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Second Reading Speech - Higher Education Support Amendment (2009 Budget Measures) Bill

The Hon Julia Gillard MP
May 28 2009

I move – That this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr Speaker, the Government is launching a reform agenda for higher education that will transform the scale, potential and quality of the nation's universities and open the doors of higher education to a new generation of Australians.

It is an integrated policy approach. An approach that provides for structural change and improves the financial sustainability of our universities. An approach that guarantees quality in a system that delivers

funding for growth and participation by students from all walks of life and recognises the vital importance of research by our best and brightest.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Speeches/Pages/Article_090528_140538.aspx

International education – its contribution to Australia

Speech: The Hon Julia Gillard MP
May 26 2009

International education has made a significant contribution to Australia. It has grown to now be our third largest source of overseas earnings, generating \$15.5 billion in 2008 and supporting more than 125,000 jobs. In 2008, nearly half a million students came to Australia. It is the lead sector in terms of export earnings in Victoria and the second largest in New South Wales.

But international students do much more than contribute to our economy and create jobs. They build on Australia's long multicultural history that has created a friendly, tolerant and secular country.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Speeches/Pages/Article_090527_093411.aspx

Julia Gillard digs in over student support

The Australian
May 27 2009

THE federal Government has challenged the Opposition to find \$1.8 billion in budget savings to prove it is serious about blocking reforms to student income support.

As independent analysts backed the reforms yesterday, Education Minister Julia Gillard resisted pressure to delay an overhaul of the youth allowance to let a last cohort of gap year students qualify under the looser rules. She defended a tightening of the so-called independent category, often used by students from affluent families, as necessary to fund increased payments for scores of thousands of other students.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25542338-5013871,00.html>

Quietly making the grade

The Australian
May 27 2009

CONTRARY to popular myths, Left and Right, indigenous students in mainstream society, representing the majority of indigenous children, are doing well at school, staying to year 12, and going on to professional courses at universities. The proportion of indigenous Australians who now graduate from universities is as high as the proportion of indigenous university graduates in New Zealand, the US and Canada, where they have had a head start. These achievements deserve to be acknowledged, not buried.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25543151-7583,00.html>

More overseas students coming to Adelaide

Independent Weekly
May 27 2009

South Australia's education sector has defied the economic downturn with international student enrolments up 24 per cent in the first quarter this year.

Full article:

<http://www.independentweekly.com.au/news/local/news/general/more-overseas-students-coming-to-adelaide/1524674.aspx>

Gillard to scrutinise rogue colleges

WA Today
May 26 2009

THE Federal Government has promised to crack down on rogue colleges that teach foreign students, warning that Australia cannot afford to let them damage the reputation of its \$15 billion international education industry.

In a strongly worded ministerial statement in Parliament, Deputy Prime Minister Julia Gillard said yesterday the Government would scrutinise education providers and review the legislation that covers their responsibilities towards foreign students.

Full article:

<http://www.watoday.com.au/national/gillard-to-scrutinise-rogue-colleges-20090526-bm3s.html?page=-1>

Extra points for university entry

Adelaide Now
May 25 2009

STUDENTS will have to achieve only a pass mark in Year 12 subjects to gain bonus points for entry to any course at the University of South Australia.

The scheme – a state first – will allow some students to enter courses for which their marks would previously have been too low.

Full article:

<http://www.news.com.au/adelaidenow/story/0,22606,25532203-2682,00.html>

NZ: Chinese numbers on the rise

University World News
May 24 2009

The ongoing impact of past declines in the number of Chinese students has masked a rebound in enrolments by new international students in New Zealand's universities this year while increasing numbers of Chinese continue to flood into Australian universities.

Full article:<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090521175856790>

A life lived outside the goalposts

The Age
May 25 2009

There's more to our culture than the exclusive field of sports.

BARNABY Joyce has said he will block a plan to reintroduce student services fees unless universities are restricted to spending the money on sport. This bizarre threat typifies a national obsession with sport

that is exclusive and limiting, and can be linked to male sporting heroes feeling they can do whatever they like.

