



AAUT Director's Update

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the September edition of the AAUT Newsletter.

With the 2025 AAUT submission period now closed, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the 36 institutions that submitted a total of 126 applications. Your continued commitment to recognising and celebrating teaching excellence is what drives the success of this national program. A special thank you goes to our Institutional Contact Officers (ICOs) for their invaluable support throughout the nomination process. To help us further strengthen the program, we encourage all ICOs to complete the evaluation survey by Monday, 29 September.

As we move into the assessment phase, we are preparing our 129 appointed assessors through two upcoming briefing sessions, led by longstanding assessors and the Chair of the Citation Awards Committee. We are excited to offer these assessors the opportunity to collaborate with peers from other institutions. While we couldn't appoint everyone who expressed interest this year, we are truly grateful for your willingness to contribute and hope to work with you in future rounds.

This edition also highlights upcoming events and inspiring stories. Don't miss the final two sessions of our **Breakfast Series**, featuring the **STEM WIL Team at Flinders University** on 9 October. We also hear from **Professor Michael Cowling**, 2020 Teaching Award recipient and current AAUT assessor, who shares his journey and continued involvement in the program.

We're proud to showcase outstanding work from previous recipients, including the **Transformed Pharmacy Degree Team** at Monash University and **Dr Ambelin Kwaymullina** from the University of Western Australia. Their stories

are a strong reminder of the powerful impact inclusive and passionate educators have on students and the wider community.

Lastly, I warmly welcome **Professor Carolyn Evans** as the new Chair of Universities Australia and acknowledge the [recent statement](#) shared by UA CEO **Luke Sheehy**. I also encourage university leaders to begin considering nominations for the **AAUT Career Achievement Award**, which opens at the end of October—an opportunity to honour academics with more than 25 years of outstanding service.

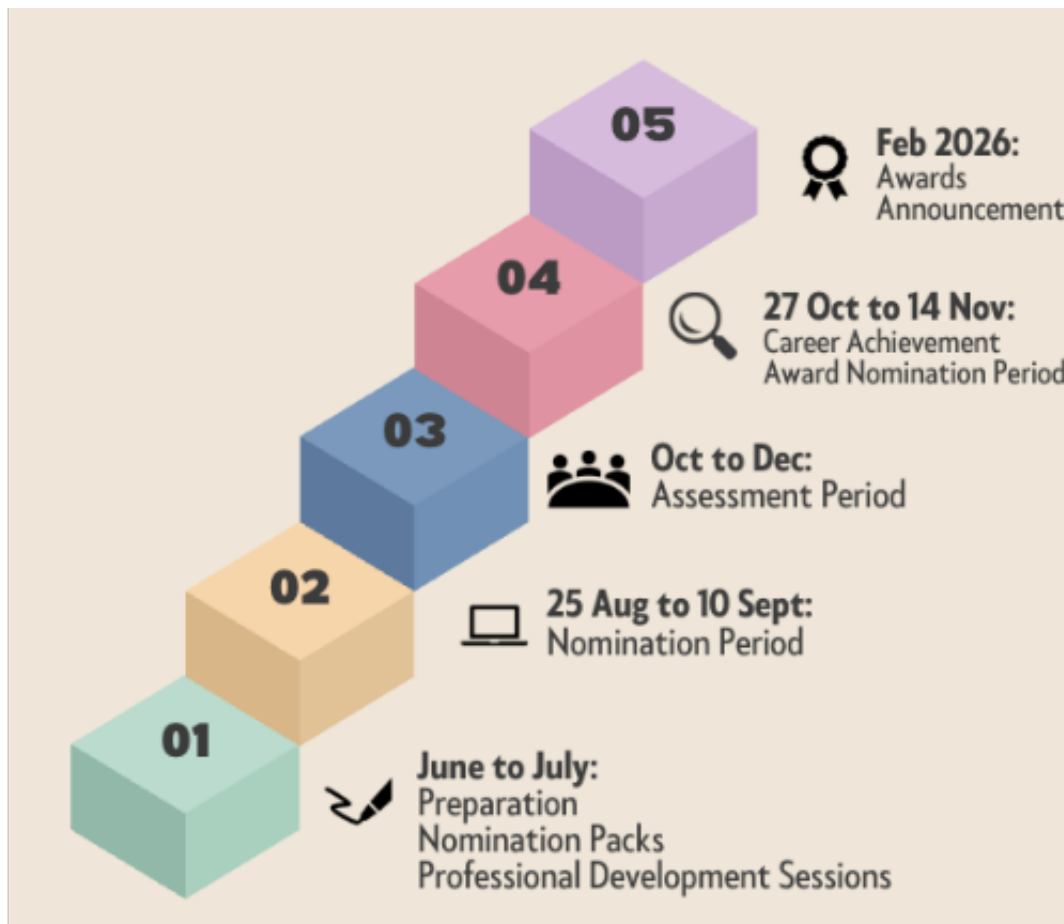
Thank you for your continued support of the AAUT program.



