# Reinvent the Future of Work with Radical Flexibility

Suzanne Adnams VP, Analyst – CIO Research & Advisory



# **Future of Work Trends for Higher Education - 2021**

### Higher education planning:

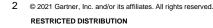
- 62% of institutions planning for hybrid with in-person and virtual classes
- 24% planning for exclusively in-person classes
- 64% plan to offer vaccines for students, faculty and staff on campus

### Impact of hybrid options on administrative and support functions:

- Significant increase: IT, Finance and Procurement
- Modest increase: HR/Legal, Advancement
- Minimal increase: Facilities and Academic Advising
- HR leaders expect on-campus staff to drop by 20% from pre-COVID levels

#### Source:

U.S. Universities Look for International Student Enrollment To Recover This Fall, Forbes, June 2021 Higher Ed IT Will See Significant Increase in Hybrid Work Arrangements, July 2021





66

The postpandemic work environment demands radical flexibility applied to work policies, new work patterns and an office design focused on enhancing the employee experience. Executive leaders endorse the future by implementing a flexible work model that meets evolving employer and employee needs."



The Future of Work Requires Executive Leaders to Embrace Radical Flexibility



# The Way It Was: A Familiar and Comfortable On-Site World



Consistent
Work Locations
= Equity



Visible
Work Patterns
= Productivity

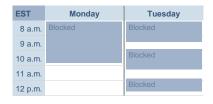


Serendipitous
Interactions
= Innovation

# The Global Pandemic: Moved Us to an Unfamiliar and Unknown Environment



"Everyone is in their own environment."



"Everyone's work patterns are obscured."



"Everything is scheduled."

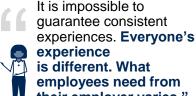
Loss of **Consistency** 

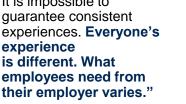
Loss of Visibility

Loss of **Serendipity** 

# What We Learned: Moving Away From Myth to Reality

#### Selection of Progressive HR Leader Perspectives





Consistency **Equity** 



It's a complete myth that because I can see my direct report at his desk, I know for a fact that he's working. He could be playing Candy Crush for all I know. And you know what? Maybe that's what he needed to do to disconnect for a bit. Surely empathy is more important than visibility these days."





Who even has a water cooler in their office anymore? Sure, I can strike up a conversation with someone more easily in the office. Doesn't mean I do unless I have that intention."

Serendipity **Innovation** 

# Reinventing the Future of Work: Stop Basing Work Design on Outdated Assumptions

False Assumptions Leaders Must Unlearn



#### **ASSUMPTION**

"Consistency is the key ingredient of equity."



"Visibility is the key ingredient of performance."

#### **ASSUMPTION**

"Serendipity is the key ingredient of innovation."



YOUR NEW WORK DESIGN PRINCIPLE:

Equity by equality of opportunity, not equality of experiences

YOUR NEW WORK DESIGN PRINCIPLE:

Performance by outcome, not performance by inputs

YOUR NEW WORK DESIGN PRINCIPLE:

Innovation by design, not innovation by chance

**KEY TAKE-AWAY** 

Base your work design on principles that are rooted in the flexible work environment.

# Radical Flexibility Is Moving From Office-Centric to Human-Centric Design



#### **Office-Centric Design**

An On-Site Model for an On-Site World "Location is the stable pillar we design work around."



#### **Human-Centric Design**

A Hybrid Model for a Hybrid World "The individual is the stable pillar we design work around."

#### **Provide Consistent Work Experiences**

Work design principle: Equality of experiences

#### **Provide Flexible Work Experiences**

Work design principle: Equality of opportunity

#### **Drive Visibility-Based Management**

Work design principle: Performance by inputs

#### **Drive Empathy-Based Management**

Work design principle: Performance by outcome

#### **Enable Serendipitous Collaboration**

Work design principle: Innovation by chance

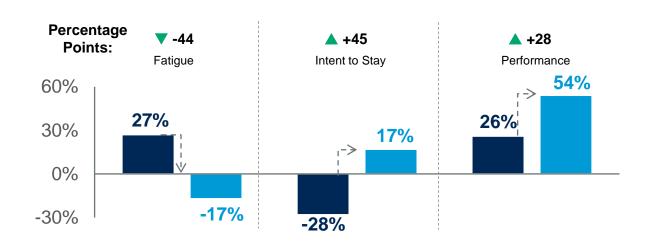
#### **Enable Intentional Collaboration**

Work design principle: Innovation by design

# **Human-Centric Design Drives Outcomes**

# Maximum Impact of Office-Centric Versus Human-Centric Design on Organizational Outcomes

Percentage Differential Between Each Design on Outcome



Office-Centric Design

Human-Centric Design

#### **Office-Centric Design**

- Provide consistent work experiences
- Enable serendipitous collaboration
- Drive visibility-based management

