

## **What is the HERDSA Fellowship Recognition and Development Scheme?**

The HERDSA Fellowship Professional Recognition and Development Scheme is designed to recognise higher education teaching and the support of learning and teaching which satisfies a set of quality standards related to a set of criteria. It then builds on that recognition through advanced professional development activities designed to ensure that the standards are maintained and built upon. When you meet the standards of the Scheme, you are awarded a HERDSA Fellowship (FHERDSA).

Teaching and the support of learning and teaching is used to refer to a wide range of activities in higher education which encourage and support learning: conventional higher education courses, on-line and distance education as well as academic development activities, learning support and leadership.

The Scheme is based upon four fundamental values of HERDSA: HERDSA places an emphasis on the development and improvement of higher education teaching, leadership, learning and practice. While the Fellowship Scheme recognises standards of quality teaching in higher education, it is first and foremost a professional developmental Scheme.

HERDSA is a scholarly society. Scholarly teaching and the encouragement of scholarship in teaching are fundamental values on which the Fellowship Scheme is based.

HERDSA is a society founded on the concept of peer interaction. Peer review is a fundamental element of the Fellowship Scheme.

The Fellowship scheme is by application and is open to individuals working in Higher Education worldwide.

Registrants for the fellowship are required to pay a \$250 non refundable fee and prepare an evidence based portfolio which will be peer reviewed by two expert assessors. The total cost is \$250.00 (An initial \$50.00 registration fee and \$200 on submission of your portfolio)

## ***Why has the Fellowship Scheme been established?***

The purposes of the Scheme are to:

- improve the quality of teaching across the higher education sector and thereby to improve the quality of student learning and academic development outcomes;
- enhance the professionalism of teachers<sup>1</sup>;
- provide a way for universities to recognise and reward those who facilitate high quality learning;
- give individuals a means for making statements about the quality of their professional practice;
- provide opportunities for further professional development in cross-institutional groups;
- enable HERDSA to recognise and reward good teaching through the process of peer review;
- provide a process for critical reflection into teaching practice and the learning process;
- provide a forum for peer evaluation and dialogue; and
- provide a forum for discussion and dissemination of research and scholarship of learning and teaching.

## ***What happens if I gain a HERDSA Fellowship?***

- Herdsa Fellows pay an annual fee of \$50 in addition to normal HERDSA membership
- are entitled to utilise the acronym 'FHERDSA' to demonstrate publicly achievements in learning and teaching practice and/or leadership.
- have access to the special Fellowship holders' website and discussion board
- be eligible to attend special HERDSA Fellowship development events
- participate in ongoing professional development activity to maintain the fellowship

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<sup>1</sup> "Teachers" is used to refer broadly to lecturers, part-time and casual tutors, academic developers, learning support advisors and other academic related staff with teaching responsibilities.