

Hull University Union Student-Led

Teaching

Awards 2013

Providing students with the opportunity to recognise outstanding
University of Hull staff

..... *Programme*





Foreword

I am extremely happy to present to you the second annual Student-Led Teaching Awards. We are providing students with the opportunity to recognise and reward the members of staff that have made a positive impact to their student experiences.

Last year, Hull University Union received 583 nominations, this year we received 706 nominations. The Education Zone worked incredibly hard to promote the awards and the number of nominations is a credit to them. The Education Zone is a group of elected students from each Faculty, Academic Council, Councillors of Scrutiny and Chairs for Postgraduate, Part-Time and Mature students. This is also the group that shortlisted the awards one bright Tuesday evening, fuelled by Domino's pizza.

I am delighted to welcome Professor Graham Chesters to speak at this event. One of his achievements as Pro-Vice Chancellor was the introduction of semesters, modules and free electives. He was later Director of the Institute for Learning (now Faculty of Education) and has always been a strong advocate of proper recognition of excellent teaching.



He was largely responsible for the development of our links with partner colleges. He was also Chair of Larkin 25.

Ultimately these awards would not be possible were it not for you and your dedication to students. It was incredibly hard to shortlist due to the inevitable high standard of nominations. We are hoping to celebrate all those that were nominated in other ways. I hope you enjoy the event and thank you so much for everything you do.

With Education Love,

Victoria Winterton
Vice-President Education

Best Module Award

Criteria: An outstanding module will be well resourced and well organised with high quality teaching. Students will know what is expected of them and the module will help them to perform to the best of their academic abilities.

Students will enjoy studying the module; perhaps because they find the content interesting, the staff delivering the module are particularly outstanding, or the module is relevant to employability. There may be excellent access to resources such as books, ebooks or eBridge content and communication with students is clear and concise.

Professor Caroline Kennedy / War and Politics since 1900

This brand new module has been quoted as a very interactive lecture, including special guest lecturers and others from the department with expertise on the course material adding a fresh element to the module. The active search for continuous student feedback of the module helps to improve and develop it.

"She has an excellent balance between visual elements, spoken content and encourages discussion in her lectures. She is always keen to hear our feedback on the lectures."

Mary-Ellen Large / Abnormal Psychology

This module explores the origins of abnormalities. Through the teaching of this module, personal experiences are used to emphasise points. There is a strong personal connection between students and Mary-Ellen Large. The subject matter of demographics and genetics is made engaging and interesting by this lecturer.

"She livens up lectures with her witty personality and always interacts with us to check we understand."

**Dr Peter Grieder / East and West
German from zero hour to reunification**

The module is a comparative module and builds on earlier periods of German history. Dr Grieder is able to motivate students to re-evaluate opinions and ideas and gives life to the subject.

"He has motivated me to perform academically at my full potential; during seminars he has a unique way of appreciating your point of view, and makes you want to contribute more."

**Dr Will Mayes & Dr Sue Hull /
Environmental Pollution & Toxicology**

This module provides students with excellent fieldwork opportunities; students also develop their laboratory work within this module, especially in water analysis. Will and Sue also provide drop in sessions, helpful feedback and are engaging in their teaching.

"Provides the right balance of jargon and non jargon in lectures to make them understandable but also rewarding."

Best Feedback Award

Criteria: Excellent feedback will be substantial, fair and constructive. It will formatively enable students to learn and improve. Great feedback will motivate students to understand what they've done well, where they have gone wrong and how they can improve.

**Christine Murphy / School of Biological
and Environmental Sciences**

Christine leads by example, practising innovative and engaging methods of

feedback. By providing consistently prompt feedback within a four week period, Christine gives students the opportunity to better prepare for future assignments. Her notes are often typed and legible, however she also provides additional written and verbal comments. By encouraging students to practice self-reflection, Christine ensures that they become active in their understanding of the received feedback.

"Students are often asked to self-assess their work, and this lecturer also uses this to show students what their strengths are, and the areas that require improvement."

// Best Feedback Award Continued

Dr Greg Singh / Digital Media (School of Arts and New Media) / Audience Research Methods

As a new member of staff, Greg has demonstrated a huge amount of commitment to providing comprehensive and detailed feedback on all work. By offering the option of one-to-one feedback, Greg takes the time to show a real sense of caring and puts effort in between sessions to ensure that his students receive a fully informed and topical education.

"His attitude is great, it shows that he wants to be here and is thrilled to be teaching us."

Dr Ann Kaegi / English / Unruly Subjects and Renaissance Texts

Ann's office hours are regularly acknowledged by the long queue of students waiting to speak to her; she frequently jokes of installing a cappuccino machine. Her verbal feedback is thorough and engaging, as she takes the time to talk students through their essays, identifying strengths and weaknesses. Her passion for the subject she teaches motivates students to improve and to believe in their own capabilities.

