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Learning and Teaching Prizes and Awards 2011 - 2012

Dr. Pam Parker Learning Development Centre

Each year at the annual learning and teaching conference and/or at School events a range of staff are recognised for their contribution to learning and teaching and enhancing the student experience. Whilst many staff can attend the conference not all are able to and so to ensure staff are aware of their colleagues achievements, and also the awards in general, it was felt that annually these staff should also have their names published in the Learning at City Journal.

This article will identify under the categories of Student Voice award, School awards and prizes and Learning Development Projects those who have been recognised for their achievements during 2011 – 2012.

Student Voice Award

These awards are run the Student Union with support from the Learning Development Centre. Students from across the University are invited to nominate staff who they believe have had an impact on their experience. There were 137 staff nominated this year by 219 students and as usual identifying who should win is difficult. This year the Student Union decided to award one prize for each of the seven schools and one for professional services as well as four additional awards. The winners with a short quote outlining why they were nominated are listed below.

Dr Dirk Nietzsche, Cass Business School

"I really think it is his passion that distinguishes him from the others. It is his very deep but clear explanations of financial theories, coupled with his confidence, humorous and interesting stories which make his 'Theory of Finance' the most interesting and solid module I have had up to now. He is just amazing!"

Catherine Elliott, City Law School

"Catherine is incredibly knowledgeable and passionate about criminal law and conveys this while lecturing. She was the highlight of my year regarding the City Law School's academic environment. Her criminal law class gave me an in-depth knowledge of that area of law, but Catherine as a professor has given me the skill sets as well as confidence to move forward both successfully as a law student and a lawyer."

Dr Christopher Wiley, School of Arts

"His lectures are interesting, exciting and imaginative. He really puts thought into how best to engage his students and his love of the subject matter is clearly evident. The main reason I have nominated him is because of how much he cares about what we as students have to say. I have never been made to feel so in control of my studies. Chris treats us like adults and I believe he deserves to hear how much we appreciate him."

Cengiz Turkoglu, School of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences

“Cengiz is always at the forefront of using different teaching methods to keep the class engaged. They range from setting up a debate to using 'response-ware' technology to gain feedback and ensure participation from each and every student. Even outside the classroom he sets up Moodle discussions and actively participates himself allowing for each student to learn something. He is a great asset to City and is truly deserving of this award.”

Dr Rachael-Anne Knight, School of Health Sciences

“Not only is Rachael a fantastic teacher who engages her students with her vast knowledge and constant smile, she is also a first point of call for many students with personal problems. Her caring nature makes her easy to talk to and she either provides sensible solutions straight away or endeavours to find one for the individual. She really cares about helping her students.”

Charles Watson, School of Informatics

“He is a wonderful teacher who is always there for us at anytime for any of our modules. In all of my life in education I have never met anyone so willing and patient. During my first week at University, Charlie helped to make me feel comfortable and showed me that I was now part of the University. ... I strongly believe that this member of staff stands out the most from all the other staff ...”

Neil James Wilson, School of Social Sciences

“Neil is an excellent seminar teacher and understands the class not only as students but also as individuals. He treats us like equals and is able to engage the class. He is willing to listen to everyone's viewpoint and acknowledge the points being made. He never brushes anyone's opinion to the side and is probably the best lecturer so far.”

Thalia Anagnostopoulou, Professional Services

“Thalia has gone to great lengths to organise networking events. Pre-training before meeting our mentors was very well thought out and informative. Thalia goes the extra mile when organising anything for the mentees and mentors. She has the outstanding ability to make every person that she talks to feel special. Her enthusiasm is infectious and this makes working with her a pleasure.”

The four additional awards were given to:

Professor Chris Atkin, School of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences

“Professor Atkin is the best lecturer I have come across at the University and I feel lucky to have been lectured by him for the past three years. His lectures are always enjoyable and not once over the past three years did I leave his lecture without having learnt something new. I have nominated Professor Atkin because in the span of 3 years he has become one of the most influential people in my life.”

Dr Olalla Castro-Alvaredo, School of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences

“Dr Alvaredo keeps her lectures simple yet extremely effective. The extra effort put in her work clearly shows in her lectures (diagrams, extra information etc.). Dr Alvaredo was my tutor and spent countless hours listening to my problems and taking action to help me during a very tough period. I can honestly say she went a long way to help me from where I was to the road of recovery.”

Dave Goodfellow, School of Arts and Social Sciences

“Dave is always friendly and cheerful and always willing to help you out, no matter how big or small the query, even when he's really busy and has lots of students who need assistance. I speak for all on the MA in Broadcast Journalism when I say we are incredibly grateful for all Dave has done and think it would be a shame for someone so dedicated and pleasant not to be awarded some degree of recognition.”

