



Supporting self and peer assessment of individual contributions in groupwork

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Overview

Today we discuss the educational design and impact of a self and peer assessment online support tool

TeCTra - Team Contribution Tracking

TeCTra supports the learning of how to self-assess individual work effort and how to peer-assess team-member contributions.

TeCTra has been developed since 1998 within a capstone undergraduate subject **Software Development Project**

- 12 credit point subject (50% of a fulltime study load)
- 350-400 students per year in groups of 10
- Groupwork outcomes are 100% of assessment

TeCTra is currently being pilot-tested and evaluated in various disciplines and university's as an Australian Government Carrick Institute funded 2006 Priority Project.

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Developing graduate attributes of professionalism

- To be able to assess the work of oneself and peers is a core attribute for professional practice.
- Developing these graduate attributes in our students requires the learning of self and peer evaluation, feedback and review skills.
- Novice professionals need to practice giving and receiving peer reviews and benefiting from constructive feedback.
- When and how do we teach and support the learning of these core abilities and professional attributes?

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Assessment of individual contributions

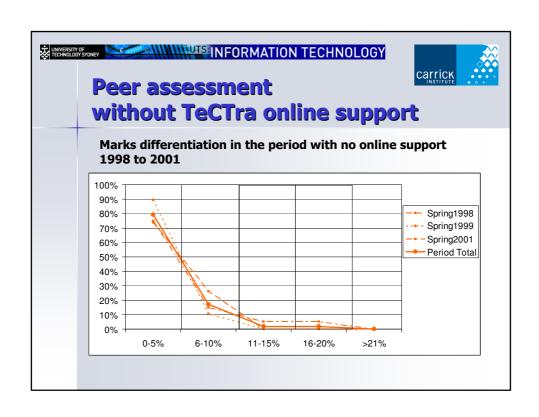
- In many courses significant capstone subjects involve projects that require large student teams.
- Academics have limited opportunities to observe and assess the complex group and teamwork dynamics that are taking place.
- A summative approach is based on 'the last impression'.
- The common strategy for assessing groupwork of allocating the same mark to all team members is not adequate when the project tasks are extensive, the teams are large in number (more than 4 members), can extend for the whole semester and the groupwork outcomes can constitute 100% of the final student assessment (Rosen 1996; Lejk and Wyvill 2001; Kennedy 2005)

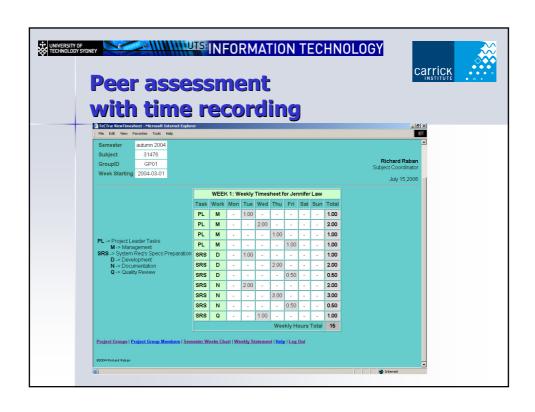
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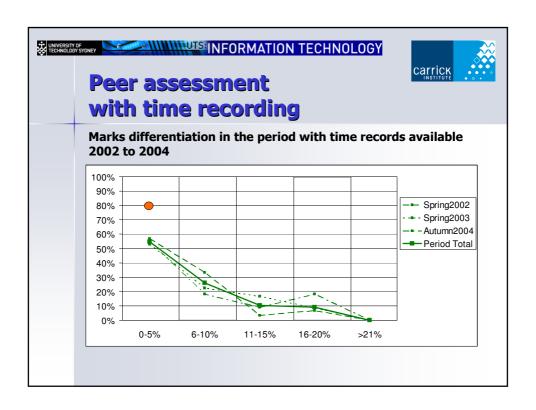


