Applying for an OLT Citation

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This session....

• Overview of the process
• What makes a good application?
• Questions and answers
Office of Learning and Teaching

- Up to 150 Citations across Australia
- Maximum of 6 per institution (down from 10)
- $10,000
- Guidelines on OLT website
- Recommend our tip sheet to interpret this!
Citation and Teaching Excellence nominations

A hybrid genre: a blend of promotion application, journal article and reflective personal narrative.

• room to be creative while demonstrating and evidencing your claims.

• The assessors want a logical, well structured argument for excellence, but also to hear the story about the relationship between you, your students, and your pedagogical or professional practice.

• not just focused on what the teacher does or achieves, it is about how both the teacher and the students learn and how the higher education sector and communities benefit.
Choose one of four criteria - include clear and consistent evidence matched to this criterion (see OLT for detail)

1. Approaches to teaching and the support of learning that influence, motivate and inspire students to learn.

2. Development of curricula, resources or services that reflect a command of the field

3. Evaluation practices that bring about improvements in teaching and learning.

4. Innovation, leadership or scholarship that has influenced and enhanced learning and teaching and/or the student experience.
Written statement – 4 parts

OLT emphasize it must be presented in this order:

• proposed Citation (maximum 25 words), describing the distinctive contribution of the nominee

• summary of a particular contribution and its specific context

• statement addressing chosen criterion and

• providing evidence for the ways in which the contribution has:

  o influenced student learning, engagement and/or the overall student experience

  o been recognised by fellow staff, the institution, and/or the broader community

  o been sustained over time for a period of no less than 3 years (2 years for Early Career nominations).”
Features of a good application:

- Focussed on with the selected criterion - highlights your distinctive contribution

- **Tells a story** - of your context and challenges - sets the picture of what you set out to do for your students and why
  - Does this with passion and enthusiasm

- Says clearly what you have done - what actions have you taken and how have they worked - concrete examples!

- Sets the right tone - no jargon and not the place for modesty (try to talk about how you met challenges or used opportunities)
  - Active constructions – I developed…

- Shows sustained impact with evidence for claims - 3 years+
  - includes qualitative and quantitative
  - Claim, explain or example, impact, evidence
Example of how to present evidence

- **Claim** - I use student-centred approaches to evaluate and develop curriculum because...

- **Example** - I conducted student focus groups to inform re-design of unit in 2010

- **Impact** - Higher attendance and engagement in tutorials; better quality of assessments; increased scores in Student Feedback on Unit (SFU)

- **Evidence** - SFU scores and comments; comparison of grade averages before/after re-design
What’s involved?

A cycle writing and rewriting!

Drafting a 4 page written statement outlining your case for excellence in your chosen area

Getting feedback from colleagues, LTU - the more feedback the better!

Taking on board feedback and refine....
Timeline

• First Draft to LTU 22 Feb
• Feedback provided (LTU, peer reviewer)
• Revised draft to LTU - 18 March
• UNSW Committee meeting 25 March
• Feedback
• Final version 15 April
• OLT 5 May
Questions?