A three week pilot into using campus cards to record student attendance was held in March/April 2009. This pilot was to prove this method of data collection was practical and that it would improve the quality of attendance monitoring, as well as cost savings. The pilot used data collected using the Telepen Attendance System alongside data from current University systems.

**Conclusions**

After the completion of the pilot, the School of Computing and Engineering compared these results with the results from their current manual system.

The results were favourable and a report detailing proposals for development and implementation in 2010 was presented to senior management.

**Development**

This was approved and further installation of readers in the School of Computing and Engineering and the School of Music, Humanities and Media commenced in January 2010. A new attendance monitoring application has been developed based on the requirements of the two schools. Students in the School of Music, Humanities and Media began swiping their campus card upon entry to rooms to gather data in the last two weeks of term 2. This is currently being tested and will go live in September 2010 within these two schools along with University Campus Oldham and University Campus Barnsley.

**The Systems Involved**

- **The Telepen Attendance System (TAS)**
  TAS was used to collect data referencing a student’s attendance in a room at a specific time. Students were asked to swipe their campus cards upon entering a number of pilot rooms in the School of Computing and Engineering. Alongside this the school’s manual attendance monitoring system was used to record their attendance.

- **CELCAT Timetabler**
  Celcat Timetabler provides information on which event should be taking place in which room at a specific time. The event could be a lecture, tutorial, practical etc.

- **ASIS**
  The student record system provides information including route and module details for each student.

- **Campus Card**
  The Campus card system provides information on a student’s currently active card.

The data taken from these systems can be correlated to produce reports based on what a student should attend and what a student has actually attended. This correlated data will be used as the basis for a new attendance monitoring system.