

# Inside the MNTF Special Interest Group

Crafting a Culture for Teaching Excellence

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## Introduction:

At the heart of ISSoTL lies a unique space occupied and populated by Special Interest Groups. One such group is the MultiNational Teaching Fellowship Group. This group connects award winning teachers, those aspiring to achieve awards for teaching excellence, and those supporting application for awards with a network of academics to tackle and debate issues around Teaching Excellence. The term Teaching Excellence is problematic and conveys messages of superiority. How does one define and understand the use of the terms in designing teaching fellowship and teaching excellence recognition schemes. The MNTF, through global networking, attempts to challenge and discuss issues and conversations relevant to teaching excellence.

## What has the Group Achieved?

- Panel Discussion at ISSoTL Conference past 8 years
- Establishment of SoTLVision to promote and support SoTL Development
- Revision of Teaching Excellence Scheme criteria
- Development of a book to illustrate the process and narratives around applying for a teaching Excellence Award
- Leading Debates around Metrics for Teaching Excellence

## How do I get involved?

### Contact the Co-Chairs:

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## Ongoing Discussions

- What is excellence in teaching and learning? Can this be defined on an individual and national level?
- What metrics should be used for the measures of Excellence?
- Is Excellence a process (the Journey?) or simply a measure of the product (the destination of the journey)?
- What is the role and responsibility of the teaching fellow in following the journey of excellence?
- When we reach the summit of excellence, does our landscape change and how best do we individually, and collectively, stay there?
- Should excellence be recognised, or is it part of the work we are expected to do?  
(Awards Vs Rewards)
- What roles should teaching and learning organisations and interest groups play in shaping criteria for teaching excellence awards?
- What support is needed to enable the educators to become teaching fellows?