

Individual Peer Assessed Contribution to group work (IPAC)

by the IPAC Consortium



List of abstracts covered in this session

- *IPAC Individual Peer Assessment of Contribution to group work* by Pilar Garcia Souto et al.
- What do students think of the IPAC method by Ryan Grammenos et al.
- Staff moderations when using IPAC by Cicely Striolo
- Comparison of technical platforms for running IPAC by Mira Vogel
- Home-made and readily available IPAC tool Run your practice your way
 and efficiently by Pilar Garcia Souto
- Case study: Making group work easier for the lecturer with IPAC by Cloda
 Jenkins
- Case study: Influence of peer assessments on students and assessors in capstone group design projects by Will Newton and Eral Bele
- Case study: Using IPAC across disciplines and methodologies- what are the typical marks given by students to peers? by Pilar Garcia Souto
- **Training students to utilise peer feedback for self-reflections** by Folashade Akinmolayan



IPAC Individual Peer Assessed Contribution to group work

Why?

- Staff and students across UCL are concerned about the fairness of group assessment as this can greatly damage the student experience.
 - Different levels of peers' engagement to group work?
 - Individual mark needed vs a group mark
 - Reflected into the NSS comments 2016 (might increase as group work increases)
- **IPAC** can be included in group work so students get *individual marks* based on their contribution as assessed by peers instead of a *group mark*. This aims to promote student engagement and tackles associated problems.

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IPAC – How does it work?



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Benefits

- Promotes student engagement and tackles associated problems.
- Peer and self assessment (includes self reflection)
- Practice to give meaningful and tactful feedback.
- Students understand how their personal contribution is perceived?
- Fairer mark.
- Better understanding of group dynamics by tutor.

Limitations

- Additional deadline and assessment for students.
- Big amount of data/information for tutor (system needed or very staff time consuming)
- Requires students' training.
- Might require case by case moderation in extreme situations of dysfunctional group.
- (Student gamming?)
- (Student alliances?)



1. IPAC Consortium

Who are we?

- Over 40 staff members from 20 departments who are either contributing to the consortium or interested in using the outcomes.
- Various students from 3 departments.

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Our work: enquiring



staff



students



institution





Commercial systems



Our work: defining and developing



Key elements of the methodology and options



Guidelines and recommendations



In-house IPAC system





Support to practitioners



IPAC – our work



https://wiki.ucl.ac.uk/display/IC/IPAC

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2. Key elements of IPAC methodology and Methodology recommendations



Key elements of the methodology and options



Guidelines and recommendations

(under development)

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3. Student perception



students



Data collection

Anonymous questionnaires

- Run on Moodle
- Surveyed 89 people.
- 12 departments, mainly Engineering Faculty.
- First year undergraduates through to PhD students.
- March 2017 to June 2017.

• Focus groups

- Run by students
- 4 focus groups, two in March 2017 and 2 in June 2017
- 44 students participated in total
- Population:
 - Undergraduates to PhD students
 - Mainly Engineering Faculty
 - Experience with group work





SURVEY RESULTS

Key result: FEED...BACK – To understand and reflect.



Key outcomes

- 92% in favour of peer assessment [Q16].
- 79% in favour of IPAC [Q19, Q20].

Main points: (PTSF-PTJCF)

- 1. Purpose.
- 2. Transparency.
- 3. Size of class.
- 4. Frequency of group work.
- 5. Proper Training.
- **6.** Justification of marks.
- 7. Criteria.
- 8. Feedback.

Take Away Message: Please treat students fairly, providing them justified & constructive feedback (PTSF-PTJCF)



Analysis of main points: PTSF-PTJCF

1. Purpose: [Q3]

Concept of peer assessment has to be introduced and its usefulness clearly explained.

2. Transparency: [Q3]

Students should not feel they are an experiment. The entire PA process should be visible.

3. Size of class: [Q5, Q9, Q12]

Small classes make it almost impossible to preserve anonymity. Need to account for this carefully.

4. Frequency of group work: [Q5, Q9, Q12]

If the same groups (from small classes?) work on different projects over a long period, a "vendetta" situation might arise.

