

## RUN LEARNING AND TEACHING AWARDS 2024

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**Title:** Bridging the Digital Divide: Enhancing Education and Equity with GenAI and Cognitive Learning Strategies

**Abstract:** The rapid evolution of GenAI necessitates an urgent need to equip regional, rural, remote, and struggling students with essential skills to effectively and ethically leverage this technology. Our innovative GenAI Workshop Series addresses this need through developing students' Large Language Model (LLM) competencies and fostering elevated, personalised learning experiences.

Within four 1-hour online workshops, students learn about LLM capabilities and limitations, also acquiring clear parameters of responsible use in their academic learning and assessment compilation. The workshops are especially pioneering in their incorporation of cognitive learning strategies. Students discover how the techniques of chunking, elaboration, summarising, mnemonic devices, and visualisation combine with LLM prompting, to generate advanced LLM responses improving comprehension and retention of complex subject material. Integrating the language of Intellectual Virtues throughout, further encourages students' intellectual openness, curiosity, creativity, and ethical engagement with LLMs.

The impact of the series has been significant, with 96% of participants rating the workshops 5/5 and deeming them "very useful". Due to demand, workshop delivery has expanded to include postgraduate, vocational, and research students, in addition to tailored integration of workshops into discipline specific courses. The success of this GenAI initiative has garnered international recognition with the Institute of Learning in Higher Education.