Trends in Project Management 2010
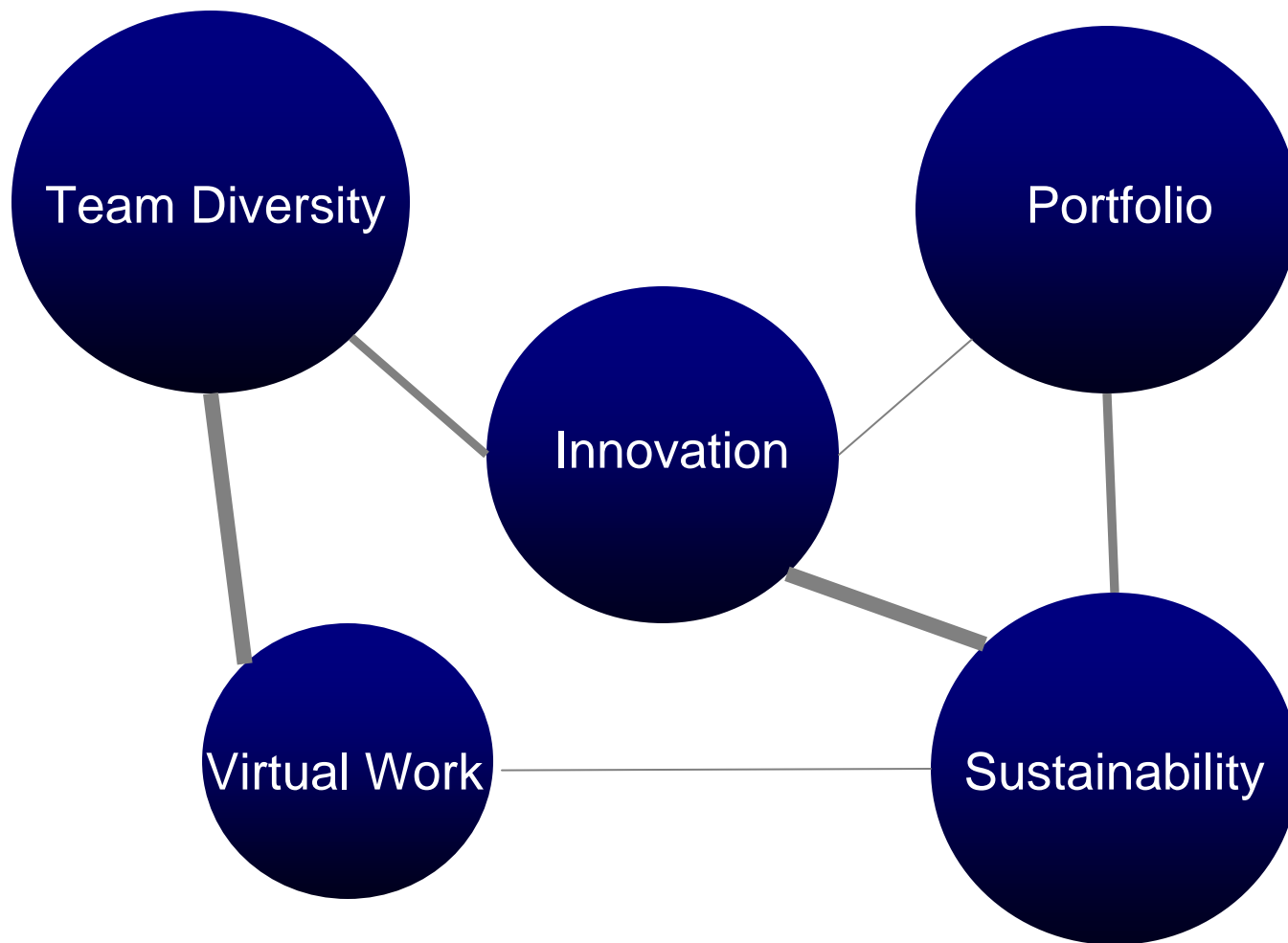
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Top 5 Trends

Cultural

Awareness of gestures, tonal inflections, communication styles, notion of justice & ethics, politics, national security, and public interest.

Cognitive

Differences in age, education expertise, training, professional background.

Teams viewed as guilds, clans, fellowships.

