



From the Vice President's Desk

by Kathie Rabel

A view from across the ditch

As I started this off with a cliché I will continue with that theme and say, 'I'm glad I'm not an Australian' (the reference of course to Shona Laing's 1988 hit, 'Glad I'm Not a Kennedy'). The first line of the song is also appropriate 'Living on through politics...' Considering the last several weeks of political activity and the uncertainty the election in Australia has caused, it all seems appropriate. Now don't get me started on Brexit and its repercussions!

Given the opportunity to write this column for the newsletter, I wondered what might be interesting to highlight. I recently gave a briefing to the new Australian High Commissioner here in Wellington and one of his staff about the New Zealand (NZ) tertiary education system and the differences to the Australian system. It made me think that others might like to hear about some of the differences.

The first difference also has to do with politics. The current NZ government has been in power since 2008 and was re-elected in 2011 and 2014. We have had the same Prime Minister since 2008, John Key, and the same Minister of Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment, Steven Joyce, since 2010. In that same time period Australia has had as Prime Ministers, Kevin

Rudd, Julia Gillard, Kevin Rudd again, Tony Abbott and Malcolm Turnbull. In the same period, I think there have been 5 or 6 different Ministers who have had responsibility for tertiary education – it depends on how you count them. In some respects you could argue that, for tertiary education in NZ, we have had stability in comparison to Australia.

But what has that meant for us and are we really better off? In comparison to Australia, we have had capped funding for several years. It has meant that institutions have carried unfunded students over the same period. There has been no adjustment for the CPI on funding rates recently and, although inflation has been relatively low, the cumulative effect has meant that certain subject areas are very tight for funding. We have also had restrictions on rises in tuition fees. For 2017 the rate increase will be capped at 2%.

To add to the difficulties, the [Ministry of Education](#), which is responsible for forecasting student demand for the Treasury to determine the funding needed in the budget, has underestimated student demand, and for the university sector alone there is a \$20m hole in 2017, and it gets worse in 2018.

It's not all doom and gloom, though, as there have been increases in participation



and success in learning as well as in research performance. Course and qualification completion and retention rates are up. In particular Māori and Pasifika participation and success rates are up – they needed to be and we can still do better. And although we don't have the same focus on low-SES students as there is in Australia, in New Zealand this has improved as well. The Performance Based Research Fund (PBRF) has also had the desired effect of improving research performance and investment in research.

The other good news is we have the NZ Benchmarking Tool (you don't want to know what it is) to help us out – hint of sarcasm here – and the Minister has used information from the tool to adjust certain funding rates. If you deliver programmes in subject areas like science, engineering, technology and some health-related areas there have been increases in the past few years, and for 2017 the increase for agriculture and horticulture is 16%. These are not surprising as the government has been pushing the primary sector, STEM and ICT as ways of advancing the NZ economy. However, the arts, humanities, education,

business and law haven't seen the benefits of these sorts of increases.

So we are better off aren't we? To quote Tui (beer) billboards all around NZ – 'Yeah, right!' Despite the uncertainty that you have faced across the ditch—and it looks

like continued uncertainty for a while—I wouldn't trade places just yet. We each have our challenges on both sides of the Tasman and one can hope that as we share more information and ideas and have better and more informed decision-making, we might all be better off. This is where I

think we can all make a difference as IR professionals.

Kathie Rabel,
Vice President



When:

14-16 November, 2016

Where:

Crowne Plaza Coogee, NSW

Registration is now open

Early bird registration
before 16 August, 2016.

WELCOME

Welcome to the 2016 Annual AAIR Forum which is being held in beautiful beachside Coogee, NSW, Australia. The 2016 Forum: Bridging Data and Decisions, is being held over two days on the 15th and 16th of November, with a welcome reception, pre-forum workshops and special interest groups to be run on Monday, 14th November 2016. Only 20 minutes from the Sydney CBD and Sydney airport, Crowne Plaza Coogee is a convenient and ideal location for this year's event where AAIR guests will enjoy a beautiful beach side setting away from the hustle of the city.

We will hear from specialists across Australasia who will focus on the various topics that fall under the banner of institutional research including: business intelligence and analytics; compliance and government reporting; informing learning and teaching through evaluation and surveys; planning, policy and positioning plus many more sub themes.

This year's special interest groups will be run on the day prior to the forum, in addition to workshops so that those with a particular interest in these topics can elect to attend an extra day.

We look forward to welcoming our valued sponsors who continue to support the event, many of whom continue to participate in sessions and really are part of the fabric of the AAIR Fora. Over many years, these sponsors have been assisting IR staff to develop their services through technological solutions or other forms of assistance. Take the opportunity to speak with these vendors as often they're working closely with many of your colleagues in other institutions. Now in its 27th year, the Forum is the leading event for those working in institutional research and we anticipate a fantastic program which will be supported by the many institutions across Australasia. Join us in Coogee where we'll be Bridging Data and Decisions at the AAIR Annual Forum!

Dave Marr
President, AAIR.

Themes

- Benchmarking for Continuous Quality Improvement
- Informing Learning and Teaching through Evaluation and Surveys
- Closing the Loop – Putting Evidence into Practice
- Influencing Change through Information and Evaluation
- Modelling the Implications of Change
- Looking forward, looking back, new horizons
- Compliance and Government Reporting
- Planning, Policy and Positioning
- Business Intelligence and Analytics

Our Sponsors:



Higher Education@home

by Louise Hargreaves

Higher Education Reform

1. [Next 18 months crucial to reform](#). We have just endured the longest election campaign in Australian history, but strangely, higher education, despite its sheer size and importance to the economy, has been largely invisible. Too many of the issues yet to be addressed fell squarely into the too hard category for resolution during an election campaign — even one of eight weeks' duration.
2. [Finding ways forward when higher education reform options are limited](#). With the Liberals returned to office, their higher education review process will almost certainly continue. But any hope that the election would smooth the path to higher education reform is now gone. The government has less room to move than before. *Andrew Norton*.

Policy & Regulation Watch

3. [Uncapping of university places has not failed disadvantaged students](#). The Group of Eight (Go8) has called for university places to be recapped, saying that the demand-driven system has failed to sufficiently boost numbers of disadvantaged students entering higher education — one of its primary goals — and therefore the additional cost to the taxpayer is unjustified.
4. [Large growth in student numbers is threatening sustainability of university system](#). A successful innovation nation needs three things from its universities: excellence in teaching and research, high levels of participation, and equity of access. The current policy settings, while having achieved requisite levels of participation, have failed to [substantially boost equity of access](#) and have presented governments with enormous challenges in meeting the full costs of teaching and research.

5. [Devil is in the detail for SSVF](#). Australia's Simplified Student Visa Framework, [announced last year](#), came into force this month, promising to level the playing field by enabling students across all education sectors to access streamlined visa processing. The new framework has been broadly welcomed by agents and educators, though some have pointed to the devil in the detail in terms of processing, leaving some hiccups to overcome.
6. [Government money drives increase in domestic student enrolments](#). The introduction of the demand-driven system has increased universities' dependence on government as the major source of revenue, with new research showing efforts to recruit international students have slowed since 2009. [An analysis of university finances for the LH Martin Institute](#) shows government funding rose by \$2.87 billion in the five years to 2014, while non-government fee revenues fell by \$43.6 million.
7. [2016 TEOSA Provider Information Request](#). TEOSA has released updated information on the collection process for the 2016 Provider Information Request (PIR), which is available on the [Information Collection](#) page.

