

ACUMA Incorporated: Higher education news, Australia & New Zealand - December 2009

- Regional unis may merge
- Deakin's challenge post-Walker
- Foreign students flocking to SA
- Universities should not pander to disadvantaged students
- Aussie students save on fees by studying in New Zealand
- Aussie dollar's surge takes toll on foreign students
- Australia: A jewel in Monash's crown?
- Editorial: Tertiary solution matter of urgency
- Funding boost helps low-SES higher education student places
- Anger at cost of fast-track teaching plan
- Bonus for city in student roll rises
- Gillard looks to key year
- Funding boost helps low-SES higher education student places
- Plan to link uni funds to targets
- New university post
- Australia's place as 'study spot' in peril
- Discussion paper on higher education performance funding released
- University bond issue \$50 million
- Opening Address: Transition, Retention and Progression Forum
- Taskforce recommends universities as independent foundations
- Two states go it alone on college watchdog
- Plan to start uni in Year 12 in South Australia
- Regulating and Improving Australia's Vocational Education and Training Sector
- New Zealand: More competition in education
- Nearly 20% of university students don't last full year
- Foreign students favour technical courses over universities
- Equity101 - foundation for social inclusion in education
- Police key to foreign student safety
- Uni lowers entry scores for poor
- International student review interim report released
- Queensland tops student growth
- Doubling in student loans for over sixties take out
- UC Philanthropic Bond Issue Fully Subscribed
- Issuing fake uni degrees should be a crime - expert
- Government offers extra \$20 million to rural tertiary students

Regional unis may merge

The Australian
December 26 2009

FUNDING for some regional universities could be tightened and university and technical colleges forced to merge under options being considered by the Rudd government to ensure the best outcomes for students in the bush.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/regional-unis-may-merge/story-e6frg6nf-1225813666710>

Deakin's challenge post-Walker

The Geelong Advertiser
December 23 2009

THE announcement of the departure of Vice-Chancellor Sally Walker is an appropriate occasion to consider the future of Deakin University. Since it opened its doors in 1977 it has become one of the larger Australian universities with over 23,000 students studying on and off campus, in Australia and overseas.

Full article:

http://www.geelongadvertiser.com.au/article/2009/12/23/133425_opinion.html

Foreign students flocking to SA

ABC News
December 22 2009

The number of international student enrolments has more than doubled in South Australia since 2002 - the largest increase in the nation.

Full article:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/12/22/2778818.htm?section=business>

Universities should not pander to disadvantaged students

The Sydney Morning Herald
December 22 2009

Given her roles as minister for education and social inclusion, it should not surprise that Julia Gillard is re-engineering the way universities select students according to her Fabian desire for equality of outcomes.

Full article:

<http://www.smh.com.au/opinion/politics/universities-should-not-pander-to-disadvantaged-students-20091222-lamt.html>

Aussie students save on fees by studying in New Zealand

The Courier Mail (Brisbane)
December 18 2009

AUSTRALIAN students are gaining university degrees at half the price by heading across the Tasman to study in New Zealand.

Full article:

<http://www.news.com.au/couriermail/story/0,23739,26501928-23272,00.html>

Aussie dollar's surge takes toll on foreign students

The Sydney Morning Herald
December 18 2009

I decided to do my PhD in Australia in the, now debunked, belief that it would cost me less than other countries. I have been here for six months and I now think that this education is going to be more expensive than almost all other destinations I had on my application list. The rent of the dormitory I'm living in is clear evidence of this.

Full article:

<http://www.smh.com.au/opinion/politics/aussie-dollars-surge-takes-toll-on-foreign-students-20091218-12r4.html>

Australia: A jewel in Monash's crown?

University World News
December 20 2009

Although Professor Ed Byrne only took up the post as Monash University's eighth vice-chancellor in July, he has twice visited its South African offshoot in Johannesburg and is convinced it will come to be seen as "the jewel in the Monash crown".

Full article:

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20091218101501305>

Editorial: Tertiary solution matter of urgency

The Geelong Advertiser
December 16 2009

MORE than 46,000 Victorians will by now have received their VCE results. There will be mixed reactions and some previously laid plans for tertiary education are going to have to be rethought.

