

eaa

The e-Assessment Association



The e-Assessment Association: Influencing the future of e- assessment

Assessment systems must keep pace with changes in learning. The changes being heralded in 21st century learning require that assessment systems change too. In this context, technology is becoming an increasingly strong driver of change in assessment. As that influence grows over the next ten years, it is likely that the pull of technology will be felt through:

- Rapid change in assessment in the lecture hall and the classroom.
- The transformation of (some) examinations and training through the use of technology to assess higher order thinking, as well as providing professional training and skills-based assessment in the workplace.
- The use of technology to improve the administration of current examinations and tests, as well as the gradual migration of traditional paper-based tests to computer-delivered tests.
- Uptake of e-portfolios to accommodate 21st century learning and training patterns, as well as to strengthen university and college transfer.

The e-Assessment Association (eAA) will be a strong and independent voice, influencing these and other developments in e-assessment. The eAA is an independent professional body. Our mission statement is

'The eAA campaigns for the widening of the effective use of e-assessment in support of learning. The eAA will do this by encouraging individuals and organisations to make good use of e-assessment, by explaining the issues to the public, and by influencing educational thinking and policy.'

How do I join?

To join the eAA, please come to one of our day seminars described overleaf.

Why should I join?

Membership will enable you to:

- discuss new and creative approaches that can support organisational excellence and help improve the quality of e-assessment;
- share experiences, practice, skills and knowledge with other experts;
- network with other teachers, tutors, academics, awarding body representatives, training providers, software developers and vendors;
- influence educational policy through debate;
- have access to new developments in e-assessment;
- look at the latest 'case studies' and 'best practice' exemplars.

The eAA Board:

The chair of the eAA is Cliff Beevers PhD, OBE, Chair of eAA, Emeritus Professor of Mathematics, Heriot-Watt University. Other founding board members are:

- Colin Deal, Director, Examware Limited
- John Gordon, Director JGO Ltd, Independent Consultancy Company
- Richard Hanna, Business Manager, NI Council for the Curriculum Examinations and Assessment
- Robert Harding PhD, Treasurer eAA, Independent consultant, Cambridge University
- Geraldine Kenney-Wallace PhD, FRSC, Group Director, New Ventures, City & Guilds of London Institute
- Phillip John PhD DSc, Chair of the SCHOLAR Forum, Professor of Chemistry, Heriot-Watt University
- Martyn Leese, Independent Consultant
- Fred McBride, R&D Director, Alta Systems (NI) Ltd, Emeritus Professor of Education, The Queen's University of Belfast
- Martin Ripley EdM, MBA, FRSA, Director of the 21st Century Learning Alliance
- Jeff Ross MSc, MCILIP, MCILT, Director Assessment Tomorrow
- Craig Strangwick, ABC Awards, Nottingham
- Martyn Ware MBA, Business Manager Computer Assisted Assessment, Scottish Qualifications Authority
- David Wild PhD, Director of Assessment Services (Europe), Wimba

The logo for the e-Assessment Association, consisting of the lowercase letters 'eaa' in a white, sans-serif font on a purple background.

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Announcing a Series of e-assessment seminars around the UK

The e-Assessment Association in collaboration with the Council for the Curriculum Examinations and Assessment (CCEA) in Northern Ireland, ABC Awards in Nottingham and the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) in Scotland is to hold a series of seminars around the UK as follows:

Apr 30th Belfast
May 7th Nottingham
May 20th Glasgow

What is to be covered?

The series of seminars will highlight the benefits of e-assessment in three broad areas of education: Primary/Secondary, Secondary/Tertiary HE and Tertiary FE/Workplace. The speakers will describe the main features in the relevant sector led by a well-known exponent in the field and gather informed views through discussion under the guidance of experienced facilitators. As a delegate at one of the events you will have an opportunity to express your views on this burgeoning field.

What is the e-Assessment Association?

The embryonic e-Assessment Association has three major goals for its community: to provide professional support for workers in this field of expertise, to work collaboratively with members and national organisations to create and communicate the positive contribution that technologies can make to assessment methods and produce a statement of good practice for commercial vendors of e-assessment.

Who should attend?

Anyone with experience in the creation, deployment and delivery of e-assessment in its many forms will find the detailed programme stimulating.

What are the expected outcomes?

Each event will conclude by establishing a special interest group in e-assessment in its part of the country. At the end of the series of meetings members of eAA will have the chance to review the conclusions of the prepared talks and the condensed discussions following these presentations.

Where can I find more information?

For Belfast: Jan Bates on 02890 261 239 or email jbates@ccea.org.uk

For Nottingham: Michelle Chesterfield on 0115 854 1626 or email michellec@emfec.co.uk

For Glasgow: Derek McFarlane on 0845 213 5406 or email Derek.mcfarlane@sqa.org.uk

For further details see <http://www.seminars.e-assess.co.uk/>.