



## BIROn - Birkbeck Institutional Research Online

Havemann, Leo and Sherman, S. (2015) Why is online assessment & feedback a nightmare? In: M25 Learning Technology Group, 11 Nov 2015, London, UK. (Unpublished)

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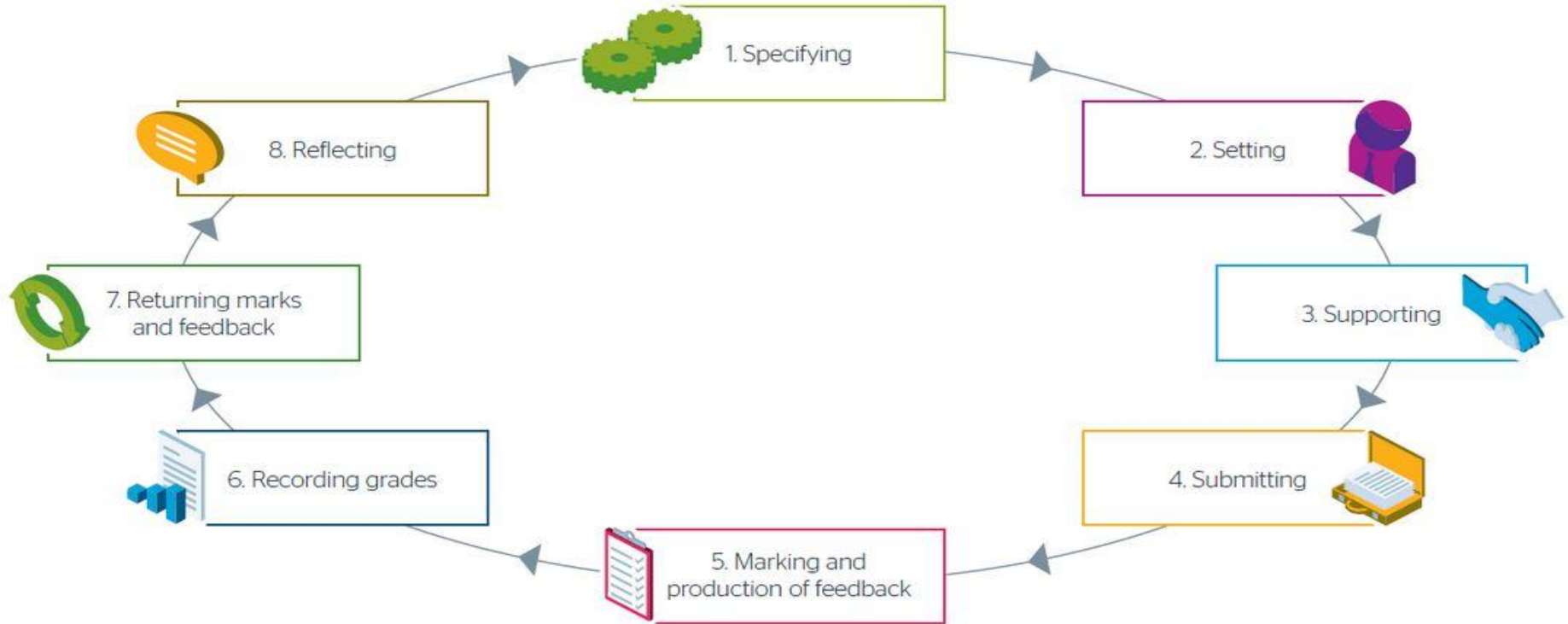
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or alternatively