Charles O'Connor, Cass Business School

“He adds humour to the class so everyone stays interested. His class is the only class where there is a packed lecture hall. On some days students can't find seats, even when it's a 9.00 am lecture. He makes sure we know everything he has covered and he even makes us a revision sheet with a summary of all the topics. He is the best lecturer I have had at City.”

School Prizes and Awards

Each year Schools run their own recognition schemes which may vary in terms of how prizes are decided with the use of student evaluations, nominations from other staff, applications via committees and a brief presentation on what was best about your teaching during the year. Below are the names of those recognised this year by School.

Cass Business School

Cass Business School recognise excellence in both postgraduate and undergraduate teaching.

Excellence in Postgraduate Teaching

- Dr. Laura Ballotta, Faculty of Finance
- Stephanie Feiereisen, Faculty of Management
- Aneel Keswani, Faculty of Finance
- Nick Motson, Faculty of Finance
- Professor Richard Payne, Faculty of Finance
- Professor Chris Parsons, Faculty of Actuarial Science and Insurance

There were also ***commendations*** in this category for Scott Moeller, Faculty of Finance and Dr. Caroline Wiertz, Faculty of Management

Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

- Dr. Byung-Gak Son, Faculty of Management

There was also recognition for Dr. Wayne Holland for his special contribution to teaching and learning.

City Law School

The City Law School this year recognised both individuals and groups for their role in learning and teaching this year. Staff who gained this recognition are:

- Rachel Tomlinson
- Sean Carrigan
- Sanmeet Kaur-Dua
- Monika Eady
- William Lutterodt

Pupillage Advisory Team: Keith Simpson, Romilly Edge, Paul McKeown, Ffyon Reilly, Andrew Worthley, Nikki Matthews

BPTC Fraud Team: Patrick Fields, Romilly Edge

School of Arts and Social Sciences

These prizes were awarded using the student module evaluations and the staff were received these were:

- Dr. Chris Wiley - Creative Practice and Enterprise
- Dr. Javier Ortega - Economics
- Dr. Alun Wyburn - Journalism
- Dr. Sophie Harman - International Politics
- Jonathan Ellis - Sociology
- Nicola Gale - Psychology
- Dr. Sophie Harman - Conjoint Schools Teaching Prize

School of Health Sciences

The School of Health Sciences considered excellent staff through a central committee and awarded the following staff prizes:

- *Tracey Lindsay* for the development of robust clinical learning environments for City students in practice placements
- *Dr. William Blows* for providing excellent student support in the biological foundations for mental health nursing. William is recognised especially for supporting less able students
- *Valance Hughes* and team members *David Anderson, Billie Kell and Michelle Ellis* for their outstanding contribution to developing simulated practice for Children's Nursing
- *Farzana Latif, Natasa Perovic and Pascale Colonna-Cesari* for their exceptional contribution to the development of our Virtual Learning Environment and other educational technology innovations to enhance the student learning experience

- *Dr. Eamonn McKeown* for developing the exciting new SHS doctoral students' colloquium for students to present and share learning and contribute to the intellectual culture of the School
- *Endang Scanlon, Catherine Radbourne and Steve O'Driscoll* for their service to students producing bespoke learning platforms to promote lifelong learning skills.

A final prize was awarded to *all student-facing professional staff in the School of Health Sciences* for their dedication to improving the student experience. These staff have worked hard to improve front line services including timely and efficient responses, a welcoming and collegial approach and the provision of clearer information utilising the University's communication channels.

School of Informatics

These prizes were awarded following a teaching talent event where innovation, effectiveness and transferability are used as the criteria and there is a vote by all present for the presentations. The prizes were won as outlined here:

First Prize Winners: *Alex Elkins - Problems Not Solutions* and *Professor Kevin Jones - On the Shoulders of Giants*

Finalists: *Dr. Eduardo Alonso - Enthusiastic Researcher*, *Cristina Gacek - Short Research Talks*; and *Dr. Greg Slabaugh - Adaptive Content*

Learning Development Projects

The Learning Development Centre put out a call for projects each year that staff can submit a bid for. This year's projects were focused on undergraduate issues and ran from October 2011 – July 2012. Certificates for these projects were awarded to the following staff:

- Dr. Arti Agrawal - Student Experience of Mathematical Subjects in SEMS
- Stephen Abbott – Audio Feedback
- Dr. Anne Brown - The Success of Innovative Assessment and Feedback at Cass
- Claire De Than - Using mirror surveys and other internal surveys in order to improve student satisfaction scores on the NSS
- Dr. Stian Reimers and Dr. Elliott Freeman - Expectation and reality in students' satisfaction with assessment and feedback