Futures Thinking in simulated environments.
*(Deepening the learning experience in your First Life and your Second)*

And what could be more unknown than exploring the future through an avatar? (an avatar is your on-line persona).

Join me in a mixed reality presentation on Futures Thinking. Learn how to think about the future in positive creative and analytical ways. Prospective thinking instead of reductionist. Learn what the keystones to thinking about the future are, and how you can develop your futures insights. Learn how to see the future first. Then…….

Explore with me the realm of immersive experiential learning and how it can be used in developing Futures Thinking competencies. Learn how simulation can add enormously to the learning experience. Not just short role plays (although they also add value) but extensive and challenging 48 hour in-role experiences. What can such experiences add to the learning environment? How do they add to current learning methods? How does learning about self deepen the opportunity to learn?

What other gaming methods add to the learning experience? Can people learn just by playing? How can you embed learning outcomes within the context of a game? Is learning meant to be fun? What are the possibilities of mixed reality (real world and virtual world) games for deepening the learning experience?

Then join me on an island in a virtual world. Choose your avatar and teleport to the “classroom” where you will hear from an expert in Second Life (even if they have to get out of bed on the other side of the world). Hear them ponder key questions: What does the virtual world offer? How does community work in a virtual world? How does the economy work in a virtual world? How do you learn in a virtual world? How can virtual worlds add value to learning?

Your analog (“real”) world is your first life – your digital world is your Second Life. Join me in both.

We will reflect on these questions and more in this developing field.

Bring your mobiles, your laptops, your selves and your imagination. Have fun, be challenged, learn by doing and catch up with your kids.

Come on a future journey today.
Proposal for Thinking Conference “Curious minds think and learn by exploring the unknown” by Janine Cahill, FutureJourneys.com

Janine Cahill is a Sydney-based strategy and futures consultant with special expertise in developing experiential leadership programs and innovative forms of learning.

Ms Cahill has taught Strategic and Futures Thinking, Strategic Management and Innovation Leadership in a number of undergraduate and post-graduate programs in London. Her company Future Journeys is currently involved in developing Futures Leadership, Futures and Innovation learning programs, futures events and games. She is collaborating on a number of projects in the innovation space where futures, business, art and technology converge.

She brings diverse experience to her work with qualifications in Psychology and Finance, and a broad background in finance, energy, higher education and NGO sectors. She has worked in Strategy and Organisation Development since 1987 and in Futures Thinking since 1998.

Janine will co-present with both a real and a virtual colleague yet to be confirmed.