

Review of Assessment Methods Working Party – Terms of Reference

Assessment of student learning is an important educational function of the University with teaching practices designed to engage, challenge and transform students throughout their courses.

The University Policy on Assessment mandates a student-centred approach to assessment to facilitate learning and to assess achievement against intended and explicit learning outcomes. The learning outcomes of each unit within a unit set of a course are in turn mapped to deliver the course learning outcomes/objectives.

Assessment therefore is criterion referenced – describing the student in terms of the skills demonstrated, as assurance of achievement of learning outcomes, not by comparison with the performance of fellow students. The assessment criteria are clear and explicit and are included in the unit outline so that students know what is expected of them for each assessment task. Assessment tasks cater for both individual and group diversity and are used for both formative and summative purposes.

The purpose of the proposed Working Party established by the University’s Education Committee is to review assessment practices, in particular with regard to assessment methods employed across the University. The terms of reference of the proposed Working Party are:

- (a) to review assessment practices with a view to ensuring that:
 - i. assessments are clearly linked to the intended learning outcomes;
 - ii. criterion-referenced assessments are implemented consistently, accurately and rigorously across the University; and
- (b) to develop an appropriate mix of assessment types that are linked to the intended learning outcomes.

Membership

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education) as Convener;
 Nominee of the Chair of Academic Board; Dean of Coursework Studies;
 Associate Deans (Learning & Teaching);
 Academic Secretary;
 Nominee of the Guild President;
 Co-opted members for specific expertise; and
 Executive Officer

Timing	
Action	Month
Establishment and endorsement by Education Committee of proposed Working Party and Terms of Reference	March
Data gathering, task allocation, clarity of issues, benchmarking and consultation with network groups	March – June
Formulation of Report and Policy review, including consultation	June – August
Committee approval process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Committee • Academic Council / Academic Board 	August – November

Revised by Education Committee by R7/18
 Revised by Academic Council by R9/18