

TECH WEEK
3-7 October 2022

	TIME	SESSION	ORGANISATION	SESSION TITLE
MONDAY 3rd October	9.30 - 10.30	Session 1	Nous	De-mystifying digital: How to understand the real financial opportunities and impact of digital transformation
	11.00 - 12.00	Session 2	Oracle	Value of a Single ERP for Higher Education institutions
	13.00 - 14.00	Session 3	Flywire	Re-imagining Finance & Technology (Again & Again) in HEIs
	14.30 - 15.30	Session 4	Account-Ability	Nail TRAC: the STANDARD SOLUTION that does it all – and More!
TUESDAY 4th October	9.30 - 10.30	Session 5	Jisc	Working out your carbon digital footprint
	11.00 - 12.00	Session 6	EY-Parthenon	Digital: Yesterday's Differentiator, Today's Necessity - Accelerating Your University's Digital Transition
	13.00 - 14.00	Session 7	Evosys / Durham University	Durham University's decision journey to Cloud
	14.30 - 15.30	Session 8	Budgeting Solutions	21st Century Planning in Higher Education
WEDNESDAY 5th October	9.30 - 10.30	Session 9	PwC	Risk detect / Procurement Protect
	11.00 - 12.00	Session 10	Tribal	Using Benchmarking Business Intelligence to save £3M
	13.00 - 14.00	Session 11	Unit4	It's change whether we like it or not!
	14.30 - 15.30	Session 12	ATFS	The Rise of Digital Payment Methods
THURSDAY 6th October	9.30 - 10.30	Session 13	KPMG	Finance ERP Transformation: "OK, you are a little bit different..."
	11.00 - 12.00	Session 14	Worktribe	A one platform approach to research management
	13.00 - 14.00	Session 15	Touchnet	Security and Compliance: A campuswide responsibility
	14.30 - 15.30	Session 16	Simitive	Decisions without accurate operational data are just opinions
FRIDAY 7th October	9.30 - 10.30	Session 17	Workday	Deliver extraordinary results in a changing world
	11.00 - 12.00	Session 18	4C Associates	Procurement Intelligence
	13.00 - 14.00	Session 19	Amazon	Amazon, sustainability, and corporate responsibility: how can technology help universities achieve their own sustainability goals?

Session 1	Nous	De-mystifying digital: How to understand the real financial opportunities and impact of digital transformation
<p>With campus life returning universities are looking at how to take forward the lessons of the last two years and transform their digital experience – transforming services to meet the expectations of staff and students today, and in the future. Universities are grappling with the need to invest in technology infrastructure while ensuring that the right investment decisions are made.</p> <p>As ideas on how best to transform digital service crystallise post pandemic, how can senior finance leaders help their university make the right strategic choices and provide the data, insights and leadership needed to improve productivity and value for money? In this workshop we will bring insights and learnings from our work with universities in the UK, Australia and Canada.</p> <p>Building on Uniforum insights and case studies and practical examples from universities who have already started this journey, we will demonstrate how different universities are tackling the digital challenges ahead, managing their digital investments, building the business case for change and orchestrating resources across the university to enable a richer, deeper digital experience for students and staff.</p>		
Session 2	Oracle	Value of a Single ERP for Higher Education institutions
<p>Oracle’s single platform approach helps to integrate and unify Corporate Service functions in universities. It is common for Higher Education (HE) institutions to suffer from poor data and legacy IT, creating a barrier to effective delivery and oversight. More specifically, the requirements of HE institutions suggest the need for improved and joined up back-office systems, including: the recruitment and development of various types of specialist knowledge; their funding, which is derived from a variety of sources (e.g. Research, Student Fees, Grants, Donations); and joining up operational, workforce and financial planning.</p> <p>This presentation will also explore the transformational value Oracle solutions can enable through standardisation, a unified data model, automation, predictive analytics, self-service, insightful reporting, integration of cross functional processes and a platform for 3rd applications to join onto; helping to create a digital backbone for organisations. Finally the presentation will cover the ‘journey to cloud’ for HE institutions and the incremental roadmap to a Single ERP.</p>		
Session 3	Flywire	Re-imagining Finance & Technology (Again & Again) in HEIs
<p>A Conversation with Beth Stack, Outgoing Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Financial Services at University of Pittsburgh.</p> <p>Beth Stack’s mission has always been to streamline the payment experience for students at the University of Pittsburgh. However, in the late 1990’s when Beth had her ‘light bulb’ moment to introduce online payments, she recognised that her first challenge was to find a company to bring the concept to life and implement her vision, especially since this was new technology and no established companies existed. Beth’s next realisation was that in order for the university to keep students and their families at the centre of their mission, they would need to continuously reimagine the process design to enable digitalisation.</p> <p>During this conversation Beth Stack will share that due to the evolution of a student’s needs and development of technology, re-imagining the payment process was an ongoing challenge that the University of Pittsburgh welcomed. By encouraging her teams to envision the process from ‘square one’, this allowed the team to redesign an effective journey that would deliver top efficiency as well as achieving their ultimate goal of meeting the needs of their students and families.</p>		

