



6 May 2024

Week 11, Semester 1

Welcome to Week 11, student. In this week's edition, we're seeking your feedback on student communications with our Student News survey, share where you can laugh large at Sydney Comedy Fest and where to find academic support in the lead-up to your final assessments. We also recognise it's been a challenging time for our community, so encourage you to seek support through our [student life, wellbeing and support webpage](#) if you need it.

Trending this week



Laugh large at Sydney Comedy Festival

The Sydney Comedy Festival, Sydney's premier comedy event, is on now until 19 May. Our very own [Manning Bar is where you can catch performances and skits](#) from some of Australia and the world's biggest stars, along with the most promising emerging talent.



Complete the Student News Survey for the chance to win \$50

We want to hear your thoughts about Student News – what you like, don't like and what you want to see next. The [Student News Survey](#) takes approximately five minutes to complete, and upon completion you'll have the option to go in the draw to win one of two \$50 gift cards.



Do you need support ahead of exam season?

Exams are only one month away. From on-demand mental health and wellbeing support from [Sonder](#) and [TalkCampus](#), to academic support from the [Learning Hub](#) and the [Library](#), you're never far from help if you need it.

Tempted to take a shortcut with your education? It's never worth the risk

There are a range of external companies that offer study assistance to our students that are not legitimate or associated with the University. Services offered by these illegitimate companies may include study materials, tutoring, study groups, ghost-writing, assignment help, model answers and more.

Engaging with these companies could result in penalties, including failing your assignment or unit, or suspension or expulsion. These companies often produce poor work, prevent students from learning for themselves, and many even blackmail students. Access free and legitimate University-based services support instead.

Need to know

- On Sunday 5 May and this morning, Monday 6 May, the Government made two announcements in response to the Australian Universities Accord – [\\$3 billion in student debt will be wiped](#) and [cost-of-living support](#) will be made available to eligible teaching, nursing and social work students undertaking workplace placements.
- STUVAC in Semester 1 is from Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May. If you plan to use this time to draft your final assignments or prepare for exams, don't forget you can access Studiosity through the [Learning Hub Canvas site](#). Studiosity is an online service that provides feedback and guidance on students' work, 24/7.
- Exam timetables for Semester 1 have been released and are now available. Visit the [exams page](#) to access your exam timetable.
- The Library has recently opened two new [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student spaces](#) designed for studying, socialising, workshops, and community events.

University news



How we can better address gendered violence

[We need to look at the roots of gendered violence](#), including the experiences and behaviours of perpetrators, writes Dr Siobhan O'Dean, Dr Lucinda Grummitt and Dr Steph Kershaw at The Matilda Centre, University of Sydney.



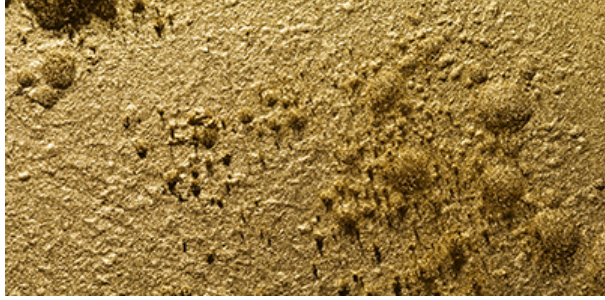
Where to next in Australia's battle with Elon Musk and X?

Professor Terry Flew, in Digital Communications and Culture, says [the Australian government's battle with Elon Musk and X over violent content](#) appears admirable, but will it change anything for those vulnerable to its harm?



\$4.5 million for koala care announced

The University of Sydney School of Veterinary Science's Camden Campus will be the site for [the NSW Government's new koala care centre](#). With \$4.5 million in new funding, the facility will be part of the Wildlife Health and Conservation Hospital.



Sonically explore deep time at Verge Gallery

Verge Gallery is pleased to announce the launch of a new exhibition by

interdisciplinary mixed media artist Vicky Browne, which sonically explores deep time.

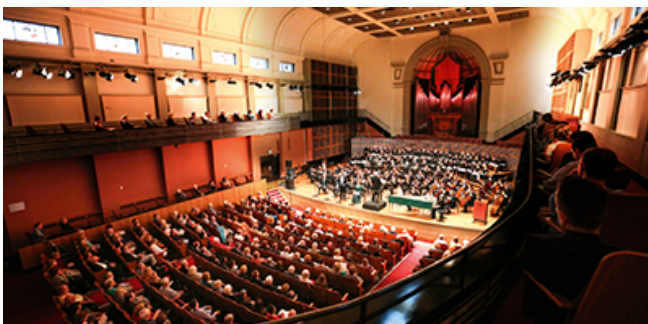
Into the interconnectedness that spans the vastness of space and the infinitesimal scale of microcosms embarks on a journey through the complexities of our embeddedness within technology, material, and ecologies. Join us for the exhibition launch party this Thursday 9 May from 6–8 pm. Keep an eye on the Verge website for more information about the launch.

The sounds of the Con



Sydney Con Jazz Festival 2024 hosts the best of Australian jazz

On Sunday 2 June, the 2024 Sydney Con Jazz Festival will showcase the best of Australian jazz, presenting over 130 artists across six beautiful concert halls nestled around the Sydney Con atrium. With three events happening every hour, there is plenty to choose from. Discounted student tickets are available.



