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2023

Vice-Chancellor's Awards

RECOGNISING EXCELLENCE



UNIVERSITY
OF WOLLONGONG
AUSTRALIA



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The Vice-Chancellor's Outstanding Contribution to Teaching and Learning Awards

The Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Outstanding Contributions to Teaching and Learning (OCTAL) are presented each year to current staff members who have made major contributions to teaching and learning excellence within the University of Wollongong.

Alongside the overall OCTAL award, a series of specific category awards for teaching and learning are also presented that recognise staff commitment, achievement and contribution to the University's exceptional learning and student experience.

The Outstanding Contribution to Teaching and Learning (OCTAL) Award recipients are recommended to the Vice-Chancellor by a committee which considers nominations from colleagues and students, as well as supporting documentation from the nominees.

THE 2023 VICE-CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO TEACHING AND LEARNING IS AWARDED TO:

Associate Professor Xiaoping Gao

Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities

Associate Professor Xiaoping is an inspirational and enthusiastic language teacher with nearly three decades of experience in tertiary education, marked by an unwavering dedication to teaching excellence. Her unique multi-dimensional model, integrating innovative pedagogies, cutting-edge resources and technologies, and real-world learning environments, has enhanced students' bilingual and intercultural competencies and produced globally competitive graduates. Xiaoping's sustained record of exceptional teaching and internationally recognised innovations have notably improved student learning experiences and inspired students and teachers to strive for excellence. Her leadership in fostering international and interdisciplinary collaborations and community building has amplified her impact both within her field and in broader contexts.



Outstanding Contribution to Teaching and Learning Academic Awards

THE 2023 RECIPIENTS OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR'S FACULTY ACADEMIC AWARD AWARDS ARE:

Dr Susan Duchesne

Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities

Dr Susan Duchesne is an inspiring teacher who draws on an extensive knowledge of educational psychology theory and research to guide her own teaching and provide resources that have enhanced the teaching of educational psychology across Australia and New Zealand. Her dedication, enthusiasm and commitment for her students and their learning is evidenced in the creative ways in which she supports students to make strong links between theory and practice. Teaching across undergraduate and post graduate cohorts, Susan fosters student development by stimulating curiosity and independence. As a regional campus staff member, Susan contributes to UOW's enabling of student equity.



Dr Erin Jane Twyford

Faculty of Business and Law

Dr Erin Twyford is an innovative and student-centred senior lecturer in Accounting who champions responsive, relevant and reflective education. Through her commitment to fostering student relationships, Erin establishes inclusive and dynamic learning environments, equipping accounting graduates with valuable disciplinary and interdisciplinary skills. Erin's exceptional teaching produces job-ready graduates and advances scholarly teaching and learning, as demonstrated by her successful grants and publications. Her leadership in digitally transforming accounting education at UOW, incorporating evidence-based practices and industry collaboration, showcases her innovative approach. By integrating technology-enhanced learning into curriculum and assessment design, Erin is revolutionising education for the next generation of accountants.



Dr Lorna Elaine Jarrett

Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences

This award recognises Dr Lorna Jarrett's outstanding contribution to teaching and learning in the Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences. A non-traditional academic, Lorna sees teaching as a creative pursuit. She delights in disproving the idea of Physics as difficult and busting the myth of the Arts/Sciences divide. Lorna designs and delivers innovative undergraduate teaching which builds confidence and belonging. She creates engaging outreach activities for school students and teachers. She is a passionate advocate for Equity Diversity and Inclusion; and authentic and respectful approaches to bringing Aboriginal Knowledges into Physics and Engineering Education.



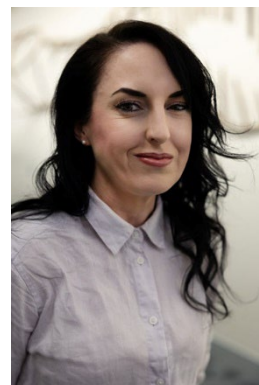
Outstanding Contribution to Teaching and Learning UOW Sessional Staff Award

THE 2023 RECIPIENTS OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR'S SESSIONAL ACADEMIC STAFF OCTAL AWARDS ARE:

Dr Emma Louise Darragh

*Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities
(Joint Winner)*

Dr Emma Louise Darragh is an exceptional teacher, whose dedication, generosity, and infectious enthusiasm are valued by students and colleagues alike. In her role as a sessional staff member in the School of the Arts, English and Media (TAEM) since 2019, Emma has made significant contributions across multiple disciplines, teaching into theoretical subjects that develop students' critical thinking and academic writing skills; practical subjects that assist students in envisioning their post-university careers; and studio subjects that teach the craft and artistry of creative writing. This award recognises Emma's novel approaches to supporting diverse students in the Bachelor of Creative Arts.



Makrita Solitei-Caskey

*Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities
(Joint Winner)*

Makrita Solitei-Caskey is an Indigenous Maasai woman from the Kaputei plains of Kenya and an integral part of the School of Geography. Makrita is a bright, enthusiastic, hardworking, and inspirational lecturer with deep interdisciplinary knowledge stemming from business and social science. Makrita combines her cultural ways of knowing and learning in her teaching and research. Her applied field work approach enables her to bridge the research-teaching relevancy gap. Makrita is known to students, colleagues and staff as a positive and engaging personality with strong leadership skills. No doubt, Makrita is a high impact lecturer and mentor.



