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Subject: Graduate Student Teaching Initiative resources, events, programs

Dear Directors of Graduate Studies, Faculty TA Coordinators, Departmental Graduate Administrators, and Graduate Student TA Mentors:

Welcome back, and we hope your new academic year has begun well. At the Graduate Student Teaching Initiative, we're looking forward to providing support for graduate and professional students in your department who may be teaching assistants, teaching fellows, or those just generally interested in pedagogy. We're also available to faculty and departmental administrators who have questions or may want to bounce ideas about working effectively with their teaching assistants, or if you'd like us to facilitate an in-department pedagogy workshop or conduct teaching observations and consultations.

I'd like to feature a few resources, events, and programs which may be of interest to you, your graduate/professional students, and your faculty this semester.

- For faculty: we recommend our **Working with your TA** handbook: <https://teaching.pitt.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/GSTI-Working-with-Your-TA.pdf>
- For graduate students: you'll find a number of **resources** on our resource page (<https://teaching.pitt.edu/graduate-student-teaching/resources/>), including the TA Handbook and tip sheets on topics such as "Encouraging Student Participation."
- Our fall schedule of **workshops** can be found here: <https://teaching.pitt.edu/workshops-events/> and includes topics like "Developing a Teaching Portfolio" (for the academic job market) and "Teaching Effectively with and without PowerPoint"
- Our Achievement in Pedagogy program offers graduate and professional students an opportunity to earn a credential in pedagogy by completing six of our pedagogy workshops and submitting corresponding assignments: <https://teaching.pitt.edu/graduate-student-teaching/pedagogy-credential/>

Please do reach out to us at tahelp@pitt.edu or 412-383-7152 if we can address any questions or be of assistance. Have a great semester.

Best,

Joel Brady, Ph.D.

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