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HEA Teaching and Learning Conference

December 2025

Leading Change Together: Building the Future of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education



Fostering a Culture of Academic Integrity at Mary Immaculate College



Institution(s) and Partner Organisations Involved

Led by Learning Enhancement and Academic Development (LEAD) in MIC, in collaboration with Mary Immaculate Students' Union (MISU), Academic Learning Centre, MIC Counselling Services, ICT Services, Data Compliance

Contributor(s)

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What level(s) of your institution does this work affect?

- Module level
- Programme level
- Across multiple programmes Academic unit/school/faculty level
- Across multiple units/schools/faculties Institutional level

Date and Timeframe

Ongoing

Alignment and Focus

Focus

- Best Practice in Upholding and Cultivating Academic Integrity

Frameworks, Policies, or Strategies Aligned

- UDL Principles
- NAIN frameworks and guidelines

Discipline

- Teaching and Learning

Impact, Lessons Learned and Future Directions

Impact and Evidence of Success

To date the case studies series have received 631 views, and within the first two weeks of launching our genAI microsite obtained 280 views. There is ongoing engagement with LEAD on assessment re/design, with many staff examining their approaches to assessment within modules and across programmes. Engagement with keynote speakers for Academic Integrity Week was high across the sector: there were 190 unique registrations from HEIs throughout Ireland, and the playback videos are engaged with regularly.

Future Plans and Sustainability

Much of the work outlined above is a work-in-progress, recognising that efforts towards fostering a culture of academic integrity is an ongoing process. Key future milestones include:

- Launch of the Academic Integrity microsite for staff and students.
- Launch of a revised MIC Academic Integrity Policy.
- Continued research into student perceptions and practices in relation to academic integrity, with the express aim of gathering baseline data and setting targets for supporting student learning in this domain.
- Development of a special purpose award at PG level focused on inclusive assessment and feedback, which will be made available to MIC staff as a professional learning opportunity.

Top Tips

- Collaborate with key stakeholders (both staff and students) to promote a holistic, cross-institutional approach to promoting academic integrity
- Provide teachers with opportunities to discuss and share their practice in relation to academic integrity.



INTRODUCTION

RESPONSIBLE USE IN TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

GENERATIVE AI INFRINGEMENTS

CONSIDERATIONS FOR GRADING IN THE CONTEXT OF GENAI

KEY TERMS

Initiative Description

Aims and Objectives

- Development of an Academic Integrity microsite for staff and students Revision of MIC's Academic Integrity Policy
- Development of a schedule of activities for Academic Integrity Week Supporting assessment design to strengthen academic integrity

Outline or Description

Learning Enhancement and Academic Development (LEAD) are supporting academic integrity throughout MIC through several key initiatives:

• Development of an Academic Integrity microsite for staff and students

Working in partnership with MISU, the Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Education, the Academic Learning Centre, ICT, Data Compliance and MIC Counselling Services, we have developed an Academic Integrity microsite, designed to be a 'one stop shop' for both staff and students to access information and guidance in relation to academic integrity. The first phase of the site launched in September 2025, with a focus on Generative AI (genAI). Developed in collaboration with ICT Services and Data Compliance, this section of the site provides guidance on the responsible use of genAI for teaching, learning and assessment, and it supports students looking to use genAI by advising them on how to avoid genAI infringements and breaches of the Academic Integrity Policy. The remainder of the site is at the final stages of development and includes sections on Integrity at Risk, Strategies for Integrity and Supports for Staff and Students. Emphasis is placed on supporting students to avoid academic integrity breaches, with input from the Counselling Service to support student mental health and wellbeing. There is also extensive guidance for staff on designing assessments which strengthen academic integrity. It is anticipated that the full microsite will launch this academic semester.

• Revision of MIC's Academic Integrity Policy

MIC's Academic Integrity Policy is currently undergoing revision, in collaboration with MISU and other key stakeholders within the College. This new policy will seek to foster a culture of academic integrity while also outlining clear boundaries for academic misconduct. Care and an educative response

to academic misconduct is a core feature of this policy. As a result, we believe that this policy's promotion of an educative approach will help to foster a stronger understanding of academic integrity and will support an enriched culture of academic integrity at the College.

• Development of a schedule of activities for Academic Integrity Week

Particular emphasis was placed on academic integrity during National Academic Integrity Week (Oct 13th-17th 2025). Highlights included two keynote presentations: Dr Fiona O'Riordan (CCT College, Dublin) shared her perspectives on

'Interactive oral assessment to strengthen academic integrity' (recording available [here](#)) and Prof Danny Liu (University of Sydney) led a discussion on 'Practicalities of the two-lane approach to assessment: balancing integrity with relevance'

(recording available [here](#)). These keynotes reached close to 200 participants across the Irish HE sector, and recordings are available for those who wish. LEAD also launched a local iteration of the National Forum open course 'GenAI for Teaching and Learning: how to do it right' and will be supporting colleagues who wish to work towards gaining this digital badge. Finally, a student survey was also launched which aims to investigate existing student perceptions and practices in relation to academic integrity. This is a work-in-progress, and results will be shared in the coming months.

• Supporting assessment design to strengthen academic integrity

An ongoing aim of LEAD is to support colleagues to design assessments which best support academic integrity, bearing in mind that robust assessment design is a key pillar of academic integrity. Supports include:

Regular workshops with MIC staff who wish to re/design assessments.

Semesterly calls for support with assessment design, leading to 1-1 support with members of the LEAD team. Embedding a focus on assessment and feedback within MIC's accredited programme for those who teach in MIC, the Graduate Certificate in Academic Practice.

Sharing examples of innovative assessment practices through the development of a series of case studies ([linked here](#)).

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