Full article:

<http://www.theage.com.au/opinion/a-life-lived-outside-the-goalposts-20090524-bjgb.html?page=-1>

Issues: Bradley Review, student income support, employee share schemes

Press conference transcript: The Hon Julia Gillard MP
May 21 2009

JULIA GILLARD: Obviously, I've taken the opportunity today to make a speech about the Budget initiatives of the Rudd Government, in relation to education and, most particularly, higher education. One of the central features of the Budget was our response to the Bradley Review and Cutler Review, the Review of Higher Education and the Review of Innovation. Having received those reviews in the Budget, the Rudd Government has invested \$5.7 billion over the next four years in our higher education and innovation systems.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Transcripts/Pages/Article_090521_163431.aspx

Parents put on the heat over Youth Allowance

The Canberra Times
May 21 2009

The Federal Government's plans to cut Youth Allowance for 30,000 students seeking financial independence next year will be referred to a Senate inquiry as the Opposition and Greens threaten to block crucial Government budget savings worth \$1.8billion.

Full article:

<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/news/local/news/general/parents-put-on-the-heat-over-youth-allowance/1519047.aspx>

Senator wants student fees for sport only

ABC: The World Today
May 19 2009

PETER CAVE: The Labor Party's lack of numbers in the Senate may yet prove to be a headache for universities.

The National's Senate leader Barnaby Joyce is threatening to block the plan to reintroduce student services fees, unless universities are restricted to spending the money on sport.

Senator Joyce says the fees are open to abuse from university clubs which are a front for political activity.

Full article:

<http://www.abc.net.au/worldtoday/content/2008/s2574764.htm>

Interview transcript: The Hon Julia Gillard MP

ABC Statewide
May 19 2009

ISSUES: Student income support reforms, BER

KATHY BEDFORD: Are you surprised by the reaction to this budgetary measure?

JULIA GILLARD: Well, I think there's a lot of misinformation out there, Kathy, and I'd like an opportunity to try and sort that out if I could. There are three ways in which people become eligible for student income support.

Number one, they become eligible because their family income sits within the eligibility criteria. And what we've done in this Budget is change the family income levels so it is much more generous and many more families will qualify. And to just give you a flavour of that, Kathy, if you were a family with two kids and those two kids had to live away from home to study, we've changed the family income eligibility so you would still be eligible for some support if you were earning almost \$140 000.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Transcripts/Pages/Article_090520_163244.aspx

Joyce to back uni fees for sport only

The Age
May 19 2009

CHANGES to allow universities to charge compulsory fees to pay for campus services appear in doubt after Nationals senator Barnaby Joyce said he did not support the legislation in its current form.

The Federal Government has proposed to allow universities to charge students compulsory fees of up to \$250 a year to cover non-academic services such as sporting activities, health clinics and counselling.

Full article:

<http://www.theage.com.au/national/joyce-to-back-uni-fees-for-sport-only-20090518-bcq.html>

Unis call Joyce a bad sport over funding

Brisbane Times
May 19 2009

BARNABY JOYCE has alarmed cash-strapped universities by saying he would only support a compulsory fee for students if it was restricted to funding sport on campus and nothing else.

The announcement by the Nationals senator horrified many universities, which have had to dip into their teaching and learning budgets to prop up campus services.

Full article:

<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/national/unis-call-joyce-a-bad-sport-over-funding-20090518-bcp1.html>

Billions more for universities - but when?

University World News
May 17 2009

Before the government handed down its budget last week, its spin-merchants had convinced the nation's higher education leaders they could expect little. So when the money appeared to be gushing towards them last Tuesday they were overjoyed and only later did they realise it would be years before they saw the flood of cash - if then.

Full article:

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090515110900825>

First ever online Youth Budget Statement

Media Release: The Hon Kate Ellis MP
May 15 2009

Minister for Youth, Kate Ellis, today released What's in it for Youth?, the first ever online Youth Budget Statement.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Ellis/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_090515_154343.aspx

Australia sets up helpline for Indian students after assaults

AFP

May 15 2009

MELBOURNE (AFP) — Authorities in Australia will launch a telephone helpline Friday for Indian students who have been the target of a wave of violent attacks in the southern city of Melbourne.

