# Welcome to TechEx '15



**TechEx**
2015

UNIVERSITY *of* TASMANIA

Online Grading:
Get it done!

Stuart Crispin
Tam Lynch

# Introduction

## The big picture perspective…

- TSBE adopted online submission as default at the start of 2012.

- Growth in distance offerings, cross-campus teaching, and greater use of blended learning placed pressure on turn-around times and quality of marking.

- Growing importance of MyLO as part of the learning & teaching experience.

- Greater attention to quality, assurance of learning, peer review, and benchmarking.

"Give yourself the opportunity to get used to it."

"Don't let past experience stop you! It gets better all the time."

"Great for seeing how other markers came to the scores"

"No printing less waste"

"No Duplicate Data Entry"

"No carrying around boxes of papers!"

"Rubrics take time but worth it"

"I wouldn't go back to paper"

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# What Staff Liked:
## Consistency

- Clear pre-made marking tools (rubrics, grademark comment sets) help maintain consistency between markers and also consistency for each student.

- Rubrics help students can see how their grade was calculated.

- Pre-made comments can be created with specific marking goals in mind, to help all staff highlight the same specific key issues.

- Grades can be automatically sent to the gradebook, avoiding doubling of data entry.

- Typed comments are legible, handwriting not always so!

- Rubrics and Grademark comments can be saved and re-used.

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# What Staff Liked:
## Moderation

- Marking online allows you to see how the markers came to the final mark.

- The marked papers are available instantly, no waiting on boxes of papers to arrive.

- Pre-moderation – you can set up your online marking tools in advance with markers and be clear about the outcomes you want to measure.

- Graded rubrics and grademark comments can be edited and modified before it is released to students, if necessary.

- Papers are kept electronically in the system after the unit end date, can be retrieved again if needed.

- The statistics available can be useful for checking between cohorts, years, staff etc.

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# Advice Staff Gave
## For those who haven't yet tried marking online

- There is a learning curve. It may add some time to your process at first, but will save time once you are familiar.

- Give yourself the opportunity to try.

- Preparation is key, set yourself up well in advance.

- Be really clear about what you want to measure.

- Learn about the different tools available, go to training and use your MyLO sandpits.

- Find support networks and help guides. Ask staff who have been marking online for tips.

- Don't let past experience stop you trying, it improves all the time.

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# Issues Staff Had

## Things to be aware of:

- You will need to remember marking online requires a functioning internet connection, which can be flaky in some places.

- Some settings (such as rubric type, group vs individual dropbox) cannot be changed once set without starting again, be clear about how you are setting it up. Try things out in sandpits first if you're not sure, or ask an expert!

- Note that particularly dropbox assignments with multiple parts – students may find it hard to combine documents so you may end up with a lot of individual documents in one submission.

- Ensure your students know how to use the tools for submissions and for receiving their feedback.

# What Staff Want:
## Key Improvements we'd like!

- Rubric, when exported, lose their scores. Known bug with no known date or workaround. Put scores in your local copy in word format if you want to re-use rubric. *Very annoying please fix!!*

- Rubrics don't auto-calculate any scores, so make up a spreadsheet for yourself to calculate scores.

- Grademark integration could be better, clicking can get tiresome.

- Dropbox has no way to easily preview grades BEFORE they are released to students – there is a workaround, talk to experts!

- It is often hard to know what students see and are notified of via the system.

- Peer review not as easy as it could be. No way to include peer grades in a group paper.

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# Preparation is key!

## Staff we spoke to highlighted the following:

**Support** — Find out who you can contact for help be it friendly teaching staff or tech help. There are also handy resources online, know where to go for help!

**Training** — Get along to some training, find resources online, play with sandpits, get someone to show you some of the tools!

**Planning** — Plan with your ed-dev and key staff early – most staff we spoke to listed this as a KEY item for success with online marking!

**Communication** — Make sure your key staff know what your plans are and how they need to use the tools.

Make sure you also have key documents/resources for your students that cover submissions and how to get to their grades and how to view feedback.

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