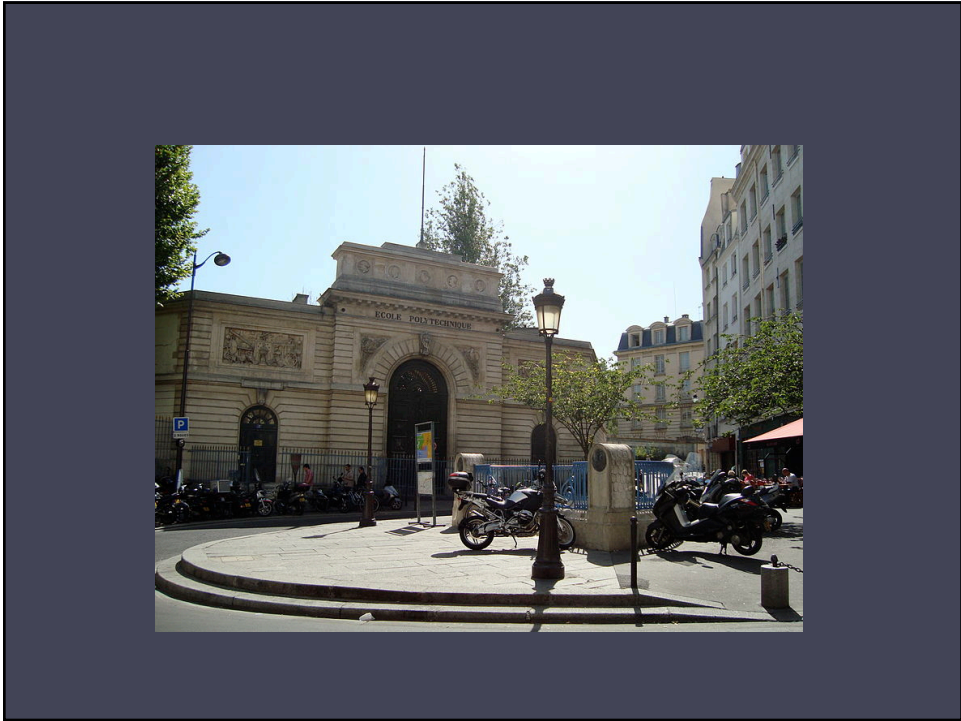
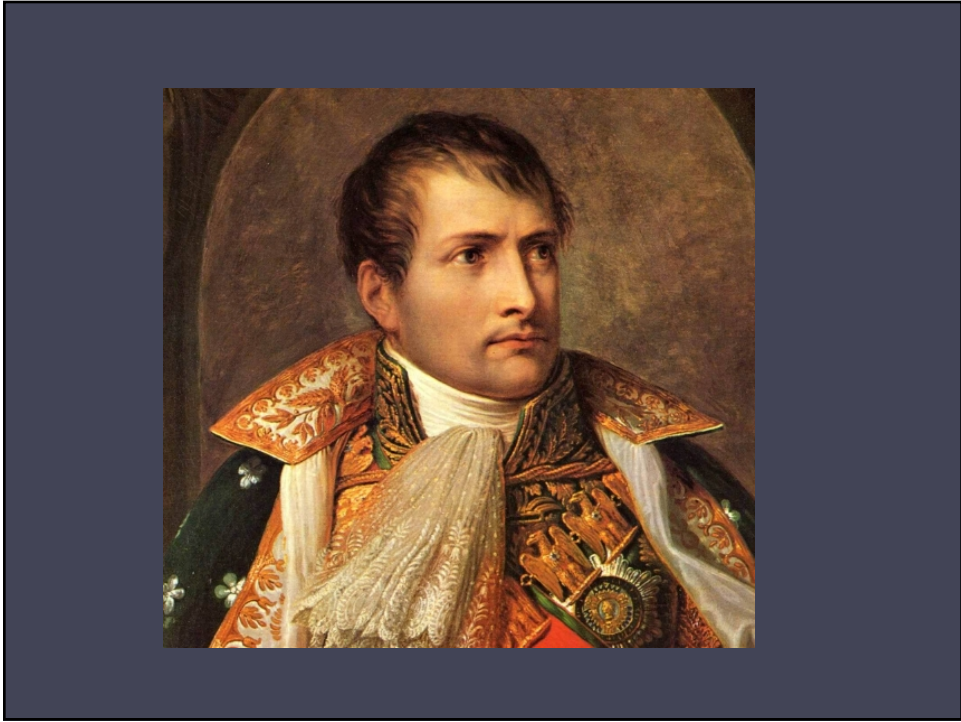


