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Dear colleagues,

As the Australian Awards for University Teaching (AAUT) enters its next chapter, we wanted to take this opportunity to update the community on the transition arrangements and reassure you that every effort is being made to ensure continuity of this important national program.

Following eight successful years of management by the AAUT team (Professor Ange Carbone and Angeline Sim) at RMIT University, the awards will be transitioned to Universities Australia (UA) for the next phase. We are working closely together to ensure a seamless handover and maintain the momentum of Australia's premier program for recognising excellence in university learning and teaching.

Universities Australia is currently recruiting a new Senior Director, Tertiary Education and Skills. In the meantime, Dr John Wellard, Executive Director Strategy and Policy along with Aimee Cassels, the current Awards Manager- who you will meet in this edition of the newsletter- is working closely with Professor Angela Carbone former Director and Angeline Sim former Awards Manager to ensure there is minimal disruption to the 2026 awards cycle.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as this transition takes place.

Over the past eight years, the AAUT program has flourished because of the commitment of an extraordinary national community of award recipients, assessors, Institutional Contact Officers (ICOs), committee members and senior leaders across Australia's universities. Together, you have built and sustained a rigorous, collegial and highly respected awards program that continues to celebrate and advance excellence in learning and teaching.

Over the coming weeks, Universities Australia will begin recruiting new assessors and committee members for the 2026 awards program. Information on key dates, timelines, application processes and opportunities to become involved is included later in this newsletter.

As the program enters this next chapter, we encourage you to remain engaged with the AAUT community, continue recognising and celebrating outstanding educators within your institutions, and consider contributing to the awards program as an assessor, mentor or advocate.

Finally, we would like to sincerely thank each of you for your ongoing commitment, expertise and generosity. The success and reputation of the Australian Awards for University Teaching have always been built on the strength of this remarkable community. We are confident that, with your continues support, the program will continue to flourish for many years to come.