Session 4	Account-Ability	Nail TRAC: the STANDARD SOLUTION that does it all!
<p>There has to be a better solution for TRAC! This session will demonstrate the Standard Model, the modern answer being adopted by a large number of institutions. Why, when TRAC has been around for over 20 years, does it require disproportionate resource, and frequently is a ‘bespoke impenetrable spreadsheet, understood by a single individual, and delivers little internal value’?</p> <p>TRAC need not be like this. There is a Standard Model, that is updated for changes in TRAC Guidance, hosted on the Cloud (or on your premise), easily configured to your institution’s structure (and amended when it changes). It’s fully comprehensive, TRAC compliant, transparent, and can ‘deliver TRAC in 2-days’. What’s more it delivers a vast amount of internal value-add, with the very best ‘fully absorbed costs, contribution, surplus, cost rate analysis and driver analysis’ by college, school, department. All of this is reportable, including via Power BI, or your own BI/analytics system. This session will demonstrate the Standard TRAC solution, including import of data and quality of reporting. You will be able to ask questions throughout.</p> <p>Nail TRAC now – for this coming TRAC round! Implementation, training, and an in-depth review against your existing TRAC model, takes only 11 days.</p>		
Session 5	Jisc	Working out your digital carbon footprint
Synopsis TBC		
Session 6	EY - Parthenon	Digital: Yesterday’s Differentiator, Today’s Necessity - Accelerating Your University's Digital Transition
<p>As higher education increasingly moves towards learner centric delivery, technology is a key enabler, allowing universities to understand learners’ behaviour, interests and capabilities and, ultimately, provide a more personal student journey. We expect each university will increasingly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Become a data-driven actionable insights organization. • Deliver next generation learner access and engagement. • Improve the student and staff experience through more streamlined processes. • Drive optimised efficiency, security and sustainability. • Foster a digital DNA and bring innovation with speed. <p>To achieve these aims, universities are investing upwards of £10M each year. Unlocking these sums requires careful planning, particularly for smaller institutions where such costs do not proportionately scale.</p> <p>At EY we have the pleasure of combining our higher education, strategy, technology and change expertise to support universities on this journey. Bringing these perspectives together, we have devised a session which will provide you with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of the digital trends we are seeing. • A whistle stop tour of how specific institutions are approaching their digital journey. • A review of the different types of approaches institutions can take. • A discussion about making an effective business case to unlock the required investment. • A few reflections on how finance teams can support their tech colleagues on this journey. 		
Session 7	Evosys	Durham University's decision journey to Cloud

Durham University have partnered with Evosys Mastek to deliver Oracle Cloud for Finance, Procurement and projects. Durham FD Modaser Choudhary will talk through Durham's decision journey to move to Oracle Cloud with Evosys as their implementation partner. As part of that discussion we will aim to cover:

- Why they needed to move off of their previous solutions(Pain points, strategic drivers, burning platforms)
- What process did they run to move from that solution (talk through the process, who was involved, how it played out)
- What the outcome of the process was and why they made their decision
- What they are looking to achieve with their programme
- Q&A

Session 8

Budgeting Solutions

21st Century Planning in Higher Education

During this session we will highlight how we have worked with universities to move away from their spreadsheet based modelling and planning processes to a 21st century solution. We will give the audience the '101' of the solution and then demonstrate some very specific examples of how the IBM technology is used for student number planning, tuition fee modelling and budgeting across the institution.

