

## **Distinguished Achievement Awards**

### **2013 Teachers of the Year**

The nominations were judged against the following criteria:

“The nominee should be an individual whose teaching over the past year has been outstanding. S/he should demonstrate an ability to communicate ideas effectively, be able to motivate and stimulate students to learn, whilst at the same time showing a commitment to innovation (for example, in e-learning) and excellence in education.”

#### **Dr Andrew McBain, School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences**

Dr Andrew McBain’s enthusiasm and passion for teaching clearly shines through all his work to inspire students to study his material. He has been described by his students as being motivational, with a gift for explaining clearly, concisely and thoroughly. Andrew’s approachability and desire to support student learning make him a very popular lecturer. He has incorporated innovations in his teaching, for example, making use of clicker handsets to make his teaching sessions more interactive and introducing synoptic Turning Point lectures to support student learning.

He has worked with practicing pharmacists to introduce teaching sessions that truly integrate science and practice which helps the school meet its professional standards.

In addition, Andrew has supported the development of other staff and many of his developments have now spread across the school helping others to improve the student experience.

#### **Dr Richard Fay, School of Education, Faculty of Humanities**

Dr Richard Fay is a Lecturer in Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (or TESOL) and Intercultural Communication, and programme director for the MA in Intercultural Communication.

Richard’s teaching is said to show an exceptionally skilled assessment of student learning and provides lively intellectual challenge, at the same time retaining a collegiate and egalitarian approach. Whether teaching on an individual basis or with larger groups, Richard’s teaching content and methods are both flexible and varied. Beyond his direct teaching, Richard promotes student learning opportunities by developing student networks and links through special interest groups, social media, conference and seminar presentations, and student publication. Across the University, Richard has made a significant contribution to inter-disciplinary and inter-cultural teaching, as well as supporting the student learning experience through community outreach music activities and preparing students to study abroad.

#### **Dr Richard Prince, Faculty of Life Sciences**

As Programme Director, Dr Richard Prince is responsible for the success of the popular Pharmacology degree which received 100% overall satisfaction scores in both 2011 and 2012 National Student Satisfaction surveys.

Last year, Richard introduced an innovative second year unit based around a data analysis workbook. This unit gained a remarkable 4.9/5 for both feedback and teaching excellence. He also contributes widely to other units and programmes across his own Faculty and the Medical School.

Students comment on Richard's approachability and eagerness to provide support to individual students, his passion, clarity of delivery, 'wicked' sense of humour and quality of resources, particularly eLearning tools. Richard does his utmost to bring his subject alive, to help students understand its complexities, and to appreciate its importance in the world.

### **Dr Sarah Heath, School of Chemistry, Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences**

Dr. Sarah Heath is a reader in the School of Chemistry, specialising in the area of inorganic chemistry, and a member of the Centre for Radiochemistry Research.

Aspects of these research interests colour and inform Sarah's teaching, particularly in the advanced undergraduate course units that she teaches. She teaches at all levels, from 1<sup>st</sup> Year to 4<sup>th</sup> Year undergraduates, teaching typified by very high quality and consistency. Sarah's 'overall average' score measured by the School's in-house course unit questionnaires varies little from year-to-year, and for 2011–12 her average 'content' score was 4.45, and average 'delivery' score was 4.65

Typical student comments on Sarah's lectures and tutorials are "the best lectures by far" and "best tutor ever".