

AMERICA NEEDS TALENT

ATTRACTING, EDUCATING & DEPLOYING THE 21ST-CENTURY WORKFORCE

by Jamie Merisotis

"We've answered the call for talent before, and we can do it again. If we don't, we face deficits of prosperity and opportunity, we risk losing our global standing as a leader — both economically and culturally," said Merisotis. "The future is winnable, if we take the right steps and commit to attracting, educating and deploying the talent the 21st-century workforce needs."

SYNOPSIS

With falling wages and rising inequality, persistent unemployment, failing schools, and broken cities, have America's best days come and gone?

Jamie Merisotis says NO, but only if we make deliberate choices to grow talent: the complex combination of knowledge, skills, abilities, education, experience and values that help individuals prosper and meet workforce and societal needs.

"I believe that our Gross Talent Product — the combination of market and nonmarket value — is \$7 trillion annually," said Merisotis. "That's more value than the economies of Brazil, India and the United Kingdom produce each year — combined. **Our economic might and the fate of our future rides on getting this right.**"

To expand opportunity — in all directions and for all Americans — Merisotis introduces five bold ideas to expand and enhance our nation's talent pool.



Five bold ideas to grow talent in America



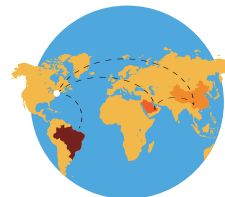
Rethinking and reimagining higher education



Unleashing private sector innovation



Consolidating and repurposing the federal role in talent development



Developing a new immigration model built around the type of talent we need



Reimagining our cities as hubs of talent



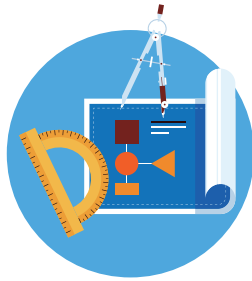
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jamie is a globally recognized leader in philanthropy, higher education, and public policy. Since 2008, he has served as president and CEO of Lumina Foundation, a driving force for increasing Americans' success in higher education. A highly regarded analyst and innovator, Merisotis is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations in New York and the leadership council of The Aspen Institute's Franklin Project on national service.

AMERICANS AGREE: THE TIME IS NOW FOR INCREASING TALENT¹



87% say the federal government should make it a high priority to **increase the talent of the U.S. workforce**



85% say that **redesigning the nation's higher education system** to better meet students' needs would increase the overall level of talent in the U.S.



78% say if the U.S. fails to develop a more talented workforce, it will **fall behind other countries**



65% say U.S. policies should focus on **better educating immigrants** already in the U.S., and **44%** say U.S. policies should focus on **recruiting essential talent** to come to the U.S. from other countries

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

"America Needs Talent is a challenge to both American citizens and our leaders to have the courage of previous generations to invest in ourselves to better our future."

—George Miller, Retired
Chair, Committee on
Education and Labor, U.S.
House of Representatives

"What a refreshing and important antidote to the conventional wisdom about America's future. Just when so many thinkers are focused on robots and the threat that automation will close off possibilities for Americans, Jamie Merisotis understands that the opposite is true — that the future will put even more of a premium on human beings and their talent. He's right to be hopeful, but also right to goad us: we won't realize our great potential unless we start to do things differently — focusing on talent and cultivating it with all the tools at our disposal."

—Tamar Jacoby, President, Opportunity America

"America Needs Talent is a book that should be on the desk of every 2016 Presidential candidate."

—Anne-Marie Slaughter, president and CEO, New America

DISCOVER MORE

For more information about the book and the author, go to americaneedstalent.com.

For orders with a quantity over 100, please contact **Peter Clark** at production@rosettabooks.com or 646-218-9243.

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