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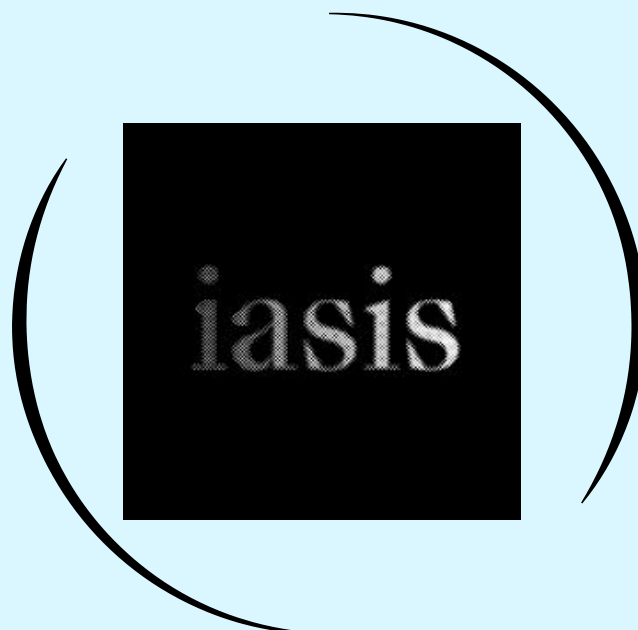
# INTEReD

Interdisciplinary approaches for  
Innovative Education

## A2.3 Roundtable Discussions



Organized By:



**Introduction:**

The roundtable consisted of Dimitrios Sampsonidis, career counselor in University of Crete and PhDc and Panagiotis Gkorezis, professor at the Economics Department of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. Coming from different sectors where phBL and interdisciplinarity meet, the former spoke extensively on the polymathy concept and the latter on interdisciplinarity in economics, leadership courses and HR in combination with adult education and digital applications.



## Roundtable Discussion Findings:

Being a polymath brings with it a unique set of challenges that can impact both professional success and personal fulfillment. One significant challenge is the tendency towards distraction and overwhelm. Polymaths often possess a natural curiosity that drives them to explore diverse subjects and undertake multiple projects simultaneously. While this curiosity fuels creativity and innovation, it can also lead to frequent shifts in focus and difficulty in completing tasks. The enthusiasm for exploring new interests may result in a sense of unaccomplished goals or a portfolio of unfinished projects, causing frustration and stress. Moreover, juggling numerous interests can overwhelm their capacity to manage time and resources effectively, potentially leading to burnout as they strive to balance their various pursuits without adequate rest.

Another common challenge for polymaths is the perception of lacking specialization or depth in a specific field. In a world that often values deep expertise and specialization, polymaths may struggle to gain recognition or credibility in any one area.



## Roundtable Discussion Findings:

They may be viewed as "jack-of-all-trades, master of none," which can pose challenges in career advancement or in securing roles that require specialized knowledge. Traditional career structures and organizational roles may not readily accommodate the breadth of skills and interests that polymaths possess, leading to difficulties in finding fulfilling career paths that fully utilize their diverse talents.

Furthermore, polymaths frequently encounter issues related to boredom and restlessness. Their inclination towards novelty and intellectual stimulation means that they thrive in environments that offer constant challenges and opportunities for growth. However, repetitive tasks or routine work can quickly become tedious and uninspiring for polymaths, leading to disengagement



In navigating these challenges, polymaths often grapple with identity and self-concept issues. The diverse range of interests and skills that define them may contribute to an ambiguous professional identity, making it difficult for them to communicate their unique value proposition or to fit neatly into conventional societal roles. This ambiguity can create internal conflict as they reconcile their natural inclinations with external expectations and pressures to conform to a single career path or area of expertise. Thus, while polymaths possess immense potential for innovation and interdisciplinary insight, they must navigate these challenges thoughtfully to harness their full capabilities and achieve sustainable success.



Interdisciplinarity in the fields of economics, leadership courses, and HR, especially within the context of adult education and enhanced by digital applications, represents a transformative approach to addressing complex challenges and fostering comprehensive professional development.

In economics, interdisciplinary approaches involve integrating insights and methodologies from various fields such as sociology, psychology, political science, and data science. This holistic approach recognizes that economic phenomena are influenced by diverse factors beyond traditional economic theories. For instance, understanding consumer behavior may require insights from psychology, while analyzing economic policy effectiveness may draw on political science and data analytics. By embracing interdisciplinarity, economics education can produce graduates who are equipped to navigate dynamic economic landscapes with a broader perspective and innovative solutions.



Interdisciplinarity is applied at the university with workshops for students where they can see the styles of leadership and become familiar with its economic and interpersonal dimension. The combination of these disciplines offers engagement and multiple skills to the students who can develop their skills by studying contemporary case studies -phenomena and training.





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# INTERED



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