

## **Effective Teaching Criteria -- for Killam GTA Award Nominations**

*for anyone preparing a nomination package, and for the Adjudication Committee*

Successful candidates will be Graduate Teaching Assistants who have demonstrated skills, abilities and contributions that result in a high level of respect from undergraduate students and academic or course supervisors, in several of the following areas. The successful candidate:

1. demonstrates a broad knowledge of the field and the ability to help students actively learn new knowledge, skills and perspectives, evidenced by student/supervisor feedback and relevant grades:
  - explains information clearly and logically;
  - organizes effective presentations, fieldwork or discussion groups that maximize student learning;
  - constructively evaluates student presentations;
  - actively helps students to learn transferable skills such as oral and verbal communication, problem solving, critical thinking, numeracy, teamwork, leadership.
2. shows evidence of working in a collegial manner with students, faculty supervisors and Graduate Teaching Assistant colleagues:
  - works with other graduate students or faculty to improve the learning environment for students;
  - demonstrates rapport with and support of undergraduate students through active listening strategies and actions;
  - encourages student collaboration through group projects and presentations.
3. shows evidence of incorporating new teaching skills learned through workshops, seminars and/or self-directed learning.
4. shows evidence of reflection and action on personal and professional development needs within the scope of the Teaching Assistant position.
5. acts as a role model, demonstrating high standards, good listening skills and ethics:
  - demonstrates reliability and availability within the scope of the TA job description;
  - encourages and supports diversity and equity within and beyond the classroom;
  - returns assignments quickly, with useful constructive feedback (oral and/or written);
  - is involved in community service as part of the position (for example, involvement in science fairs, open houses, undergraduate/graduate events).