Victoria state police said the helpline, which will have operators who speak both Hindi and English, had been established after consultation with the local Indian community.

Full article:

http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jfaD3h0vzL93mX_2Grz6LqI9Kk_Q

Higher education sector welcomes investment in universities

Transcript: ABC PM

May 13 2009

MARK COLVIN: The Federal Government's used the Budget to release its response to the inquiry into higher education and it's been generally well received.

The Government has announced that it will invest almost \$3 billion in the university sector over the next four years, with the main aim of attracting more young students.

Full article:

<http://www.abc.net.au/pm/content/2008/s2569686.htm>

Student mix changing in \$5b funds overhaul

Brisbane Times

May 14 2009

THE student profile of Australia's universities will change irrevocably with a \$5.3 billion overhaul of higher education over the next six years.

Full article:

<http://business.brisbanetimes.com.au/business/student-mix-changing-in-5b-funds-overhaul-20090513-b3ep.html>

Higher education budget a flop: Pyne

Sydney Morning Herald

May 13 2009

The federal coalition says university funding announced in the budget is only a third of what the government's own Bradley review recommended.

Opposition education spokesman Christopher Pyne said Labor had promised a revolution in higher education but failed to deliver.

Full article:

<http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-national/higher-education-budget-a-flop-pyne-20090513-b35b.html>

Universities get big slice of Budget pie

ABC News
May 13 2009

There are some big changes to higher education in the Federal Budget, mainly aimed at attracting more students to universities.

As it came into office, the Rudd Government was promising an Education Revolution. The rhetoric was right, according to those in the sector.

Full article:
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/05/13/2568704.htm?section=australia>

2009 Budget outlines education's far horizon

The Australian
May 12 2009

THE Rudd Government is to plough \$5.3 billion into tertiary education and research over the next six years to significantly expand student numbers and boost research, but much of the money will be staged for later years as the government tightens its purse strings.

Full article:
<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,24897,25470612-12332,00.html>

University of Southern Queensland wary of inland campus

The Australian
May 13 2009

ANY new national university of inland Australia would have a significant effect on the key distance education model of one of the country's largest distance educators, University of Southern Queensland vice-chancellor Bill Lovegrove said this week.

Full article:
<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,24897,25468048-12332,00.html>

Universities thrilled with budget boost

The Age
May 12 2009

Australia's universities might not have got everything they wanted in the budget, but they're pleased enough with the package for the Group of Eight to label it "visionary".

Universities were hoping to receive \$6.5 billion over four years in this year's budget, as recommended by the Bradley review into higher education.

Full article:
<http://news.theage.com.au/breaking-news-national/universities-thrilled-with-budget-boost-20090512-b1rs.html>

More support for students

Media Release: The Hon Kate Ellis MP / The Hon Julia Gillard MP
May 12 2009

In response to the Bradley Review of Australian Higher Education, the Rudd Government has introduced a package of significant reforms to student income support and expanded eligibility for scholarships. These reforms are cost neutral over the next four years.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Ellis/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_090512_182631.aspx

Student demand to drive university funding

Media Release: The Hon Julia Gillard MP
May 12 2009

The Rudd Government is making an historic change to the way universities are funded.

Through the Education Revolution, the Rudd Government is investing in the jobs of today and the jobs of tomorrow to build a stronger, fairer and more productive Australia in the long term.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_090512_182600.aspx

Delivering fairer indexation for universities

Media Release: The Hon Julia Gillard MP / Senator The Hon Kim Carr
May 12 2009

The Rudd Government is delivering a fairer indexation rate for Australian universities to help them meet the cost of quality teaching, learning and research.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_090512_182748.aspx

A new era for Australian universities

Media Release: The Hon Julia Gillard MP / Senator The Hon Kim Carr
May 12 2009

Building on the Education Revolution, the Rudd Government today announced a \$5.7 billion package over four years to deliver unprecedented reforms across the higher education and innovation sectors in response to the Bradley Review of Australian Higher Education and the Cutler Review of the National Innovation System.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_090512_182815.aspx

Investing in quality teaching

Media Release: The Hon Julia Gillard MP
May 12 2009

There is nothing more important to the quality of our schools, than the quality of our teachers. Teacher quality is the single greatest influence on student engagement and achievement making it critical that university courses are of the highest quality.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_090512_182918.aspx

Charles Sturt University gets budget research facility

ABC Rural
May 13th 2009

In a rare bit of good Budget news for agriculture, Charles Sturt University in south west New South Wales will get almost \$35 million for new research facility.

