



For educators making a difference



20 universities in the same room collaborate for a better student experience | Mobile app release | Call for IRU Case Studies | New academic appointments | Looking at the future of education (and our species) | New name, same us | Turning gamers into writers

Hi there

20 Aus and NZ Unis, 50 people, 2 days - Collaboration for a better student experience

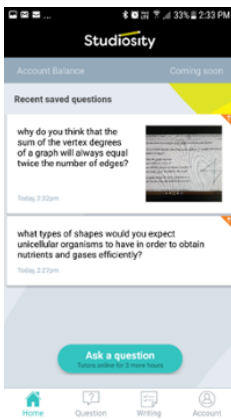
In September, we hosted our annual Partner Symposium. Attendees discussed student success, holistic academic support, and what it means to be a partner - with students, with Studiosity, with other universities. Hosted at the brand new Parramatta campus of Western Sydney University, there was also a lively dinner at nearby Old Government House. Michael Burgess, Chief Student Experience Officer at WSU, kicked off the dinner conversation with his observations on 'incrementalism' and universities' need to change or perish. [Read the \(photo-heavy\) recap here.](#)

Mobile app release in 2018: More support on the run, helping you, help them, more often

The majority of students are using their mobile device to assist their studies in some way. We're just weeks away from launching the Studiosity mobile app, after a year of educator and student input. We can't wait for students to truly 'take their study into their own hands'. The app will include easy image upload, voice to text and a 'save a question for later' feature.

Call for your success stories for the IRU - Case Study Collection

As part of her keynote address at the Studiosity Partner Symposium, IRU Vice Chancellors' Fellow Associate Professor Jessica Vanderlelie revealed an opportunity to showcase and share innovative university projects that support student and graduate success. She warmly welcomed attendees to nominate colleagues or projects recognised for innovative practice in this area, and submit them to the IRU case study collection. [Find out how to contribute your project, here.](#)



Why the next challenge is digital, scalable resourcing for students

Other presentations and discussions at the Symposium revolved around topical themes, as well as many facets of supporting students in an equitable, scalable way. Professor John Rosenberg [spoke extensively](#) about partnerships with industry, and what a good partnership looks like. Professor Sally Kift talked through over a decade of research around first year student success, and Associate Professor Chris Tisdell [took us on a journey](#) back 10 years through the recent history of digital education. The presentations are [available to view](#) and the recorded sessions are [available to watch](#), too.

New expert appointments - Welcome Prof Kift and Prof Allan

We have recently had the privilege of adding two new members to our Academic Advisory Board (AAB). Professor Cliff Allan is our first AAB member in the UK. He's had a remarkable career across a range of aspects of the higher education sector in the UK and overseas, most recently as vice chancellor of Birmingham City University. Professor [Sally Kift](#) is one of the most knowledgeable people in Australia when it comes to the "First Year Experience." She has held senior appointments at several universities, most recently as DVC-Academic at James Cook University. Read more about both of them on [our website](#).

Homo Deus review: Future-gazers and speculators

As you know, here at Studiosity we're all future-gazers and speculators, so Yuval Noah Harari's follow-up to *Sapiens* was fitting conversation-fuel around the office recently. Positing that 'dataism' is our new religion, Harari predicts that a human life's individual value will ultimately vanish. Read Mona's review [here](#).

"Sometimes being a 'disruptor' can be more of an albatross than a badge of honour"

Our founder Jack Goodman [wrote recently for CEO Magazine](#) about how technological 'disruption' for organisations can be existential - that is, challenging their very existence. We as partners have to work together to find new ways to meet the expectations of today's students.

Welcome to Studiosity (new name, same us)

We have officially changed our name from 'YourTutor' to Studiosity. The change came about as we understand and embrace our role supporting the educator-student relationship with supplemental help that drives better learner outcomes. *Studiosity* is a word that opens up this world. It reveals the value of what has always been inside this service. Feedback from both students and our partner institutions has been very positive. Read more from our CEO Mike Larsen, [here](#).

Lastly...

Founder Jack Goodman spoke at the [National Boys' Education Conference](#) in Sydney this week, in a session called *Turning Gamers to Writers: Engaging Boys in the Craft of Writing*. Currently in NSW, less than a quarter of Year 9 boys will achieve a sufficient NAPLAN band in their writing. What are the repercussions for high school attainment as well as success in tertiary study, and what can be done? You can read a [summary of Jack's talk](#) on our blog.

Best regards,
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