

AAUTY VIDEO SERIES: 2019 TEACHER OF THE YEAR: THE PSYCHOLOGY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

MH: Professor Mark Horswill

BM: Professor Barbara Masser

BMK: Professor Blake McKimmie

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

MH: Hi, I'm Professor Mark Horswill of the School of Psychology University of Queensland and I was part of the team that won the University Teacher of the Year Award for 2019.

BM: Hi, I'm Professor Barbara Masser. I'm the Australian Redcross lifetime Chair of donor research.

BMK: I'm Professor Blake McKimmie, and I teach the psychology criminal justice and introduction to psychology.

MH: So, I've been teaching for about 28 years.

BMK: I've been teaching at the University of Queensland, on and off for nearly 20 years now.

BM: And I've taught in Australia for 20 years, mainly fourth year, teaching Applied Social Psychology and in the undergraduate curriculum teaching the psychology of criminal justice.

MH: I've also been teaching measurement in psychology, which is the capstone course for our psychology majors.

KEY ASPECTS OF TEACHING BEEN RECOGNISED

BM: I think one of the key aspects that we've been recognised for is actually incorporating the use of a narrative within our course that means we created a crime drama, which created a common story that everyone could follow through and actually relate or research that we were talking to.

BMK: We also made a series of activities for the classroom, where students take on different roles throughout the semester. So, in one week, they have to actually construct a line up to identify the suspect.

MH: One aspect of our course that we're particularly proud of is our leveraging of the literature into learning and memory that we've built into our course design.

BMK: So, we use assessment to drive student behaviour. For example, we use repeated assessments spaced out over the course of the semester so that students have a lot of opportunities to practice retrieval of the content they're learning.

OUR JOURNEY OF WINNING THE AAUT AWARDS

MH: So, my route to this award has come from a number of both internal and external awards.

BM: The course went through many different iterations as we thought about what we were doing, and we tried to put a case together for applying for awards. And as we were doing this, we were realising the gap system existed and what we had to do and evolve the course to make it better, and a better experience for students.

BMK: One thing we did do is we collected a lot of data about how students were learning in the course. As we taught the course in, year after year, we started to make changes based on the data we're collecting and then we started to build a case for what students were learning in the course, and the value of the things we were doing.

BM: So, we were extremely fortunate to win three international awards including the edX prize. We also won the University of Queensland award for the course.

OUR FEELING OF BEING THE 2019 AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY TEACHER OF THE YEAR RECIPIENT

BM: It feels amazing. Quite honestly, we were delighted and very surprised to receive the award and it felt like a fantastic honour.

BMK: I don't think we were really expecting it. We applied for the [teaching] category award and we were really happy when we received that award.

MH: It felt really special to win the 2019 Australian University Teacher of the Year Award.

BMK: And it was never in our imagination that we'd win the AAUT Teacher of the Year award.

BM: We were shocked, quite honestly.

THE IMPACT ON OUR CAREERS SINCE RECEIVING THE AWARD

BM: Winning the award has been quite a surreal experience, and most recently, it starts open up some real opportunities for engaging with industry partners to help them with their teaching and learning activities.

BMK: Since receiving the award, it's opened up a few opportunities. For example, I've had opportunities at the university to take on more senior roles in teaching and learning. And also working with industry partners.

WE WOULD SAY TO ASPIRING APPLICANTS...

BM: Things I say to aspiring applicants are [to] certainly try, but be willing, and prepared to receive and engage with critical feedback for people who are trying to help you along the way and they can show you where the gaps may exist in your evidence. It is only going to help you evolve your courses further and your programs further and make a much better, much stronger application.

BMK: It's really worth giving it a go. It's a great process to think about your teaching and learning, and to reflect on what you're doing. And it helps you actually improve what you're doing with your teaching and learning.

MH: For those aspiring applicants. If you're thinking, there's absolutely no way you could win an award, like this, given the number of amazing university teachers that are out there, then be rest assured, that's exactly what I thought before we went into this.

BMK: Be persistent. You might not get the award the first time you apply for it but it is a process of collecting more data and reflecting on your teaching, getting feedback. You know, it's likely you'll receive a lot of feedback from people and you should really engage with that feedback. But don't forget to tell your own story, your own narrative and your journey of your teaching and learning innovation.

CONCLUSION

MH: I am so grateful to my team, Blake and Barbara for inviting me to join them on this journey.

BMK: I think we'd all like to thank Universities Australia, and also the AAUT awards panel. It's a great honour to be recognised for our teaching and learning innovation.

BM: We are massively grateful. It's been a fantastic journey. It's been a lot of fun along the way. And, as I said, we're completely astounded, amazed and shocked, but it feels fantastic.

[video of Crime101x]

AAUT CONTACT DETAILS

Click [2020 AAUT Awards](#) for more information.

For any further questions, please contact the Awards Team aaut@swin.edu.au