

Award Citations

Professor Shekhar Madhukar KUMTA

Professor Kumta's approach represents a true melding of research, practice and education. He has made extensive use of e-learning platforms which simulate complex cases to bridge the gap between the textbook learning and the clinical teaching. He prepares his students to work with real patients. The Panel was very impressed that Professor Kumta engages not only the mind but also the soul of his students. In one particularly inspiring project, he helped students and interns develop empathy with distressed or dying patients, in a manner that students found transformative. His work is widely respected both locally and internationally, and his innovative E-learning tools have been adopted by teachers in several universities both inside and outside Hong Kong.

Professor Kumta's team has developed a "mobile-apps-making" platform for teachers to convert their teaching materials for integration into apps without the assistance of programmers. He plans to spend his award grant to enable teachers in the Healthcare and Health Science disciplines across institutions in Hong Kong to plan and develop mobile-learning resources and to analyse the impact of such platform.

Professor LIU Zhi-Qiang

Professor Liu has pioneered innovative co-curricular activities – Special

Interest Groups – to provide his students with up-to-date applied experiences and long-term professional work in the field of creative media. The Groups ensure peer mentorship and feedback as well as collaboration among teams of students. Beyond these Groups, Professor Liu initiated the annual “Playful Media” and “Industry Nights” for students to exhibit publicly their work and to build entrepreneurship. These make learning at once fun and productive. The students’ engagement in these co-curricular activities has been as intensive as the external recognition of their work has been extensive.

Professor Liu plans to spend the award grant to engage other Colleges, Faculties and Schools in the City University of Hong Kong and other institutions into these Groups.

Dr David Martin POMFRET

Dr Pomfret is a noted historian of youth – which is a very young field. His scholarly interest in the changing nature of youth has led to a radical reimagining of the history curriculum, and of the learning process.

Dr Pomfret has demonstrated a powerfully compelling use of new technologies in education that integrate students and teachers into a real partnership of teachers and learners. He introduced RIVAL – “Realtime Interactive Video and Lecture”, in which teaching takes the form of interaction between teachers and students, and among students, employing videos, movies, graphs, stills, music, text, etc. The “realtime interactive” part is realized by getting students to respond to images and videos presented on the spot. His students also get their fingernails dirty. To do Hong Kong history, they go on scavenger hunts, finding the

material history of Hong Kong's past amid the glitter of its present. Dr Pomfret has a record of sustained contribution through his intellectual leadership at a programme, faculty and institutional level. In his many leadership roles, he has championed, and been a model for, the importance of quality teaching.

Dr Pomfret plans to use the award grant to engage teachers and students in a project exploring the needs of the rising generation of students, including how technology is changing students' approaches to learning, and how teachers can use technology to at least keep up with their students and, ideally, to challenge them in new ways.