

Thetos Early Career Distinguished Teaching Award 2025-26

Dr. Jac Ka Lok LEUNG

Division of Integrative Systems & Design



Dr. Leung received his Doctor of Education from HKU in 2021. He is recognised for exceptional, student-centred teaching that integrates design thinking, systems thinking, and AI literacy through project-based learning. Since his appointment as a Lecturer at HKUST in 2022, he has taught widely across undergraduate courses, led course design and enhancement, and supervised award-winning student projects. Beyond the classroom, he is deeply involved in co-curricular activities—mentoring and advising students, supporting showcases and outreach, and delivering talks and workshops that broaden AI literacy. Dr. Leung also secures support for evidence-based educational innovation, including engaging as principal investigator and co-investigator of teaching development grant projects. Students praise his clarity, enthusiasm, responsiveness, and inclusive, evidence-informed pedagogy.

Thetos Early Career Distinguished Teaching Award 2025-26

Dr. Khawar SARFRAZ

Department of Electronic & Computer Engineering



Dr. Sarfraz received his PhD in Electronic and Computer Engineering from HKUST in 2016. He is recognised for his outstanding contributions to teaching and learning since joining his alma mater in January 2022. Drawing on four years of university-level teaching and academic supervision experience at HKUST, as well as more than 13 years of industry practice in hardware design, verification, testing, and project management, he brings a rare and highly effective blend of academic rigour and real-world relevance to the classroom. His end-to-end expertise in electronic system design—including FPGA, ASIC, and PCB design flows—enables him to translate contemporary engineering practice into impactful learning experiences for students. Student feedback highlights his strong emphasis on practical applications and creative thinking, and notes that his real-world case studies make complex concepts engaging and memorable; students also value his close mentorship and the unique opportunities he creates for experiential learning (including end-to-end, tape-out-based projects). Dr. Sarfraz is also a Principal Investigator with a strong publication record and a Senior Member of IEEE.

Thetos Teaching Award Honorable Mention 2025-26



Prof. Winnie Suk Wai LEUNG

Division of Integrative Systems & Design