# Why is Online Assessment & Feedback a Nightmare?

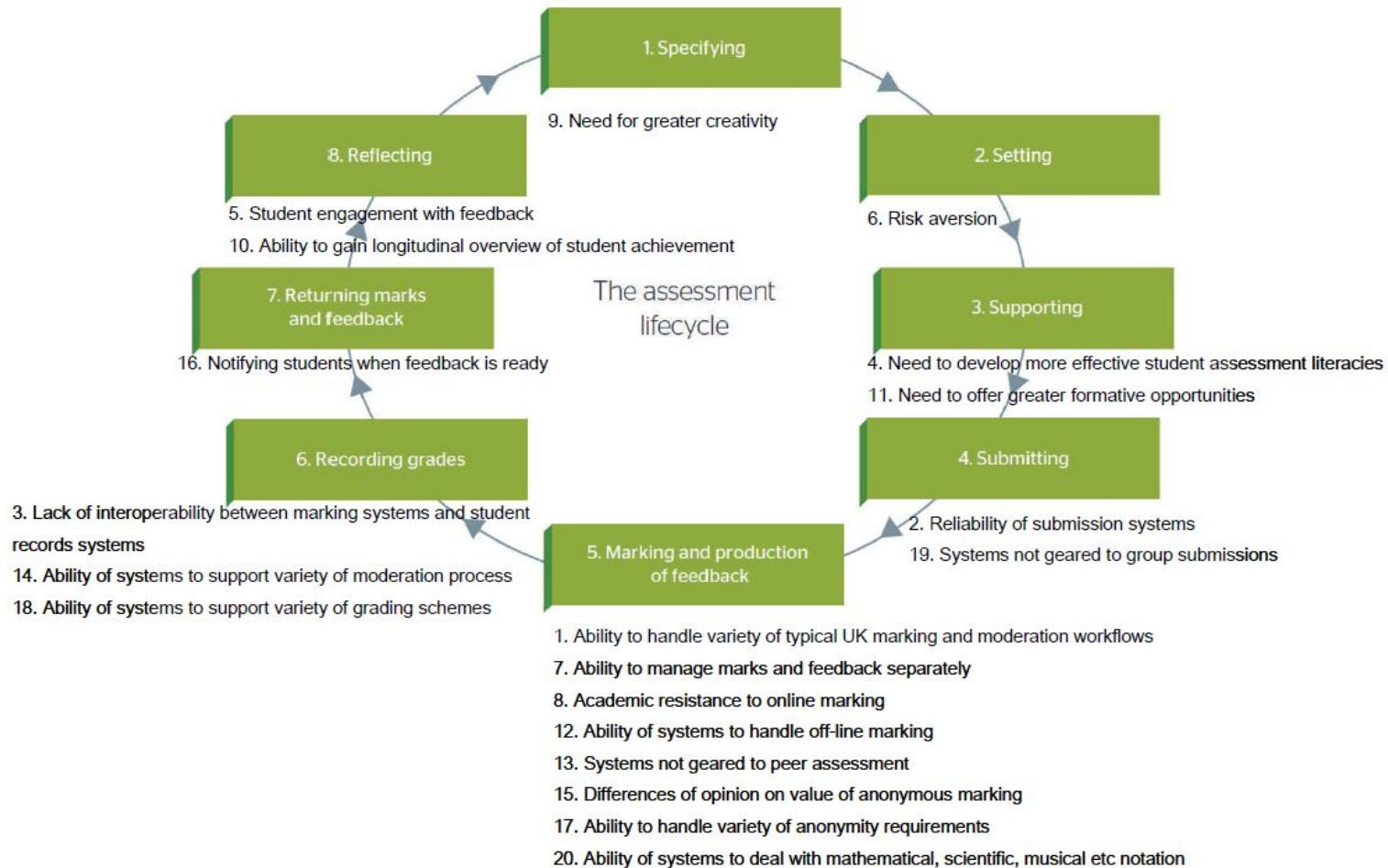
Leo Havemann, Birkbeck @leohavemann  
Sarah Sherman, BLE @BLE1

