

# The Future of Higher Education

**The Real Innovations We Need**

**ASU + GSV 2017 Summit**

Salt Lake City, Utah  
May 10, 2017





“A nation’s present well-being and future destiny are no longer constrained only by its “givens” (its geography, its population, its natural resources). **Knowledge has become the prime mover....** Unlike other assets, whose utilization and investment are constrained by the law of diminishing returns, **knowledge is autocatalytic**, enlarging in the hands of its users; expanding in the range of its usefulness, even as it is applied; **growing in scope**, even as it is shared, increasing in refinement, even as it is questioned, challenged, and contested.”

— Frank Rhodes, *Creation of the Future: The Role of the American University* (2001)



“We live at the center of a **knowledge** explosion....  
Knowledge is now the key capital resource....  
Knowledge is now also the key social resource: it  
empowers people in a knowledge-based economy; it is  
what underpins any kind of critical thinking. It is civilizing.  
In a phrase, what counts is **knowledge power**.”

— Alan Wilson, *Knowledge Power: Interdisciplinary Education for a Complex World* (2010)



# Knowledge is Not Static



Until 1900, human knowledge doubled every **100 years**



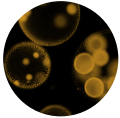
100 years



By 1945, it doubled every **25 years**



25 years



Nanotechnology:  
Every **2 years**



2 years



Clinical Knowledge:  
Every **18 months**



18 months



Basic Human Knowledge:  
Every **13 months**



13 months



The Internet of Things:  
Every **12 hours**



12 hours

not visible to the naked eye



# The British Library

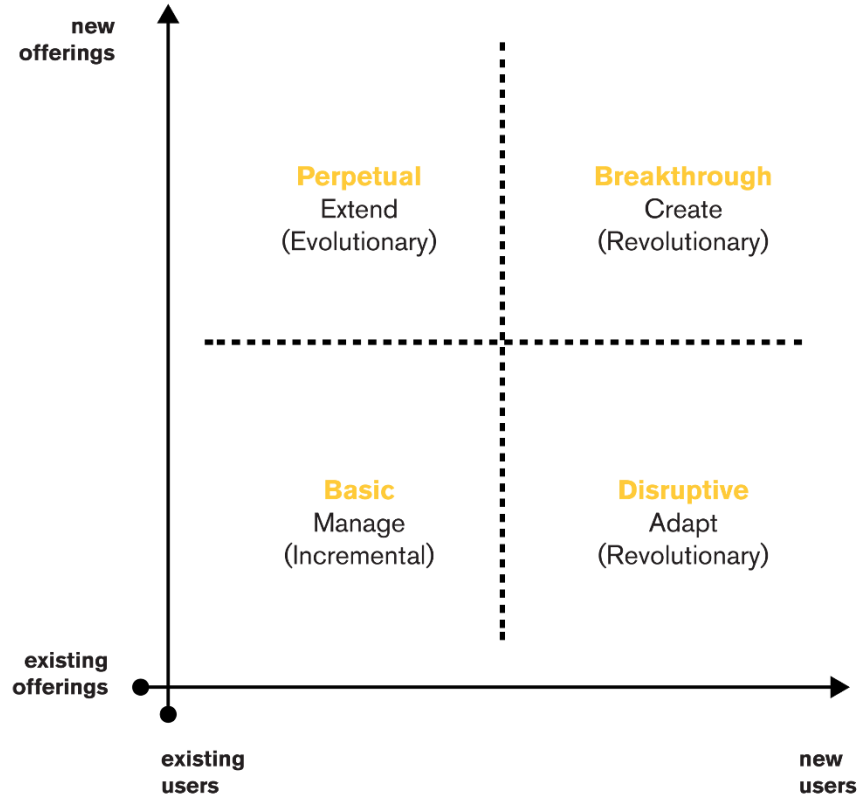






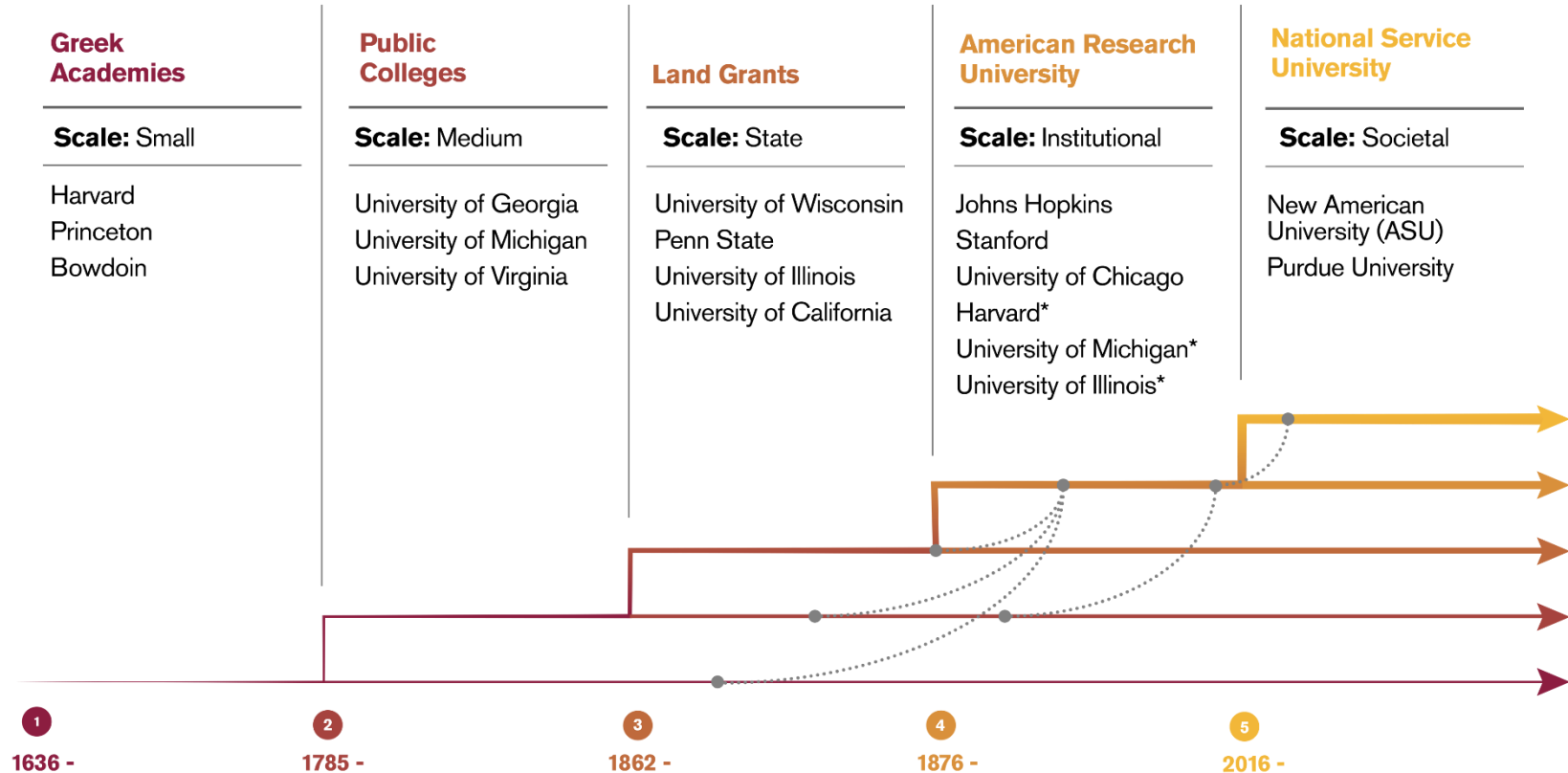


# Education as Innovation Anomaly





# Evolutionary History of American Higher Education





# Wave 1

## Greek Academies

1636 -

**Scale:** Small

Harvard  
Princeton  
Bowdoin

### The College(s)

- Classic Structure
- Internal Control

### Characteristics

- Small, elite, classical
- Separate
- Not scalable

### Type A

Private, Historical

- Bowdoin College
- Williams College
- Oberlin College

### Type B

Private, Modern

