



## Disruption Through Connections

Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th June 2026,

hosted by University of Technology Sydney

An action-oriented event for individual and collaborative change in themes of:

Connecting people and systems	Connecting pathways to learning	Connecting with students and employers	Connecting with AI and technology	Connecting with global partners

### DAY 1 - Tuesday 16 June 2026

9.30am	Arrival and registrations		
10.00 - 11.10am <i>Welcome and Keynote</i>	<b>Session 1 - PLENARY (Auditorium)</b> Welcome, acknowledgements and outline of day: <b>Martin Betts</b> , CEO and Co-founder of HEDx A call to act together nationally and globally to transform the sector. <b>WELCOME to UTS: Andrew Parfitt, VC and Kylie Readman, DVC and Chloe Ferreira*</b> Student all from UTS <b>KEYNOTE and Fireside Chat:</b> on disrupting the model of university education through technology. Martin with <b>Scott Pulsipher</b> , President of WGU and <b>Sasha Thackaberry-Voinovich</b> , President of Newstate University		
11.15am -12.15pm <i>Session 1 (cont'), Panels and Follow The Speaker</i>	<b>Session 1a Panel Auditorium</b> University alliances for sharing AI Experience and recreating university2.0 model and purpose. <b>Martin Betts</b> with <b>Rose Luckin</b> CEO of EVR, <b>Noah Pickus</b> , Director of Global Strategy of Duke, <b>Shan Wareing</b> , VC of Middlesex University, <b>Theo Farrell</b> , VC of La Trobe University	<b>Session 1b Panel Balcony Room</b> Global or Local? How Online Learner Audiences Shape Pedagogy and Strategy <b>Kylie Readman</b> , UTS with <b>Jon Davey</b> CEO of OES, <b>Dominique Parrish</b> , DVC of TUA, <b>Siyan Li</b> of CinLearn Education, UTS Online Student*	<b>1c Follow The Speaker Foyer Fireside Chat</b> <b>Scott Pulsipher</b> , President of WGU and <b>Sasha Thackaberry Voinovich</b> , President of Newstate University with <b>Nicola Cresp</b> , Chief Growth Officer of OES
12.15 - 1.15 pm	<b>LUNCH</b>		

<p>1.15 - 1.50pm <i>Keynotes</i></p>	<p><b>Session 2 - PLENARY (Auditorium)</b> <b>KEYNOTE: Professor KC Chua, President of Singapore Institute of Technology with Ed Santow, of UTS on Competency-Based Education with Industry Partners for Applied Learning</b></p>		
<p>1.55 - 2.45pm <i>Session 2 (cont'), Panel, Fireside Chat and Follow The Speaker</i></p>	<p><b>Session 2a Panel Auditorium</b> On national tertiary harmonisation centres of excellence for skills pathways <b>Patrick Kidd</b>, CEO of FSO with <b>Margot McNeill</b>, CEO of CIT, and <b>Michelle Lincoln</b>, DVC of University of Canberra and a TAFE NSW Student</p>	<p><b>2b Panel Balcony Room</b> On the status and position of Australian HE globally and global perspectives With <b>Helen Bartlett</b>, VC of UniSC, <b>Max Lu</b>, VC of Wollongong <b>Paul Mazerolle</b>, VC of UniSQ <b>Weihong Liang*</b>, International Students Association President, and <b>Shan Wareing</b>, VC of Middlesex Uni</p>	<p><b>2c Follow The Speaker Foyer Fireside Chat</b> <b>KC Chua, SIT with Martin Betts</b></p>
<p>2.45 - 3.25 pm</p>	<p><b>AFTERNOON TEA</b></p>		
<p>3.25 - 4.45pm <i>Workshops (80mins)</i></p>	<p><b>3a Level 5 Room Workshop: Teaching for Public Good–Role of teachers in Student Experience with</b> <b>Kelly Matthews</b> <b>Kylie Readman</b> and <b>Tim Fawns</b> <b>+ UTS Students* and Madison Piper*</b> <b>Gemma Smart and table captains</b> from HEDx partners and multiple students*  Session hosted by the <b>Teaching &amp; Education Focused Academic Network</b></p>	<p><b>3b Level 6 Room Workshop: Data Standards and Human Capability Records for the new capability economy learners</b> <b>Charlsey Pearce MCDS, Michael Perry of ANO from Salesforce and Nils de Vries AWS and Maria and USyd and UTS students* with table captains from HEDx partners and multiple students*</b></p>	<p><b>3c Level 7 Room Workshop: The Castlereagh Statement: Developing individual accountable institutional and provider AI in HE action plans</b> <b>Danny Liu, USyd and Katie Ford, Microsoft - with table captains from HEDx partners and multiple students*</b></p>
<p>4.50 - 5.30pm <i>Closing Keynote</i></p>	<p><b>Session 4 – PLENARY (Auditorium)</b> <b>KEYNOTE and Fireside Chat: Grant Robertson with Aleks Subic and Alana Piper, UTS on place based education and its place globally</b>  With close of day summary <b>Martin Betts, Kylie Readman</b> and <b>UTS student</b></p>		