# The assessment and feedback lifecycle



# Jisc EMA project

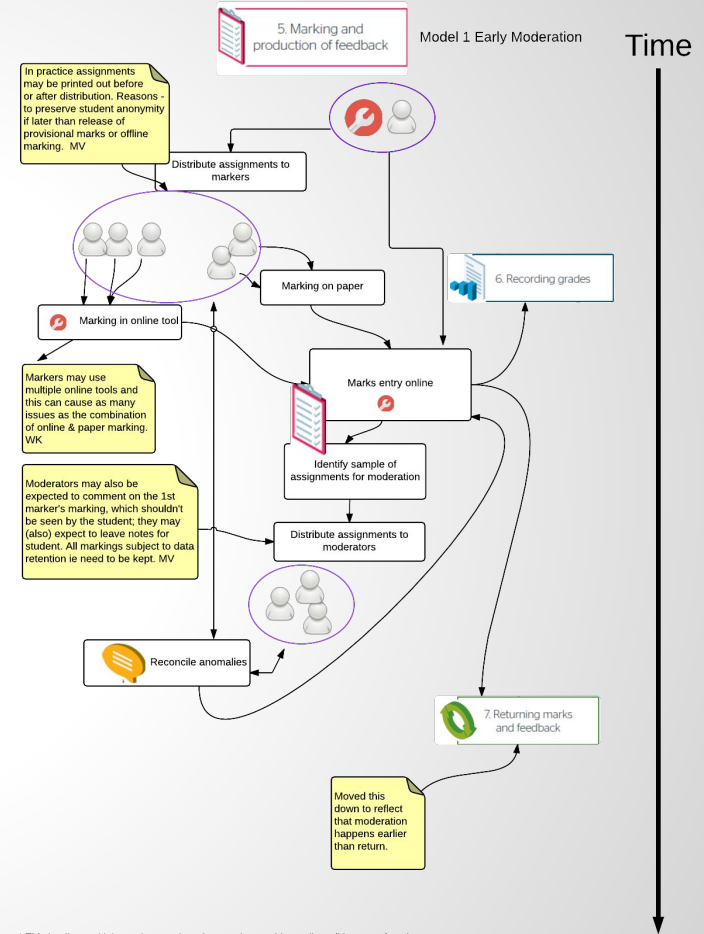
## Top 20 EMA Challenges



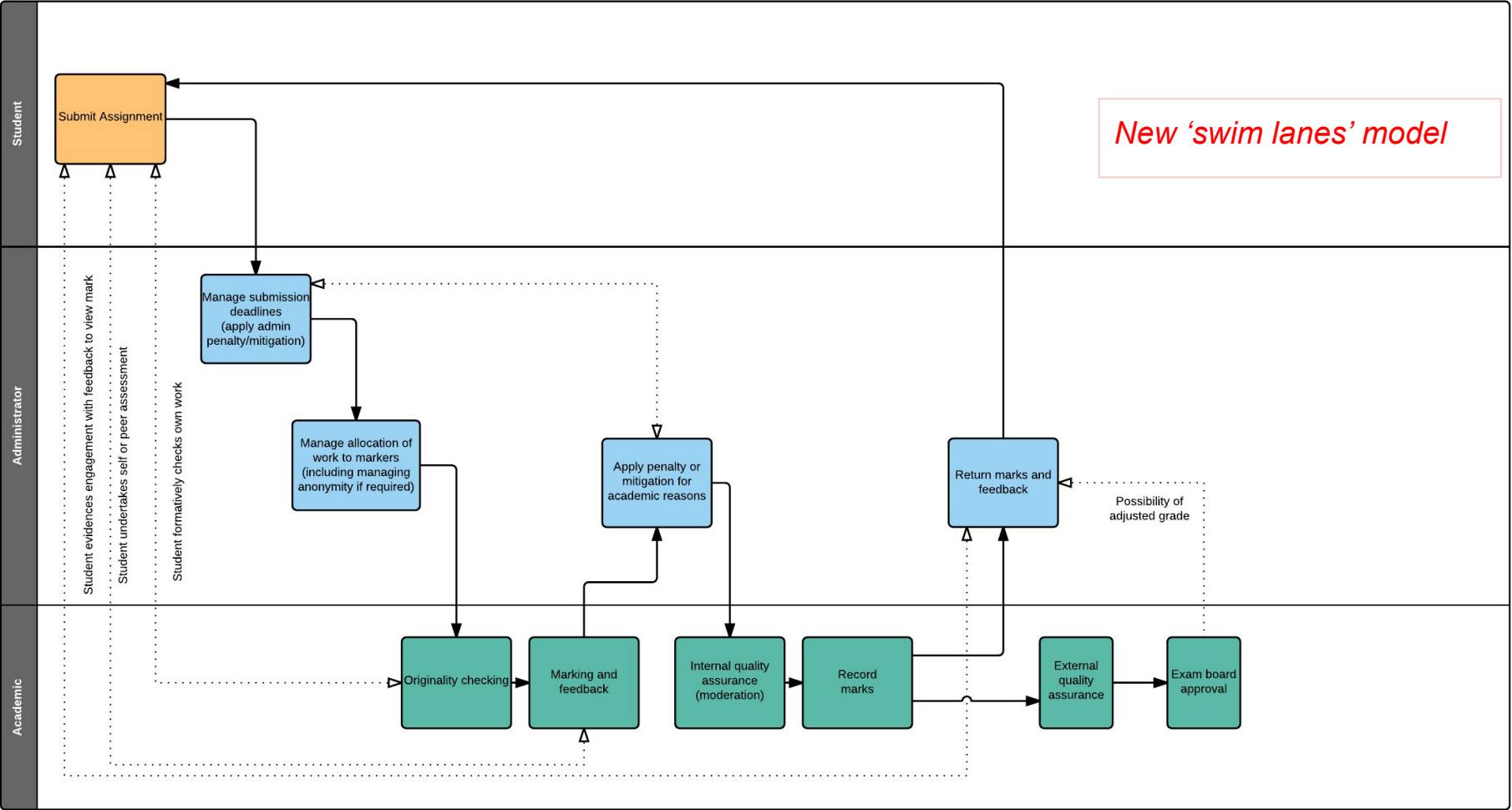