Session 9

PwC

Risk detect / Procurement Protect

Synopsis TBC

Session 10

Tribal

Using Benchmarking Business Intelligence to save £3M

Using live sector data, we'll illustrate how UK universities are able to use the latest incarnation of Benchmarking business intelligence to interrogate their cost base to swiftly identify areas of inefficiency and areas for improvement. Specifically, we'll be looking at technology related areas e.g. IT (hardware, software, consumables), and costs related to the Student Records system.

We'll also share the latest sector benchmark insights into these areas. In this way, you will see how your counterparts are using Benchmarking business intelligence to improve the financial sustainability of their organisation, as well as inform resourcing and investment decisions. FREE university-specific Benchmarking report extract available to all attendees!

Session 11

Unit4

It's change whether we like it or not!

Unit4 will present how the recent pandemic along with other recent global challenges have impacted on the technology we use today. The focus will be centred around how important it is for Higher Education Institutions to have supporting technology solutions in place to allow them to adapt quickly to change and to support their most important assets, namely their staff and students. UNIT4 will present how their latest ERPx (formerly known as Agresso and Business World) technology can support and adapt to challenging conditions specifically centred around everyday staff working conditions.

Session 12

ATFS

The Rise of Digital Payment Methods

The session will look at the rise of digital payment methods across the globe. Highlighting how different regions are adopting technology to assist with the payment journey. Growth in digital payments is continuing and it is now important Universities offer the correct methods depending on the countries students are being recruited from. This can assist in improving the online payment experience but also give familiarity to students when making on-campus payments.

Having the correct digital payment strategy will improve student satisfaction while assisting the University's reconciliation administration time. The important part with digital payments is offering familiar and secure options to maximise payment conversion while also improving costs and administration time. Digital payments are rapidly changing and over the coming years it will be important to make sure the options the University offers are relevant to improve student satisfaction with any payment journey.

Session 13

KPMG

Finance ERP Transformation: "OK, you are a little bit different..."

With most of the sector either looking to, or in the process of, moving from on-premise to Cloud ERP solutions the spotlight is on whether off-the-shelf products really can work for Finance in Higher Education. The answer is yes...albeit there are some important nuances that suppliers should forget at their peril.

KPMG are hosting this interactive lessons-learned session focusing on where the real differences lie in Finance for Higher Education and what this means for ERP replacement. We will draw on insight from our live engagements and years spent in Higher Education Finance functions to discuss where standard ERP solutions do not account for Higher Education specific processes and, crucially, what to do about it.

Participants will come away from this session with an understanding of what areas of Finance really are different for the sector, how this often plays out in ERP replacement programmes and what Finance can do to ensure they get what they need from the move to Cloud.

Session 14

Worktribe

A one platform approach to research management

Managing a changing portfolio of research projects can be particularly challenging. Academics, researchers, administrators, research managers, contracts managers, library and many others are involved in different parts of the lifecycle of a research project, often working in silos, with their own processes and targets. A myriad of research systems, duplicated information and inconsistent approvals processes can mean that researchers and academics find themselves spending too much time focusing on administration. On the flip side, university leaders need access to accurate, up to date research information to inform strategic decision-making more than ever before.

For over 10 years, Worktribe has been working with universities across the UK to enable researchers and administrators to manage the full research lifecycle on one cloud-based platform. The continuous development of software on the platform is driven by users and based on best practice across numerous universities in the sector.

In this session, we'll explore case studies from across the UK of how institutions are harnessing an integrated research management platform to support world-class research. Find out how rich data from across the research lifecycle can inform strategic decision-making and how integrations with other university systems can lead to more reliable data and improved processes.

Session 15

Touchnet

Security and Compliance: A campuswide responsibility

The digitization of payments brought speed and ease to processing but bad actors continually find new and clever ways to launder, hack, and phish payments and user data. This has led to increased security measures and compliance standards by governments and the payment cards industry (PCI). Universities are prime targets but with PCI-compliant payment solutions they can mitigate security risks, be prepared, and quickly respond to the ever-changing regulations to best protect student and institutional data.

