

ALTC CITATION

# AWARD WINNER

*For engaging and motivating Engineering students to induce deep learning and understanding through contextual and multisensory teaching and learning approaches*

**DR RABIN TULADHAR, LECTURER**  
**FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING**

**What does being acknowledged by JCU and your peers for influencing students' learning through your teaching practice mean to you on a professional level, and on a personal level?**

To be recognized at national level for teaching excellence is indeed an important milestone for me in my academic career. It carries even more significance as I was awarded in the early career category and will definitely help me propel myself as a good teacher and a good researcher. This recognition is extremely valuable for me on personal level as well. I have always been very passionate about learning and teaching. Being able to help students with their learning is in itself a very satisfying and rewarding experience.

**In what way has student feedback regarding the way in which students experience your teaching style, informed your teaching practice?**

I continuously endeavour to improve and update my teaching and communication skills through self-reflection and critical evaluation of feedbacks from students and peers. I believe that student feedback gives us an opportunity to reflect on our performance as a teacher. Apart from SFS/SFTs, I also collect informal feedback from students as the semester progresses so that I can make any necessary and timely changes to improve their learning experiences. The suggestions from students and peers have helped me to craft and enhance my skills to become an effective communicator and teacher.

**You have a rich teaching career and valuable experiences that have shaped your teaching style, but what drives you to teach well?**

Helping students to learn is a very satisfying experience and that is the main impetus which drives me to teach well. I am very passionate about teaching and it always gives me an immense joy to be able to help someone learn. Research and publication is definitely a very important component for a university, but we should never forget that students are the heart and soul of any educational institute and I believe that our main goal should always be to create a good learning environment for them. This motivates me to continuously update and improve myself through participation in professional development workshops/seminars and self-reflection to become a better teacher.

**What are some of your current research interests?**

Our main goals as an academic are to help students learn and to create new knowledge. So apart from teaching, research and publication are equally important to create and disseminate new knowledge. I have been actively involved in concrete engineering research with a special focus on sustainable concrete structures for the tropical environment. The key research areas I am currently involved in are: development of environment friendly concrete with alternative materials; hot weather concreting and durability of concrete structures in marine environment; and use of innovative construction materials like fibre reinforced polymers to strengthen structures.



Dr Rabin Tuladhar - 2011 ALTC Citation Award Winner