

Nomination for HELTASA National excellence in teaching and learning awards 2012

Nominee: Mrs Roshnee Sunder

Nominator: Mrs Penny Orton

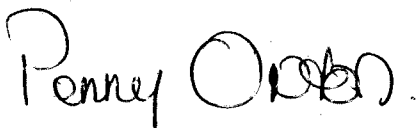
Mrs Rosh Sunder is a lecturer in the Department of Radiography, Faculty of Health Sciences at Durban University of Technology (DUT). Mrs Sunder facilitates students in both the Diploma in Radiography and the Bachelor of Technology Radiography.

Mrs Sunder espouses a constructivist educational philosophy and uses a blended teaching strategy to realise this philosophy. Her belief in the concepts of critical thinking, lifelong learning and reflective practice are demonstrated in her e-learning classroom as well as the face to face interaction with students. Mrs Sunder believes in preparing her students for the world of work and sees information and communication technologies (ICT) as integral to the discipline of radiography both of which are rapidly evolving. In keeping with this progressive philosophy Mrs Sunder believes in teaching students how to learn and not so much about the content – more of a process educator than a content educator.

Mrs Sunder's e-learning "classrooms" are used to scaffold students learning, to provide support through this scaffolding and to encourage critical reflection in and on practice. The classrooms and exercises set for students are exciting, innovative and I believe extend the boundaries of education. Her classrooms are creative, interactive and encourage active learning. Students are engaged with their learning.

Mrs Sunder has also used Podcasting as a teaching strategy for radiography students – a novel approach to teaching using relevant technology and in a discipline which lends itself very well to visual learning. This mobile technology appeals to the younger students who are very familiar with the technology.

I trust that her portfolio of evidence will leave the assessors of this award aghast, as I was when I saw the work that her students had produced – spurred on by her creativity and encouragement.



Penny Orton