Dr Pariz Lythgo-Gordon

Faculty of Business and Law

Nominated by colleagues and students, this honour recognises Dr Pariz Lythgo-Gordon's unwavering commitment to empowering UOW students in the School of Law and fostering positive change. Her passion and innovative teaching practices have earned her high regard among her academic peers. Drawing upon her extensive experience as a researcher and solicitor at esteemed institutions, as well as her global teaching and human rights work, including in Colombia and Spain, she has made a profound impact on students. From UOW PhD candidate to Career Development Fellow, her teaching journey exemplifies her dedication to students and to academia more broadly.



Outstanding Contribution to Teaching and Learning Early Career Faculty Teaching Award

THE 2023 RECIPIENTS OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR'S EARLY CAREER ACADEMIC OCTAL AWARDS ARE:

Dr Amanda Rita Gigliotti

Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities

Dr Amanda Rita Gigliotti is a self-driven, highly competent, and innovative educator. Her teaching model, underpinned by constructivist approaches, combines innovative pedagogies, learning technologies, and inclusive practices. Through her teaching, Amanda aims to build independent, critical thinkers who are confident and capable of applying knowledge to real-world contexts. In her 10 years of experience, Amanda has delivered highly successful courses and has been recognised for her approach to mentoring over 100 junior and senior academic staff in Technology-Enhanced Learning. Amanda's expertise and impact has been far-reaching, with her contributions to teaching and learning recognised globally by colleagues, students, professional bodies and industry partners.



Dr Mercedes Hinchcliff

Faculty of Business and Law

Dr Mercedes Hinchcliff is an innovative and passionate educator who consistently creates an exceptional learning experience for students within the marketing discipline. Mercedes perceives marketing as a vehicle of change to help make the world a better place and challenges her students with the possibilities that this idea presents. Through incorporating work-integrated-learning, she gives students the opportunity to collaborate with local community to co-develop creative strategies resulting in higher engagement and an enhanced overall educational experience. This equips and empowers them with greater skills and confidence as they enter the workforce. We commend Mercedes on her award.



Grant Kinghorn

Academic Development & Recognition

Grant Kinghorn is a Lecturer in the Academic Development & Recognition (ADR) team in the central Learning, Teaching & Curriculum (LTC) unit. He has enthusiastically worked in educational and staff development for over 10 years in both industry and the university sector. Drawing on his expertise in healthcare and passion for positive psychology, Grant continuously provides authentic and engaging experiences for his learners. Grant's educational expertise has been recognised by students, university colleagues and industry partners, developing a reputation for designing, supporting and evaluating high-quality educational practice.



The Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Research

Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Research recognise the contributions that academic staff and their partners are making towards research excellence.

In addition to the prestigious Award for Researcher of the Year, there are a range of awards recognising excellence across academic levels in research, research supervision, and partnership and impact. Nominations include detailed evidence of the nominees' contributions to knowledge, ongoing commitment, and dedication.

Award recipients are assessed by the Vice-Chancellor's Research Awards Committee, who make recommendations to the Vice-Chancellor.

The Vice Chancellor's Award for Researcher of the Year

THE 2023 RECIPIENT OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR IS:

Senior Professor Melanie Randle

Faculty of Business and Law

Senior Professor Melanie Randle is known internationally as a leader in social marketing research. She applies marketing expertise to solve complex social challenges. In particular, Melanie's work in the areas of foster care, disability and public health has made valuable contributions in support of SDG 3: Good health and wellbeing. Melanie is placed above the 90th percentile of full professor marketing academics internationally and in the past decade has had unparalleled success within the marketing discipline in attracting ARC funding. Through her leadership roles Melanie has demonstrated her genuine commitment to creating a responsible research culture underpinned by the principles of equity, diversity and inclusion.



Research Excellence Award for Emerging Researcher

THE 2023 JOINT RECIPIENTS OF THE RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR EMERGING RESEARCHER ARE:

Dr Yannan Li

Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences

Dr Yannan Li received her PhD in 2021 from UOW and is currently a lecturer in the School of Computing and Information Technology. She holds a prestigious ARC DECRA Fellowship. Her main research interest is in blockchain. As an Early-Career Researcher, she has published 38 papers in top journals and conferences in cybersecurity, including two ESI highly-cited papers and two ESI hot papers. According to Google Scholar, she received 1,980 citations and her h-index is 24. She has also received other research awards, including the best paper award of ACISP2021 and the CORE Dissertation Award in 2023.



Dr Sam Lin

Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health

Dr Sam Lin's research examines human evolution through archaeological stone tools. He has helped pioneer technical developments in controlled experiments and computational approaches to better understand archaeological stone tool formation. Applying these methods, Sam's work has established the technological and cultural adaptation of ancient humans, such as Neanderthals and early Homo sapiens, over the past 100,000 years in Europe, Africa and Asia. Sam was awarded an ARC DECRA fellowship in 2020 to study stone tools made by the extinct human species Homo floresiensis in Indonesia. In the same year, he was named Research Field Leader in Archaeology by the Australian Research Magazine.



