

# Learning Analytics Audio Interview Key Points Summary

In conversation with Lee O'Farrell of the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning, we learn about their project, **Learning Analytics and Educational Data Mining for Learning Impact**, focussing on how we can use data to support students in their learning.

## In Brief

Lee introduces work being done nationally and project outputs available to all:

**ORLA**, an [Online Resource for Learning Analytics](#), is a library of resources covering the basics of Learning Analytics to how you can develop an institutional strategy, including Teacher Resources and Case Studies from lecturers who are using data to inform their modules. There are examples of analytics available within your institutional VLE, and ideas for what you can do with data available to you.

**DESSI**, [Data-enabled Student Success Initiative](#), has the purpose of working with and providing support to institutions in developing well-informed strategies for using data to promote student success. 18 institutions nationally are currently involved in the initiative.

## Who or what is Learning Analytics for?

Lee explains that data is useful to anyone who wants to build a picture of interactions between students and the or institution, for example via the VLE (e.g. Blackboard, Moodle, Sakai).

Learning Analytics can be used to **describe** how a student is engaging or not with aspects of their learning. Based on historical data, they can then be used to **predict** likely future behaviours or outcomes and potentially **prescribe**, or help us determine what course of action might be useful to the student and their success.

Data can be used to help lecturers modify their courses to enhance engagement, identify at risk students, communicate likely outcomes to students who are at risk of failing, and identify possible supports for students who have academic and/or non-academic concerns.

## Find out more?

Have a listen to the short interview (18 minutes) available from the Crannóg website <http://www.crannog-he.ie>. Further information, case studies etc. are available from the National Forums website <http://www.teachingandlearning.ie>.