

# The University of Queensland Higher Education Academy Fellowship

## DR DEANNE GANNAWAY

“ The Higher Education Academy Fellowship program formalises and recognises my contribution to teaching and learning at UQ. It provided me with a set of standards and criteria against which I could measure myself and be measured by international peers. It pushed me to make my implicit teaching practices explicit in a way that could be understood and considered by people who are not familiar with my teaching. ”



Lecturer in Higher Education  
Coordinator: Professional Learning  
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### Expertise

Curriculum design  
Professional learning  
Educational evaluation  
Teaching innovation

### Programs

- Australian Learning and Teaching Fellow
- WILing the BA
- Dissemination of teaching innovation
- Benchmarking the BA



### Memorable teaching moment

My first teaching position in higher education occurred at a further education college catering for students from across Africa. In this role, I was responsible for introducing the theory and practice of using computers for business to 280 students, many aid-supported scholarship students from disadvantaged countries. I learnt to bridge technology and conceptual barriers, learning what my students needed to help them learn. Together, we addressed the challenges of the physicality of using completely foreign hardware, to a point where we were building rudimentary websites and graphic animations!

My next position was at the University of Witwatersrand in the School of Law. As an associate lecturer, I was responsible for the curriculum design, for a new unit of study - Professional skills for Law. This unit combined my expertise in English professional writing and computer skills to develop a work place orientated program for first year law students. I was also responsible for providing professional learning for academic, postgraduate and adjunct staff. My daily work saw me move from supporting first year students who had come from villages without electricity to 70-year-old professors of law who wanted to move constitutional court briefings online! These positions taught me lifelong lessons in dealing with cultural diversity and diverse expectations. I learnt that experience is the best teacher, that learning experiences should be fun, and that my role is to introduce and translate new ideas to new contexts.

