

2016 CALS Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award Spring 2016

Nomination Instructions and Materials

General Information

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences awards an Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award annually. The award recognizes teaching excellence by graduate student teaching assistants in the College. Criteria for selection will include evidence of teaching effectiveness, academic scholarship, dedication, and enthusiasm for professional development.

Eligibility

Nominees may be Master's or Ph.D. students and must teach a CALS course. Nominees must be in good academic standing.

Selection of Recipients

Selection of award recipients will be completed by the CALS Graduate Studies Committee. Nominees who have gone above and beyond the tasks typical of a teaching assistant will be strongly considered.

One cash award of \$1,000 each will be presented to the recipient at the CALS Celebration of Teaching Awards Banquet in the spring, and the recipient will also be invited to attend the Gamma Sigma Delta banquet in the spring.

Nomination Package Requirements

Items to be included in the nomination package should be prepared in the following order (no additional items will be accepted or considered):

- 1) Nomination Form Cover Sheet (attached)
- 2) Evaluations of Graduate Teaching Assistant (instructions attached)
 - a. Faculty or Department Head Recommendation
 - b. Student Recommendation
- 3) Personal C.V. from nominee (DISCUSS LIMITS)
- 4) Teaching Philosophy from nominee

All materials must be compiled into a PDF file and sent to Robin Clements by March 7th. This package may not exceed 12 pages. Any documents exceeding 12 pages will be excluded from consideration.

**Nomination Form Cover Sheet
Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award
Spring 2016**

Please attach this to the top of your nomination package.

Nominee: _____ Dept./Program: _____

Area of Study: _____ GPA: _____ Expected Graduation Date: _____

Thesis or Dissertation Title: _____

Current Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

Educational History			
Institute	Degree	Date	Major(s)

Teaching Assistant Experience		
Course Number & Title	Semester	Number of Students Enrolled

Endorsement

Nominator Name

Nominator Signature & Date

Department Head Name

Department Head Signature & Date

**Faculty and Student Evaluation
Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award
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Please provide written evaluations in 500 words or less of the nominee using instructions applicable to your role (faculty/department head or student) below. The recommendations should be completed by a faculty member with working/supervisory knowledge of the graduate student's teaching experience and by a student who has taken a course from the nominee and has firsthand knowledge of the criteria noted.

Faculty or Department Head Recommendation

Please consider the following questions in preparing your faculty recommendation and use specific examples to explain your nomination.

Does the instructor:

- have good classroom/lab-management skills? Briefly describe or provide an example.
- create a classroom environment that is based on mutual respect and make the environment a conducive learning community?
- use student/faculty feedback to improve his/her teaching?
- teach effectively, inspire enthusiasm for learning, arouse curiosity, and stimulate independent and critical thinking?
- set high expectations, help students to meet them and provide constructive feedback to students on their learning?
- show respect and concern for students, offering them effective and appropriate guidance?
- use innovative design and delivery of course content?
- have a willingness to try new ideas?

Student Recommendation (provided by a student from a class TA has taught)

Please consider the subsequent topics in preparing your student recommendation.

- Knowledge & organization of subject matter
- Effectiveness of oral communication
- Ability to engage students
- Effectiveness of visual aids and handouts
- Preparation of lab materials (if applicable)
- Attitude toward student expression