

Monday 24 February 2025

5.30–7pm

**Welcome reception and presentation of the
2024 Australian Awards for University Teaching**

Exhibition Hall

Chair:

Professor David Lloyd, Chair, Universities Australia

Supported by

KordaMentha

Tuesday 25 February 2025

6.45am

Registration opens

7.15–8.15am

Global perspectives: challenges and changes for universities

Breakfast
address:

Ballroom

Supported by



Speakers:

Professor Andrew J Deeks, President,
International Association of Universities

Gabriel Miller, President and CEO, Universities Canada

Luke Sheehy, CEO, Universities Australia

Vivienne Stern MBE, CEO, Universities UK

8.30–8.45am

Solutions Summit 2025 welcome

Royal Theatre

Luke Sheehy, CEO, Universities Australia

Serena Williams, Ngannawal Elder

Supported by
MinterEllison.

8.45–9.30am

Keynote address

Royal Theatre

Speaker:

Catherine Livingstone AC, Chancellor,
University of Technology Sydney

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Chair:

Professor David Lloyd, Chair, Universities Australia

9.30–10am

In conversation with Kathleen Folbigg and Rhanee Rego

Royal Theatre

Speakers:

Kathleen Folbigg

Rhanee Rego, Criminal Law Solicitor

Chair:

Clare Armstrong, National Political Editor, News Corp

Tuesday 25 February 2025

10–11am Powering productivity: unleashing skills and innovation	
<p>Royal Theatre</p> <p>Supported by</p> 	<p>Speakers:</p> <p>Professor Barney Glover AO, Commissioner, Jobs and Skills Australia</p> <p>Libby Hackett, CEO, James Martin Institute for Public Policy</p> <p>Danielle Wood, Chair, Productivity Commission</p> <p>Chair:</p> <p>Professor Alec Cameron, Vice-Chancellor and President, RMIT University</p>
11–11.25am Morning tea	
11.25–12.15pm From Washington to Canberra: understanding Trump's America 2.0	
<p>Royal Theatre</p> <p>Supported by</p> 	<p>Speakers:</p> <p>Mick Mulvaney, former White House Chief of Staff, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, U.S. Special Envoy to Northern Ireland</p> <p>The Hon Arthur Sinodinos AO, former Australian Ambassador to the United States</p> <p>Chair:</p> <p>Michelle Gunn, Editor in Chief, <i>The Australian</i></p>
12.15–12.55pm Meeting the demand: addressing the growing need for health professionals	
<p>Royal Theatre</p>	<p>Speakers:</p> <p>Emeritus Professor Christine Bennett AO, Non-executive, Independent Director, Sonic Healthcare</p> <p>Professor Michael Kidd AO, Director, Centre for Future Health Systems, UNSW Sydney</p> <p>Professor Steve Robson, Former President, Australian Medical Association</p> <p>Chair:</p> <p>Professor S. Bruce Dowton, Vice-Chancellor and President, Macquarie University</p>
12.55–1.45pm Lunch	
1.15–1.45pm A bold vision for the future of the National Competitive Grants Program	
<p>Lunchtime address:</p> <p>Royal Theatre</p>	<p>Speaker:</p> <p>Professor Peter Shergold AC, Chair, Australian Research Council</p> <p>Chair:</p> <p>Professor Deborah Terry AC, Vice-Chancellor and President, The University of Queensland</p>

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1.45–2.15pm	Q&A session
Royal Theatre	Speaker: Her Excellency the Honourable Ms Sam Mostyn AC , Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia
	Chair: Professor David Lloyd , Chair, Universities Australia
2.15–3pm	Shaping tomorrow: unlocking the power and promise of artificial intelligence
Royal Theatre	Speakers:
Supported by	Hugh Durrant-Whyte , NSW Chief Scientist
Studiosity	Michael Larsen , CEO, Studiosity
	John Paitaridis , CEO, CyberCX
	Natalie Piucco , AI Technology Executive and University of Wollongong Council Member
	Chair: Professor Theo Farrell , Vice-Chancellor and President, La Trobe University
3–3.50pm	Voices of tomorrow: redefining the student experience
Royal Theatre	Speakers:
Supported by	Professor Ngiare Brown , Chancellor, James Cook University
CIBC	Ben Hallett , CEO, Vygo
	Chris Wessells , Higher Education IT Strategist, Unisys
	Chair: Professor Pascale Quester , Vice-Chancellor and President, Swinburne University of Technology
3.50–4.10pm	Afternoon tea
4.10–4.50pm	More than education: the strategic importance of our international offer & connections
Royal Theatre	Speaker:
Supported by	Her Excellency Vicki Treadell CMG, MVO , British High Commissioner to Australia
readytech	Chair: Professor Emma Johnston AO , Vice-Chancellor, University of Melbourne

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6.30-10pm

Summit dinner and Shaping Australia Awards presentations

Great Hall,
Australian
Parliament
House

Supported by



Speakers:

Professor David Lloyd, Chair, Universities Australia

The Hon Jason Clare, Minister for Education

Lisa Paul AO PSM, Chair of the judging panel,
Shaping Australia Awards

“Our Solutions Summit brings higher education leaders together with politicians and industry representatives, fostering an environment for debate and discussion on issues of national importance and providing opportunities to partner and collaborate for the benefit of our sector and the nation.”

