Associate Professor Mounir Ghabriel has had an outstanding and sustained commitment to teaching and learning anatomy throughout his career, and was the driving force in creating a dedicated room for learning anatomy at the University of Adelaide. Students and academics would visit and take their time to discuss and examine amazing anatomical dissections, many of which Associate Professor Ghabriel spent countless hours preparing for display. The former anatomy teaching room officially became known as the Mounir Ghabriel Anatomy Learning Hub in 2015.

Associate Professor Ghabriel has received numerous awards for his teaching. He was awarded the Dean’s Prize for Excellence in Teaching 2006, the Richard Pellew Prize for 2009, 2010 and 2011, the Stephen Cole the Elder Award for Excellence in Teaching 2011, and an Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC) Citation in 2011. He also won the University of Adelaide’s top teaching prize, the Vice-Chancellor and President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2011.

In 2012, Associate Professor Ghabriel was named as one of Australia’s best university teachers at an awards ceremony in Canberra. He won a prestigious Office for Learning and Teaching (OLT) Award for Teaching Excellence, valued at $25,000, in the category of Biological Sciences, Health and Related Studies. The Vice-Chancellor at the time, Professor Warren Bebbington, said of Associate Professor Ghabriel: “Mounir has an outstanding reputation as an educator at the University of Adelaide and we are thrilled that his work has been recognised with this well-earned award. For almost two decades, Mounir has shown an ongoing commitment to improving the quality of anatomy teaching at our University, and he is highly regarded by his students and colleagues alike. He epitomises the University of Adelaide’s belief that students deserve a high-quality and engaging educational experience.”

In 2013, Associate Professor Ghabriel won the Australian Medical Student’s Association national teaching award for his ‘Significant Contribution to Medical Education in Australia’.

Some comments from Associate Professor Ghabriel’s students include: “Mounir’s unique use of sketches and coloured diagrams has created its own legend within the Medical School”, and: “He draws things out and teaches us how they really relate to each other. It’s a lot better than just reading it in a book”.

Associate Professor Ghabriel’s renowned teaching methods involve using multiple approaches to engage students’ interest and help them to learn complex human anatomy. This includes body painting to give students a 3-D appreciation of what’s beneath the skin, layered colour-coded diagrams, interactive 3-D models, and digital animation.