**Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award**

2020-2021 Award Nomination Form

*The Graduate Student Council Awards Ceremony has been one of the primary goals of past and present GSC members. The vision is to recognize and honor outstanding graduate students and their mentors for their exceptional achievements and contributions to Arkansas State University.*

*Award winners and their nominators will be invited to attend the Graduate Student Council General-Body meeting and Awards Ceremony.*

**Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award**

Teaching assistants play a vital role enhancing the teaching mission of Arkansas State University. The Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award recognizes the contributions of graduate students to the teaching and learning process at A-State. Evidence of creativity, innovative teaching, extra effort to improve classes, teaching effectiveness, determination to build rapport with students, working to stimulate independent critical thinking, and demonstration of excellence in teaching are all qualities that distinguish the outstanding graduate teaching assistant from others. This award was initiated to encourage and reward excellence in teaching on the A-State campus. One graduate student is awarded the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award each spring by nominations from faculty, staff, and/or fellow students.

**Suggestions for Nomination Letters**

* The letter helps to put the nomination into perspective. For example, an effective nomination letter from a faculty supervisor indicated, “Of approximately \_\_\_\_\_\_(number) of students I have supervised in the last \_\_\_\_\_(number of years) as a professor, s/he ranks \_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(give reasons). This sort of justification puts the nomination into perspective.
* Try to include quotes from student evaluations, showing how/why the student’s teaching is exceptional. What does the student do in his/her teaching that goes beyond the norm? Special techniques? Active and collaborative learning activities? Special assignments?
* The committee will be looking for a description of any outstanding effort/commitment by the student that goes beyond the basic job of classroom or lab teaching.
* If the dossier includes informal comments made by former students (e.g., e-mail, personal notes) that were not written specifically for the purpose of supporting the nomination, great care should be taken to safeguard the privacy of the former students.
* Include any available teaching observations made by faculty who observed the nominee teach and prepared a written summary of the observations.
* Is the student an outstanding representative of A-State? If so, why?

**\*\*Previous winners of this award are not eligible to win again\*\***

**OUTSTANDING GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT AWARD NOMINATION FORM**

Name of nominee: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Years attended A-State: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Nominee’s student email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Nominee’s previous education: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Current Professional Positions and Activities:

Special Contributions or Achievements:

Short Narrative

Nominated by: X \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Nominator’s Printed Name, Department, Email & Telephone:

**NOTE**: The selection committee will consider up to two letters in support of this nomination.

**Nominations must be emailed to GSC at** **gsc@smail.astate.edu**

  **by March 01, 2021 at 11:59 PM (CST) to be considered.**