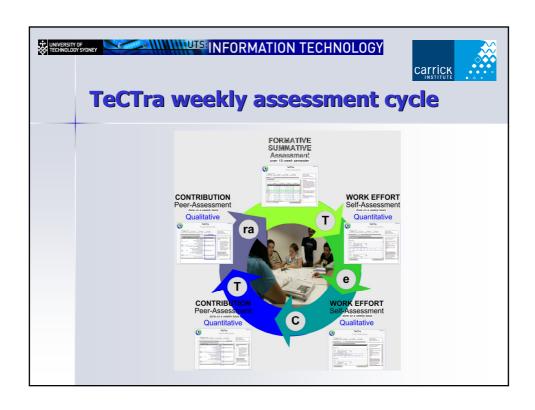
Designing peer assessment

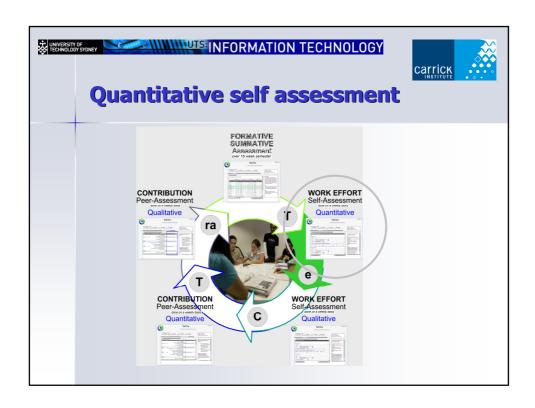
- Peer assessment is required to assess individual contributions to groupwork (Johnston and Miles 2004).
- Peer assessment for evaluating individual contributions to groupwork is controversial because it can produce 'unreliable' results caused by the inexperience of the student assessors and marks are often undifferentiated (Kennedy 2005).
- The labour intensive processes academics have to administer are problematic (Clark 2005).
- A peer assessment strategy is required which is ideally formative, diagnostic and summative (Goldfinch 1990; Gatfield 1999).
- This ideal has been difficult to achieve (Lejk and Wyvill 2001; Li 2001) and is an important and unresolved assessment issue.