With our sincere thanks and appreciation,



Warm regards,
Professor Angela Carbone (2018 - 2025)
AAUT Director

Dr John Wellard
Executive Director Strategy & Policy
Universities Australia

AAUT program updates

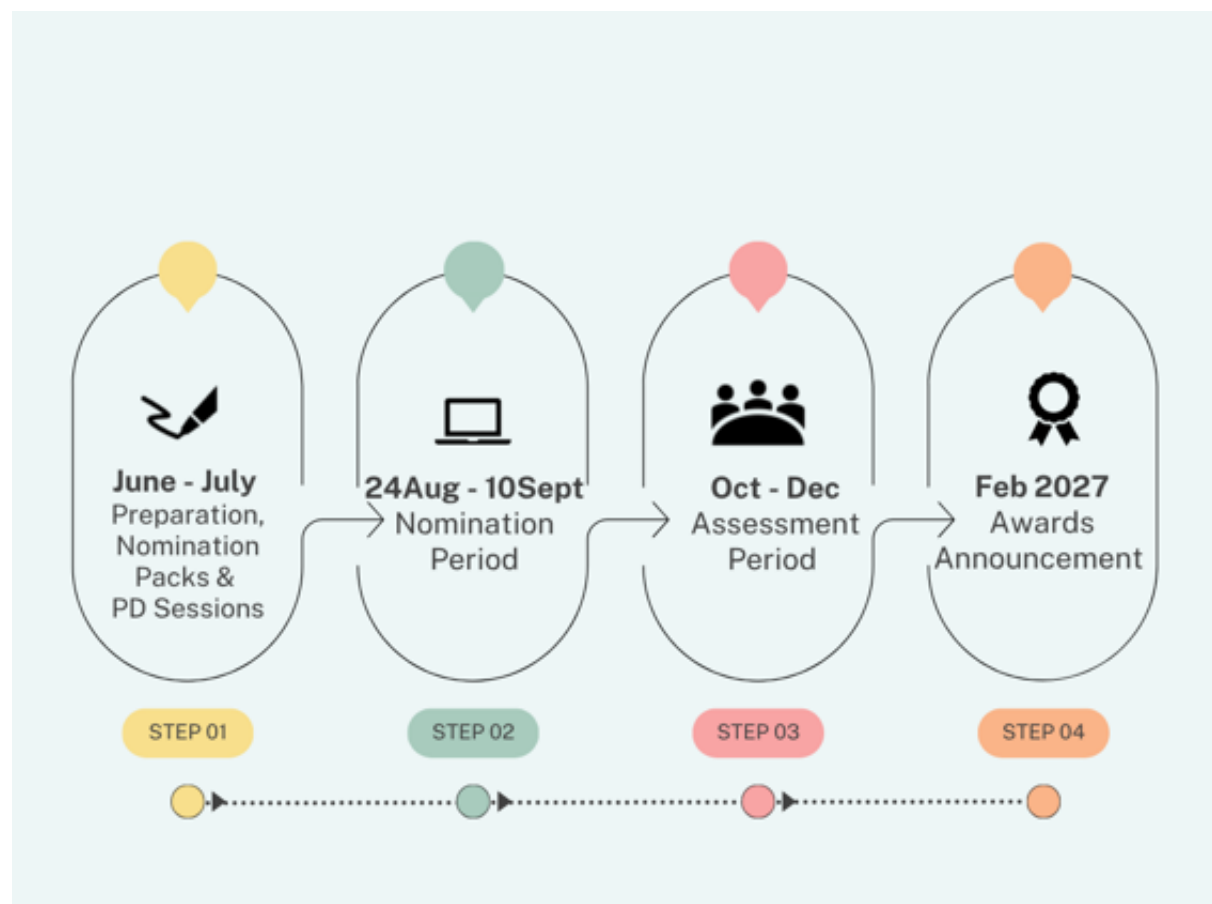
2026 AAUT submission round

As we prepare for the 2026 AAUT submission round, institutions are encouraged to begin internal planning and share key dates with prospective nominees.

ICOs and DVCA's may wish to identify potential applicants early, confirm local endorsement timelines and encourage nominees to begin gathering evidence drafting claims and seeking feedback through institutional networks or the AAUT Mentoring Scheme.

Emails will be sent to DVCA's this week to invite them to recommend up to 8 potential assessors for the AAUT awards. Please note that ICO's will be included in this correspondence.

Key program dates



Join the next ICO coffee catch-up

Our informal ICO coffee catch-ups are a chance to stay connected, ask questions and share ideas with colleagues across the sector. These sessions are relaxed and conversational with no formal preparation required.

They are also a useful opportunity to discuss the 2026 submission round, share local approaches to supporting nominees and strengthen our national ICO network.

Upcoming coffee catch-ups:

- Thursday 30 July at 2pm, AEST
- Tuesday 11 August at 11am, AEST

Keep an eye on your inbox for the calendar invitation and registration details.

AAUT online portal training

We will also be hosting online training session to help ICOs become familiar with the online nomination portal, Survey Monkey Apply. These sessions will provide a practical overview of how to access the portal, navigate the nomination process and upload required materials.

- Wednesday 12 August at 11am, AEST
- Monday 17 August at 2pm, AEST

Please check your email for the invitations which will be sent shortly.

New AAUT Awards Manager

We are pleased to welcome Aimee Cassels as the new AAUT Program Manager at Universities Australia. Aimee will support the continued delivery and coordination of the AAUT awards, working with



institutions and stakeholders to celebrate excellence in university teaching across Australia.



We also extend our sincere thanks to Angeline Sim for her valuable work and contribution to the AAUT program. Her excellent work has gained significant recognition and is now being adopted by Universities Australia.

AAUT resources

AAUT resources

We are pleased to share that the AAUT program is now featured as a quick link on the [Universities Australia homepage](#), making it easier for the AAUT community to find program information and resources.

The AAUT webpage will continue to be updated as new resources become available. ICOs are encouraged to bookmark the page and share it with prospective nominees.

New resources added to the Universities Australia website include:

- [2026 Nomination writing tips from assessors](#)
 - [How to present compelling evidence of impact video](#)
 - [Insights from an AAUT assessor video](#)
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AAUT Mentoring Scheme

If you are considering applying for an Australian Award for University Teaching, the AAUT Mentoring Scheme is a valuable opportunity to receive guidance from experienced members of the AAUT community.

The scheme connects applicants with experienced members of the AAUT community who can provide practical advice, feedback and encouragement.

We encourage institutions to share this opportunity with staff preparing an AAUT application.

While applicants may choose to approach mentors from their own institution, they are also encouraged to connect with mentors from other universities. This is one of the strengths of the mentoring scheme. It creates opportunities to build new collegial connections, share ideas from across the sector, and receive feedback on an application.

[Visit the AAUT Mentor Scheme for a full list of mentors.](#)

WHAT'S NEW?

