

**The Biochemistry Graduate Students Union, Biochemistry Undergraduate Student Society,
and Department of Biochemistry are pleased to announce the
TA Awards Program**

Two awards will be given annually in recognition of excellent performance as a Teaching Assistant in the following courses offered by the Department of Biochemistry: BCH210 (fall), BCH210 (summer), BCH304, BCH370, BCH371, BCH471 and DENS121S.

Nominations: Nominations may be made by undergraduate students, fellow TAs, other graduate students, lecturers, course coordinators or other faculty. The nomination should take the form of a letter addressed to the TA Awards Program Committee and should:

- address the issue of eligibility as described in the criteria below
- be accompanied by up to 3 supporting letters of recommendation solicited by the nominator from students, staff, or faculty who are familiar with the TAs work
- be sent to: TA Awards Program, c/o Carrie Harber, Department of Biochemistry, Room 5207 Medical Sciences Bldg., University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1A8
- be received by the Committee by either **Jan 31st** or **Apr. 30th**

Eligibility - nominees should have completed at least one full year and be continuing in a second year as a TA (courses taught may differ in years 1 and 2). In addition, the following criteria should be fulfilled:

Clarity: eligible TAs should present material that incorporates key concepts in a clear and concise manner. Effective use of visual aids and/or examples should be considered.

Knowledge base: eligible TAs will be able to review areas not discussed in class and be a resource for new concepts.

Adaptability/performance: eligible TAs must have the ability to adapt to diverse situations, as they arise in the course, and, particularly, to contribute to solving problems.

Approachability: eligible TAs should be helpful to students during the class session, answer questions in an effective manner, and be approachable for students and supportive of students outside class time

Development: where applicable, successful TAs should contribute to the progression and development of a course to provide enhanced learning experiences that suit the students needs/requests.

Selection Process - Nominations will be reviewed by a committee composed of course coordinators (one from each course), at least one BGSU member, a non-BGSU graduate student, an undergraduate student, and the Chair of the Department or designate.