- Bennington College
- College of the Atlantic

### Evolutionary Form

- Olin College

1

1636 -

2

1785 -

3

1862 -

4

1876 -

5

2016 -



# Wave 2

## Public Colleges

1785 -

**Scale:** Medium

University of Georgia  
University of Michigan  
University of Virginia

### The College(s)

- Classic and Post-classic Structure
- Public Control

### Characteristics

- 19<sup>th</sup> century elites
- 19<sup>th</sup> century teachers colleges and non-elites
- 20<sup>th</sup> century non-elites
- Specialized public and a few privates

### Type A

Public Historical

- College of William and Mary

### Type B

Public Modern

- Evergreen State College

### Type C

Community Colleges

### Evolutionary Form

- Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

1

1636 -

2

1785 -

3

1862 -

4

1876 -

5

2016 -



# Wave 3

## Land Grants

1862 -

**Scale:** State

University of Wisconsin  
Penn State  
University of Illinois  
University of California

### Characteristics

- de Tocqueville (practical)
- Local, regional focus
- Focus on the working class/masses
- Focus on science practice

### Type A

Classic, Agriculture/Engineering

- South Dakota State University
- Montana State University
- Mississippi State University

### Evolutionary Form

- UC Santa Cruz
- UC Merced

1

1636 -

2

1785 -

3

1862 -

4

1876 -

5

2016 -



# Wave 4

## American Research University

1876 -

**Scale:** Institutional

Johns Hopkins  
Stanford  
University of Chicago  
Harvard\*  
University of Michigan\*  
University of Illinois\*

### Characteristics

- Transformative American innovation
- Inherent tension between missions
- Large scale, but limited

### Type A

Prototype

- Johns Hopkins
- Stanford
- University of Chicago

### Type B

Classic

- Columbia University
- Harvard University

### Type C

Land Grant

- University of Wisconsin
- Penn State
- University of Illinois

### Evolutionary Form

- Boston University

1

1636 -

2

1785 -

3

1862 -

4

1876 -

5

2016 -



# Wave 5

## National Service University

2016-

**Scale:** Societal

New American University (ASU)  
Purdue University

### Characteristics

Adaptive knowledge creation is at the core of the university and is essential.