"Thoroughly passionate about her subject, she engages her students and pushes them to do the best that they can; because of her, I am considering an MA."

Professor David Gibbs / Geography

With his relaxed yet approachable nature, David has always given students comprehensive feedback. Whether it be providing consistent help with dissertations, or simply sending regular emails to check on progress, David is appreciative of student welfare. He will happily recommend further research or lectures of note in order to improve student experiences, leading by example to provide exemplary feedback and genuine concern.

"I believe he is a great head figure who leads by example."

Best Supervisor Award

Criteria: Personal supervisors, dissertation supervisors or research supervisors who go above and beyond to promote fantastic student experiences will be recognised with the Best Supervisor Award. They will be approachable, accessible but also proactive in offering help and support for students. They will be highly adept in resolving a range of student issues as well as offering excellent personal development opportunities for students.

Kay Fraser / Scarborough School of Education

Kay has been quoted as “inspiring, enthusiastic, encouraging and engaging”. Her interpersonal skills have meant that she has made a significantly positive impact on the lives of students from assisting them with strategies for developing self confidence to outline positives of individual students after classes.

“I was lacking confidence at the beginning of the course and she arranged to meet me one-to-one and talked through everything. She gave me strategies to help improve my confidence.”

Sharron Wilkinson / Children’s Inter-Personal Studies

Sharron is incredibly dedicated to her occupation and her students. She has a good working knowledge of the University and Union services that are available to students and is able to direct students to the right people and services.

“This is a lady who goes above and beyond her job role in every way, shape and form. She is a massive credit to our degree and is a brilliant role model as both a student and a professional.”

// Best Supervisor Award Continued

Dr Stuart Humphries / Biological Sciences

Stuart will always be available for his students; he is able to sign-post students to the correct services and people and goes well beyond his role as a personal supervisor to offer support.

"As a supervisor, he is absolutely amazing. He makes the time to speak to students, regardless. There are barely any times I've gone to see him that he hasn't been available."

Dr Anna Sandfield / Psychology

Dr Anna Sandfield goes above and beyond for her students; she takes an interest in the future of every individual and sacrifices her personal time for their benefit. She also provides coaching for post-graduate interviews. She not only teaches but is a dissertation and personal supervisor.

"Dr Sandfield helps with advice, support and resources for applying to post graduate study. She stays behind after meetings have finished to help us. She takes a genuine interest in us as people and our plans for the future."

Admin Staff Award

Criteria: The Departmental Admin and Support Staff Award acknowledges non-academic members of staff within your department who contribute to a positive student experience. They might be extremely helpful and supportive in dealing with questions or concerns from students.

They might be highly adept at delivering outcomes that improve the student experience. This award could be given to an unsung hero, someone that is friendly, approachable and cares about students. It could also be given to someone behind the scenes who facilitates processes that have an invaluable impact on the lives of students.

Darren Bird / Psychology

Due to his informed understanding of both psychology and technology he is able to offer fantastic advice to students and does so in an enthusiastic and supportive way.

"I doubt there are many students in the department that haven't had an issue solved or their experience enriched by him."

Gwen Irving / HYMS

Gwen is the student office manager/free elective facilitator for the medical school. She goes above and beyond her role, providing advice and support to any student that asks for her assistance. She has a positive attitude and is incredibly dedicated.

"I'm pretty certain if it wasn't for her help and support, I may not still be at Medical school!"

Christina Knight / Hull University Business School

Christina is a consistently friendly face around the Business School who is always willing to assist students with any problems they may come to face. She goes out of her way to seek solutions and provide information as promptly as possible and is incredibly supportive and approachable. She truly has enhanced student experiences within the department.

"She always gives the impression that your query is the most important task she is dealing with."

Amanda Millson / Computer Science

Unforeseen circumstances can happen to anyone and Amanda has been a great help to those in need, both academically and on a personal level. She is punctual in her responses to enquiries and always incredibly supportive, regardless of the situation, offering useful advice to those who ask and dedicating her time to helping students.

"She is always open to help students, answer email queries straight away or inviting you to discuss it further in person."

Student Support Staff Award

Criteria: The Student Support Staff Award will be an award for any member of staff in central services who has supported students or gone that extra mile. This may be someone from the careers service, skills team, advice centre or any member of staff within the university who has made an impact on your student experiences. There is no limit to this award provided they are not an academic or a departmental administrator. This may, like the previous award, be someone that works behind the scenes to improve student experiences.

Diane Cunningham / Disability Services

Diane works with students with disabilities, helping them to achieve their full potential and helps with retention. She is incredibly supportive of students who are struggling.