5. Proper Training: [Q16, Q20]

Clear guidelines should be given to students. They must be trained prior to official assessment.

6. Justification of marks: [Q3, Q11, Q13]

Justification must be **based on feedback**. Students feel moral responsibility to pass everyone.

7. Criteria: [Q8]

Criteria must be phrased properly. Students' understanding of all criteria must be checked.

8. Feedback: [Q3, Q6, Q7, Q10]

Should be **continuous** and **regular**, initially formative (to warn) and then summative (to award).



Current work in progress

- Preparing a paper on the student perceptions of IPAC for submission to the Journal on Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education.
- Case study on the ChangeMakers project is being prepared for contribution towards a wider research study carried out by the UCL ChangeMakers team.
 - Aimed at understanding nature and impact of staff-student partnership.



4. Staff moderations when using IPAC



staff



Research Questions and Description



UCL

Context: Background Characteristics and Commonalities of Peer Assessment at UCL

- Primary Aims: Provide insight to group dynamics
- Assessment is not replacing teacher assessment of technical content
- Process is labour intensive
- All student assessments are summative
- Most approach the peer assessment with the intent of ensuring anonymity
- All IPAC implemented is at the undergraduate level

User Faculty	Intent	Staff Satisfied	Module Size
Eng Sci	Judge individual effort	Yes	400+
Eng Sci	student satisfaction	Mostly	140- 160
Joint*	Assess group functionality	Mostly	45
Eng Sci ^{**}	Assess team skills	No	35 (MSc)

*Arts and Sciences Degree ** IPAC not implemented



Actual Practice vs Literature

Staff Practice

- ALL students are trained, informed of consequences and provided guidelines or rubrics to conduct their peer assessments
- Students conduct both externalfacing and reflective assessments
- Marks are reinforced by free comment to justify the mark given
- Staff offer alternate assessment, and nullify student assessments that did not follow the guidelines or try to 'game' the system in place- as promised when IPAC was being introduced

Literature

- "Students should understand and acknowledge the purpose, importance & usefulness of the procedure..." (Cheng & Warren, 2000)
- "Students are less likely to attempt free riding [or other negative behaviour] when the practice has been discussed, exposed, and condemned in class." (King & Behnke, 2005)
- Peer assessment can lead to learning how to give and receive criticism and how to discern helpful from unhelpful criticism. (Topping, 2009)

Cicely Striolo



5. Comparison of technical platforms for running IPAC



Commercial systems



Needs

- Easy to use for students and staff,
- Easily accessible by students (integrates with Moodle),
- Customizable for staff,
- Complies with data protection regulations,
- Provides the raw data,
- Provides calculated values with transparent methodology,
- Option among some methodologies,
- Allow for choice of self-assessment,
- Provides a range of feedback to the students,
- Makes feedback anonymous.

Comparison of platforms

Available to UCL people: https://wiki.ucl.ac.uk/x/cke_Aw

Based on

- group walkthroughs,
- presentations,
- Changemakers student project.

Mira Vogel





Summary of platforms



- Likert scale or Split 100
- Feedback possible but awkward.
- Integrates with Moodle.
- Free and open
- Not hosted.



- Customisable questions.
- Tutor control over feedback.
- Free hosted service.



- Restricted to existing question bank.
- No Moodle integration.
- Sophisticated team-building.
- Commercially hosted, \$2 per year per student.

SPARK^{PLUS}

- Detects free-riders and over-raters.
- Customisable questions and scales.
- Visualisations.
- Tutor control over feedback.
- Commercially hosted.

