

AUSTRALIAN AWARDS  
FOR UNIVERSITY TEACHING

# NEWSLETTER #4

1 July 2020

Dear Colleagues

I hope you are all well and staying safe.

Unfortunately for us, Victorians, we are experiencing significant community transmission of the corona virus, which has resulted in a number of areas, reverting to local lockdown.

This month, we see the sector digesting Education Minister's Dan Tehan new course funding model. Changes are proposed to student and Commonwealth contributions which claim to provide extra funding for 39,000 university places by 2023. Universities are also awaiting details around the Job-ready Graduates: Higher Education Reform Package, but are pleased to hear the announcement of a pilot program aimed at allowing international students to return to Australia.

There has never been a time when so many academics have spent so much time rethinking their pedagogy as right now. Our teaching is being dramatically re-thought, and academic staff are genuinely engaging with new forms of on-line delivery and technologies. To acknowledge those who are doing incredibly interesting things to support their students' learning, I encourage institutions to nominate their staff for an AAUT award.

AAUT recognises our exemplary university educators for their creativity, innovation and leadership in learning and teaching. With the onset of COVID-19 many academics have truly engaged with online learning, lectures have been re-invented, technology affordances have been embraced, laboratories have been redesigned for asynchronous delivery, and many have had to rethink assessment. Now, more than ever, is the time, to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of our academics.

My team and I look forward to receiving your institution's nominations.

Professor Angela Carbone

**AAUT Awards Team Director**

*For regular updates about the AAUT awards*

 Follow [Angela Carbone twitter](https://twitter.com/angelacarbone41) (@angelacarbone41)



## Timeline & Key Dates



### COUNTDOWN to Nominee Registration:

- Phase 1: Nominee Registration  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> Aug to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> Sept
- Phase 2: Submission Upload  
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> Sept to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Sept



Click [here](#) for the 2020 AAUT Key dates.

## AAUT UPDATE

### 2020 Prize Money

We are pleased to confirm that winners of both Teaching and Program awards will receive \$15,000 prizemoney in recognition of their contribution to teaching and learning in higher education. The winner of the prestigious award for Australian University Teacher of the Year will receive an additional \$20,000.

### Assessor Recruitment

**2020 AAUT ASSESSOR**

The Australian Awards for University Teaching (AAUT) continue to recognise quality teaching practices, programs and outstanding contributors to student learning. Since established in 1987 by the Australian Government, the Awards have become a model form of recognition for university teachers Australia wide.

**BENEFITS OF BEING AN ASSESSOR**

- Network and collaborate with colleagues from different institutions
- Professional Development
- Ability to further contribute to the sector - to "give back"
- Ability to gain knowledge and insights into the institution
- Improve the quality and nature of teaching and learning in higher education

**PROFESSOR PHOENIX PIRRI-ASSASSOR**

"I have assessment subject area really rewarding - great to meet new people from diverse backgrounds."

"It is always good to be involved in the AAUT Awards Scheme because it results in new very exciting opportunities we have in the country, doing innovative and interesting things to engage students"

**ASSESSOR REQUIREMENTS**

- Degree in education
- Learning and teaching expertise and leadership experience
- Experience assessing applications or candidates
- Experience in understanding of the scholarship of education

**ASSESSMENT KEY DATES**

ACT	NEW SOUTH WALES	QUEENSLAND	VIC
Assessor Briefing & Awards Portal Opening	Individual Assessment	Review Team's Comments	Final Online Collaborative Assessment

This year, the AAUT assessment process will include the following:

- Assessor Briefing Sessions via Zoom (2 x 1 hour)
- Judging and awarding of nominees - via email (through the described two Assessor Briefing Sessions that covers all aspects of the AAUT assessment)
- Individual Assessment via Awards Portal
- To identify assessors for regional institutions in relation to the assessment online. Maximum assessment of four institutions.
- Review Team's Comments via Awards Portal
- To receive your assessment team's comments prior the collaborative assessment.
- Collaborative Assessment via Zoom
- The final assessment committee will involve individual assessors coming together in a team of three to discuss and moderate their assessments. Each team will discuss their assessment team's comments, using and give you online feedback. One assessor will act as the lead and will be responsible for capturing, summarising, constructive feedback for the nominees.

Check 2020 AAUT Awards for more information.

