



TEACHING AND LEARNING INNOVATION AWARD 2010

Guidelines for the Award

Purpose

The 3C Project Teaching and Learning Innovation Award is to be presented in recognition of excellence and innovation in teaching and learning using a blended learning approach at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. This award will be presented in 2010 with a prize and certificate for 1st (12,000 HKD), 2nd (8,000 HKD), 3rd (5,000 HKD) and one Honourable mention.

Background

The 3C project is a 2-year institutional initiative at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University funded by VP(AD) in support of PolyU's strategic plan. The broad aim of the 3C Project is to enhance the eLearning / Blended Learning culture at the University. The approach used to address this is through the use of the 3 concurrent foci (3C) of collaboration, community and context.

The slogan "3C - What's in IT for me" is a shortened version of "3C - What is in Information Technology for me" and reflects the pragmatic underpinning of the project to assist the staff at Hong Kong Polytechnic University in considering the appropriateness of eLearning and blended learning for their context. The Teaching and Learning Innovation Award is one way of promoting the outcomes of the project and the benefits of adopting a blended learning teaching approach.

What is Blended Learning?

For the purposes of this award, blended learning is defined as the effective combination of different modes of delivery, models of teaching and styles of learning, whereby face-to-face and eLearning opportunities are optimised and integrated to maximise student learning. Promoting the wider use of blended learning is a specific objective identified in the University's Strategic Plan 2008/09-2011/12 (pg. 9).

Nominations for this award will be assessed against criteria relating to the use of blended learning in the Hong Kong Polytechnic University context.

Eligibility

Nominations are open to all members of the University community.

Applicants may apply as an individual or as a team. For team applications, a team leader should be nominated. It is the responsibility of the team leader to determine the composition of the team for the application and to ensure that all team members are listed. The contribution of each team member needs to be clearly stated and substantiated in the application.



Criteria

The Award will be based on a single project, or a series of projects, or an individual or team's overall contribution to blended learning at the University over the period from July 2008 to June 2010. Submissions will be judged on the following criteria:

1. *Blended learning approaches used at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University that inspire and motivate students to learn*
2. *Development of curricula and resources to support a blended learning approach*
3. *Approaches to assessment which reflect a blended learning approach*
4. *Scholarly activities related to eLearning / blended learning*

Examples of activities which meet Criteria 1, 2 and 3 include using eLearning technologies and tools to:

- Assist students to develop independent learning skills;
- Contribute to the development of students' critical thinking and analytical skills;
- Enhance student engagement with their studies;
- Redesign subjects or programs with a blended learning approach, whereby eLearning tools and technologies are used in a systematic and pedagogically sound way to support face to face teaching;
- Deliver eAssessment strategies with specific aims and objectives for student learning or adopting eAssessment methods that cater to different contexts and student needs.

Activities that are relevant to Criteria 4 could include:

- participating in and contributing to professional activities relating to the use of eLearning / blended learning at the University;
- demonstrating leadership through activities related to the use of eLearning / blended learning at the University;
- promoting best practice and innovation in blended learning.

Each criterion will be weighted equally and applications should ideally address all four.

Individual Nominations

Individual staff wishing to nominate for the award should use the Individual Application form available on the 3C Project website - URL -

http://www.3c.edc.polyu.edu.hk/symposium/TAL_award.html

Team Nominations

Teams wishing to nominate for the award should use the Team Application form available on the 3C Project website - URL - http://www.3c.edc.polyu.edu.hk/symposium/TAL_award.html. The



number of members in a team is not fixed, but Team Leaders should balance ensuring everyone who made a significant contribution is included against the word limit for the application.

Submission Requirements

All submissions must be emailed to the 3C Project Team (3C.project@polyu.edu.hk) by 5.00 pm on 30th April, 2010. Each application must use the appropriate application form template for the category being applied for and include the following:

Application Form

Applicant (individual / team) details

Citation of no more than 25 words describing the distinctive contribution to blended learning at Hong Kong Polytechnic University of the applicant/s

Submission against criteria

Completed submission against criteria with clear evidence and information under each criterion to a maximum of six (6) pages. Team applications must clearly indicate the contribution of each member's role and responsibilities.

Supporting evidence

Selection is based primarily on the submission against criteria. Selected materials supporting the claims in the application can be submitted provided it is clear in the application how these materials support the claims in the application. Each application MUST be accompanied by a URL as supporting evidence and MAY also include up to 10 pages of additional printed material.

Selection Process

Selection Panel 2010

- Dr. Panos Vlachopoulos [Panel Chair]
- Mr. David Chui [ITS]
- Ms. Christina Chau [LIB]
- Mr. Headley Freake [Visiting Fullbright Scholar]
- Prof. Cheong-ki Chan [FLTC Chair from FAST]
- Mr. Nick Noakes [HKUST]
- Dr. Jenny Evans [EDC SEDO]
- Mr. Young Kam Hung [Student Rep]
- Prof. Winnie Cheng [FLTC Chair from FH]
- Prof. Danny Gohel [FLTC Chair from FHSS]



Selection Process

Copies of the applications will be sent to Panel members 2 weeks prior to the selection Panel meeting. A rating sheet for each application will also be provided. The Panel members will read each application and individually rate them according to the criteria. The rating scores will be recorded on the rating sheets, which will be submitted to the 3C Project Officer at least three days before the Panel meeting. The results will then be forwarded to all Panel members for endorsement. If any Panel Member wishes OR if the results are not clear then the Selection Panel will meet to discuss. Selected applicants may be requested to attend this meeting and present a brief overview of the Award application.

From the result aggregation and / or the panel meeting discussion, the award recipients will be decided. (ie: 1st (12,000 HKD), 2nd (8,000 HKD), 3rd (5,000 HKD) and one Honourable mention). The names of the recommended award winners will be submitted to VP(AD) for endorsement. In the event that VP(AD) does not agree with the Panel's recommendation, VP(AD) will chair the Panel to decide jointly the award winners.

Announcement and Presentation of Award

The award will be presented at the Teaching and Learning Innovation Symposium held on June 7th with a prize and certificate for 1st (12,000 HKD), 2nd (8,000 HKD), 3rd (5,000 HKD) and one Honourable mention. All award nominees are encouraged to register to attend the Symposium and award ceremony - <http://www.3c.edc.polyu.edu.hk/symposium/>