Higher Education Funding

8. [Can the government realistically cut funding by 20% for each student in higher education?](#) Higher education policy is one of the biggest challenges facing the new federal government. The [budget forward](#) estimates show substantial savings from a [20% cut](#) in the government subsidy per student. However, the original plan to achieve this through full deregulation of student fees is no longer an option. So, can the government realistically achieve its savings? *Peter Dawkins, Vice Chancellor, Victoria University*.



9. [There's cash for university projects, after all](#). Geoff Hanmer states that the federal government has "nothing left in the tank to offer universities for their capital funding needs" ("The efficient source of funds that universities don't tap", July 11). This is not quite true. While plans were announced in the 2014 budget to abolish the Education Investment Fund, the legislation failed to secure parliamentary passage. Consequently, the money was not repurposed and the \$3.7 billion earmarked for transfer to the Asset Recycling Fund remains available for investment in large transformative building projects at universities.

Sector News and Views

10. [AFR Higher Education Awards honour innovation and achievement](#). Applications are open for Australia's most prestigious higher education awards which recognise universities and other higher education providers for innovation and achievement. [The Australian Financial Review Higher Education Awards 2016](#), presented by UniSuper, follow the success of the inaugural awards last year. The awards are open to all higher education providers, both university and non-university, and will again recognise specific initiatives and strategies put in place by institutions in seven key areas. Entries close at midnight on [September 11, 2016](#).

11. [Engaging Employers in Skills Development for the 21st Century: Joint Australian Government and OECD Workshop](#). Policy makers and industry representatives from around the world converged on Adelaide on the 2nd and 3rd of June for a skills innovation workshop - jointly hosted by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Australian Government. Download the [Final summary report](#). The workshop presentations will also be made available in the coming weeks.
12. [eXplorance Widens Stronghold on Australian Higher Education Market](#). eXplorance, global provider of Learning Experience Management (LEM) solutions, is pleased to announce that it has now welcomed 50% of the coalition of leading Australian research intensive universities, known as the Group of Eight (Go8), as clients. Monash University, the University of New South Wales, the University of Melbourne and the University of Adelaide have purchased eXplorance's [solutions](#).
13. [Higher education pays for itself many times over](#). The relative [neglect of higher education investment in political debate](#) is a missed opportunity. The economic evidence is that not only does higher education build the economy's skills and knowledge, but that it pays for itself many times over. On average, university training in Australia has paid a rate of return [of around 14-15%](#) according to analysis of 2006 and 2011 census data.
14. [Hive of innovation found at Australian and NZ universities](#). A world-first study on innovation in Higher Education by the Australian Innovation Research Centre (AIRC) at University of Tasmania and the LH Martin Institute at University of Melbourne, has shown that Australian and New Zealand universities are prolific innovators. The report, based on a comprehensive survey investigating the managerial and administrative functions of 39 Australian and six New Zealand universities has found that the majority of universities have implemented significant innovative measures in the last two years.
15. [TEQSA visits Japan strengthening offshore partnerships](#). The five-day visit aimed to learn more about Japan's internationalisation of higher education and student mobility policy initiatives, provide TEQSA with insight as to how the Japanese agency protects the reputation and quality of higher education and explore potential collaborations between Japan and Australian universities.
16. [Doctors galore, but the regions are starved of specialists](#). The failure of the medical training system to adequately produce graduate doctors to work in rural areas is evidence that a new approach is long overdue, says James Cook University's medical dean. Richard Murray told the HES that while Australia produced and imported more doctors than we needed — the third highest in the OECD — the shortage of doctors and specialists in regional areas was a pending crisis.
17. [Education enhances employability in a changing economy: new report](#). A new Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) report released confirming the important role that education plays in preparing people for the workforce and ensuring skills for ongoing employment and lifelong learning. The ABS update on [Qualifications and Work in Australia](#) finds 9.4 million Australians aged 15-64 years had a qualification in vocational or university education in 2015, up from 8.7 million in 2014.
18. [Report urges India to allow overseas universities to open up campuses](#). Challenges remain for Australian universities to engage more fully in India. Most notably, India has no national system for course accreditation and qualification recognition. This makes it difficult for Australian universities to assess students' prior learning when making decisions about degree entry requirements.
19. [Years of reform have prepared sector for today's diverse cohort](#). Diversity is an oft-used, and possibly overused, word in higher education – diversity of our students, diversity of our staff, diversity of our institutions and diversity of our missions – but what does a diverse system look like? Within a national higher education system, a diverse group of institutions delivers a broad choice of programs, qualifications, teaching modes, learning channels and personal experiences for a wide range of student cohorts.
20. [Election or not, graduate outcomes and better regulation are key](#). At the Universities Australia conference early this year, Education Minister Simon Birmingham said universities "should be free to chart their own course, pursue their strengths and serve their communities". It is a statement in support of flexibility and autonomy. In practice, of course, both major parties are offering further regulation as the way forward for higher education. This takes different forms, and serves different policy objectives, but freedom to chart an independent course remains aspirational.
21. [Six ways to improve equity in Australian universities](#). The latest [report from the Group of Eight](#), which represents Australia's elite universities, has sparked [debate about the demand-driven system](#) and equity in Australian higher education. [Research shows](#) we have made progress, but improving equity across the sector is challenging.
22. [Bond University tops field in retaining indigenous students](#). One-on-one support and a sharper focus on culture has helped Bond University to achieve sector-best retention rates for its indigenous students. The Queensland private university claimed a 96 per cent retention rate for indigenous students last year, a figure much higher than the national average.
23. [A National Celebration of Teaching Quality — Briefly](#). The news that the Office of Teaching and Learning is to be shut down has been met with a remarkable lack of fanfare. The OLT is the federal organisation that supports research and innovation in teaching and learning in Australia and provides rewards for outstanding teaching across the entire tertiary sector in the country. It has had a troubled existence.
24. [Maths researchers enter the MATRIX to put Australia on the map](#). Australia has its first international maths research institute which is expected to attract some of the world's top researchers to work in this country. The new institute, called MATRIX, has the potential to transform maths research in Australia said director Jan de Gier. The institute, a joint venture between the Monash University and the University of Melbourne, will bring mathematicians together for residential retreats.
25. [Another Adelaide restructure on cards](#). The University of Adelaide looks set to reduce its number of faculties from five to three as it undergoes an overhaul of its academic structure. But with the reform process coming on top of a current review of professional staff, the academic union has predicted chaos. "It appears to be restructuring on top of restructuring," Felix Patrikeeff, president of the Adelaide branch of the National Tertiary Education Union.

26. ['No confidence' in Adelaide VC](#). The academic union at Adelaide University have passed a vote of no confidence in vice-chancellor Warren Bebbington saying his springing of a major academic restructure on top of a current restructure of professional staff was the culmination of two years of chaos at the institution.
27. [Warrnambool campus future in doubt after Federation withdraws](#). Federation University has pulled out of negotiations to take over Deakin University's Warrnambool campus, leaving the regional campus without a clear future. Federation University vice-chancellor David Battersby did not provide a clear reason for the university's decision not to go ahead with the proposal.
28. [Federation University to take over Monash's Berwick](#). Just three days after knocking back a \$100 million deal to take over Deakin University's campus in Warrnambool, Federation University has announced it will move into Monash's Berwick campus from next year.