Complex adaptive scalable university

### New Evolutionary Form

#### Type A

New American University

- Arizona State University

#### Type B

National Service Land Grant

- Purdue University

1

1636 -

2

1785 -

3

1862 -

4

1876 -

5

2016 -



# Wave 6

## Global Research University

TBD -

**Scale:** Globally  
Interactive

### Characteristics

- Organizational culture independent of geography
- Polycultural knowledge production methods
- Diversify financial base with funding from for-profit business spin-offs, competitive grants for technology innovation, corporate partnerships, and private donors
- Cultivation of post-national student and faculty talent base

### Rapidly Emerging Prototypes

- MIT
- Carnegie Mellon
- NYU
- Duke

1

1636 -

2

1785 -

3

1862 -

4

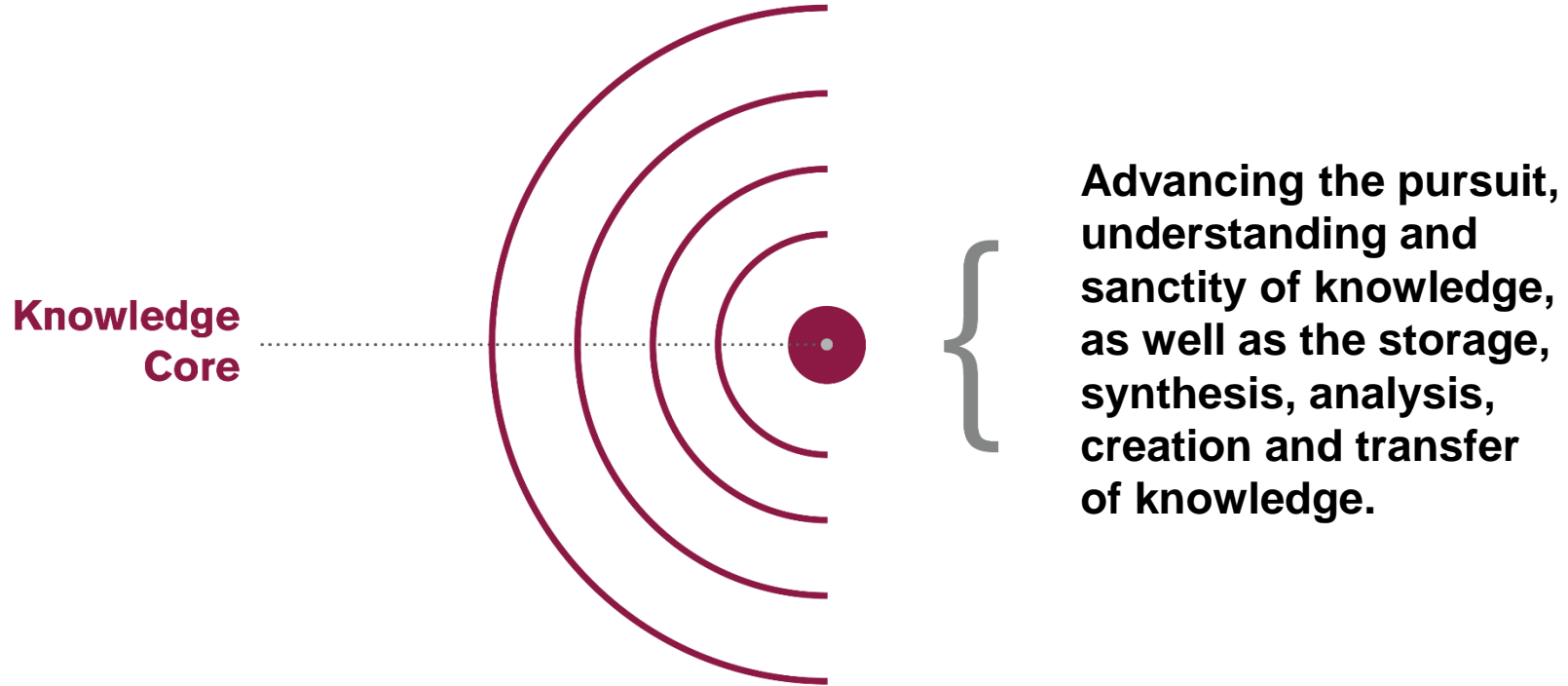
1876 -

5

2016 -



# Knowledge is the Driver





# Realm 1

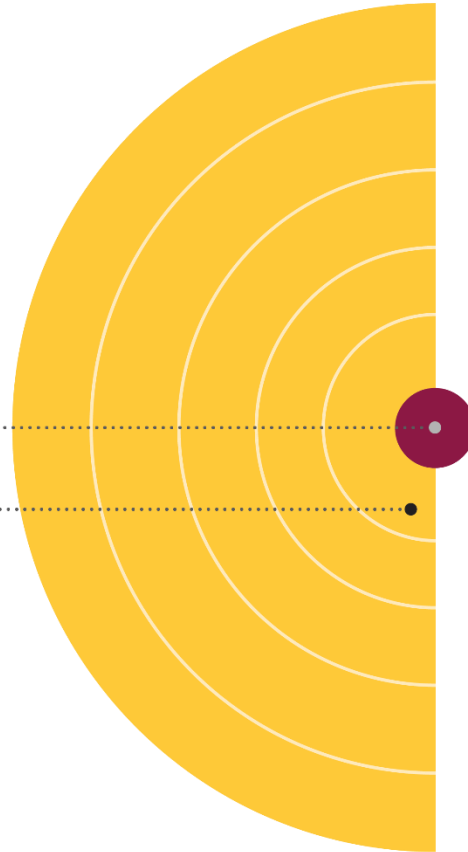
**Knowledge  
Core**

**Realm 1**

Full Immersion  
On-campus  
