

PUBLIC & PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY CONVENING

CREDIT MOBILITY & TRANSFER CONVENING

▶ April 27-28, 2026
MTSU Student Union



Opening Plenary

Dr. Janet Marling

Higher Education Strategist,
Founder of Collective Thriving, LLC



Student-Centered Partnerships: An Outside-In Approach to Innovation

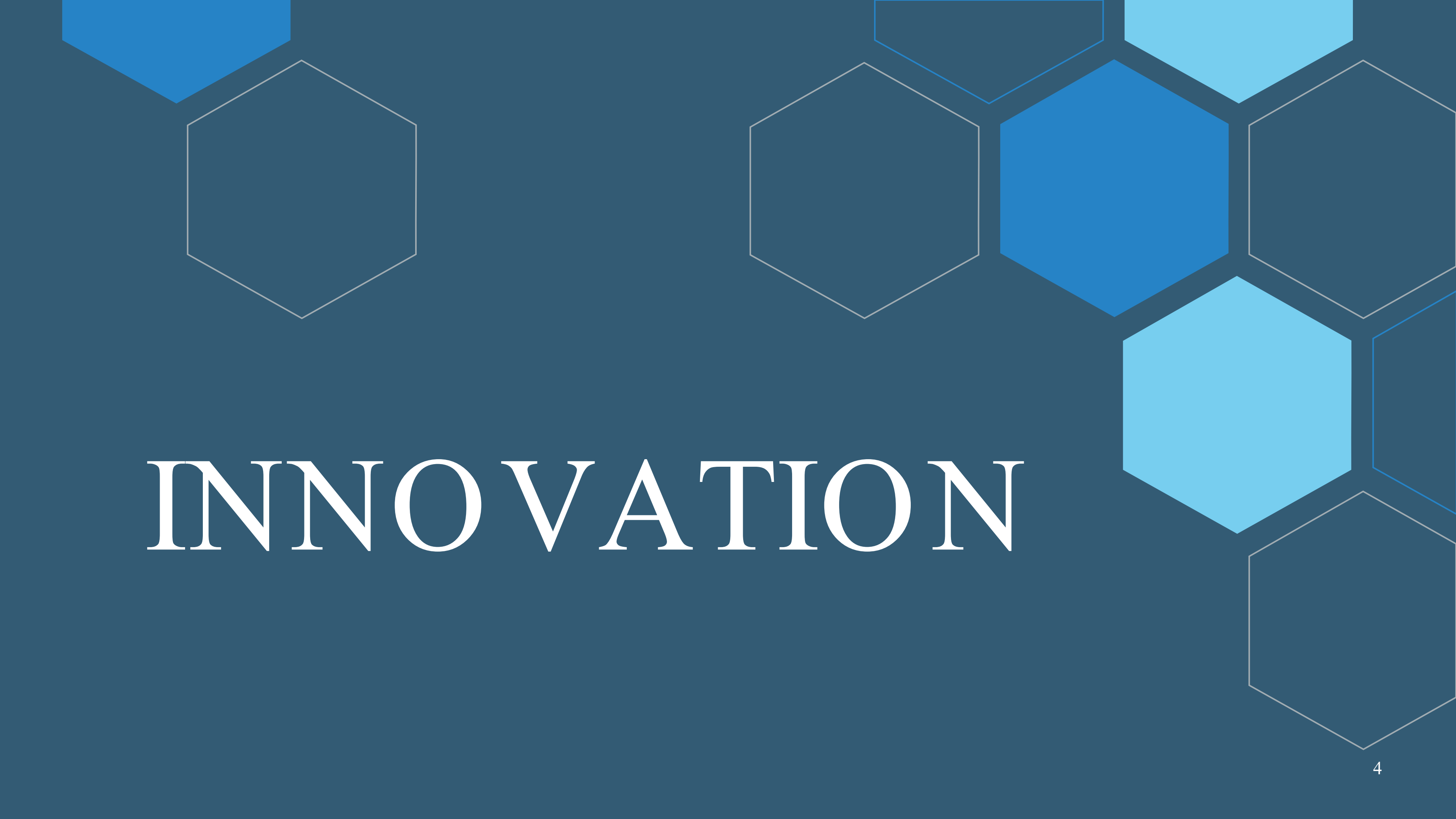
Student-Centered Partnerships: An Outside-In Approach to Innovation

Janet L. Marling, Ph.D.

