

The President's Awards for Excellent Performance / Achievement 2008 /2009

Introduced in 1996, the President's Awards scheme serves to motivate staff to excel in their work performance and show appreciation to those with outstanding performance. The scheme adopts a two-tier awards structure, with all nominations preliminarily screened by the selection panels of the Faculty / School Awards and Awards for Non-academic Staff. The exceptionally outstanding staff or teams are recommended for the President's Awards. This year, our ELC lecturer Ms Juliana Chau, received the President's Award for Excellent Performance / Achievement in Teaching.

President's Award



Ms Juliana Chau 周寶蓮女士, Lecturer in the English Language Centre (ELC), is honoured for her excellent performance and achievements in Teaching. Ms Chau joined the University in September 1998, and has consistently maintained a high level of enthusiasm and excellence in teaching. She is a dedicated and professional teacher whose efforts are much appreciated by students and peers alike. Apart from the wide range of ELC subjects she has taught, Ms Chau helps prepare students for external language challenges and uses her time after class to offer individual students extra language support. Her dedication and professionalism are warmly received by students, as reflected in their positive comments and high SFQ scores. Within the ELC, she has

mentored new staff, and co-ordinated a range of teaching-related activities such as staff development workshops. Whilst research and scholarly activities are not required of academic staff in the ELC and not formally recognized as part of the workload, Ms Chau is close to completing her PhD studies. She participates actively in and leads scholarly activities on innovative teaching technology. She is the PolyU Project Leader for a HK\$15M UGC-funded inter-institutional project tasked with the development of a web-based English language exit portfolio for undergraduate students. She has published widely in the area of ePortfolios and disseminated her research at seminars and conferences. Apart from being a leading figure in the cutting edge provision of ePortfolios for English language learning in Hong Kong, Ms Chau contributes actively to the local and overseas professional communities in the roles of researcher, advisor, observer, external reviewer and assessor. She has co-investigated teaching development issues with Hong Kong Baptist University and the impact of technology on language learning with The Hong Kong Institute of Education. She has been involved in promoting excellence in teaching among colleagues in the tertiary education sector as an advisor of the Education Bureau on language learning and an international reviewer of conference papers. She has published on English teaching matters in local newspapers and has served as adviser for Radio Television Hong Kong's television programmes. She has also contributed to voluntary programmes such as the Po Leung Kuk / Foreign Correspondents' Club Language Training Programme. Through all these endeavours and contributions, Ms Chau has inspired students and colleagues to aim for the highest standards in teaching and learning.

Faculty's Awards



Teaching

Ms Juliana Chau 周寶蓮女士
ELC
Lecturer



Research and Scholarly Activities

Prof. Tim Shi Dingxu 石定栩教授
CBS
Professor & Associate Head

Professor Shi Dingxu, Professor in the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, has been an active and a productive researcher in the Faculty. In 2007-08, he contributed altogether 21 research outputs and three of them are publications in Grade A journals. This achievement far exceeds the departmental thresholds for satisfactory performance for an academic staff at Professorial rank.

Being the Associate Head of the department, Professor Shi has been assisting the Head in managing the major functions of the department. He is also the Scheme Leader overseeing the development and operation of our five MA programmes and the Chair of the Faculty Research Committee. While he has handled all these administrative duties well and effectively in addition to his teaching duties, his contribution and devotion to research are highly regarded and very much valuable to the Department and the Faculty.



Services (Team)

Dr Freeman K.H. Chan 陳健康博士	ELC	Lecturer
Mr Andrew Morrall 莫安迪先生	ELC	Senior Lecturer
Ms Voyce Li 李彩雲女士	ELC	Computer Systems Officer
Mr Tang Chak Hei 鄧澤義先生	ELC	Assistant Technical Officer

The ELC team, comprising academic and technical staff members, has worked together to develop an assessment system to better cater for ELC's expanding and increasingly complex assessment load. The system, named ELCAS (ELC Assessment Standardisation) is a user-friendly, reliable and pedagogically sound system that not only aids ELC teachers with issues of assessment parity and standardization, but also ensures that different seminar groups are treated fairly and equally when assessed by different ELC teachers. This is vital to ELC academic staff members as ELC subjects are taught by teams of teachers to multiple groups of students. Other than relying on pre-assignments and pre-course meetings for rater training, the ELCAS system provides online rater training for both written and oral assessments of all ELC credit-bearing subjects, in addition to keeping web-based records of all benchmark grades and corresponding assessment standardization scripts and videos. The significant contribution of the team in effectively and efficiently supporting assessment standardization deserves to be recognized.