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Learning, Education and Development



## ENHANCING ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Assessment in MENA Conference: Abu Dhabi April 2019

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https://www.heacademy.ac.uk/knowledge-bub/marked-improvement





## assessment has learning power – especially in low stakes 'formative' situations



## students experience a programme, so enhancement should focus on programmes



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## developing research-informed practice involves changing cultural scripts



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## tutors' grading of student work varies and requires social moderation





## constructive alignment is useful but also dangerous



## CONSTRUCTIVE ALIGNMENT: THE LEARNER CONSTRUCTS MEANING THE TUTOR ALIGNS THE LEARNING

Learning outcomes Expressed as **Teaching** / Assessment Biggs & Tang (2007) verbs that learning tasks Teaching for quality learning activities students have Evaluate how at University, 3rd Ed. to enact Controlled by well intended Maidenhead: Open teacher, self or Verbs chosen learning University Press. peer, as best to reflect level outcomes are of course suits context demonstrated



TESTA: audit, student survey, focus groups, team workshop. http://testa.ac.uk/index.php





## transparency is helpful but insufficient





# feedback has learning power *if* students engage with it





## students' evaluative feedback is useful but requires analysis



# professional learning as interplay between public knowledge and practical wisdom



Boyd, P. & Bloxham, S. (2014) A situative metaphor for teacher learning: the case of university tutors learning to grade student coursework. *British Educational Research Journal,* 40 (2), 337-352.



## instructional collective leadership through professional inquiry

instructional: focused on learning collective: good levels of trust professional Inquiry: action research





- 1. use the learning power of low stakes assessment
- 2. focus on programme level
- 3. research-informed practice as cultural change
- 4. tutor grades vary: 'social moderation' is essential
- 5. alignment but with space to breath
- 6. transparency plus social moderation
- 7. feedback as dialogue
- 8. analyse student evaluative feedback



professional learning as interplay instructional collective leadership

assessment in higher education as evaluative judgment

A Marked Improvement: transforming assessment in higher education https://www.heacademy.ac.uk/knowledge-hub/marked-improvement





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