

# ESUP-DAYS #25

## APEREO PARIS 2018

*Learning Analytics 2018*

**Where We Are, and Where We Need to Go...**

*Presenters:*

**Ian Dolphin**

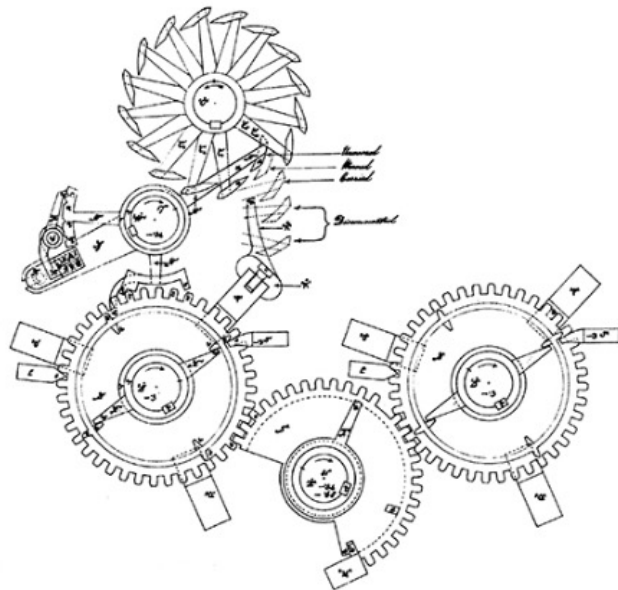
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**esup**  
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Serving the Academic Mission

# **Agenda**

Learning Analytics Defined

Big Data - What Could Go Wrong?

A Central Service: The UK Experience

Learning Analytics and Openness

# A Distinction ...



Academic Analytics  
System or organisation wide data



Learner/ing Analytics  
Actionable data about individuals

# Learning Analytics Definition

**“Measurement, collection, analysis and reporting of data about learners and their contexts, for purposes of understanding and optimizing learning and the environments in which it occurs” (1)**

# **Learning Analytics Definition**

Applying techniques associated with **big data** to data produced in course of learning.

Analysing historical aggregate data to identify potential failure/success.

**#LSAC17 Keynote @dgasevic**

**Recognising that learning analytics  
is about learning - not just big data**

**#LearningAnalytics**

# **The Critics**







# **Big Data: What Could Go Wrong?**

People write algorithms ...

... or people write the algorithms that  
write algorithms ...

DAVID LAZER AND RYAN KENNEDY SCIENCE 10.01.15 7:00 AM

# WHAT WE CAN LEARN FROM THE EPIC FAILURE OF GOOGLE FLU TRENDS

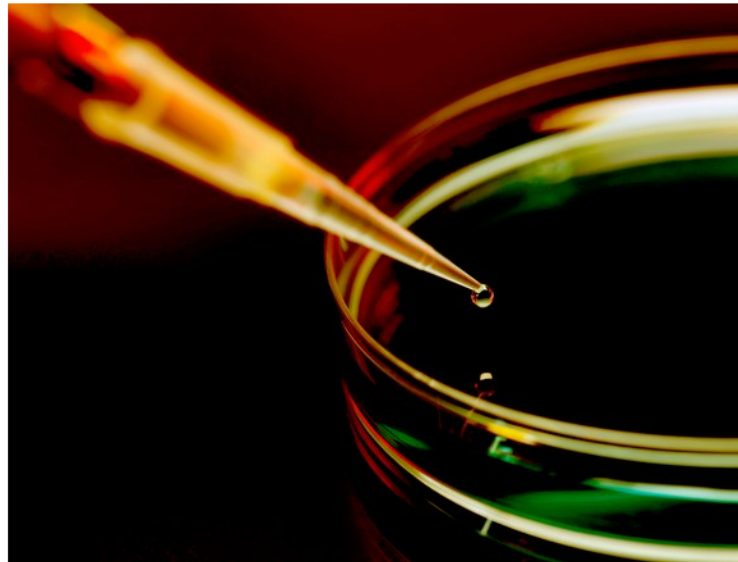
SHARE

f SHARE 854

TWEET

COMMENT 10

EMAIL



RAFE SWAN/GETTY IMAGES

EVERY DAY, MILLIONS of people use Google to dig up information that drives their daily lives, from how long their commute will be to how to treat their child's illness. This



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jobs

dating

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UK edition ▾

# theguardian



UK

politics

world

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football

opinion

culture

business

lifestyle

fashion

environment

tech

travel

≡ all

home > tech

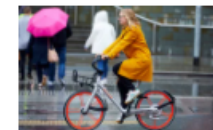
Tesla

## Tesla driver dies in first fatal crash while using autopilot mode

The autopilot sensors on the Model S failed to distinguish a white tractor-trailer crossing the highway against a bright sky



### Most popular



Manchester's bike-share scheme isn't working - because people don't know how to share |...



Age checks to be introduced on porn websites in UK








Doctor Who: Jodie

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## DIGITS

# Google Mistakenly Tags Black People as ‘Gorillas,’ Showing Limits of Algorithms

By *Alistair Barr*

Jul 1, 2015 3:40 pm ET

Google is a leader in artificial intelligence and machine learning. But the company’s computers still have a lot to learn, judging by a major blunder by its Photos app this week.

The app tagged two black people as “Gorillas,” according to Jacky Alciné, a Web developer who spotted the error and tweeted a photo

## Recommended Videos

1. Here are the Five Worst Travel Mistakes You’re Making



2. Valerian: Luc Besson’s \$180 Million Indie



# Why big-data analysis of police activity is inherently biased

May 10, 2017 by William Isaac And Andi Dixon, The Conversation



How does bad data affect predictive policing algorithms? Credit: Photosani/shutterstock.com

In early 2017, Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel announced a new initiative in the city's **ongoing battle with violent crime**. The most common solutions to this sort of problem involve **hiring more police officers or working more closely with community members**. But Emanuel declared that the Chicago Police Department would expand its use of software, enabling what is called

*Istdibs*

Featured Last comments Popular

Tardigrades: The last survivors on Earth Jul 14, 2017 13



## Reform predictive policing

Aaron Shapiro

25 January 2018

Police agencies  
improves publ

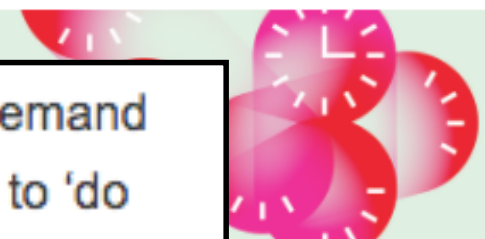


PDF



At the same time, tight policing budgets are increasing demand for law-enforcement technologies. Police agencies hope to 'do more with less' by outsourcing their evaluations of crime data to analytics and technology companies that produce 'predictive policing' systems. These use algorithms to forecast where crimes are likely to occur and who might commit them, and to make recommendations for allocating police resources. Despite wide adoption, predictive policing is still in its infancy, open to bias and hard to evaluate.

### Tangles in time



scramble cause and

quantum causality can





# HULL DAILY MAIL

At the heart of all things local Saturday October 5 2013 50p

Withersea Game King

**KIDS SOFT PLAY**  
BUY 1 GET 1 FREE

10 FREE GAMES OF BINGO

GREAT FAMILY DAY OUT

[gameaware.co.uk](http://gameaware.co.uk)



## DANNY'S MY BOY

BRUCE STICKS BY STRIKER DESPITE GOAL DROUGHT **BACK PAGE**

LATEST TIGERS NEWS AT [hulldaily.com](http://hulldaily.com)

**lotto**

**£40,000 TO BE WON**

**SEE PAGE 23**

Enter online @ [hulldaily.com](http://hulldaily.com)

When playing lotto, Latches rules and Procedures apply. Prizes must be 16 or over.

