

Working towards a paperless institution

As the world becomes more connected than ever before, digitalisation is a facet in all our lives, be it work, study or social. Higher education institutions are no exception, with students, academics, and administrators all depending on digital platforms to work together across campus and beyond every day.

However, there are still higher education institutions working with legacy systems. Paper remains a constant across campus, from current and historical student records to administrative work, which can sometimes lead to a hesitancy to modernize. Fortunately, there is a pathway towards a paperless institution.

Challenges of going paperless

There are various challenges – or barriers – that institutions of higher learning face going digital.

Reams and reams of information

Every institution contains thousands, or even tens of thousands of students, and each student brings with them a whole new set of data that institutions need to have to hand. With a requirement to keep student records for years after a student has graduated, combined with historic paperwork building over time, the paper trail is endless.

Complex infrastructures

Higher education institutions are complex organizations with vast infrastructure requirements, managing student success as well as managing business processes, admissions, progressions, alumni, and more. The introduction of new services over time at each institution varies, and often so are the processes that are deployed to keep them operational. The thought of bringing this all into one integrated system can seem like a daunting prospect.

Legacy IT systems

IT investment is likely to have been sparse, due to budget, time, and resource constraints, resulting in highly customized legacy software and processes to fit market demands. Outdated legacy systems are difficult to maintain, and to integrate into modern systems. There is also the threat of vendors sunsetting legacy systems and forcing their customers into costly upgrades.

Benefits of a paperless institution

While historical drawbacks and digitising older files hold back institutions from transitioning to a paperless institution, the advantages outweigh the disadvantages.

A cloud-based student management system puts the information you require about every student, past or present, at your fingertips in a single secure system. No longer do

institutions have to waste space on historical paper records, and every new student who enrolls can be added to a 21st century solution.

A student management platform brings the added benefits of e-forms for capturing important data and information to add to the student management system, without requiring a paper form to be completed. Add workflow automation to that, which automates tasks and keeps all information ticking over and updated, and institutions can say goodbye to the laborious upkeep of paper forms.

The pathway to paperless

Whatever hurdles your institution is facing to modernize its processes, the partnership between Fujitsu Asia and Ellucian offers institutes of higher learning a pathway to paperless.

The combined expertise of Fujitsu Asia and Ellucian delivers a proven and effective approach for the delivery of end-to-end services for higher education institutions planning to deliver digital transformation strategies. Ellucian's open SaaS architecture, extensive network of 150+ vendors and focus on higher education combined with Fujitsu Asia's market-leading innovation and expert experience managing enterprise environments provide true value to local institutions.

This partnership provides higher education institutions the support and resources required to provide an enhanced digital experience throughout a student's entire lifecycle. With consistent practices, processes and technology all working together, your institution can benefit from greater insight, increased security and decreased risk from data loss and security threats.

In summary, a partnership between Fujitsu Asia and Ellucian enhances student and staff experiences and improves internal processes with increased productivity.

How paperless is benefiting institutions

[Ellucian Banner](#) is already benefiting higher education and its students in a paperless environment.

[Fiji National University](#) came to Ellucian with a vision to deliver a feature rich, integrated university information system that is efficient, responsive and transparent for internal and external stakeholders. The system needed to promote scholarship, research and academic excellence while providing a service for both the communities of Fiji and abroad.

Students at Fiji National University are met with an intuitive online system during the application process, enrolling on their course to studying and living on campus. Vital information and resources are available on desktop and mobile, ensuring students have everything they need when they need it. Online forms ensure all student information is up to date and easily accessible for the institution to find on their side when required.

No more do students need to submit physical paperwork, complete paper forms or scan important downloads - it's a point, click and upload in no time at all.

Go paperless with Ellucian Banner

By leveraging solutions such as Ellucian Banner, higher education institutions can implement their digital transformation strategy to deliver a completely paperless campus. No longer is investment in technology a luxury; it's a necessity.