# Workflow for Automated Handling of One Submission Email

Sally A.M. Hogenboom 2023-04-26

# Setup

```
library(yOUrEmail)
library(tidyverse)
library(magrittr)

# Authenticate & get Outlook Environment
outlook <- Microsoft365R::get_business_outlook()</pre>
```

# **Retrieve All Submissions**

# Goal

Retrieve all new (i.e., unread) emails from the submission system.

#### Requirements

• Outlook Authentication

#### Execution

- outlook: pass down the outlook environment retrieved during successful authentication
- submissions\_folder: specify the folder where the submissions are received. Some teachers have automated rules set-up which move the submissions to a different *outlook* folder (e.g., 'Nakijken'). If this is the case, specify the exact name of that folder.
- submissions\_email: built-in option to allow for upcoming changes to the submissions system which will send the submissions from a different emailadres. Defaults to submit@oupsy.nl

• email\_status: unread/read/all; only parse emails which meet the specified status.

```
submissions <- get_submissions(outlook,
  submissions_folder = "Nakijken",
  submissions_email = "submit@oupsy.nl",
  email_status = "unread"
)</pre>
```

#### **Expected Behavior**

• Retrieve a list of emails with class ms\_outlook\_email

## Development To Do's

• None

# **Extract Information**

*NOTE*; This is a workflow for one email. This allows for a better step-by-step testing and understanding of the administrative process. The process can be included in a loop to deal with multiple (new) emails (see below).

#### Goal

Process the contents of the email to extract the relevant information:

- course\_id unique identifier with two letters (e.g., PB for Psychology Bachelor) and four numbers
- course name human readable name of the course
- course\_run courses can have different versions (i.e., runs). The course run determines which grading form should be used for the submission.
- student\_number unique numeric identifier for each student.
- student\_name name as parsed from the student's email account.
- student\_email email address provided by the student which is used to communicate the attained grade with students.
- submission\_date date on which the email/submission was received.
- student\_submission\_note students have the option to add a note for the teacher. If such a note was provided it is also extracted.

Added additional relevant content: \* grade\_before\_date compute the date before which the grading should be finished (15 working days from submission\_date). \* status with default value 'To Do'. This signals to the teachers which grading has already been completed. \* assignment; depending on the course it defaults to the first 'Tentamenkans' (T1), Assignment

A (A), or the Preregistratation (PRE). This signals to teachers whether feedback or a grade is needed. \* grade\_on; optional to keep track of when a grade was sent. \* grading\_notes; optional to keep track of any collaborations/decisions worth remembering.

# Requirements

- An email from the submission system with class ms outlook email
- install.packages(c("qdapRegex", "bizdays"))
  - qdapRegex is used to extract the students submission note.
  - bizdays is used to compute workingdays not accounting for national holidays.

#### Execution

```
submission_info <- get_submission_info(
  email = submissions[[1]],
  n_workdays = 15
)</pre>
```

#### **Expected Behavior**

A tibble with one row and 14 columns: (status, course\_id, course\_name, course\_run, student\_number, student\_name, student\_email, submission\_date, student\_submission\_note, grade\_before\_date, assignment, graded\_on, grade, en grading\_notes).

# Development To Do's

- 1. Currently, when computing the <code>grade\_before\_date</code> a shortcut was made to compute the date with the number of working days from the <code>submission\_date</code>. In doing so, we do not account for national holidays such as Christmas or Koningsdag. Without accounting for these holidays the <code>grade\_before\_date</code> can at times be a couple of days earlier than necessary but earlier grading does not affect the students negatively.
- 2. Write tests to account for emails with missing information. Low priority due to the fact that emails are automatically generated with a standardized structure.

# Create File Structure

Goal Each submission is stored according to a standardized file structure: course > course\_run > student. For new submissions this file structure does not yet exist and is therefore created before saving the submission attachments.

#### Requirements

• The parsed contents of a new submission email

- Administrative rights allowing the creation of new folders
- This file should be nested within an R project that also (will) contain(s) the student submissions.

#### Execution

```
# Example: one email
student_folder <-
    create_folder_structure(submission_info,
        grading_folder = here::here("Ingeleverde Opdrachten")
)</pre>
```

#### **Expected Behavior**

- Create a nested file structure with the format: grading\_folder > course\_id > course\_run > student\_folder.
- Return the path to the student folder for use in subsequent code.

#### Development To Do's

None

# **Extract and Save Attachments**

#### Goal

Extract the attachments from the email and place them in the designated student folder.

