



NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA
INSTITUTE OF
HIGHER EDUCATION

A WHOLLY OWNED ENTITY OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

2025 ANNUAL REPORT







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ABOUT UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE, AUSTRALIA

The University of Newcastle is a research-intensive University and ranked in the top 1% of the world's universities (QS World University Rankings 2026 & Webometrics 2025).

OUR VISION:

To be a world-leading university for our regions.

OUR PURPOSE:

To deliver an outstanding student experience, preparing graduates for life in an increasingly interconnected society.

To serve our regions by taking research that matters to the world and bringing our global expertise home.

OUR VALUES:

EXCELLENCE

We pursue the exceptional and strive for innovation in our teaching, research and operating environment.

EQUITY

Our commitment to equity, diversity and inclusiveness is fundamental to everything we do. We believe that every person has the right to participate and succeed.

ENGAGEMENT

Our staff, students, alumni and communities are deeply connected to the challenges and opportunities in our regions and beyond.

SUSTAINABILITY

We are ethically minded and prioritise responsible management of our environment and financial resources.

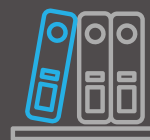
OUR RANKINGS:



TOP 1%
UNIVERSITY IN THE WORLD
QS World University Rankings 2026
& Webometrics 2025



TOP 40
IN THE WORLD FOR IMPACT
Times Higher Education
Impact Rankings 2025



TOP 200
**12 SUBJECTS RANKED IN THE
TOP 200 IN THE WORLD**
QS World University Rankings
by Subject 2025



>200K
GRADUATES WORLDWIDE

THE SINGAPORE CAMPUS IN NUMBERS

Newcastle Australia Institute of Higher Education is a wholly-owned entity and the Asia Pacific hub of the University. We deliver high-quality programs and undertake collaborative research in partnerships with education institutions in Singapore and across the regions.

2025 KEY METRICS:



34.45%*
REVENUE GROWTH



39.47%*
GROWTH IN EQUIVALENT
FULL-TIME STUDENT LOAD
(EFTSL)



>9,000
ALUMNI IN
SINGAPORE



15.8%*
GROWTH IN
FULL-TIME STAFF

*Year-on-year comparison
(December 2024 to December 2025).

MESSAGE FROM PVC & CEO



2025 has been a year of reflection, celebration, and renewed purpose for our University community. This year, we proudly marked the 60th anniversary of the University of Newcastle, Australia – a milestone made even more meaningful as it coincided with Singapore's 60th year of independence and six decades of diplomatic relations between Singapore and Australia. Together, these milestones represent decades of shared growth, partnership, resilience, and progress.

To commemorate this special occasion, we were honoured to host a special reception at the Australian High Commission in September, bringing together close to 90 alumni, distinguished guests, board members, staff, and friends of the University. The event provided an opportunity to honour our history, celebrate our achievements, and reflect on the collective efforts that have shaped our institution over the decades.

Over the past 60 years, the University's impact has grown tremendously. What began with 138 graduates in 1965 has evolved into a global alumni community of more than 200,000 individuals. Our graduates continue to contribute meaningfully across diverse industries and sectors, creating positive change within their communities and strengthening the University's global reputation.

At Newcastle Australia Institute of Higher Education, we remain deeply committed to nurturing future-ready graduates and fostering an inclusive, supportive, and globally connected learning environment. As we navigate an evolving world, our focus remains on empowering students with the knowledge, adaptability, and confidence to make a positive difference in their chosen fields and communities.

This milestone year is not only a celebration of how far we have come, but also a reminder of the opportunities that lie ahead. I would like to thank our students, alumni, staff, partners, and the community for your continued dedication and belief in our shared vision. Together, we look forward to building the next chapter of excellence and impact.

Professor Abhishek Bhati

Pro Vice-Chancellor and CEO
Newcastle Australia Institute of Higher Education

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025



MR NOEL CORNISH AM
CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Noel Cornish has extensive international and Australian business management experience. He is currently Chair of AML3D Ltd and the Hunter Valley Coal Chain Ltd. Noel's career spans over 40 years, beginning with a cadetship at BHP Steel in 1969 and culminating in senior leadership roles. In the educational sector, Noel has served as Deputy Chancellor of the University of Wollongong and is currently a member of the University of Newcastle Council and Chair of its Finance and Infrastructure Committee. A proud alumnus, his dedication to tertiary education is further highlighted by his recognition as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 2017 for significant service to business as an advocate for industry policy and development, to tertiary education administration, and to the community.



PROFESSOR ABHISHEK SINGH BHATI
PVC & CEO, NEWCASTLE AUSTRALIA

Professor Abhishek Singh Bhati joined the Newcastle Australia Institute of Higher Education as the Pro Vice-Chancellor and CEO in July 2024. He is recognised as a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA) and graduate of Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD). He contributes to corporate governance through his Board Directorship of Singapore based enterprises. He serves as a member of the WIL SIG under Australian Collaborative Education Network (ACEN) and is a member of the Academy of Management, USA.



MR BILL CHUA

Bill Chua was a Colombo Plan Scholar. He holds a Bachelor of Arts, and a Bachelor of Engineering Hons Class 1 from the University of Newcastle, Australia. He is a Fellow at the Singapore Institute of Directors, and at the Institution of Engineers, Singapore.



MR JASPAL SINGH

Jaspal Singh started his career with the Singapore Government Administrative Service (1978-2004), serving in the Ministries of Transport, Finance and Trade & Industry and on the Boards of various statutory bodies and Government-linked corporates. This was followed by a 14-year stint in the private sector based in London as CEO, ComfortDelGro (UK & Ireland), where he led the growth of ComfortDelGro's network of bus, coach, taxi, private hire and engineering businesses in England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland.