TN Credit Mobility & Transfer Convening

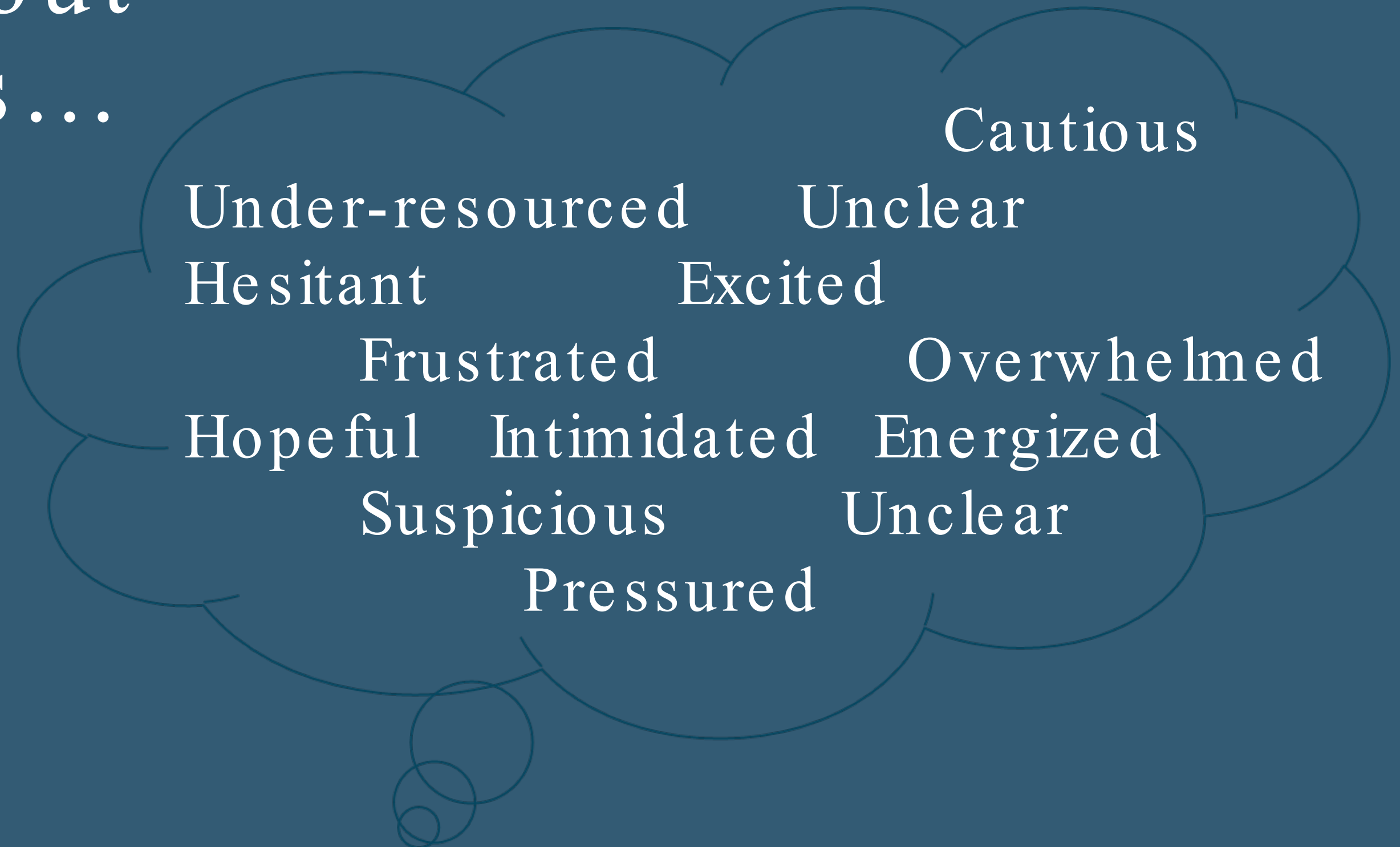
April 28, 2026





INNOVATION

Thinking about partnerships...





Partnership Innovation



Meet Jordan

- 34-yr old mom of 3 and a military spouse
- Health care administration professional who loves to lead; needs additional credentials to advance
- Earned 38 credits, 12 of which will not apply to her bachelor's degree and will cost \$4200 to retake





The Outside-In Approach

Friction Points

What aspects of Jordan's past and present are potential sticking points to accomplishing her goal of graduating with a bachelor's degree?

Jordan's Support Ecosystem

Brainstorm a list of individuals, organizations, and other supports that might be able to address one or more of Jordan's friction points.

* NO HIGHER ED INSTITUTIONS

Change Agents

Identify 1-3 potential change agents from your list. For each one ask:

What do they know or control related to Jordan's friction points and overall situation that we don't?