Criminal's DNA found after he snacks on vegetables

# BURGLAR IS CAUGHT BY CUCUMBER



by Nicky Harley  
Court Reporter  
[n.harley@hulldaily.com](mailto:n.harley@hulldaily.com)

A DOZY burglar was caught by police after having a bite out of a cucumber.

Billy Joe Donnelly, 22, was peckish when he raided a greenhouse down a country lane.

During the raid, however, he couldn't resist sampling the home-grown produce and his DNA was later discovered on a cucumber.

The honorary Recorder of Hull and the East Riding, Judge Michael Mettreyer, declared in disbelief: "He was caught by a cucumber."

**have your say**

Do you agree with sentence?

[hulldaily.com](http://hulldaily.com)

Donnelly, of Wimbourne Close, Bransholme, ate a variety of produce and then burgled the home of the owners on August 21.

Prosecutor Jharria Jones said: "The owner was going to sell the items he was growing in the greenhouse, but someone had been in there and eaten most of the vegetables and a cucumber. A cucumber was found with his DNA on it."

Continued on page 2

### INSIDE TODAY



Lucky escape as digger crushes car  
**NEWS: PAGE 5**



The pig farmer who sings like Sinatra

**view video**

Come try with Barry

[hulldaily.com](http://hulldaily.com)

**NEWS: PAGE 3**



X Factor star's twin is his biggest fan  
**NEWS: PAGE 6**

**PECKISH:** Burglar Billy Joe Donnelly, left, was caught after taking a bite out of a cucumber.





Features // Technology

## The living laboratory: how the University watches your every move

From wi-fi tracking and facial recognition, to analysing your behaviour on blackboard

by Natassia  
Chrysanthos

May 18, 2017





## **Uninvention or Influence & Shape?**

There is evidence of LA success

Do we have the right to ignore this?



6 Jisc briefing: Learning analytics and student success - assessing the evidence  
**Accurate predictive models identify students at risk**

---

## Accurate predictive models identify students at risk

Learning analytics systems enable universities to track individual student engagement, attainment and progression in near-real time, flagging any potential issues to tutors or support staff. They can then receive the earliest possible alerts of students at risk of dropping out or under-achieving.

- » Although many institutions develop their own specific models rather than adopting those created elsewhere, a key finding of the Open Academic Analytics Initiative led by Marist College, New York was that **the models developed at one institution can be transferred to very different institutions, while retaining most of**

Jisc briefing: Learning analytics and student success - assessing the evidence **7**  
**Effective institutional interventions**

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## Effective institutional interventions

It is only when actions are taken with students on the basis of the data that the true value of learning analytics becomes clear.

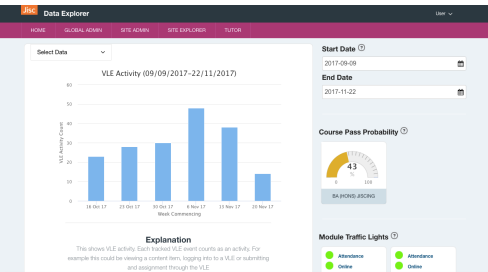
- » At Strayer University, Virginia contact with **the students identified as most at risk in one learning analytics pilot resulted in a 5% increase in attendance, 12% increase in passing and 8% decrease in attrition - compared to a control group**<sup>12</sup>
- » At the University of Nebraska-Lincoln **the four-year**

## About Jisc

- › UK's national IT member organisation for colleges and universities
- › >600 member organisations
- › Provide shared services, sector procurement deals and support and advice

<https://jisc.ac.uk>





## Jisc Learning Analytics

- What do UK institutions want to achieve?
- What Jisc are doing to help.
- How the Jisc service is being used
- Lessons learned so far
  - Legal Issues, Consent
  - Understanding Predictive Models

# **What do institutions want to achieve?**

- Improve Retention
- Teaching Learning Excellent Framework
- Widening participation



# **What we are doing to help?**

- Building a national architecture
- Defined standards and models
- Providing core services
- Working with vendors to integrate their solutions

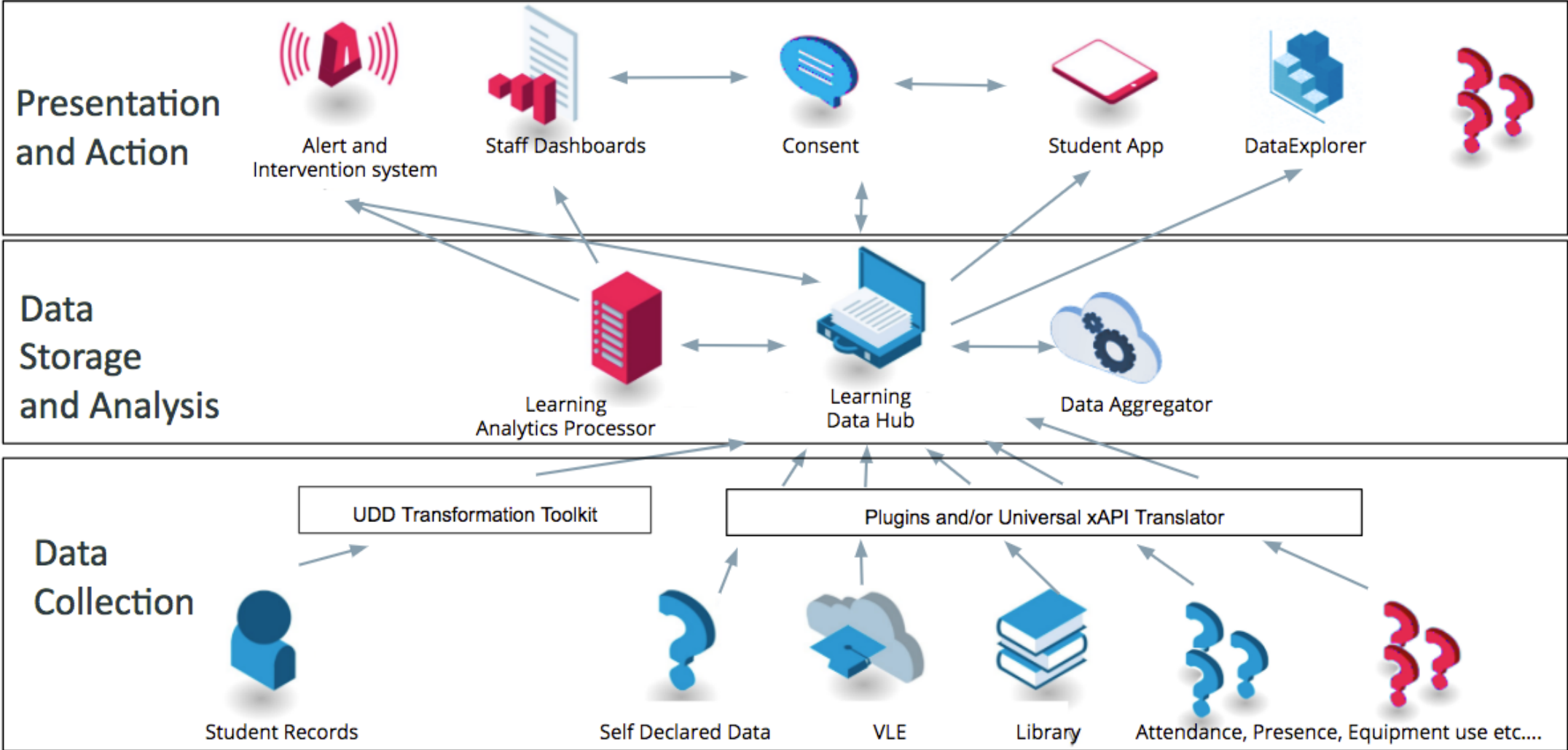
## **Who we are working with:**

- Altis Global Ltd
  - Blackboard International B.V.
  - Civitas Learning International Ltd
  - Deloitte MCS Ltd
  - HT2 Ltd
  - Civitas Learning International Ltd
  - Kortext Ltd
  - OCF PLC
  - Phoenix Software Ltd
  - Skillset Ltd
  - SolutionPath Ltd
  - Therapy Box Ltd
  - Tribal Education Ltd
- 
- 20 + UK Universities and colleges

