

Digital Transformation Volunteers Asia Pacific Scholars Call for Hong Kong to Focus on Training Creative Talents

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▲ Tan Jiayin (centre), Dean of the School of Business at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, believes that digital transformation must be fundamentally pursued, develop STEM education, and cultivate scientific and technological talents. Left is Dr. Christopher TREMEWAN, Secretary General of the Pacific Rim University Association, and right is Christina SCHÖNLEBER (Policy and Project) of the Pacific Rim University Association (photo by Chen Yongkang)

The emergence of digitalization and automation has increased the demand for new jobs and skills in various industries, and it has also produced concerns that human beings have been replaced by machinery. The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and the Pacific Rim University Association released the "21st Century Asia-Pacific Work Transformation" report to explore the challenges and opportunities brought about by digitalization and automation in Hong Kong, Singapore, Australia, Japan and South Korea. The report pointed out that future work

will be full of uncertainty, and automation will affect multiple industries and pose challenges for various industries around the world.

The report also advises higher education institutions, government and industry leaders, including science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education, and teacher training to develop innovative technology talent. The dean of the HKUST Business School, Tan Ka-yin, believes that the sooner the education is implemented, the better. For example, many primary and secondary schools have stepped up training and development of children's education in STEM or STEAM to prepare for the next generation to embrace digital transformation.

"Education can also be innovative, such as providing flexible choices for the duration of the education period, and colleges and universities can also cooperate with enterprises to cultivate creative talents early." In addition, he believes that the Hong Kong government can strengthen the policy of overseas talent input from different channels. Attracting professionals also means that the future society is quite eager for big data, business data analysis and financial technology professionals.

The digital transformation has been talking for a long time. It has only been heard by the stairs. Some people think that the speed of digital transformation in Hong Kong is not as good as that of Singapore. However, Tan Jia, the dean of the Business School of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, believes that in recent years, the Hong Kong Government has been actively pursuing the pace of digital transformation and is no longer inferior to the neighboring regions. "Even if Hong Kong's digital transformation in individual industries is slower or slower, the speed at which the Hong Kong Government is developing financial technology has shown signs of accelerating in recent years. For example, the opening of sandboxes and the opening of third-party APIs by banks can be seen that Hong Kong is transforming into a financial technology. Center." He also believes that the pace is not good, and it is necessary to balance the interests of all parties and make a decision.

Written by: Li Jiaqian reporter

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