



## **PROGRAM FOR INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE**

### **GRADUATE STUDENT TEACHING SUPPORT**

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## **Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award**

### **2012-2013 Information**

#### **Purpose of the Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award**

Graduate student teaching assistants (TAs) play a vital role enhancing the teaching mission of the University. The Outstanding Teaching Assistants Award (OTAA) is designed to encourage and reward excellence in teaching and to recognize the contributions that graduate students make to the teaching and learning mission of FSU.

Selection will be based on the quality of teaching and accomplishments documented in a portfolio along with letters of recommendation. OTAA recipients receive a cash award and recognition at the annual University-wide Celebration of Graduate Student Excellence.

#### **Nomination**

- Graduate student TAs from all FSU academic units may be nominated
- All FSU faculty/administrators, FSU staff who work closely with TAs, and FSU students who are enrolled in classes that have TAs can submit a nomination (self-nominations or peer nominations are not allowed)
- Previous OTAA recipients and current PIE Teaching Associates can be nominated but are not eligible for an award

#### **Eligibility**

- Must be a FSU degree-seeking graduate student hired as a teaching assistant (face-to-face or online) and in good academic standing
- Must verify that they have been a TA at FSU for two semesters, one of which must be during Spring 2012 - Spring 2013

#### **Award Criteria**

- Facilitates and inspires student learning
- Shows evidence of continued improvement of teaching practice
- Engages in professional growth and leadership
- Provides evidence that they have unique qualities that set them apart as a TA

### **Stage 1: Nominations**

#### **Deadline for Nominations**

Nominations must be submitted via the online nomination form on the PIE website by 5:00 PM on Thursday, January 31, 2013.

#### **Nominee Notification**

All nominees will be notified of their nomination and the process for the OTAA by email on Friday, February 1, 2013.

## Stage 2: Nominee Documentation

Once a graduate student TA has been notified of their nomination to be considered they must submit the following electronic documentation packet (portfolio) by the deadline. The supporting documentation should be submitted electronically, in a single PDF file, on or before the deadline, through the assignment feature in Blackboard.

The committee expects that a real personality to emerge from the portfolio materials. All of the elements should demonstrate how the nominee practices what she/he does with clear examples which support that learning occurred. Make the important link from philosophy to process to practice.

## Stage 3: Submission of Documentation

Deadline for nominee electronic teaching portfolio

Must be submitted electronically on Blackboard "2013 TA Awards program" by 5:00 PM on Friday, March 8, 2013. Late or Incomplete Teaching Portfolio Packets will not be evaluated.

## Stage 4: Award Selection

Award notification

Awards will be announced on the week of March 25<sup>th</sup>.

Awards recognition

Award nominees should make arrangements to come to the Celebration of Graduate Student Excellence, on Wednesday, April 17, 2013 at 3:30 PM at the [FSU Alumni Center](#) (for directions/ location/ map; scroll down and click on the first link Alumni Center Facility).

Key dates

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| • Deadline for nominations                   | January 31, 2013                |
| • Notify nominees via email                  | February 1, 2013                |
| • Prepare Binder for OTAA                    | February 4, 2013 from 3-4:00 PM |
| • Deadline for portfolio submission          | March 8, 2013 (5:00 PM)         |
| • Celebration of Graduate Student Excellence | April 17, 2013 at 3:30 PM       |