Geographic

Working virtually with people in different time zones, different size groups, different degrees of isolation.

"We possess incredible capacity to think differently. These differences can provide the seeds of innovation, progress, and understanding."

Scott Page,

The Difference

Scott E. Page

THE
DIFFERENCE
HOW THE POWER OF DIVERSITY
CREATES BETTER GROUPS, FIRMS,
SCHOOLS, AND SOCIETIES

Advantages

- Can be anywhere, anytime

- More work/life balance options

- Increased recruiting pool

- Lower overhead costs

- Environmentally friendly

Disadvantages

- Worker isolation

- Decreased support / oversight

- Missed contextual communication

- Work invades personal life

- Lack of effective, uniform virtual interfaces

- Decreased knowledge transfer

We can't assume we know how to work virtually.
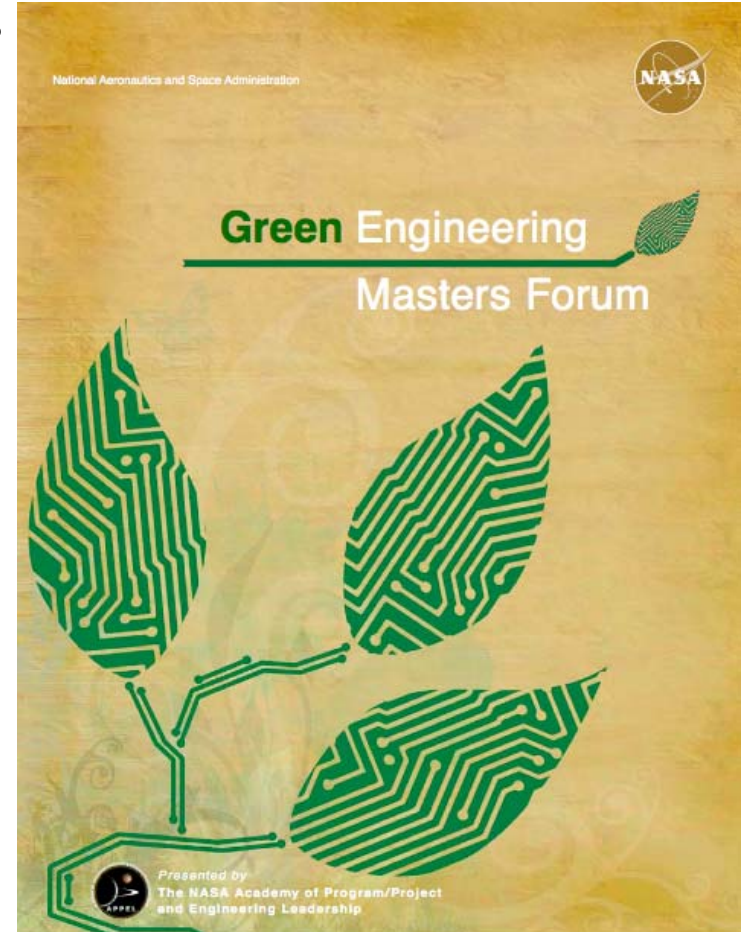It's not better or worse — it's just different.

Sustainability is here — smart organizations are trying to stay a step ahead.

- May be linked with economic recovery.

- Attracts talent.

- Creating a sustainable context/environment stimulates, promotes, and enhances sustainable thinking.

"People are hungry for the opportunity to work professionally in a way that is consistent with building a sustainable world instead of one that undermines it."

- John Sterman,

   MIT Sloan School of Management

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Green Engineering
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- Requires ownership, transparency and sharing ("Galapagos effect"), clear vision, and good communication.

- Sustainability is forcing organizations to see all of the dots and start connecting them in different ways.

- Existing technologies can be leveraged in different contexts.

- Continuing research needed to determine best ways to support and foster innovation and creativity in the workforce.

Mission Directorates

Aeronautics Research (ARMD)	Exploration Systems (ESMD)	Space Operations (SOMD)	Science (SMD)

Programs

Projects

The challenge is not just managing <u>a</u> project —

it is managing a portfolio of projects to execute the organization's strategy.

Why the Trends Matter

Team Diversity: The best ideas come from diverse teams.

