

**Subject:** Fw: You have been nominated for a RATE award  
**Date:** Friday, 24 April 2020 at 13:59:15 British Summer Time  
**From:** VP Education  
**To:** Damyan Kachulski

Sorry about that Damyan, I have tried to forward it to you again.

Please let me know if you receive this email will all the students comments below. 😊

Take care,  
Amy

Amy Smith | Vice President Education

Pronouns: She/her

**University of Stirling Students' Union**

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**From:** education.union@stir.ac.uk <education.union@stir.ac.uk>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 23, 2020 9:51 AM  
**Subject:** You have been nominated for a RATE award

Dear Damyan,

Congratulations on your nomination!

The Recognising Achievement in Teaching Excellence (RATE) Awards is a teaching awards scheme run by the University of Stirling Students' Union. This year, student(s) chose to send in a nomination about how you have positively impacted them during their time here at Stirling. You may have been shortlisted for an award and therefore received your RATE award via email after the online ceremony, if so - congratulations! If not, we would like to thank you for your dedication to supporting students at the University and we hope that the details of your nomination will provide you with a reminder that you are making a fantastic impact on students' lives. The category/ies you were nominated in:

- **Excellence in teaching in the Faculty of Arts & Humanities**
- **Best Tutor Award**
- **Outstanding Support Award**

It is an honour to receive a RATE nomination, knowing that each and every nomination comes directly from the positive experiences of students here at Stirling.

The nominations you have received from your students are:

- "Just an absolute star overall. Coming into university and not knowing your place, being nervous about a lot of stuff, Damyan was a welcoming face and made all students feel at ease. On top of engaging lectures and seminars Damyan always takes an interest in each individual students and brings out motivation in even the least motivated people. He takes time to give you good feedback and respects you as a student, and most importantly, takes you seriously no matter what questions or doubts you have. I nominate Damyan because even after two years of not having him as my teacher he still has a lasting impact and showed me what good staff looks like. "
- "Excellence is a word that defines the best and i think this word itself defines Mr Kachulski. He's the best in the program and i wish more teachers were like him. "
- "When damyan saw that I had a problem, he asked me to say after class and really understood what was going on. He asked me many times after this how I felt and recommended me the support services and the hub. He checked in on me many times. This was so important to me. I will never miss a class with him and I am always happy to see him. He knows a lot and he is sometimes tough but fair with his students. "
- "I cannot wait to go to Damyan's classes. He taught me how to write, how to think. He knows everything about every question. He also replies to us immediately when we email. He looks for us and gives us internship opportunities if they are relevant for us. His slides are amazing and he is not scary. HE is kind, nice person. He knows how to teach and make us listen. "
- "Damyan's lectures are outstanding. Before we have essays due, his lectures are structured like an essay and before we have a case study due, his lectures resemble a case study. He gives us the new information in the formats we are unfamiliar with, so that we can get used to it. He stops and makes remarks to explain why he did what he did. It's not just the module instructions we read with him, he personally shows us how to succeed! He also teaches us how to get the essence of the journal articles in 15 min. He doesn't lecture from the front desk, but walks around us, giving us the microphone to contribute to the lecture. He is so knowledgeable, but often leads us to reaching the answers to our questions by ourselves. He knows all of our names and this makes us participate in class."
- "Damyan introduced us to so many online resources, helped us prepare our portfolios and websites. He is devoted to the students and made us work harder than we thought we could. He is a leader and gives of himself to his students and we can see it. The best thing is that nothing is impossible in his opinion and he gave us the confidence to believe in us. As a result, we have managed to achieve great results. His theoretical courses are great and his practical tasks helped us. He is very inspirational and the best lecturer."
- "Although Damyan doesn't teach me anymore, I emailed him for a recommendation for postgraduate study. He gave me an amazing recommendation, but unfortunately I didn't get in. When I told him, he encouraged me not to give up and said that not getting in a good school is not an option. He gave me other suggestions and I applied. He wrote 8 other recommendations for me until I got accepted to do a Master degree. He was so proud of me. I will be grateful for ever. He is the best tutor and the most supportive person ever. "
- "Damyan is a great tutor. He is knowledgeable and has an engaging teaching style, but he also always makes sure we are prepared for the real world. I won't forget how he told us about how what we do here has an impact on our future. He brings us to the BBC for trainings. He always talks to us about how we can apply what we learn in the real world. It is a pleasure to study under him. He gave me skills I never thought I'd have, especially presentation skills because I am extremely shy. I'll remember him for ever"
- "Damyan is always willing to listen, always asks us how we are and waits to hear the answer. He doesn't give us the answers to our questions, but makes us come to the answers by questions he starts asking us and tasks he gives us to do. He structures his lectures very well with main points at the beginning and at the end like an essay. He asks where we're from and gives us relevant examples from our places and not just Scotland. He brings us to employers to practice and helps us apply to work experiences. He always says to

us colleagues, let's work together and he means it. He is the best and includes everybody no matter who they are. "