DR LEE KWOK CHEONG

Dr Lee Kwok Cheong, popularly known as KC, retired in 2019 after a 41-year career in IT and education, of which 23 years were in the CEO role. He has been active in shaping Singapore's IT, education, and talents development landscape. Currently, he is on the Board of an education company in Vietnam, an IT services company listed on Singapore Exchange's main Board, a government-owned gaming operator, a music ensemble, and a mental health charity.



MS YAU SIEW CHOI

Siew Choi is a seasoned financial services leader with a three-decade long career focused on (re)insurance within the Asia Pacific. Renowned for her innovative strategies and ability to deliver long-term success, she excels in fostering innovation and driving transformative initiatives within tightly regulated landscapes. Armed with a Master's degree from Stanford University and an Executive Diploma in Directorship from Singapore Management University (SMU), she is primed to contribute her extensive Asia-focused financial services acumen to the Newcastle Australia's board.

We thank Professor Kent Anderson and Professor Zee Upton for their valuable contributions to Newcastle Australia up to May and October 2025 respectively.

SENIOR MANAGEMENT



PROFESSOR ABHISHEK SINGH BHATI
PVC & CEO

Professor Abhishek Singh Bhati is the Pro Vice-Chancellor and CEO at the Newcastle Australia Institute of Higher Education. Previously, Abhishek held Interim Deputy Vice Chancellor and Campus Dean roles at Universities in Australia and Singapore. He obtained his Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Business (Tourism Management) from James Cook University and Master of Business Administration in Marketing Management (MBA) from Maastricht School of Management. In addition, he obtained post-graduate learning and teaching qualifications, Graduate Certificate in Education Tertiary Teaching (GCETT) and Diploma in Adult and Continuing Education (DACE). Abhishek is an active researcher, and his research has been published in a wide variety of reputable publications in the field of tourism and scholarship of learning and teaching.

A/PROFESSOR PETER DUFFY
ACADEMIC DIRECTOR

A/Prof Peter Duffy is an innovative and strategic higher education leader with over 30 years' experience in academic transformation, digital education, curriculum reform, and quality assurance across Australia and Asia. Demonstrated expertise in building academic and institutional capability, leading multimillion-dollar educational projects, and fostering cultures of scholarship and innovation. Extensive success in senior leadership roles including Deputy President (Education), Director of Learning & Teaching, Associate Director (Curriculum Development) and Head of the Innovation Hub. Accomplished leader of multi-disciplinary teams with a deep understanding of pedagogical innovation, curriculum enhancement and compliance, and technology adoption aligned to future-ready education. He is recognised as a Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (PFHEA) and globally through awards, fellowships, and impactful contributions to institutional transformation.



JANE NG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, HUMAN RESOURCES AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Jane is currently the Deputy Director, Human Resources and Corporate Governance. She oversees the full of spectrum human resource functions and manages the corporate governance affairs of Newcastle Australia. She holds an honours degree in business administration and certificate in applied psychology. She brings with her more than twenty years of full spectrum human resource experience in both private and public sectors, of which the recent last ten years were in education.

IZDIHAR FAIRUZ NIAN
HEAD OF OPERATIONS

Izdihar Fairuz Nian is a seasoned professional in the private higher education sector, with extensive experience in operations and strategic management. As Head of Operations, she leads key initiatives and oversees Finance & Facilities, Marketing, Student Recruitment, Partnerships, and Student Experience. With over a decade at the institution, Izdihar's deep institutional knowledge and collaborative leadership have played a pivotal role in enhancing the student experience in Singapore. She is dedicated to fostering a vibrant and supportive environment where students thrive beyond academics.





NEWCASTLE AUSTRALIA

The Newcastle Australia Institute of Higher Education (Newcastle Australia IHE) is a campus of the University of Newcastle, Australia in Singapore.

Our strong partnerships with leading local institutions provide our diverse range of local and international students access to a broad variety of professional networks when they graduate.



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2025 KEY HIGHLIGHTS & EVENTS

BACK-TO-OFFICE BBQ

3 JAN



On 3 January, the Newcastle Australia team kicked off 2025 with a sizzling Back-to-Office BBQ. From exciting games to celebrating our January birthdays, it was an evening of fun, laughter, and bonding.

STAFF LOHEI

6 FEB



The Newcastle Australia team kicked off the Year of the Snake with a vibrant Chinese New Year gathering—feasting, lohei for good fortune, and celebrating our February birthdays!

TEAMBONDING

8 MAY



On 8 May, our staff gathered for a bowling team bonding session, enjoying an afternoon of friendly competition and camaraderie. The event provided an opportunity for staff to connect outside of work and strengthen team spirit across the organisation.

STRATEGY DAY 2025

28 AUG



On 28 August, staff came together for the annual Strategy Day to reflect on the institution's achievements, celebrate progress, and discuss future opportunities for growth and improvement. Through collaborative discussions and idea-sharing, the session focused on strengthening Newcastle Australia as a supportive and thriving environment for learning, work, and innovation.

60TH ANNIVERSARY EVENING RECEPTION

4 SEP



The University of Newcastle marked a momentous occasion with a reception held in Singapore to celebrate its 60th anniversary. More than just a university milestone, the evening also commemorated two other significant events: 60 years of diplomatic ties between Singapore and Australia, and Singapore's 60th year of independence.

Graciously hosted at the Australian High Commission, the reception brought together close to 90 alumni, distinguished guests, board members, staff, and friends of the University to honour the pioneers who paved the way, and reaffirm our commitment to the values of education, integrity, and progress that will continue to guide us into the future.

GRADUATION 2025

15 NOV



The Graduation Ceremony 2025 brought together graduates, families, faculty, and guests to celebrate the achievements of the graduating cohort and mark the beginning of new journeys ahead. Held at The Star Theatre, the ceremony featured inspiring speeches by distinguished guests including His Excellency Allaster Cox, alongside a heartfelt address by graduate speaker Brennan Tay.

The celebration was further enlivened by a special performance from the Australian International School Choir, before concluding with a reception where graduates and guests gathered to commemorate the occasion.