# Marking & feedback workflows

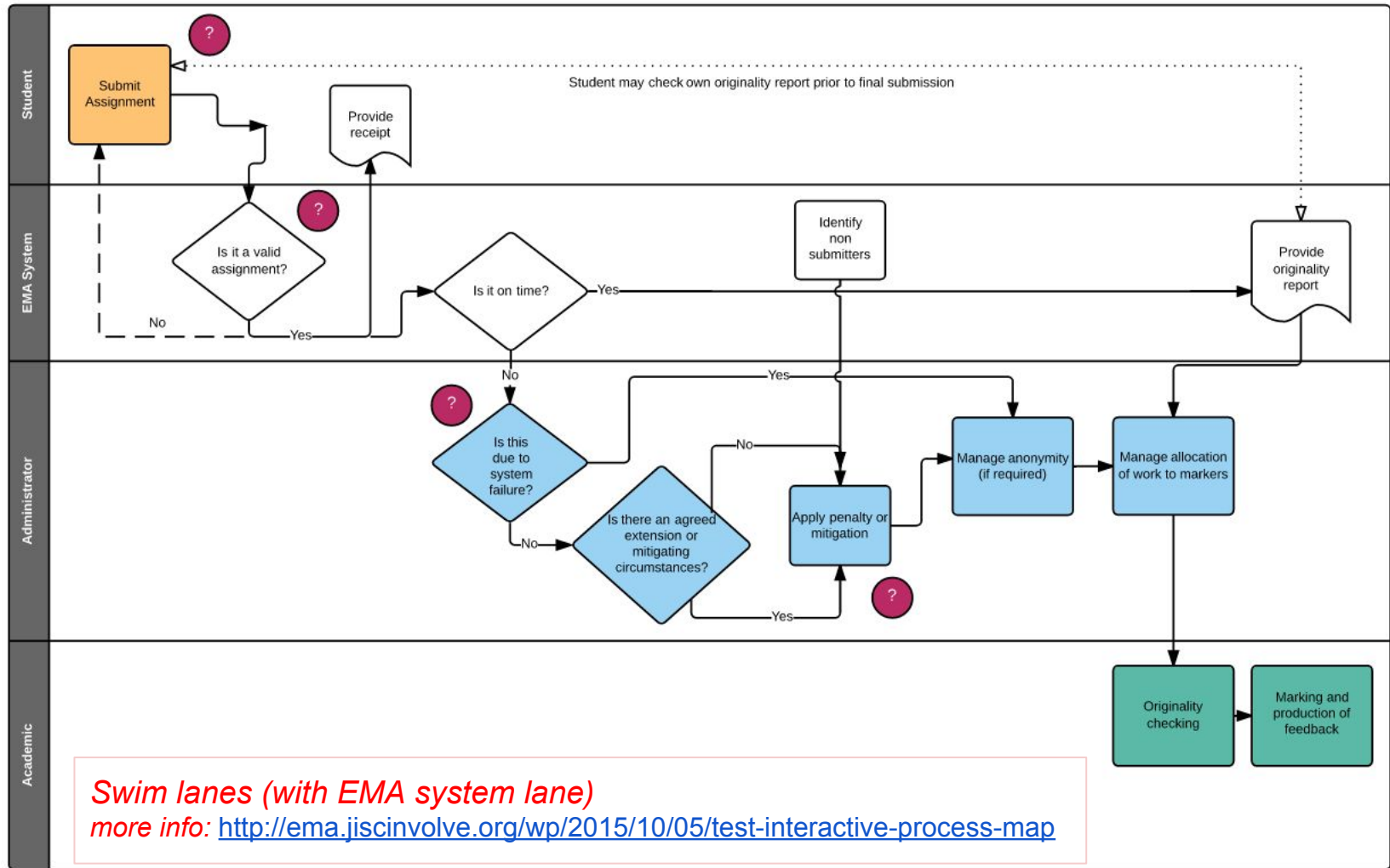
- Understanding who is doing what, when, and how
- Systems need to support multiple models / workflows