Technology Enhanced

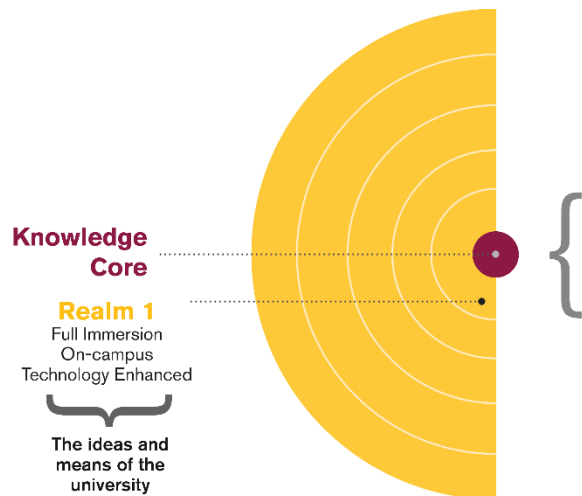


**The ideas and  
means of the  
university**





# Realm 1



## Needed Innovations:

21<sup>st</sup> century digital learning spaces

Artificial intelligence-based advising

Ubiquitous content delivery mechanisms

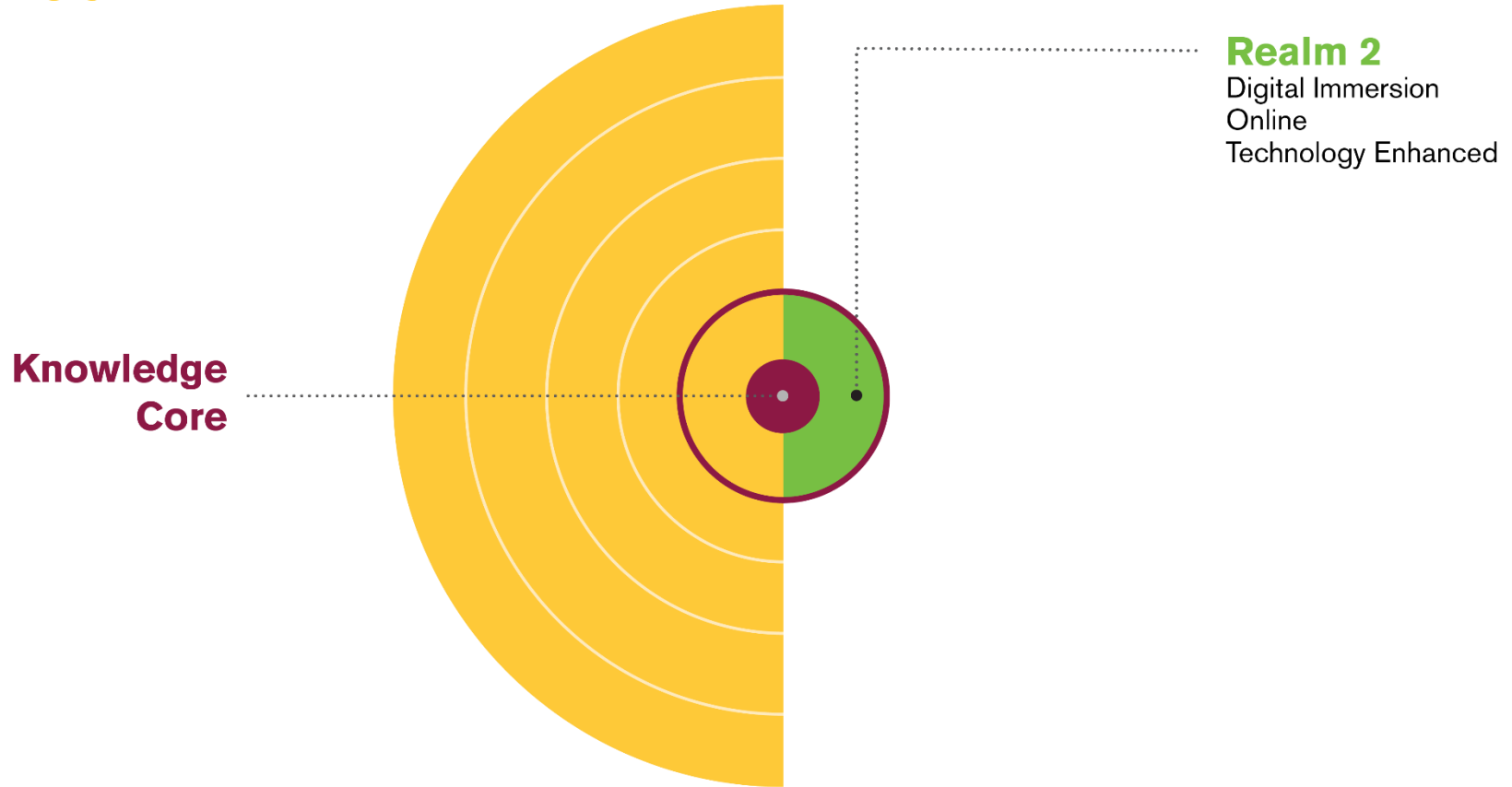
Intelligent tutoring platform

Personalized learning at scale

Math and science mastery for all

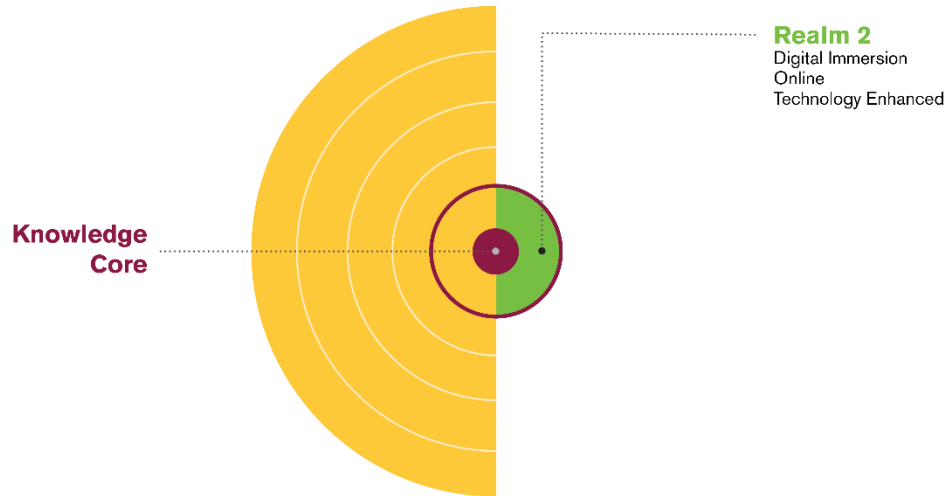