Regards,
Professor Angela Carbone
AAUT Director

A banner with a dark blue background featuring a pattern of light blue gears. A green triangle is in the top left corner. The text "TIMELINE & KEY DATES" is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

TIMELINE & KEY DATES



WHAT'S NEW?

2025 AAUT Nomination Update

Thank you to the 36 institutions that submitted a total of 126 nominations for the 2025 AAUT.

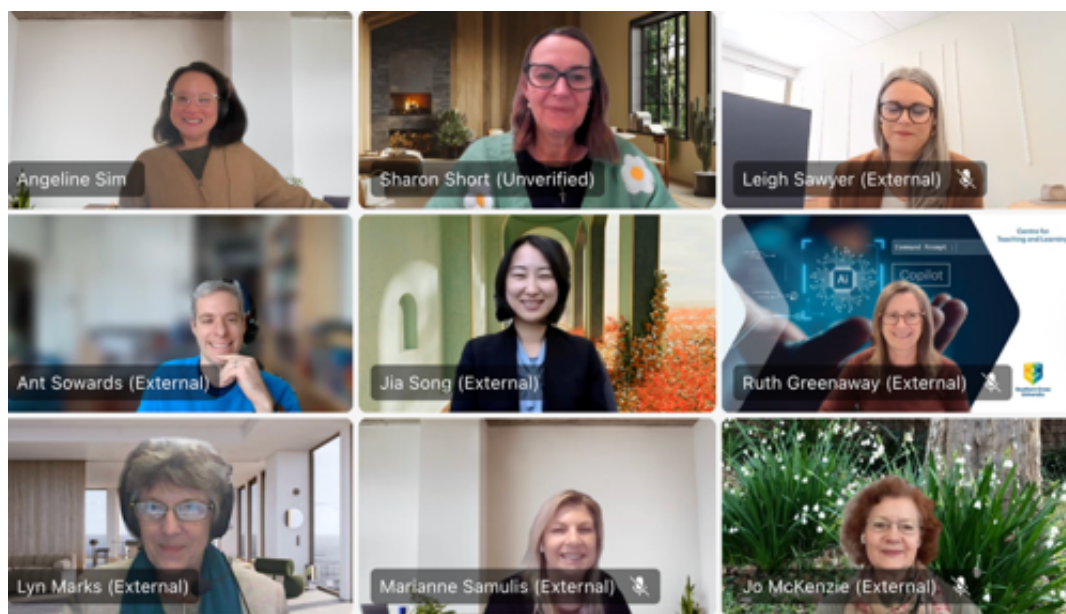
The table below highlights the breakdown of nominations by award type.

2025 AAUT NOMINATION SUMMARY

Award Type	Number of Nominations
Citations	93
Citation - Early Career	6
Citation - Neville Bonner Award	1
Program Awards	14
Teaching Awards	12
Total	126

ICO Coffee Session #2

It was great to catch up with some of the ICOs recently and have the opportunity to reconnect virtually. These conversations are always valuable for sharing updates, exchanging ideas, and strengthening collaboration across institutions. I appreciate the time and insights shared, and I look forward to continuing our work together.



Assessment Phase Update

We're delighted to have 129 assessors from 37 institutions participating in this year's

AAUT assessment. Your commitment is essential to fostering and recognising excellence in teaching and learning across the higher education sector.



AAUT Assessor Briefing Sessions

This year, we're hosting two specialist briefing sessions for assessors.

One session will provide valuable insights from our experienced assessors, while the other will focus on best practices for effective assessment. These exclusive sessions are by invitation only and reserved for shortlisted assessors.

A purple poster for the 2025 Assessor Briefing. It features three headshots of speakers: A/Prof Jack Wang (UQ), Prof. Jo McKenzie (UTS), and A/Prof Christian Moro (Bond Uni). The text reads: "2025 ASSESSOR BRIEFING", "INSIGHTS FROM EXPERIENCED ASSESSORS", "Thursday 25 Sept, 11 am to 12pm AEST", and "Online | Microsoft Teams". The Australian Awards for University Teaching logo is in the bottom left corner.

