



Lifelong Science Learning

John H. Falk

Lynn D. Dierking

Institute for Learning Innovation

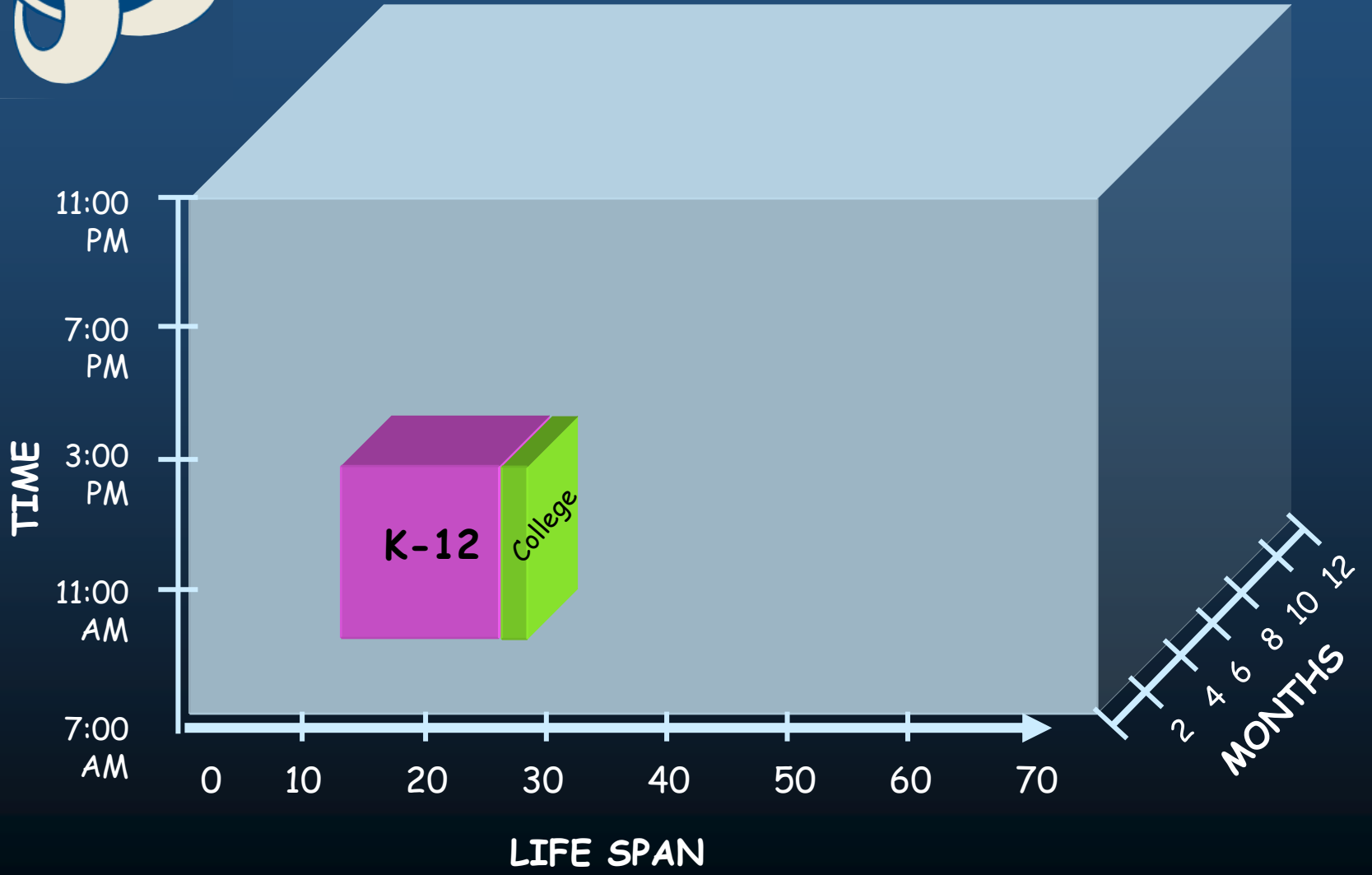
Walter Staveloz

ECSITE



Macro View

- We live in a Learning Society
- Less than 3% of our lives are spent participating in formal instruction.
- Children spend 85% of their waking hours outside of school.
- Most of what we learn, we learn through free-choice learning.
- Traditional boundaries between where, when and why we learn are disappearing





Learning Infrastructure





Sources of Information: General Science Knowledge

1. 76% Books, magazines, not for school
2. 74% Life Experiences
3. 74% Television/Media
4. 68% School courses
5. 65% Science Museums, Zoos & Aquariums
6. 57% On the job
7. 55% Family and Friends
8. 31% Radio
9. 24% Internet (NOTE: 10% in 2000, 3% in 1997)



Sources of Information: Specific Science Knowledge

1. 43% Free-Choice Learning
2. 34% School
3. 23% Work-related



There is no one place or time in which one learns - including science - but rather many places over many times.

If learning is a never-ending, cumulative process, then we should design our educational systems to support this lifelong process.