#### **Human-Centric Design**

- Provide flexible work experiences
- Enable intentional collaboration
- Drive empathy-based management

n = 2,410 hybrid/remote knowledge workers Source: 2021 Gartner Hybrid Work Employee Survey

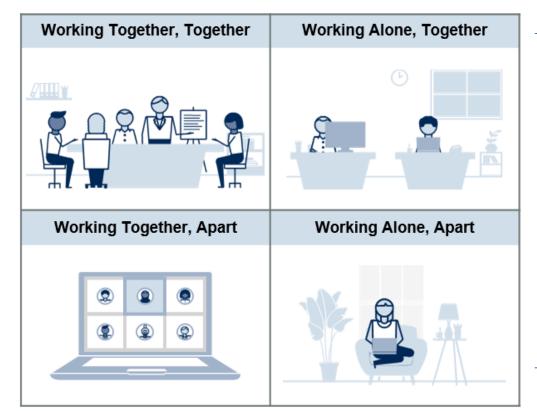


## **How We Work: Four Modes in the Future of Work**

Pre-COVID Co-Located

Pandemic

**Distributed** 



Post-Pandemic Hybrid

Source: Gartner

Synchronous Work

Asynchronous Work



# **Intentional Collaboration Example**



#### **Working Together, Together** Working Alone, Together Sustained culture ■ Employee retention **Dropbox Studios Public Spaces** and community (Once it's safe) shared Employees can use Co-Located Autonomy Human connection spaces reserved for co-working space Workforce team- and relationshippasses or choose to building gatherings. set up temporarily in Solo work is prohibited a café. in these spaces. Employer Driver Working Together, Apart Working Alone, Apart Employee Driver **Virtual First** Expanded recruiting Personalized Organizational geographies for resilience **Experiences** Worksites Distributed diverse talent Virtual, not physical Mental and physical Ergonomic chairs, Workforce Flexibility well-being locations, are the caregiver support, fitness default sites for memberships are funded by a flexible allowance. employee experience.

Synchronous Work

Asynchronous Work

# **All Employee Expectations Have Changed**

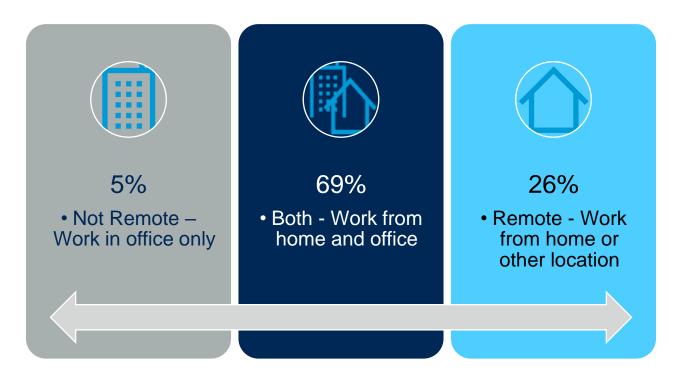


n = 4257 employees globally & across industries

N = 708 all IT employees

Source: 2021 Gartner Hybrid Work Employee Survey

# **IT Employee Expectations Have Changed More**



n = 4257 employees globally & across industries

N = 708 all IT employees

Source: 2021 Gartner Hybrid Work Employee Survey

# **Getting Started in a Flexible Workplace**



Accommodate
Flexible Work
Patterns



Communicate
New Work
Expectations



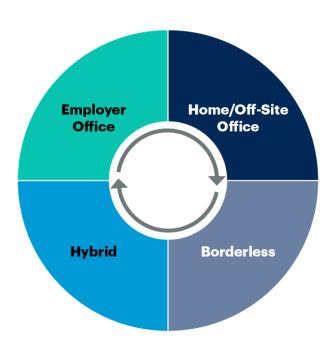
Initiate
High-Value Employee
Experiences



# **Emerging Flexible Work Pattern Options**



- Few, if any, organizations will be exclusively one of these patterns.
- Most organizations will have at least three patterns across their workforce.
- Borderless is an emerging option that organizations need to be prepared for.
- Workers will move from one pattern to another during their career and life.
- The flexible work policy must accommodate these patterns and allow for variations within and movement between each.

