The Presidents’ Conversation was conceived to bring together education leaders in a forum for peer-to-peer discussion about a range of challenges and opportunities relating to universities and the digital economy.

**Drivers of Change**

The pressure to innovate and digitize higher education is being driven by:

- The importance of accommodating the future skill needs of the economy
- Rising expectations of students
- The transformation of communities and cities

**Conversation Topics**

**Acceleration**
- How to accelerate the pace of education reform to the Australian economy

**Collaboration**
- How to collaborate more effectively within the industry, and extract benefits from collaboration

**Innovation**
- How to model innovation to ensure that university business models, operations and workforces are equipped for the future

**The Impact of Digital on Universities**

- New industry partnerships
- A digitally disrupted labor market
- Enhanced partnerships with students
- An increasingly individualized learning and student experience
- New workplace competencies
- A new ‘horizon’ in research and development
- An exploding global market for higher education

**Major Shifts in Education**

The conversation focused on five mutually reinforcing shifts that need to occur if universities are to exert maximum positive influence. Universities need to:

- Reimagine their primary purpose
- Innovate from the inside-out
- Scale at the edge
- Build ecosystems, not just join them
- Become ‘scalable learning’ organizations rather than focus on scalable efficiency

Learn more about the Presidents’ Conversation and the key findings in this [whitepaper](#).