- "Apart from being a fantastic lecturer, he sends job offers and work experiences to us. He encourages us to apply and work while studying and he helped me with interview skills and CV writing. He gave me a recommendation. I cannot thank him enough for everything that he has taught me and done for all of us. He is positive, smart and passionate which makes us passionate about journalism. He always sends us things to do and suggest where to go and learn more outside of the class. He makes us want to go to class. "
- "Damyan is the best tutor. He teaches journalism as if it's the best subject ever. He really loves what he does and loves us. Although he is tough, he always would email you an internship which he wants you to apply to. He checked my CV, encouraged me to apply, helped me apply for the job and I got it. He genuinely cares for us and you can see it in his eyes how proud he is when we do well. He is so encouraging that I feel that I should never disappoint him because he invests so much in us. He is fantastic and teaches us how to be independent and successful."
- "Damyan is knowledgeable, kind and passionate. He can make any subject interesting with his slides and passion. He makes everything sound so easy and then shows us how to do it. When he saw that I couldn't read journal articles, he taught me how to read them in 15 min looking for main points. He took the time to get to know me and others and always helps us improve. He encourages me to be the best and I listen to him because he genuinely cares."
- "I nominate Damyan. He made my student experience better because of his positive work attitude. He is gentle and calm, has great attention to detail and enthusiasm. He is very serious in his work. More importantly, because he makes international students feel at home in the University of Stirling. When I am in his class, I feel happy and excited. Because he is so humorous. His pronunciation is so clear so I can understand him easily. Besides, I quite love his presentations because the slides he makes are perfect! After class, he often talks with students to answer their questions. He is so patient with students. Besides these, he also shows his kindness when solving our difficulties in life. He will not feel tired to help students any time, even in the weekend even he is very sick. I appreciate what he has done for his students. I nominate Damyan again and again."
- "He is a kind person who helps us a lot. I am an international student from BIGC. When we arrived at the campus, he led us to look around the campus as a guide patiently. After we started our classes, he also listened to our advice, and organized lots of activities for us. Our members of group are all thankful and happy that we can meet him. "
- "To care about your students and want them to excel is something many teachers lack. They just want to do their job and not do it because they want to make a difference but to make a day's living but this man, genuinely cares about his students. He wants them to do well because he wants them to show their true potential and this is a quality that only one of the best tutors have. Henceforth, this is why he deserves the award. "
- "I nominate Damyan. He made my student experience better because of his positive work attitude. It is our first time to go to University of Stirling. So we had a lot of problems to solve. He as an advisor, never feels tired of helping us. He is very serious in his work. He always answers our questions till night after working hours. Besides, he is a great tutor. He uses interesting apps in his classes which leads to a relaxed teaching. After class, he often talks with students to answer their questions. He is so patient with students. I appreciate what he has done for his students. I nominate Damyan."
- "Damyan, who is the first tutor I met in campus, always being gentle and patient during teaching. As a short-term exchange programme leader, he's very hardworking and serious in helping us to adapt to a new environment quickly, for example, he uploads our courses' materials every evening, which both my teammates and I have appreciated. Therefore, I highly recommend Damyan as the best tutor of RATE."