Luke Sheehy, CEO
Universities Australia



Wednesday 26 February 2025

7am	Registration opens
7.30–8.45am	Are Australia's universities building the skills for the future?
Breakfast address: Ballroom Supported by 	Speakers: Professor Sharon Pickering , Vice-Chancellor and President, Monash University Jessica Turner , CEO, QS Chair: Dr Maria Spies , Chief Innovation Officer, QS
8.50–9.20am	Opposition address
Royal Theatre	Speaker: Senator the Hon Sarah Henderson , Shadow Minister for Education Chair: Professor David Lloyd , Chair, Universities Australia
9.20–9.35am	Keynote address
Royal Theatre Supported by technology1	Speaker: Christine Holgate , CEO, Team Global Express Chair: Professor Carolyn Evans , Vice-Chancellor and President, Griffith University
9.35–10am	Building a future ready workforce
Royal Theatre	Speakers: Charlene Davison , CEO, GO Foundation Christine Holgate , CEO, Team Global Express Liam O'Brien , Assistant Secretary, Australian Council of Trade Unions Chair: Professor Carolyn Evans , Vice-Chancellor and President, Griffith University
10–11am	Securing our future: challenges and strategies in national security
Royal Theatre	Speakers: Jeff Connolly , Country Director & CEO, Thales Australia Air Chief Marshal Sir Angus Houston AK, AFC (Ret'd) Professor Tanya Monro AC , Australia's Chief Defence Scientist Chair: Professor Alex Zelinsky AO , Vice-Chancellor and President, University of Newcastle

Wednesday 26 February 2025

11–11.30am	Morning tea
11.30am	Bus transfer to National Press Club
11.30–12pm	Partisanship, polarisation and social cohesion – what does the research tell us?
<p>Concurrent session A: Royal Theatre</p> <p>Supported by GALLUP®</p>	<p>Speakers: Matt Crocker, Susan McKinnon Foundation John Scales, Founder, JWS Research</p>
11.30–12pm	Universities as changemakers: building connections, driving impact
<p>Concurrent session B: Bradman Theatre</p> <p>Supported by GALLUP®</p>	<p>Speakers: Sue Cunningham, CEO, Council for Advancement of Education Verity Firth, Chair, Engagement Australia Katherine Teh, Principal, TEH & CO</p> <p>Chair: Professor Zlatko Skrbis, Vice-Chancellor and President, Australian Catholic University</p>
11.30–12pm	The experience advantage: student engagement as a catalyst for success – global insights and local applications
<p>Concurrent session C: Ballroom</p> <p>Supported by GALLUP®</p>	<p>Speaker: Patricia Hubbard, Head of ANZ Consulting, Gallup</p>
12–1.30pm	Lunch – National Press Club address streamed in Royal Theatre
12.30–1.30pm	National Press Club Address
National Press Club	<p>Speaker: Luke Sheehy, CEO, Universities Australia</p>
1.40–2pm	Bus transfer from National Press Club

Wednesday 26 February 2025

1.30-2pm	Towards a tertiary harmonisation roadmap: raising opportunity and productivity
Concurrent session D: Royal Theatre Supported by GALLUP	Speaker: Professor Barney Glover AO , Commissioner, Jobs and Skills Australia
1.30-2pm	Beyond borders: how transnational education is leveraged for global influence
Concurrent session E: Bradman Theatre Supported by GALLUP	Speakers: Jamie Arrowsmith , Director, Universities UK International Leighton Ernsberger , Director Education East Asia, British Council Chair: Saskia Loer Hansen , Deputy Vice-Chancellor International and Engagement, RMIT University
1.30-2pm	Generative AI frameworks and solutions: higher education leaders share institutional approaches
Concurrent session F: Ballroom Supported by GALLUP	Speakers: Herk Kailis , Chief Executive Officer, Cadmus Professor Gregor Kennedy , Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, University of Melbourne Professor David Sadler , Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, University of Notre Dame

Wednesday 26 February 2025

2-3pm	Strengthening regional communities – building for the future
Royal Theatre	Speakers: David Jochinke , President, National Farmers' Federation The Hon Fiona Nash , Regional Education Commissioner Michael Schneider , Managing Director, Bunnings Group Chair: Professor Tyrone Carlin , Vice-Chancellor and President, Southern Cross University
3-4pm	Australia's path to becoming an energy superpower
Royal Theatre	Speakers: Stephanie Bashir , Principal, Nexa Advisory Michael Frangos , CEO, Indigenous Energy Australia Innes Willox , Chief Executive, AiG
4-4.10pm	Summit close
Royal Theatre	Professor David Lloyd , Chair, Universities Australia