ET: The Cost Crisis Meets the Tech Promise

2026 ET: The Cost Crisis Meets the Tech Promise

Card Type	Educational Transformation
Series	Immersive Futures Guild — Vision 2035
Layer	1 — Atomic Foresight Object
Status	Active
Confidence	Medium
Workshop	Circle of Scholars — January 2026
Facilitator	Circle of Scholars Workshop Team
Tags	cost | investment | ROI | layer1 | et
Tally.so Form	https://tally.so/r/ilrn-if-et-costcrisis-2026

Educational institutions globally face significant cost pressure at precisely the moment when immersive technology investment is at its highest demand. The tension between financial constraint and technology promise is shaping which immersive learning investments are pursued, by whom, and on what justification. Research on cost-effectiveness and return on educational investment is urgently needed and systematically underprovided.

Key Drivers / Contributing Conditions:

- Higher education financial model stress in multiple regions
- EdTech vendor pricing structures misaligned with institutional budget cycles
- Lack of standardized cost-effectiveness methodology for XR learning

Tensions Carried Forward to Part II:

- How should iLRN members evaluate immersive technology adoption decisions without adequate cost-effectiveness evidence?

Linked Scenarios / Strands: SC: Equity | STRAND: Transfer & Ecological Validity

Ways of Knowing: Tree · Garden · Lantern

PART II — COMMUNITY EVIDENCE & DIALOGUE TRACK | ET: The Cost Crisis Meets the Tech Promise | H2 2026 — Living

T	COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION FORM — ET: The Cost Crisis Meets the Tech Promise Submit case examples, methodological challenges, cultural perspectives, and proposed evidence criteria via: https://tally.so/r/ilrn-if-et-costcrisis-2026

Part II — Scope and Instructions
This section collects community responses, case examples, and challenges to the Part I foresight snapshot above.
It opens July 1, 2026 and undergoes synthesis review in September 2026, November 2026, and January 2027.
Contributions are submitted via the Tally.so form above and appear in the registers below after editorial review.
The Part I text is not modified in response to Part II contributions; it is versioned at the Annual Handoff review.
Contribution categories: Case Example | Methodological Challenge | Cultural/Community Perspective | Proposed Evidence Criterion
Ways of Knowing accepted: Tree (evidence) | Garden (practice) | Lantern (futures)

Tensions Open for Community Response:

- How should iLRN members evaluate immersive technology adoption decisions without adequate cost-effectiveness evidence?

Contributor / Date	Category	Way of Knowing	Contribution Summary
[Awaiting contributions — form opens July 1, 2026]			

Revision #1
Created 25 May 2026 20:56:23 by Jonathon Richter
Updated 25 May 2026 20:57:02 by Jonathon Richter