# Realm 2





# Realm 2



## Needed Innovations:

**Technology to support human relationships and build organizational affinity**

**“Integrated” human-tutor interface**

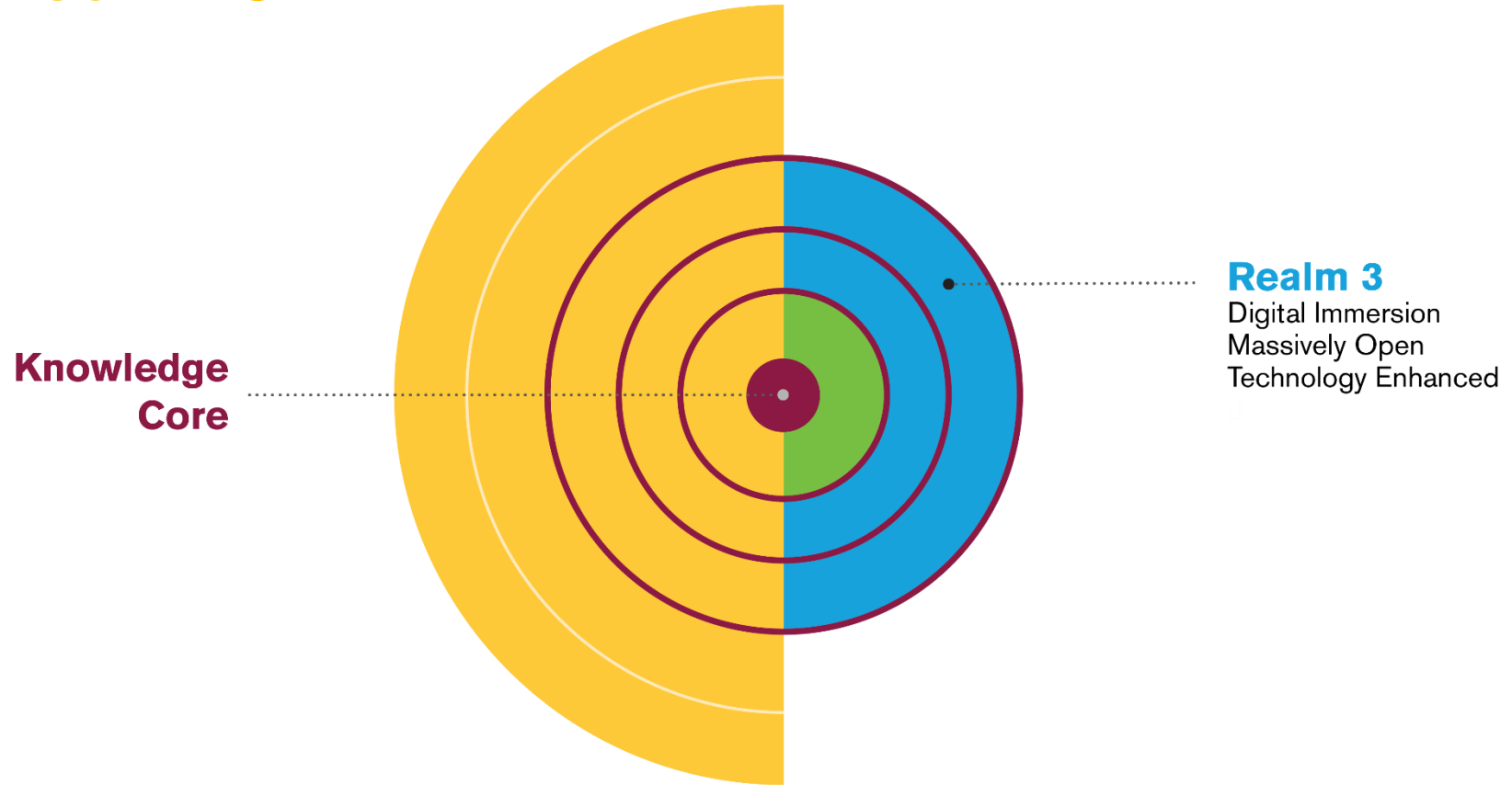
**Real time assessment**

**Development-based assessment**

**Math and science mastery for all**

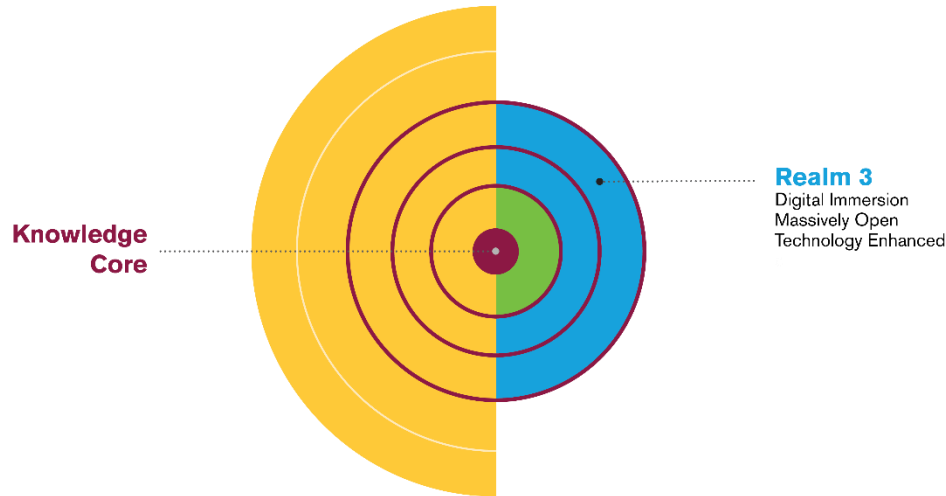


# Realm 3





# Realm 3



## Needed Innovations:

**Technologies that derive value from scale**

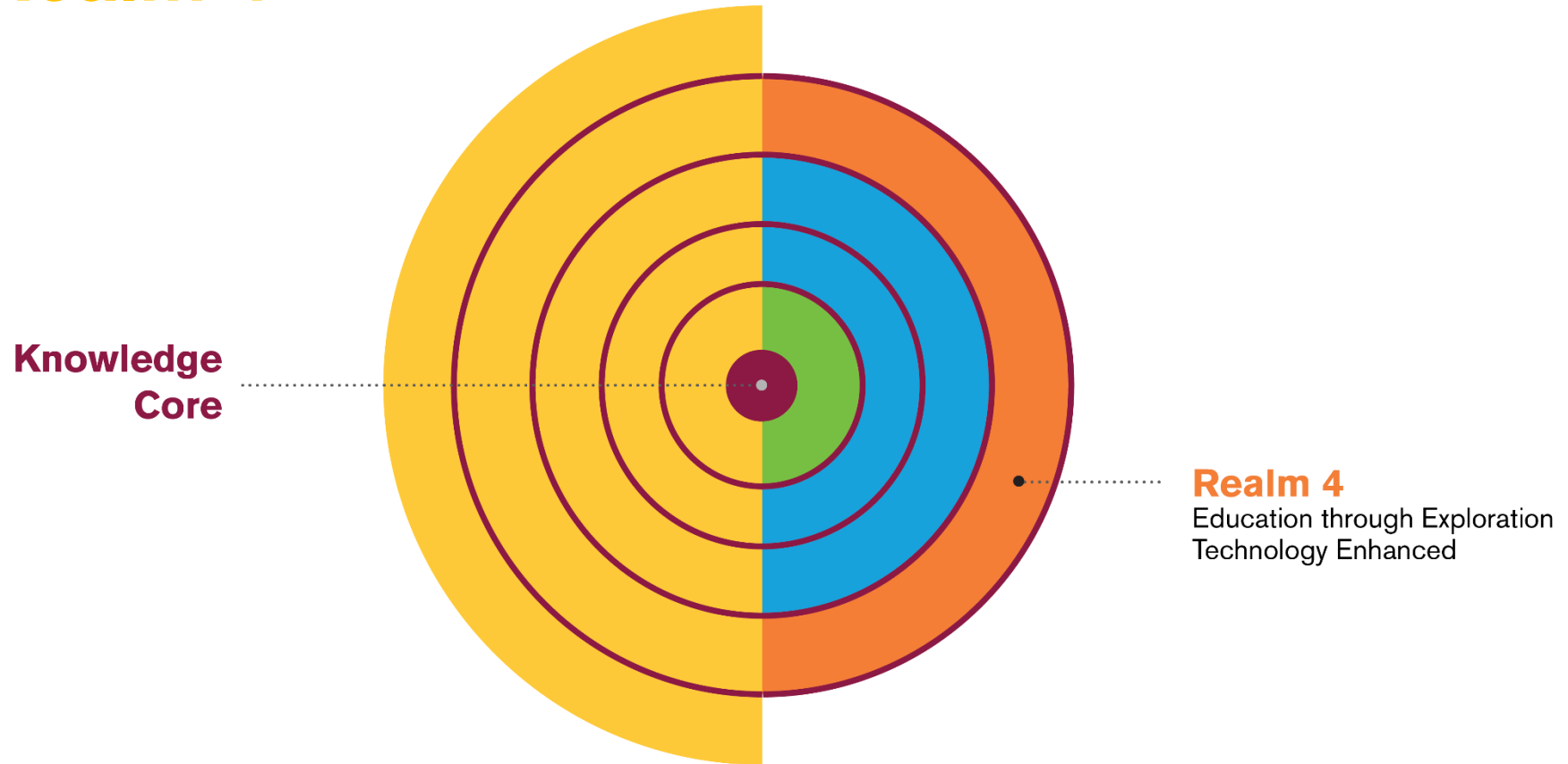
**Content and delivery for any life stage**