David Battersby, vice-chancellor of FU, that while the takeover was pending federal approval, he strongly anticipated his university would start offering a small number of undergraduate and postgraduate degrees on the campus from next year as Monash gradually withdrew. FU will offer up to 15 degree programs at Berwick in 2017 in the fields of business, education, nursing, IT and science in 2017 and has the intention to be the sole provider at the campus in 2018.

29. [Graham and Louise Tuckwell donate another \\$100m for ANU students](#). Australian National University has received its largest gift from a single donor after philanthropists Graham and Louise Tuckwell yesterday added another \$100 million to their 2013 gift of \$50m. The money, which will finance the building of two student accommodation blocks with 800 beds, will ensure the visionary Tuckwell scholarship program for gifted all-rounders will be funded into perpetuity.

Corporatisation

30. [NAB prepares its finance leaders for the world of big data](#). National Australia Bank has partnered with Melbourne Business School to prepare 60 of its finance professionals for the disruptive

changes which are coming in banking. In July the executives will start a 12-month customised course at MBS to boost the analytical and problem-solving skills of the bank's finance specialists.

Credentialing

31. [Earn credit towards a degree from free online courses](#). Australian universities are joining the global trend to offer credit towards a degree to students who complete free online courses. The massive open online course (or MOOC) [World Music](#) offered by Open2Study now attracts bachelor degree credit at James Cook University. James Cook University school of creative arts lecturer David Salisbury, who presents the four-week World Music MOOC on Open2Study, said awarding credit for the online course was a fair reward for a student's effort

Graduate Outcomes

32. [Let's create more global students](#). Globalisation is now central to the mission of most Australian universities. All students are encouraged to study abroad, take a foreign language and develop cultural competence. In 2014, over 30,000 students undertook a learning abroad experience, backed by the New Colombo Plan scholarships and OS-HELP loans. Yet not everyone can enjoy global citizenship.
33. [Legal graduate jobs grow 6pc, picky firms cast a wider net](#). Some big firms cut back on the number of juniors they take on but there has been overall growth in graduate positions in the past year. According to [The Australian Financial Review's Law Partnership Survey](#), major firms, including Herbert Smith Freehills and Ashurst, decreased the number of graduates recruited. But overall there was a 6 per cent growth in graduate intakes in the past year.
34. ['Legitimate concerns' on underemployed graduates](#). New international evidence of increasing over-education could have implications for Australian higher education policy, including the demand-driven system and proposals to lower the income thresholds where graduates start to repay fees, experts say.

International Education

35. [Call for student focus in national strategy](#). Delegates at this year's Council of International Students Australia conference have called for Australia's International Education Strategy to take a more student focused approach to achieving its goals. During a roundtable discussion on the recently [released](#) document, delegates and speakers considered the goals outlined in the strategy, which should be prioritised and the best approach to achieving them.

Research

36. [Funding bias hampers interdisciplinary research](#). A landmark analysis by Australian National University biologists has backed up the long-held suspicion that interdisciplinary research is less likely to attract funding than studies confined within narrow disciplinary silos. The findings, published this morning in the journal *Nature*, highlight a paradox in research policy which encourages investigators to look beyond their disciplines — but then punishes them for doing so.

Student Recruitment & Mobility

37. [Pauline Hanson likely to hurt international education sector](#). The \$19.5 billion international education sector could suffer an immediate and dramatic shock, with the impact of Pauline Hanson and One Nation driving students from overseas to more welcoming markets. Sharon Bell, an honorary professor at Australian National University, said Ms Hanson had expressed worrying views about Islam that, combined with her past statements, could threaten booming international enrolments.
38. [Queensland eyes 20% market share](#). A draft strategy for Queensland's international education industry has set a goal to capture 20% market share of Australia's international students by 2026. The [Draft International Education and Training Strategy to Advance Queensland 2016-2026](#), backed by A\$25.3m in state funding over five years, set the target as part of

strengthening the state's position within Australia's international education industry.

39. [Regional unis attract just 5% of overseas students](#). Just five per cent of international students were enrolled on regional campuses in 2015, with 30 per cent of those enrolled at Newcastle and Wollongong, just a few hours drive from Sydney. New government data, shows that NSW had the largest number of international students in regional areas — 16,615 — although Queensland had the biggest proportion, sitting at 9.4 per cent.

Tips and Tricks

40. [VLOOKUP COLUMN Function and Named Ranges](#). By Sally Gerlach, Assistant Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Hamline University. VLOOKUP has been an extremely helpful tool to add variables from one dataset to another in Excel. Sometimes, however, you may want to merge in two or more variables from a different dataset. You can either use VLOOKUP and change the col_index_num manually across all the columns of data you want to add (e.g. from 2 → 3 → 4 → 5 → 6 → etc.), or you can use the COLUMN function embedded into the VLOOKUP and drag/copy your formula across all the cells you want to fill.

43. [OECD launches new higher education activities](#). The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is launching two new areas of work in the field of higher education: benchmarking system performance and in-depth analysis of higher education issues. The first topic chosen for examination is labour market relevance and outcomes of higher education.

44. QILT FAQs

How do I monitor my institution's survey progress while a survey is in field?

Login to the QILT [reporting module](#) to monitor your institution's live progress. You are able to download a list of each participant's status and see how study areas are progressing. A guide on the reporting module can be found [here](#).

When do I promote the GOS?

Your institution can be doing this now. Mid-year graduation ceremonies are the perfect opportunity to raise awareness and promote the November GOS collection. For the May 2017 GOS early awareness activities will happen in **September/October 2016**.

Where can I access QILT resources?

You can find all webinars, including recordings and slides and assorted QILT resources such as reviews, summaries, fact sheets and calendars on the QILT portal [here](#).

Institutional Researcher's Corner

41. [Proceedings of the 2015 AAIR Annual Forum](#). The proceedings provide a summary of the Forum along with presented papers. This great resource/reference document is now available for [download](#).
42. [Top Data resources on international education in Europe](#). The upcoming issue of [summer Forum](#), the EAIE's flagship member magazine, is on the role of data in international education. Every issue of *Forum* is covered on the EAIE blog on the week that the magazine is officially published. This time, we have a small 'teaser' for readers of the blog: a comprehensive list highlighting the main sources of data and research that can be used by international education professionals.

Frivolous Favourites



Positions Vacant



Seeking another opportunity in Institutional Research in Australia? Try our [Higher Education Jobs](#) webpage for current vacancies in the profession. If you are seeking an international career change see our American colleagues [AIR Careers](#) page.

Looking for some training and development?

See our [Training and Development](#) webpage focused on training for institutional researchers.

[Leading and Managing Research](#)

LH Martin Institute Online subject

25 July to 23 September, 2016

This subject provides an overview of key elements of research leadership and management in an institutional setting.

Looking for higher education conferences and events?

