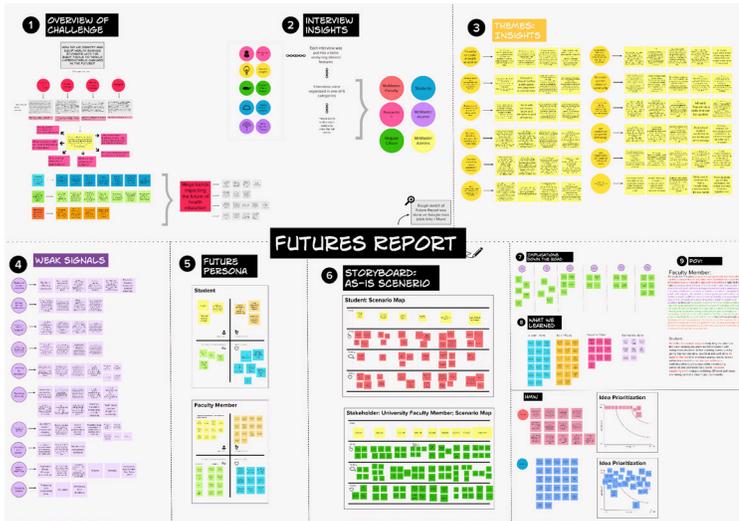# FUTURE OF EDUCATION PROCESS PORTFOLIO

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## Part I: Introductions and Interviews



As a group of undergraduate students, the challenge we hoped to address is to identify weak signals impacting the future of health, and to equip health science students with the right tools to deal with these possible future trends/changes.

Megatrends: technological dependency in all careers, increasing prevalence of chronic diseases, and a shift of healthcare towards wellness over illness.

Interviews: Health Sciences Alumni, Med School students, PhD Students, Undergraduate Students, High School students coming into University, McMaster Faculty, McMaster Administrators, and the general public.

Weak signals: student-directed curriculum/learning, fostering skills that are irreplaceable by AI (eg. empathy, creativity, collaboration), and fostering self-awareness for self-actualization (eg. reflection, life coaching strategies, becoming adaptable, mindfulness).

## Part II: Synthesizing Our Data

| Weak Signal | Questions |
|---|---|
| Student-directed curriculum/learning. | "What if Entrepreneurs played a role in capitalizing on "student directed learning" interests? What if there were no grades?" |
| Fostering skills that are irreplaceable by AI (eg. empathy, creativity, collaboration) | What if AI could be used to enhance human interactions and connections? What if BHSc students were required to learn about AI in their degree?" |
| Fostering self-awareness for self-actualizing | "What if universities employed schemes to weave reflective practices into all courses? What if reflective practices are woven into the educational program? What if students are required to receive support in identifying their mission statement?" |

## Part III: Final Ideas and Lessons Learned

Overall, this course has been an incredibly engaging experience for our team. We learned a range of lessons, skills, and insights from different aspects of the journey. For example, from collaborating together as a group and assessing the mega-trends and challenges in society, we learned how to see the bigger picture when identifying weak signals. Understanding weak signals, and learning how to identify them showed us the importance of being comfortable with unpredictability and how we should be prepared to address and consider multiple futures.

We also learned how to work collaboratively within a short amount of time, and the importance of doing things with intent and purpose in the short frame of time we had. From our interviews we learned how to listen attentively to stakeholder and make inferences. We carried this attitude into our group meetings and fostered ideas on how to create a psychologically safe space to share ideas.

Our time was often limited and the deadlines were often constricted, but we learned how to be creative and how to express the creativity into tangible ideas when creating our prototypes. We found one of the most challenging aspects of the course to be the synthesization of a large amount of insightful data that we often thought was all very significant. However, the generation of this extensive list of insights and weak signals helped us understand the bigger picture and led us to generate a solution reflective of the design process.