FAMILY DAY 2025

28 - 29 NOV



In November, staff and their families came together for a company family day trip, providing an opportunity to connect and unwind at the end of the year. The trip included visits to Batu Caves, a batik colouring activity, and shared dining experiences, fostering camaraderie and strengthening relationships among colleagues, friends, and family members.



WELCOME PETER DUFFY

In September, we welcomed Associate Professor Peter Duffy as the new Academic Director. His appointment marked an important milestone for the institution as it continues to strengthen academic leadership and advance excellence in teaching, learning, and student experience.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

66

PUBLICATIONS IN 2025

14

PUBLICATIONS WITH IMPACT
FACTOR/CITESCORE >3

38

CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

3

PUBLICATIONS WITH
IMPACT FACTOR/
CITESCORE <3

4

INDUSTRY
ENGAGEMENTS

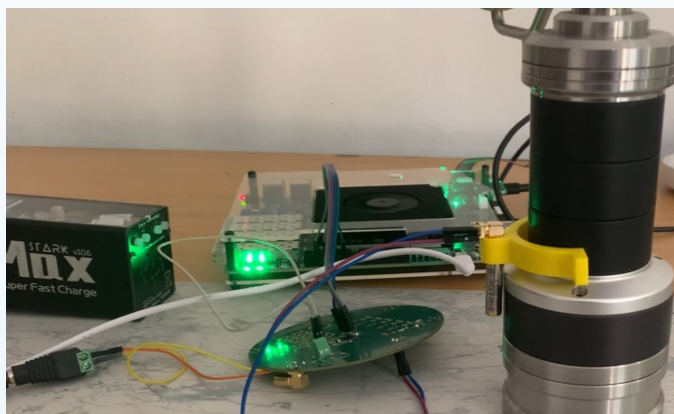
\$6440

EXTERNAL RESEARCH FUNDING
SECURED IN 2025
HUAWEI SEED FUNDING

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

INNOVATIVE EMD-BASED TECHNIQUE FOR PREVENTING COFFEE GRINDER DAMAGE FROM STONES WITH FPGA IMPLEMENTATION

by Chiang Liang Kok, Yuwei Dai, Yit Yan Koh, Maoyang Xiang and Tee Hui Teo

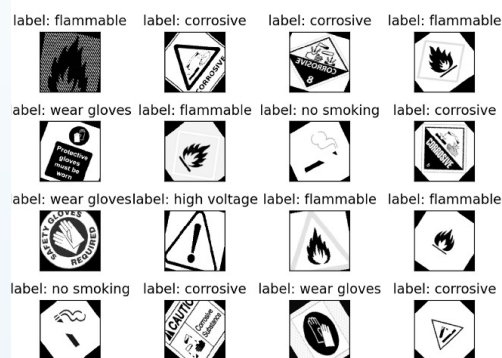


Full evaluation setup.

Coffee undergoes multiple processing stages before brewing, but a key challenge is the accidental mixing of stone contaminants that resemble beans. If undetected, these stones can damage expensive grinder burrs, leading to costly repairs, calibration issues, and operational downtime. This paper proposes an Empirical Mode Decomposition (EMD)-based method that detects stones by analyzing acoustic signals generated during grinding.

ENERGY-, COST-, AND RESOURCE-EFFICIENT IOT HAZARD DETECTION SYSTEM WITH ADAPTIVE MONITORING

by Chiang Liang Kok, Jovan Bowen Heng, Yit Yan Koh and Tee Hui Teo

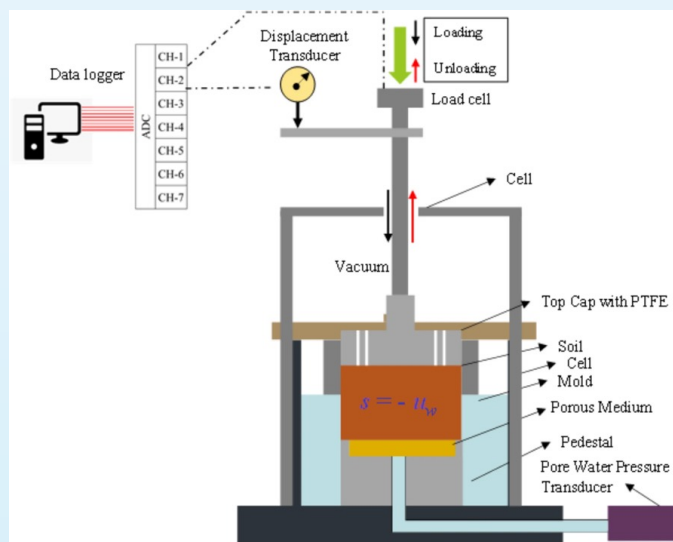


Sample of the hazard detection results

This paper presents a low-cost, energy-efficient IoT hazard detection system using an ESP32-CAM with DHT22 and PIR sensors, paired with a CNN model deployed on a Flask server to classify hazard signs such as “high voltage,” “flammable,” and “no smoking.” The system achieves an F1 score of 85.9% and uses adaptive image capture to reduce energy consumption by 31–37% while maintaining real-time responsiveness. At a unit cost of about SGD 38.60 and using Telegram for alerts, the solution offers a scalable, accurate, and cost-effective alternative to traditional surveillance systems for deployment in industrial and resource-limited environments.

