



Product Demonstrations

Monday, March 6, 2017 • 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Formative Badges: A New Assessment Program that Combines Badges and Formative Assessment

Room: Kierland Grand Foyer

Practice Area Division(s):

Topic: Program Design

Session Type: Product Demonstration

Description

In education, technological innovations encourage schools, teachers, and students to design flexible learning environments. With 1:1 initiatives being more widespread in schools, for example, methods of teaching and organizing learning are changing. Schools start to work with individual learning trajectories, and students are allowed to learn at their own pace.

One important consequence of these new teaching methods is that major standardized tests are sometimes perceived as restrictive or even counterproductive. Schools are looking for tests and assessments that have the benefits of big standardized tests in terms of psychometric quality, comparability, and being norm-referenced, while at the same time, having the flexibility and in-depth information that can be provided through formative classroom assessments.

This session will show a prototype of an assessment program that facilitates teachers in shaping flexible education. The prototype is developed in close collaboration with schools and teachers and includes both teacher and student apps. The program combines badges with principles of formative assessment, and consists of small tests that aim to measure very small learning objectives in math. A student is able to celebrate their learning achievements once a specific learning objective is reached, and average students will work on approximately two learning objectives a week. Presumably, the majority of students will pass the test since they spent time on learning to achieve their learning goal. When a student fails, however, feedback is available to help the student achieve his goal in a second attempt.

While students are learning to achieve their learning objectives and—when they are ready—show off their skills, teachers gain detailed insights. The teacher can track all the results of students, seeing answers and progressions as well as diagnostic information about students if necessary.

During the session the presenters will demonstrate student and teacher apps that are used in this assessment program. They will elaborate on the use of the product in classrooms and their design efforts to meet the needs of teachers and students while maintaining assessment quality. They will also discuss their design choices in developing the assessment program from a psychometric and test-development point of view.

PRESENTER:
Saskia Wools Cito