## **Why are we building a national architecture?**

- Lower cost per institutions through shared infrastructure
- Standards mean models, visualisations and so on can be shared
- Lower barrier to innovation – the underpinning work is already done

# Jisc Architecture



# What data do we use?

## Student Data

- Who the student is (name, general demographics etc).
- What course they are taking (title, level, outcome etc)
- What marks they achieved in the course (mark, data, dropout info etc).
- The individual assignment grades (name, date, grade/mark etc)

<https://github.com/jiscdev/analytics-udd>

## Activity Data

- VLE data (login, items view, assignment submissions)
- Attendance data (event type, when, whether late etc.
- Library data (what borrowed, view etc).
- Intervention data (when, why etc)
- Presence data (card swipes, door access control etc.)

<https://github.com/jiscdev/xapi>

## **Learning analytics use cases today**

- 1) To support personal tutor system
- 2) To enable course leaders to improve their courses
- 3) To enable students to understand their learning

# **Supporting Personal Tutor System Data Explorer**

## **Overview of the process:**

- 1) Predictive analytics helps identify students at risk
- 2) Descriptive analytics helps identify why
- 3) Tutor determines intervention

# Supporting Personal Tutors: Showing students at risk

Students at risk

Jisc (UDD13) : Tutors > Tutor Overview

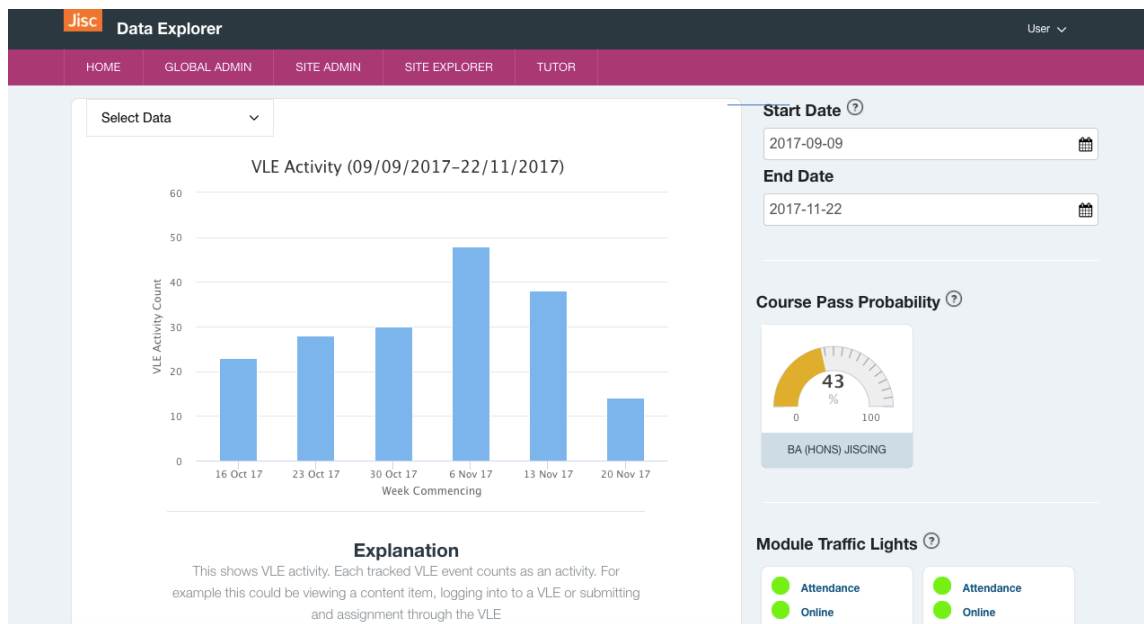
### Tutor Overview -

First name	Last name	Student ID	Course	Indicator	Action
James	Hodgkinson	1008	Not Known	●	<a href="#">View</a>
Jill	Jumper	3009	JISC-COURSE1	●	<a href="#">View</a>
Kim	Kanger	3010	JISC-COURSE1	●	<a href="#">View</a>
Lion	Liam	3011	JISC-COURSE1	●	<a href="#">View</a>
Michaela	Moon	3012	JISC-COURSE1	●	<a href="#">View</a>
Nigela	Noon	3013	JISC-COURSE1	●	<a href="#">View</a>

v.1.0.2d

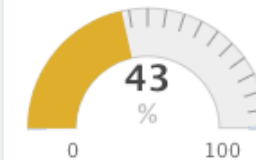


# Supporting Personal Tutors: Predictive and descriptive data



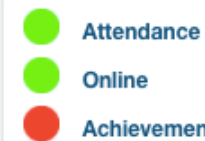
Predictive  
(Learning  
Analytics  
Predictor)

Course Pass Probability ?

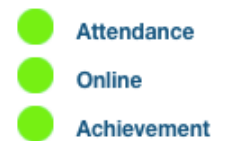


BA (HONS) JISCING

Module Traffic Lights ?