EFFECT OF MOISTURE CHANGE ON WATER RETENTION BEHAVIOR OF UNSATURATED SILTY SOIL UNDER LOADING-UNLOADING CONDITIONS

by Syed Kamran Hussain Shah, Adnan Anwar Malik, Shay Haq, Waqar Ahmad, Umair Ali and Rabia Chaudhry

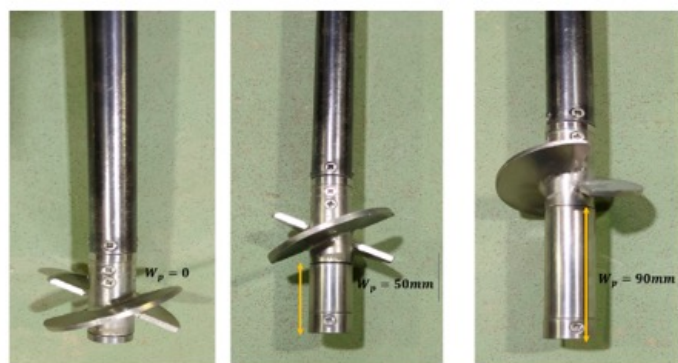


Schematic diagram of test setup used in this study

Unsaturated soils, commonly found in earthen embankments, exhibit complex interactions between moisture and stress that significantly influence their mechanical properties. This study successfully quantified the water retention behavior of unsaturated silty soil under loading and unloading conditions, revealing that stress history and moisture content markedly affect suction and void ratio, leading to deviations from conventional water retention models.

A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON THE END-BEARING CAPACITY OF TOE-WING & SPIRAL SCREW PILES IN COHESIONLESS SOIL

by Ahmad Waheed Sahil, Taro Uchimura, Adnan Anwar Malik, and Md Raihanul Kabir



(a)



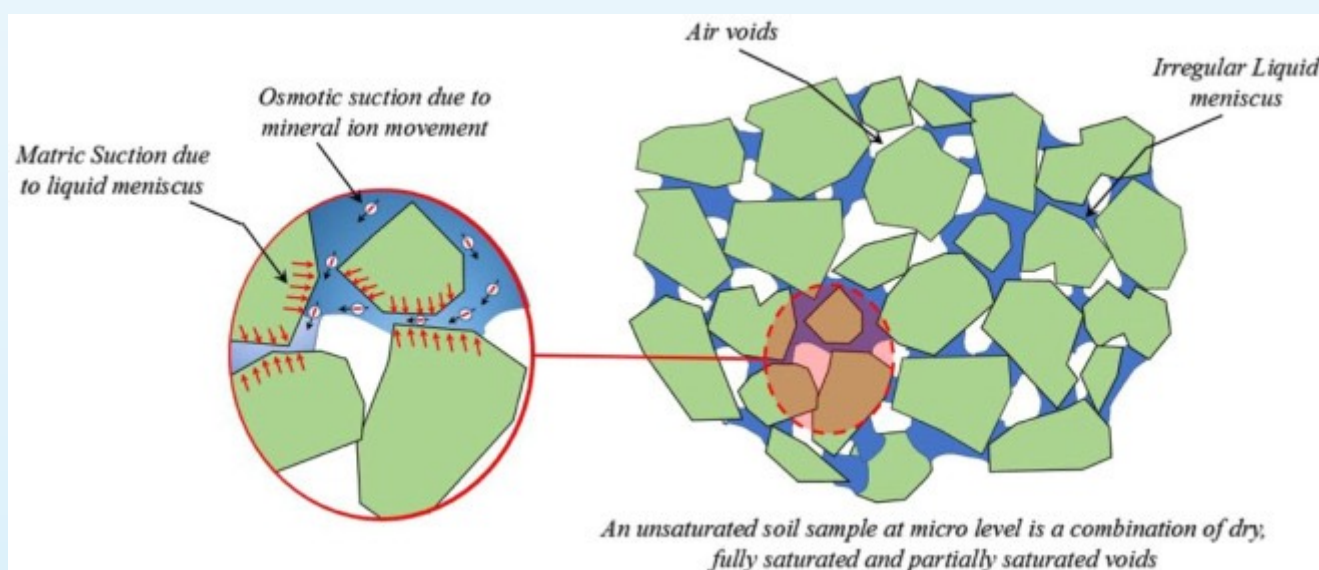
(b)

Model screw piles with varying toe-wing/helix positions from pile tip
(a) Toe-wing (two semicircular plates) screw piles (b) Spiral screw piles with a continuous helix.

Screw piles are increasingly used in construction due to their efficiency and versatility. This study compared two common screw pile designs under different soil conditions to better understand their load-bearing performance. The findings show how pile design and installation depth influence strength and capacity and provide practical formulas to help engineers estimate performance and improve foundation design.

AN INTER-PARTICLE CAPILLARY FORCE MODEL FOR COARSE-GRAINED SOILS – IMPLEMENTATION IN DEM AND EXPERIMENTAL VALIDATION ON GROUND CAVITIES

By Umair Ali, Masahide Otsubo, Adnan Anwar Malik, Reiko Kuwano

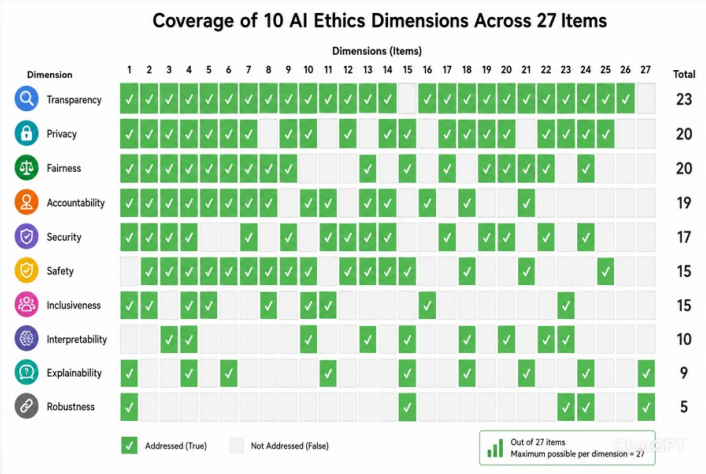


Total suction offered by the lump of granular soil.

Soil and water interactions are important in geotechnical engineering, especially in partially saturated soils. This study develops a simpler computer model to better capture how moisture and capillary forces affect soil behaviour. The model agrees well with laboratory tests in predicting underground cavity stability and highlights the key role of capillary forces in coarse soils.

