Top national teaching award

Professor Mark Israel of Flinders University's School of Law has won the prestigious Prime Minister's Award for University Teacher of the Year. The award was made at a ceremony in Canberra last week.

Professor Israel also received the award for teaching in the Law, Economics, Business and Related Studies category.

The two awards provide Professor Israel with $75,000 in funding.

A criminology specialist, Professor Israel is considered to be an inspiration to his students, who find him a vibrant, engaging and witty lecturer, and to his fellow teachers who have incorporated his innovative ideas into their own teaching.

He is also noted for nurturing his students' commitment to lifelong learning and inspires students to think of their degrees as the beginning, rather than the end, of their tertiary education.

Professor Israel is an External Academic Adviser in Hong Kong, while the tertiary education textbook he co-edited in 2003 was short-listed for the Australian Awards for Excellence in Educational Publishing.

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