It's the metrics, not the Matrix, part 3: Degenerative AI

In this post, Dr Vassilis Galanos continues his exploration of metrics, arguing that the passive acceptance of a metrics-oriented culture is what feeds, establishes, and normalises hype and high adoption rates of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) machinery. This post is part 3 of 3, and belongs to the Hot Topic theme: Critical insights into contemporary […]

It's the metrics, not the Matrix, part 2: Rigorously Established Fear

In this post, Dr Vassilis Galanos continues his exploration of metrics, its place in Higher Education, and the impact of the Research Excellence Framework on our work practices. This post is part 2 of 3, and belongs to the Hot Topic theme: Critical insights into contemporary issues in Higher Education. In a previous post with […]

It's the metrics, not the matrix: Part 1 — Higher Education State Critical

In this post, Dr Vassilis Galanos dissects what metrics really mean for students, educators, and researchers in the wider academy. This post is part 1 of 3, and belongs to the Hot Topic theme: Critical insights into contemporary issues in Higher Education. As the heading suggests, it's not some Matrix-like virtual reality conspiracy controlling all […]

Reflections on academic standards from the marking and assessment boycott

In this post, Dr Charlotte Desvages and Dr Itamar Kastner reflect on the notion of academic standards and its relationship with assessment and feedback, drawing on the events from the 2023 Marking and Assessment Boycott. Charlotte is a teaching Lecturer in Mathematical Computing, and Itamar is a Senior Lecturer in Linguistics and English Language in […]

Is ChatGPT spelling the end of take-home essays as a form of assessment? Part 2: The practice

In this post, Dr Matjaz Vidmar offers Part 2 of his exploration about the future of the take-home essay as a form of assessment in the era of generative large-language models. Matjaz is Lecturer in Engineering Management and Deputy Director of Learning and Teaching overseeing the interdisciplinary courses at the School of Engineering. This post […]

Is ChatGPT spelling the end of take-home essays as a form of assessment? Part 1: The principles

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The cost of knowledge: Exploring the increasing complexity of student mental health

In this post, Indigo Williams explores some of the factors contributing to the student mental health crisis, the varied ways this is shaping their university experience, and how we can begin to tackle it. Indigo is the Vice President Welfare at Edinburgh University Students' Association. This post belongs to the Hot Topic theme: Critical insights […]

Emotional labour in academia: The unspoken burden

In this post, Dr Avita Rath explores the topic of emotional labour, and its impact for those working in Higher Education. Avita is a year 3 distance learning student (MSc Clinical Education⇗⧉) at Edinburgh Medical School. This post belongs to the Hot Topic theme: Critical insights into contemporary issues in Higher Education. Beyond the "Service Smile" […]