

## Teachers of the Year 2014

Nominations were judged against the following criteria:

“The nominee should be an individual whose teaching over the past year has been outstanding. He or she 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 and excellence in education.”

### **Harsha Parmar, Manchester Pharmacy School, FMHS**

Harsha has been at the forefront of innovative teaching and assessment in her school and has presented at educational conferences in the UK and internationally.

She has also led on a new inter-professional teaching initiative with medical students at the Christie Hospital.

Harsha has consistently received excellent student feedback despite a very heavy teaching load (average score 4.5/5 compared to 4.1/5 for the school).

She has always given her time freely to support student learning and has proved to be an excellent team player, always happy to support colleagues and to take on additional teaching and administration roles when required.

Her excellent teaching is underpinned by her successful completion of her Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching, Learning and Assessment.

### **Dr Paul Middleditch, School of Social Sciences, FHUMS**

Since arriving in Manchester in 2009, Paul’s teaching approach has been pioneering and highly effective.

He has succeeded in engaging large cohorts of students and communicating material which is both technical and vital to understanding how economies grow and generate employment.

His innovations have improved lecture interactivity and enhanced the effectiveness of office hours by incentivising attendance by students. He has been very pro-active in the use of technology to drive innovation in teaching and improvements in the student experience.

Paul’s achievements in the teaching of macroeconomics have received recognition at national level. In 2013, he was announced Joint Winner of the Outstanding Teacher category in the Economics Network Learning and Teaching Awards for his “innovative use of technology and the support offered to students.”

### **Professor Graham Pavitt, Faculty of Life Sciences**

Graham Pavitt is a Professor of Gene Regulation and Cellular Biotechnology in the Faculty of Life Sciences.

Graham is described as being a great example of someone who combines a considerable research profile with a dedicated approach to teaching and helping students.

His teaching forte is providing top quality feedback to his students, and he generously shares his good practice with colleagues. He is much valued as both a personal and academic advisor – a typical student comment is: ‘Prof Pavitt is a legend. Always there for students in tutorials and is very knowledgeable’.

His clear and enthusiastic lecturing style on the popular final unit that he coordinates is combined with coursework assessments which are warmly appreciated by his students.

One of the University’s stated aims is that our students are taught ‘by leading scholars at the forefront of their disciplines and informed by research-led content’. Graham is an excellent example of how well this works in practice.

### **Dr Richard Neville, School of Computer Science, FEPS**

Dr Richard Neville is described as being a unique communicator, motivator and mentor. He is famed for his lecturing style which is described as dynamic, humorous, full of insight and genuinely memorable

He is a champion of video lectures and has produced these very popular tools for all his lecture courses. These podcasts comprise lecture slides with commentary, and are specially recorded and edited.

Richard cares deeply about the process of teaching, and about the students in his classes, and the students whose projects he supervises. In turn, his students have described him as being “immensely knowledgeable, inspirational, approachable – simply an excellent teacher”.