# POLYTECHNIC EDUCATION & SKILLS FOR THE FUTURE



Kwantlen Polytechnic  
Surrey, BC – June 7, 2017







## The British Approach

- ❑ Cornwall Polytechnic Society (1832)/Royal Polytechnic Institution (1837)
- ❑ Post WWII – technical colleges with humanities courses nailed on separately.
- ❑ Tech side influences Oz/NZ/Eastern Canada
- ❑ Polytechnics become universities in 1992

## The European Approach

- Two streams: Central European and Nordic
  - HBO
  - Fachhochschule
  - Ammattikorkeakoulu
  
- Early 2000s – Finnish re-classification
- Bologna – degrees for everyone!
- “Universities of Applied Science”

## The Canadian Approach

- Ryerson Polytechnic University
  
- Very large community colleges
  
- Engaging in Euro-style research
  
- Offering degrees in a non-university setting

## The Father of Basic Research



## Research and universities

- Justification for public research comes from Nelson (1959) and Arrow (1961)
- Value proposition for publicly-funded research comes from it being “basic” and “risky”.
- Great case-study Silicon Valley

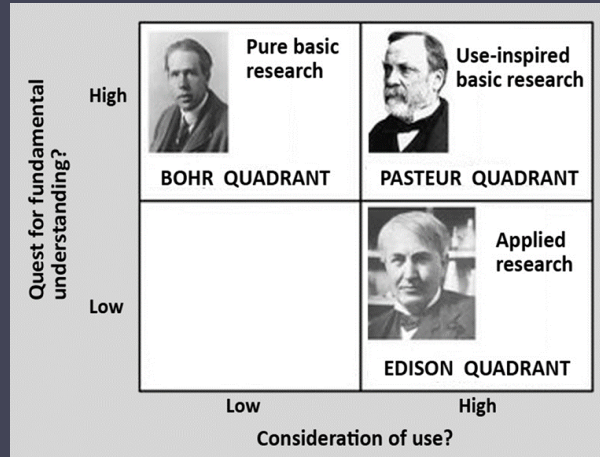
## The anecdote that keeps on giving



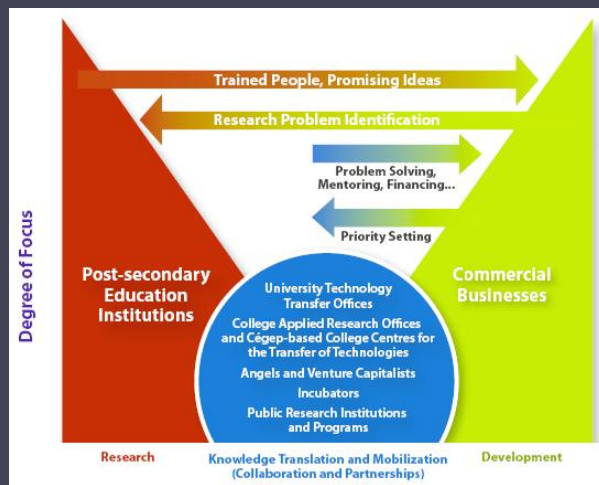
## But...

- Is university research really risky?
- Does university research really raise productivity?
- Is it likely to do so in the near future?