Here is a selection of upcoming events (or past events) that may be of interest. See our [Events/Fora](#) webpage for more national and international events.

[38th EAIR Forum](#)

Birmingham, 31 August – 3 September, 2016

The theme for the 2016 EAIR is Only Connect: Collaboration, cooperation and capacity building through HE partnerships.

Registration is now [open](#).

[International Partners' Conference 2017: Intercultural Education: Global Citizenship in Changing World Scenarios](#)

London, 10 January to 13 January, 2017

This event brings together leading figures in the higher education sector as well as guests from the business community to discuss issues facing international higher education.

Participate in workshops, choose from a variety of informative sessions to attend, share best practice and network with like-minded professionals.

The International Partnerships Office at Regent's University London will be hosting the conference in partnership with The Observatory on Borderless Higher Education.

Registration and a full programme will be available shortly.

[ATEM: Higher Education Update](#)

[Adelaide: 3 August](#)

ATEM's Central Region's premiere event bringing together speakers to discuss major issues affecting Higher Education.

This half day seminar will be held in the Bradley Forum, UniSA City West Campus, Level 5, Hawke Building, 50-55 North Terrace, Adelaide (corner of Fenn Place).

Speakers include:

Mr Carl Rallings, President ATEM and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students and Communities) University of Southern Queensland;

Mr Andrew Norton, Higher Education Program Director and policy commentator, Grattan Institute;

Dr Don Owers AM, Chair, Council of Private Higher Education (COPHE);

Ms Julie Hare, Higher Education Editor, The Australian.

As we head into a new era of government in Australia, now is the time to reflect on the Higher Education industry and what are the issues that affect it and its staff.

Registrations [open](#)

Enjoy Reading?



Here are a few recent releases:

[Raising the Stakes: Gambling with the future of Universities](#)

Published July 2016, Authors: Peter Coaldrake and Lawrence Stedman.

Prosperity in the future depends on our ability to play our part in a more globalised, technologically-enhanced knowledge economy. Universities are widely seen as portals to success, and an ever greater proportion of Australians expect to attend at least one of these widely respected institutions. However, despite strong demand, universities are under pressure. They face constant criticism about their relevance and responsiveness, are subject to regular government review and reform, and their budgets have been squeezed for decades. International rankings, global competition for students and the rise of new providers have heightened the risks of falling behind. Many academics are unhappy with their lot, and students are paying more. While solutions for these problems have been put forward, few have been completely resolved. It is widely held that universities will have to change radically if Australia is to compete on the world stage.

[The Undergraduate Experience: Focusing Institutions on What Matters Most.](#)

Published 2016, Authors: Peter Felten, John N. Gardner, Charles C. Schroeder, Leo M. Lambert, Betsy O. Barefoot and Freeman A. Hrabowski .

The Undergraduate Experience is a guide for significantly improving student learning and institutional performance in the rapidly changing world of higher education. Written by recognized experts in undergraduate education, this book encourages college and university leaders to rethink current practices that fragment the student experience, and to focus on creating powerful, integrated undergraduate learning for all students.

Higher Education Abroad

by Louise Hargreaves

Global News & Views

1. [A new crop of hands-on universities is transforming how students learn.](#)
When Christine Ortiz imagines her ideal university she sees “no lectures, no classrooms, no majors, no departments”. Students will work on tough practical problems in huge open spaces. If they need to swot up they will consult the internet, not a lecturer.
2. [How international is your country's higher education?](#) New research on national education policy in 26 countries was released this week to show how open each country is to international higher education.
3. [Towards a transnational politics of higher education.](#) Across the world, higher education is rapidly changing. Universities are increasingly seen as key engines of a ‘knowledge economy’, producing the innovation and the workers crucial to new industries. Driven by rankings that claim to measure ‘world-class’ status, and by the incentives and liberalised regulations of national governments, many universities are promoting themselves as ‘global’ institutions and competing to attract renowned researchers, international students, and grant income.
4. [Campuses struggle with 'pluralism' as students demand greater role.](#) Yale professor Nicholas Christakis said at this week's New York Times Higher Ed Leaders Forum that institutions today are “struggling with what it means to have a sort of pluralism at our institutions” — a struggle they will have to reconcile as the U.S. population becomes increasingly more diverse and institutions are charged with educating all of the nation's students.
5. [Focus less on tech and more on outcomes, urge ed tech leaders.](#) Infrastructure, teacher training gaps and even irrelevant technology are hindering real expansion of technological solutions to some of education's biggest challenges globally, voiced ed tech leaders at EdTechXEurope this month. While the technology exists to confront problems of access and scalability, teacher training hasn't quite caught up, according to Jonathan Rochelle, director of product management at Google.
6. [Is there a place in higher education for different approaches to learning?](#) It's been called “the challenge-driven university” — a new model of higher education that emphasises a different approach to student learning. Traditional methods such as lectures and exams are spurned in favour of team work focused on practical problems, with businesses often sponsoring projects and providing their own instructors.
7. [2016 Coding Bootcamp Market Size Study.](#) Course Report is pleased to present our third Market Sizing Report, another in-depth, empirical study that takes stock of the coding bootcamp industry. The findings confirm continuing industry growth between 2015-2016.
8. [Xavier Niel explains 42: the coding university without teachers, books, or tuition.](#) 42 is the answer to the ultimate questions about life, the universe, and everything. At least that's what it is in Douglas Adams' science fiction classic [The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy](#). And for French entrepreneur Xavier Niel, 42 was the perfect name for the innovative coding school he [founded two years ago](#) in Paris, and which recently opened [a campus in Silicon Valley](#).
9. [Redeploying faculty for student success.](#) A recent survey of alumni of institutions confirmed what every university president knows: when asked who set them on a constructive path, at the top of the list are professors who made them excited about learning, professors who cared about them as persons, encouraged them, mentored them, and directed them in projects—what we call “high touch.”
10. [Can Grit Save Higher Education?](#) American, Australian and British universities are facing a serious input crisis. The number of students capable of anything resembling a conventional university education is drying up and the spectre of extinction is haunting British and American campuses. London Metropolitan University is [closing two campuses and cutting 400 jobs](#). Twelve of those jobs will be managerial ones so the situation must be really desperate.
11. [5 revelations about higher education.](#) Hanover Research pulls together comprehensive trends report based on college and university research projects; forecasts higher ed's reinvented future. It doesn't matter what type of institution you're a part of or what department you belong to; according to [a new industry trends report](#), every college and university in the country is tailoring its research projects on academic program management—but why, and what does it mean for higher ed's direction in the future?
12. [US: Should law schools consider shutting their doors?](#) Applications to law schools have dropped almost 40% nationwide over the last six years, while enrollment has dropped by approximately 30%. Employability of recent law school graduates is down 10% over the last 10 years, while law school loan debt has increased from \$95,000 to \$112,000 between 2010 and 2014.
13. [Clinton Goes Tuition-Free.](#) Hillary Clinton, the presumptive Democratic presidential nominee, is today proposing that public higher education be offered tuition free to all who are from families with incomes of up to \$125,000. According to her campaign,



