MULE – Maynooth University Learning Environment

A learning analytics environment for computer science education

Natalie Culligan

Supervisors: Dr Susan Bergin and Dr Kevin Casey

Over the past academic year, MULE has been in use in the first-year programming labs in Maynooth, and in Beijing-Dublin International College (in conjunction with UCD). MULE is an on-line, browser-based pedagogical coding environment, for delivering, marking and providing feedback on coding assignments. During the semester, we continued to develop MULE, responding to the needs of the course coordinators, and providing features such as an exam mode, and an administration mode that allows the administrators to view a student’s work in an intuitive way. We have ethical approval from the university to gather interaction-data for research, and to provide feedback to the course coordinators and other support staff.

In this presentation I will talk about some of the improvements made to the system, feedback from staff and students, and a preliminary look at some of the first year of data.