AAUT-HERDSA MoU Launched

Professor Angela Carbone attended the HERDSA Conference in Singapore earlier this month to formally launch the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between HERDSA and the Australian Awards for University Teaching (AAUT) alongside HERDSA President, Professor Christy Collis. The MoU establishes a new partnership between the two organisations, including a national seminar series that showcases the innovative work of Australia's award-winning educators. It was also a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with so many members of the AAUT community and celebrate our shared commitment to excellence in learning and teaching. The seminar series is already underway, and you can read more about it elsewhere in this newsletter.

AAUT and HERDSA collaboration
launched by Professor Christy Collis
(President of HERDSA) and Professor

Angela Carbone (former AAUT Director)



Angela Carbone (former AAUT Director).



Launch of the AAUT and HERDSA MoU at the conference dinner.

AAUT and HERDSA Information Session



For the first time, an AAUT information session was held at the HERDSA Conference 2026, promoting both AAUT and the AAUT-HERDSA national webinar.



Professor Michael Cowling (RMIT University), recipient of the 2020 AAUT Teaching Excellence Award and a 2016 AAUT Citation, shared his journey as an AAUT recipient, highlighting the impact of national recognition on his teaching practice and career.



Professor Michelle Picard (PVC Learning and Teaching)



Professor Michele Field (Teaching and Learning Innovation, Flinders University), AAUT assessor and Program Award Committee presented the impact of AAUT.

AAUT-HERDSA Seminar Series



Webinar Series

THURSDAY, | 1pm to 2pm
27 August 2026 AEST

More information coming soon - stayed tuned!

AAUT and Adelaide University Breakfast Series: 20 August

The AAUT & Adelaide University Breakfast Series runs monthly from April to November, 8am-9am (ACT).

Now in its third year, the collaboration with the Teaching and Learning Innovation Unit at Adelaide University showcases AAUT recipients and highlights innovative teaching practices across the sector.

On August 20, join Associate Professor Miao Li for an inspiring AAUT-HERDSA seminar on community-engaged engineering education. Drawing on nearly 100 community-centred projects involving more than 200 students from regional Australia, Miao will share how authentic partnerships with community organisations, local government, industry and Engineers Without Borders can help students move beyond classroom-based learning to tackle social and environmental challenges.

The session will explore practical ways to embed community engagement into university

curricula and show how these experiences build not only technical capability, but also empathy, communication skills, professional identity and a stronger sense of service to the communities graduates will support and lead.

Register for the upcoming August presentation

Date: Thursday 20 August

Time: 8am - 9am

Location: Online via zoom

Register: [Click here](#)

The banner features a dark blue header with the text "Teaching and Learning Breakfast Series" in white. To the right are logos for the Australian Awards for University Teaching (three interlocking gears) and Adelaide University (a stylized 'A' and 'U'). Below the header is a list of seven recipients, each in a rounded rectangle. The first column contains dates in purple boxes, and the second column contains names and award types in white boxes. At the bottom is a solid blue bar with the text "8am - 9am ACST" in white.

23 APR	MS GEOGIA CAM (MQ) CITATION - EARLY CAREER RECIPIENT
21 MAY	MS ELLIE WHITE (UOM) CITATION - NEVILLE BONNER AWARD RECIPIENT
25 JUN	PEARSON, LE BUSQUE & RICHARDSON TEAM (AU) CITATION RECIPIENT
20 AUG	DR MIAO LI (CSU) CITATION RECIPIENT
17 SEPT	SPENCER & JONES TEAM (RMIT) TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD RECIPIENT
15 OCT	DR AMANDA GIGLIOTTI (UOW) CITATION RECIPIENT
12 NOV	DR ALI ENRIGHT (FLINDERS UNI) CITATION RECIPIENT

8am - 9am ACST

AAUT newsletter platform update

We're making a small change to the way we send AAUT newsletters. Over the coming weeks, we'll be moving to Campaign Monitor as our email communication platform.

You will continue to receive AAUT updates as usual, and no action is required unless you wish to update your subscription preferences or unsubscribe using the links provided in future emails.

-  [Universities Australia - AAUT website](#)
 -  [AAUTnetwork](#)
 -  [Universities Australia](#)
 -  [AAUT-Network website](#)
 -  [IENTF](#)
 -  [YouTube - Prof Ange Carbone, AAUT Director](#)
 -  [Email the Awards team](#)
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