



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

James Pickering's bold and imaginative use of technology hugely impressed our judges.

Dr. Pickering, lecturer in anatomy at the University of Leeds, made all his teaching slides available online, with his students viewing them 31 times each on average.

Their distribution helped to increase the average mark in the modules in question from 76% to 81.5%: 92% of Dr. Pickering's students said that their knowledge of anatomy had improved as a direct result of access to the slides.

The screencasts were also uploaded to several open access sources, with Dr. Pickering's YouTube channel receiving more than 86,000 hits in 2012-13.

"James truly goes 'above and beyond' when it comes to extra resources and providing alternative methods of learning".
Said a student representative at Leeds.

Dr. Pickering's lectures were also made available as podcasts. In addition, he was lead educator for a massive open online course, Exploring Anatomy: The Human Abdomen, which reached 8,500 learners across the world. Some 97% of them rated the course and good or excellent, and 17% finished it – a high completion rate for a Mooc.

Philippa Levy, deputy chief executive (academic practice) at the Higher Education Academy, said that Dr. Pickering's approach was "an outstanding example of the transformative use of the new technologies in higher education and teaching".

She added: "His imaginative and innovative use of technology, blending screencasts and podcasts with the more traditional classroom, has inspired anatomy students and enhances their understanding and success as learners."