Lunchbreak Concerts at Verbruggen Hall

Take a break from the world and relax in our beautiful Verbruggen Hall. Every Wednesday and Thursday during semester from 12:30 pm you can catch a free 45-minute Lunchbreak Concert, featuring a smorgasbord of music from Conservatorium students.

Have your say on the next iteration of the One Sydney, Many People (OSMP) strategy

The Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Indigenous Strategy and Services (ISS) team is inviting staff and students from across the University to help shape the next Indigenous strategy, which aims to enhance support for Indigenous staff and students, foster cultural competence, and elevate Indigenous research and curriculum.

These informal drop-in sessions are a safe place to share ideas and comments on key elements of the new strategy.

The team will be hosting three drop-in sessions throughout May on the following dates:

- Friday 10 May, 10 am–12 pm, F23 505 Executive Boardroom
- Friday 17 May, 12–2 pm, F23 501 Function Room
- Friday 24 May, 12–2 pm, F23 501 Function Room

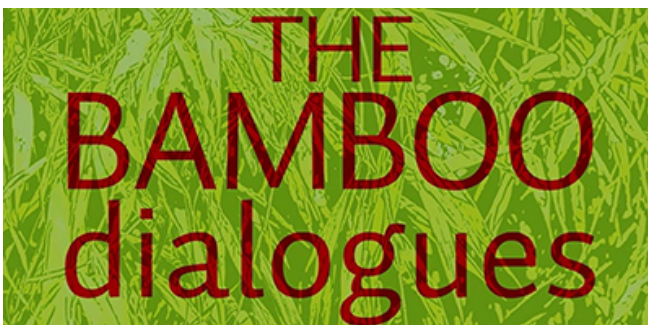
If you have questions, get in touch with the team at dvciss.strategy@sydney.edu.au.

What's happening at Sydney



The Solutionists: How the arts teach us to live

Sophie Gee, a Princeton professor who has devoted her career to classic literature, says stories matter more than ever in the age of artificial intelligence. On The Solutionists podcast, Sophie explores how [reading can help you grapple with uncertainty](#) and equip you with the skills you need to have truly transformational ideas.



The Bamboo Dialogues free film screening

Told by 'bamboo whisperers' from across the world – engineers, artisans, architects, designers, historians, and biologists – [The Bamboo Dialogues](#) seeks to answer the question of why we aren't using more of this miracle plant in our contemporary world. Join us on 9 May for this free film screening at the Wilkinson Building from 5:15 pm.



Soviet Political Posters: The art of making a statement

Join us on 14 May from 1 pm at Fisher Library for a talk on [how effectively posters have historically been used](#) as tools of mobilisation, instruction, censure, debate, and manipulation of public thought and opinion.

Your voice matters – complete the National Postgraduate Student Survey

Is your degree matching your expectations? Do you have suggestions for improvement? Let SUPRA know what you think! Help us advocate for improvements to your USYD degree by completing the [2024 National Postgraduate Student Survey](#) by 12 May. Run by Monash with the support of Australian universities, the survey takes 5–15 minutes, is completely anonymous and by participating you go in the draw to win one of two \$50 gift vouchers.

The Laramie Project staged reading and panel discussion

The Laramie Project is a seminal play exposing the true story of the aftermath following the 1998 murder of 21-year-old Matthew Shepard, an event that catalysed change for LGBTQIA+ hate crime legislation. Explore how far LGBTQIA+ rights have come and how far they have to go with a staged reading at City Recital Hall and a follow up discussion on campus at the University.



The Laramie Project at City Recital Hall

For one night only on Tuesday 14 May, an all-star cast will bring Matthew Shepard's story to life in a [staged reading of The Laramie Project](#). Featuring Nicholas Brown, Casey Donovan, Benjamin Law, Zindzi Okenyo, Tony Sheldon, Lyndon Watts and a very special guest, Matthew's father Dennis Shepard. Discounted student tickets are \$39 (plus booking fee).



IDAHOBIT panel discussion in the Sutherland Room

Join us on Friday 17 May in the Sutherland Room from 10 am to 12 pm for a free panel discussion that serves as a companion to the staged reading of *The Laramie Project*. Hear from Justice Sackar, Dennis and Judy Shepard (parents of the late Matthew Shepard) and key LGBTQIA+ rights advocates and political advisers.



Stream this year's Raising the Bar

Missed Raising the Bar? Or just want to re-live your favourite talk?

From insights into how artificial intelligence may be used to treat depression,

to the positive impact of dogs on public transport, you can find all [this year's Raising the Bar talks](#) on Apple Podcasts, Spotify or SoundCloud.

Student resources

Student website | Canvas | Student Portal | Sydney Student | Key dates | Student life, wellbeing and support | Scams support

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We recognise and pay respect to the Elders and communities – past, present, and emerging – of the lands that the University of Sydney's campuses stand on. For thousands of years they have shared and exchanged knowledges across innumerable generations for the benefit of all. Learn more.

Please add university.communications@sydney.edu.au to your address book or senders safe list to make sure you continue to see our emails in the future.

Have news? Share it with us