AI GOVERNANCE ON YOUNG CONSUMERS IN HIGHER EDUCATION: A CONTENT ANALYSIS OF POLICIES FOR GENERATIVE AI

By Ashley Tong, Zahirah Zainol, Teck Siong Chong, Krishnamoorthy Renganathan



As generative artificial intelligence (AI) technologies continue to advance and become more prevalent in higher education, addressing the ethical concerns associated with their use is essential. This study emphasises the need for robust AI governance as more young consumers increasingly use generative AI for various applications. This paper aims to examine the ethical challenges posed by generative AI and review the AI policies in higher education to regulate young consumers use of generative AI, focusing on the ethical use of AI from foundational principles to sustainable governance.

CHATGPT AND HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT WELL-BEING: ROLE OF SUBJECTIVE NORM AND ANTHROPOMORPHISM WITH TAM

By Nurhafihz Noor, Ashley Tong, Zahirah Zainol

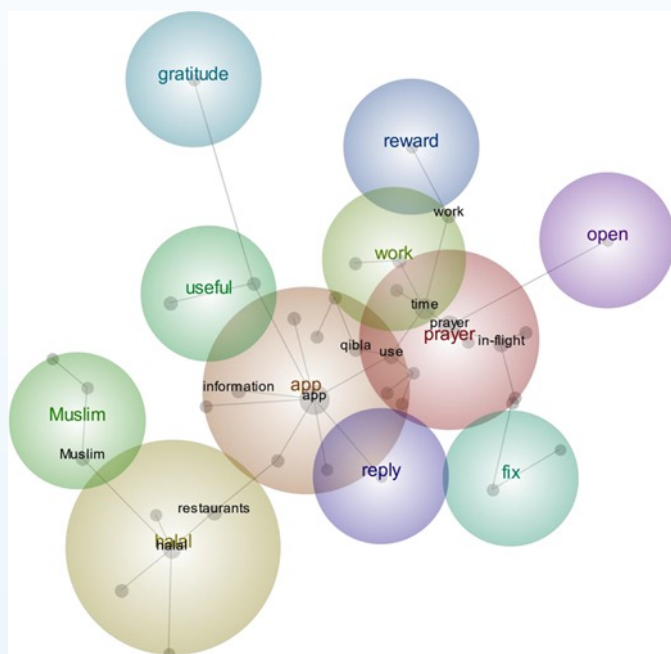
Factors	Low Anthropomorphism	High Anthropomorphism
Low Subjective Norm	ChatGPT as an independent study tool Limited adoption, used infrequently for functional needs.	ChatGPT as an optional counsellor Voluntary use and emotional support, but low overall adoption.
High Subjective Norm	ChatGPT as an AI writing assistant High compliance but impersonal experience.	ChatGPT as an assignment team player High engagement with AI's human-like characteristics and task capabilities.

Typology of subjective norm and anthropomorphism of ChatGPT in higher education.

There continues to be important discussion on how ChatGPT can be effectively integrated into the student learning environment in higher education. However, less is known about how social influences faced by students and the anthropomorphic features of ChatGPT affect technology adoption and student well-being. This study aims to develop and test a model that integrates the seminal technology acceptance model with subjective norm and anthropomorphism.

KEY ATTRIBUTES OF MOBILE APPS FOR HALAL TOURISM: AN ANALYSIS OF ONLINE REVIEWS USING LEXIMANCER

By Nurhafizh Noor, Ashley Tong, Zahirah Zainol, Dang Thao Trang Duong

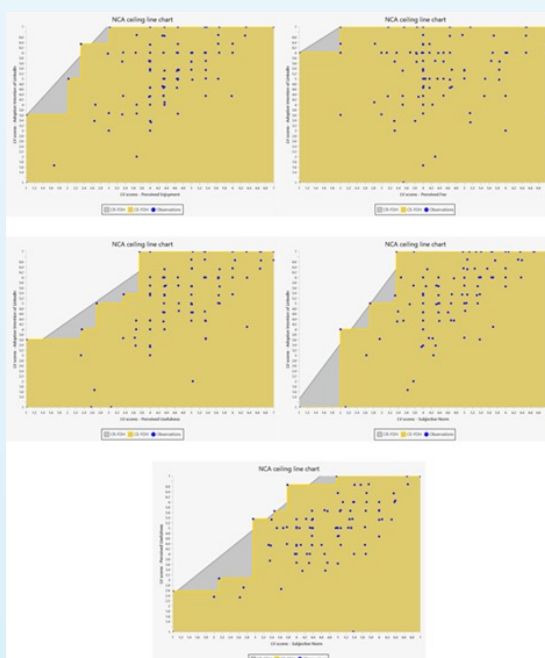


With the continued relevance of mobile apps to manage travel experiences and the rise in tech-savvy halal travel markets, there is an urgent need to identify the major attributes valued by consumers of mobile apps catered for halal tourism. This study aims to identify the key service quality attributes of halal tourism mobile apps. A content analysis of 279 user comments from a leading mobile app catered to Muslim travelers was done using Leximancer.

Concept map of halal tourism mobile app reviews.

UNLOCKING LINKEDIN ADOPTION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENTS: FINDINGS FROM PLS-SEM AND NCA

by Nurhafizh Noor, Ashley Tong, Zahirah Zainol



Scatter plots

LinkedIn offers multiple benefits to higher education students to build their careers. However, there is a lack of understanding of the factors which are significant and necessary to increase its adoption among such students. Having this granular understanding enables developers to design the platform more effectively. This study aims to investigate the factors affecting the adoption of LinkedIn for higher education students.

ACADEMIC SEMINAR & EVENTS

CEO FORUM - ARE YOU BEING THE BEST LEADER YOU CAN BE? 19 FEB



Are you truly leading at your best?

