

Massimo Morigi, Blackboard  
+44 (0)20 7534 2063 or [massimo.morigi@blackboard.com](mailto:massimo.morigi@blackboard.com)

## **Blackboard Announces Winners of 2018 Catalyst Awards for Australia and New Zealand**

*Catalyst Awards recognise and honour innovation and excellence*

BRISBANE, Australia, 31 August, 2018 – Blackboard today announced the winners of the 2018 Blackboard Catalyst Awards for Australia and New Zealand.

Founded in 2005, the annual Catalyst Awards recognise and honour innovation and excellence in the Blackboard global community of practice, where millions of educators and learners work every day to redefine what is possible when leveraging technology. Winners are selected by a cross-functional team of Blackboard experts. The honourees from across the ANZ region were recognised during Blackboard’s annual Teaching & Learning Conference ANZ 2018 held in Brisbane on 29 to 31 August.

“It gives me great pleasure to recognise this year’s Catalyst Award winners for their innovative accomplishments and commitment to leveraging technology to enhance the overall teaching and learning experience,” said Kathy Vieira, Chief Portfolio Officer at Blackboard. “These award recipients have delivered significant value to their institutions and learners. We look forward to continuing to work together to further improve student success..”

Below are the winners, listed by category:

**Leading Change:** This award recognises institutions that have developed practices and/or technologies that have had a measurable effect on learning outcomes, student performance, or academic progression. The winners are:

- *James Cook University, Queensland:* Danny Munnerley, Scott Bradey, Kate Casey, Wade Tattersall, Ben Cleland, Trevor Foster, Maria Bellei, Kathryn Meldrum, Amanda Townsend, Sharon Long, Lachlan Holmes, Trine Paerata, Toby Nutting, Ian Johnson, Adrian Van Rossum, Stephen Coventry, A/Prof. Maree Dinan-Thompson
- *Western Sydney University, New South Wales:* Andrew Komoder, Andrew Wagstaffe, Dr. Anna Wallace, Anthony Gal, Ben Wong, Daniel Collins, Daniel Purdy, Emina Mujanovic, George Karliychuk, Glenn Mason, Johnny Yacolca, Kamran Mukhtar, Prof. Kevin Bell, Kim Heckenberg, Dr. Kim Vincent, Lauren Oaklands, Liz Lai, Lynnae Venaruzzo, Dr. Mais Fatayer, Michelle Kent, Peter Steele, Dr. Rachel Bentley, Rhoda O'Higgins, Rob Leggo, Stephanie Bourke

- *Carey Baptist Grammar School, Victoria:* Kylie Taig, Leanne Guillon, David Amore, Meredith Plaisted

**Student Success:** The award recognises individuals and/or institutions whose creative program application has led to increased retention, increased completion, and/or improved outcomes. The winners are:

- *Western Sydney University, New South Wales:* Suzanne D’Souza, Dr. Mais Fatayer
- *Deakin University, Victoria:* Robyn Mortimer, Fiona Anderson, Michelle Davidson, Noam Perl-Gurovich, Megan Theodore, Tom Petsinis, Emma Ludeman
- *Western Sydney University, New South Wales:* Jo Holland

For more information on the Blackboard Catalyst Awards and this year’s winners, please visit <https://community.blackboard.com/groups/catalystawards>.

### **About Blackboard**

Our mission is to partner with the global education community to enable learner and institutional success, leveraging innovative technologies and services. With an unmatched understanding of the world of the learner, the most comprehensive student-success solutions, and the greatest capacity for innovation, Blackboard is education’s partner in change.