**CONTACT DETAILS**

Please contact your DVCA office if you are interested in becoming the year AAUT assessor by Friday 30 July 2020. For any further questions, please contact the Awards Team: [awards@auut.edu.au](mailto:awards@auut.edu.au)

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The assessor recruitment is under way. Your institution DVCA has received an invite to recommend up to 10 potential assessors. As the recommendation list may vary from year to year, we encourage your institution to provide the names for this year (previously recommended and new recommendation). If you are interested in being involved, please contact your DVCA office.

Click on the image to download AAUT Assessor Information Brochure

### AAUTY Video Series:

We are delighted to have the recipients of the 2019 and 2018 Australian Awards for University Teacher of the Year (AAUTY), sharing their journey of winning the awards and some encouragement to the aspiring applicants.

### 2019 Australian University Teacher of the Year



Watch [2019 AAUTY: The Psychology of Criminal Justice's video](#)  
[Transcript](#)

Read [team profile](#) here

## 2018 Australian University Teacher of the Year

Associate Professor Kevin Larkin's video



Watch [2018 AAUTY: Kevin's video](#)

[Transcript](#)

Read [Kevin's profile](#) here

## Get ready for Submission

### 1. ICO's Roles

One of the key roles of ICO is to upload all of their institution's nominations via the Awards Portal with the allocated account ID and password. Each institution is allocated with a single account ID.

On **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Aug**, ICO will receive the allocated account ID, temporary password as well as the 2020 AAUT Awards Portal Nomination Submission Instructions on how to access the portal. Please see the ICO list below and notify the Awards Team of any changes.

### 2. Reminder: Email Security

Remember to get in touch with your institution IT centre to release any email from [no\\_reply@sparkplus.com.au](mailto:no_reply@sparkplus.com.au) and [support@sparkplus.com.au](mailto:support@sparkplus.com.au)

## SANTPEN UPLIFT Workshop (By Invitation only)



The South Australia and Northern Territory Promoting Excellence Network (SANTPEN) is having their annual workshop, known as 'Uplift' via Zoom on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July. It is designed for prospective AAUT applicants who are keen to take their institutional award to the national level. This is an invite only event for eligible institutions in SA and NT. This year, Professor Angela Carbone will be speaking about AAUT and her journey with the awards.

## 2019 Citation Certificates and Awards Ceremony Booklets

With the current working remotely arrangement, the 2019 Citation certificates and Awards Ceremony booklets will be mailed out later on to either state-based host or to the respective ICOs.

## AAUTN Mentor Scheme



The AAUTN Award Mentor Scheme draws on the skills and experience of Australian Teaching Award winners who have volunteered to be part of the scheme. Check out the [new mentors](#).

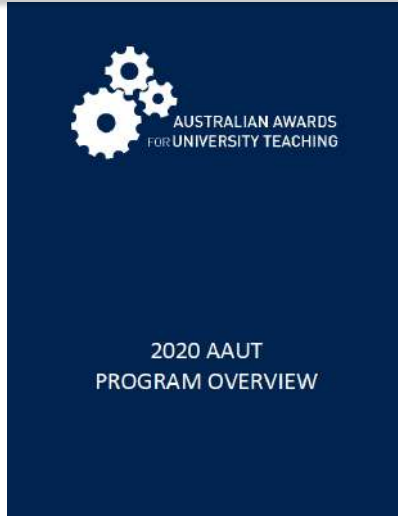
## AAUT Resources



### 2020 ISSOTL Fellows

ISSoTL Fellows is now linked to the [AAUTN website](#).

Click on the image to see 2020 cohort of ISSoTL Fellows.



## 2020 AAUT Nomination Information Packs

2020 Nomination Instructions and Forms are now available to download from the [AAUT-UA website](#) or click [here](#) (Dropbox).

The infographic titled '2020 AAUT OVERVIEW' provides a detailed timeline and details for the awards. It includes sections for '2020 TIMELINE', 'AWARD TYPES', 'HOW TO NOMINATE', and 'AWARD TYPES'. A table at the bottom lists the award types, categories, number of awards, and prize money.

Award Type	Category	No. of Awards	Prize Money
1. Award for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning (2 Awards)	100000	2	100000
2. Award for Programs that Enhance Learning (Program Awards)	100000	6	100000
3. Award for Teaching Excellence (Teaching Awards)	100000	7	100000
4. Award for Australia's University Teacher of the Year	100000	1	100000

## Promotion Campaign

To expand the range of disciplines represented in the AAUT, use the brochures below to promote the awards in your institution:

- [AAUT Overview](#)
- [Neville Bonner Award for Indigenous Education](#)
- [Global Citizenship & Internationalisation](#)
- [Postgraduate Education](#)



## AAUT-UA website

For all AAUT related information.