UCL

6. Home-made available IPAC tool – Run your practice your way and efficiently



In-house IPAC system

Pilar Garcia Souto



Developed IPAC system - How it works



Students complete questionnaire (template available)

(10-60 mins)



Organize and analyse data (only needs a PC/laptop)

(5 mins)

moodle

Give <u>quick and personalized</u> feedback to students (<u>summative and formative</u>) (5 mins)

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• Live demonstration

(for divulgation, snap shots of the demonstration are provided)

Snapshot

Pilar Garcia Souto

Student view of the system (uses Moodle)

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IPAC	Consortium - Staff				Â	17		
Evalua	ate contributions to group project							
Project	XYZ - Peer assessing Individual contributions to group work							
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Completely customizable:

- N of students
- N of questions
- N of levels per criteria
- Description of levels in each criteria
- Text
- Justification included (optional)

Snap shot

Main screen of the system

New Process		•	Select the input files
File Help Input Group File Questionnaire File	C:\Users\pili\Desktop\IPAC_demonstration\Demonstation2.0\test inpu C:\Users\pili\Desktop\IPAC_demonstration\Demonstation2.0\test inpu	•	 Team composition file Questionnaire file downloaded from Moodle Summary updates
Summary Current Settings Location: Min Group Size: Max Group Size: Number of Groups: Number of Students: Number of Criteria:	C:\Users\pil\Desktop\IPAC_demonstration\Demonstration2.0\settings_ 4 5 5 23 6 RUN	•	Click RUN to process the data Help - documentation
	Pilar Garcia	Souto	

Snapshot

Settings screen

nt Settings					
Current Settings File:	C:\Users\pili\	Desktop\IPAC_demon	stration\Demonstation2.0\setti	ngs_Pili	spec
Output Save Location:	C:\Users\pili\	Desktop\IPAC_demon	stration\Demonstation2.0	Edit	
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The system is customizable, allowing each tutor to run IPAC with their specifications, e.g.:

- Choose among various calculation methods
- Choose moderation
- Use multiple questionnaires
 at once
- Activate profanity checker
- Self-assessment
- Equal or unequal criteria
 weightings
- Select feedback that is given to students
- Save the settings for next time!

Snapshot

(All features and options explained)

Help - documentation

E Help	
Help	Getting Started
About	Installation
Getting Started	1. Extract the files in ipacTool.zip to a folder.
Input	 Navigate to that folder. Launch IPAC.exe.
Output	
Calculation	Using the Tool
Moderation	
Profanity Checker	Once you've launched IPAC.exe follow the following steps below to carry out you first data process.
Self-Assessment	Setting up your Settings Profile
	 Click the 'Settings' button. This should open the settings page. Click the New Settings button. Fill in the necessary fields. Output save location is the folder where the output files would be saved. Use the 'Edit' button to select the folder or enter the folder location manually into the textbox. Select a normalisation method. For more information on which method is best for you, have a look at the normalisation section of the documentation.
	Pilar Garcia Souto
E	

Snapshot



Output: Organized data per group, student, and criteria

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11		Student 2	2	4	1	6	4	5.4	0.8944		6	4	6	1.048		1.005	5
12		Student 4	6	5	6	6	6	5.8	0.4472		6	6	6	0 9704		1.056	18
13		Student 5	3	4	5	6	5	4.6	1.1402		5	4	6	0.5704		1.000	
14														1 075		1 11/	12
15	Group 3	Student 1	0	5	3	0	3	3.6667	1.1547		0	6	4	1.073		0.725	1
16		Student 2	0	6	5	0	6	5.6667	0.5774		0	5	6	1.032		0.733	
17		Student 3	0	5	6	0	6	5.6667	0.5774		0	5	5	1.032		1.066	1
18		Student 4	0	6	6	0	6	6	0		0	6	6	0.86		1.135	59
19		Student 5	0	5	6	0	6	5.6667	0.5774		0	5	6	1.032		0.948	37
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Snapshot

Feedback to students (uploads into Moodle)