- "Damyan is an amazing tutor. He taught us how to write essays, how to read journal articles, how to reference and did it all in his classes while teaching us the content for the day. He is very knowledgeable and passionate about his work and loves his students. It was a pleasure learning from him."
- "Damyan is the best tutor. We are like his children for him. He is so engaging and tells you things the way they are. You want to be around him. He has amazing slides and taught us how he does things when we notice something. He literally gave us an essay plan which we use in every subject and it works. He showed us what tutors look for in a presentation, assignment and showed us through his lecture style. And we also can participate in his classes if we find something useful. He lets us talk and teach the others what we know. He is a true mentor. "
- "I am impressed with him. He is very knowledgeable, but also knows how to teach us, so we improve too. He is kind and patient. He wants us to know more. When he saw that we didn't know how to do presentations and case studies, he changed his lecture structure and made them like presentations, so he gave us the new material but also showed us in practice how to present a case study. He explains why this assignment is good for us and how we can use this in other classes and modules. I love this. "
- "Damyan is very good with technology and always manages to engage us with new apps and websites which use artificial intelligence to help us build our slides. His readings are so nice and he teaches us how to do them. His feedback is so amazing that you understand exactly what you can improve on and also what your good points are. He always talks about development and improvement. He always wants us to use our phones in class to find information and he does the same thing with his. Not to mention that he lectures with his phone which is very innovative. His essay plan and feedback are the best. He really taught me how to write and I will be forever grateful. "
- "Damyan has been tremendously helpful to me and my peers throughout our course. His support has been invaluable, and he represents everything an educator should be. He's knowledgeable, caring, and dedicated to ensuring that his students do their best. Damyan is consistently in your corner supporting you, and I greatly appreciate that. "
- "Damyan is the best tutor I have had. He is smart and very engaging, passionate and helpful. He wants us to know and is happy when we do well. His lectures and slides are so interesting and he takes us outside of Stirling to learn from employers. He makes us apply for work experience and helps us get it. He keeps in touch with us and is very positive. He shows us that there's nothing we can't do. He is a great mentor. "
- "Damyan is passionate and positive lecturer. He always manages to turn everything we say in class, even if it's not relevant to what he asks, into a separate discussion and link to something else we study. I love this and this makes people open up because they know no matter what they say, it will be taken seriously and he teaches us how to incorporate this in a discussion from a different angle. His lectures are almost like seminars. He walks around us with his phone and everybody is nodding and taking part in his classes. Quite spectral to watch. We love his slides and multimedia. He has the best slides ever."
- "Damyan is a great tutor. He always makes sure that students are in the centre of teaching in the seminars or lectures. He makes us present sometimes, look for information and share it or bring it to class. He sometimes runs his lectures like seminars and with 200 people this is very interesting and interactive. He always recaps every reading with 1 sentence and all previous lectures with 3 sentences. This way, we never forget what we did in the previous weeks. He did additional online lectures for us. He always challenges us, but his nice and sunny personality always gets the best out of us. He always gives us job and internship opportunities and this is amazing because we can practice our skills. "
- "Damyan is very smart, but his passion is what separates him from the rest. He puts himself in our shoes and always knows how to make us interested in journalism. He includes us in his projects. We help him and gain a lot of knowledge and insight in what he does. We feel included and important. He always smiles, he is positive and wants us to be the best. When we can't help him, he actually stops and teaches us how and then we learn. He somehow manages to make us feel valued and important. I learned so

many skills from him that I want to work with him more."