This session will cover how to understand PCI standards, their scope and evolution, and your university's role in securing payments and demonstrating compliance. We'll define industry acronyms and focus on the fundamentals of payments security and compliance. We'll also share solutions, best practices, and easy to follow checklists to ensure data security, simplify PCI compliance, and reduce your PCI footprint to ease compliance attestation and complex reconciliation.

Session 16	Simitive	Decisions without accurate operational data are just opinions
<p>There has never been so much pressure and demand for change in the HE sector. Consequently, the need for accurate, timely and meaningful operational data to inform strategic and operational decisions has also never been greater. Whilst Business Intelligence can provide helpful ways to view and analyse data, without accurate operational data what it depicts will be at best unhelpful.</p> <p>Analysis of historical data can be informative, but the ability to visualise the results of planning and modelling of operations for future periods is essential. This is especially true with the anticipated sector changes from government policy, global impacts and national challenges.</p> <p>Working with over 60 universities Simitive provides the operational systems for Academic Workload Management and Activity Based Costing that deliver the timely operational data needed as well as the modelling and planning abilities. Whether digested through the standard Business Intelligence tools in Simitive products or through a university's own tools this data is essential in informing strategic and financial decision making and planning. This session will explore how that data is derived, the associated operational processes and what the resultant analysis can show.</p>		
Session 17	Workday	Deliver extraordinary results in a changing world
<p>Coming out of the most significant higher education disruption in decades, institutions no longer face a choice regarding adopting new technologies. What will separate the average institutions vs. the outperformers is how that technology is leveraged for achieving the institutional mission. Holistic technology adoption, coupled with near-term adoption, will create an acceleration gap between world-class institutions of the future and everyone else.</p> <p>Closing the gap requires breaking free from the ERP technology model of the past, embracing new transformative technology that leads to a culture shift driven by fact-based decision making and augmented by machine learning and artificial intelligence. Institutions can benefit from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frictionless foundation – modern automation • The complete picture – unified data core • A business first approach – adaptable frameworks, and; • Continuous recalibration – real time plan, execute and analyse. <p>Workday will discuss the opportunity institutions have to reimagine the next decade by transforming to more efficient operating models supported by Cloud technology which is built to enable this. We will share examples from outperformers in the Higher Education space who are using Workday to bring insight and agility to their organisations such as Yale University, Cornell University, University of British Columbia, Nanyang Technological University and Deakin University.</p>		
Session 18	4C Associates	Procurement Intelligence
<p>With the pressures of continued financial resilience, environmental sustainability and delivering social value, this session will explore the power of accurate, timely spend data and insights to enable HE Institutions to make better commercial decisions and manage supply chain risk. We will discuss the key areas that Executive Boards expect their Finance & Procurement teams be actively managing, and how the right reporting suite will give stretched teams performance, opportunity and risk data at their fingertips, with advances in AI adding extra insight.</p> <p>The session will demonstrate the power of procurement intelligence technology, giving real-life examples of benefits delivered through its application in areas including:</p>		

- Fast, repeatable spend classification allowing for external benchmarking both within the HE sector and beyond
- Application of AI to help users develop category strategies, manage and optimise spend and have a complete view of risk that extends beyond traditional financial stability and InfoSec to include sustainability
- Ability to combine contract metadata with spend to give a complete view of contract compliance
- Scope 2 & 3 Carbon emissions data to allow sustainability planning and prioritisation
- Financial savings, Carbon and Social Value benefits tracking of procurement projects from cradle to grave

Session 19	Amazon	Amazon, sustainability, and corporate responsibility: how can technology help universities achieve their own sustainability goals?
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Andrew Proctor was Pro Vice Chancellor – Digital at Staffordshire University and has recently joined Amazon as the Executive Lead for UK Education. In this closing session, he will take a look at Amazon’s focus on sustainability and corporate responsibility across the UK, and share his thoughts on how technology can help universities achieve their own sustainability goals.