Assessment Integrity and the Role of Examinations: A synopsis.
Acknowledgements

• Higher Education Services
• Curtin University
• University of Melbourne
• Victoria University
• Speakers and panel members
• Delegates
Forum themes

• What are the contemporary and emergent issues in examination integrity?

• Can examinations/tests be authentic and of high integrity?

• How can we assure integrity in online contexts, especially at scale?

• What practices are institutions adopting to address these issues?

• What opportunities are there for sector collaboration on common areas of concern?
Emergent issues from the Forum

• (Loss of) academic integrity is a significant risk
• Many interesting approaches – some longstanding
• Good assessment design is critical
• Online environment seen as particularly risky
• Still no cost effective solution for the issue of remotely invigilated online assessment
• Universal problems – sector collaboration vital
Issues in assessment

Assessment Lifecycle
(weak) links in a chain
Richard James, Neil Robinson,
University of Melbourne

Exams are not sacrosanct,
especially MCQs
Gareth Denyer, U of Sydney

Dr Mathew Hillier Monash University
Dr Andrew Fluck University of Tasmania

National Forum: Assessment Integrity and the Role of Examinations, Melbourne August 22, 2017
A fourth dimension – hacking/cybersecurity

Phillip Dawson, Deakin University
Remote invigilation system
Sefcik, et al., Curtin University

(At Curtin, labelled CRIS)

Functionality
- Records behaviour and identity
- Flags unusual activity for staff review

Proof of concept testing
- Assessed feasibility within a capstone unit
- Examined ease of use, student and staff perceptions
Prototype remote invigilation system

1. Install CRIS
2. Access assessment
3. CRIS plugin opens
4. Enter identification
5. Share webcam
6. Share screen
7. Password auto-populated
8. Start assessment
9. CRIS running
10. Finish & Upload
CRIS ‘proof of concept’ trial

CRIS works

• A case of potential misconduct was found in the trial

Staff workload seems manageable

• Instruction & setup ~1-3 hours
• Management ~1 min per student per eTest
• Minimal student queries

Students became more comfortable with the idea of remote invigilation after the trial
Australian Higher Education Standards

5.2 Academic and Research Integrity

2. Preventative action is taken to mitigate foreseeable risks to academic and research integrity including misrepresentation, fabrication, cheating, plagiarism and misuse of intellectual property, and to prevent recurrences of breaches.

3. Students are provided with guidance on what constitutes academic or research misconduct and the development of good practices in maintaining academic and research integrity.
What if...

• Educative dimension – ‘just in time’ advice?

• Avatar based pop-up support

• AI techniques to automatically address minor issues
Opportunities for collaboration

• CRIS / IRIS appears to **have value** - worthy of further development

• **Expand testing** to other assessment types and disciplines at Curtin in 2018

• Opportunity for cross-institutional collaboration
A closing thought... authenticity?