



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

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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 excellence in undergraduate education. The program is administered by the Center for 21st Century Teaching Excellence.

### Program Goals

- To provide new TAs a visible incentive to develop a commitment to 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

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"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 13th.

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 [charneit@admin.usf.edu](mailto:charneit@admin.usf.edu) by **Friday, February 6, 2009**. Please include the name, department, mail point, and email address for all nominees in one email. Upon receipt of this notification, the Center for 21st Century Teaching Excellence will send nominees the application guidelines and invite them to submit complete applications by **Monday, March 23, 2009, 5:00 p.m.** to our office in SVC1072.

As stated in the guidelines, the complete application should include (1) the short application form, (2) 1-3 letters of recommendation written by USF faculty members familiar with the applicant's teaching activities and accomplishments, and (3) a completed teaching portfolio. For more information, contact Dr. Carol S. Harneit, Assistant Director, Center for 21st Century Teaching Excellence at [charneit@admin.usf.edu](mailto:charneit@admin.usf.edu).

## 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 Studies, the Director and Assistant Director of the Center for 21st Century Teaching Excellence, and selected faculty.

## IMPORTANT DATES

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

**February 6, 2009**  
Nomination Deadline for Faculty Supervisor

**March 23, 5:00 p.m.**  
TA Application and teaching portfolio deadline for nominees

**April 13, 2009**  
Provost's TA Award Reception

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

### Teaching Portfolio Workshop

TAs nominated for an award will have the opportunity to attend a special session of the Center's Teaching Portfolio Workshop. This workshop will take place on Wednesday, February 11, and will be repeated on Friday, February 13. Nominees are invited to call the C21TE at 974-2576 to register.

Awards will be announced at the Provost's TA Award Reception, which will take place Monday, April 13, 3:30 p.m., TECO Room, College of Education Bldg., Tampa Campus, University of South Florida.

Email a brief nomination statement (one or two sentences) to:  
Dr. Carol S. Harneit  
[charneit@admin.usf.edu](mailto:charneit@admin.usf.edu)

Center for 21st Century Teaching Excellence  
SVC1072  
(813) 974-2576  
<http://www.c21te.usf.edu>