- that would mean that 80 percent of American families would be able to avoid tuition at public colleges and universities.
14. [Why educators fear the Trump effect on US education exports.](#) Late last year, the American Council on Education explored the longstanding concern that the United States [lacks a "comprehensive national internationalization policy or strategy"](#) when it comes to international education. But as billionaire American businessman and presumptive Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump continues to ramp up anti-immigrant rhetoric in the wake of the largest mass shooting in American history, the lack of a comprehensive national internationalisation policy or strategy will be the least of educators' worries many fear.
 15. [UK: New voice for private 'challenger' universities.](#) The United Kingdom's growing for-profit higher education sector – set to expand as the government encourages so-called 'challenger' institutions to compete with established state universities – has a new voice. Study UK, which has represented independent higher and further education providers, was relaunched this week as Independent Higher Education and will scale back its support for non-higher education members.
 16. [China's new Education Minister deemed a 'complete outsider'.](#) The announcement that Chen Baosheng will serve as China's new Minister of Education took the region's education professionals by surprise. While academics have deemed the newly appointed Minister an 'outsider', analysts have confirmed that major higher education policies – including the promotion of the nation's world-class research departments – will continue under his charge.
 17. [Chinese universities 'to set up in UK', predicts Lord Willetts.](#) The Chinese government may be planning to encourage its universities to set up overseas, and the UK should "work hard" to attract these branch campuses, according to Lord Willetts.
 18. [China to establish chemical university in Nigeria.](#) China Shenyang University of Chemical Technology has said it will establish a university of chemical technology in Nigeria. The school says its decision was borne out of the need to ease Nigerian student's travails in search of knowledge overseas.
 19. [China warns students about 30 fake universities.](#) Chinese students have been warned to steer clear of fake educational institutions, after an educational information website published a list of 30 such universities following the annual college entry exam in June. No less than a dozen provinces and regions – including Beijing and Shanghai – were mentioned in a list by sdaxue.com, an education information website, according to Chinese state TV Xinhua.
 20. [Rise in academic dishonesty cases among Chinese students.](#) The number of Chinese students facing dismissal issues at US universities for academic dishonesty is on the rise, according to a recent white paper, which highlights the need to further prepare Chinese students before they enrol at a US college.
 21. [India: open up to foreign providers, recommends think tank.](#) Foreign universities could help to meet booming demand, bring much-needed foreign investment and drive up quality in India's higher education system, according to the think tank tasked with crafting proposed policy for foreign HE providers to operate in the country. The National Institution for Transforming India Aayog submitted its roadmap for reform this week, which includes allowing high-quality foreign institutions to set up universities in India and to establish joint-ventures with domestic partners.
 22. [World's first MBA course on smartphone launched; is it worth it in India.](#) E-learning is growing rapidly and an increasing number of courses are being made available online. The fastest growing markets are India and China. While online MBA has been there for some time, and has enabled thousands of students to live their management dream, the next is an MBA on a smartphone, which was recently launched by the London School of Marketing (LSM).
 23. [Malaysia's higher education mid-year report.](#) The Higher Education Ministry's battle cry, "Soaring Upwards" – meaning continuous improvement – continues to ring loudly in 2016. While there have been many positives, the year has seen its share of challenges. Let's take a look.
 24. [Malaysia: Universities to vet foreign students for ISIS links.](#) The Malaysian government has told universities in the country – including private universities and foreign branch campuses – to step up monitoring of students to prevent Islamic radicalisation after recent attacks in Malaysia and Bangladesh. The attack in Bangladesh this month involved Bangladeshi militants who studied at a Malaysia branch campus of an Australian university, underlining the importance of extending the country's counter-radicalisation drive to all kinds of universities, including elite institutions.
 25. [Thailand: Academics issue warning over declining student numbers.](#) Thai universities need to move with the times as they brace for steadily declining enrolments, academics have warned. They said new social trends could make some majors outdated, writes Dumrongkiat Mala for *Bangkok Post*.
 26. [Russia: Cost of tuition at universities may double this year.](#) The cost of tuition at Russian universities may double this year, due to the devaluation of the national currency, the ruble, and the consequences of the financial crisis in the country, according to latest predictions of analysts of the Russian Ministry of Education and Science.
 27. [Nadezhda Polikhina, Project 5-100, Russia.](#) In 2012, the Russian government announced a flagship internationalisation initiative to put Russian universities front and centre on the global stage. Nadezhda Polikhina, deputy executive director of the Project 5-100, talks about the programme's successes so far, and some of the hurdles Russian universities have yet to overcome.
 28. [World Bank grant to boost higher education in Rwanda.](#) The Minister of Finance and Economic Planning Claver Gatete and the World Bank Country Manager Yasser El-Gamal Friday signed an International Development Association (IDA) credit agreement of \$20 million (approximately Frw15.3 bn) to support centers of excellence in institutions of higher education.
 29. [Three UAE universities ordered to stop admitting students following suspension.](#) ABU DHABI // The Ministry of Education has placed three universities on probation and ordered them to stop admitting students for the next academic year. Al Hosn University in Abu Dhabi, and the University of

Jazeera and University of Modern Sciences in Dubai, did not meet licensing and accreditation standards and will be suspended for a year. Students already at the universities will not be affected.

30. [Ethiopia to Build 11 New Public Universities](#). Ethiopia decided to build 11 public universities across the country that will be administered by the Ministry of Education (MoE). The announcement was made during a discussion between Higher Education Relevance and Quality Agency (HERQA) and one of House of Peoples' Representatives' (HPR) standing committees, Higher Education Affairs Standing Committee.

Big Data, Analytics & Technology

31. [College Campuses Are Being Overrun by Pokémon Go](#). The University of Wisconsin at Madison got a call on Saturday saying a group of bicyclists on the campus had their heads buried in their smartphones, and were weaving in and out of traffic. The caller offered a theory: They were playing Pokémon Go. Officials at colleges across the country have noticed the swift adoption of the game, which players download onto their mobile phones. Students who might appear to be aimlessly wandering have actually been exploring their campuses, desperately looking for Pokémon, as the characters in the game are known, and congregating around "Poké Stops," where they reload on supplies such as "Poké balls," an essential tool for catching "Pokémon."
32. [Learning analytics in higher education - A review of UK and international practice](#). Every time a student interacts with their university – be that going to the library, logging into their virtual learning environment or submitting assessments online – they leave behind a digital footprint. Learning analytics is the process of using this data to improve learning and teaching.
33. [The ethics of big data in higher education](#). Increasingly, colleges and universities are using predictive analytics to determine future outcomes for students in academic performance and engagement. But some wonder if the practice violates student privacy. A recent meeting at Stanford University sought to develop best practices, ethics around student data mining and how

colleges could best use the information for mutual benefit with students.

