



University of  
Chester

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## Assessment Boards

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# Where were did we start?

- Two tiers of assessment boards
- Module Assessment Boards (MAB's - run by faculties)
- University Assessment Boards (UAB's – run by Registry)
- 50+ UAB's per years, with department-specific boards for PGT and separate boards for all Health and Education courses
- UAB's attended by all course leaders – some went on for hours!
- Paper-based
- Some discretion within the assessment regulations

# Where are we now?

- 12 monthly UAB's, taking 5-10 minutes each, covering all the university's courses
- Chair (Faculty Dean) and Registry the only ones present
- Post board amendments have significantly reduced

# Timeline of change

- 2013/14 – all PGT courses (except Health and Education) brought into the monthly UAB calendar
- 2017/18 – all Health and Education courses brought into the monthly UAB calendar
- 2018/19 – online UAB process begins

# What is the process?

- Board schedule published at least 12 months in advance following consultation with faculties
- Deadline for MAB's to take place 12 noon on Tuesday – results entry shut down at this point
- UAB the following Wednesday (6 working days)
- Detailed results published on the same day

# What is the process?

- Assessment Team in Registry use SITS CSP functionality to generate overall progression/award outcomes, which they then check and amend (2 days)
- Results profiles, split by academic department, saved on a secure site for the relevant assessment officer to check and approve (2 days)

# How did we achieve this?

- Removal of all UAB discretion from our regulations
- Department Assessment Officers
- Senior level sponsorship - recognition of the need to reduce staff time spent on the process
- Discussed informally with key academic colleagues, who then acted as advocates for the change
- Consulted with other departments, but with a clear proposal and rationale – ie ‘if this works for x, why not y?’

# What's next?

- Module Assessment Boards moving to a similar process
- Move from External Examiners to External Quality Advisors for the majority of our courses (EE's retained for professional courses and apprenticeships) helps

# What are External Quality Advisers?

- No longer attend Module Assessment Boards and are not involved in the monitoring of marks after internal marking is completed.
- Instead, they ensure a pre-marking calibration exercise has taken place, working with the academic department
- Review a selection of assessment briefs
- Review the standard of feedback
- Meet with staff and students
- Review Student Voice minutes
- Contribute to module and programme enhancements
- Review data on student experience and employability
- Review module and programme summary data