

# PVC launches new University Code

Welcome to the start of a new academic year. I think I can safely say that the past 12 months have been the most turbulent that the HE sector has ever experienced, and that we have survived and been able to continue to support our students in achieving their personal academic goals is a testament to the hard work put in by everyone across the University.

In May we were able to report really strong results from our Huddersfield Student Survey, which demonstrated a real appreciation for our staff teams, and in July we were able to announce that Melanie Rogers in the School of Human and Health Sciences had been awarded a National Teaching Fellowship for her work in developing education for Advance Nurse Practitioners. Unfortunately our performance in the National Student Survey was disappointing, and as NSS data informs our Teaching Excellence Framework metrics, we need to continue to support each other to ensure that all programme areas work to deliver an excellent student

experience for our community. There were some areas which delivered outstanding NSS results with 100% student satisfaction, and other areas where students were telling us that their experience had been well below their expectations - and because of the way the institutional NSS scores are calculated, the poorly performing programmes impacted heavily on our national ranking, and our position in relation to our benchmarks. I have analysed the student comments from the NSS, and have discussed our performance in detail with Heads of Department, and it is clear that we need to keep reminding ourselves of the basics of good practice in teaching and learning, and



**Prof Jane Owen-Lynch**

**PVC for Teaching and**

work collegiately to ensure that we all focus on giving our students an excellent experience during their time with us.

To help us in this, in consultation with our students and senior staff across the University, we have developed a Code of Practice (you will find this on page 2) to make transparent our expectations of each other in teaching and learning. You may have already seen that these are now appearing on notice boards across the campus, alongside a student facing version.

I think it is really important that we clearly set out what we as educators at the University hold at the centre of our practice, and share this among ourselves and with our student community so that they appreciate what we are trying to do and help to keep us on track during rocky times. The Code of Practice should underpin what we do, and we must continue to build on this as reflective practitioners, striving for excellence in teaching and learning, and delivering for our students a truly transformative experience.

### Welcome to The Strategic Teaching and Learning Team

The Strategic Teaching and Learning Team (STLT) supports the PVC for Teaching and Learning in the development of policy and strategy, and innovation in teaching. Members of STLT include: Professor of Teaching and Learning (Dr David Gillingham), Teaching Fellow (Dr David Gillingham), Teaching Fellow (Dr David Gillingham), Academic Development Advisor (Dr David Gillingham), Data Analysis Manager (Dr David Gillingham) and Programme Manager (Dr David Gillingham). This group works to ensure the University's commitment to excellence in teaching and learning is met through the development of policy and strategy, and innovation in teaching and learning. We are committed to meeting this challenge.

Please contact members of the team to see how we can help you.



## New TL website now live

A website designed to help staff navigate institutional teaching and learning strategy and projects is now live.

It introduces the Strategic TL team, sets out the current projects underpinning University strategy, and signposts resources which staff might find helpful in developing School-based initiatives.

Further content is planned - if there is anything you feel would like to see included please email a member of the team.

# Excellence in Teaching and Learning

## University of Huddersfield Code of Practice

- » Put students at the centre of what we do: transform their lives.
- » Embrace inclusivity and be a true ally to our students.
- » Design, develop and deliver assessments which are fair and transparent.
- » Provide feedback which is full, fair and helpful within 3 working weeks.
- » As Personal Academic Tutors, support students to achieve their best.
- » Ensure timetabling is student focussed and works in their interests.
- » Communicate clearly and promptly with our students; respond to all student emails within 2 working days.
- » Proactively support Student Voice activity , ensuring issues raised by students are acted upon promptly and appropriately.
- » Act professionally at all times.
- » Commit to your own personal development in delivering and supporting teaching and learning.
- » Make teaching and learning stimulating, interesting, accessible and challenging.

## Inspire - Communicate - Include

**Inspire** in all aspects of teaching, learning, assessment and feedback to deliver an excellent student experience.

**Communicate** clearly with students and each other to ensure that our programmes are well managed and it is clear what is expected of everyone involved.

**Be inclusive** working with best practice in equality, diversity and inclusivity, to create excellence for all in our learning environments.

