

How do you measure up?

The place of benchmarking standards for quality learning and teaching with sessional staff

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Sessional staff undertake the majority of teaching in our universities. The BLASST (Benchmarking Leadership and Advancement of Standards for Sessional Teaching) project has developed national standards for quality learning and teaching with sessional staff. These evidenced-based standards are built on eight years of research, piloting and evaluation. They are introduced through the B-BIT, the BLASST Benchmarking Interactive Tool. This online tool can be used for benchmarking at the organisational, faculty, departmental or individual level. Participants will be introduced to the benchmarking standards and the three principles upon which they are framed: quality learning and teaching, support for sessional staff and sustainability. This showcase provides a space in which to engage with the B-BIT, a tool that can be used for benchmarking sessional staff standards that can be undertaken as a self-assessment, collaboratively, cross departmentally or cross institutionally. A strength of this tool is that it automatically produces a colour coded report that can support strategic planning for quality learning and teaching.