# Pasteur's Quadrant



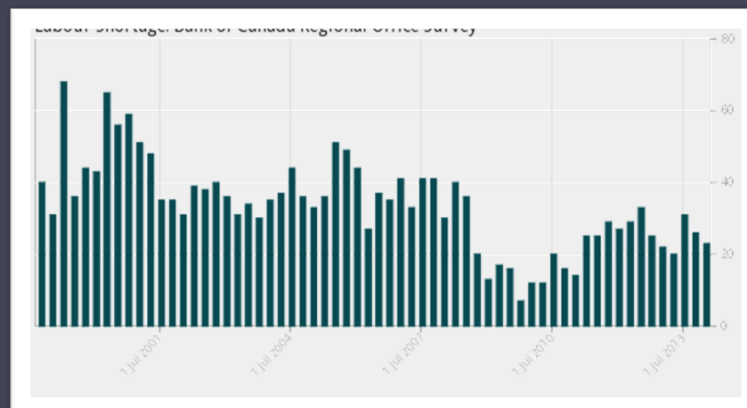
# Bridges to Business



## Polytechnic Teaching

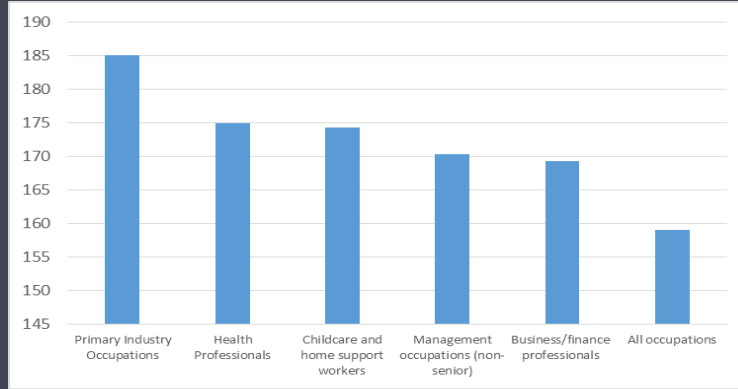
- The big differentiator is credentials, not pedagogy
- Work-integrated learning
- To some extent, subject-matter differentiates (the new vocationalism)
- Classroom economics excellent

## Skills Shortages Easing

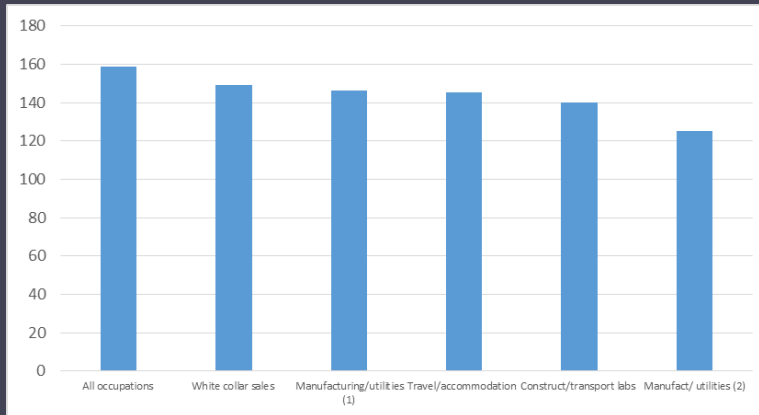




## The Big Winners, 1997-2014



## The Big Losers, 1997-2014



## Skills for the Future

- ❑ Not about specific fields of study, more about competencies
- ❑ Transition to the labour market has changed
- ❑ The Nordstrom philologist

## The Future of Teaching

- ❑ Policy frameworks are moving towards older workers
- ❑ Need new credentials with real labour-market value
- ❑ Polytechnics are best-placed to deliver these credentials – but common approaches needed.

## Keeping in Touch

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- Questions? [ausher@higheredstrategy.com](mailto:ausher@higheredstrategy.com)