Research Excellence Award for Excellence in Research Supervision

THE 2023 RECIPIENT OF THE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH SUPERVISION, EMERGING IS:

Dr Xun Xu

Australian Institute for Innovative Materials

As a pioneering researcher, Dr Xun Xu has demonstrated excellence in securing substantial external funding for practical research projects involving industry collaborations. Notable achievements include ARC grants totalling over \$1 million for projects developing new materials. Xun's work has led to 150 publications in prominent journals, garnering over 7,500 citations and an H-index of 54. Under Xun's supervision, 18 students including 8 female PhD's have graduated, with several receiving prestigious grants. Xun's wide-ranging contributions through committee work, community engagement, professional services and institutional initiatives have also fostered research excellence.



THE 2023 RECIPIENT OF THE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH SUPERVISION, SENIOR IS:

Professor Elizabeth Halcomb

Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health

Professor Elizabeth Halcomb is an outstanding research supervisor who consistently goes beyond what is normally expected from an HDR supervisor. All seven student testimonials highlight her leadership, professionalism, skills and knowledge, as well as the passion and genuine caring that she brings to research supervision. Elizabeth always provides timely feedback and readily makes herself available to spend time with students when needed. Elizabeth has built a collaborative and supportive environment and serves as an exemplary role model and mentor for HDR students, empowering them to develop their skills and achieve excellent research outcomes.



Research Excellence Award for Outstanding Achievement in Research Partnership and Impact

THE 2023 RECIPIENT OF THE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP AND IMPACT AWARD IS:

Project 9.74 Enhanced blast resistance Australian-made shipbuilding steels

Evan Brown, Dr Philip Commins, Dr Jonathan Knott, Senior Professor Huijun Li, Dr Yan Ma, Professor Zengxi (Stephen) Pan, Dr Joseph Polden, Associate Professor Stephen van Duin

Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences, The Facility for Intelligent Fabrication

Industry Partners: DMTC, BlueScope, Defence Science and Technology Group

The Facility for Intelligent Fabrication, through a collaborative research project with DMTC, BlueScope, and the Defence Science and Technology Group, has developed a more survivable naval shipbuilding steel and demonstrated excellence in translating research outcomes into impact. This steel is now mandated in the manufacture of the Hunter Class Frigate – a key tool in Australia’s security, peacekeeping and humanitarian response capability and a pillar of UN SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions). This innovation led to partners BlueScope and the Facility for Intelligent Fabrication securing \$55.4 million under the Australian Government’s Modern Manufacturing Initiative to help BlueScope future-proof their wind tower, defence product, and plate processing facilities – delivering benefits around UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 13 (Climate Action).



The Vice-Chancellor's Reconciliation Award

The Vice-Chancellor's Reconciliation Award recognises the commitment and valuable contributions of individuals and teams across UOW who have achieved outstanding outcomes within the University and beyond, in their efforts toward Reconciliation. The Award is a symbol of achievement in fostering an inclusive community environment, actively creating cultural safety for staff and students and building relationships with Indigenous Australia by way of their contribution in a positive and meaningful way.

THE 2023 RECIPIENT OF THE RECONCILIATION AWARD IS:

Matt Ball

Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities

Matthew Ball works tirelessly to support the Early Start Initiative in working towards Reconciliation. He was the visionary behind the inaugural Indigenous Literacy Day event held at Early Start in 2022, authentically and meaningfully bringing together community; children, young adults, academics, guest speakers such as Thomas Mayo, community members and Elders to reflect on the importance of literacy. Whilst an enormous achievement in and of itself, this is just one example of the tireless work Matt does in his role at Early Start to engage with community authentically, respectfully and honestly. He is a role model for true reconciliation.



The Vice-Chancellor's Kristy Adams Award for Excellence in Health and Safety

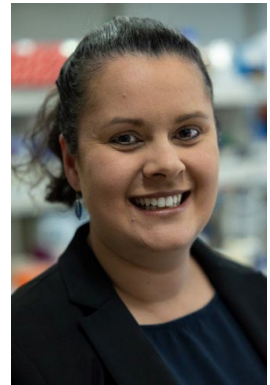
The Vice-Chancellor's Kristy Adams Award for Excellence in Health and Safety is named in memory of a dedicated and passionate late team member of the WHS Unit. Through this award, we recognise Kristy's invaluable contribution providing a safe environment for the UOW community. The award aims to encourage, recognise, and celebrate staff making significant contributions to improve health and safety performance at UOW.

THE 2023 RECIPIENT OF THE KRISTY ADAMS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN HEALTH AND SAFETY IS:

Clare Johnson

Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health

Clare Johnson is the epitome of what the Kristy Adams Excellence in Health and Safety Award represents. Her passion for improving health and safety in her local area has allowed UOW to continue to be a safe place to work despite the high-risk health and safety environment associated with scientific research. Clare has created, delivered, and endorsed WHS training within her team, leading and promoting health and safety activities in the workplace. Clare actively promotes awareness of laboratory safety and mental health risks, and is a very well deserving recipient of this award.



The Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Outstanding Service for Professional Services Staff

The Vice-Chancellor's Outstanding Service Awards are presented each year to Professional Services Staff who have achieved exceptional success, delivered outstanding service and/or have shown a recognised initiative or innovation in their work or have demonstrated sustained leadership.