Full article:

http://www.geelongadvertiser.com.au/article/2009/12/16/131805_opinion.html

Funding boost helps low-SES higher education student places

Media Release: The Hon Julia Gillard MP
December 15 2009

Minister for Education, Julia Gillard, today released draft guidelines to boost participation in higher education and a discussion paper on the best approach to defining and measuring socio-economic status of students.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/ministers/gillard/media/releases/pages/article_091215_102745.aspx

Anger at cost of fast-track teaching plan

The Age
December 16 2009

THE Rudd Government is spending almost \$22 million to parachute high-flying university graduates into some of the nation's toughest schools, sparking anger among teachers who claim the plan will do little to lift education standards.

Full article:

<http://www.theage.com.au/national/education/anger-at-cost-of-fastrack-teaching-plan-20091215-kukn.html>

Bonus for city in student roll rises

The Otago Daily Times
December 16 2009

Dunedin's tertiary student numbers are expected to increase by almost 740 next year, with both the University of Otago and Otago Polytechnic anticipating solid roll growth.

Full article:

<http://www.odt.co.nz/on-campus/otago-polytechnic/86028/bonus-city-student-roll-rises>

Gillard looks to key year

The Australian
December 16 2009

IN March, as the financial crisis was worsening, the country's vice-chancellors gathered nervously in Canberra for Education Minister Julia Gillard's response to the Bradley review and enthusiastically applauded her expansion agenda.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/higher-education/gillard-looks-to-key-year/story-e6frgcjx-1225810717524>

Funding boost helps low-SES higher education student places

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Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_091215_102745.aspx

Plan to link uni funds to targets

The Australian
December 12 2009

UNIVERSITY students could be made to sit a generic skills test to assess what value has been added by their tutors as part of Education Minister Julia Gillard's plans to link university funding to performance targets from 2012.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/plan-to-link-uni-funds-to-targets/story-e6frg6nf-1225809544947>

New university post

The Otago Daily Times
December 12 2009

David Skegg The University of Otago is about to appoint its first gender equity leader. Vice-chancellor Prof Sir David Skegg told the university council this week he intended to appoint a female senior academic staff member to the part-time role as soon as possible.

Full article:

<http://www.odt.co.nz/on-campus/university-otago/85419/new-university-post>

Australia's place as 'study spot' in peril

The Age
December 13 2009

AUSTRALIA is a huge quarry. It's also a nice place to take a holiday and, perhaps, get a university education.

Full article:

<http://www.theage.com.au/national/australias-place-as-study-spot-in-peril-20091212-kppy.html>

Discussion paper on higher education performance funding released

Media Release: The Hon Julia Gillard MP
December 11 2009

The Minister for Education, Julia Gillard, has today released the discussion paper which invites Universities to comment on the Government's plans to link higher education funding to University performance.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/ministers/gillard/media/releases/pages/article_091211_093627.aspx

University bond issue \$50 million

The Otago Daily Times
December 10 2009

A philanthropic bond issue by the University of Canterbury has attracted \$50 million in investments but did not attract any interest in an additional \$50 million on offer in oversubscriptions.

Full article:

<http://www.odt.co.nz/news/business/85111/university-bond-issue-50-million>

Opening Address: Transition, Retention and Progression Forum

The Hon Julia Gillard MP
December 09 2009

Thank you for the invitation to address you today at the commencement of an important conversation on the university experience.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Speeches/Pages/Article_091209_135332.aspx

Taskforce recommends universities as independent foundations

New Zealand Vice-Chancellors' Committee
December 08 2009

Commenting on last week's release of the 2025 Taskforce report, the NZVCC said it contained recommendations that could potentially assist universities in maximising their contribution to closing the income gap with Australia, see media release: <http://www.nzvcc.ac.nz/node/456>

Full article:

<http://www.nzvcc.ac.nz/node/458>

Two states go it alone on college watchdog

The Australian
December 08 2009

Victoria and Western Australia are boycotting COAG's plan to set up an independent national watchdog for vocational education and training.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/two-states-go-it-alone-on-college-watchdog/story-e6frg6nf-1225807975687>

Plan to start uni in Year 12 in South Australia

The Australian
December 07 2009

Year 12 students will be able to fast-track their way into university and have it count towards their tertiary entrance score, or possibly a degree.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/plan-to-start-uni-in-year-12-in-south-australia/story-e6frg6p6-1225807545525>

Regulating and Improving Australia's Vocational Education and Training Sector

Joint Media Release: The Hon Julia Gillard MP and Prime Minister Kevin Rudd
December 07 2009

The Council of Australian Governments today agreed to create a new, independent national regulator for the vocational education and training (VET) sector.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_091207_165252.aspx

New Zealand: More competition in education

University World News
December 06 2009

The nation's universities would get more freedom but face increased competition from foreign institutions if the government accepts the controversial recommendations of a taskforce charged with finding ways to improve the country's economy.