34. [All you need to know about blockchain, explained simply](#). Many people know it as the technology behind Bitcoin, but blockchain's potential uses extend far beyond digital currencies. Its admirers include Bill Gates and Richard Branson, and banks and insurers are falling over one another to be the first to work out how to use it. So what exactly is blockchain, and why are Wall Street and Silicon Valley so excited about it?
35. [What Blockchain Means for Higher Education](#). Originally created as the underlying database for bitcoin (the peer-to-peer digital asset and payment system), blockchain's technology is now being seen as valuable and purposeful beyond the financial sector. The advantages blockchain provides to store information on a secure, permanent, historical ledger that can be both public and private will change how edtech applications approach student data.
36. [Blockchain-based credentials initiative moves forward](#). Learning Machine and MIT Media Lab's Learning Initiative have released the first version of an open-source project that builds an ecosystem for creating, sharing, and verifying blockchain-based educational credentials. These certificates can be collected by individuals and shared directly with anyone who requires official documents.
37. [Cambridge University to offer Blockchain education](#). The University of Cambridge is putting efforts in bringing blockchain education to the curriculum. The efforts are being made at the university's Centre for Alternative Finance. The topics that will be covered include P2P lending, new forms of credit analytics, alternative investments, crowd-funding among others.
38. [Pearson Collaborates With Google to Develop Virtual Reality Learning Experiences for Students](#). Pearson has announced that it is collaborating with Google to bring the next generation of interactive, 3600 learning content to students around the world, allowing them to travel to the places they learn about in school from Mars to the Great Barrier Reef. Pearson is developing its first set of Google Expeditions, an immersive experience that allows teachers to take their classes on virtual field trips, available for back-to-school 2016.
39. [Virtual reality really is heading to a university near you](#). Picture this. You're walking through a chemistry lab, watching as some students happily experiment with hazardous substances while others interact with 3D projections of the molecules as they react to each other. Over in the next room, a trainee nurse triages a stream of patients based on their various symptoms, while across the hall a group goes through a realistic emergency simulation for an oil drilling platform fire. It might all sound futuristic, but these are real examples from what is now the granddaddy of the virtual world: Second Life.
40. [Virtual Reality on the Horizon](#). Virtual reality is not yet here -- at least not in higher education. But as technology companies invest billions of dollars in the emerging technology, many colleges and universities are taking a first look at the nascent medium out of concern that they will be left out of shaping it.
41. [NMC launches app for the higher ed trends data](#). As part of their strategic partnership, the NMC and Mirum Learning have released a mobile app to better inform university and college professionals of the developments poised to disrupt the field.
42. [The technology of higher education](#). For nearly 30 years, pundits have predicted that education technology would disrupt higher education. Online courses will reduce costs and create unprecedented access to higher education, so the argument goes. Likewise, adaptive learning will improve — or replace — the art of teaching as the right digital content is delivered at the right time to each individual learner. It's looking increasingly like none of these are the game-changers we expected.
43. [New tech to revolutionize studying abroad education](#). An international education organization often used by study abroad programs is harnessing the power of technology-supported blended teaching and learning to refine study abroad education programs by connecting students and faculty around the world and preparing learners to translate their global experience into a skill set that prepares them for the modern economy.

44. [Tech for teaching: five trends changing higher education.](#) More than 1,000 years of formal university learning and teaching does not change quickly, or without a struggle. But we are starting to see some key tech trends engaging staff and students – and therein lies the secret to change! Here are five key trends emerging across the global higher education sector.
45. [The 3 Most Critical Technologies to Impact Higher Education in the Next 5 Years.](#) Higher education will experience some pretty amazing technological advancements in the years to come. In fact, the next 5 years are proving to be exciting ones both inside and outside of the classroom.

Brexit

46. [Brexit Vote Stuns British Academe.](#) British citizens voted for the United Kingdom to leave the European Union, ushering in a period of uncertainty for universities. The margin was 52 to 48 percent. [Many in higher education opposed a British exit](#), or Brexit, from the union, arguing that membership in the E.U. helps enable international research collaborations and that free movement across member states helps U.K. universities attract top scholars and students.
47. [Sterling collapse: short-term upside for ELT?](#) The value of the pound sterling has plummeted as the markets are reacting to the fact that Brexit will happen. The UK university sector is urging calm as EU students are concerned about their status but the short-term impact is a likely uplift in study travel to the UK for English language study and to independent boarding schools.
48. [British Higher Education post-Brexit: the end of European Value Added and European Values?](#) Following the result in favour of Brexit, UK universities are now presented with several uncertainties and the prospect of considerable change. Until relatively recently, higher education policy within the EU largely remained the preserve of individual member states. However, the growing number of EU initiatives in recent years, such as the European Research Area, has resulted in greater integration. This adds to the number of ramifications for higher education associated with withdrawal.

49. [UK fears 'significant' drop in EU student recruitment.](#) The number of European Union students enrolling in UK universities could decline significantly in the [wake of Brexit](#), vice-chancellors fear. Non-UK EU nationals represented 6.4 per cent of all full-time undergraduate and postgraduate students at British universities last year, making a significant contribution to institutions' diversity and tuition fee income.
50. [What will be the impact of Brexit on international student mobility?](#) The impacts of Brexit on the global student mobility are going to be far reaching. The United Kingdom is the second largest destination of the international students with 436,585 students enrolled in higher education. One of the prime reasons for the growth in international student enrollment had been the mobility within Europe.
51. [What does Brexit mean for students? We answer your FAQs.](#) There is much uncertainty what Brexit means for students, both those from the UK and from the European Union. We know because we've received a huge number of emails and tweets asking us about the topic since the referendum in June. We've found the answers to your most frequently asked questions, from funding and loans to careers and visas, and the future of studying abroad.

Corporatisation

52. [Udemy's Exodus, Amazon's Gain.](#) The online-course marketplace has been applauded as a solution to the [national tech-skills gap](#) and issues of global access to learning, among other social ills. The platform presents a radical democratization of education, arguing that anyone has the skills to teach a class – and should be given the tools to do so.

Credentialing

53. [Badges of achievement -Recognising skills and knowledge in the digital age.](#) The distinction between academic credentials and specific, transferable skills is a perennially debated topic in education. Even with the quasi-standardisation resulting from the Bologna process, with modular programmes of interchangeable credits,

well specified learning objectives/outcomes and 'module descriptors,' we're still some way away from clearly spelling out what a particular graduate can do, especially when they are working in a field or career that is removed from their original undergraduate choice.

54. [How Micro credentials are Changing the Landscape of Higher and Technical Education.](#) Just ten years ago, one would never have considered the portability of credentials that could follow a person from location to location, allowing potential employers to verify a job candidate's fit for a position quickly. However, that is just what has happened, and the explosion of interest in digital badging and microcredentials is changing the landscape of higher education.
55. [Qualifications Passport for Refugees could open new credit recognition route.](#) A credit recognition pilot scheme has been trialed in Norway for newly arrived refugees who do not have credible documentation, residency or adequate language skills.
56. [Digital Portfolios Position Students for Success in the Workforce.](#) To thrive in the workforce, students must be able to differentiate themselves from other job candidates and show what they know in a way that goes beyond a transcript or static resume. The use of technology brings a job seeker to life and provides a connection point between employers and job candidates. Digital portfolios are a proven catalyst to employment for many students.
57. [4 Things we've learned so far from the #BadgingChallenge.](#) We're more convinced than ever that meaningful credentials—ones that capture, develop and assess "soft skills"—will become an important currency for employers and developmental tool for schools and students. Figuring this out in ways that work across the ecosystem is key to supporting experiential and trans-disciplinary learning. Prototyping digital badges across the market for over two and a half years to students, employers, entrepreneurs, and even schools themselves has been fascinating.
58. [Millennials prefer badging and certificates to traditional degrees, according to researchers from UPCEA, Penn State and Pearson.](#) Pioneering Study Reveals More Than 90 Percent of Colleges and Universities Embrace Alternative Credentials. A study released today by UPCEA (the

University Professional and Continuing Education Association), Penn State and Pearson, at the UPCEA and the American Council on Education (ACE) Summit for Online Leadership in Washington, D.C., found widespread acceptance and use of alternative credentialing programs at American colleges and universities.