On 19 February, Newcastle Australia's CEO Leadership Forum sparked powerful conversations as industry leaders – Victor Mills of the Singapore International Chamber of Commerce, Genevieve Chua of Ovol Singapore, Derrick Chang of PSB Academy, and Jacob Puthenparambil of Redhill – shared candid reflections on resilience, reinvention, and purpose-driven leadership.

It was an evening of honest insights, and meaningful takeaways that challenged us all to rethink what leadership truly means in today's evolving world.

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM WITH MURDOCH UNIVERSITY (INDO-PACIFIC SYMPOSIUM FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT) 21 FEB



The Research Symposium, co-hosted with Murdoch University, brought together academics from various institutions to foster research collaboration and knowledge exchange. The event provided a valuable platform for insightful discussions, networking, and the strengthening of academic partnerships, reflecting a shared commitment to advancing research and collaboration within the higher education community.

ACADEMIC STRATEGY DAY 2025 30 APR



On 30 April, 33 academic staff participated in a development session focused on enhancing support for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and strengthening research excellence across the academic community. The session encouraged meaningful discussions and the sharing of innovative ideas, leading to practical insights and actionable outcomes. It reinforced the institution's commitment to inclusive education, continuous improvement, and advancing academic excellence.

CEO FORUM - FROM STRATEGY TO ACTION: DIGITALISATION INSIGHTS THAT MATTER 27 AUG



Newcastle Australia hosted another successful CEO Forum, bringing together industry leaders for an evening of networking, engagement, and shared insights. Guests enjoyed dinner and drinks while hearing perspectives on digitalisation and leadership. The event fostered meaningful connections and continued dialogue between academia and industry.

BIOREEL CHALLENGE 17 OCT



The inaugural BioReel Challenge brought together students from all five polytechnics in Singapore, who formed teams to create creative, research-driven short videos aimed at making science more engaging and accessible. With 20 teams participating, the competition showcased strong creativity and effort in communicating key messages on communicable diseases to youth audiences. The winning teams were recognised with cash prizes and celebrated for their contribution to raising awareness through impactful storytelling.

LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM - LEADING AND MANAGING IN VUCA ENVIRONMENTS 13 NOV

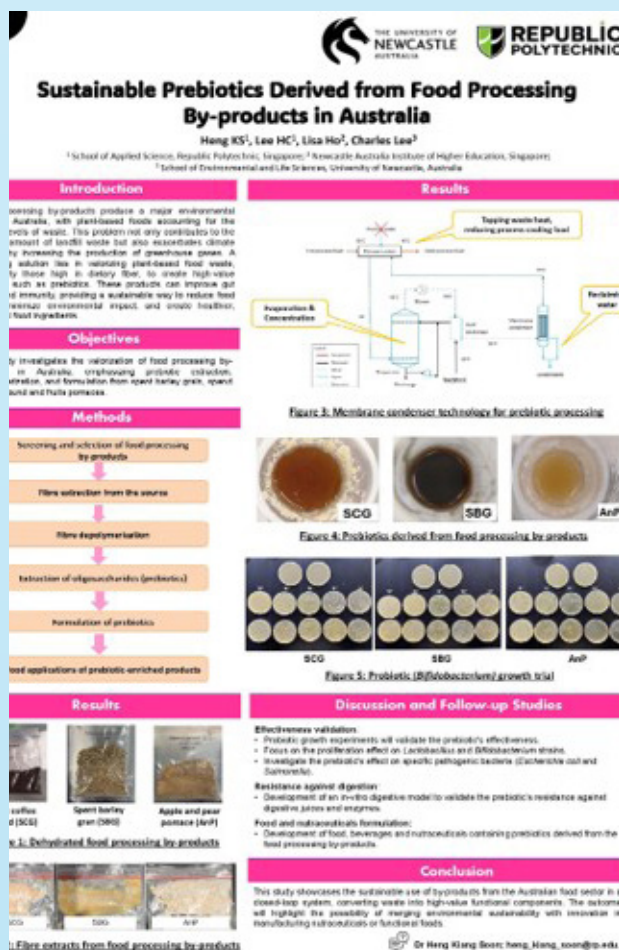


Friends and alumni from Singapore, Malaysia, and Hong Kong came together for a meaningful 3-hour dialogue on leadership in VUCA (Volatile, Uncertain, Complex and Ambiguous) environments. The session brought together diverse regional perspectives from speakers across all three locations, fostering rich exchange on how leaders can navigate complex and rapidly changing challenges. The event highlighted strong cross-regional collaboration and was supported by contributions from all speakers and partners, including venue support from the Hong Kong Management Association.

CSD HIGHLIGHTS

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHT:

RESEARCH COLLABORATION WITH REPUBLIC POLYTECHNIC (RP) ON FOOD WASTE VALORISATION



An 18-month research project was successfully completed, investigating the valorisation of three food waste streams—spent coffee grounds, barley waste, and fruit pulp—into high-value prebiotic ingredients.

Two conference papers were presented at the Mucosal Immunology and Microbiome Symposium, held in Noosa, Queensland, from 20–23 May 2025.

CSD also hosted our RP research collaborator, Dr Heng Kiang Soon, during a visit to the University of Newcastle's School of Environmental and Life Sciences (SELS) and the Discipline of Food Science and Human Nutrition (FSHN) at the Ourimbah campus in May 2025. The visit facilitated productive discussions with researchers from SELS and FSHN, identifying strong opportunities for future collaboration in food waste valorisation and related sustainability research.

AI APPLICATIONS IN WORK AND SUSTAINABILITY

9 MAY



Jointly organised by the Centre for Sustainable Development and the Institute of Ergonomics and Health, the event brought together brilliant minds to explore how AI is shaping our digital era. A huge highlight was our Keynote Speaker, Dr. Oliver Tian – who shared deep insights into the evolving role of AI and why embracing it is crucial for the future of work. We also hosted breakout sessions across four key industries (WSH, Sustainability, Engineering & It and Facilities Management) diving into real-world applications of AI in different sectors and sparking some great conversations

CSD-AETERNI.ECO SUSTAINABILITY SHORT COURSES

AUG - OCT



Four one-day sustainability short courses were delivered in collaboration with Aeterni.eco and CIFAL Newcastle between August and October 2026, covering Introduction to Sustainability, Sustainability Strategy and Disclosure, Carbon Footprint, and Sustainable Finance. A total of 12 participants completed the program and were awarded CIFAL certificates.

