Further Details on Developing Teaching Excellence Award Submissions

The most important aspect of your application is your story: what have you or your team done that has really made a difference to students and inspired their learning? As you develop your submission, aim to include a range of examples of your practice and evidence of the impact of your teaching and/or support for student learning.

The suggestions here are not intended to be prescriptive but illustrate the examples of the evidence of impact that you may wish to consider when developing your application.

A. Individual Awards – Inspiring Learning Early Career and Inspiring Learning Excellence Awards

In your application, highlight how you have enhanced student learning; supported colleagues and influenced how they approach teaching practice. We are also interested in how you stay inspired about teaching and learning through your own development.

Against each of these criteria, you may wish to provide one or two detailed examples of your practice together with appropriate evidence of the impact and effectiveness of your approaches.

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<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Inspiring Learning Early Career Award</th>
<th>Inspiring Learning Excellence Award</th>
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| Inspired and enhanced student learning  | Evidence of the impact you have had on inspiring student learning, with particular reference to your work in the Heriot Watt context. In developing your application, you may wish to consider the impact you have had by exploring:  
- Qualitative or quantitative data from student feedback surveys, increases in student attainment in performance and grades, feedback from peers or moderators.  
- External Examiner comments, enhanced student engagement/participation, usage statistics, etc.  
- How you have made a specific personal contribution to a department, School, or external initiative/project that has enhanced teaching activities and student learning.  
- Your involvement in pedagogic research and scholarship and its impact. | A small number of examples of the impact you have made over a sustained period of time, showing how you have developed and enhanced your practice and have had influence across Heriot-Watt University and, perhaps, beyond.  
- In developing your application, you may wish to consider the impact you have had by exploring evidence as per Early Career examples (bullets 1-4 opposite)  
- How you have led and supported creativity in teaching practice. This may include examples of your leadership of learning & teaching enhancement projects, curriculum development initiatives and related activities. |
| Inspired and supported colleagues and influenced support for student learning | How you are beginning to have impact on colleagues within your School and perhaps beyond. | Highlight how you have supported colleagues, inspired innovation and shaped practice across your Department, School, the University or beyond. Examples might include:  
- Inspiring practice in course or programme leadership or School/University teaching initiatives.  
- Your impact on colleagues through mentoring, guidance and support.  
- Success and impact in teaching enhancement including successful projects or initiatives, establishing thriving networks or special interest groups. |
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| Developed your own practice in learning & teaching | How you review, reflect upon and develop your own practice and ensure you continue to find inspiration in teaching innovation and enhancement. Examples might include:  
- What you have learnt and applied following attendance at a workshop.  
- How peer observation of teaching impacted on your practice.  
- How being mentored has shaped your course design or innovation in assessment, etc. | Examples of how you continue to update your own practice and engage in CPD and how you continue to find inspiration in teaching innovation and enhancement. Examples might include:  
- Establishing/participating in special interest groups and networks.  
- Mentoring colleagues.  
- Developing and leading a CPD event for colleagues, etc. |

**B. Team Awards - Global Teaching Team and Collaborations & Partnership Awards**

It is anticipated that applications will be prepared by a lead author on behalf of the collaboration, and the contribution of all those named in the application should be explained.

- For the **Global Teaching Team Award**, the focus should be on innovations in collaborative teaching, student support and assessment practices.
- For the **Collaboration and Partnerships Award**, the focus is on excellence in collaborative working with external stakeholders in order to enhance student learning opportunities.

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<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Global Teaching Team Award</th>
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| Inspired and enhanced student learning | Evidence of how teaching team practice has developed and how this has inspired student learning. Evidence might include:  
- Specific examples of changes to student learning and assessment that resulted from global teaching team working.  
- Evidence of the impact innovations in course team working has had on student learning, access and success, as evidenced by student feedback, peer comments, External Examiner comments, views from external partners, etc.  
- Evidence of enhanced student learning achievements, opportunities and/or engagement etc. |
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<th>Inspired and supported colleagues and enhanced support for student learning</th>
<th>How has collaboration benefitted staff and supported their development and engagement with learning and teaching practice? Consider including specific examples of developments in staff working practice, testimonials from team members, reflections from peers.</th>
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| Developed innovative and effective approaches to working collegiately across the University | A key feature of the Global Teaching Team award is the collaboration itself. The application should highlight how the ‘team’ has worked together and how this has made a difference to student learning and to staff feeling supported. You may want to consider:  
- How the team has developed.  
- How the team has brought together colleagues from across the university in new ways to deliver teaching and student support.  
- How the team responded creatively and flexibly to unanticipated events. |

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<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Collaboration &amp; Partnerships for Learning Award</th>
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| Inspired innovative approaches to student learning | Evidence of the impact an external collaboration or partnership has had on Heriot-Watt student learning, highlighting how collaborative working has opened up new ways of supporting student learning and creative approaches to teaching. This may include work to enhance access to learning, to support learning in the workplace or transform the student experience through industry or community collaboration. You may wish to consider:  
- Evidence of how the collaboration influenced or inspired new ways of approaching learning and teaching.  
- Evidence of how the collaboration has opened new routes to learning, opportunities and/or engagement etc.  
- Evidence of new or deepened relationships with community organisations, industrial partners or educational institutions. |
| Inspired excellence in collaborative and partnership working, highlighting benefits to key stakeholders | A key feature of the Collaboration and Partnerships award is the collaboration itself. The application should highlight how the ‘team’ has worked together and how the collaboration has made a difference to student learning. Consider:  
- How the collaboration benefited all partners and stakeholders involved.  
- The impact of innovative methods for communication and collaboration  
- Evidence of how the team has developed its practices.  
- Examples of how the team responded creatively and flexibly to unanticipated events. |

C. **Pandemic Teaching Hero Award**
This award is a chance to celebrate colleagues who have gone above and beyond in their support for student learning and collegiality in support of teaching during the pandemic period. This award is open for you to nominate colleagues who have really made a difference, supporting students, those they work with and the wider learning community. You are welcome to nominate any colleague involved in teaching or supporting student learning.

Evidence will vary depending on the specific individual and context you are discussing. Please provide as rich a picture of the individual’s impact on their colleagues and our learning community as possible. What did they do
to support the community and how did it impact on student learning and staff confidence, skills and wellbeing? How did they inspire teaching and learning amidst the challenges of COVID?

This is an open category. While you may find the guidance on types of evidence for other awards useful, do not feel constrained by these.