



## OXFORD UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT

---

### Public Understanding of Assessment – Seminar Series 2011/12

#### Seminar 4 - Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2012

## Perceptions of the Purposes of Assessment

Speakers: Dr Paul Newton, Professor Val Klenowski and Sir Michael Barber

Discussant: Kathleen Tattersall OBE, Chair: Mark Anderson

Seminar 4, *Perceptions of the Purposes of Assessment* concludes our series of four public lectures on the theme of the public understanding of assessment. There are many purposes to which assessment outcomes are put, some less appropriately than others. The first of our presenters, Dr Paul Newton of Cambridge Assessment, has comprehensively reviewed these purposes and will draw from his research to set the seminar in context. Professor Val Klenowski, Professor of Education at the Queensland University of Technology, will consider how purposes are perceived by the public more generally. Finally, Sir Michael Barber, Chief Education Advisor for Pearson, has extensive experience of national and international education contexts and will reflect on the policy-related purposes of assessment. Following the presentations, the audience will be invited to engage with the issues raised and the discussant, Kathleen Tattersall OBE, vice-President of the Association for Educational Assessment (Europe), will present a summary of the key issues and draw the event to a close.

The seminars will take place at 5.00 pm in Seminar Room A, University of Oxford Department of Education, 15 Norham Gardens, Oxford OX2 6PY. Tea at 4.30 pm and the drinks reception at 6.30 pm will take place in the Common Room. Limited parking is available behind the Bruner Building at no. 30 Norham Gardens.

To register your interest, please contact Joanne Hazell at [joanne.hazell@education.ox.ac.uk](mailto:joanne.hazell@education.ox.ac.uk).



**Dr Paul Newton** is the Director of the Cambridge Assessment Network Division, within Cambridge Assessment. Much of his research has focused on issues related to the design and evaluation of large-scale assessment systems. He has published papers on a range of assessment topics, including: comparability theory; purposes; validity; and the public understanding of measurement inaccuracy. Paul is a Fellow of the Association for Educational Assessment – Europe.



**Val Klenowski** is a Professor of Education at the Queensland University of Technology. She has been Chief Investigator on a number of Australian Research Council funded projects that have focused on achievement standards, teacher judgement and moderation, culture-inclusive assessment, and the use of an eportfolio system with marginalised youth. She has published in the fields of learning and assessment, curriculum, evaluation and educational change.



**Sir Michael Barber** is a leading authority on education systems and education reform. Over the past two decades his research and advisory work has focused on school improvement, standards and performance; system-wide reform; effective implementation; access, success and funding in higher education; and access and quality in schools in developing countries. He recently joined Pearson as Chief Education Advisor, leading Pearson's worldwide programme of research into education policy and efficacy.



**Kathleen Tattersall OBE** began her career as a teacher and worked in both primary and secondary schools prior to joining a CSE Board where she was involved in all aspects of assessment, including research. She was Chief Executive of five assessment organisations, most recently AQA where she was the first Director General. Kathleen has served on several national bodies, including the Tomlinson Committee. She was the first Chair of Ofqual, the regulator of qualifications and tests, serving from 2008 until 2010. Kathleen has been a member since its inception, and is the current vice-President, of the Association for Educational Assessment (Europe).



**Mark Anderson** is President, Global Strategy & Business Development, Pearson International. He first worked for Pearson in the period 1984-1997 in the UK and Hong Kong, latterly running a regional professional publishing & information business. For ten years he worked in consumer goods and technology businesses, before rejoining Pearson in April 2007. He was educated at Cambridge University and received an MBA from Ashridge Business School. He is the author of *The Leadership Book* (2010).

Details of the series may be found at <http://oucea.education.ox.ac.uk/events/>.