BASIC JISCING

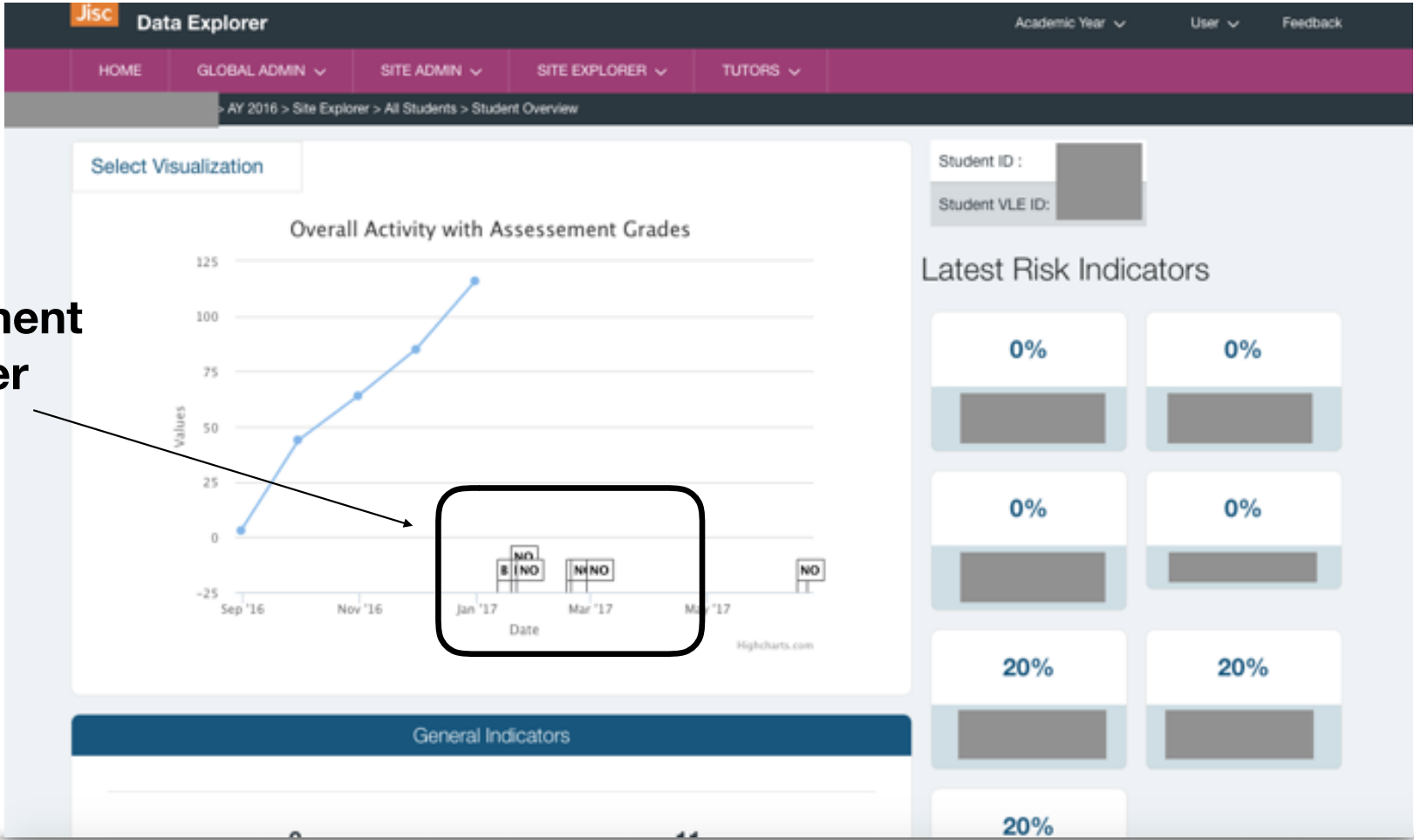


ADVANCED JISCING  
FOR BUSINESS

Rule-based  
(Traffic Light  
Calculator)

