Peas in a Pod Discussion
Monday, March 6, 2017 • 1:15 PM - 2:15 PM

Combining Learning and Testing: How can assessment expertise improve digital learning solutions?
Room: Cushing B
Practice Area Division(s):
Topic: Program Design
Session Type: Peas in a Pod Discussion

Description
When new technology is developed the availability of data on student learning increases—whether generated through assessment tasks or by tracking learning activities. This data then leads to new possibilities for the measuring, tracking, or monitoring of proficiencies. It also allows for more efficient and effective student learning by presenting appropriate materials at the right time and in the right format.

And although learning and testing were often separate fields of expertise, some aspects are also very closely related as well. Personalized, adaptive, or individualized learning, for example, are very similar to formative assessment practices, and these learning solutions all rely heavily on psychometric and measurement expertise necessary to make inferences from the available data. When measurement expertise is used in a learning context, however, several topics need to be discussed. Valid inferences, reliability, privacy, and data handling, for example, must all be considered.

During this "peas in a pod" session, participants will be invited to discuss the relation of adaptive learning environments and assessment through such questions as:
(1) which possibilities and challenges lay ahead when assessments and learning become more entwined,
(2) what assessment expertise is necessary to facilitate adaptive learning,
(3) how are concepts as validity and reliability affected when used for measurement in a learning context,
(4) what are the political consequences in the different countries and educational systems, (5) are these systems ready to implement these new approaches to learning,
(6) which specific logistic challenges need to be addressed, and
(7) what are issues regarding data security and privacy that should be addressed?

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