

2012 Australian Awards for University Teaching

CITATIONS FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO STUDENT LEARNING



Associate Professor Jane Mills

School of Nursing, Midwifery and Nutrition

TITLE

For inspiring student nurses and midwives to understand and use research findings, developing confident clinicians who integrate evidence into their everyday practice.

ABSTRACT

As a scholar, I weave together research, teaching, learning and service in an integrated program of work for students that values and promotes the concept of 'evidence for practice'. I have gained international, national, institutional, peer and community recognition for my command of the field, teaching research and evidence-based practice to student nurses and midwives. Feedback indicates that the innovative teaching strategies I use make a measurable difference to student learning and subsequent outcomes, and that I have an impact on graduate nurses' confidence in using evidence in their practice.

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO APPLY FOR A CITATION?

The School of Nursing, Midwifery and Nutrition places a high value on the OLT Awards and actively encourages staff to consider their eligibility to apply. As well, the Faculty Associate Deans Teaching and Learning were very encouraging and provided a lot of support which was a great help.

WHAT ARE THE KEY ELEMENTS OF YOUR TEACHING PRACTICE AND HOW ARE YOU SUPPORTED IN PURSUING THESE PRACTICES AT JCU?

My teaching practice is centred on improving the student experience so that they engage with the content and hopefully have some 'take away' knowledge and skills to apply to their work as registered nurses and midwives.

WHERE DO YOU SEE YOUR TEACHING PRACTICE HEADING IN THE FUTURE?

Currently I am focusing on postgraduate teaching and am very interested in reconfiguring the online learning experience of research and evidence-based practice to result in a 'personalised' learning experience for students. This redesign will include frequent formative learning assessment points to signpost a student's journey through the available content. I have a small team of lecturers who are working on this process with me with an aim to launch a totally refreshed experience mid 2013.