Using Analytics for Learn to share information at scale

The Division of Learning and Teaching works in partnership with Divisions, Colleges and Departments to enhance student learning through the support of its teaching staff. Over the past 4 years, learning analytics has increasingly been employed to enhance learning and teaching. Implementing Pyramid reports is one way of making course-level analytics available to both instructional designers and teaching staff by using dashboards for easy data consolidation and visualisation. We have begun experimenting with exporting the underlying data for multiple courses to Excel for data analysis or for use in Tableau, creating new and experimental visualisations of learning analytics data.

GOAL(S)
• Deliver faculty meaningful learning analytics
• Extend learning analytics beyond A4L reports and Pyramid
• Test visualisations and dashboards for suitability

ACTIVITY SUMMARY
After multi-tab dashboards, the next large-scale exploration of data with Excel used Pivot Tables, formulas and charts to present learning analytics for multiple courses. To provide data at greater granularity, Tableau was used with Pyramid perspective exports, with us then joining data across Pyramid perspectives to provide additional learning analytics for and across courses.

SUCCESS MEASURES
It is early days, but positive feedback has been received from academic staff and instructional designers on the visualisations, with them noting that visualisations help them to get a much clearer picture of what is happening across the course site in terms of student engagement.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS
Exporting data from Pyramid is clearly a manual process. We have implemented a data feed of analytics data from Blackboard, and when this is in a database we can then move to a “live” data system.