

UCD REGISTRY

Clárlann UCD

GAP Changes and Gradebook Replacement Project

This email has been circulated to: Heads of School, Module Coordinators, Module Assistants, Vice Principals for Teaching & Learning, School Heads of Teaching & Learning, Educational Technologists, College/School Office Directors, College Principals, University Deans, Programme Managers, College/School Office Administrators, UCD Registry

Dear Colleagues

As you may be aware, a number of grading-related projects have been initiated over the last year and some further elements are now near completion.

All the projects align to the principles and objectives as established by the UPB <u>Grade Approvals Process</u> (GAP) working group and as approved by ACEC in May 2020.

Further details and updates in relation to these <u>projects</u> and technical developments will continue to be shared by Assessment, UCD Registry in the coming weeks. My thanks to Associate Professor Maeve Houlihan and the members of the UPB GAP Review Working Group for establishing a new streamlined and enhanced process, and to Associate Professor Niamh Moore-Cherry and the group members of the GAP Review Implementation Steering Group for their ongoing work.

Gradebook Replacement Project

This key initiative will impact on grade entry this trimester. A steering group, led by Professor Alan Baird, was convened to identify a replacement for Gradebook. UCD's version of Gradebook was built in Adobe Flash and this will not be supported by browsers from the end of this year. Only the interface for grade entry will be changing, there will be no changes to the student record system.

I would like to thank the steering group for all their hard work and I am pleased to inform you that the university will implement the new facility for grade entry from early November 2020.

Improvements as a result of this change include:

- More intuitive grade entry mechanism, accessed through 'My Module Grades' in Infohub
- Reconfigured with tools to minimize scope for data entry errors
- Enhanced upload functionality for components and final module grades
- Removal of the need to use Java
- Link to enhanced reporting to help with grade review
- Functioning transfer mechanism from Brightspace

Live demos with Q&A sessions will be rolled out across all schools in November by Assessment, UCD Registry. Ongoing support will be available through FAQ's, guidelines and recorded videos.

All current module coordinators will have access to the new facility automatically. It is important that you engage and familiarise yourself with the new grade entry facility in advance of Autumn Trimester 20/21 grading. Following implementation in early November, the old Gradebook interface will be decommissioned.

Additional timeline details and further information will be shared by Assessment, UCD Registry in due course.

Sincerely

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