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1	Name	Email Address	IPAC Score	C1 Average	C2 Average	C3 Average	C4 Average	C5 Average	C6 Average	Overall Weighte	Comments feedback	Flagged Word(s)
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3	Blaise Pascal	bpascal@ucl.ac.uk	0.9808	5.4	5.6	5.2	2 5.6	5.4	5.2	5.4	marks received per	
4	Albert Einstein	aeinstein@ucl.ac.uk	0.968	5	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.33	marks received per	
5	Isaac Newton	inewton@ucl.ac.uk	1.0055	5.4	5.8	5.8	3 6	4.6	5.6	5.53	marks received per	
6	Galileo Galilei	ggalilei@ucl.ac.uk	1.0568	6	6	5.8	3 6	6	5	5.8	marks received per	
7	Gottfried Leibni:	gleibniz@ucl.ac.uk	1.1142	5.8	5.8		5.6	5.6	5.6	5.73	marks received per	
8	Ada Lovelace	alovelace@ucl.ac.uk	0.7351	3.4	4	3.8	3 4	3.8	4.2	3.87	marks received per	
9	Alan Turing	aturing@ucl.ac.uk	1.0661	5.4	5.4	5.0	5.8	5.4	5.4	5.5	marks received per	=
10	Linus Pauling	lpauling@ucl.ac.uk	1.1359	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	6	5.8	5.83	marks received per	
11	Dmitri Mendele	dmendeleev@ucl.ac.u	k 0.9487	4.6	5.2	5.4	5.6	4	4.8	4.93	marks received per	
12	Niels Bohr	nbohr@ucl.ac.uk	0.8094	3.67	5.33	4.6	7 5	3.67	4.33	4.44	marks received per	
13	Hideki Yukawa	hyukawa@ucl.ac.uk	1.0376	5.67	5.67	5	6	5.67	6	5.67	marks received per	
14	Christiaan Huyge	chuygens@ucl.ac.uk	1.0265	5.67	5.33	(5.33	5.67	5.67	5.61	marks received per	
15	Charles Darwin	cdarwin@ucl.ac.uk	1.0685	6	6	5.6	6	5.33	6	5.83	marks received per	
16	Thomas Edison	tedison@ucl.ac.uk	1.0579	5.67	5.67	(5.67	6	5.67	5.78	marks received per	
17	Nikola Tesla	ntesla@ucl.ac.uk	1.0248	5	5.33	(5.33	5.67	5.33	5.44	marks received per	
18	Max Planck	mplanck@ucl.ac.uk	1.0632	6	6		5.33	5.33	5.33	5.67	marks received per	
19	Ludwig Boltzmar	Iboltzmann@ucl.ac.uk	1.0955	6	6	(5.67	5.67	5.67	5.83	marks received per	
20	Enrico Fermi	efermi@ucl.ac.uk	0.8165	4.67	4.67	4.33	5	4.33	4.33	4.56	marks received per	
21	lamos Clark May	icmaywell@ucl.ac.uk	1 0285	6	5 5		5 75	5.5	5.75	5.75	marks received ner	×.
Rea	dy											

Pilar Garcia Souto



Snapshot

Import marks and feedback into Moodle

grade book

Few clicks and ... feedback and marks provided to all students!

IPAC Consortium - Staff		A IICI
Staff Help - Student Help - Services	→ My courses →	Maria D P Garcia Souto
My home / IPAC Consortium - Staff / Grade administ	ation / Import / CSV file	
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QUESTIONS SO FAR

before moving to case studies?



7. Case study: Making group work easier for lecturer with IPAC







Testing

staff

students

Group working is important for life so I have built it into my courses for the last four years

L	ogistics (10 week term)	Marking
•	Assign teams in week 2 Presentation in week 7 Report (wiki/word) in week 10	 30% of assessment Expectation of everyone getting group mark Lower mark for poor individual contribution?

Project and team organisation

• Leave team to decide how to take project forward





Life before IPAC – evidence on individual contribution

- Attendance and group dynamics at lectures and compulsory seminars
- Performance in group
 presentation
- For one course, individual contribution to Moodle wiki

- Peer complaints email/office hours
- Student response to chasing emails if missed compulsory seminars
- Student response to chasing emails if concerns raised by peers

Poor quality, random and qualitative information on individual contribution Only adjusted for group mark if hardly any sign of the student during the term Free-riding and 'unfairness' of group mark common theme in module feedback





Introduced IPAC as part of wider set of information on individual contribution

- Compulsory project-linked seminars weeks 3, 6, and 9 (mark out of 1 for each)
- Presentation in week 7 (mark out of 1)
- Complete peer feedback quiz in weeks 4, 8 and 10 ['quick' to give feedback to students] (mark out of 1 for each)
- Wiki activity [for one of the two courses] (no marks*)
- IPAC score in weeks 4, 8 and 10 [students get score and comments]