# Supporting Personal Tutors: Showing assessment cluster

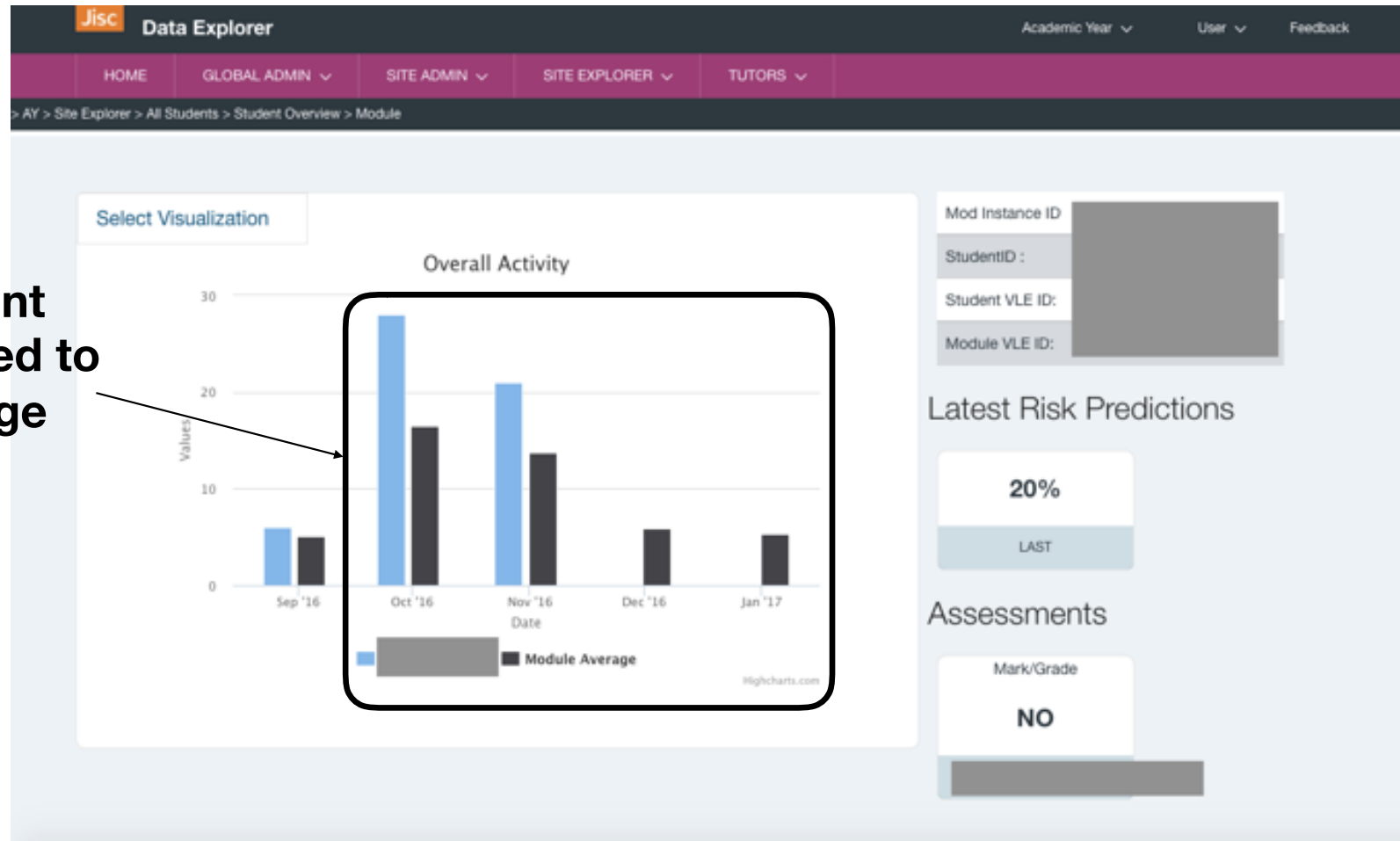
Assessment Cluster



# Supporting Personal Tutors:

## Showing student engaging less than average

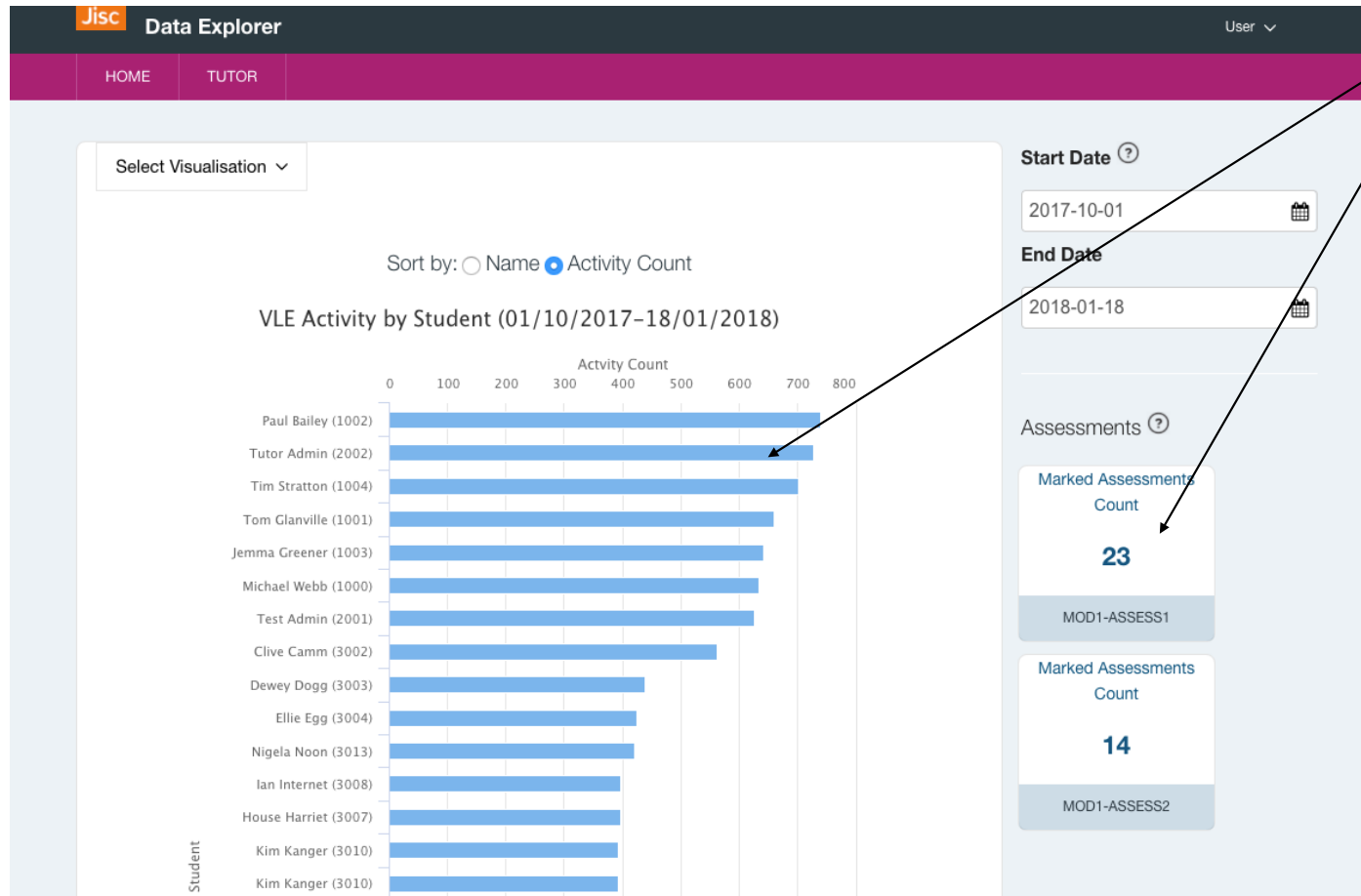
Student compared to average



# Supporting course leaders

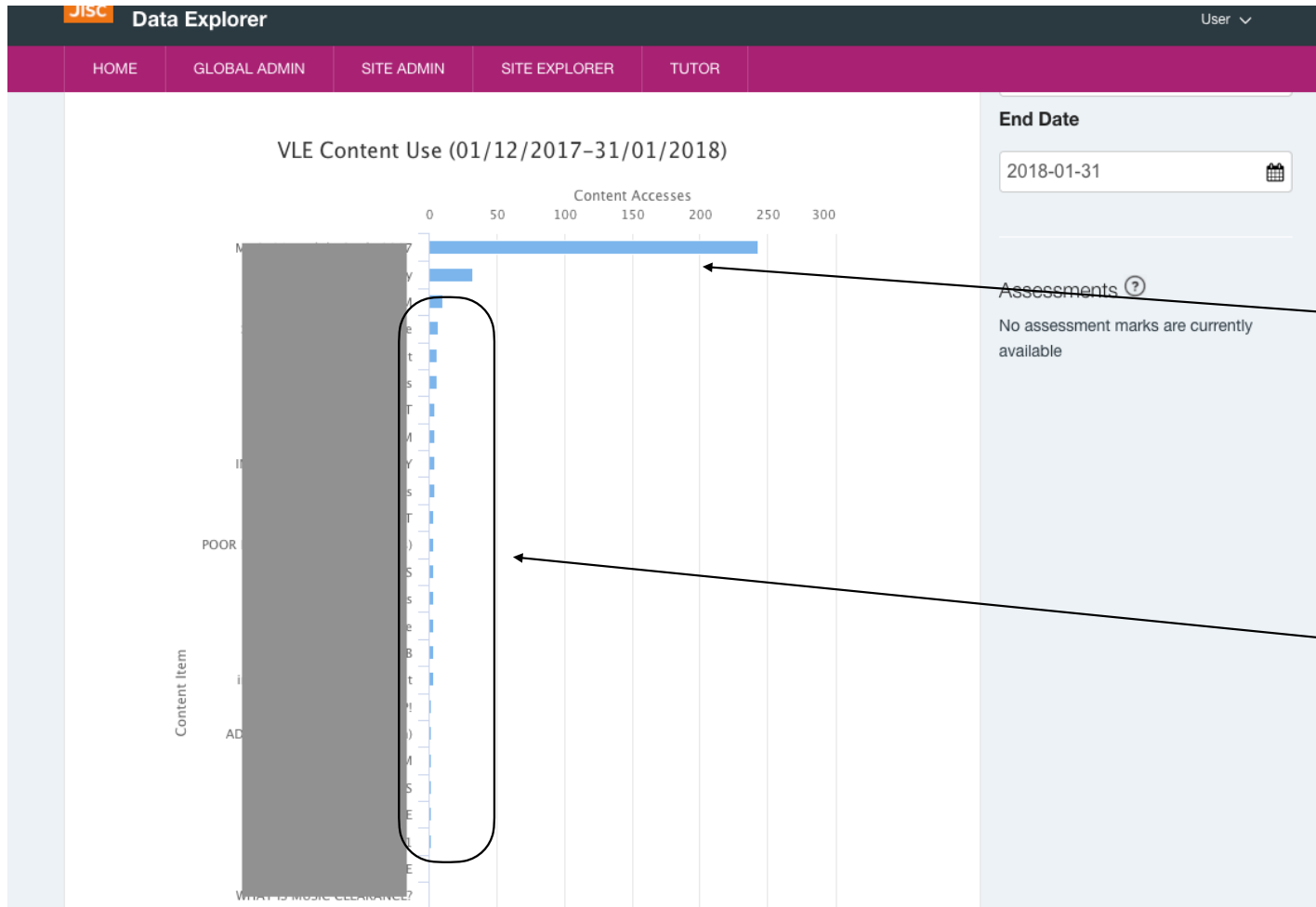
## Are all students engaging?