see: <http://ema.jiscinvolve.org/wp/2015/05/29/how-many-models-of-marking-still-counting/>



# Submission, marking and feedback process





**Swim lanes (with EMA system lane)**  
 more info: <http://ema.jiscinvolve.org/wp/2015/10/05/test-interactive-process-map>

# Admins' Summit



"Damavand in winter" by Hamed Khorramyar - Hamed Khorramyar's Official Website [http://www.hamedpix.com/details.php?image\\_id=1](http://www.hamedpix.com/details.php?image_id=1).  
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# Admins' Summit

- To learn news ways of doing things better, improving digital literacy skills
- To find out how colleagues are improving electronic management of assessment
- To discuss ways of supporting each other

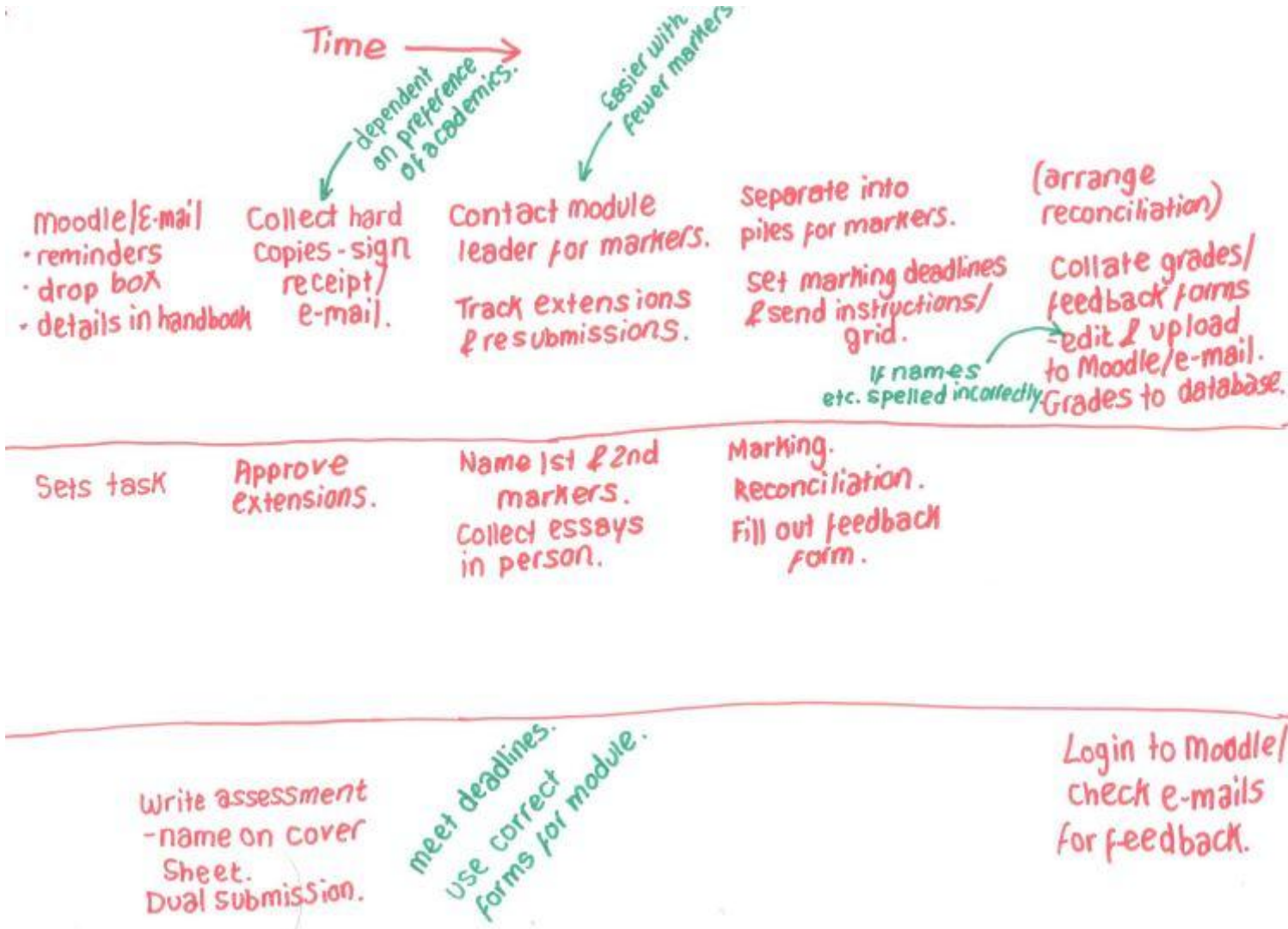
# Mapping exercise: who, what and how?

- pre-submission (setting, setup, anonymity)
- submission (online, paper, dual)
- pre-marking
- marking (first, second, moderation)
- feedback/return to students
- post feedback (external/exam board)

# We asked the admins to think about...

- How is it managed? What is your involvement?
- How are markers/moderators assigned?
- What works well?
- What doesn't work so well (pain points)?
- How might it be improved?

# Examples...



PP  
technophobe  
candidates



not anonymous

notify office