59. [Unlocking stackable global credentials.](#) As the demand for higher education dramatically accelerates, so also the supply of modular educational resources is increasing through Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) like Coursera and EdX, open educational resources (OER) like Khan Academy, and massive adaptive apps like Duolingo. The traditional monopoly that universities once held on delivering learning is coming apart.
60. [US: New 'Interstate Passport' Aims to Ease College Transfer Process.](#) Colleges and universities nationwide can now take advantage of a tool that makes it easier for students to transfer across state lines without losing credits. For the past five years, academic leaders working with the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) have been working on an "Interstate Passport." The goal of the project? Improve graduation rates by "eliminating transfer students' unnecessary repetition of learning previously achieved."
61. [Fury over France's new 'pseudo' PhDs.](#) Plans to allow graduates of France's most elite higher education institutions to claim the title of PhD without taking a viva have enraged some Gallic scholars. Allowing Oxbridge alumni to upgrade their bachelor's degrees to a master's for £10 has long enraged graduates of other universities, particularly those with a "real" MA. But what if graduates of these elite institutions could also lay claim to a PhD? This scenario might sound fanciful but it is in essence, some argue, what is about to happen in France.

Competency Based Education

62. [Could Microsoft's LinkedIn revolutionize competency-based learning?](#) LinkedIn has the user data and focus on competency-based employment skills and career advancement. Microsoft has the computational ability to turn CBE into

an HR goldmine. So will the Microsoft and LinkedIn pairing yield the innovation and validation needed to propel competency-based learning to its full revolutionary potential?

63. [Navigating the CBE Frontier: A New Metrics Framework for Student and Program Success.](#) One ancillary benefit to a CBE approach is that student and program success can focus directly on student learning, not proxies for student learning.
64. [How Competency-Based Courses Are Changing the Education Game.](#) When Southern New Hampshire University President Paul LeBlanc stepped onto the stage at Campus Tech 2015 in July, he painted a bright picture of competency-based higher ed. "Today, 500 institutions are moving to competency-based education, and they are not-for-profit," he said. "There's a lot of opportunity." LeBlanc certainly had that right.

Graduate Outcomes

65. [Japan sees record employment for graduates.](#) According to the Japanese government university graduates had a 97.3% employment rate. Unemployment in Japan has been dropping in the last several years, but the new figure indicates that recent grads are entering into a very favorable labor market.
66. [Coursera President Daphne Koller: Your old college diploma isn't good enough for the 21st century economy \[podcast\].](#) A college degree, per the old conventional wisdom, was your ticket to a career of better work and higher pay. That may still be true, but the digital economy demands ever more, Coursera President and co-founder Daphne Koller said on the newest episode of Recode Decode, hosted by Kara Swisher.
67. [Higher ed faces new imperative from business, vocation demands.](#) Former United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan said recently that professional skills in business, vocational tech will be critical to international development in the near future. Information Technology, Media and Entertainment, and professional services are likely to be among the [fastest growing industries](#), and will require a boost in the number of skilled and credentialed employees to work in these fields.

68. [The 5 Most Underemployed Bachelor's Degrees.](#) Liberal arts majors may cringe as they click on PayScale's underemployment report, expecting to see their program at the top of the list for majors most likely to lead to jobs with low hours and/or in unrelated fields. But, while art- and writing-related majors do make the ranking, they don't have a monopoly on courses of study that can lead to underemployment.
69. [Canada: Low-wage earners with graduate degrees on rise, new study shows.](#) University degrees do not always lead to higher wages. A new study shows that the ranks of low-wage earners with a master's degree or PhD has soared over the past two decades. Of the employees with a MA or PhD, 12.4 per cent were low-income earners in 2014 compared with 7.7 per cent in 1997, according to a study by the Centre for the Study of Living Standards, an economics research group.

Online Learning

70. ['Top universities to offer full degrees online in five years'](#) Leading universities will offer fully accredited undergraduate courses online within five years, says the founder of a leading US online university network. Daphne Koller, chief executive of Coursera, said the technology was available but universities had been hesitant about their "reputation". So far, online courses have mostly offered certificates for short courses rather than full degrees.
71. [Coursera pilots a new course format.](#) Coursera will begin piloting a few courses in which all content is available only to learners who have purchased the course, either directly or by applying for and receiving [financial aid](#). Coursera believe that having this new format as an option on our platform will allow our partners to offer more of their courses and programs on Coursera, where millions of learners can access them.
72. [Internet of Things course launches on Coursera.](#) IT Digital introduced the Software Architecture for the Internet of Things MOOC, which was developed in cooperation with iMinds. The MOOC is part of a bigger online programme called 'Internet of Things through Embedded Systems'.

73. [China Online Education Group Announces Pricing of Initial Public Offering](#). China Online Education Group ("51Talk" or the "Company") (NYSE: [COE](#)), a leading online education platform in China, with core expertise in English education has announced that it has priced its initial public offering of 2,400,000 American depositary shares ("ADSs"), at \$19.00 per ADS for a total offering size of approximately US\$45.6 million, assuming the underwriters do not exercise their over-allotment option to purchase additional ADSs
74. [Backward Innovation: The Great Unbundling of Higher Ed's Online Service Providers](#). Higher education is abuzz with talk of partnerships between private companies and universities. Yet ask a dozen faculty what they mean by "private sector" and you may feel a bit like the blind man and the elephant. Left to their own devices, education entrepreneurs and investors tend to revel in their own awesomeness, critique risk-averse leaders and exchange vague descriptions of so-called "bureaucratic processes" that stymie innovation and impede progress.
75. [Massive Open Online Courses and Economic Sustainability](#). In this position paper, the authors explore possible business models for courses, along with their advantages and disadvantages, by conducting a literature study and applying personal insights gained from attending various MOOC discussion fora.

Rankings, Ratings and Benchmarking

76. [Mock TEF results revealed: a new hierarchy emerges](#). Our data team's modelling of the potential teaching excellence framework results shows the Russell Group losing out to a new elite.
77. [Will employers gain influence in rating the quality of a college degree?](#) Employers are beginning to define quality in higher education through their tuition-assistance programs. Some 71 percent of employers offer tuition benefits to their workers, according to Deloitte, and spend nearly \$22 billion on the benefit annually. Most employers offer a flat-rate benefit each year and have long controlled how that money is used — for classes related to a person's job or other positions in the

organization. Now, employers want more oversight in where their dollars are used.

78. [More on THE's bespoke rankings](#). Times Higher Education (THE) have just announced another regional ranking, this time for Latin America, at another prestigious summit in Bogota, Colombia. It seems that THE have entered a stage of imperial overreach, announcing new projects, publishing various indicators as stand-alone rankings and moving into previous unranked corners of the world.