- "Damyan is the most hard-working, knowledgeable and supportive lecturer. He saw that I have anxieties when talking and invited me to his office hour but I never went. He saw me outside of the class and showed me how to access Skype for business and told me to call him this way in the office hour. His help was beyond every expectation that I want to go to his office hours and talk to him everywhere I see him and he always helps. He recognises when we need help and starts every class with a motivational intro for the class on how we can use this knowledge for other modules in our degree. He's so passionate about making his students learn and do the best they can that he's made us to want to attend his classes, even during the last weeks. He inspires us to be better."
- "Damyan has impressed me. He truly goes above and beyond every day. He makes sure we are okay every day and if something is wrong, he suggest ways for us to fix it. He listens to me every time I need to talk and he motivates me to be a better student and person. He has a great network of people in Stirling and includes us in it. He built a great community of journalism students and helps us every day be better. He is a great tutor. I love him."
- "I nominate Damyan for his outstanding support. He is concerned about our wellbeing and always makes sure we're okay first and then teaching starts. He pays attention to us, looks us in our faces and if something's not right, he helps. He always starts lectures with announcement about trainings from the learning services and other resources. He encourages us to go to office hours, but he also accepts skype calls and chats for his hour, so we always have support even if we're not on campus. He knows everybody in the uni and he just calls someone and our problem is solved. We don't need support services when we have him. He always talks to us about being active and finding jobs and gives us suggestions based on our interests and needs because he says we cannot be successful doing something we don't like. He is the best mentor. "
- "For our journalism presentations, I didn't know what to do because I know mainly about sport, but he made me realise that this is a positive and not a negative and encouraged me to use my passion for football and taught me how to turn it into an academic presentation. I will forever remember how he showed me that I'll never be more successful than doing what I love. This gave me more confidence to believe in my abilities and to know that I matter. He is a legend."
- "Damyan kachulski saved me when I was struggling the most. he believed in me, gave me a week by week strategy to follow for the rest of the semester. He helped me find an internship. He is the only lecturer who calms me down and pays attention because he imagines how I must feel. With him, I will never give up. "
- "I went to Damyan for help after he taught me and I received so many ideas, he opened up my horizons for work, internships and opportunities I never thought existed. He spent an hour in his office with me and I only asked for 5 minutes. He gave me readings from past years and from his PhD and also gave me the contacts of 2 of his colleagues who also helped me because of him. He is a teacher I never thought could exist and I am so happy that I came to Stirling and met him. "
- "Damyan has managed to create such a great environment for his students on social media. He always replied to my DMs on Twitter about Uni stuff and is now pushing me to write for Brig and work for my local council, based on my interests and I have listened to him. He is the best mentor I have had. He is a great teacher and I will always remember his slides and his essays and lectures. Inspiring. "
- "I nominate Damyan. He made my student experience better because of his positive work attitude. He is gentle and calm, has great attention to detail and enthusiasm. He is very serious in his work. More importantly, because he makes international students feel at home in the University of Stirling. When I am in his class, I feel happy and excited. Because he is so humorous. His pronunciation is so clear so I can understand him easily. Besides, I quite love his presentations because the slides he makes are perfect! After class, he often talks with students to answer their questions. He is so patient with students. Besides

these, he also shows his kindness when solving our difficulties in life. He will not feel tired to help students any time, even in the weekend even he is very sick. I appreciate what he has done for his students. I nominate Damyan again and again."

- "He is a kind person who help us a lot. I am an international student from BIGC. When we arrived at the campus, he led us to look around the campus as a guide patiently. After we started our classes, he also listened to our advises, and organized lots of activities for us. Our members of group are all thankful and happy that we can meet him. "
- "Damyan, who is the first tutor I met in campus, always being gentle and patient during teaching. As a short term exchange programme leader, he's very hardworking and serious in helping us to adapt new environment quickly, for example, he upload our courses' materials every evening, which both my teammates and me have appreciated. Therefore, I highly recomend Damyan as best tutor of RATE."
- "He helped me bring my visions to light with all his support. Thats what a teacher must do, support their students and make them believe that they can conquer any obstacle academically and in life itself, that is the role of a teacher and he fulfills it. "
- "I nominate Damyan. He made my student experience better because of his positive work attitude. It is our first time to go to University of Stirling. So we had a lots of problems to solve. He as a advisor, never feel tired of helping us. He is very serious in his work. He always answers oue questions till night after working hours. Beside, he is a great tutor. He use interesting App in his classes which leads a relaxed teaching. After class, he often talks with students to answer their questions. He is so patient with students. I appreciate what he has done for his students. I nominate Damyan."
- "He saw me on the bus and asked me how I was. I told him I was struggling with a module. He told me to get my notebook out and spent the next 10 minutes walking me through my essays and points for exam preparation. He answers every time I email him with a random question, even though he doesn't teach me on my other modules. I love the care and attention this lecturer gives me and this is very motivational. "
- "Damyan is clearly a very passionate and good lecturer, but he is not only about teaching and marking. He is concerned about wellbeing and wants the students to feel well and confident in his classes. He always encourages us and shows us with his exmaples from his struggles how to improve. He is more than a teacher and I appreciate his help and passion. "
- "He noticed my poor attendance. He asked me to stay after class and I told him about my problems. He gave me advice and how to cope from his personal experience. He was checking up on me. He saw something in me and and motivated me so much that at the end of the term, I received an amazing mark for my essay. He is an angel for me. "
- "He stopped me and asked me if something's wrong after class. He made the conditions right for me to open up and I did. He helped me cope with my issues and told all other lecturers in Journalism about me. Every time he saw me in the corridor, he made sure I was ok. He cared and it's because of him that I didn't leave. He is my hero and I rely on him for support. He is like a father and a friend."

Best Wishes,

The University of Stirling Students' Union

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<http://www.stir.ac.uk/privacy>

[www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/privacy](http://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/privacy)