## **Student peer assessment: Student perceptions to reflect on “why and how?”**

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**Student Peer Assessment**

**Definition**

Student peer assessment has been defined as “the quantitative or qualitative evaluation of a learner’s performance by another learner of the same status” (Patchan & Schunn, 2015, p.592)

**Benefits**

Student peer assessment may help students:

· Develop their analytical skills

· Enhance their self-assessment skills

· Augment their reflective abilities

· Increase their level of responsibility and engagement

· Improve the quality of their writing

(Baker, 2016; Burgess & Mellis, 2015, Harland, Wald, & Randhawa, 2016)

**Challenges**

Some challenges of using student peer assessment:

· Can involve large investment of time up front for instructor

· Students do not consistently respond to the feedback

· Students may award higher marks than instructor

· Students feel poorly equipped to undertake the assessment

· Student frustration: they want marks assigned by instructor

· Students may be reluctant to make judgements regarding their peers

(Baker, 2016; Major, Harris & Zakrajsek, 2016; Schneider, 2015)

**Providing Guidance on How to Conduct Peer Assessment:**

**Ladder of Feedback**

Step 1: Ask clarifying questions (seek to understand)

Step 2: State what you value (specifically, what did you like?)

Step 3: Raise concerns (focus on ideas, products etc.—not on personal character)

Step 4: Make suggestions

(Perkins, 2003)

**Technology Enhanced Tools for Implementing Student Peer Assessment**

There are many ways to implement student peer review in your teaching. For those seeking a technology-enhanced approach, see:

***(1) Calibrated Peer Review TM***

Regents of California site:<http://cpr.molsci.ucla.edu/Home.aspx>

***(2) Peer Scholar***

Pearson Education: http://www.pearsoned.ca/highered/peerscholar/

***(3) Teammates***

<https://teammatesv4.appspot.com/>

***(4) ComPAIR*** (exciting tool – website not yet live, but you can learn a bit more at:

http://events.ctlt.ubc.ca/events/the-compair-project-student-experiences-with-a-new-teaching-technology/)

**Non Technological Approaches for Implementing Student Peer Assessment**

We are writing a short e-guide featuring approaches to student peer assessment. If you have a case study to share or approach you would like to submit, please contact:

Dr. Bartolic ([bartolic@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:bartolic@mail.ubc.ca)) or

Dr. Iqbal ([Isabeau.iqbal@ubc.ca](mailto:Isabeau.iqbal@ubc.ca))

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