**UNE L&T Symposium 2025 – Presentation Synopsis**

**1. Title of Presentation:**

If cheating is optimisation then assessment must not be pure: effect tracking and assessment

**2. Presenter(s) Name(s) and Affiliation(s):**

Associate Professor William Billingsley, University of New England

**3. Main Takeaways:**

***Takeaway 1:*** “Secure assessments” only assures what students didn’t do (or didn’t get caught doing); evidence of learning tracks what students did do, giving a more verifiable record that learning was achieved.

***Takeaway 2:*** “Course & Effect” is a tool for modelling how evidence of learning accrues across a degree, to see what evidence accrues against which learning outcomes and where the integrity risks in a course are.

**4. Application in Educational Contexts:**

***Teaching Methods:*** NA

**Assessment:**

 - In assessment re-design, take note of the “side-effects” of work, for example digital logs from interacting with systems, which are evidence that work took place and was not “optimised away”.

 - Where assessment relies on proctoring, or on student interactions with clients, consider what evidence you actually receive (e.g. does the client report on their meetings with the students, or whether you are just relying on not hearing complaints).

**Student Engagement:** NA

**Curriculum Development:**

 - Courses can be mapped using Course & Effect to show the kinds of evidence of learning or security that exist across a degree and where risks to integrity lie, including for flexible courses and bespoke student study paths

 - This can be used both to demonstrate that courses are secure, and also to plan how to make them secure

**5. Valuable Sources and References:**

**Source 1:** The original paper, open access in *Learning Letters -*  <https://doi.org/10.59453/ll.v4.28>

**Source 2:** The Course & Effect tool in development - <https://tweakedinfo.github.io/course-and-effect/>

**6. Weakness and Area for Future Research:**

**Weakness:** The tool is currently designed around UNE courses and units, so may need some adapting for other universities

**Future Research:** I’m exploring whether GenAI can scrape Handbook and auto-generate the units.js and courses.js files for your courses to do the config for you (albeit handbook doesn’t have all the required information so it would still need some editing)