



Program Reviews – Benchmarking

Benchmarking is a key feature of the Review process and is multi-dimensional insofar as it provides the means to establish levels of performance, compare outcomes and set standards for good practice. Benchmarking usually rests on the quantitative analysis of performance data and a qualitative review of internal and external practice including alternative program models, a knowledge of emerging discipline trends and pedagogies, and where relevant the evolving demands for professional practice.

Quantitative data

Program data is readily available from central University units and is recommended because the data is accurate and consistent with the University's standards and organisational arrangements.

The data available includes reports on the University's programs and courses which may form the basis for the comparison of performance with other internal and external programs, although it is recognised that data collected from external sources are often collated manually and can only be drawn from publically-accessible data.

Data – program-based

LQS can provide data on the following, most of which is also available from Planning & Analytics (see below):

Name	Link
Comparisons Go8 and SA Universities	Manually completed upon request by LQS.
Faculty Performance Reports	https://www.adelaide.edu.au/planning/staff-only/plans-reports/current-plans-reports.html
Program Performance Reports	https://www.adelaide.edu.au/planning/staff-only/plans-reports/current-plans-reports.html
Aggregated SELT Reports	https://www.adelaide.edu.au/planning/selt/
SES reports	https://www.adelaide.edu.au/planning/ags/#tab-2-content

Data – learning and teaching analytics

Data is provided through Learning Enhancement and Innovation (LEI) (<https://www.adelaide.edu.au/learning-enhancement-innovation/>) which is able to provide learning and teaching data as follows:

Name	Link
Canvas learning and analytics	https://www.adelaide.edu.au/learning/teaching/learning-analytics/Learning_Analytics_Pathways_-_V5.pdf
Learning management system (LMS) analytics	https://www.adelaide.edu.au/learning/teaching/learning-analytics/LMS-Analytics/
Data source and tools	https://www.adelaide.edu.au/learning/teaching/learning-analytics/data-source-tools/
Reports	https://www.adelaide.edu.au/learning/teaching/learning-analytics/reports/
Academics	https://www.adelaide.edu.au/learning/teaching/learning-analytics/academics/
Learners	https://www.adelaide.edu.au/learning/teaching/learning-analytics/learners/

Data – standard University reports

Planning & Analytics (<https://www.adelaide.edu.au/planning/>) provide the following reports available to staff with a University log-in:

Name	If Acronym is employed	Link
Faculty Performance Reports		https://www.adelaide.edu.au/planning/staff-only/plans-reports/current-plans-reports.html
Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching surveys (including SES)	QILT surveys	https://www.adelaide.edu.au/planning/ags/
Student experience of learning & teaching surveys	SELT surveys	https://www.adelaide.edu.au/planning/selt/
Rankings		https://www.adelaide.edu.au/planning/rankings/

Planning and Analytics is also able, upon request, to tailor special reports for the use of the team.

Qualitative data

As advised above, the selection of qualitative data is a more abstruse activity and relies upon the guidance and direction of the self-evaluation Internal Team in selecting key national and international institutions as comparators, the source of recognised best practice or of innovative approaches to learning and teaching.

Preliminary benchmarking is routinely conducted against the Go8 and the other local providers where relevant (usually Flinders and UniSA) as well as other Australian and international institutions with a strong equivalent program presence. The links to the various websites are as follows over the page:

University	Link to home page
ANU	http://www.anu.edu.au/
Melbourne	https://www.unimelb.edu.au/
Monash	https://www.monash.edu/
Sydney	https://sydney.edu.au/
UNSW	https://www.unsw.edu.au/
UQ	http://www.uq.edu.au/
UWA	https://www.uwa.edu.au/
Flinders	https://www.flinders.edu.au/
UniSA	http://www.unisa.edu.au/

The list of University programs which undergo external accreditation is available at <https://www.adelaide.edu.au/learning/program-approval/accreditation/> although it may be necessary to contact the individual accrediting bodies to obtain their standards. There may also be Discipline threshold standards that are published and applied as a norm to Australian programs (e.g. see: <http://disciplinestandards.pbworks.com/w/page/52657697/FrontPage>, <http://www.acds-tlcc.edu.au/science-threshold-learning-outcomes-flos/science-flos/>)

Benchmarking provides evidence upon which to base proposals and decisions for the future development of a program. LQS are able to provide assistance with this process. LQS will build a repository of examples to inform the process.

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