2017 CALS Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award
Spring 2017

Nomination Instructions and Materials

General Information
The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences awards one Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award annually. The award recognizes teaching excellence by graduate student teaching assistants in the CALS. 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 Dean’s forum in the spring.

Nomination Package Requirements
Items to be included in the nomination package should be prepared in the following order and not exceed 12 pages (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
4) Teaching Philosophy from nominee

All materials must be compiled into a PDF file and sent to Robin Clements by February 10th. Any documents exceeding 12 pages will be excluded from consideration.
Nomination Form Cover Sheet
Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award
Spring 2017

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: __________________________

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Endorsement

Nominator Name __________________________ Nominator Signature & Date __________________________

Director of Graduate Program Name __________________________ Director of Graduate Program Signature & Date __________________________
Faculty and Student Evaluation
Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award
Spring 2017

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?
- 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