CLEAN ENERGY SYMPOSIUM 2025: DRIVING INNOVATION, COLLABORATION, AND TRANSFORMATION

4 SEP



On 4 September 2025, the Centre for Sustainable Development (CSD), in collaboration with the Centre for Hydrogen Innovations at the National University of Singapore (NUS), hosted the Clean Energy Symposium.

The event brought together more than 120 invited guests and convened key representatives from academia, industry and innovation to explore the future of energy—highlighting how applied research, collaboration, and new models of partnership can drive the global transition.

UN GCNS APEX SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

9 OCT



Newcastle Australia is honoured to serve as the Knowledge Partner for the 2025 Apex Corporate Sustainability Awards organised by the UN Global Compact Network Singapore, with CSD having held this role since 2022. At the awards ceremony, Director of CSD, A/P Charles Lee, shared key insights from this year's LowCarbonSG Award finalists, highlighting the strong leadership, innovation, and resilience demonstrated by organisations across diverse sectors in advancing decarbonisation efforts. He underscored the importance of value-chain collaboration to address Scope 3 emissions and build collective capacity for carbon reduction, reinforcing the shared responsibility of achieving a sustainable, low-carbon future.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S VISIT TO REPUBLIC POLYTECHNIC

11 NOV



The University of Newcastle, Australia's Vice-Chancellor Alex Zelinsky visited the CSD–Republic Polytechnic research project on food waste valorisation at the Food Innovation Centre, School of Applied Science, Republic Polytechnic. He was accompanied by Noel Cornish (Chair of Newcastle Australia's board) and Alex Voninski (Pro Vice-Chancellor (Global)). The visit was hosted by Mr Boo Chong Han (Deputy CEO of RP), Lim Boon Whatt (Director), Valavan (Assistant Director), and Heng Kiang Soon (Senior Lecturer).

BIOTECHNOLOGY ON FOOD AND ENERGY INNOVATION

16 DEC



CSD, in collaboration with the Bioenergy Society of Singapore (BESS), organised a half-day symposium exploring how advanced biotech tools - including synthetic biology, precision fermentation, and genetic engineering - are driving innovation in food and energy systems. The event brought together researchers, industry leaders, and policymakers to examine how these converging fields can support a circular bioeconomy, strengthen food security, and accelerate the global energy transition.

STUDENT LIFE

UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE AUSTRALIA STUDENT COUNCIL SINGAPORE (UNASCS)

UNASCS STUDENT PARTY - OSCAR NIGHT 24 OCT



On 24 October evening, the Student Council hosted an Oscar Night-themed Student Party, bringing students together for an elegant night of fun and entertainment. Guests enjoyed a delightful buffet dinner before taking part in interactive games such as Human Bingo and Trivia Guessing, sparking laughter and new friendships across the room. The highlight of the night was the Best Dressed and Best Costume awards, with both Male and Female categories, giving participants the chance to showcase their creativity and glamour in true red-carpet fashion.

UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE AUSTRALIA BUSINESS CLUB

MANAGE & PREPARE FOR A BETTER FUTURE

21 FEB



Organised by the UON Business Club, the “Manage & Prepare for a Better Future” event brought together nearly 50 participants for an engaging session on leadership and personal finance. Featuring insights from Lecturer and finance expert Navin Kumar Mahalingam and Jeffinson Darmawan, President of the Indonesian Student Association of Singapore, the event equipped attendees with practical strategies for effective leadership, financial management, and long-term personal and professional growth. The interactive discussions provided actionable takeaways, empowering students to build confidence and prepare for their future careers.

BUSINESS CLUB INFO SESSION

25 NOV



To recruit our new student committee, the business club hosted several information sessions at PSB. These sessions allow us to connect directly with business majors, understand their expectations, and discover how we can better serve our student community.

AI IN BUSINESS WORKSHOP

4 DEC



The UON Business Club hosted a workshop focusing on AI applications in business. During the workshop, students from business majors who are interested in generative AI tools were able to try different toolkits. They also worked in groups to apply AI tools during the workshop to better assist their studies.

SINGAPORE NETWORK OF INCLUSIVE LEARNING (SNIL)

BEYOND LABELS: INCLUSION, PRACTICE & CONNECTION PURPLE PARADE 2025

7 & 25 OCT



Beyond Label



Purple Parade

Beyond Labels: Inclusion, Practice & Connection, our Purple Parade activation event, brought together educators, families, students, practitioners, and community members to share experiences, exchange ideas, and build meaningful networks around inclusion. This was followed by SNIL's participation in the Purple Parade, where members joined the national movement to celebrate diversity and champion a more inclusive society.

MSIE SEMINAR: THEORY-PRACTICE NEXUS

22 NOV



The year concluded with an MSIE Seminar, which showcased practitioner insights, research, and lived experiences, highlighting the impact of inclusive education across different contexts. The initiative expanded opportunities for dialogue and collaboration, amplified diverse voices, and reinforced SNIL's commitment to advancing inclusion through community engagement and shared learning.

200K

ALUMNI MILESTONE

What began with 138 graduates in 1965 has grown into a global family of more than 200,000 alumni in 2025. The University of Newcastle community now spans continents, industries and generations, united by shared experiences and a spirit of possibility. Here's to the remarkable impact of our alumni around the world, and to the future milestones we will achieve together.

ALUMNI EVENTS

BENVOHS AGM

16 JAN



The BENVOHS Alumni Network Annual General Meeting was held successfully, bringing together alumni members to review the Network's activities and priorities. The meeting also saw the appointment of a new committee for the 2025–2027 term, reflecting a healthy mix of continuing and emerging alumni leadership. The transition supports the ongoing development of the Network while ensuring continuity and sustained engagement with alumni and students.