Information on individual contribution affects individual mark

- +/-5% of group mark for outliers
 - Participation score (out of 1): average of scores for attendance, participation in presentation and completion of quizzes
 - Average IPAC score
- Raised issues with individuals mid-term to give right to reply and opportunity to adapt
- Recognised improvement over time

Transparent approach. Students engaging with each other as well as me. Far less discussion in office hours/by email





Adjustment rules

Participation score	e (out of 1)	IPAC score (on tra	ck=1)
>=0.75	No adjustment	Less than 0.45	Minus 5%
0.65-0.74	Minus 1%	0.45-0.54	Minus 4%
0.55-0.64	Minus 2%	0.55-0.64	Minus 3%
0.45-0.54	Minus 3%	0.65-0.74	Minus 2%
0.35-0.44	Minus 4%	0.75-0.84	Minus 1%
Less than 0.34	Minus 5%	0.85-1.03	No adjustment
		1.04-1.06	Plus 1%
		1.07-1.09	Plus 2%
		1.10-1.12	Plus 3%
		1.13-1.15	Plus 4%
		>1.15	Plus 5%





Lessons learned (so far)

- Fewer issues in my inbox/at my door
 - Did worst cases engage with peer feedback?
 - Were some students too nice, particularly in the beginning?
- I need to be more explicit upfront about how I'm going to make adjustments next year
- I'm not very 'tech' but this tool made getting and sharing feedback easy/quick

Helped to have existing tool to analyse individual contribution Still like to see group dynamic face-to-face as well.





It is not (just) about making my life easier

Giving and receiving feedback is important for life

- Learn to give constructive/polite feedback
- Learn to reflect on feedback
- Learn to regroup as a team in challenging times

Challenges of team working not gone away Face them and deal with them





8. Case study: Influence of peer assessment on students and assessors in captstone group design projects







Testing

staff

students



MEng Capstone Group Design Project in Mechanical Engineering

- Year-long group design project. Groups of 5-12 students, supervised by an academic or industry partner.
- 2-credit module (50% of 4th year credits)



Formula Student

Shell Eco Marathon

Bamboo Cargo Bike



Unmanned Aircraft Systems



MEng Capstone Group Design Project in Mechanical Engineering

- Assessment distribution: 90% team– 10% individual
- Before 2016: no modification of team grade for individual members, or normalisation by the individual grade
- Last 2 years: use of peer assessment with the following pattern:
 - 4 assessments yearly, typically after major milestones
 - Assessment results are made available to supervisors and students, but only supervisors can view free-text comments
 - Supervisors interview individual students twice a year, and grade performance (both observed and peer-assessed)
 - In the end of the year, supervisors suggest distribution of team grades through multiplicative factors, by moderating IPAC scores; final moderation is done by module coordinators



Objectives of Peer Assessment

- 1. Fair representation of individual contributions
 - **Effective Formative Evaluation**
- 2. Students: Can get periodic feedback on how well they are doing within the team
- 3. Students: Can push team members who have not performed well to do better
- Supervisors: Can detect hidden team problems and advise or act on them

Effective Summative Evaluation

5. Supervisors: Can assess fairly contribution of individual team members

Have we achieved these objectives? A series of questions were posed to students and supervisors...





1. Fairness of Evaluation

How representative of the contribution (i.e. fair) were the peer assessment grades?





1. Fairness of Evaluation

Student Comments:

- Since team members often think their own grade is affected by what they give someone else, they tend to give lower scores so their average is higher.
- The grading range is not wide enough a fair measure of the contribution
- The rather indirect approach/inconvenience of having us refer to the questions and then the grade might mean that some of us wont check the feedback at all.

Supervisor Comments:

- The first peer assessment correctly identified one group member, who had not fully contributed, on the second assessment they decided 'to be nice to each other'
- It seems that some students hesitate to highlight a poor performance and mark their peers low. They may also feel betraying their peers.
- Inertial effects: I have one student who has contributed well this term but is still being marked down, whereas another put in a good performance last term, but lousy this term and still gets a good assessment

2. Effectiveness in Formative Assessment



Students

Did it help you identify areas where you could improve your contribution to the team?

