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Pioneering graduates stake claim for the future of online learning

Three Manukau Institute of Technology graduates have made history by stepping into the future of learning, through achieving a new teaching qualification.

Stephen Chaney, Patricia Stewart and Ramalingam Ulaganathan are recipients of MIT's Graduate Certificate in Applied eLearning, which they believe will help them launch pioneering careers in online teaching.

The Level 7 qualification is awarded by MIT, but is a joint initiative between the institute and the Tertiary Accord of New Zealand (TANZ). The programme was developed and is taught by TANZ members, which include MIT, Universal College of Learning (UCOL), Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology and Otago Polytechnic, as well as former member The Open Polytechnic of New Zealand.

The course is taught online and is designed for teachers, lecturers, educators and trainers from all educational sectors who use technology to support teaching and learning.

All three graduates agree online learning is the way of the future and say the qualification will enable them to reach the next level of teaching in the information age.

STUDENTS COMMENTS

Oriel Kelly leader of the eLearning programme at MIT says the students delivered outstanding projects as part of their coursework.

"The programme is practical and very applied, so we have seen some exciting and innovative courses designed by the students to use for themselves. The collaborative online environment meant students were interacting with, and learning from, each other as well as the teaching staff, so they went far beyond what we imagined could be done. A real community of practice was created."

Otago Polytechnic Chief Executive Phil Kerr, speaking on behalf of TANZ, commended the collaborative approach to the development and delivery of the programme.

For more information on the Graduate Certificate in Applied eLearning contact MIT's Learning Technology Centre 968 8000 ext 8793 or email eLearning@manukau.ac.nz



Recipients of MIT's Graduate Certificate in Applied eLearning Stephen Chaney, Patricia Stewart and Ramalingam Ulaganathan



TANZ Board and Graduates