

The University of Utah Graduate School

ANNOUNCES

The 2010 University Teaching Assistantships

Since 1995, University Teaching Assistantships (UTA) have been available to departments on a competitive basis. I am pleased to request nominations for UTAs for the 2010-11 academic year. Please refer to the attached document for nomination instructions.

The purpose of the University Teaching Assistantship program is to improve graduate education programs and training at the University of Utah in the service of undergraduate education through the creative use of graduate teaching assistants. Mentoring of graduate students to assist them in preparing for teaching careers is an integral part of the program. Each University Teaching Assistantship will provide a student stipend of \$15,000 and will qualify the student for the university's tuition benefit program, provided all other tuition benefit program criteria are met, including term limits.

The awards are for one year, but departments may submit a similar proposal for a second year. The UTA program is meant to be a mechanism for departments to try out new ideas in undergraduate teaching. Follow-up proposals should indicate the impact the original UTA award has had on the department. Departments may use the University Teaching Assistants in a variety of ways to enhance undergraduate teaching and graduate student development. Demonstration of creative and novel TA assignments will play an important role in the evaluation process. First-year graduate students are not eligible for the University Teaching Assistant positions.

The number of awards will be determined by funds available and the nature of proposals received. An assessment plan is required as part of the proposal and will be considered in the overall evaluation. In order to retain funding, the program will need to be able to provide ongoing information about its impact on teaching and learning at the University.

These assessments will be used to provide that information. The UTA proposals will be evaluated based on anticipated impact on undergraduate teaching, on the graduate student's future career, and the impact of the positions on program improvement and development at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Each department may submit up to two proposals.

Proposals should be submitted to Carol Bergstrom, Coordinator of Fellowships and Benefits for the Graduate School, 302 Park Building, on or before February 2, 2010. We intend to evaluate the proposals and announce the awards around April 1, 2010.