**Delegate conference dinner with Martin Betts, Michael Rose AM, UTS Chancellor as host and speakers in Bill Shorten, University of Canberra and vote of thanks by Katie Ford, Microsoft**

**DAY 2 - Wednesday 17 June 2026**

8.15am	Arrival and registrations		
9.00 - 9.40am <i>Welcome and Keynote</i>	<b>Session 5 - PLENARY (Auditorium)</b> <b>Welcome, acknowledgements and outline of day:</b> <b>Martin Betts</b> , CEO and Co-founder of HEDx <b>KEYNOTE and Fireside Chat: Pierpaolo Limone, Rector of Pegaso University in Rome</b> with <b>Kerstin Schofer</b> on disrupting the global model		
9.45 -10.45am <i>Session 5 (cont'), Panels and Follow The Speaker</i>	<b>Session 5a Panel Auditorium</b> with <b>Jasmine Johnston</b> of UCC and <b>Rorden Wilkinson</b> Student Life 2026, and <b>Michael Henderson</b> AlinHE 2026 Survey of students	<b>5b Panel Balcony Room</b> Student Experience and Success: How to improve it in a new university model <b>Jennifer Lowe</b> , student, <b>Alpha Possamai-Inesedy</b> , WSU, <b>Sam Jacob</b> , Collarts, <b>Roger Lee</b> , Adobe	<b>5c Follow The Speaker Foyer Fireside Chat Pierpaolo Limone with Kerstin Schofer</b>
10.45 - 11.25am	<b>MORNING TEA</b>		
11.25 - 12.00pm <i>Keynote</i>	<b>Session 6 - PLENARY (Auditorium)</b> <b>Remote KEYNOTE and Fireside Chat: Dan Greenstein</b> of Ellucian with <b>Martin Betts</b> on opportunities for universities to collaborate and share		
12.05 - 1.00pm <i>Session 7 (cont'), Panels and Follow The Speaker</i>	<b>Session 7a Panel on cultures that support innovation and change Auditorium</b> <b>Lucy Marshall</b> of USyd, <b>Kirsten Brown</b> UTS HDR Alumni*, <b>Robynne Quiggin AO</b> , UTS,	<b>7b Panel on shared organisational models Balcony Room</b> <b>Guy Littlefair</b> DVC of UWA, with Adelaide Uni student <b>Heather Margrison*</b> , <b>Bruce Lines</b> of Adelaide Uni, <b>Jenny Bridge</b> of KordaMentha, <b>Lou Conway</b> Country Universities Centres	<b>7c Seminar Level 5 Room Seminar</b> led by <b>Scott Pulsipher</b> , Designing a new online university from scratch: President of WGU on “from scratch” design of a student-centered, opportunity-aligned, tech-enabled institution.
1.00- 2.00 pm	<b>LUNCH</b>		

**DAY 2 - Wednesday 17 June 2026**

<p>2.00 - 3.20 pm <i>Workshops (80mins)</i></p>	<p><b>8a Level 5 Room Workshop</b> on AI-literate leadership – what it actually looks like when universities stop theorising and start building. Participants work through live AI tools and a HEDx curated resource to surface the strategic questions most leaders are still dodging. Hands-on, provocative, and deliberately uncomfortable.</p> <p><b>Aaron Driver</b> of UNE, <b>Jami Emerson</b> of UTS, and <b>Tim Rayner</b> of Superesque</p>	<p><b>8b Level 6 Room Workshop</b> Doing things differently: looking for opportunities for collaboration with <b>John Dewar</b> of KordaMentha, <b>Keith Hawkes</b> of Ellucian, <b>Lea Patterson</b> of Pilbara with table captains from HEDx partners and multiple students*</p>	<p><b>8c Level 7 Room Workshop</b> on using a model of collective intelligence of current AI strategies of universities to improve the student experience <b>Simon Buckingham Shum</b> and <b>Jan Maclean</b> of UTS with table captains from HEDx partners and multiple students*</p>
<p>3.20 - 4.00pm</p>	<p><b>AFTERNOON TEA</b></p>		
<p>4.00 - 5.00pm <i>Closing</i></p>	<p><b>Session 9 – PLENARY (Auditorium)</b> <b>Panel</b> on action and accountability for where next in local and global university-led collaboration for a new model of education in University 2.0? led by <b>George Williams</b> of WSU with <b>Phil Laufenberg</b>, PVC AI of La Trobe University <b>Noah Pickus</b>, Director of Global Strategy of Duke University, <b>Chris Moran</b>, VC of UNE and <b>Shan Wareing</b>, VC of Middlesex University <b>45 minutes</b></p> <p>Event close and what and where next for HEDx? - <b>Martin Betts</b> with <b>Madison Piper*</b>, <b>Ben Roden-Cohen*</b> and <b>Suzanne Le Mire</b>, UQ <b>15 minutes</b></p>		
<p>5.00 - 6.00pm</p>	<p><b>CLOSING RECEPTION &amp; NETWORKING</b></p>		