Record a marker?  
Interpretation

Improved by having online submissions via Moodle not currently designed like

PP checking word counts

PP ensuring markers mark in time - send reminders

PP Anonymous submissions available on Moodle?

## coursework

### Pre-submission

Academic sets up drop box on Moodle  
In some cases administrator does this step.

### Submission

Student submits

### Marking

Academic downloads from Moodle

Provisional marks + comments

### Feedback

- Academic puts on Moodle
- In some cases, administrator does

### Upload

Administrator feeds spreadsheet to academic, marks entered, uploaded to SITS database

## exams

### Marking

Academics mark papers

### Feedback

Administrator sends spreadsheet to academic, ~~sent~~ so returned and uploaded to SITS

### Post-feedback

Guru reports

### Post-feedback

Guru ~~SITS~~ reports used at exam board

this stage should be automated

moodle → SITS

Remove duplication of mark entry

## PROJECT MARKING

IMPOSSIBLE ON MOODLE

need:

- double/triple marking
- only final average available to student
- breakdown of marks

	1st marker	2nd marker
Admission	50	
...	...	
...	...	
...	...	
total	20	65

67

← only this mark + comments visible to student

## Birkbeck

## PRE SUBMISSION

Assignments set at programme validation. Not anonymous. - Not blind marked.

