements to their institutions' performance and impact. The main audience are academics, managers and other stakeholders seeking a global network that can uplift knowledge through creativity and entrepreneurial practices.

By our fliers, the Sub themes include but not limited to:

1. Entrepreneurship Education as a pedagogy
2. Entrepreneurial Learning
3. Entrepreneurial Competencies
4. Generic themes of Entrepreneurship Education
5. International entrepreneurship
6. Corporate and Strategic Entrepreneurship
7. The role of universities in fostering entrepreneurship teaching and practice
8. Spin off processes and knowledge transfer
9. Entrepreneurial financing
10. Entrepreneurship Education programme provision in various disciplines
11. Social Entrepreneurship and community development
12. Sustainable Entrepreneurship
13. Technology Entrepreneurship.

Retooling is a continuous process of organizational development. This programme aims to enhance and deepen the knowledge and understanding of the entrepreneurship education and is primarily intended for academics, professional, practitioners and entrepreneurs who see the need to strengthen their people skills in education.

Retooling is to make changes. English Language Learners Definition of retool: is to change or replace the tools or machines in (a factory, workshop, etc.) US : to make changes to (something) in order to improve it. So, this International Conference is generally tended to make changes in entrepreneurship education pedagogy and its very to us in the industry. **Retooling** or reskilling either means developing new skills or building up on whatever skills one already has to equip him or her better in the performance of his or her work.

Retooling entrepreneurship education is **important** because by choosing to **retool** where possible, organizations will increase the likelihood of having the skills needed to meet business objectives through technology today and tomorrow. In the end, a firm will save money, increase morale and retention, be more productive and thus become more profitable.

With the proliferation of edtech in higher education, we have started witnessing a revitalization of the teaching and learning process. To take full advantage of this opportunity, the pedagogy of entrepreneurship education need to have everyone on board, including anti-tech professors. In short, they will need to be retooled or retrained. Take a look at few of these convincing arguments that demonstrate just how important technology in education is becoming. Then you will understand my position, Lynch, (2018)

The Great Recession and the worst economic downturn since the 1930s--remains unrelenting for ordinary working Americans. As a result, many people are rebooting, reinventing, and retooling. They are also rethinking what it means to be prosperous. Prosperity, to be sure, is personal and multidimensional. Still, in universal terms, it's possible to define it. How? By one simple yet significant equation. A prosperous equation, according to Willis and Garn, (2020) Prosperity has three pillars that together create the "Prosperity Equation": Money + Happiness + Sustainability = Prosperity. We must and need to retooling entrepreneurship education for our skills to stay employable.

The pandemic has turned our world upside down. Unless we are able to adapt adequately to its demands—the various paradigm shifts it entails—our economic or financial health may be compromised. We may survive the pandemic's threats on our physical health, but we may succumb later to malnourished financial health because of pay cuts and unemployment. We have started experiencing the pains, some organisations are not paying salaries or now delaying salaries before the rightful time. When push comes to shove, those with multiple or sufficient skills will be retained by most companies and spared from unemployment. This again will lead to retooling in entrepreneurship education we are talking about.

With the proliferation of edtech in higher education, we have started witnessing a revitalization of the teaching and learning process. To take full advantage of this opportunity, the stakeholders will need to have everyone on board, including anti-tech professors. In short, they will need to be retooled or retrained. Take a look at few of these convincing arguments that demonstrate just how important technology in education is becoming. To understand the position of Lynch, (2018) he mentioned the benefits of retooling in education be the followings; 1. More resources are available than ever before. 2. Technology helps professors to interact better with students. 3. Students have a better learning experience and 4. Anti-tech professors are reinforcing academic disengagement.

Retooling Education for the Future

The U.S. educational system must be retooled to graduate career and college-ready citizens with the employable skills and knowledge to obtain their first job and/or continue on with post-secondary education or credentialing for success in work and life. The Institute for the Future estimates up to 85 percent of “new-collar” jobs don't yet exist so having transferable skills will be more important than a degree.

A strong skilled workforce is key to reshoring and manufacturing growth. Reshoring Initiative, President, Moser, (2020), explained that a national mind shift was needed from promoting education and degrees as the only means for achieving success to promoting both education and training as a pathway to high-paying new-collar careers of the future.

To achieve this goal, educators and business leaders must form public-private partnerships and join with organizations like the Association for Manufacturing Excellence (AME), the Reshoring Initiative and others to engage in reinventing the educational experience. The goal is to graduate all students with the critical thinking skills to adapt to the evolving challenges of new-collar careers and the ever-changing demands for the future of work.

The conference attendees'/paper presenters are expected to be very deepen in their theories and analysis of many entrepreneurship theories which are not less than the followings to enable people make possible changes in the area; these different theories of entrepreneurship are;

1. Economic theories of entrepreneurship. ...
2. Sociological theories of entrepreneurship. ...
3. Entrepreneurship Innovation theory. ...
4. Psychological theory. ...
5. Theory of high achievement/Theory of achievement motivation. ...
6. Resource based theories. ...
7. Opportunity based theory. ...
8. Status withdrawal theory.

The experts here today should be in charge to address important matter to the conference participants.

Similarly, the principles of innovation used for business breakthrough can also be applied to solving problems in the entrepreneurship education to solve economy needs of a nation, like Nigeria. I challenge you to bring out innovation in you to address the quest for restructuring in Entrepreneurship Education which can lead to the betterment Nigerian economy by studying, developing, presenting and practicing characteristics common to innovative personality:

- i. Foster a culture of continuous improvement.
- ii. embrace life-long learning
- iii. be future facing
- iv. influencing others and cultivate loyalty
- v. motivate and inspire by example and
- vi. aim for mountains through step by step calculations.

This address is to encourage diverse thought with team whose variety of backgrounds, talents, and education and life experiences could facilitate innovation and creative problem-solving.

By doing so, we can start to improve our academic system and create a generation of lifelong learners who retain the information from their formal schooling.

Don't we owe it to our students to give them the best possible higher education we can? Technology and retooling entrepreneurship education is certain to play a major role moving forward, and we should find professors, academics, professionals and practitioners who are prepared to work with the universities and vocational centres to achieve the big matter in industry.

Thank you very much listening and your time.