**Multi-organizational pathway mapping**

**Math and science mastery for all**

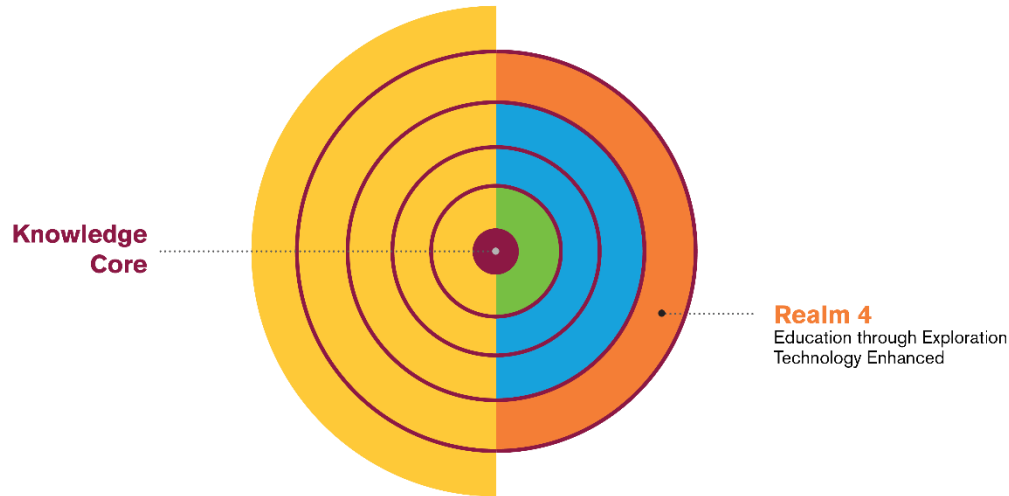


# Realm 4





# Realm 4



## Needed Innovations:

**Virtual augmented reality for learning**

**Direct human cognition linkages**

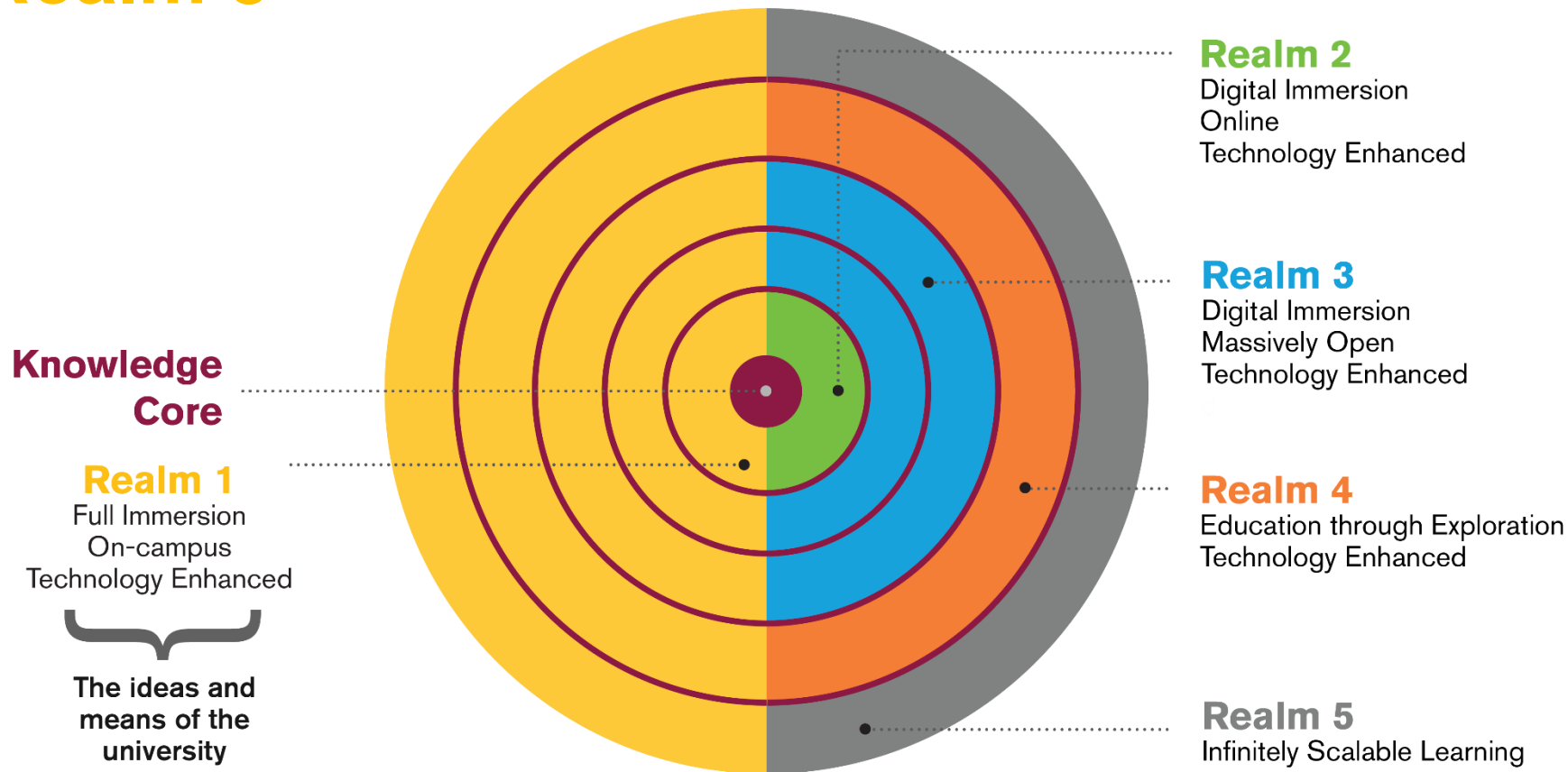
**Intelligent tutoring through verbal query**

**Group learning tools**

**Math and science mastery for all**

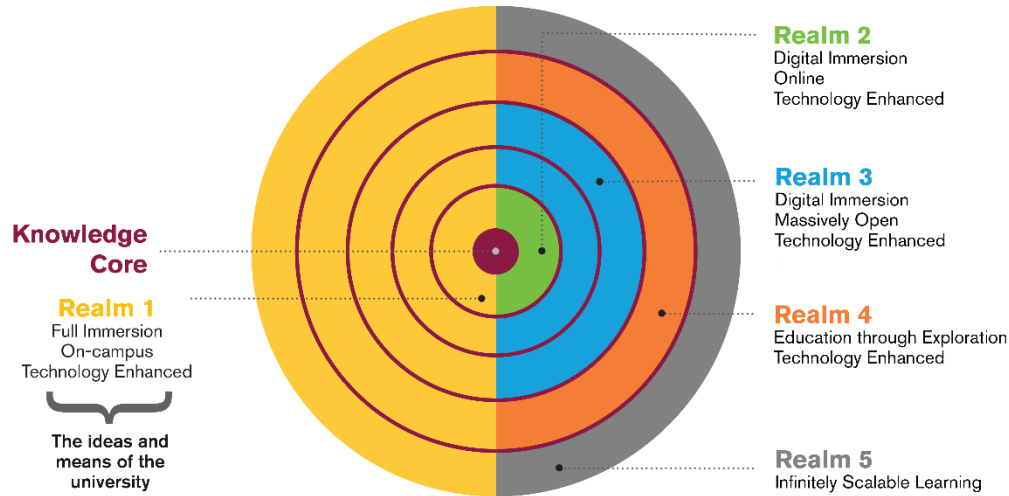


# Realm 5





# Realm 5



## Needed Innovations:

**Infinitely scalable teaching**

**Seamless integration of individualized learning across life stages**

**Lifelong intelligent tutoring**

**Math and science mastery for all**



# Innovations Needed



## Knowledge Core

### Realm 1

Full Immersion  
On-campus  
Technology Enhanced

### Realm 2

Digital Immersion  
Online  
Technology Enhanced

### Realm 3

Digital Immersion  
Massively Open  
Technology Enhanced

### Realm 4

Education through Exploration  
Technology Enhanced

### Realm 5

Infinitely Scalable Learning

21st century digital learning spaces

Artificial intelligence-based advising

Ubiquitous content delivery mechanisms

Intelligent tutoring platform

Personalized learning at scale

Technology to support human relationships  
and build organizational affinity

“Integrated” human-tutor interface

Real time assessment

Development-based assessment

Technologies that derive value from scale

Content and delivery for any life stage

Multi-organizational pathway mapping

Virtual augmented reality for learning

Direct human cognition linkages

Intelligent tutoring through verbal query

Group learning tools

Infinitely scalable teaching

Seamless integration of individualized  
learning across life stages

Lifelong intelligent tutoring

**Math and science mastery for all**