Descriptive data about course



# Supporting course leaders

## Are my materials being used?

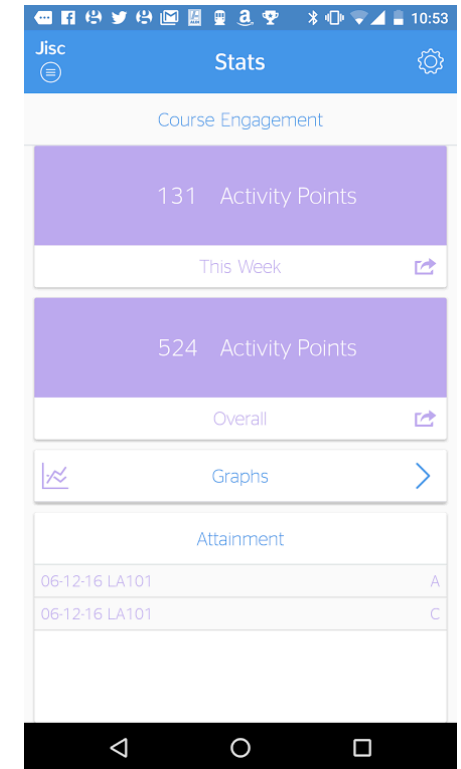
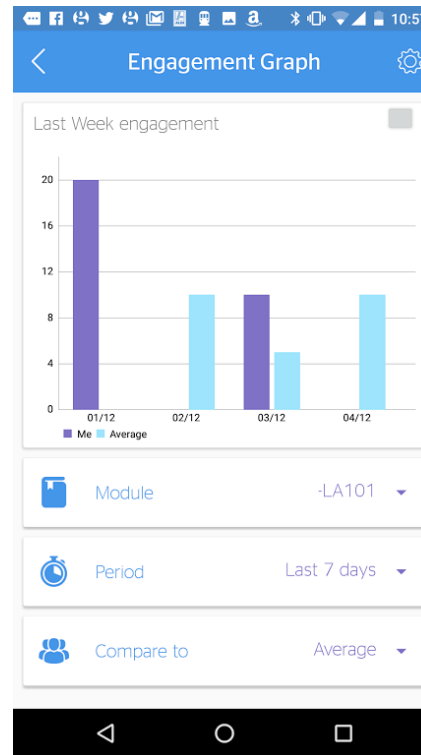
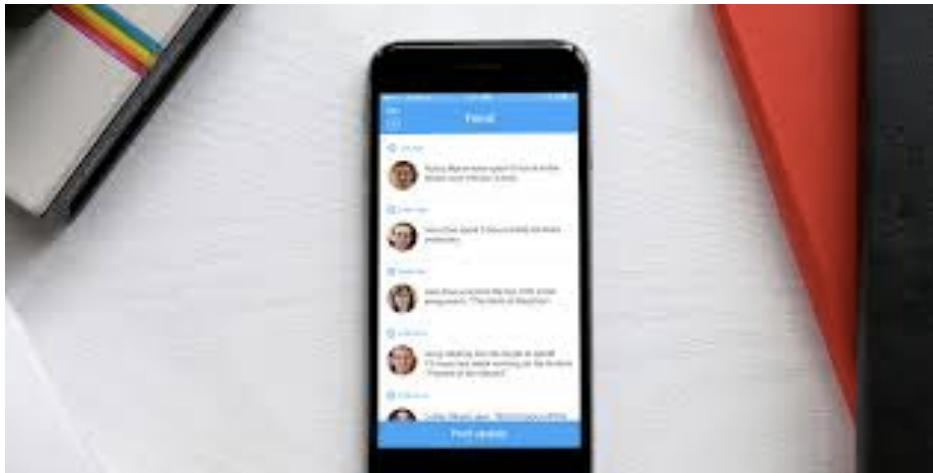


Students looking at this in the VLE

But not a lot else

# Supporting students - Study Goal

## Understanding their learning



# Key Lessons Learned

- 1: The team needs a number of core roles in order to succeed
- 2: The tools should be developed with users and match their terminology and processes.
- 3: Do not expect process change to occur quickly.
- 4: Applying standards to data really does work
- 5: Do not underestimate legal and contractual complexity**
- 6: Users want to understand predictive models (and that is hard)**
- 7: Consider the innovation chasm

legal and contractual complexity

## Consent - Jisc View (1)

The screenshot shows a blog post on the Jisc website. The main title is 'Effective Learning Analytics' with a subtitle 'Using data and analytics to support students'. The article title is 'Consent for learning analytics: some practical guidance for institutions' by Niall Slater, dated February 16, 2017. The article discusses the importance of consent for learning analytics, mentioning a previous podcast and providing practical guidance. A search bar is visible at the top right, and a 'RESOURCES' section is partially visible on the right side of the page.

See:

<https://analytics.jiscinvolve.org/wp/2017/02/16/consent-for-learning-analytics-some-practical-guidance-for-institutions/>

Most learning analytics is covered by:

a) **legitimate interests of the organisation**

b) **necessary for the performance of a contract with the data subject.**

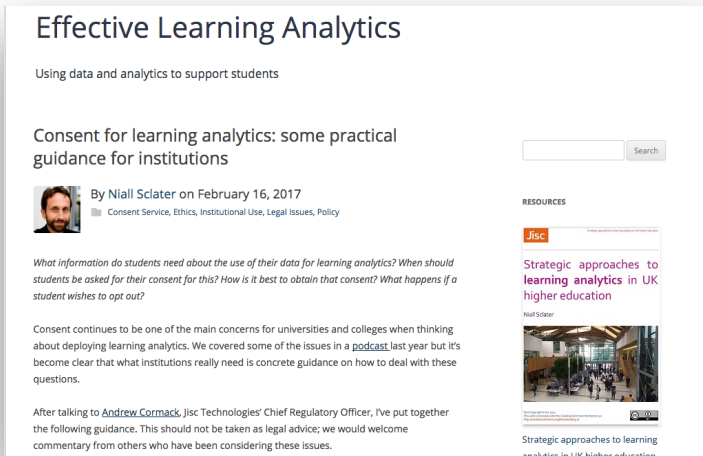
**Consent** isn't the most appropriate basis for general learning analytics.

There are exceptions.



legal and contractual complexity

## Consent - Jisc View (2)



The screenshot shows a blog post on the Jisc website. The main title is 'Effective Learning Analytics' with a subtitle 'Using data and analytics to support students'. The article title is 'Consent for learning analytics: some practical guidance for institutions' by Niall Slater, dated February 16, 2017. The article discusses the need for student consent and provides practical guidance. A search bar is visible at the top right, and a 'RESOURCES' section is partially visible on the right side of the page.

See:

<https://analytics.jiscinvolve.org/wp/2017/02/16/consent-for-learning-analytics-some-practical-guidance-for-institutions/>

Consent is required for the following:

### a) using sensitive characteristics

This includes attributes such as a person's religion, ethnicity, health, trade union membership or political beliefs.

This data may need to be used if using learning analytics to support widening participation or addressing differential outcomes

### b) for action based on automated decisions

This is explicitly covered under GDPR

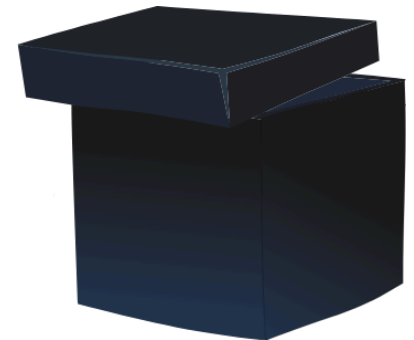
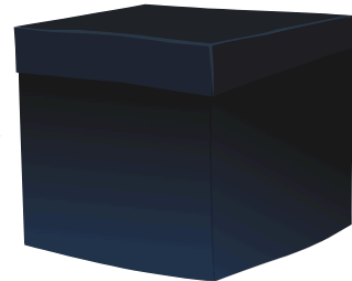
understanding predictive models

## **Openness for predictive models**

How do we explain our algorithms to users in ways they can understand?

We want to avoid having a ‘Blackbox’

Non-technical staff can’t understand code.



understanding predictive models

## **Openness for predictive models**

Institutions need to understand how the model works.