Did it help you identify areas where your team appreciated excellence in your contribution?

Was the peer assessment effective in improving the contribution of under-performing team members?

■ Yes ■ No ■ N/A





2. Effectiveness in Formative Assessment

Student Comments:

- <u>The lack of open feedback received from the peer reviews should be</u> <u>addressed to make the tool useful. This could be in the form of reading</u> <u>what other team mates comment or from meeting the supervisor to</u> <u>comment on the grade.</u>
- It has allowed discussions between members to ensure those who are underperforming work harder
- It makes people accountable for the work they have done
- It is useful to tell you what the rest of the team think of your contribution or your role in the project
- When a team is divided into sub-teams, some members will be more informed of the work one are doing than others
- For our team, the peer assessment was a formality, as issues related to performance were discussed within the team. For other teams, it seemed that the peer review often came as a shock to team members who got low reviews, and in the short term ended up creating tension in the team



2. Effectiveness in Formative Assessment





2. Effectiveness in Formative Assessment

Supervisor Comments:

- One student was correctly identified as not sufficiently contributing in the first peer assessment, which was obvious to everyone anyways. I think it helped to spurn him on, but had a negative effect on team dynamics.
- I was aware of a situation with an underperforming student before the peer assessment, but it certainly helped the student become aware of issue.



3. Effectiveness in Summative Assessment

Supervisors

- 1. How much did the peer assessment results influence your assessments in interim interviews?
 - Evenly distributed responses, from "Not at all (1)" to "Moderately (4)"
- 2. But: Do you plan to use the peer assessment results to help you decide the final weighting factors?
 - 75% "Yes"; 25% "No"

Student Comments:

 The peer review definitely does contribute to the responsibility and accountability of the team members and I believe should have a bigger weightage in the marks distribution

Supervisor Comments:

 It helps me understand the team dynamics more clearly, it's generally a good indicator of student contribution



What Have We Learned?

- 1. Student comments have been specific, constructive, and truthful. Privacy to supervisors has not made them more truthful, so there is no reason not to share them with the students
- 2. It's clear that the perceived value for students is formative assessment, and for supervisors it is summative assessment nothing wrong with this
- 3. Representation of results and fairness of assessment must be improved:
 - Student training on best practices at the outset
 - Clarification of calculation procedures. Engineering students are suspicious of anything that is not transparent
 - Dispelling of myths about some students "playing the system"
- 4. Non-moderated connection to grade or a portion of it?



9. Case study: What are the typical marks given by students to peers?



Testing



students



Case studies analysed

#	Lead	Department	N stud	Group size	Year	N weeks	IPAC method
1	Pilar Garcia Souto	Biomedical Eng	22	3-4	2	18	Normalized
2	Pilar Garcia Souto	Biomedical Eng	13	4-5	3	20	Normalized
3	Tristan Robinson	CEGE	80	8-9		1	Normalized
4	Tristan Robinson	CEGE	79	8-9		1	Normalized
5	Tristan Robinson	CEGE	79	3-4		1	Normalized
6	Kate Roach	Engineering Fac	714		1	5	Out of 100
7	Yuhong Zhou	Biochemical Eng	20	3-4	1	6	Normalized
8	Thomas Kador	UCL Culture	41	5-6			Normalized
9	Cloda Jenkins	Economics	67	5-4			Normalized
10	Cloda Jenkins	Economics	59	5-4			Normalized
11	Dean Barratt	Biomedical Eng	21	4-5	2	1	Normalized



Typical IPAC values obtained by students



Pilar Garcia Souto



Typical IPAC values obtained by students



Pilar Garcia Souto



Effect of class size





Staff marks moderation





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Mira Vogel – LTMS Digital Education
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Do you want to know more?

Interested on the outcomes? Be involved with this research and consortium? Test method and tool?

E-mail Pilar Garcia Souto p.garciasouto@ucl.ac.uk



ROUNDTABLE

Feedback / questions from participants?

- Priority areas for further work in the IPAC Consortium?
- Priority requirements for the IPAC tool?
- What training can we to provide to students?
- Would you use IPAC in your activities? How?