

2019 UGC Teaching Award Citations

Dr Tushar Chaudhuri, Hong Kong Baptist University

Dr Tushar Chaudhuri is committed to diversification and internationalisation of students' learning experience through innovative teaching programmes and international projects, as well as creative use of cutting edge technologies. Through the online telecollaborative projects, he combines language education with global topics, such as sustainable urban development. These projects have reached and impacted over 1 000 secondary and tertiary students, who have been connected to more than 15 universities and over 25 schools in Hong Kong and Europe. The learning experiences have greatly enhanced students' sense of global awareness and intercultural understanding. Dr Chaudhuri will use the award grant to set up a multi-institutional Community of Practice to provide a platform for multiple initiatives on technology-enhanced language education in the Greater Bay Area.

Professor Darwin Tat Ming Lau, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Professor Darwin Tat Ming Lau, an expert in robotics, is known for his achievements in the learner-centred and experienced-based learning ideology. He is dedicated to bringing about meaningful hands-on experiences both within and outside the classroom to improve students' learning interest and outcomes. Professor Lau has introduced the "hands-on lectures" in which learning tools are used to aid students in better understanding abstract concepts. This makes learning more fun and relevant to the practical world and increases student motivation. Professor Lau will use his award grant to implement two initiatives. One initiative is to transition a course into a "student-driven course" through the development of a custom smartphone teaching app, and the other one is to deploy telepresence robots equipped with virtual reality capabilities to improve the experiential learning element.

The Common Core@HKU: Transdisciplinarity-in-Action Team, The University of Hong Kong

The Common Core@HKU: Transdisciplinarity-in-Action Team is led by Professor Gray Kochhar-Lindgren, with Dr Xiao Hu, Professor Gina Marchetti, Mr Matthew Pryor and Dr Julian Tanner as team members. The Common Core is designed to broaden students' intellectual and social perspectives, and develop in students' some of the skills they need in order to address the complexities of life. The Transdisciplinarity-in-Action initiative moves across pedagogical questions, styles, content, and methodologies, and through this movement, stimulates student learning, creativity, and responsibility. The Team will use the award grant to build transdisciplinary student teams, primarily across the eight UGC-funded universities, but extending to the Asia-Pacific region and focused on three of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals - Good Health & Well-Being, Gender Equality, and Sustainable Cities and Communities.