Virtual Work: Talent and diversity demand an understanding of how to manage and work virtually.
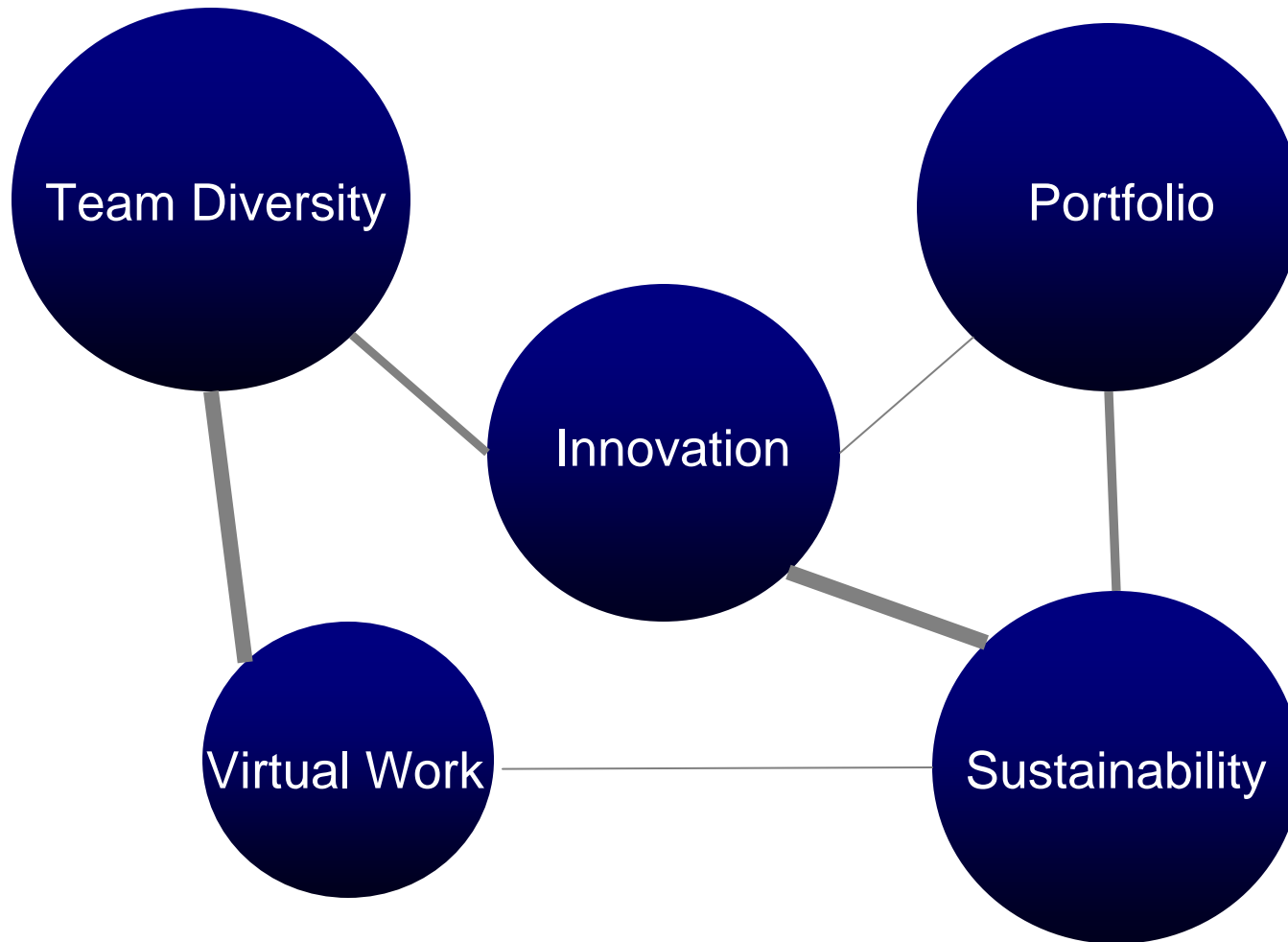
Sustainability: Sustainability is shaping the context of future work.

Innovation: Organizing for adaptive learning is critical to the ability to innovate.

Portfolio: No project exists in a vacuum.

The need for continuous learning is the common denominator.

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