

ALTC CITATION

AWARD WINNER

For Technology Enhanced Cognitive Scaffolding: An innovative method for effective teaching of Pathology in a rural medical school

SHASHIDHAR VENKATESH MURTHY, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
FACULTY OF MEDICINE, HEALTH AND MOLECULAR SCIENCE

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?

The ALTC award is a big boost, the money will help develop my next plan of redesigning the pathology course but also this award has brought recognition, appreciation and encouragement to do more. It is also a tribute to my school and its policy of supporting innovation. Without excellent support from enthusiastic administration, staff and committed students I could not have achieved this.

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

All my innovations are the result of listening to students. In addition to SFS & SFT, I take additional student feedback and I discuss with them their suggestions and changes are implemented as a result. This has improved their participation and performance resulting in significant increase in satisfaction evidenced by SFT.

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

That would be "my students". Claps at the end of lecture, thank you emails, and especially when I get positive remarks about our students from colleagues in the hospital - these are some of my strong motivations. Student feedback is central to my teaching innovation.

What are some of your current research interests?

Redesign of curriculum; teaching practices and assessment to suit changing times and changing student dynamics. My research work is now to develop a new pathology curriculum to effectively teach new generation of students (Gen-Y). I am also working on effective methods for assessing a large number of students in a short time with feedback and support. In total I call this Technology enhanced Cognitive Scaffolding.



Associate Professor Shashidhar Venkatesh Murthy - 2011 ALTC Citation Award Winner