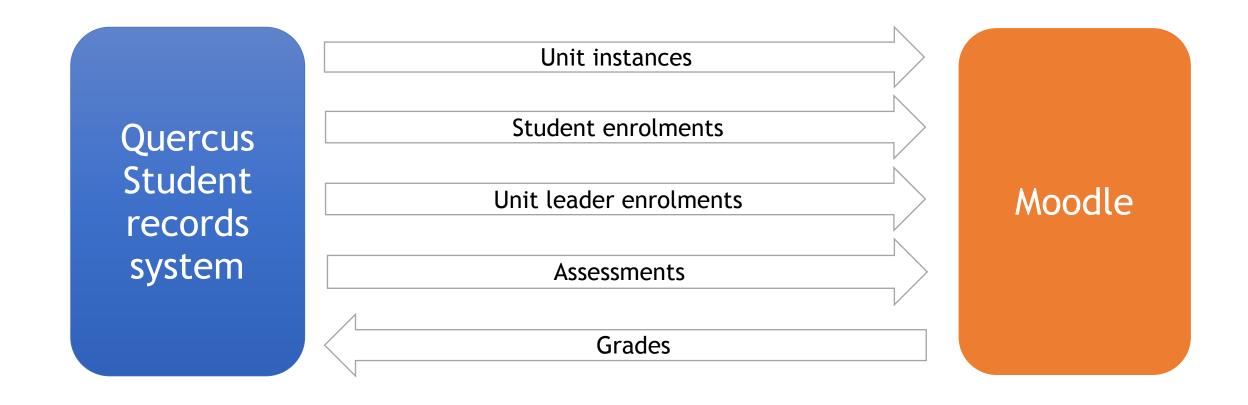# STRATEGIC PROBLEM

- 40,000 spreadsheets to collect assessment results

- Duplication of effort

- Increased potential for error

- No standard end to end process for assessment marking

- Poor data quality – especially assessment dates

- High security and data protection risk

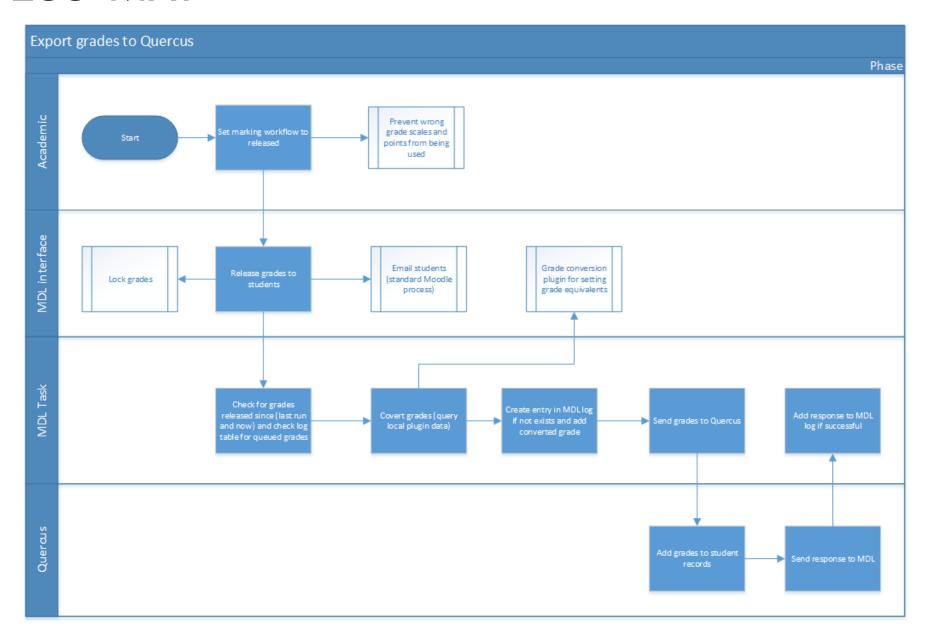- Inconsistent student experience across multiple systems

DATA FLOW

Quercus Student records system → Unit instances → Moodle

Quercus Student records system → Student enrolments → Moodle

Quercus Student records system → Unit leader enrolments → Moodle

Quercus Student records system → Assessments → Moodle

Quercus Student records system ← Grades ← Moodle

- Academic Unit = Quercus Module Instance = Moodle Course
- Moodle Course for every Unit Instance – no 'roll-over'

PROCESS MAP

Export grades to Quercus

Phase

Academic

Start → Set marking workflow to released → Prevent wrong grade scales and points from being used

MDL interface

Lock grades ← Release grades to students → Email students (standard Moodle process)

Grade conversion plugin for setting grade equivalents

MDL Task

Check for grades released since (last run and now) and check log table for queued grades → Covert grades (query local plugin data) → Create entry in MDL log if not exists and add converted grade → Send grades to Quercus → Add response to MDL log if successful

Quercus

Add grades to student records → Send response to MDL

PLUGINS
Scheduled task - Create assessments

Daily XML export from Quercus to Moodle
- Module instance
- Assessment name
- ID Number
- Weighting
- Due date
- Sitting
- Academic year

Assignments created only if due date exists in Quercus

Cut off date and grade by date calculated from due date

Assignment defaults are used

Assignment due dates are shown to students

MOODLE CORE MODIFICATIONS

Locked fields:
- Assignment name
- Dates
- ID number

2 Grade scale available - alphanumeric and 1-100
'Released' marking workflow option only available for unit leaders
Lock grades when grades are released
Prevent pagination of grading table
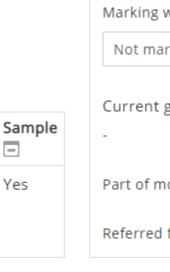Student ID displayed instead of participant number for blind marking

Assignment tool renamed 'Formative assignment'

PLUGINS
Feedback types

Double marking - Allows first and second markers to input grades alongside the final, agreed grade

Sample - Indicates work to be check by moderators or externa examiners.