THE 2023 VICE-CHANCELLOR'S OUTSTANDING SERVICE FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES STAFF RECIPIENTS ARE:

Nicole Mackey

Advancements & Communications Division

Nicole Mackey has been an asset to the Strategic Communications unit during the unprecedented crisis and change the UOW community has faced over the past four years. Nicole has consistently delivered high-quality and clear communications and resources to key University audiences, helping to keep our communities informed and feeling supported in difficult times. She has displayed outstanding time-management and communication skills, and many projects owe their thanks to Nicole's quick and effective work. She is an exemplar of the UOW values of excellence and recognition and is to be commended for her dedication to her role.



Nicole Smith

Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Innovation, Enterprise & External Relations) Portfolio

Nicole Smith's success, outstanding service, commitment to continuous improvement and sustained leadership excellence are evident in her transformation of the operational management of UOW Liverpool and Sutherland campuses. Despite facing a very difficult scenario post Covid, Nicole has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills in streamlining processes, improving staff morale, and reactivating engaging student experiences. Nicole's dedication to delivering outstanding customer service and social justice is evident in every professional interaction, and her philosophy of working together for the greater good of the institution, community, and students is truly inspiring. Nicole's commitment to building and maintain stakeholder relationships are commendable.



Craig Youd

Facilities Management Division

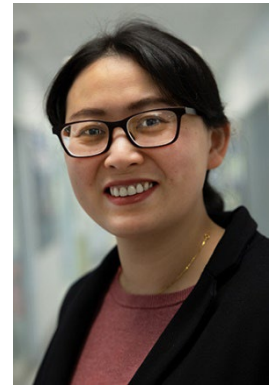
Craig Youd's appointment as Director has brought about inspirational cultural change whereby he has re-imagined the role of Security Services at UOW. Through consistent role modelling, collaboration, professional development of his team, and the willingness to have brave conversations, Craig has reoriented his team's role from a 'policing' style to a more pro-active, service-orientated, inclusive, empathic, and trauma-informed approach. SARC and UOW Support and Wellbeing services cannot speak in more glowing terms as to just how integral Craig and the team are to their work and to supporting a safer and more inclusive UOW.



Dr Zheyin Yu

Australian Institute for Innovative Materials

Dr. Zheyin Yu is being awarded for her exceptional contribution to the Institute for Superconducting and Electronic Materials. Zheyin has demonstrated outstanding technical expertise and initiative in establishing an advanced and standardized chemical management system, providing professional and high-quality technical services, and maintaining a safe working environment. Zheyin's dedication and commitment to excellence and innovation have resulted in significant improvements, which greatly benefited the institute and its lab users, and also set a benchmark for others to follow. Zheyin's achievements make her a deserving recipient of this outstanding service award.



The Student Digital Skills Hub Project Team

Keith Brophy, Adrienne Corradini, Daniel Judge, Kristy Newton, Kate Schreiber

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Student Life) Portfolio & Information Management & Technology Services

The Student Digital Skills Hub project team has done an exceptional job at delivering outstanding services to students. The team collaborated with students via the Student Staff Partnership Innovation Hub and procured a tool for students to assess their own digital skills while integrating the solution into Moodle subject sites. This has ensured that personal support is available for all students, and their continuous service improvement has seen the introduction of LinkedIn Learning for students to provide access to thousands of quality learning resources. Overall, their work has drastically improved the UOW student experience.



Safe and Respectful Communities Team

Sarah Amos, Angela Cowan, Naomi Dear, Kylie McElhone, Rebekah Murray-Smith

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Strategy & Assurance) Portfolio

In an impressively short amount of time, the small Safe and Respectful Communities (SARC) team has brought the societal issue of gender-based violence - and other often overlooked issues - to the forefront. The team's success can undoubtedly be attributed to their unwavering dedication and passion, which has helped rebuild trust with the student body. Moreover, SARC has fostered a sense of community among all members of the university, empowering them to take part in ending gender-based violence.



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The Vice-Chancellor's Rosemary Cooper Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Award

The Rosemary Cooper Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Award has been provided in honour of Rosemary Cooper who worked in the Faculty of Commerce from 1988 to 2011. The Award recognises the achievement of an Academic or Professional Services Staff member who has either developed initiatives or programs that address the University's strategic goals around diversity and inclusion, or has overcome significant personal barriers in their employment and career or made a significant contribution in supporting staff or students to overcome such barriers.

THE 2023 RECIPIENT OF THE ROSEMARY COOPER EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AWARD IS:

Women's Research Engineers Network (WREN)

Grace Kennedy, Dr Jingjing Liu, Dr Marcella Papini, Dr Shiva Pedram, Dr Maina Portella Garcia Barnett, Dr Emily W.J. Yap

Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences & Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities

The Women's Research Engineers Network (WREN) is a women-led global network aiming to achieve gender equity and a greater participation and retention of women in STEM with focus on engineering. WREN adapted to the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic to bring women across international borders closer together. It created a platform for women to connect, share their stories and achievements, and collaborate on projects addressing global challenges. The promoted collective activities have been changing perceptions, breaking stereotypes, and creating opportunities not just for Australian women, but across the globe, with UOW and Australia leading the way for change.

