## PROFESSOR KEITHIA WILSON



# AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2007 GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

## DISCIPLINE

BACKGROUND

Psychology

## RESEARCH AREAS

SOTL Management of Change Conflict Management Counselling Professional Supervision

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#### CURRENT ROLE

Professor Wilson is in the Centre for Learning Futures. As the Griffith University Portfolio Leader for Student Success and Retention, she is involved in developing strategies to facilitate the successful orientation, engagement and retention of commencing students. She also works with academic, professional and administrative staff to further develop good practice. She is the founding Chair of the Griffith Academy of Learning and Teaching Scholars, and an Adjunct Professor in the School of Applied Psychology. She has recently completed an ALTC National Senior Fellowship.

### WHAT THE AWARD HAS MEANT

Go teaching! | Profiling the value of learning and teaching in higher education

### MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2012 Achieved Griffith University Academic Leader for Student Success and Retention;
- 2010 Awarded an ALTC National Senior
- 2012 Teaching Fellowship for the First Year Experience;
- 2010 Invited to be the Griffith Health Program Lead for the First Year Experience;Appointed founding Chair of the Griffith Academy of Teaching Scholars;
- **2009** Promoted to Professor linked to L&T at Griffith University.

#### NETWORKS

ALTF

Professor Wilson was an academic in the School of Applied Psychology from 1991 to 2011, building extensive experience in the development and implementation of innovative learning, teaching and assessment practices. She has published widely in her discipline and in higher education around issues of teaching quality and learning design, with five ARC and three OLT Grants. She has been recognised for her effectiveness as an educator and for her scholarship in learning and teaching, receiving a number of awards. As the Chair of the Griffith University Educational Excellence Committee, she has worked for 10 years to develop the systems for recognising and rewarding good teaching, overseeing the internal and external L&T grants and awards schemes. This also involves working with academic and professional staff to develop award applications for the OLT scheme. She has been invited to 21 Australian universities to present keynotes and general presentations on her innovations.

#### IMPACT ON LEARNING & TEACHING

As a result of the Award, Professor Wilson works in more strategic L&T Leadership roles, supporting teaching teams to build the quality of teaching practice and improve the learning experience of their students, especially commencing students. This Award provided her with profile and recognition, leading to a National Senior Fellowship (2010) in the First Year Experience, which further enhanced both practice and research opportunities. The Award facilitated a move away from her disciplinary research to concentrate on learning and teaching research. She continues to work strategically to improve teaching practice, the student learning experience and recognition and reward of good teaching. Professor Wilson is a National Assessor for OLT Learning & Teaching Awards.

### IMPACT ON CAREER

While Professor Wilson already had a strong L&T institutional profile, the Award intensified and legitimised this work even further. She was promoted from Associate Professor to full Professor in 2009, leading to more strategic leadership roles linked to learning and teaching. She was also offered a strategic Group/Faculty role in Griffith Health as the Program Lead for the First Year Experience, reporting to the Dean Learning and Teaching, and a University-wide role as Academic Leader for Student Success and Retention, reporting to the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic). These roles involved change management responsibilities for working with staff to improve the quality of the first-year student experience, and strengthening institutional understanding of, and engagement with, the recognition and reward systems for learning and teaching at Griffith.