



## Media Release

January 21<sup>st</sup> 2011

### **The winner of the UniJobs Lecturer of the Year Award: Dr Shalmalee Palekar from the University of Western Australia**

It is with great pleasure to announce that Dr Shalmalee Palekar from The University of Western Australia has been named the 2010 UniJobs Lecturer of the Year award.

Working as an Assistant Professor at the University's School of Social and Cultural Studies since 2009, Dr Palekar has her time split over a plethora of research topics, which include transcultural, Queer theories and practices, contemporary South Asian literatures and Indian cinemas.

Dr Palekar is "surprised and absolutely delighted" by the award. She believes it reflects her genuine love of teaching at all levels, her commitment to ethicizing the classroom, as well as her students' willingness to engage with challenging content.

Dr Palekar was among over 4000 nominees who were nominated for the 2010 award, a number that has grown significantly over the four years UniJobs has hosted the initiative.

This year more than 72,000 votes were cast, making it the most popular award to date.

Speaking on the initiative, [UniJobs](#) Director Jarrod Kanizay believes that the total number of votes reflects the admiration that students and peers feel about their university community.

"We've watched the award go from strength to strength, and every year I'm amazed at the amount of university staff that endeavour to make their voices heard alongside the students"

"Students have always voted in great numbers, but it's refreshing to note that a lot of academics are discarding their vanity and nominating their colleagues" he said.

"It really does build the foundations of better community spirit, and we find that a lot of faculties band together and vote for each other".

The results will be published on [www.lectureroftheyear.com.au](http://www.lectureroftheyear.com.au) and on Australia's University News Website, [www.CampusDaily.com.au](http://www.CampusDaily.com.au), a proud sponsor of the UniJobs Lecturer of the Year Award.

Nominations and more details of the award including past results for each university can be accessed online at [www.lectureroftheyear.com.au](http://www.lectureroftheyear.com.au)

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**Note:** Results for each university are still being calculated. Results displayed on the Lecturer of the year website are still in their infancy. Another media release will soon follow. The final top 10 overall results however are complete.

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