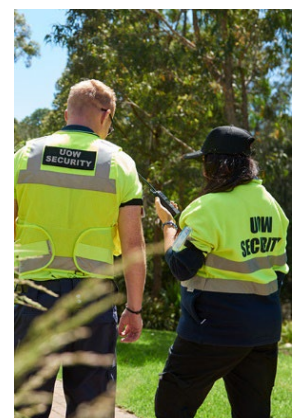


HIGHLY COMMENDED

Craig Youd

Facilities Management Division

Craig Youd's appointment as Director has brought about inspirational cultural change whereby he has re-imagined the role of Security Services at UOW. Through consistent role modelling, collaboration, professional development of his team, and the willingness to have brave conversations, Craig has reoriented his team's role from a 'policing' style to a more pro-active, service-orientated, inclusive, empathic, and trauma-informed approach. SARC and UOW Support and Wellbeing services cannot speak in more glowing terms as to just how integral Craig and the team are to their work and to supporting a safer and more inclusive UOW.



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The Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Community Engagement

The Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Community Engagement recognises that integrating teaching, research, community and business enhances our research and enriches student and community development. Connecting communities is considered to be an integral part of the work of the University.

THE 2023 RECIPIENT OF THE EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AWARD IS:

The iAccelerate Rise Team

Samantha Avitaia, Jaimey Facchin, Sam Green, Stephen Lowe, David Malins, Rhonda McGuire, Gabrielle Louise Moir, Chris Petersilge

*Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Strategy & Assurance)
Portfolio/Research and Sustainable Futures/UOW
Bega Valley/UOW Eurobodalla*

iAccelerate Rise brought hope and support to the bushfire-affected regions of New South Wales by collaborating with the community to achieve great things together. The program's impact was significant and will have lasting benefits for Regional Entrepreneurs. The work supports economic resilience, a diverse economy, creation of new jobs and employment opportunities; and particularly supports young people in regional areas to take up these opportunities.

The iAccelerate Rise Team and Regional Campus managers are outstanding exemplars of how UOW staff can create long and lasting impact through community engagement.



The Vice-Chancellor's Marie Lewis Award

The Marie Lewis Award has been provided in honour of Marie Lewis, a graduate of the University of Wollongong who worked in Student Administration from 1978 to 1997. The award recognises the achievement of a member of Professional Services Staff who is completing a degree at UOW. Selection is based on academic performance as well as service to the University and its students.

THE 2023 RECIPIENT OF THE MARIE LEWIS AWARD IS:

Georgina Konstanta

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Student Life) Portfolio

Georgina Konstanta is working full time in the UOW Library overseeing the Library Client Services, User Experience and Partnerships teams while undertaking her studies. George is nearing the completion of her degree, and has maintained excellent grades whilst working in a challenging environment and delivering exceptional services for the staff, students, alumni and community members of the UOW Library. George has led a number of key process and service improvement initiatives as part of the Library's digital transformation, under her leadership satisfaction with library client services has exceeded targets.



The Vice-Chancellor's Award for Global Strategy

The Vice-Chancellor's Award for Global Strategy recognises staff who have achieved outstanding success, given exceptional service and/or have demonstrated extraordinary leadership or innovation in their work with a specific emphasis on driving UOW's global strategy and profile.

THE 2023 RECIPIENT OF THE GLOBAL STRATEGY AWARD IS:

Associate Professor Jun Yan

Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences

Associate Professor Jun Yan has demonstrated sustained and outstanding leadership and service in enhancing UOW's Global Strategy. Jun's dedication and strong leadership is evident in his global research collaborations and involvement in various initiatives. Jun has contributed significantly to UOW's international programs especially with UOW's long standing offshore partner, the Singapore Institute of Management (SIM). As a result of his efforts, the program is experiencing an unprecedented level of success in student numbers, student experience, and graduate outcomes. This has increased the visibility of UOW at a global level.



UOW Service Awards

We are immensely proud to honor our highly valued Academic and Professional Services Staff for their unwavering dedication and remarkable contributions, embodying the University's core values throughout their exceptional 25, 40, and 50 years of service. Their steadfast commitment has been instrumental in shaping the institution's success and fostering an environment of excellence for all.

25 Years of Service

THE 2023 RECIPIENTS OF THE 25 YEARS OF SERVICE AWARD ARE:

Veselka Bralic

Financial Services Division

Veselka Bralic commenced with Financial Services as a casual staff member in 1997, within 4 months Veselka's work ethic saw her become a full-time member of staff. During her time at UOW Veselka has proven herself to be an extremely capable individual & valuable team member of Finance, adapting to each manifestation of the University as we changed over time. She has spent her whole time at the University within the Accounts Receivable Team, working her way up to Supervisor in recent years. Veselka is valued by her colleagues not just for what she does, but also for who she is.



Dr Amy Chan

Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities

Dr Amy Chan's outstanding commitment to the academic and personal development of students in the School of Psychology has been expressed through her teaching, governance and research supervision. She has a record of innovation in teaching, that reflects her commitment to quality in everything she does. In numerous roles within the School and Faculty she has been a driver for positive change. This was exemplified in the decade in which she coordinated an Honours program focussed on the quality and integrity of the student experience, which has made a lasting impact on all the students who completed it.



Mark Haining

Facilities Management Division

Mark Haining, The Landscape Supervisor for the Facilities Management Division, is to be commended for 25 years of remarkable service. His unwavering passion and commitment have transformed our campus into a stunning haven of natural beauty, redefining outdoor spaces with captivating and functional landscapes that inspire and engage our UOW community. Mark's invaluable contributions have made our University's gardens renowned and admired, enhancing the environment for our local and international cohorts. As an expert horticulturist, he eagerly shares his knowledge and vision for our natural surrounds. Mark's colleagues extend their heartfelt gratitude for his exceptional service and congratulate him on this recognition.



Anji (Angela) Hall

Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences

Anji Hall joined UOW as an administrator in the then-new School of IT and Computer Science. After frenetic international growth in students and partnerships she focused on international relations, moving into a role in the Faculty of Informatics' International Office. This led to international roles in the Faculties of Engineering, Social Science, and Business. She was co-founder of the "English Conversation Group", encouraging students to talk about their culture and their goals, and building linkages across the world and into the local community. More recently Anji has taken on new roles in Teaching and Learning, and Accreditation, in EIS.



Dr David Hastie

Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences

Dr David Hastie's involvement with the University of Wollongong spans over 30 years and includes three degrees (Bachelor, Master and PhD) and 25 years of employment. David is an accomplished teacher leading the Mechanical Engineering discipline as Academic Program Director and previous winner of the Outstanding Contribution to Teaching and Learning. David's research has always had a strong industry focus solving problems related to the movement of powdered and granular materials which is fundamental in key industries like mining, manufacturing and agriculture. His experience, knowledge, dedication and focus on practical outcomes are highly valued by students, colleagues and industry collaborators.



Dr Helen Kilpatrick

Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities

Dr Helen Kilpatrick has been a vital force in Japanese at UOW for 25 years. Helen has helped thousands of students unlock the treasure of learning another language and embracing cultural diversity. Notable governance roles include serving as Faculty Representative on UOW's Thesis Examination Committee. In research, Helen nets UOW into global leadership in children's literature and Japanese culture, exploring themes of gender, identity and equality. Her work on the artist, writer and activist Kenji Miyazawa shows how great scholarship unites intellectual, social and aesthetic acuity.

the minds of the young
a plane trip
stroke of brush against the weave



Associate Professor Deirdre McGhee

Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health

Associate Professor Deirdre McGhee has been integral to the anatomy laboratory for 25 years, the past 8 of which she has served as Chair of the Anatomy Committee. Deirdre has taught musculoskeletal anatomy, pathology, and rehabilitation to undergraduate and postgraduate students within the School of Medical, Indigenous and Health Sciences and Graduate Medicine, developing clinically relevant anatomy curricula to prepare students for clinical placement and professional careers within sports, allied health, and medicine. As the Director of Breast Research Australia, her breast biomechanics research and its translation into freely accessible community-based education resources and sports medicine policy have globally impacted women's health.



Laura Mothersdill

Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health

Laura Mothersdill has been an integral member of the Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health for 25 years as part of the amazing team of technical officers who support our undergraduate teaching programs in the School of Chemistry and Molecular Bioscience. Laura is a stellar leader and well known for her collegiality and tenacity to support her peers, and deliver excellence in the laboratory experience of our students. The successful move of practical teaching to the online space during the pandemic was in large part due to Laura's skills, and the way she empowers and supports others.



Distinguished Professor Anthony Okely

Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities

Distinguished Professor Tony Okely commenced with UOW in 1998 as an Associate Lecturer on a one-year contract. Tony attributes his subsequent 25 years with UOW as a testament to the wonderful work environment here. His relationship with the university started earlier than this, as he completed all of his studies through UOW. Tony is living evidence of the transformative power of education, being the first in family to attend university and now reaching the standing of Distinguished Professor. Tony modestly credits his success to the incredible support he has received by Heads of School, Executive Deans, and Senior Executive.



Rachael Phillips

Division of Student Life

Rachael Phillips started with UOW in Buildings and Grounds (now Facilities Maintenance) as a casual receptionist in 1996. After some roles with Human Resources, Finance and the Academic Registrars Division, Rachael landed in Accommodation Services and has never looked back. Rachael has held numerous roles in her time in accommodation and has worked at every UOW accommodation residence, ultimately leading to her current role as Manager Student Residence at Campus East. Rachael's passion for her residents is evident in everything that she does and has no doubt had a profound impact on countless lives over her time in student residences.



Associate Professor James Reveley

Faculty of Business and Law

Associate Professor James Reveley is the Deputy Discipline Leader for Management in the School of Business. Known for his strong sense of integrity and fairness, James has supported colleagues through multiple re-organisations and challenging periods. An advocate of multidisciplinary research, he has published highly regarded papers on a wide range of topics including disasters and port infrastructure, labour relations, ethics, banker scapegoating and misconduct, entrepreneur autobiographies, and identity challenges faced by members of socially disadvantaged groups. A recent example of his collaborative interdisciplinary research is a fascinating case study of professional fishing on the South Coast.



Professor Gregory L Rose

Faculty of Business and Law

Professor Greg Rose is Professor of Law in the Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security. His research has ranged from the law of the sea and marine environmental protection to fisheries and environmental crime, and counterterrorism; authoring over 140 publications. He has served with distinction as the Chair of UOW Academic Senate, Thesis Examination Committee, and Student Conduct Committee. He also served as Chair of Research and Deputy Dean of the Law School and continues to provide pastoral care as Chaplain for Jewish students. Popular with colleagues, Greg wows them with his classical and Spanish guitar prowess.



Karl Leslie Rudd

Information Management & Technology Services

Karl Leslie Rudd worked for many years in Education and Social Sciences, demonstrating adaptability to almost any technology task. He has worked with research teams and external partners to develop cutting-edge educational software and websites — some receiving national and international awards. He has supported academics in designing new ways of working with technology, not just turning their ideas into reality, but helping them develop their skills and confidence. Karl is ever patient, always looking for the most effective solution. His recent move to the IMTS Web Services team has allowed his passion for client services to shine through.



Ritsuko Saito

Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities

Ritsuko Saito has played an integral part of the success of our Japanese language program, which reaches students from all four Faculties at UOW and far beyond. Ritsuko is a profoundly empathetic, passionate, and generous teacher. She has developed a student-centred curriculum for advanced language learners which enables our students to set their own goals and work directly with students in Japan. Ritsuko's students become confident lifelong language learners and responsible global citizens. They are lucky to work with her – as are her colleagues in the Languages and Linguistics program and the School of Humanities and Social Inquiry.



Bernadette Sampson

Information Management & Technology Services

Bernadette Sampson is a dedicated and accomplished professional who has been an asset to the University of Wollongong community for an impressive 25 years. Commencing with the Campus Personal Computing Unit as a Client Services Officer, she honed her skills in providing exceptional service and support to the campus community. Over the years, Bernadette's commitment and versatility have led her to her current role as Facilities Project / Finance Officer within the Information Management & Technology Services unit. Her outstanding contributions have played a crucial role in the success of many projects and initiatives.



Associate Professor Stephen van Duin

Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences

Through his leadership at the University, Associate Professor Stephen van Duin has been instrumental in delivering translational research outcomes to the global manufacturing sector with a particular focus on enhancing competitiveness and sustainability of Australian industry. He played a crucial role in establishing the University's successful Facility for Intelligent Fabrication research group, recognised with numerous awards for translating impactful research to the sector. For the past decade Stephen has led an international Defence research program for Naval Platforms, overseeing multidisciplinary collaborative projects with industry, universities, and government research institutions; all contributing to safeguarding Australia.



40 Years' Service

THE 2023 RECIPIENTS OF THE 40 YEARS' SERVICE AWARD ARE:

Heidi De Coster

Vice-Chancellor's Unit

University of Wollongong's Principal Specialist Protocol, Heidi De Coster, is a true institutional treasure. As the person most responsible for the University's major high profile events and visits, Heidi has, over the past 40 years of dedicated service, worked with all of the University's Chancellors and four Vice-Chancellors. Heidi has organised hundreds of successful events and celebrations of achievement, and visits by international and national dignitaries including Royalty, Governors-General, State Governors, Prime Ministers, senior government ministers, eminent scholars and captains of industry. Always willing to share her knowledge and experience, Heidi is a generous colleague and mentor and continues to be very passionate about her contribution to UOW.



Kym Hodcroft

UOW Pulse

Kym Hodcroft commenced in February 1977, her first role being a vital one – feeding hungry staff and students in UOW Milk Bar! Kym moved into the food court, after that the list is endless; Functions, Fuel, Unicentre Finance, Keira Buffet, Unishop & now the IGA. Kym is one of the most loved staff members at PULSE, her laughter and eagerness to help staff and students is in a league of its own. Kindness, compassion and a true love of her roles is an inspiration to all. Congratulations Kym from all your past and present co-workers on this well deserved recognition.



Peter Ihnat

Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences

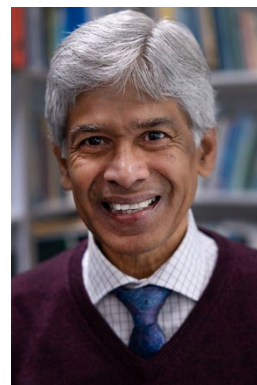
Peter Ihnat's association with the University started just on 50 years ago as an undergraduate, then from 1978 with the School of Physics. He has played a substantial role in designing and constructing specialised instrumentation for use by researchers and students in the teaching and research laboratories in Physics, CMRP, other schools in EIS and SMAH and Science Space. He has kept up to date with technology and passes this knowledge onto students to enrich their learning experience as well as using it in his design work to help keep us at the forefront of education and research.



Associate Professor Muttucumaru Sivakumar

Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences

In 1992, Associate Professor Muttucumaru Sivakumar introduced the Environmental Engineering undergraduate program and has sustained it till today. He instigated the UOW early teaching laboratories and HDR research commencement in the environmental engineering discipline. Siva has obtained more than \$2.5 M in research funding, published over 240 technical papers, and has trained over 50 HDR students. His expertise and experience in Water Environmental Engineering led to his appointment as the Chair of a Specialist Group of the International Water Association on Sustainable Coastal and Estuarine Development. Siva continues to show unsolicited interest and concern for the wellbeing of others.



Senior Professor Kiet Tieu

Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences

Senior Professor Kiet Tieu was Head of the School of Mechanical, Materials, Mechatronics & Biomedical Engineering for 10 years. 62 PhD and 6 Masters students have graduated under his supervision. He was awarded 11 ARC Discoveries, 16 Linkages and 4 LIEFs, 6 projects in CRCs and 19 contracts. Professor Tieu has co-authored 510 journal papers and 300 conference articles. He was an ARC College of Expert and elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Science and Engineering in 2007. He was awarded the William Johnson International Gold Medal for "Lifetime Achievements in Materials Processing Research".



