University of Aberdeen’s Annual Academic Development Symposium

Student Transitions Workshop

Fresh approaches to persistent problems: innovative case studies in transition management

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Persistent problems and challenges?

- Increasing student numbers
- Increasingly diverse student population
- Staff time constraints
- Student reluctance to approach staff
- Increased student expectations
- Financial pressures
- Curricular advances
- Technology
Persistent problems and challenges – the result

• Increasingly difficult to monitor students and identify potential issues early

• Time spent trying to stay on top of these challenges means less time for developing and invigorating the curriculum

• These factors impact on student experience and therefore on our output measures
e.g. retention figures, student satisfaction ratings, employability scores

• Are there methods we can use to overcome these challenges and improve across these performance measures?

• We will discuss several case studies that suggest we can..............
Case studies in transition management

1. Students 4 students
   - peer mentoring as an approach to support and retention

2. Blackboard retention centre
   - automated student monitoring and early warning system

3. Online skills support packages
   - student designed skill development packages

4. Students as partners
   - involvement of students in curriculum design
Students as partners

Recent projects:

• Mathematics support package

• Pharmacokinetic teaching and learning suite (2 projects)

• Medical science skills resource

• MSc skills induction course

Internships funds: LTEP and BPS teaching grants