

## Teaching Award Category Less than Five Years

25 March 2013

### Nominee: Ms Bianca Le Cornu

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Bianca started as a part time lecturer in the Graphic Design department in 2009 and is now a full time lecturer. During her time at MGI she has lectured a variety of practical and theoretical modules, but has primarily been responsible for History of Graphic Design 1 AGHA101S and Copywriting AGCW301S. Bianca has contributed to the department outside of the classroom by developing curricula, assessments and study guides, arranging functions and student exhibitions, supporting remote site campuses by visiting and assisting the lecturers, chairing the Research Indaba committee in 2012. She is always willing to contribute in any way that she can, with a positive can do attitude that makes working with her a pleasure.

Bianca carries her positive and helpful attitude through into her classes, where students find her helpful, supportive and always available to assist them with sound academic support and a sympathetic ear when it comes to more personal problems.

In terms of her teaching Bianca has developed as a lecturer through a process of research, discussion with her peers, reflection, monitoring and applying innovative student centered solutions. The module AGHA101S has a history of being problematic, it is a high risk module for students as they struggle to find it relevant and many consider it as less important than their practical modules. In 2008, before Bianca took over the module the pass and throughput rates were 17% and 15% respectively. Bianca initiated a number of changes in the structure of the course, the study guide and the way the module was taught and assessed and there has been a gradual improvement over the past four years with the current pass and throughput rates at 70% pass and 53% (2012).

Having attended a number of her classes she has combined the students keen interest in their practical with the history component, this assists then to see the history not only in the larger context but how it relates to what they do on a daily basis. Her patience, use of class time, videos and fun exercises has produced good results, with more of the students seeing the relevance of the module and achieving better results.

In her Copywriting course she has consistently had excellent pass and throughput rates often of 100%. Even though Copywriting is a small component of the overall graphic design degree one student who completed this module in 2009 has in fact gone on to work in this industry, largely because Bianca's support and belief in the students' abilities.

Student feedback for Bianca's modules is positive and most mention her support and that they can contact her at any time with questions and she will inevitably respond in a positive manner. Feedback from external moderators is also positive with them complementing her on the standards that students achieve and the innovative assessments that she sets.

I highly recommend Bianca for this award.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sue Giloi', with a stylized, cursive script.

Sue Giloi

Dean Creative Arts and Communication