Academic misconduct - Allows a flag to be se

Grade

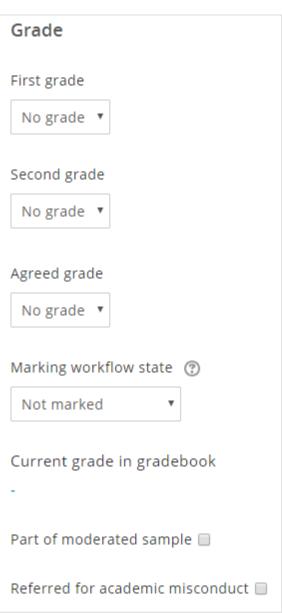First grade

No grade ▾

Second grade

No grade ▾

Agreed grade

No grade ▾

Marking workflow state ⦿

Not marked ▾

Current grade in gradebook
-

☐ Part of moderated sample

☐ Referred for academic misconduct

Double Marking ⊟	Sample ⊟
1. A3 - Sarah Cotton	Yes
2. A2 - Daisy Dolittle	

PLUGINS
Grade report

For summative assessments only; includes links to grading page for sampled work

Design Visualisation (AAP405)

Moderators
No moderators are currently assigned to this unit.

First name	Surname	ID number	Portfolio 1 (50%) First mark	Portfolio 1 (50%) Second mark	Portfolio 1 (50%) Final grade	Portfolio 1 (50%) Sample
Roger	Moore	14620766	C2	C2		Yes
Sean	Connery	14620774	A3	A2		Yes

Print this report

PLUGINS

Scheduled task - Export grades

Converts alphanumeric grades back to equivalent percentage
Adds details to log table
Picks up new grades locked since the last cron, plus entries in log table not processed due to integration failure
Updates log table with response

id	assign	sitting	course	course_module	grader	student	converted_grade	response	parent_request_id	request_id	processed	payload_error
1047	26575	8840	30554	933727	26765	52469	0	0	44a8e0cc-bfa0-4649-b...	7fd51a9b-73d5-482...	SUCCESS	NULL
1048	26575	8840	30554	933727	26765	27250	0	0	44a8e0cc-bfa0-4649-b...	a0ebff57-3b42-43c...	NOT REQUIRED	Student 70503789 mark not required for second sitting.
1049	26536	8801	28126	933688	26765	31020	52	0	aab22b24-b1d1-4c2c-...	97d62730-8d99-48...	FAILED	Failed to validate course details against Live Link for student

PLUGINS

Scheduled task - Update dates

Applies date changes made in Quercus
All dates updated similar to the 'Upload courses' update functionality
Functionality in separate tasks in case of error

Add new assignments \local_quercus_tasks\task\add_new_assignments	Quercus Tasks	⚙	Wednesday, 20 March 2019, 3:46 PM Run now
Export grades \local_quercus_tasks\task\export_grades	Quercus Tasks	⚙	Thursday, 21 March 2019, 1:49 PM Run now
Update dates \local_quercus_tasks\task\update_dates	Quercus Tasks	⚙	Never Run now

WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED?

Flushed out and improved bad data at university level

Improved other data supported university projects

End to end marking process has been streamlined including moderation

Positive feedback from assessment office – huge reduction in admin

Students get advanced notice of assessment in calendar

Engagement Monitoring

Bunching of hand in dates

Identified practice that differs from the business system

IT /SLTI workload planning

Four processes deleted

Project team won 'Continuous Improvement' award @ Solent Staff Awards

EFFICIENCY

Time saving : 20 minutes for each of 1868 assessments a year

622.7 hours saved

Reduction in Appeals:

2016/7 Student Appeals for Missing Marks 122

2017/18 Student Appeals for Missing Marks 72

41 % Reduction in Appeals

equating to efficiency gain of

91.5 hours saving

WHAT NEXT?

Issues:
Turnitin and default feedback plugins not enabled
Prevent Turnitin updating and overriding Moodle grades

Coming soon:
Barcode submissions (https://moodle.org/plugins/local_barcode)
Grade mark exempt flag – set and lock correct grade scale for each assignment

Wishlist:
Support for non-standard courses
Quick marking for sample and double marking columns in grading table
Allow grade scale conversion to be configured via admin settings

RESOURCES

Code:
https://github.com/ltu-solent/moodle-local_quercus_tasks

Staff help pages:
https://learn.solent.ac.uk/editing-assignments
https://learn.solent.ac.uk/releasing-grades

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