2025 ASSESSOR BRIEFING

INSIGHTS FROM EXPERIENCED ASSESSORS

Thursday 25 Sept, 11 am to 12pm AEST

Online | Microsoft Teams

A/PROF JACK WANG, UQ

PROF. JO MCKENZIE, UTS

A/PROF CHRISTIAN MORO, BOND UNI

AUSTRALIAN AWARDS FOR UNIVERSITY TEACHING



AAUT & UniSA Breakfast Series -Two Sessions remaining

Now in its second year, our collaboration with UniSA's Teaching Innovation Unit continues to spotlight the work of AAUT recipients and foster innovative teaching practices across the sector. This series provides a valuable platform for sharing insights, celebrating excellence, and inspiring educators nationwide.

October Feature Presentation

We're excited to announce that **STEM WIL Program** from **Flinders University**, a 2024 Program Award recipient, will be delivering a presentation soon.

The topic and registration link will be available shortly on the [AAUTN website](#)—stay tuned!



WATCH THE RECORDING

April: Indigenising the Curriculum recording

May: From Small Things, Big Things Grow recording

June: Effective Mastery Learning in the Era of Generative AI

Aug: Using Universal Design for Learning principles and evidence-based strategies to build academics

Sept: Broadcasting dust: Innovative online learning experiences and process-based assessment in the creative arts

SAVE THE DATES

 Teaching and Learning Breakfast Series	
10 APR	PROF TRACEY BUNDA (UQ) CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENT
8 MAY	A/PROF JOSEPHINE PAPARO (MQ) CITATION RECIPIENT
26 JUN	A/PROF CLAUDIA SZABO (UNI OF ADELAIDE) TEACHING AWARD RECIPIENT
14 AUG	THE COMMENCING STUDENT SUCCESS PROJECT (UNE) CITATION RECIPIENT
11 SEPT	DR BILL PLATZ (GRIFFITH UNI) CITATION RECIPIENT
9 OCT	STEM WIL PROGRAM (FLINDERS UNI) PROGRAM AWARD RECIPIENT
13 NOV	MR PAUL VAN OPDENBOSCH (QUT) CITATION RECIPIENT

Share your AAUT story - Professor Michael

Cowling, RMIT University



Receiving the AAUT Award for Teaching Excellence in 2020 was a career-defining moment that elevated both my visibility and credibility in the field of educational technology. Whilst I had an emerging national reputation, the award helped cement my standing nationally and build an emerging international reputation as a leader in Technology-Enhanced Learning—recognition that led directly to my promotion to Professor and a broader role in shaping the future of education.

The platform the award provided enabled me to expand my reach—supporting schools in integrating robotics, XR, and AI; presenting impactful keynotes across Australasia; and influencing national policy discussions. Most significantly, it gave me a seat at the table for early, high-level conversations around the role of generative AI in education—conversations that have since become central to how we teach and learn today.

I've always championed the idea of “pedagogy before technology,” and the AAUT community helped amplify that philosophy, offering a network of equally passionate and visionary educators committed to driving meaningful change. The award wasn't the finish line—it marked the beginning of a chapter filled with new opportunities, deeper impact, and a stronger voice in Australia's evolving educational landscape.

RECIPIENT SPOTLIGHT

Get to know Program



Award Recipient: A Comprehensive Instructional Model to Develop a Transformed Pharmacy Degree

Monash Pharmacy revamped its degree to focus on skill development and clear pharmacist roles, using active learning and earlier practical placements with targeted feedback. This transformation has boosted student satisfaction, exam results, and clinical skills, setting a new standard for healthcare education.

Read [Development of Pharmacy Degree](#)

Get to know 2021 Neville

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Dr Ambelin Kwaymullina

Dr. Ambelin Kwaymullina, a Palyku woman from Western Australia, is a law academic dedicated to embedding First Nations content and perspectives in legal education. She focuses on creating culturally respectful learning environments and is passionate about equipping educators with the cultural competence needed to support meaningful change.

Read [Professor Ambelin Kwaymullina](#)

AAUT RESOURCES

2025 AAUT Launch on [AAUT-UA website](#) for:

- Nomination Packs
- Nominees' Resources
- Past newsletters



- Past awards ceremony booklets
- Past recipients' video series



Check out the [AAUTN website](#) for information about:

- [Latest news](#)
- [Australian University Teacher of the Year Profile Booklet](#)
- [AAUTN Mentor Scheme](#)
- [Advice for recipients](#)
- [Resources for nominees](#)
- [2024 AAUT State-based Ceremonies photos and recordings here.](#)



[Learning and Teaching Repository](#)

A collection of higher education learning and teaching research valuable to any university academic. Access topical resources and news, or contribute a new resource.

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- [!\[\]\(c91d9fd9eb37f21f63405f290fd824c2_img.jpg\) \[YouTube - Prof Ange Carbone, AAUT Director\]\(#\)](#)
- [!\[\]\(14a82b1cdd6b1489ba04a4334bdc8552_img.jpg\) \[Email the Awards team\]\(#\)](#)

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