

It's fall in the year 2040 and it's the beginning of another education cycle. The mentor at the History of Education Hub stands up and begins to speak. "In the past decade we've seen significant improvements in academic opportunity, collaboration, and even general happiness in the population, all owed to the complete rebuild of our education system. The new hub-based education platform has torn down the longstanding hierarchy of academic institutions which had become increasingly more exclusive. Instead, the hub-system provides students with specialized learning hubs that can be hosted from open university campuses, companies, or even your local coffee shop. No longer are the most promising opportunities and intellectual minds siloed into the walls of select college campuses. Around the corner, in your local neighborhood, or in our case the Coupa Coffee at Old Stanford University, are learning hubs that each specialize in topics that a student a decade ago would've only seen in the classroom. Instead of professors, you have mentors, like myself, that provide guidance and intellectual discourse on topics that fuel curiosity." Ding. A notification informs me that my Computer Science Hub starts in an hour. I've enjoyed learning the history of education, however, I know my curiosity is future focused. I politely grab my coffee and walk towards the hyperloop station right outside the Old Stanford campus. It's beautiful. I remember walking through the campus as a teenager seeing all of the students walking to their classes. But it's been a decade since the new system has been implemented. Now instead of students in their 20s, I see people of all ages. On my hyperloop ride to London for my CS Hub, I call my education advisor to hear her thoughts about substituting my History of Education Hub for the AI-In-Music Hub in Austin since this combines two of my major interests. Excited to hear from me, she reminds me again that I should attend hubs that spark my interest and that my schedule was entirely flexible unlike the traditional system I was accustomed to. This being my first year in the education cycle, I've had to get used to the changes from the old ways of learning. While this system was being developed, I worked for an AI institute focused on automating monotonous jobs so that humans could finally focus on their ambitions and creative thinking. Since we've reached that point, I've returned to the education cycle to continue learning. Arriving in London, I quickly make my way to the Google DeepMind CS Hub, where I will stay for 2-3 weeks due to its work-study nature. My boss greets me in the lobby as I airdrop him my topic request document. He notes that DeepMind could only satisfy the "Artificial Cognition" and "Consciousness" topics but he kindly refers me to the Imperial College Hub if I later desired to fulfill my "Synthetic Biotech" request. After becoming familiar with my interests, my boss introduces me to the Artificial Cognition team that I will be working on for the next few weeks. The team lead brings me up to speed with their projects and ensures that I will learn significantly faster in a working environment than what I was used to in the traditional education system. Weeks pass and it's the end of my time at the DeepMind Hub. On my last day at the hub, my team lead approaches me and asks if what he told me from the beginning turned out to be true. He was absolutely right. We start talking about my plans for the future when he asks if I would like to work for the cognition team. Overwhelmed with excitement, I accept the offer and follow him to the conference room to sign the papers. The job, the documents state, comes with the choice of a more flexible schedule, which will allow me to continue attending learning hubs while working remote, or the long-term option to focus entirely on work if I so desire. Having enjoyed my work on the cognition team, I opt for the long-term option which would allow me to conduct specialized research.

A few years pass, out of which come several publications, promotions, and even the opportunity to lead the DeepMind Hub program. It is a month into the education cycle of 2047 when I begin to realize that I was only going through the motions at my job. I enjoyed my time at DeepMind, but I have an urge to try something new, perhaps even an interest I would have never thought of pursuing 7 years

ago. Mentoring. Being the head of the DeepMind Hub program, I've really come to appreciate what the hub-system has to offer. To give back to society, I start a hub to train mentors in my hometown in Austin so that mentors can learn the most effective ways to lead their students. There is no better way to contribute to the hub system than to lead and inspire the backbone of education, the mentors.