Ethical and moral scenario planning for orthodontics

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“Education is an ornament in prosperity and a refuge in adversity.” — Aristotle

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Oral economy (Y-axis)

Orthodontic education, for example, is both a critical and uncertain factor in today’s scenario plan; it requires both teachers and students to be an integral part of the future success for postgraduate programs and milieu.

Without one or the other, the future of our educational programs might not be successful. In addition, the successful future of our specialty also will rely on IT development for the next 10 years and beyond.

One of the most challenging objectives in macro- and micro-technology is the delivery of time-sensitive streams of data across packet-switched networks known today as the Internet.

But are IT platforms providing streamed-data will change exponentially, and delivery of postgraduate orthodontic programs as well as continuing education will more than likely be provided through distance-learning media centers. This will obviate the need for the high costs of tuition and bring new learning and knowledge to our offices rather than travelling great distances to sit in classrooms as we do today.

Global economy (X-axis)

It is not only critical but also crucial for macro- and micro-technological advancement to be developed. In the past few years, the stock market fluctuations have been a seesaw ride, and for the past 18 months on a downward spiral, the housing market has virtually come to a halt, and our economy in general has been frozen, not to mention an all-time high in unemployment.

These problems have had a tremendous impact on education, new construction and business in general.

The economic crisis here in the United States has resonated globally. If the current crises continue at the present rate, where will the world be in 2020?

Worldwide cooperation is essential for technological advancement and interactions. Therefore, does the global economy improve/decline when education is high or low? Or does education improve/decline when the global economy is high or low?

Does the global economy promote education or does education promote the global economy? How would you answer these questions?

The word that comes to mind is “symbiosis,” a state of living together for the mutual benefit of each faction. Scenario planning, therefore, is taking a peek into the future to see what tomorrow might bring.

Now try planning for your own personal and professional lives. You might be surprised how accurate and effective such planning can be for your home or office.

Try being cavalier about the future but passionate about protecting the present!

Image courtesy of Dr. Earl Broker.