Reviewer’s report

Title: Joining the dots: programmatic assessment enhances recognition of factors hampering student progress

Version: 2 Date: 5 May 2011

Reviewer: Janet Yates

Reviewer’s report:

The minor essential revisions that I suggested have been satisfactorily attended to. Further modifications made to the paper in response to other reviewers’ comments have clarified various other points. The most important message conveyed by this paper lies not in the detail of the numbers but in the concept of the conditional pass, with its clear definition of what has gone wrong and how it must be corrected.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests