



# STUDENT TEACHING AWARDS 2023



## EVENT PROGRAMME

March 24th 2023, Bute Hall, University of Glasgow

Hello and welcome to the Student Teaching Awards 2023!

It is an honour to be here with you tonight to celebrate the amazing teaching staff, student reps, support staff and everyone who makes learning and teaching at our University so great. Reading the nominations, our committee was struck by the number of passionate submissions from students wanting to recognise the people who have shaped their University experience. As ever, there was tough competition across the nominations – so congratulations for being shortlisted – it is a real testament to the work you do for students every day.

Throughout this year, I've worked with staff and students in committees across the University. I've seen how much time and effort goes into trying to improve the student experience at the University of Glasgow and the countless people working across the University to make this happen. However, with so much of that time spent improving and enhancing, we rarely get the time to stop and admire the spectacular work already being done by members of our community. Tonight, we recognise those people who go above and beyond for students, sometimes filling gaps in resources or developing their own systems to deliver the care and learning experience to allow students to develop into better researchers, better professionals, and better people.

To all the nominees, thank you for the work you do for students. I really hope you enjoy tonight just as much as I enjoyed organising it. You'll hear about some fantastic work that is going on at our institution and have the opportunity to take a step back to celebrate all that you have done for our students this year.



Micaela Levesque

**Vice President Education**

**Glasgow University Students' Representative Council**



## **SCHEDULE**

**19:00 – 19:30**

**- Arrival and Drinks Reception -**

**19:30 – 20:30**

**- Introduction to the Evening  
and First Half of the Awards -**

Best Advisor of Studies

Best Feedback

Best Practice in Online Learning

Best Dissertation Supervisor

Best Student Representative

Best Support Staff

**20:30 – 21:00**

**- Interval -**

**21:00 – 22:00**

**- Second Half of the Awards -**

Best Graduate Teaching Assistant

Best College Teacher

(Arts, MVLS, CoSE, CoSS)

Highly Innovative Teaching

Outstanding Contribution to Teaching

Closing Statements



## BEST ADVISOR OF STUDIES

- Provides excellent support and guidance for students
- Gives advice that has helped to improve students' learning experience
  - Friendly and welcoming to students



### DR. JAMIE MURRAY

**School:** Psychology & Neuroscience

**Areas of Excellence:** Community-centred Advising for Students Abroad

In the words of the students: "Whilst on exchange he has been instrumental in keeping us connected to the community back in Glasgow by creating a teams page with all of the outward exchange students so that we can stay linked-up and bounce ideas etc. off each other... He has never been slow to check-in with us all whilst away and has made contact at several times throughout the year to wellbeing check and to remind us of resources available to us."



### DR. LINNEA SOLER

**School:** Chemistry

**Areas of Excellence:** Approachable Advising

In the words of the students: "Dr Soler is literally the reason I'm still at uni... without Dr Soler going above and beyond to ensure that I got the support I needed to help I'm sure I wouldn't still be enrolled. She is so so approachable and I have never once felt like I was annoying her by asking for help."





## **DR. ALISTER WEDDERBURN**

**School:** Social and Political Sciences

**Areas of Excellence:** Advising in the Face of the Accommodation Crisis

In the words of the students: “In the wake of the accommodation crisis at the university I found myself houseless and sofasurfing / living in hotels for the first two months of the academic year. Alister provided guidance and help far beyond his remit... after the interactions that I have had with Alister, I always know that he is there for me in whatever context that I need his assistance in.”



## BEST FEEDBACK

- Provides timely feedback
- Provides feedback that is constructive and useful
- Their feedback has helped improve students' work



### PROF GEORGE BAILLIE

**School:** Cardiovascular & Metabolic Health

**Areas of Excellence:** Consistent and Measured Grading

In the words of the students: “[When Professor Baillie gave] general feedback regarding essays and presentation skills, he not only gave a clear target to work towards but [he graded] fair with the intention to improve student confidence. At every tutorial session, at the expected time and date promised.”



### DR. SERGIU GHERGHINA

**School:** Social and Political Science

**Areas of Excellence:** Timely and Detailed Feedback

In the words of the students: “Sergiu provided timely feedback, typically around 2-3 weeks after assignment submission deadlines, and would add thorough and comprehensive comments that stated strengths and areas for improvement... Sergiu would provide detailed critiques on specific areas and explicitly laid out what he would like to see in future assignments.” and “When I provided work... Sergiu always notified me that he had received it, and provided a date by which he would return his feedback. He never missed these deadlines, and I never felt worried about waiting for long responses, or not knowing when I would receive important feedback.”





## **DR. MAYETRI GUPTA**

**School:** Maths and Statistics

**Areas of Excellence:** Feedback that Demonstrates Care

In the words of the students: "During the mid semester feedback, Mayetri uploaded a detailed response to Moodle which replies directly to each response. She also actioned a lot of the practical suggestions right away, it made me as a student feel listened to and it clearly demonstrates Mayetri's dedication to making sure her students are learning the most they can in her class."



## BEST PRACTICE IN ONLINE LEARNING

- Uses technology in a way that benefits individual or groups of students
- Uses a variety of technologies to engage with students
- Uses technology in a way to enhance student learning



### DR. JENNIFER MALCOLM

**School:** Medicine, Dentistry, and Nursing

**Areas of Excellence:** Using Technology to Establish Mid-Lecture Check Ins

In the words of the students: “Dr Malcolm teaches us both in person and online. Her lectures are incredibly comprehensive and structured, without being overwhelming. She has a really clear and concise teaching method, which is wholeheartedly required in her subject area. She has a real empathy and understanding for how students learn... Most recently, she has used a technology called Scorm in her online lectures, which pauses the lecture at certain points to ask quiz questions mid-video. I had never seen or used it before, and it was an extremely engaging and creative way of helping us understand the information.”



### DR. NAOMI RICHARDS

**School:** Interdisciplinary Studies

**Areas of Excellence:** Utilising Asynchronous Comments to Encourage Live Online Conversations

In the words of the students: “My MSc course is entirely online. This is great for our very international cohort but also because most of us are older and have multiple responsibilities to juggle. However, a totally online course can lead to lowered motivation and lack of engagement... Dr Richards uses our own “below the line” comments and discussions as prompts in the seminars – this in turn encourages us to interact on the FutureLearn... Dr Richards is very skilled in using the online sessions to tease out issues and to ensure that all students have a chance to contribute in the session – she is good at balancing “breakout” sessions with “plenary” discussion.”







## **DR. EMILY NORDMANN**

**School:** Psychology and Neuroscience

**Areas of Excellence:** A Cohesive and Complementary Online Learning Environment

In the words of the students: "I have been really impressed at how well the course has been developed and delivered. There are recorded lectures and walkthroughs, but the centre of the learning experience is an Open Source workbook which we work through in our own time and will retain access to after the course. As a career switcher, I have taken a few different programming courses so far and this one has the best delivery and the most consistent student support. Given that learners are coming from a diversity of backgrounds (some industry, some academic) this isn't an easy thing to do." and "[Emily Nordmann has a] progressive attitude with Moodle, using progress trackers efficiently and in a way that is beneficial to students. Formatting Moodle so it is logical and makes sense... She is constantly updating Teams with supportive posts and threads"



## BEST DISSERTATION SUPERVISOR

- Provides exceptional guidance to students throughout the whole dissertation process
- Helps build students' enthusiasm and interest in their dissertation topics
- Helps build students' critical thinking and independent working



### DR. KEVIN BRYSON

**School:** Computing Science

**Areas of Excellence:** Developing Confidence with New Topics

In the words of the students: "I started working on my dissertation with zero knowledge of [the applied topic] and Kevin not only helped me grasp a better understanding of these topics. He also helped me gain an interest in what I am doing. He offers great advice, we meet every week and the meetings last more than the 30 minute mark that he is only obligated to hold... Overall I couldn't ask for a better supervisor."



### PROF JOHN CRAWFORD

**School:** Business

**Areas of Excellence:** Building Passion for the Future

In the words of the students: "John thoughtfully set aside 2 hours a week to meet with me to discuss my project and build my excitement for the topic I was provided by my placement company... every time we met he came with new ideas and excitement about the project in general. He made me feel like my paper can and will make a difference. He engaged in discussions about what I could do post graduation and how I could really put my passions into work. He is an encouraging, thoughtful, and diligent advisor and deserves this award more than anyone I know."





## **DR. EUAN MCGOOKIN**

**School:** Engineering

**Areas of Excellence:** Extraordinary Placement Support

In the words of the students: “Dr McGookin was very supportive and accommodating throughout my dissertation. While I was on placement in industry he took extra care to ensure that I felt supported by the university and spoke with the company directly to ensure that the project I was assigned would be suitable... He provided key guidance when writing the dissertation and for my industry presentation. I felt as though he cared about the project and my well being while working on it and I thoroughly enjoyed our regular meetings over the few months.”



## BEST RESEARCH SUPERVISOR

- Inspires students' research to go in new directions
- Provides support and guidance throughout a students' research
- Makes students' aware of opportunities to support their research



### DR. QAMMER ABBASI

**School:** Engineering

**Areas of Excellence:** Consistent and Committed Support to a Cohort of Researchers

In the words of the students: "As a supervisor, Dr. Qammer is dedicated to fostering a supportive and challenging environment for his students. He takes a personal interest in each student's research, providing guidance and support throughout their journey. He encourages students to think critically and creatively, pushing them to explore new and innovative directions in their research." and "Dr Qammer is one of the best supervisors I have had in my time in academia. Dr Qammer has motivated me to keep going with my PhD when I wanted to quit. I am now coming to the end of my PhD and without him I would not have been able to achieve all the work done throughout my PhD."



### PROF CALLUM BROWN

**School:** Humanities | Sgoil Nan Daonnachdan

**Areas of Excellence:** Unwavering Support

In the words of the students: "During the course of my PhD, my studies became very disrupted... although my aim was always to complete my PhD, I often struggled to see how that would be possible. Callum never lost belief in me, the validity of my research or my ability to successfully complete my PhD. He consistently supported and encouraged me and constantly adapted our ways of working... his care, understanding and kindness helped get me through some incredibly tough times."





## **DR. ANDREA CAMMARANO**

**School:** Engineering

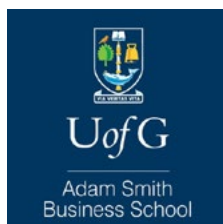
**Areas of Excellence:** A Network Built by Supporting Others

In the words of the students: “My research wouldn’t be the same without him. He is fantastic at putting people in touch and expanding networks, I have been exposed to numerous opportunities because he included me in them... He deeply cares about his students and coworkers and always finds time to help those who struggle. In return he is surrounded by people who are also willing to help him and his students. Andrea can build very collaborative environment around him, and I have deep respect for that. I have never heard him say anything negative about any of the students he supervises, he is always talking about us with a pride and passion and I just always know that there is this one amazing person who believes in me. I aspire to be more like him, and I know I will be looking up to him long after my PhD is over.”



## BEST STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

- Maintains a dialogue with students to understand their issues
- Provides feedback to students about issues they've worked on
  - Makes positive changes for students



### **GUSTA EMILY JOHNSON**

**School:** Business (Class Rep for the MBA)

**Areas of Excellence:** An Advocate for the MBA Cohort

In the words of the students: “A true believer of fairness and justice, Gusta has been relentless with her efforts to mitigate class concerns. She has enabled an environment where everyone feels comfortable enough to share issues and look for probable solutions. She always puts the class first, and it shows in all her daily efforts. From organising events to respectfully handling class feedback, Gusta has excelled in her role as a student rep.”



### **IRENE LIBELLI**

**School:** Social and Political Science (School Rep)

**Areas of Excellence:** A Fixture of the SPS Community

In the words of the students: “Irene has been heavily involved in events within the SSPS – such as their Welcome event and their stress awareness campaign – and has publicised them so well that even I know they’re happening! She’s done a lot of good work for students by representing them at their LTC committee and making sure their views are heard...The biggest area where she’s gone beyond her remit is definitely the amount of emails she’s replied



to from SPS students. As a result of them not being allocated advisors, she's received a lot of difficult emails concerning enrolment issues and other problems that aren't really part of her role. However, she's put a lot of time and effort into replying to them at all times and making sure they know where to go and receive help - especially considering she's also president of a society outside of being on Council."



## **LEE WRATTEN**

**School:** Social and Political Science (Class Rep for the MSc City Planning)

**Areas of Excellence:** Creating a True Dialogue with Students and Staff

In the words of the students: "He dedicates a great amount of time every week to listening and communicating with us as fellow students and brought our concerns and compliments directly to staff. Lee is always there for us, reminds to drop him any questions and is absolutely transparent in his doing. We can totally rely on him and we can absolutely trust that he treats every concern with respect and makes sure he does his best to assist. He also developed a great network and relationship with the staff. Recently, he collected the many concerns that were brought up to him and communicated them to the school and staff. The school took him and his letter very seriously, which also shows his great integrity, and they are now working on solutions. Lee, as always, is keeping us in the loop."



## BEST SUPPORT STAFF

- A non-academic member of staff who provides support that exceeds expectations
  - Is friendly and welcoming to students
- Provides support and guidance to students in a timely and effective manner



### MRS. LORRAINE DEVLIN

**School:** University Catering Services

**Areas of Excellence:** Supporting Students Beyond the Classroom and the Call of Duty

In the words of the students: “Lorraine went above and beyond the call of duty to ensure I was feeling okay, in the times when I needed it the most... Even after that day, whenever I was at cafeteria, she’d meet me and talk to me...Now that I’m in better in physical and mental health, I’m trying to follow her footsteps in supporting fellow students and remembering that its not about the post we hold or the trainings we have had, when it comes to supporting others, sometimes just having someone who cares by your side is all we need.”



### MS. UNA MARIE DARRAGH

**School:** Computing Science  
(Student Engagement Lead)

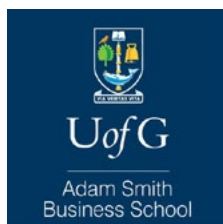
**Areas of Excellence:** Guidance Through Support Systems and Emotional Care

In the words of the students: “Una Marie is truly the most caring, dependable and supportive member of staff that I’ve had the pleasure of meeting. She’s always been there for me when I’ve reached out. She has been helpful and kind when helping me with sensitive and particularly difficult good cause claims. I don’t think I could have made it to 4th year without her help.” and





“The first time I had spoken with Una Marie was years back when I was struggling really badly with my mental health, and could barely step into a lecture without getting a panic attack. She was a good listening ear, who was sure to make additional arrangements to assist me with ensuring that I was able to still learn effectively... I’ve seen how much she cares for students on a personal level, and how she constantly wishes to improve student experience for students.”



### **MR. DAVID LEVINSON**

**School:** Business (Careers Manager)

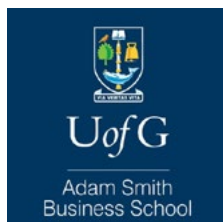
**Areas of Excellence:** Professional and Pastoral Care on the MBA Programme

In the words of the students: “David’s warmth and calm is very refreshing in such a fast paced environment. His coaching and support goes beyond the course to actual practical advise on how to navigate the overall degree with a goal of achieving success in the long term. He is very dependable and exhibits a vast understanding of his area of expertise. He inspires me to bring calm into very stormy situations in the moment.” and “David has been an extremely supportive, compassionate and excellent teacher and mentor for the entire MBA cohort. He is very prompt in his responses to queries and will strive to ensure that the cohorts get the best out of every opportunity. He is an excellent role model for us and truly deserves this award.”



## BEST GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT

- Makes an excellent contribution to the learning experience
  - Inspires students to study beyond the classroom
- Shows clear passion and excitement for their subject matter



### MS. LINA SEIDLITZ

**School:** Business

**Areas of Excellence:** Creating Space for Conversation

In the words of the students: “When Lina asked about our group discussions, she was willing to be very attentive and listen to our ideas carefully, and was able to organize the logical lines for us through appropriate questions,“ and “Ms. Lina Seidlitz encouraged and helped the majority of International students- who are usually shy and lack English skills- to voice and exchange their opinions in the classroom. She inspired the students by telling some theories and examples related to HR, which helped them broaden their horizons and think more critically.”



### MS. AMANDA STUBBS

**School:** Geographical and Earth Sciences

**Areas of Excellence:** Making Course Content Approachable

In the words of the students: “Amanda has been the saviour of my time in Earth Sciences 2. Amid often testing times and classes she has been the most effective teacher throughout the course, being able to explain complex concepts in a simple way and simultaneously remain approachable and down-to-earth



(excuse the pun). Where I have previously not engaged or fully completed practical lessons, Amanda provides motivation and has allowed me to feel confident in my work.”



**DR. RAMI ZAATARI**

**School:** Social and Political Sciences

**Areas of Excellence:** Taking Multiple Approaches to Ensure ALL Students are On Board

In the words of the students: “Rami uses different learning methods and tools to explain the subject ranging from videos, case studies, silent discussion, group work, real world examples, recent practice etc. Rami keeps motivating us and provides fantastic feedback to improve our assignments. Rami explains complicated things in simple way.”



## BEST COLLEGE TEACHER - ARTS

- Shows passion for their subject
- Inspires students beyond the classroom
- Helps students improve their knowledge of their subject



### MR. ADAM DONNELLY

**School:** Modern Languages and Cultures

**Areas of Excellence:** Engaging Fully with SMLC International Students

In the words of the students: “He motivates [international students] to ask without embarrassment or minimizing the importance of our questions, makes us enjoy the group participation, and encourages our discussion effective and productive. I hope he wins because he really deserves it. Even if he doesn’t win, he is truly an inspiring teacher, collaborator and professional teacher.”



### DR. STEPHAN EHRIG

**School:** Modern Languages and Cultures

**Areas of Excellence:** Passionate New Perspectives for the Subject

In the words of the students: “Stephan is clearly so passionate about his research interests, which is contagious through his teaching. It is his first year teaching in the department, yet I feel like we have known him for our whole degree. He is so warm, friendly, and open, which really creates a very safe and non-judgmental learning environment.”





## **PROF COSTAS PANAYOTAKIS**

**School:** Humanities | Sgoil Nan Daonnachdan

**Areas of Excellence:** Organisation and  
Bringing Life to a Dead Language

In the words of the students: “Costas is the best teacher I’ve had so far, in now two years at Glasgow University. He is also one of the best teachers I’ve had yet. His use of both humour and kindness in teaching helps to make the class feel positive, fun, and also safe to admit when we find something confusing. He is extremely patient in explaining things. He is also reassuring and encouraging when students might feel overwhelmed by the material. He makes a difficult subject feel learnable, and makes the learning fun.”



## BEST COLLEGE TEACHER - MVLS

- Shows passion for their subject
- Inspires students beyond the classroom
- Helps students improve their knowledge of their subject



### DR. ZIAD AL-ANI

**School:** Medicine, Dentistry, and Nursing

**Areas of Excellence:** MVLS Quiz Master

In the words of the students: “Dr Al-Ani is the most enthusiastic and fun teacher! He makes interactive quizzes for us to play along with during the lecture to keep us all engaged. He uses the quiz questions to revise knowledge from previous lessons and helps to consolidate the learning really well. He asks questions to encourage the class to think deeper as we go through the lecture. He always asks how we are and how our other subjects have been going. He bring prizes in for his quizzes and encourages us to have fun while we learn and revise with him. He praises us for sharing knowledge and is the most comforting teacher I’ve had.”



### DR. PETER MOULT

**School:** Psychology & Neuroscience

**Areas of Excellence:** Expert Explainer

In the words of the students: “Dr Moulton always came across as enthusiastic and explained everything extremely well... If anyone did not understand, he would always explain it in a different way to ensure we were all confident. Dr Moulton is also always happy to answer any questions the students have, and always insists we ask questions either in person or via email, showing how much he cares for our education



and understanding, particularly in this very important year. My classmates and I always leave his lectures with only good comments on how well the lecture was delivered and explained, and Dr Moulton is able to turn every lecture into an interesting one.”



## **PROF PAUL REA**

**School:** Medicine, Dentistry, and Nursing

**Areas of Excellence:** Memorable and Educational Lecturing

In the words of the students: “Professor Rea is very engaging and always enthusiastic when teaching. You can always tell how much he enjoys his field(s). Professor Rea always tells us a personal story to relate to the teaching material, which really helped me to remember the material even better. The classes are always enjoyable and I love that he gives us mnemonics to memorise some of more tricky aspects. I believe he is one of the most approachable and engaging teachers that I’ve ever had.”



## BEST COLLEGE TEACHER - CoSE

- Shows passion for their subject
- Inspires students beyond the classroom
- Helps students improve their knowledge of their subject



### DR. GETHIN NORMAN

**School:** Computing Science

**Areas of Excellence:** CompSci GOAT

In the words of the students: “Gethin is truly a star of the school of computing science. He is dedicated to teaching, always willing to answer to students’ queries, and is always on a lookout for students’ wellbeing. He shows so much love for what he does and connects with students on a very personal level, and is thus well-liked by students of every cohort.” or, more concisely, “He’s the best. He’s the MVP. He’s the GOAT. THE GOAT!!! (GOAT = Greatest of all time).”



### PROF MIKE WHITTAKER

**School:** Maths and Statistics

**Areas of Excellence:** Making Friday Classes “Fun”

In the words of the students: “Prof. Mike Whittaker’s enthusiasm for math is just infectious! I remember that lecture on complex numbers, where Prof. Whittaker was almost jumping around as they have “a special place in his heart”. All of this is accompanied by his occasional humor. And, of course, the fun Fridays... Over the course of this semester, the pure math led by him has become my favorite lecture I look forward to them each time!”







## **DR. JOHN WILLIAMSON**

**School:** Computing Science

**Areas of Excellence:** Guiding Students into Subject Expertise

In the words of the students: “Where others’ impressive knowledge can come as a set back to their teaching, John’s mind not only opens the door, but welcomes you with a guided hand into the vast world of computer science. And at no point have I ever felt lost or alone without somewhere to turn to, or John’s vast resources and experience to guide me... Conversations with fellow students have allowed me to explain concepts for myself, furthering my understanding and allowing me to reach my true potential. In every conversation I have had with John in the labs it is clear how patient he is and willing to listen and learn from you, just as much as I am willing to learn from him.”

## BEST COLLEGE TEACHER - CoSS

- Shows passion for their subject
- Inspires students beyond the classroom
- Helps students improve their knowledge of their subject



### **PROF MAURIZIO CARBONE**

**School:** Social and Political Sciences

**Areas of Excellence:** Individualised Attention and Support

In the words of the students: “His teaching is simply incredible. He talks about his subject with passion, makes the lectures highly entertaining, encourages participation, and his lectures have never once been boring. He is also very attentive to the well-being of his students and makes you feel like you are an actual person and not just a student number. He is always eager to help students out in matters outside of the course.”



### **DR. SERGIU GHERGHINA**

**School:** Social and Political Sciences

**Areas of Excellence:** Interactive Lecturing

In the words of the students: “His lectures and seminars are intense and highly interactive. I believe that his approach is modern and innovative. Sergiu uses a lot of examples (including videos, campaign materials, etc.) and stimulates discussion and group work.” and “Out of all the classes I take, Dr Gherghina’s are the ones I most look forward to. His classes are engaging and enjoyable; he ensures to engage with students directly and create a comfortable atmosphere for learning. His knowledge and passion for the subject is inspiring, and he



has inspired me, too, to believe in my abilities and consider prospects that could further my academic career.”



**DR. JUDE STEVENSON**

**School:** Psychology & Neuroscience (for courses taken interdisciplinarily by CoSS students!)

**Areas of Excellence:** Creating a Comfortable Space for Students

In the words of the students: “In labs she always brings so much positivity and laughter which makes the lab so much more enjoyable as well as making everyone in the room feel comfortable to share ideas and that it is a safe space. Whether that’s letting us pick some background music when we do group activities or allowing us to share something exciting that we have done that week, she always allows an open discussion... As much as 1st year can be daunting she has made the introduction to university so much more enjoyable.”



## HIGHLY INNOVATIVE TEACHING

- Shows passion and excitement for their teaching
- Inspires students to want to learn more differently
- Uses innovative teaching techniques with their students



### **DR. RACHEL CLIVE**

**School:** Culture and Creative Arts

**Areas of Excellence:** Helping Students “Check In” to Learning

In the words of the students: “Rachel made learning fun and exciting. She challenges and nurtures her students, offering them her support as both a teacher and as a person of trust. She prioritises good working relationships as the foundation of her teaching, using class created working contracts and emphasising an open and comfortable environment to work within. Beginning her classes with a check in, we can all speak honestly about how we are feeling that day and work our learning around this with her support.” and “Especially innovative – and wondrous for setting specific tone of class, creating a safe space and inclusive learning atmosphere, getting students in the right head space, and aiding processing – was their use of check in and check outs at the beginning and end of every class. These were different every week and specific to what we were learning.”



### **DR. ANDREW JUDGE**

**School:** Social and Political Sciences

**Areas of Excellence:** Bringing Global Issues to the Classroom

In the words of the students: “In collaboration with Kelly Kollman, Andy set up a model COP27 simulation, which allowed us to practice our learning in a practical setting. This allowed me to engage in the course content more thoroughly,



and I used several applicable skills. This also allowed me to engage with other students on the course than would have otherwise happened. From this experience, my confidence in public speaking and the quality of the work I believe I am capable of producing has drastically improved. Throughout the lectures and seminars, Andy found innovative ways to engage all students in conversations, giving ample opportunities to make a contribution to the group discussions and apply our learning to broader practical 'real-life' situations." has inspired me, too, to believe in my abilities and consider prospects that could further my academic career."



## **DR. NATALIE WELDEN**

**School:** Interdisciplinary Studies

**Areas of Excellence:** Podcasts with an Environmental Education Purpose

In the words of the students: "Always researched but also sometimes tongue-in-cheek with interactive sessions, my classes with Dr Welden this year included 'play-acting' the process of fisheries observations to provide an insightful and memorable class on sustainable fisheries management. She clearly seeks to inspire us and often points specific areas we could consider for our future research and careers... During lockdown she produced a "Dr Welden has Issues with..." podcast, interviewing her colleagues currently working on aquatic research to discuss topics relevant to her first-year and third-year modules but also to exemplify different pathways into aquatic environmental research and management. Dr Welden is super approachable despite being a notoriously stern marker. Yet, this only motivates her students more to be critical of their own work, just as she employs a critical perspective when discussing any environmental concern, incorporating economic, social and ecological perspectives at every turn."



## OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO TEACHING

- Goes further than expected to inspire students
  - Provides excellent support for students
- Encourages students in their subject beyond the classroom



### MR. UCHENNA AGUNWA

**School:** Law

**Areas of Excellence:** Bringing Students of Colour into Law

In the words of the students: ""Uchenna has been my first professor of colour. This itself has been an outstanding contribution to my teaching... Uchenna goes the extra mile ahead to transform complex legal matters into simple examples. I remember certain concepts because Uchenna had used my two friends as an example and a simple bet. Seeing Uchenna has made me feel seen as a student of colour... Uchenna is a leading step for students like me to feel seen."



### PROF DEE HEDDON

**School:** Culture and Creative Arts

**Areas of Excellence:** A Personal Welcome to Students New and Old

In the words of the students: "I came to the Theatre Studies building at only 17 years of age, completely not ready to be a university student, and Dee was the first person to let us terrified little first years know that it will be okay... The way Dee engages with students is magical. There isn't a single person I've met in these past 7 years who has had the chance to take one of Dee's courses, had them as a supervisor or even just knows them from the halls of



Gilmorehill who doesn't have automatic story to share about Dee straight away. Even now, there are people in my course who have only had the chance to meet Dee briefly and they are already obsessed with them...I don't think Dee realises how much of a beacon of light they are in our part of the campus, and I really think they should be celebrated for that."



## **DR. COLIN HERD**

**School:** Critical Studies

**Areas of Excellence:** A Leader in a Time of Need

In the words of the students: "Colin Herd has gone above and beyond to provide high quality teaching to the entire department during a difficult term of staff absences. He has covered multiple classes where he has engaged thoroughly with the reading and provides high quality feedback on our work despite having almost no preparation time. He has offered valuable office hours generously and continually put the students first." and "Since January a catalogue of disasters has befallen the teaching staff - illness, bereavement, staff in sabbatical. Colin has uncomplainingly taken on the work of 5 staff. During this time he has facilitated other staff members workshops. He has overseen the marking of assignments and of getting marks back to the students in spite of strike action. He has also provides clear and honest information to students regarding delays, strike action and staff illness thereby ensuring that students feel within the loop and are not subjected to extra stress."



On the theme of recognising support given to students, I would like to recognise the people who made organising this event possible.

Firstly, I want to thank our wonderful Comms Team: Jamie, Shaun, and Grainne. This team is the reason students know about the STAs. They design the graphics, organise our stalls, and create the STA buzz that makes this event possible. To Louise, Gina, and Paul who work in the SRC Admin Team, thank you for your work planning the fine details like entertainment, RSVPs and catering that really make up the bulk of the evening.

To the student reps who came and presented tonight, thank you for volunteering your time and for the care you all put into selecting the nominees to attend tonight. Especially during this season of exam prep and dissertation deadlines, I really appreciate you taking the time to be a part of this committee. And finally, I want to recognise the support I've received from Katie Fish in organising this evening. It comes as no surprise to anyone that the VP Student Activities is the best advisor for planning a spectacular social event.

Huge thanks also go to the University, and in particular Moira Fischbacher-Smith, who provided financial and venue support. Every year you help us host this event and celebrate the amazing work in the University and every year it is a standout experience for all of those who are involved. Thank you.

It has been a real pleasure to host tonight and recognise all your amazing achievements. I hope to see and hear of your successes in learning and teaching continuing long after this year.

With very best wishes,



Micaela Levesque

**Vice President Education**

**Glasgow University Students' Representative Council**



# AWARD CATEGORIES

- **Best Advisor of Studies**
- **Best College Teacher**
- **Best Dissertation Supervisor**
- **Best Research Supervisor**
- **Best Graduate Teaching Assistant**



- **Best Student Representative**
- **Best Support Staff**
- **Best Practice in Online Learning**
- **Best Feedback**
- **Highly Innovative Teaching**
- **Outstanding Contribution to Teaching**