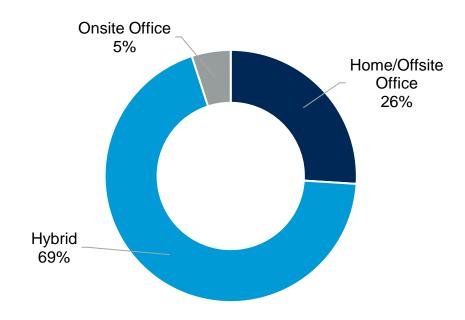




# Flexible Work Model Patterns — Projected **Distribution Estimates — IT Function Data**



Every organization must do surveys, focus groups and discussions across their workforce — leaders, managers and workers — to identify the expectations and determine the anticipated percentage for each work pattern.



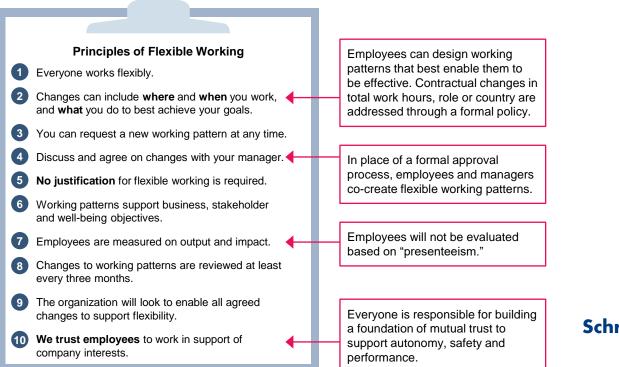


#### Flexible Working Needs Principles, Not Just Policy





Overview of Schroders' Ten Principles of Flexible Working



**Schroders** 



# Flexible Work Policy Essentials



Flexibility to opt for and change work location becomes the standard and is not a privilege.



**Terms of Participation & Eligibility** 

Adapt performance management processes to "de-risk" employees' choice of location.



**Accountability & Evaluation** 

Identify equipment, materials and resources provided to support the productivity of on-site and remote workers.



Use & Responsibility for Equipment and Resources

Update health and safety support and benefits for health risks across multiple permitted work locations.



**Establishing & Maintaining Workspace** 

Review compensation structure and benefits to address the the primary work location of the employee, e.g., labor and taxation laws in different jurisdictions.



**Compensations & Benefits** 

Define security of network and data access, physical documents, health, customer information or otherwise sensitive information.

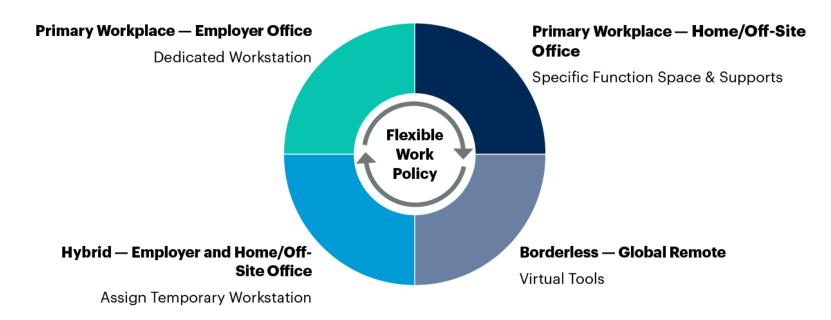


**Security & Confidentiality** 



# Flexible Space Utilization Considerations





# **Emerging Future Workplace Purposes**



Workplace purpose	Design and investments
Development workplace	Classrooms, library space, meeting and social spaces
Wellness retreat	Amenity-focused, unique spaces for reenergizing
Immersive workplace	Heavy branding, many meeting spaces and customer/client-facing spaces
Destination workplace	Outdoor space, dining and hospitality services
Innovation hub	Physical collaboration tools, video walls, formal/informal collaboration spaces, few workstations

# **Provide a High-Value Employee Experience**















A&Q





# **Future of Work Reinvented**

## Returning to the Workplace — Differently



**82% of employees** agree it is important that their organization sees them as a person, not just an employee.



**55% of employees** are high performers when provided radical flexibility over where, when and with whom they work vs. 36% of those working 9-5 in the office.



**96% of HR leaders** are more concerned about employees' well-being today than before the pandemic.



Human-centric work design — featuring flexible work experiences, intentional collaboration opportunities and empathetic management can increase employee performance by as much as 54%.



**55% of employees** say that whether or not they can work flexibly will impact whether they will stay.

**View Resources** 



# Gartner for T on Social Media

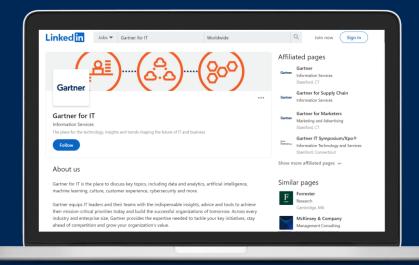
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