

Blog Post (By Jayden Lai, 6C)

The Careers of Tomorrow

The Future is Now! By Chris Wong



Recently, I have attended a career expo with the theme ‘Jobs of the Future’. While I’m very aware of the recent technological advancements such as artificial intelligence, block chains, etc. that humans have made, it also left me perplexed as to how new jobs would evolve or emerge from our ever-changing society. I must say, after attending the expo, I was utterly gob smacked, impressed and wildly fascinated! I saw jobs which sounded like they came straight out of science fiction and saw others which are really promising and have the potential to permanently solve some social issues once and for all. I was introduced to almost a dozen new careers, but 3 of them stood out to me the most, and I want to share with you guys some details about those 3 jobs, and give you guys a glimpse into the future!

The Aerial Guardians

Hovering freely in no man’s sky are the pilotless drones being controlled afar by humans. These meticulous and tech-savvy creatures have experienced an exponential surge in popularity, with its uses ranging from capturing jaw-dropping and spectacular scenery to scanning landscape for land development. To maintain safety and efficiency, here come the **drone airspace regulators**. These discount air control workers would be responsible for developing a new set of road rules for the sky, so that everyone may enjoy an airspace free of potential hazards or conflicts. For starters, they would analyze historical accidents concerning drones, such as the recent one in which an unmanned drone malfunctioned mid-air and crash-landed into a residential area. Then, they would draft up regulations or restrictions through meetings with other fellow drone space regulators. A vote would decide whether a drafted regulation should be enacted, and should the vote pass, it would be put into further development. Using previous accidents as an example, these regulators may limit the airspace allowed for drones to traverse in, or require every drone owner to label credentials on their drones for identification purposes. Given the sheer popularity of drones, the demand for regulators would be undoubtedly high, and it could be an extremely profitable industry. However, the government has shown little interest in getting involved with the regulation of drones, meaning that not only do these regulations have no actual binding power, but also lack the aid from law enforcement officers. They may have a tough time dealing with users who don't abide by the new rules of the sky. What would you think if you were asked to follow a set of rules for piloting drones? For me, I would opt for a common ground so that we may fly drones safely without conflicts.

Mind Savers

Depression and psychological illnesses have long been a thorn besides humanity, forcing dozens of people into an endless spiral of helplessness and driving unfortunate souls into suicide. However, with the advancement of neuroscience and AI, people would not only be able to have full access to one’s memory, but also have the power to freely edit them. The people who would be doing the hard work would be none other than **memory surgeons**. These specialized professionals will be able to remove negative memories from patients who are suffering from any psychological illnesses, such as depression, PTSD, OCD, to name but a few. In a nutshell, they would first apply full body anesthesia to patients, then apply a set-up on a patient’s head to gain access to his or her memories. With the AI guidance system, they would detect neurosignals and meticulously neutralize them. With this new field enabled, people can be free of any

illnesses, be it physical or mental ones. When traditional mental illness therapy may take up to decades to have a mere chance to work, memory surgeons may finish the job within a day. However, they would be faced with backlash associated with the ethical problems surrounding this treatment method. One common argument is the potential over-reliance of this technology, creating a generation of people who would not only abuse this process by removing even the slightest trace of bad memory, but also ultimately becoming an immature person due to the lack of adversity. Memory surgeons may also share the same question if they are not ready under the immense stress of other people who are resistant to technology. What do you guys think? Do you think it'll do more harm than good? Personally, both sides make sense to me and I can't make up my mind!

Online protection experts

Information technology has long since been a staple of the Internet. Through a click of a few buttons, you can have access to all your personal information such as emails, bank accounts etc., reaping all the convenience given by this first piece of technology. However, hackers with malicious intent may manipulate technology and find leaks to steal your information or hijack your account. To combat this, we have **data privacy strategies**. Not only are these people experts in the field of information technology, but also creative minds who would be able to design advanced algorithms and software in a bid to better protect a person's data. Specifically, with the knowledge of how the computer receives, confirms and stores a piece of data, they may find flaws within a computer or an application's code, and draft new programs to overwrite obsolete ones. They may also analyze historical computer viruses such as WannaCry to understand a hacker's perspective and knowledge of the coding system. Right off the bat, this is probably one of the ubiquity of the Internet, but also ever-changing and evolving. They would be given vast opportunities to make potential discoveries or even make new inventions and breakthroughs in the world of programming or in the field of information technology. However, this is a double-edged sword. Competition in this industry will be tremendously fierce. Why you might ask? Simple! If you have more protective anti-virus software, would you opt for a weaker one? I'm pretty sure no one would! Worse yet, hackers are finding more exploits to gain access to another person's information, meaning these strategists have to constantly be on top of their game, which also means potential stressful working conditions.

A promising future

The career expo really shed light on some of the most innovative ideas which can undoubtedly be a silver bullet to current existing issues. While I'm aware there are plenty of people who are still somewhat skeptical of technology, I can guarantee you that these jobs are not a far cry from reality. Sooner or later, they would slowly but surely come into fruition, integrating into human society and bringing about new opportunities. Even though new issues may arise from these new jobs, I can assure you that humans can easily improvise, adapt and overcome these challenges when it happens. Rest assured! We are definitely on the right track, and the future for jobs and civilizations will continue to flourish, prosper and evolve! If you want to know more about the other jobs, leave a comment and let me know! I'll consider writing part 2 in the future.

(1191 words)