A table listing the Institutional Contact Officers (ICOs) for various institutions. The table has three columns: Institution, ICO Name, and ICO Email.

Institution	ICO Name	ICO Email
ACU	Mary Evripidou	mary.evripidou@acu.edu.au
Batchelor	TBC	TBC
UNSW	Dr Sarah Long	slong@unsw.edu.au
UNSW	Dr Jason Burgess	j.burgess@ecu.edu.au
UNSW	Dr Bopelo Botshwarelo	bopelo.botshwarelo@otjw.edu.au
UNSW	Dr Denise Wood	dwood@ecu.edu.au
UNSW	Professor Jill Downie	jdownie@curtin.edu.au
DEAKIN UNIVERSITY	Associate Professor Barbie Panther	barbie.panther@deakin.edu.au
ECU	Wendy Varcoe	wv@ecu.edu.au
Federation	Associate Professor Ning Polinatos	n.polinatos@federation.edu.au
Flinders	Anne Smith	anne.smith@flinders.edu.au
Griffith	Leigh Sawyer	awards_aec@griffith.edu.au
UNSW	Associate Professor Maree Dinan-Thompson	maree.dinan-thompson@ecu.edu.au
LA TROBE	Associate Professor Liz Branigan	L.Branigan@latrobe.edu.au

## Institutional Contact Officer (ICO)

See [here](#) for the updated ICO list.

#### 7.1. SUGGESTIONS

Below are some suggestions from the assessors and awards committees on writing a successful application:

- 1. Preparation**
  - Be prepared to demonstrate that the nominee's work has had an impact beyond their own discipline, and how the initiative can benefit the sustained sector after the nominee have moved on to something else.
  - An application need a CV that lists achievements. It is a highly written narrative, supported by evidence and scholarly literature, that highlights the impact the nominee has made to student learning.
  - Focus of any activity – planning, reflection, SoLT has to be on what change it made to the student experience and student learning.
  - Take the evidence suggestions seriously.
  - Follow the rubric and be assessed but sometimes find room to add flair.
- 2. Select correct category**
  - Select the right category for the application. Seek feedback from as many colleagues as possible.
  - For program nomination, ensure that the program is really excellent. Make it clear in the nomination that the program is not simply one of many excellent programs offered in Australia in the discipline.
  - Make sure that the claims and evidence speak back to the category under which you are applying.
  - Focus on the specific innovation and nomination, a citation is for something you do, not for your work as a whole. So be very specific!
- 3. Application Writing**
  - Take time to identify your "personal brand" and build a coherent narrative about your brand.
  - Bring the assessor into your story as the assessor can see what the nominee's journey has been.
  - Write coherently – develop a framework for the application before writing.
  - Be clear about what the nominee is seeking to achieve: tell the assessors how the nominee do it and how you know it is successful. Focus of any activity – planning, reflection, SoLT has to be on what change it made to the student experience and student learning.
  - Tell a great story – get some advice and assistance on how to tell a story. Create a sense of drama what was missing, how did you know that, what did you do to fix that gap, why did you choose that, what next.
  - Proofread – consider the reader in terms of clarity, both in layout/design and use of language.
- 4. Selection Criteria**
  - Clarity of communication for a general audience is key.
  - Pay careful attention to the assessment criteria and the suggested sequence in which to respond.
  - Follow the instructions! The criteria are quite clear and specific. Make sure the nominee evidence the claims made against each criterion.
- 5. Provide evidence of the claims**
  - Follow the guidelines and consider carefully, in particular, the selection and presentation of evidence of impact on student experience and outcomes. Where it is possible to identify impact beyond student satisfaction (e.g. student engagement, retention, performance, employment outcomes etc) then do include the evidence.
  - Ensure the nominee collects comprehensive evidence of impact on student learning (quantitative, not just anecdotal) for areas that many institutions need to improve on.
  - The critical importance of evaluation and presentation of evaluative data, both quantitative and qualitative. This also suggests that nominations should not be submitted until there is robust data available to support their claims.
  - Be clear and provide evidence about the impact and reach of the initiative.

## Tips on writing a successful award application

Click on the image to download.



## Learning and Teaching Repository

It contains a collection of higher education learning and teaching materials flowing from projects funded by the Australian Government from 1994 to 2018. Click on the image to access.

[view this email in your browser](#)

## Next AAUT Newsletter: Beginning of August 2020

Awards Team - Angeline Sim & Jing Ye

[aaat@swin.edu.au](mailto:aaat@swin.edu.au)

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