



Provost's Award for Outstanding Teaching by a Graduate Teaching Assistant

Nominations from faculty are invited for the Provost's Award for outstanding teaching by a graduate teaching assistant. The program was established in 1998 to recognize the exemplary contributions made by graduate teaching assistants to student success and excellence in undergraduate education. The program is administered by the Academy for Teaching and Learning Excellence (ATLE).

Program Goals

- To provide new TAs a visible incentive to develop a commitment to student success and excellence in undergraduate instruction.
- To encourage talented TAs to develop teaching portfolios that document and demonstrate their teaching effectiveness.
- To formally reward TAs for outstanding instructional accomplishments.
- To publicize the accomplishments of TAs at USF and in the community and to enhance the esteem in which teaching by graduate students is held as an integral component of the professional preparation of graduate students.

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Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Quotes

"Students learn best when they are actively involved and committed to what they are learning."

"I have always believed that we are capable of anything; and, it is our choice as to how high we choose to excel."

"The best way to involve each student in class activities and discussion is to transform yourself into a student."

Two Award Categories

The highest level of teaching achievement will be recognized by up to five "Provost's Award for Outstanding Teaching by a Graduate Teaching Assistant." Recipients will receive a \$1000 cash award and a plaque presented at a Provost's reception on April 12th.

The exemplary teaching of up to twelve additional TAs will be recognized with "USF Commendations for Outstanding Teaching by a Graduate Teaching Assistant." Recipients will also be presented plaques at the Provost's reception.

Eligibility Criteria

TAs are eligible for nomination if they have (1) completed a minimum of one year of graduate study at USF, (2) been a TA in at least two USF course sections prior to the time of nomination, (3) been nominated by a faculty member who has supervised their teaching for at least one semester prior to the nomination, and (4) been a TA for Fall and/or Spring of the current academic year.

Nomination and Application Procedure

Faculty supervisors or course coordinators can email a very brief statement of nomination (one or two sentences) for up to three outstanding TAs who meet all eligibility requirements to dianew@usf.edu by **Wednesday, February 8, 2012**. Please include the name, department, mail point, and email address for all nominees in one email. Upon receipt of this notification, the Academy for Teaching and Learning Excellence (ATLE) will send nominees the application guidelines and invite them to deliver complete applications by **Monday, March 19, 2012, 5:00 p.m.** to BEH 238.

The complete application should include (1) the short application form, (2) a completed teaching portfolio, and (3) 1-3 letters of recommendation written by USF faculty members familiar with the applicant's teaching activities and accomplishments. The letters of recommendation are to be e-mailed directly by the faculty member to ATLE. They will later be added to the rest of the application package by ATLE staff.

Selection Criteria

Selection will be based upon the quality of teaching activities and accomplishments documented in the teaching portfolio and letters of recommendation. The application guidelines will include details about the development of the teaching portfolio. The selection committee will include the Dean of Graduate School, the Director of the Academy for Teaching and Learning Excellence (ATLE), and USF faculty.

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Teaching Portfolio Development

TAs nominated for the award will have the opportunity to access web resources to help them prepare their teaching portfolios. Information will be provided to nominees with their invitation to apply for the award.

Awards will be announced at the Provost's TA Award Reception, which will take place Thursday, April 12, 3:30 p.m., Marshall Student Center, room 2708 (Plaza Rm.), Tampa Campus, University of South Florida.

IMPORTANT DATES

Due to late nominations in the past, we are emphasizing the nomination deadline this year!

February 8, 2012
Nomination Deadline
for Faculty Supervisor

March 19, 5:00 p.m.
TA Application and
teaching portfolio
deadline for applicants

April 12, 2012
Provost's TA Award
Reception

Email a brief
nomination statement
(one or two sentences)
to:

Dr. Diane R. Williams
dianew@usf.edu

Academy for Teaching
and Learning
Excellence