Research

79. [European universities 'losing monopoly' over research](#). Universities in Europe are losing their "monopoly" over the production of research, but gaining dominance in the training of PhD students, according to a leading scholar in political economy. Ove Kaj Pedersen, professor of comparative political economy at Copenhagen Business School, said higher education institutions are now competing with private organisations for "resources", "attention" and political influence around knowledge production.

Student Recruitment and Mobility

80. [Top Global Student Recruitment Trends for 2016](#). Have you been paying attention to the global student recruitment trends? If you blinked, you may have missed some important shifts that impact your global outreach, both now and in the near and distant future. Did you know that there was a 10% increase in international students studying in the US, the largest year-over-year increase since 1979?!
81. [Where are you? The importance of location in international recruiting](#). Both student surveys and the experience of international recruiters bear out the idea that location is an important factor in student decision making for study abroad. Whether you are in a major city or a small town, it is important to make room in your marketing effort for key points about climate, culture, recreation opportunities, and other location features.

82. [Building and Maintaining a Global Brand: Higher Education and International Enrollments](#). More and more higher education institutions are looking at the international market as a solution to some of the challenges that have been making headlines of late. After all, these students typically pay more in enrollments and fees while creating an enviable brand distinction for the institution itself. However, building and maintaining success in the global market requires focus and investment from the institution.

83. [A corporate approach to managing risk in international recruitment](#). International student recruitment is an important area of risk management for most institutions and schools. Risk management is a matter for institutional leaders, including those at the board level. Best practices include establishing clear accountability for managing risk within the institution, and establishing a comprehensive plan for identifying and monitoring risk with board-level reporting incorporated.

84. [Going deep: The power of a niche strategy](#). Right now, there are a lot of fish in the international student sea, but there are also more nets being cast, and many schools are having to work harder to keep their enrolments and revenues healthy.

85. [Study abroad journal to help articulate goals](#). A US study abroad aficionado has created a journal, primarily for US students going abroad, in order to help them articulate their experiences and goals and ultimately, provide an action plan to better leverage their experiences into opportunities.

86. [The Need to Deliver Personalized Experiences in the Enrolment System](#). There can be countless reasons why an admitted student fails to enrol. A recent study I conducted revealed that one of the most common themes among this population of prospective students was their need for a personalized experience during their enrolment process.

87. [The university where you can get a BA-level degree for free](#). The fees, the teaching quality, the syllabus and the aims: all are barriers to higher education for some people. But not anymore, says Kashmira Gander. You don't pay a penny at some "universities", and come out with just as many benefits.

88. [ALEX Wants to Fill Classrooms Like Airbnb Fills Beds](#). "In a world where we can place people in empty seats in cars

- and empty beds in houses, why not place people in empty chairs in college classrooms?" That's what a team of [Harvard University](#) students say about their new start-up called [ALEX](#) (Anyone's Learning EXperience).
89. [New Zealand: international student fee revenue up 17% to \\$1bn.](#) Tuition fee revenue for international education topped \$1bn in New Zealand for the first time last year, as enrolments grew by 13%, according to the newly released Education New Zealand snapshot report. The Private Training Establishment sector, which excludes English language schools, claims the biggest share of international students. The income generated from tuition fees reached just over \$1bn last year, an increase of \$146m, or 17%, from 2014.
90. [Mapping international pathway programmes in the US.](#) A new research project seeks to explore the growth of pathway programs in the US, particularly those offered in collaboration with private-sector pathway providers. It identifies and analyses 45 US pathways, for which institutions have partnered with eight private providers. The study is ongoing and a final study report is expected in fall 2016.
91. [Canada eases visa requirements for Mexico.](#) In a move that many Canadian ELT (English Language Training) centres will welcome, the Government of Canada announced this week that it will lift [visa requirements for Mexican visitors](#) later this year. As of 1 December 2016, Mexicans will no longer need a visa in order to visit Canada for up to six months.
92. [Canada's ELT numbers fell in 2015. New survey data](#) from Languages Canada reveals that Canada is the latest major destination to chart a decline in ELT (English Language Teaching) enrolments for 2015. Based on data supplied by 226 member programmes – which together represent an estimated 80% of all ELT enrolment in Canada – the number of students studying English in Canada fell 2.55% last year, from 137,416 in 2014 to 133,910 in 2015.
93. [UK: Study Group to embed career skills in pathways.](#) Global education provider [Study Group](#) is launching a new employability scheme for the international students who enrol on its pathway programmes in the UK. Following a pilot scheme at the University of Sussex, the CareerAhead scheme will initially operate across six of Study Group's on-campus International Study Centres in the UK, and will later roll out across all of its UK centres.
94. [UK ELT student weeks down 13% in 2015.](#) On the heels of data from The 2015 ALTO-Deloitte Language Travel Industry Survey, which suggests a [softening in global demand for English-language courses](#), English UK has also released statistics revealing that ELT student numbers in the UK were down 8% in 2015 and that student weeks fell by 13% compared to the year before.
95. [UK: International student numbers have been plummeting for years. Now what?](#) Higher education is already feeling the effect of the Brexit vote, with UK academics being dropped from joint applications for funding from the European Research Council. The future of students coming to study in the UK from the European Union is similarly uncertain, as free movement comes under threat. But if Britain is to remain a popular study destination for students from around the globe, it is more important now than ever that the government urgently reviews its treatment of international students.
96. [Scottish universities targeting fee-paying students from England to boost income.](#) Scotland's universities are increasingly targeting fee-paying students from England to boost their finances, new figures show. The universities of Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow and St Andrews have all given offers to a higher percentage of applicants from England compared to those from Scotland. The same is true of the universities of Stirling and Strathclyde. Last week, a major report by Audit Scotland said Scottish students were finding it increasingly difficult to secure a place at university here because applications are increasing at a higher rate than available places.
97. [Why German students are becoming more mobile.](#) Last year, Germany played host to more than 300,000 international students, putting the Western European country in fifth place internationally. But Germany's standing as a study abroad destination isn't the only thing that is rising. In 2015, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) saw a 5% increase in the number of students it supported, and more than 75,000 of these were German students and academics heading abroad.
98. [Ghana emerging as an important sending market in Sub-Saharan Africa.](#) Sub-Saharan Africa has become an increasingly important region for international student recruitment, and is home to a number of significant emerging markets, notably Nigeria and Kenya. The region sent just over 33,500 students to the US in 2014/15, and a similar number to the UK.
99. [A regional perspective on student recruitment in MENA.](#) The countries of the Middle East and North Africa region, or MENA, have fast-growing youth populations that continue to drive growing demand for higher education. The region has quadrupled the average level of schooling since 1960, halved illiteracy since 1980, and today is one of the world's most important sending markets for international students.
100. [Thai demand for higher education cooling as population ages.](#) Thailand has been an attractive international education market for some time and continues to send substantial numbers of students for studies abroad, primarily to Australia, the US, and the UK. Numbers have declined for some destinations, notably the US, but others, such as Australia and New Zealand, have seen steady gains over the past five years.

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A great way to get involved with the AAIR community is to share your thoughts and ideas. Do you have something you would like to share with your IR colleagues? The next AAIR Newsletter will be published in late August. Please send your contributions to the editor@aaair.org.au by Wednesday August 17.



Louise Hargreaves
AAIR eNewsletter Editor