

Development Program for New Teaching Assistants

An overview
Innovations
Ongoing Research

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Student Experience Survey

- TAs are the most utilized resource for guidance and assistance, and are highly appreciated, by Eng undergraduates:
 - 86% of students find TA's to be useful or extremely useful
- In qualitative comments, TAs are frequently called invaluable to the learning of course material and the passing of the class

Engineering Student Experiences Survey 2005

Training for New TAs

- Mandated in the College of Engineering
- 1.5 days before the start of the semester
- Best practices
- Continual evaluation

The Program

- 4 Teaching Preparation Sessions
- 2 Guest Presenter Sessions
- 2 Select- A-Sessions
- Microteaching
- Feedback



Concurrent Teaching Sessions - led by pairs of TA Trainers

- Assessment & Academic Integrity
- Creating a Classroom Presence
- Facilitating Active Learning
- Modes of Learning



Select-A-Session

- Meet individual needs and/or interests
- Topics:
 - Effective Power Point Presentations
 - Successful Public Speaking
 - Time Management
 - Stress Management
 - Q & A with experienced TA panel

Guest Speaker Sessions

- Dean's Welcome
- Diversity in the Classroom
- Students in Distress

Why we do it this way

- Collaborative approach
- Mentorship
 - TA Trainers, including one lead TA
 - TA participants
- Effective use of time and resources
- Additional training for those interested in academia
 - ENGRG 6780 : Reflective Teaching Seminar

Ongoing Evaluation & Research

- Sessions - individually
 - Content
 - Facilitation
- Programmatically
- Changes in Confidence Levels
 - Recently presented at ASEE

Pre vs Post-Training Self-Reported Confidence - Spring 2010