“Without her so many students would drop out; the solace she provides is crucial to their time at university”

Beccy Meilhan and Danielle Headley / Hull University Union, Membership Services

Beccy and Danielle are staff who work incredibly hard within HUU, they go the extra mile to improve the employability of students of the University of Hull through finding them part-time work as well as running Hi-Lights sessions and volunteer opportunities. They assist students in developing skills, curriculum vitae writing and confidence building.

“They provided great support throughout the Hi-Lights programme. They have made members of the group much more confident about their employability. They share their own career experiences in order to help give examples for the group.”



SLTA Launch Event 2013 - Students' Union Building

Heidi Broadhead / Student Services

Heidi is responsible for the University's timetabling, her dedication to her role is incredible and she has above and beyond for the benefit of the students of this University. Despite various constraints, Heidi has continued to develop a timetable year-on-year.

"Every year she strives to make the timetable perfect, she goes without holidays and puts up with hundreds of complaints and emails about the timetable which are simply not her fault. She is an unsung hero of this university."

Judy Wolff / Library Re-development Manager

She has an impressively hands-on attitude, is always willing to answer queries and is never afraid to get her hands dirty. She is exceptionally efficient and dedicated to her role in ensuring that the library provides the best experiences for students researching and studying at the university.

"I know many people here consider her a role model, myself included. She has an impressively hands-on attitude, is always willing to answer queries and is never afraid to get her hands dirty. She is exceptionally efficient and dedicated to her role in ensuring that the library provides the best experiences for students researching and studying at the University."

Postgraduates' Choice Award

Criteria: The Postgraduates' Choice Award will be given to an exceptional member of University staff who teaches, supports or supervises postgraduate students. They will engage and inspire postgraduates to perform to their potential and/or they will go above and beyond to support Postgraduate students.

Dr Robert J Miles / Modern languages

Rob's support as a supervisor is exceptional. From helping find funding, to career support and creating networking opportunities, his individual support with personal work challenges is invaluable.

"Rob goes well above and beyond in postgraduate supervision and individual support."

Dr Ioanna Palaiologou / Education

Ioanna's support for postgraduate students is fantastic. Her passion for education and psychology inspires her students and her guidance and support helps them to achieve their potential. Ioanna relays concepts in an understandable, relevant and meaningful way by citing real life situations and relationships.

"Of all the lecturers I have ever had, Ionna is the most energising, kind and supportive. Her students always speak highly of her and recognise both her hard work and the contribution to learning."

Martha Kember / Education

Martha inspires her students to be the best they can be whilst listening to their concerns. She works hard to introduce new and innovative teaching practices and ensures the learning experience is productive, fun, interesting and enjoyable.

"Martha is exceptional in every way. The support and guidance given is way above and beyond what is standard in the University."

**Professor Valerie Sanders /
Graduate School**

As Director of the Graduate School, Valerie has made changes that have positively affected postgraduate students. From installing a microwave in the graduate school to the review of the PGTS everything she does has student satisfaction at the core. Her hard work and dedication is second to none.

"Valerie has gone above and beyond for students."



Innovative Teaching Award

Criteria: An innovative teacher will explore new methods of teaching. They will proactively engage students in different ways. They may use new forms of technology that facilitate effective learning or they may undertake different, creative teaching styles that promote a positive student experiences.

It might be that the content of the module is new and exciting or that it is presented in a unique way. An innovative teacher might encourage students to work or think in different ways. The feedback might be delivered to students under a new format or the assessment methods might encourage students to work in a new, interesting way.

// Innovative Teaching Award Continued

Dr Cristina Leston-Bandeira / Politics and International Relations

Cristina continually uses different forms of teaching and interaction with students within her lectures. She actively looks for new and varied ways to reach students including the utilisation of numerous aspects of the virtual learning environment. She has added a new dimension to learning. Her feedback is extensive and assists students in their university careers.

"Cristina is one of the best educators in the country – she inspires her students, engaging their interest and demonstrating how much she cares. Her grasp of academic areas is unparalleled."

Professor John Greenman / Biology

Professor Greenman's enthusiasm engages his students; his dedication and effort ensure the subject is well explained. His creative analogies aid in the understanding of complex theories for his students.

"He makes studying the module an absolute pleasure and immunology, which is so difficult, fun. I look forward to his lectures every week."

Dr David Wheatley / English

Dr Wheatley uses a unique approach to teaching that engages students in the area of Modern Comic Novel. His "pasta sauce lecture" is synonymous with students across the department and his lecture notes are thorough, informative, and include the odd scripted joke. His humorous nature is perfect for the modules he teaches and he provokes continuous discussion.

"He delivers a consistently funny approach to teaching, using a wide variety of cultural media to enhance learning."