## SUBMISSION

- e copy - by email + hard copy (receipt).
- online, moodle turnitin.

## PRE MARKING

- download from moodle (programme lead / tutor to view originality report) save to shared drive (relevance for tutor to use moodle, currently no online grading + comments).

inconsistent ↘

## MARKING

- Formative: tutor make track changes + complete feedback pro forma - email students + save to shared drive.
  - Summative: parallel marked 1st + 2nd markers - 1st marker assessing from shared drive - 2nd marker assesses via moodle.
- marks emailed to Administrator - collation of marks (manual)  
identify discrepancies

local spreadsheet!  
!

## MODERATION

Programme lead + tutor meet... reconciliation of marks (manual)

manual data entry of marks on student record system

↑ duplication  
room for error

## PRE EXAM BOARD

quality control of marks - Programme lead to approve

EXAM BOARD - sign off of student mark sheets

# Admins' Pain-Points included....

- Lack of training
- Academics having little/no training on how to use Moodle/Turnitin
- Anonymous submission not currently available on Moodle Assignment
- Technology unreliable
- Academics not meeting deadline for returning the mark sheets to admins (2); reminders have to be sent. Student receive grade mark late. Fuels disgruntled students
- Academics resistant to marking online/don't want to use technology (2)
- Technophobe students
- Need to remove need for paper copies using Moodle for return
- Too many processes
- manual data entry of marks on SRS
- Lack of clarity across the institution (policy); not using the same systems across the College
- If academics are not checking online submissions because they refer to paper copies, it is very likely that high similarity scores for plagiarism could go unnoticed and not acted upon
- hard copy samples for external examiners - costly, time-consuming and data protection issues
- inconsistent viewing of originality reports due to submissions being downloaded to shared drive



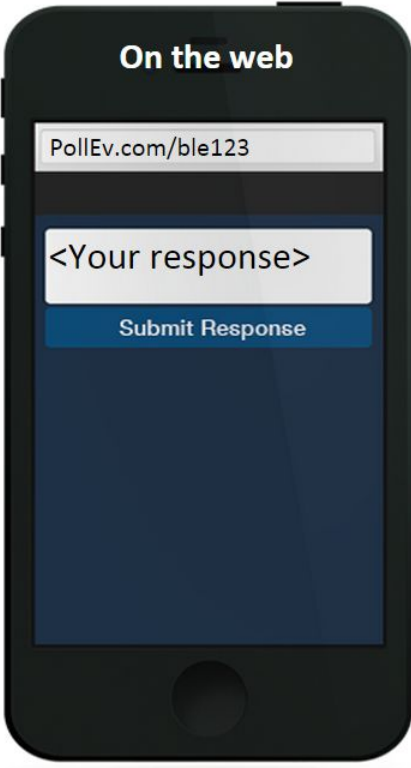
What are *your* e-Assessment pain-points?



# What are your e-Assessment pain-points?

Respond at [PollEv.com/ble123](http://PollEv.com/ble123) Text **138564** and your message to **020 3322 5822**

Tweet **@poll 138564** and your message



# BEAF Project



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## BLE eAssessment & Feedback Project

### Welcome

The purpose of the BLE Online Assessment & Feedback Project is to improve online assessment and feedback processes, practices, opportunities and technologies available to the partner Bloomsbury Colleges. It aims to achieve this by communicating and exchanging examples of good practice by producing publications, online resources and arranging events.

This site will host outputs from the project, links to information and updates about the project.

For further information, please contact the Project Manager, [Sarah Sherman](#)

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# [www.bloomsbury.ac.uk/assessment](http://www.bloomsbury.ac.uk/assessment)

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For further information, please contact [Dr. David M. G. M. Management](#) or [Dr. M. G. M. Management](#)

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**We will collate all your responses and re-distribute for ranking**

**What is YOUR institution doing? Let's share!**

**M25LTG session on how TEL staff are involved in online assessment**