SINGAPORE ALUMNI COMMITTEE AGM

12 MAR



The Singapore Alumni Chapter's 2025 Annual General Meeting brought together alumni from across graduating cohorts to reconnect, strengthen networks, and contribute to shaping the future of the Chapter. We extend our warmest congratulations to the newly elected Executive Committee, with seven new ExCo members from the graduating classes of 2021–2025 joining the current leadership team of five.

MALAYSIA ALUMNI RAYA GET-TOGETHER & AGM

25 APR



The Malaysia Alumni Chapter brought alumni together for a Hari Raya celebration and Annual General Meeting, providing an opportunity for members to reconnect and strengthen ties with the University and one another. The meeting also facilitated the appointment of a new Executive Committee for the 2025–2027 term, ensuring continued leadership and support for alumni engagement activities in Malaysia.

14TH ALUMNI MOVIE NIGHT

30 MAY



The Singapore Alumni Chapter hosted its 14th Alumni Movie Night at Golden Village VivoCity, bringing together alumni from across different graduating cohorts for an evening of networking and reconnecting. The event provided an opportunity for alumni to strengthen connections, reminisce about their university experiences, and engage with the wider alumni community in a relaxed and informal setting.

60TH ANNIVERSARY CHINA ALUMNI CELEBRATION

26 JUN



The 60th Anniversary China Alumni Celebration was held in Hangzhou in collaboration with Alibaba as part of the Ma & Morley Scholarship Immersion experience, bringing together alumni from across the region. The event provided an opportunity to celebrate the University's milestone anniversary while strengthening connections with the alumni community in China. Through alumni and partner engagement, the celebration highlighted the importance of collaboration, global partnerships and the continued impact of the University's international network.

60TH ANNIVERSARY HONG KONG ALUMNI CELEBRATION

29 JUN



The 60th Anniversary Hong Kong Alumni Celebration brought together alumni, University representatives and current students to commemorate the University's milestone anniversary and strengthen connections with the alumni community in Hong Kong. The event fostered engagement across generations of the University community, creating opportunities for alumni and students to connect while supporting the University's continued presence in the region.

50TH ALUMNI EXCELLENCE AWARDS

23 OCT



The 50th Alumni Excellence Awards celebrated outstanding University of Newcastle graduates making significant contributions across diverse fields including diplomacy, arts, mental health, healthcare and human rights. Marking five decades of recognising alumni achievements, the milestone event highlighted the impact of more than 200 exceptional graduates honoured since 1975 and celebrated the global reach and influence of the University's alumni community. A Singapore delegation comprising alumni, partners and University representatives attended the event, reflecting the strength of the University's connections and community across the region.

60TH ANNIVERSARY CHANCELLOR'S GALA LUNCHEON

24 OCT



The Chancellor's Gala Luncheon marked the University's 60th anniversary, bringing together members of the University community, partners and distinguished guests to celebrate six decades of achievements and impact. A Singapore delegation comprising alumni, partners and University representatives joined the celebrations, highlighting the University's longstanding international relationships and the continued engagement of its global community.

60TH ANNIVERSARY SINGAPORE ALUMNI CELEBRATION

14 NOV



As part of the University's 60th Anniversary celebrations, the Singapore Alumni Chapter hosted a special alumni celebration event featuring an engaging "In Conversation" session with distinguished alumni Anwar Abdullah and Dr Sunny Johar. The speakers shared valuable insights on leadership, innovation, and creating impact across industries and international borders.

The event also provided alumni and guests with the opportunity to reconnect and strengthen professional and personal networks in a welcoming setting. The celebration highlighted the strength of the University's global alumni community and commemorated six decades of achievement, collaboration, and community impact.

60TH ANNIVERSARY MALAYSIA ALUMNI CELEBRATION

16 NOV



The 60th Anniversary Malaysia Alumni Celebration brought together alumni, partners and University representatives to celebrate the University's milestone anniversary and strengthen connections with the Malaysian alumni community. The event featured a conversation with alumni leaders from different generations, highlighting diverse career journeys, achievements and the continued impact of University of Newcastle graduates. The celebration also supported renewed alumni engagement and strengthened relationships within the region.

INDUSTRY & EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT

Newcastle Australia supports and celebrates excellence among Singapore enterprises through the sponsorship of awards that recognise achievements in sustainability, innovation and digital transformation. Through collaborations with key industry partners, these awards highlight organisations that are driving positive change, adopting forward-looking practices and contributing to Singapore's continued progress.

UNG CNS - LOW CARBON SG AWARD



Photo: UNGCNS

Newcastle Australia sponsored the LowCarbonSG Award, in partnership with the United Nations Global Compact Network Singapore (UNG CNS), to recognise organisations demonstrating strong commitment to decarbonisation and sustainability leadership. The award celebrates businesses taking meaningful action to reduce their carbon footprint and advance Singapore's transition towards a low-carbon future.

AUSTRALIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, SINGAPORE (AUSTCHAM) - DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AWARD



Photo: Austcham Singapore

Newcastle Australia supported the Digital Transformation Award, in partnership with AustCham Singapore, to recognise organisations that embrace innovation and harness digital technologies to drive transformation. The award celebrates businesses demonstrating digital excellence and forward-thinking approaches to enhance their operations, capabilities and competitiveness.

SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (SICC) - MOST SUSTAINABLE COLLABORATION AWARD



Photo: SICC

Newcastle Australia partnered with the Singapore International Chamber of Commerce (SICC) on the Most Sustainable Collaboration Award, recognising impactful industry collaborations that contribute to net-zero outcomes. The award celebrates organisations working together to develop sustainable solutions, drive meaningful change and advance the transition towards a low-carbon future.



A WHOLLY OWNED ENTITY OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

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