Professor Peter Wypych

Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences

Professor Wypych commenced work as a Professional Officer and also commenced his PhD in 1981 to research and develop pneumatic conveying technology at UOW. He has been responsible for establishing one of the largest and most advanced pneumatic conveying labs in the world. He has published over 500 papers and completed over 1000 contract research and consulting projects for industry through ITC and the licensed consultancy, Bulk Materials Engineering Australia, which he founded in 2002. Professor Wypych is Director of the International Solids Handling Research Institute which is funded by industry to pursue strategic research in bulk materials handling technology.



50 Years' Service

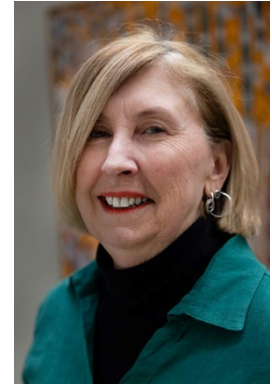
2023 marks the first year a 50 Years' Service Award has been presented to a UOW staff member.

THE 2023 RECIPIENT OF THE 50 YEARS' SERVICE AWARD IS:

Marion Allen

Integrity Division

When Marion Allen started working here, Gough Whitlam was Prime Minister, Hot August Night was top of the album charts and Australia was about to welcome its 19th public university, the University of Wollongong. In the 50 years that have followed, Marion has made an enormous contribution to the student experience at the University, notably through her work supporting the resolution of student complaints. Marion embodies the notion of an institutional treasure, someone whose knowledge and judgement are trusted without question by all staff involved in resolving investigating student complaints. Marion is renowned for her integrity, her reliability and the pride she takes in her work. This award is made in recognition of her 50 years' of service to the University, and in particular for her work to ensure students achieve prompt and fair resolution of their complaints.



Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Student Life) Recognition of OCTAL Nominees

Every year, students, colleagues, and alumni are given the opportunity to nominate individuals or teams for an Outstanding Contribution to Teaching and Learning (OCTAL) Award. Those who receive two or more valid nominations, along with an endorsement from their Faculty, Division, or Unit, are eligible to submit an application to UOW's internal OCTAL Award panel for consideration.

We recognise the nominees who garnered the necessary nominations and endorsements in the latest nomination period, and commend them on the positive impact they are having on student experience. We encourage them to submit an OCTAL Award application within the next five award rounds.

THE 2023 OCTAL NOMINEES ARE:

Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities

Doctor Karley Beckman	Jessica Genco	Dr Hironori Onuki
Kate Bowles	Dr Hassan Hosseinzadeh	Dr Mitchell Parker
Tatiana Coquibus Andersen	Associate Professor Steven Howard	Associate Professor Evan Poata-Smith
Associate Professor Shady Cosgrove	Professor Stuart Johnstone	Dr Zubair Ratan
Dr Ellie Crookes	David Kampers	Dr Lynn Sheridan
Dr Izabela Da Costa Pereira Watts	Associate Professor Lynne Keevers	Dr Charlotte Smedley
Dr Mark Fraser	Dr Nicola Marks	Dr Malcolm Whittaker
		Field Education Coordination Team

Faculty of Business and Law

Dr Sarah Ailwood	Dr Anura De Zoysa	Dr Michael Mehmet
Abdullah Al Mamun	Dr Marco Antonio Feris	Karina Murray
Dr Searat Ali	Dr Luis Gomez Romero	Dr Quinn Nguyen
Dr Armin Alimardani	Thi Han	Dr Mona Nikidehaghani
Dr Amir Arjomandi	Xiaoshan He	Dr Oriana Price
Dr Lowell Bautista	Associate Professor Troy Heffernan	Tina Prodromou
Dzenisa Beglerovic	Dr Kevin Huang	Dr Sanja Pupovac
Dr Marcella Bernardo Papini	Dr Ping Kattiyapornpong	Dr Farzana Tanim
Dr Mohammed Bhuyan	Shiva Kusi	Anna Wong-Ng
Richard Cogswell	Dr Michael Mehmet	Elivs Zeng
Dr Anne Cox	Dr Jonathon Mackay	



Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences

Dr Habil Ahmad	Dr Zeenath Khan	Muhammed Zain Bin Riaz
Dr Aziz Ahmed	Associate Professor	Christopher Tolevski
Jackson Allen	Buyung Kosasih	Dr Joseph Tonien
Dr Soly Mathew Biju	Linh Nguyen	Associate Professor Jun Yan
Biju	Callam Nichols	Dr Ellen Zhao
Dr Ashley Heath	Keval Patel	Associate Professor Hongtao
Robyn Hughes	Honglin Ren	Zhu
Hamidreza Kamali		

Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health

Kim Allen	Dr Marc Heyning	Dr Christopher Richardson
Allison Boyle	Karla Kuzmins	Dr Helen Rienits
Samara Brown	Dr Theresa Larkin	Dr Reece Sophocleous
Dr Phillip Byrne	Jane McNeilly	Dr Andrew Tague
Dr Nikki Curthoys	Luke Molloy	CHEM200 Teaching Team
Associate Professor	Renee Moston	
Mirella Dottori	Simehlani Nyanyiwa	
Asmahan Elgellaie	Wendy Patterson	

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Student Life) Portfolio

Allison Clode	Dr Stephane Cordier	Dr Sander Kroes
Christina Constantinou	Dr David Hartley	

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Strategy and Assurance) Portfolio

Adam Lynch