The state-of-the-art science centre at Wagga Wagga will be a hub for agricultural research for south east Australia.

Full article:

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/news/content/200905/s2568832.htm>

Rudd Government to introduce paid parental leave

Media Release
10 May 2009

The Rudd Government will deliver an historic Paid Parental Leave (PPL) scheme to support Australian families and prepare Australia for the economic and social challenges of the future.

This government-funded scheme will provide the primary carer with 18 weeks post-natal leave, paid at the adult federal minimum wage (currently \$543.78 per week).

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_090511_082250.aspx

How a university ditched its spoilt-kid image along with its namesake

Brisbane Times
May 11 2009

Twenty years after it opened, Bond University is being aped by some of its critics.

The day Alan Bond opened his eponymous university on the Gold Coast 20 years ago, he was asked why a wealthy entrepreneur who hadn't gone to uni would bankroll a tertiary institution.

Full article:

<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/national/how-a-university-ditched-its-spoiltkid-image-along-with-its-namesake-20090510-az7r.html>

Student demand reduces cheap rent options

Adelaide Now
May 11 2009

UNIVERSITY students struggling to find accommodation could reduce affordable housing options in Adelaide.

Full article:

<http://www.news.com.au/adelaidenow/story/0,22606,25458169-2682,00.html>

Unis Focus of Education Budget but Not Expecting the Earth

The Epoch Times
May 06 2009

CANBERRA—Universities were told not to expect too much in last year's federal budget because the government was waiting on the results of a review it had commissioned into higher education.

Full article:

<http://www.theepochtimes.com/n2/content/view/16435/>

Student services reforms vital for sport on campus

May 06 2009

Media release: The Hon Kate Ellis MP

Minister for Youth Kate Ellis today released the final guidelines that will underpin the Rudd Government's student services reforms.

Minister Ellis was visiting the University of Queensland to witness the severe impact of the previous government's approach on university sport.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Ellis/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_090506_162248.aspx

TEU Tertiary Update (New Zealand) - Vol.12 No.14

Scoop.co.nz

May 07 2009

MINISTER CALLS FOR MARKET DRIVEN EDUCATION

"High on our agenda is simplifying the funding system and lowering compliance costs. We also want less central planning – in other words, the needs of students and the economy should drive the provision of tertiary education."

Full article:

<http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/ED0905/S00035.htm>

Top universities bleeding millions as investments savaged

The Australian

May 06 2009

AUSTRALIA'S biggest universities have been ravaged by the global financial crisis, with the University of Melbourne reporting a \$245.7 million loss in the value of its investments and the University of NSW an \$87 million writedown.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25436119-601,00.html>

Company support needed for unis

The Australian

May 04 2009

INFLUENTIAL business leader Michael Chaney has urged the corporate sector to dig deep to donate more money to universities, despite the recession, or face having inferior education in Australia.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25424006-2702,00.html>

Government promotes the study of Asian languages in schools

Media Release: The Hon Julia Gillard MP

May 04 2009

Government promotes the study of Asian languages in schools

The Minister for Education, Julia Gillard, today invited primary and secondary schools to apply for grants under the \$6.24 million Becoming Asia Literate: Grants to Schools program which opens today.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_090504_104437.aspx

Uproar over face scan for foreign students

WA Today
May 02 2009

MELBOURNE colleges will consider the introduction of facial recognition technology at classroom doors in a bid to curb abuse of international student visas.

Many international students are required to attend at least 80 per cent of classes under education visas granted by the Federal Government. But TAFE teacher Gary Alexander said facial recognition technology was the only way to tackle rorting by foreign students seeking permanent residency in Australia.

Full article:

<http://www.watoday.com.au/national/uproar-over-face-scan-for-foreign-students-20090502-aquu.html>