- Non data scientists need to understand the basic approach, and be able to explain to students.
- Jisc are trying a guide for non-data scientists to address this.

understanding predictive models

## **Jisc guide to machine learning**

- Step 1. Determining the relative importance of the input data.
- Step 2. Data preparation for machine learning
- Step 3. Training the model
- Step 4. Running the model
- Step 5. Reviewing the model

understanding predictive models

# Jisc guide to machine learning

Determining the relative importance of the input

Example variables affecting retention

## Step 1

- Module outcome
- Level of module
- Class of entry qualifications
- Assessment outcome
- Parental education level
- Class of accommodation
- Class of degree type
- The year of study on the course
- Class of entry qualifications
- The year of study on the course
- Class of module level
- Class of entry qualifications
- Parental education level
- Socio-economic status growing up
- Class of degree type
- Ratio of how many credits taken were so far, were passed
- Assessment marks relative to the module cohort
- Module marks relative to the module cohort
- Relative number of VLE weeks active

understanding predictive models

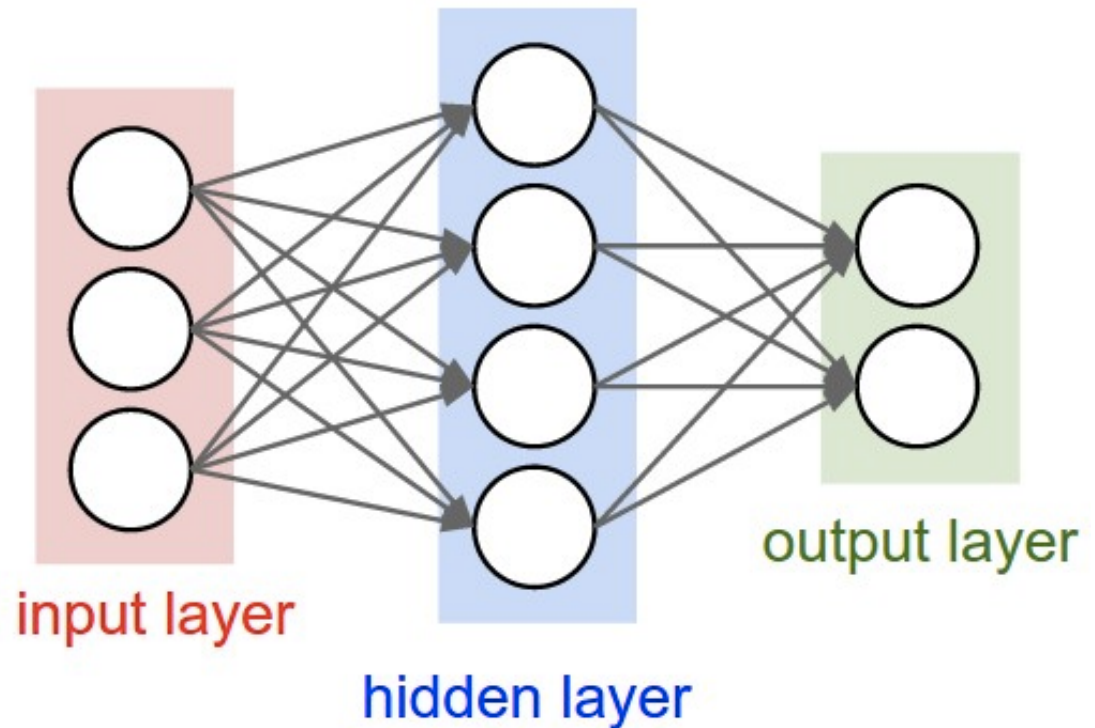
# Jisc guide to machine learning

## Step 3

Training the model: Neural Networks

### Neural Nets

- Faster and better results
- Structure mimicking the brain.
- Constructed out of interconnected neurons in layers.
- The algorithm iterates to optimise the weight of connections between 'neurons'
- The structure of the weights produced in the trained network is hard to interpret.

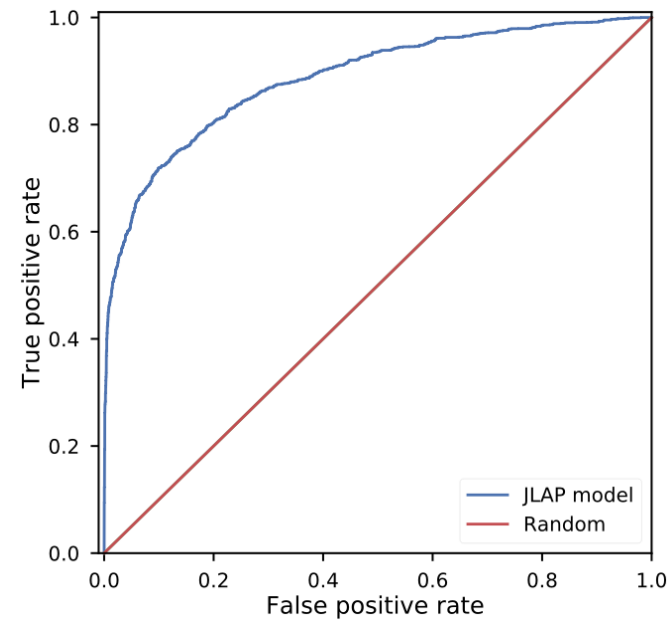
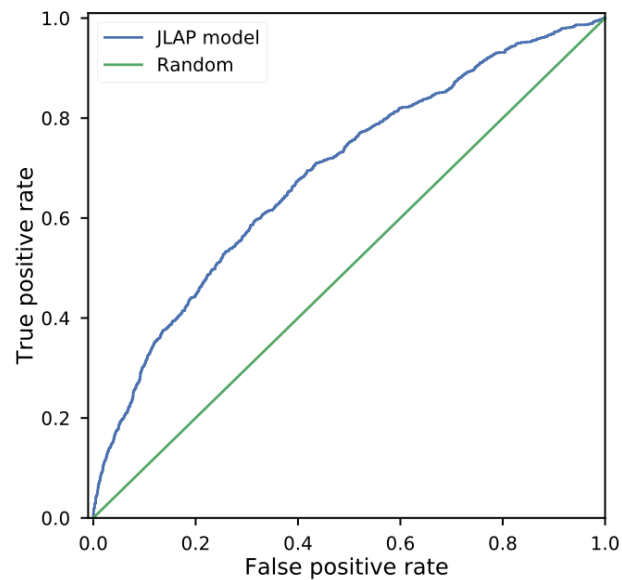