ANCHOR
PARTNERS



Reciprocally Advantageous

Foundations of a Sustainable, Student-Centered
Innovative Partnership





Fueled by a Negotiated, Shared Why

Foundations of a Sustainable, Student-Centered
Innovative Partnership



Built with Anticipatory Courage

Foundations of a Sustainable, Student-Centered
Innovative Partnership



Reflection Prompts

01

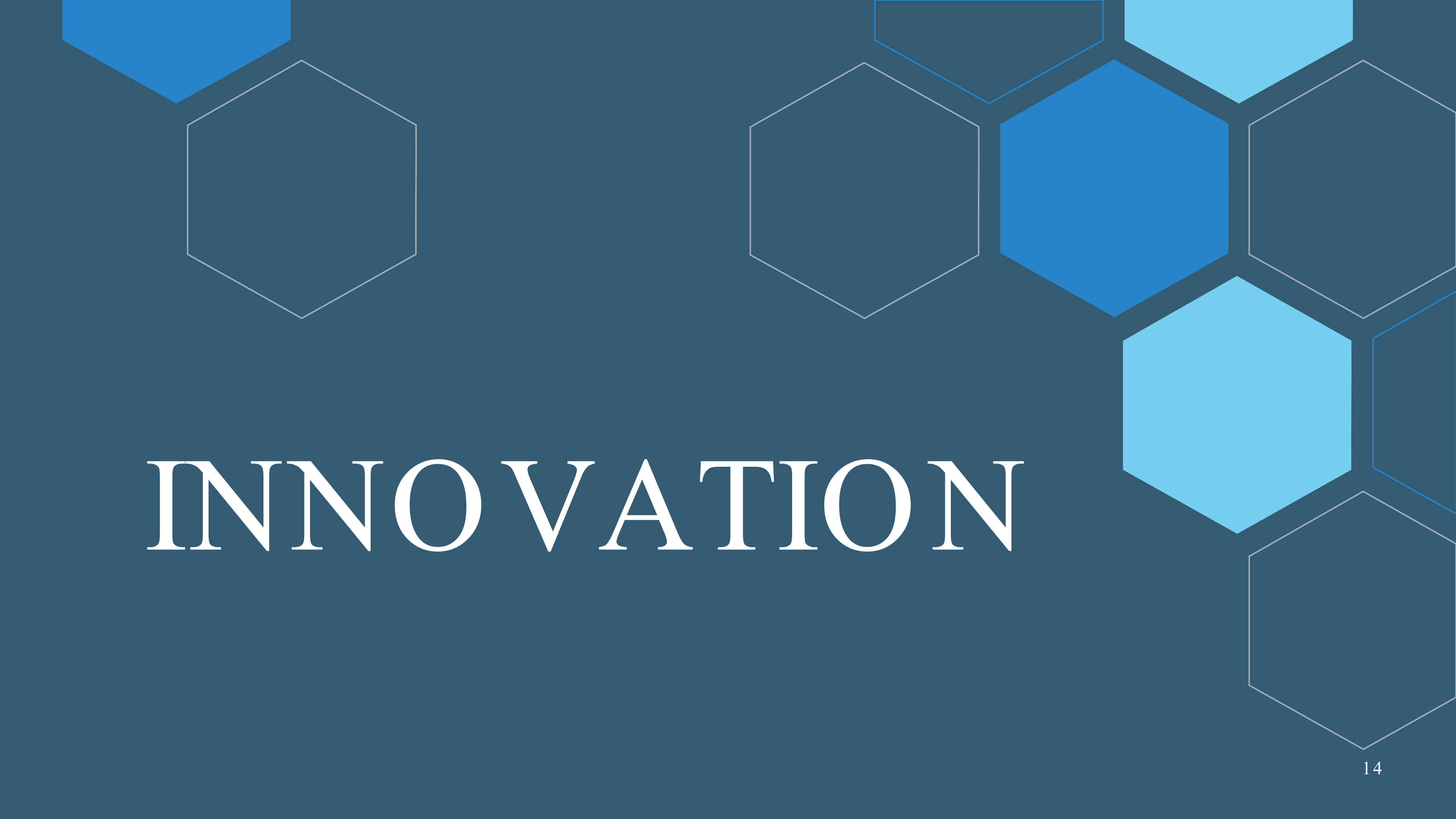
Think of one mobile learner in your institution or organization's ecosystem. Not a demographic. Not a cohort. One person.

02

What do you actually know about what this person needs – and how do you know it?

03

Based on what they need, who belongs in their ecosystem that you haven't yet thought to include?



INNOVATION

Please let me know
how I can assist you
in this important
work!

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Workshop

Institutional Plans



Thank you for attending!!