Full article:

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20091204101723657>

Nearly 20% of university students don't last full year

The Sydney Morning Herald
December 06 2009

CLOSE to one in five students drop out of Australian universities by the end of their first year.

They blame unhappiness with the subjects they chose, financial hardship, failing courses and the opportunity to upgrade to a better institution for the high fallout rate.

Full article:

<http://www.smh.com.au/national/nearly-20-of-university-students-dont-last-full-year-20091205-kbzj.html>

Foreign students favour technical courses over universities

The Courier Mail
December 04 2009

THE number of international students enrolled in vocational education and training courses in Australia has overtaken those tackling university studies.

Full article:

<http://www.news.com.au/couriermail/story/0,23739,26440688-953,00.html>

Equity101 - foundation for social inclusion in education

National Centre for Student Equity in Higher Education
December 06 2009

<http://www.equity101.info/content/welcome-equity101>

See also: <http://www.equity101.info/libraryitems>

Police key to foreign student safety

The Sydney Morning Herald
December 04 2009

A NATIONAL police response is required to protect overseas students studying in Australia, a review of the international education sector says.

Full article:

<http://www.smh.com.au/national/police-key-to-foreign-student-safety-20091203-k8uu.html>

Uni lowers entry scores for poor

The Age
December 04 2009

MELBOURNE University will dramatically lower its entry requirements for rural and poor students to lift participation and meet new federal targets.

Full article:

<http://www.theage.com.au/national/uni-lowers-entry-scores-for-poor-20091203-k8tc.html>

International student review interim report released

Media Release: The Hon Julia Gillard MP
December 03 2009

The Minister for Education, Julia Gillard, today welcomed the release of the Baird Review interim report on the legislation that governs international education in Australia and thanked Mr Baird for his work so far.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_091203_121848.aspx

Queensland tops student growth

City News - Brisbane
December 03 2009

BRISBANE: A record number of overseas students is heading to Brisbane next year, bringing more than \$2 billion to the local economy.

Full article:

<http://city-news.whereilive.com.au/news/story/qld-tops-student-growth/>

Doubling in student loans for over sixties take out

Radio New Zealand
December 02 2009

The latest figures show more people are borrowing money through the student loan scheme.

Of all students enrolled in 2008, 37.5% used money from the scheme, an increase of almost 2.8% on the previous year.

Full article:

<http://www.radionz.co.nz/news/stories/2009/12/02/1245d8f81671>

UC Philanthropic Bond Issue Fully Subscribed

Voxy - New Zealand
December 01 2009

The University of Canterbury's philanthropic bond issue has been fully subscribed, raising \$50 million that will allow it to accelerate its 10-year capital works programme and advance plans to develop a world-class learning environment for staff and students.

Full article:

<http://www.voxy.co.nz/business/uc-philanthropic-bond-issue-fully-subscribed/5/31945>

Issuing fake uni degrees should be a crime - expert

The New Zealand Herald
December 01 2009

An American authority on university degrees wants New Zealand to make it a crime to issue or purchase unapproved educational qualifications, after putting New Zealand on its list of countries that churns out "fake" degrees.

Full article:

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/education/news/article.cfm?c_id=35&objectid=10612600

Government offers extra \$20 million to rural tertiary students

Media Release: The Hon Julia Gillard MP
December 01 2009

Minister for Education, Julia Gillard, today continued to negotiate with Senators to attempt to secure the passage of the Youth Allowance bill so 150 000 students gain certainty and can benefit from new scholarships in 2010.

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ACUMA Inc.: the Association representing campus service organisations in Australia & New Zealand
Higher education news • December 2009

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_091201_160852.aspx