understanding predictive models

# Jisc guide to machine learning

## Step 5

Eg reviewing the model: ROC curve at different times



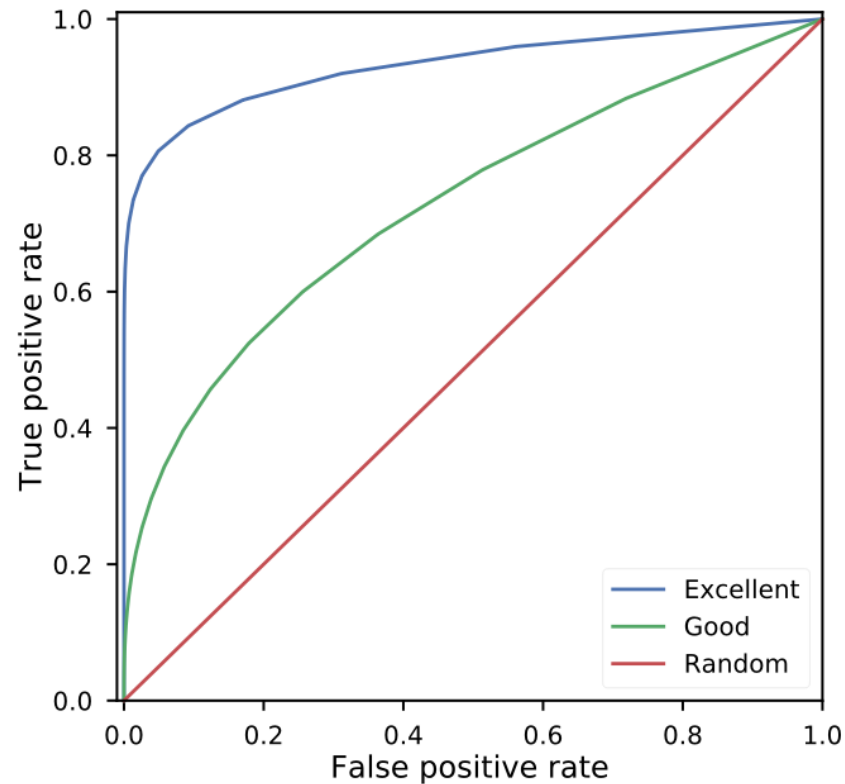
understanding predictive models

# Jisc guide to machine learning

## Step 5

### Reviewing the model

Once we have trained the model we can test its effectiveness and generality using a portion of the data excluded from the training process, the testing data. One method of assessing the effectiveness of the model is to use a ROC curve.

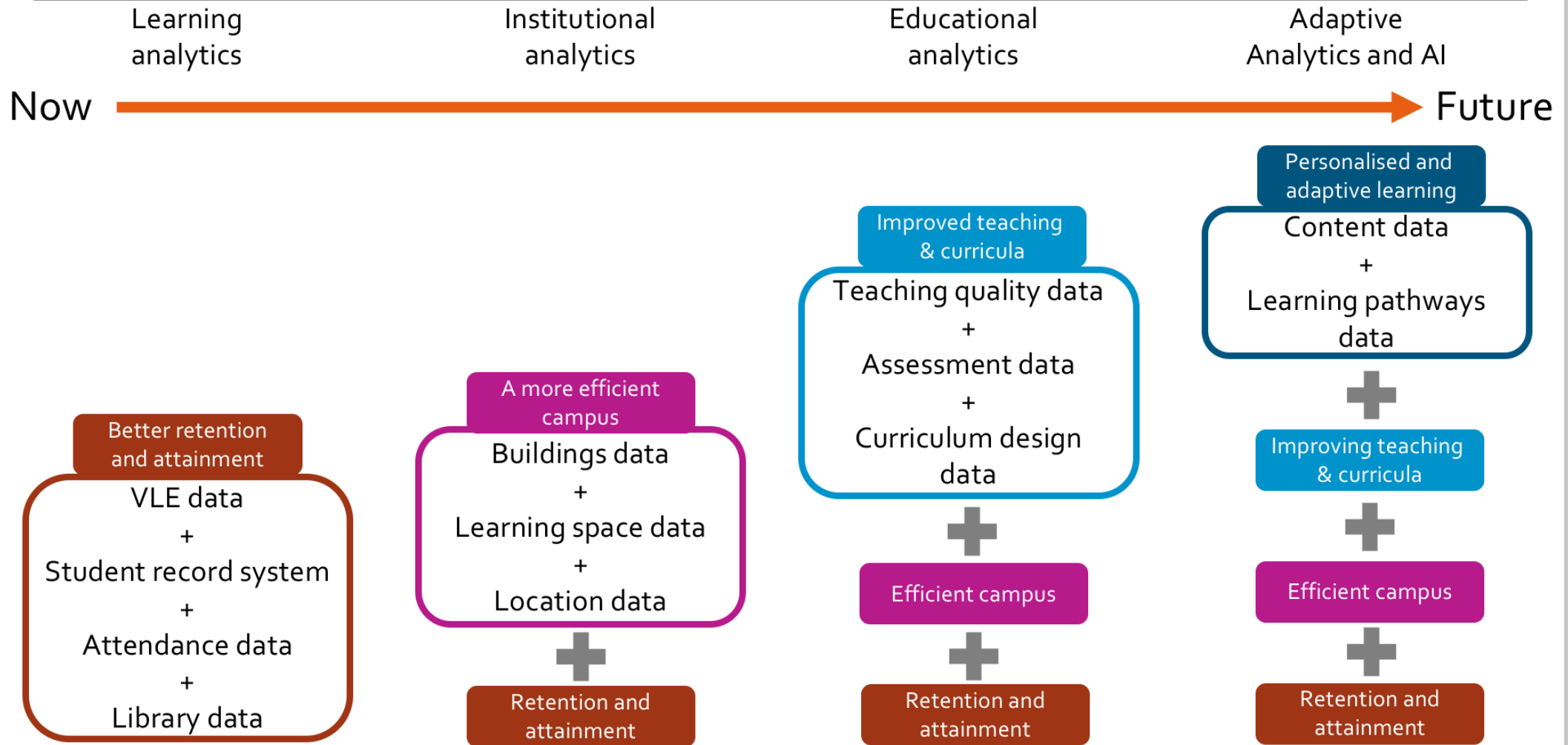


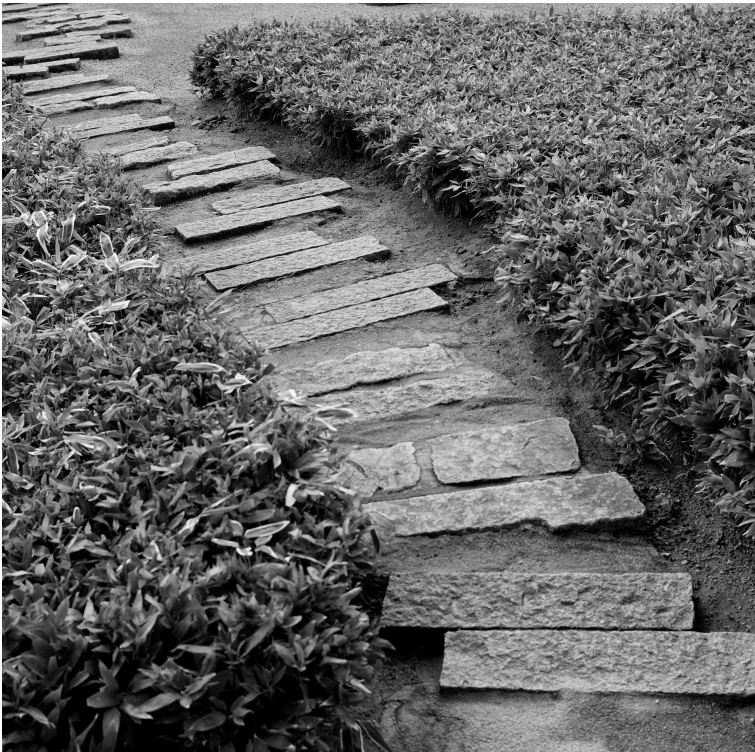


# What next...

Jisc

## Towards adaptive learning and AI





## **Eight-fold Path to Analytics Openness**

Open **Purpose**

Open **Ethics**

Open and **Inclusive Governance**

Open **Source Software**

Open **Platform**

Open **Standards**

Open **Algorithms**

Open **Consent** - and Consent Management

# **Challenges**

Open Algorithms?

What do we need to effectively share?

Consent

How well do we manage consent?

What more do we need?

## **Consent - Two Elements**

Mechanics of Managing Consent  
(and Managing Withdrawal of consent)

Educating about purposes and rights

Informed or educated consent