# Requirements

- email with class ms\_outlook\_email
- file path to the student's folder

#### Execution

```
# Invisible to prevent list output of 'NULL' results for each downloaded document.
invisible(
   download_attachments(
     email = submissions[[1]],
     student_folder = student_folder
)
)
```

# Expected Behavior

- All attachments are downloaded and stored in the course > course\_run > student folder.
- All attachments are renamed to the short and standardized format where possible.

# Development To Do's

1. Research how to prevent the list of NULL results from within the download\_attachments function. Tried invisible attachment\$download() but that did not change anything.

# **Add Grading Form**

Goal \* Select the correct grading form (dependent on course > course\_run) and add it to the student's folder. \* Update the file name to include the student's details. Keep it in the same format as the files that were received from the submission system.

#### Requirements

Grading forms differ in their naming conventions. In addition, some courses see a different grading form for each course\_run, while others keep the same form for years. To prepare this step, a human must once add & update the name of each grading form manually. The grading\_form\_folder must have the following structure:

- A folder for each course (e.g., PB0812)
- A grading form for each course\_run (e.g., PB0812202144.xlsx). If a course does not have multiple course\_runs a course\_id is sufficient (e.g., PB0412.xlsx).

Technically, to get started only those grading forms need to be added from courses where new submissions can be expected (1-year after course start).

#### Execution

```
invisible(
  move_grading_form(
    grading_form_folder = here::here("Beoordelingsformulieren"),
    student_folder = student_folder,
    submission_info = submission_info
)
)
```

# **Expected Behavior**

The required grading form is copied from the grading\_form\_folder to the student\_folder. The name is changed to align with the naming conventions of the other received documents.

#### Development To Do's

1. Resolve printing FALSE after executing the function.

# **Update Submission Overview**

#### Goal

Update the current submission overview with the latest submission. Reorder the overview such that the 'To Do's' are at the top, with the most urgent grading (i.e., closest grade\_before\_date) at the top.

# Requirements

- The submission\_info
- The name of the submission\_overview, which if it doesn't yet exist will be created.

#### Execution

```
update_submission_overview(
   submission_info = submission_info,
   submission_overview = here::here("NakijkOverzicht.xlsx")
)
```

# **Expected Behavior**

• An excel sheet with the name of submission\_overview is created which contains the most recent and historic submission\_info.

#### Development To Do's

- 1. Conditional formatting
- 2. Compute a 'grade\_by\_n\_days' or add an excel formula to automatically update.
- 3. Complete historic information from read/graded outlook emails.
- 4. Prevent warnings from showing

# **Draft Confirmation Email**

#### Goal

Draft a confirmation email to the student which contains: 1. A general confirmation that the assignment was received 1. A general statement of being able to expect the grading at the latest before the grade\_before\_date.

#### Requirements

- The submission info from a single submission as extracted in the step above.
- The email content to allow a reply to the correct email (for keeping easy inbox structures)
- install.packages("blastula")

#### Execution

```
draft_confirmation_email(
  outlook = outlook,
  submission_info = get_submission_info(email = submissions[[1]]),
  email = submissions[[1]],
  teacher_name = "Sally"
)
```

# **Expected Behavior**

A standardized email is drafted to the student's email adress to confirm receiving a new submission. This includes a mention of the date prior to which the students can expect their grade/feedback.

#### Development To Do's

- 1. Optimize the styling of the email such that it includes the OU house style, a logo, the correct font, a formal email signature, and a footer.
- 2. Check whether existing footers are added below the created email.

# Plagiarism Scan

#### Goal

Forward the email, containing only the relevant files, to the plagiarism scan software.

#### Requirements

- The email with class ms\_outlook
- A personal email adres linked to Urkund

#### Execution

#### **Expected Behavior**

• An email is send to the urkund\_email address which includes the report (i.e., verslag) as attachment.

#### Development To Do's

- 1. Normally you would forward the email to the urkund email address while removing the irrelevant attachments. However, this is not possible in the Mircosoft365R package for two reasons. First, creating a 'forward' email takes a crazy amount of time to process. Second, each attachments that is removed requires a manual confirmation in an alert pop-up. This prevents it from implementation as part of an automated workflow.
- 2. Because of this issue the current workflow does not allow for the plagiarism email to become part of the email 'thread' and is instead sent separately.
- 3. The new course for Kwalitatief (PB1612) does not follow the standardized name format, which is why the automated forward does not work.

# Mark Email As Read

#### Goal

Mark the email as 'Read' so that it will not be processed again.

#### Requirements

• The email with class ms\_outlook

#### Execution

```
# Mark email as processed
invisible(submissions[[1]]$update("isRead" = TRUE))
```

# **Expected Behavior**

• Within the outlook environment the email is now marked as 'Read'

# Development To Do's

• None