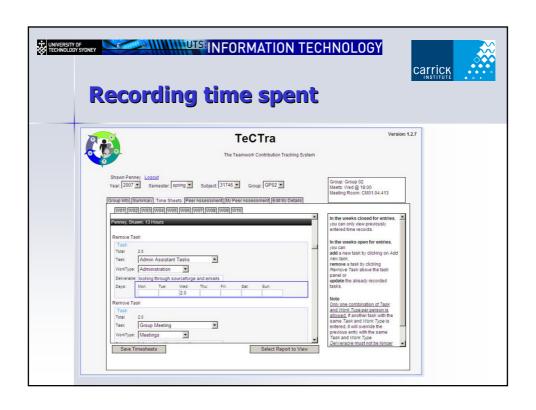






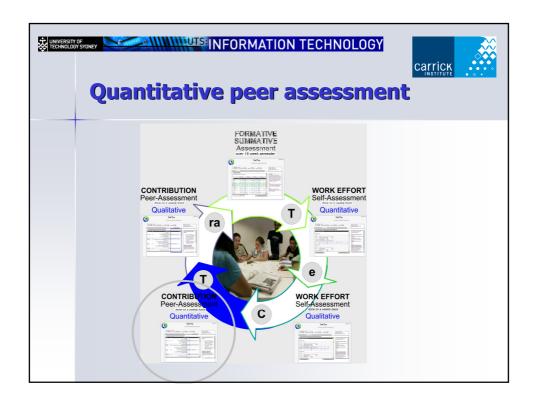


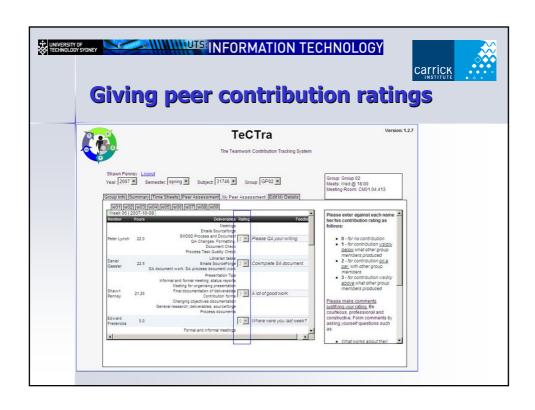




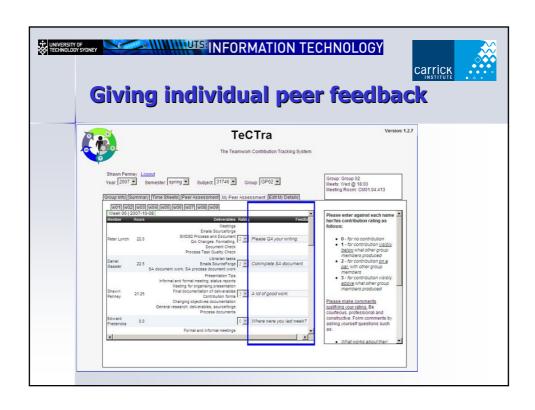


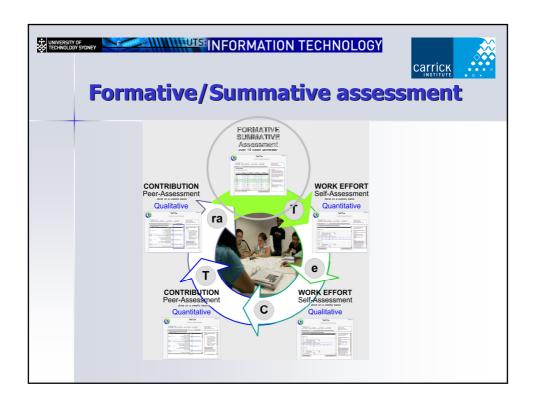


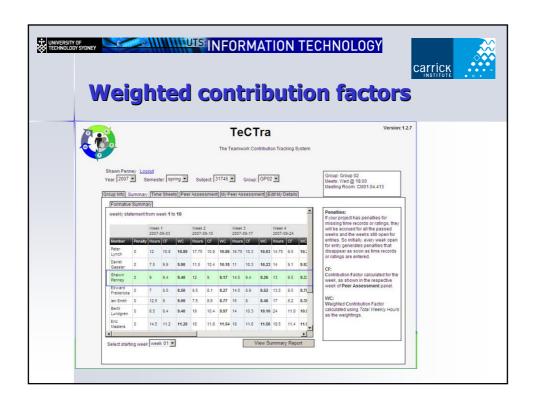


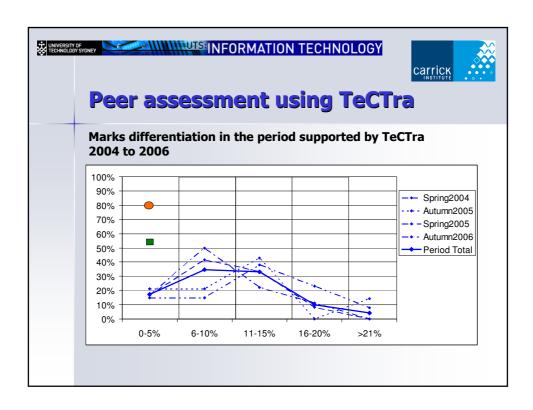


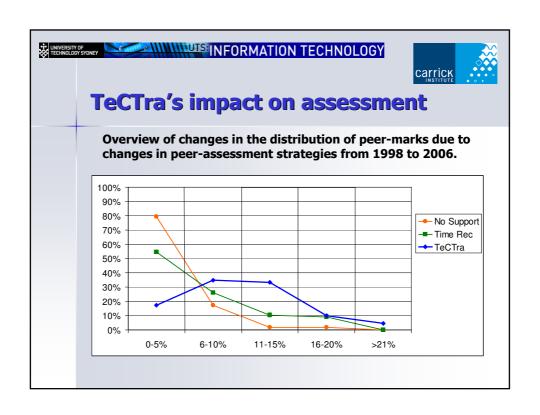












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Summative assessment strategies using TeCTra data

- We need more case-studies for different disciplines and types of group projects
- TeCTra's individual weighted contribution factors can be mandated or voluntary in determining final assessments
- An overall 'pool' of marks for a group project can be generated in various ways
- In the Software Development Project subject a pool of marks is generated at two points;

50% at mid-semester (40% by another team, 60% by academic) 50% at end-of-semester (40% by another group, 60% by academic)

 This pool is then divided amongst the team and TeCTra data is used as voluntary guidance

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TeCTra 2007-08 project timeline

- TeCTra's development has been funded by a 2006 Carrick Institute Priority Project grant
- In 2007-2008 TeCTra is being re-developed and pilot-tested by the project partners;
 - 3 UTS Faculty's IT, Engineering & Business
 - 3 Australian University's QUT, Curtin and Griffith
- In 2009 TeCTra will be ready for dissemination as a product or service
- Call for University of Edinburgh pilot-testers...

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TeCTra online tool

Team Contribution Tracking

- Develops students self and peer holistic evaluation skills
- Provides visibility of individual contributions
- Develops students formative and diagnostic feedback skills
- Provides opportunity for student reflection and adaption
- Provides formative and summative assessment data
- Makes peer assessment relatively easy
- Are you interested in being a pilot-tester in 2008?