

2012 UNIVERSITY ANNUAL LEARNING & TEACHING CONFERENCE

2012 & Beyond

Morning Oral Bites

11:55 – 12:25

Using SMS as a feedback mechanism in lectures

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Abstract:

The large lecture (50+ students) is not a good forum for an interactive experience. Questions can be asked but often students are intimidated to ask a question in front of a large group of peers or conversely lecturers are concerned about “opening up the floor” in case there are large numbers of questions. Linked to the tight time spots that are given (50mins) for rooms this can lead to a teaching style that is very didactic.

So, the use of SMS alongside a capture technology called TEXTWALL has been used for the purpose of (i) allowing students to ask questions anonymously (ii) when they want to ask them and not when the lecturer chooses (iii) to give feedback on the progress of the lecture and (iv) to capture questions which can be answered using a FAQ wall.