How Global Vision and a regional Australian university delivered the world's largest integrated data project for better student outcomes

At a glance

Client: CQUniversity Australia

Industry: Higher Education

Problem: Difficulty using historical data to accurately predict when students may need additional support to reduce the risk of poor academic outcomes

Solution: Global Vision used the *Analytics Ecosystem* (connected by xAPI) to analyse 5 years' worth of data and provide insights on where and when intervention is most needed to avoid course failure or incompletion, and better support students

Outcome: Delivery of the largest xAPI dataset project in the world, integrating with existing systems (something CQU thought was impossible), and the opportunity for CQU to present this project to the global xAPI community in the USA

Summary

CQUniversity (CQU) came to Global Vision for help with integrating and analysing massive amounts of data from multiple sources in order to improve predictions about student outcomes and offer earlier interventions to those that were struggling.

An end-to-end solution was thought to be impossible, but Global Vision took on the entire project (after initially being brought in to support only part of the original project) and executed it successfully using the *Analytics Ecosystem*.

The resulting outcome was that CQU executed the world's largest xAPI dataset and was provided with the opportunity to showcase this project to a worldwide audience – after all, **clever thinkers take a global vision.**

Data overload was viewed as a big challenge

CQU, a smaller regional university, noticed that student outcomes could be improved if the right interventions were given at the right time. But rather than tackle this on a case by case basis, the university wanted to be able to do this at scale for as many students as possible.

To achieve this, deep analysis of thousands of student data points throughout their student careers was needed. This required the ability not just to integrate large amounts of data (from 30,000 students) from the multiple systems that its students use, but also structure it in a way that enabled insights and trends to be identified.

Initially, the university engaged several third parties to work with Global Vision as it expected the project to be too complex for a single specialist to handle.

Data analytics integration made easy with the *Analytics Ecosystem*

Global Vision has previously worked with many tertiary institutions and recognised that CQU had an advantage – the university is innovative and nimble, with existing IT systems that could be integrated with a number of technologies to deliver the right outcomes.

CQU uses multiple learning systems (such as Moodle & Echo360) to deliver education to its students. Global Vision recognised that the *Analytics Ecosystem's* capabilities could be the perfect solution to aggregate and analyse such an enormous & disconnected data set, as well as provide clear insights for students at risk of poor outcomes.

The *Analytics Ecosystem* is an e-learning software solution that is transforming how organisations capture, validate, and use data to make decisions. As the leader of the Australian xAPI user group, Global Vision was not only the most experienced xAPI provider, but confident that it was the best way for CQU to achieve its goals.

Whilst CQU was expecting its own solution to live outside of its current systems, Global Vision was able to integrate it within the CQU environment with a combination of Power BI and the *Analytics Ecosystem*.

A global reputation and record achieved

Global Vision's experts successfully delivered the project within 12 months, and far exceeded the university's initial expectations of what was possible.

Despite initially being brought in as one of many providers to execute the project, Global Vision ended up taking on the entire project thanks to its expertise in the field. No other provider was able to deliver on such a scale.

And whilst not considered at the project outset, by partnering with Global Vision, CQU was able to successfully execute the largest ever dataset xAPI project worldwide!

This achievement means that CQU (as a guest of Global Vision) was given the opportunity to showcase its project to a global xAPI audience in the USA and position the small university as a world leader on the xAPI stage.

This project demonstrates the scale and depth of what's achievable when clever thinkers take a global vision.

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