Shaping the Future

Your Testing Career

½ day workshop

"Quality is dead." Or—"Testing is dead." On the conference circuit, these are fashionable things to say at the moment. If you believe they truly represent the future of software testing, then it's time to start looking for a new career.

But if you believe the foreseeable future will hold a place for skilled testers and test leaders, then you need to keep adding to and honing your skills so you can continue bringing value to software projects, however they are conducted. It won't be enough to stand still; you'll need to keep increasing your value.

That will likely mean some mix of:

- Continuing to develop your knowledge and deep skills across a broad range: technical, analytical, project, business
- Channeling your efforts on high-return activities, rather than on excessive documentation
- Focusing your critical thinking capabilities on all aspects of project risk, not only on software bugs
- Building partnerships with programmers

Where do you want to go in software testing? How are you going to get there? Definable skills are essential, but so are more nebulous skills and personal qualities like collaboration, empathy and courage.

In this workshop we'll work together to explore where you want to go and the skills and personal qualities you want to develop. We'll examine many resources and activities that can help you do this. Finally, you'll build a roadmap to the future you want to make for yourself in software testing.