



Automating Student Evaluation

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Evaluating students' contribution to group work has been a research focus at Otago Polytechnic (see Parsons, D. in these proceedings). Collecting and calculating the group evaluations could become a burden if the class is large or if there are a number of assessments being evaluated. The DB309 class were assigned the task of automating the system using a web based database and ColdFusion.

The class approach was to make the interface for the students as straightforward as possible, allowing a fast evaluation process. When students log in to the system their group membership and assessments are displayed for selection. They enter the appropriate marks, which are verified using the "Flexi-sum" approach. Submitting the marks assigns them to the database for viewing by the tutor.

The tutor interfaces varied as the class members incorporated a range of administrative functions, from adding and editing student groups and assessments to viewing the results. The task proved more complex than anticipated with the calculation of deviations and bias flags, error checking and validation of entries.

The final result has been the completion of several working systems, one of which (or a combination) will be in place next semester. Some systems can generate a spreadsheet containing the assessment results. Automating the evaluations will permit staff to use the group evaluation system without drowning in the paper work.

Maintain Groups for DB309	Go
Disable Student Score Entry for DB309	Go
Display Group Scores Report for DB309 Standard Deviations? <input type="checkbox"/> Comments? <input type="checkbox"/>	Go
Delete All Students' Evaluations for DB309	Go
Delete All Groups for DB309	Go

