



Centralised electronic systems for managing student academic misconduct: Evidence from Australia

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As part of a holistic institution approach to addressing academic integrity, a working group was formed to develop, test and implement a centralised system to manage academic misconduct cases. The centralised system was designed to replace ad hoc faculty based systems, which required duplication of data and inconsistencies in coding and measurement. The complicated nature of the paper based system placed a heavy time and administrative burden on academic and professional staff, which discouraged some levels of reporting.

Phase 1 of the system was designed to interface with existing student datasets, improving accuracy, saving time through pre-population of student, subject and assessment information, in addition to having delegation and escalation workflows built in. Phase 2 has just been released (start of 2019) with enhancement requirements identified through the first year of operation, and to accommodate some additional functionality outside of the initial scope of work.

Like all technology systems related to academic integrity, insights can be drawn from the information both from what is reported, in terms of cases, assessment types and how cases are managed, and what is not reported, for example some assessment types, disciplines of study and who is not reporting cases.

The new system was introduced at the end of 2017, and has just produced its first 12 months of reporting data. This paper discusses the design considerations, benefits and insights gained from the process, in addition what has been learned from introducing a centralised electronic system to manage academic misconduct cases.

Please note: data will be included in the full paper. Due to the first year of full data just becoming available (for the 2018 year) the datasets are currently under analysis, and have to go through internal reporting processes therefore cannot be outlined in this abstract proposal.

Keywords: academic integrity, academic misconduct, university systems, academic reporting.