NORWICH UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS

THE Awards 2019 – Most Innovative Teacher of the Year	
Institution/Nominee	Sharon Tolaini-Sage, Norwich University of the Arts
Submission	Sharon Tolaini-Sage has boundless curiosity about how students experience teaching, and particularly the impact of digital technologies on their learning experience. Sharon has used techniques such as gamification to increase engagement with course modules, and is playing a new role in developing a new remote-working internship model for students and business partners. Sharon is a passionate and persuasive advocate for diversity in a field with well-documented twin issues around demographic barriers to industry entry, and problematic representation – particularly of women – in games narratives, where female characters are typically highly sexualised or objectified. Current students and graduates describe her as an innovator and an inspiration, as well as caring and enthusiastic, and highlight how she is constantly seeking to improve the student experience.