Dr Tjeerd Jellema / Psychology

Dr Jellema has an outside-of-the-box approach to his teaching and his innovative methods ensure his students have the best possible learning experiences. He brings lectures to life in different ways, for example alumni have taken part in the teaching process and students have been taken to a specialist school for autistic children.

"Students get a real life understanding rather than simply seeing listed behaviours on power point."

Inspiring Teaching Award

Criteria: The inspiring teaching award will be given to an exceptional member of teaching staff who effectively engages students in the content of the module. Their ability to make content interesting or relevant will have a transformative impact on the student experiences and their passion for good teaching will motivate students to perform academically at their full potential.

The feedback they give to students will be formative and enable students to learn and improve. The teacher will immerse students in the module, providing them with the opportunity to think differently or critically. The teacher may be an expert in their area and inspire students with up to date research led teaching. The teacher may go out of their way to help students, acknowledging that some students need extra support.

Dr Liz Walker / Social Sciences

Liz Walker is an inspiring teacher for many reasons, one of which is her delivery of topics using real-life aspects such as 'newspaper sessions' that she incorporates into learning. Experiences that students will face or have faced are used to emphasise points, which allows students to become more engaged in their learning.

"Sociology was my worst subject and Liz's teaching skills made it much easier to absorb; she made the subject challenging and much easier for me to understand."



Launch event for SLTA - Students' Union Building

// Inspiring Teaching Award Continued

Dr Mark Slater / Music

Mark's lecture content is diverse and varied; he uses various techniques and topical examples. A unique aspect of his teaching is that his lectures include his own work that is critiqued by students, making his teaching very personal. His modules are continually restructured in response to student feedback. Numerous forms of assessment and engagement are used; portfolio based submissions, forums, practical examinations and peer-to-peer feedback.

"It is a pleasure to study under a person who is not just committed to teaching, but to the improvement, and by proxy the University overall."

Ray Stow / Modern Languages

Ray is able to create an atmosphere within his lectures. He has a personal connection with each of his students. He cares about student welfare as well as their education.

"He takes pride not only in his work but also in his subject and his students. He has an extremely engaging teaching style and ensures that no member of the lesson is left out."



Mike Parker / Faculty of Health and Social Care

Active participation in all of his lectures is something that Mike has been credited with. His commitment to his students both in and out lectures is commendable.

"He delivered the critical care module in an outstanding and enthusiastic manner, thoroughly engaging all the students and making the learning process enjoyable and understandable too."

Overall Outstanding Award

Criteria: The Overall Outstanding Achievement Award be awarded to an outstanding member of University staff, someone who stands out as exceptional. They may be an outstanding teacher, member of support staff or just about anyone within the institution who helps to positively develop the all round student experiences or makes a positive impact on the individual lives of student

Dr Max Hope / Education

Max is experimental in her teaching, she breaks away from rigid lecture structure and learning is more activity based through student participation. Another feature of her teaching style is the way in which rooms are set out, students are grouped, they are not in rows. Students in her classes are encouraged to discuss, debate and take an active role in their education. Her support of students is reflected in her desire to hear students' views and perspectives as well as her open-door policy.

"I would choose a module taught by Max in future purely for the fact that I feel her ability to motivate and inspire as a teacher really brings out the best in me."

Mr Neill Warhurst / School of Arts and New Media

Neill is a lecturer who is constantly providing alternatives for his students. His involvement in extracurricular activities is second to none; he organises the student-led drama festival 'On the Edge' as well as student focused productions on campus. Alongside these efforts, he offers extra workshops for those interested, helping to improve specialist skill sets such as 'technical support' and allowing for *personal development*.

"The greatest achievement Neill has carried out is leading workshops outside of the course."

// Overall Outstanding Award Continued



Education Zone at Union Council

Dr Jason Eames / Chemistry

Acting as both a lecturer and a supportive tutor, Jason is a credit to international students whom he has helped to overcome any obstacles they face. Taking the time to explain the grading system and the way the education process works, Jason is a highly motivational individual who has an immensely positive effect on the students he teaches, encouraging them to succeed and inspiring passion within them.

"He motivated me to pursue my dreams and never to give up."

Dr Peter Clough / Psychology

Renowned for his supportive attitude and innovative teaching methods, Peter is an approachable individual for those needing academic or personal help. Daleks and banjos are never far from his classroom, engaging his students and initiating further interest in his subjects. Alongside his passion for the subject, Peter is admired by students for his supportive nature, willing to help with any issue and showing true care towards those seeking advice.

"I'm a course representative and a lot of students do come to me and praise Peter."



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Students' Union
Evaluation Initiative
Gold Award 2011

 **UNIVERSITY OF Hull**