

Note that the recommendations from the Working Group have been amended following discussion at the 11 May 2010 Learning and Teaching Committee.

FEEDBACK ON EXAMINATION PERFORMANCE

Purpose

Following consideration of the Report of the Exam Scripts Working Group (LTC.10.05.08), U-L&TC approved principles endorsed by the group:

- (a) That there were sound educational benefits in providing feedback on exam performance, since the practice may enhance students' future academic performance.
- (b) That feedback on exam performance should be timely and relevant.
- (c) That feedback on exam performance must not allow any challenge to academic judgment.

This paper sets out short-medium term proposals regarding implementation of the recommendations set out in the report and U-L&TC is requested to consider and, if thought appropriate, approve the proposals.

Proposals

1. For 2010/11, the minimum expectation will be that
 - (a) all students will be offered generic feedback on each examination question within an assessment where appropriate (e.g. essay style or numerical problems), or for the assessment as a whole (e.g. MCQ-based examinations).
 - (b) those students who have failed modules in the main examination period will be offered more detailed feedback as soon as practicable after the publication of the examination results. Examples of how this is currently undertaken in some Schools can be provided on request.
2. That, during 2010/11, there should be an evaluation of the student opinion in Schools where feedback on examination performance is provided.
3. That a small team in ASA will work with departmental secretaries and exams officers to identify and map processes around the management of exam scripts, to identify best practice but also to help to identify where changes in exam procedures or regulations or policy may be needed to facilitate greater access to exam scripts. This may result in changes to Exams Office procedures including how exams are organised and how scripts are presented (answer books etc.).
4. That, alongside this (and following circulation of further information), College LTCs should explore the issues and help to promulgate best practice and solutions.
5. That a final report with recommendations for 2011/12 be presented to U-L&TC in Autumn 2010 or at the latest Spring 2011 for approval and forward planning of implementation.

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14 May 2010