



Towards a New Generation of Engaged Universities: *The Need to Act, Adapt and Transform*

16th- 18th April, 2024 | Kempinski Central Avenue
(Formerly the Address Dubai Mall), Dubai, UAE

Achieving ‘digital inclusion’: a successful case study of a Dubai-based university

Dr. Tendai Charles, The British University in Dubai,

United Arab Emirates





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Technology
Enhanced
Learning
in the 1980s.





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In this presentation...

1. Context of the case study.
2. Our 'digital inclusion strategy'.
3. Outcomes & future directions.
4. Reflections & recommendations.





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Our context...

- The British University in Dubai.
- Centre for Research in Digital Education.
- Transitioned to online learning due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- Upgraded I.T. infrastructure & faculty's EdTech skills.





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How do we provide
online support for
our students who
are people of
determination?



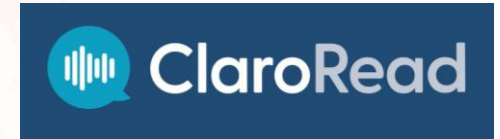
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Apps we do know...



Apps we don't know...



flowpaper





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Low (Red: 0-33%): There are severe accessibility issues.



Medium (Orange: 34-66%): The file is somewhat accessible and needs improvement.



High (Green: 67-99%): The file is accessible but more improvements are possible.



Perfect (Dark Green: 100%): Ally didn't identify any accessibility issues but further improvements may still be possible.

The most user-friendly app for supporting SEN students online.

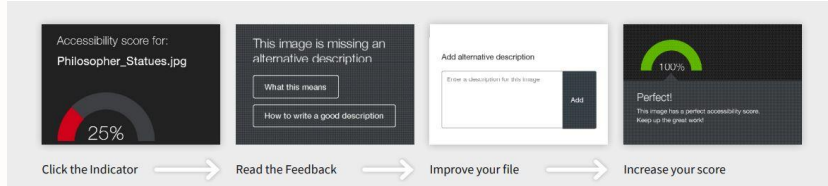




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Our 'digital inclusion strategy' ...



- 3-year strategic plan.
- Integrated into our LMS.
- PD training for faculty.
- Orientation sessions for students.
- Annual usage reporting for the university's leadership.





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Our implementation



- Increased student adoption and usage every semester.
- Slow adoption by faculty until ‘global accessibility awareness day’.
- Annual winners of “fix your content day”.
- Global Anthology ‘Catalyst award’ winners for digital inclusion.





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Anthology Ally

Alternate content formats have been a huge success, with nearly **50% of students** at the University of Glasgow taking advantage of them.



Global cases...

- University of Glasgow.
- Johns Hopkins University.
- Widespread adoption by both UG and PG students, worldwide.





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Future directions...

- AI + personalised support.

Say hello to
Digital Mark



soul
machines
Automating Digital People





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Recommendations...

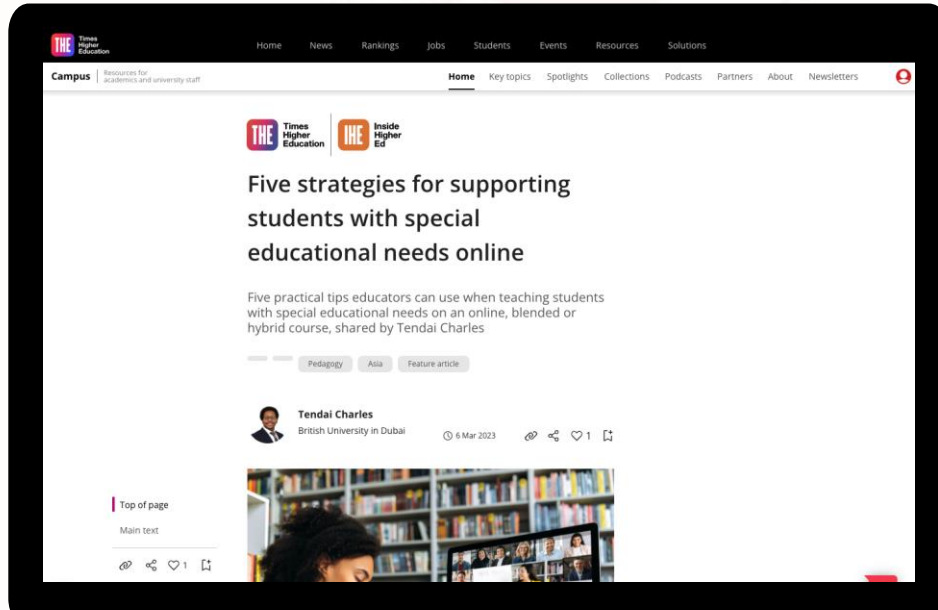
- Form a committee for 'digital inclusion'.
- Create an institutional policy which considers students, faculty & infrastructure.
- Explore the 'digital inclusion' market.
- Implement, evaluate, report, repeat.





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Want to know more?

- Dr. Tendai Charles
- +971 (0)58 853 7536
- tendai.charles@buid.ac.ae





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