

## University of Glasgow

### Enhancement-led Institutional Review

#### Project: Innovation in our Provision

#### Action 1: Consolidation of VLE

1. Action	<b>Consolidation of VLE</b> <b>(ELIR Report Para 61)</b> Students were enthusiastic about the use of the VLE for teaching and learning, but considered that there could be a more consistent use of the VLE across the University, and suggested that they would appreciate a University-wide policy that set a minimum level of expectation for academic staff engagement with the VLE.
2. Officers/Bodies responsible	L&T Cttee, LTC, HR.
3. Progress to date	<p>We are currently reviewing the potential to further develop the VLE and, in doing this we will consider the possibility of having minimum levels of expectation for academic staff engagement. We have formed a Technology Enhanced Learning and Teaching group to develop consistency of practice across the University.</p> <p>A forum on e-learning will take place in June 2012 where the question of setting a minimum expectation for staff engagement will be fully explored. We now have a technology roadmap in place to support the development of the VLE in anticipation continued increases in usage levels in the future.</p> <p><b>Update Summer 2013</b> As the University migrates from Moodle 1.9 to Moodle 2, Colleges and Schools are being encouraged to look at their use of Moodle and there is evidence that some Schools are deploying course templates, for example the Business School, Life Sciences, and Political Science. Since the 2009 ELIR review, a number of learning technology roles have been created at a School and College level which is having a positive effect on consistency, such as in Medicine, Law, College of Social Sciences, and Veterinary Medicine.</p> <p>With the diverse ways in which Moodle is being used it is not clear how feasible moving to a standard construct would be, and there is concern that innovative course design would be stifled if there were to be a standard Moodle course template across the University. As Colleges and Schools move to the new unified Moodle 2 VLE, the Technology Enhanced Learning and Teaching group will continue to review this and make recommendations to the Learning and Teaching Committee as appropriate.</p>
4. Timescale for implementation	Sept 2012
5. How are/will you evaluate effectiveness	The Technology Enhanced Learning and Teaching group are actively monitoring the type and spread of VLE usage across the University and will report as appropriate to the Learning and Teaching Committee. <a href="http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/learningteaching/learningtechnology/statistics/">(http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/learningteaching/learningtechnology/statistics/)</a>
6. Evaluation of	The statistics we track show that the usage of Moodle continues to grow. The

effectiveness thus far	<p>level of activity, the number of distinct users, and the level of activity per user are all trending strongly upwards. (<a href="http://www.gla.ac.uk/media/media_287018_en.pdf">http://www.gla.ac.uk/media/media_287018_en.pdf</a>)</p> <p>We are in the middle of a phased transition to a single, shared Moodle 2 from a collection of Moodle 1.9 sites that corresponded to the old faculty structure. The latest figures show us passing 60% complete and we aim to be 100% by the start of the 2014-15 academic year. The focus is on moving the new students and courses rather than transitioning courses that are about to come to a natural end as students graduate. As well as bringing various improvements to the platform due to the newer software, the unification will increase consistency for students, particularly where students are taking courses in two areas that previously resided on separate machines.</p> <p>Several areas that had previously developed and used their own VLE solution before Moodle was centrally supported have begun to embrace Moodle, including undergraduate Medicine (which was selected to be one of the first to move to Moodle 2 since they had no pre-existing Moodle 1.9 experience) and Psychology, which had previously used Moodle primarily to submit work via the Turnitin system. In most other areas it is a case of already high Moodle usage becoming ubiquitous and simply expected by students, and Moodle being used to its full potential.</p>
7. New Actions arising from this work (optional)	
8. Suggested text to refocus the action (optional)	