

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL  
WELCOMES YOU TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE  
TEACHING ASSISTANT ORIENTATION  
**Wednesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> 2010 – Stodder Hall**

- 8:30-9:00      **Registration and Continental Breakfast (Stodder Hall)**
- 9:00-9:10      **Welcome and Overview**  
Daniel Sandweiss, Dean and Associate Provost for Graduate Studies  
Scott Delcourt, Associate Dean of the Graduate School
- 9:10-9:55      **The Basics: Logistics for New TAs** (Amaranta Ruiz-Nelson and Cindy Barnes)  
This session is essential for TA-specific inquiries for using MaineStreet, entering Anticipated Resources, and payroll.
- 9:55-10:10      **Break**
- 10:10-10:45      **Diversity in the Classroom** (Jessica Brophy)
- 10:45-12:00      **Stepping into the TA Role** (Jeffrey St. John, Center for Teaching Excellence)  
This workshop will orient new TAs to their role as a teacher. Students will be instructed on what to do in the first five minutes, learn some helpful teaching techniques, and discover on-campus resources that they can utilize in the classroom.
- 12:00-1:00      **Catered ‘Brown Bag’ Lunch** (Mike Parkin, Cross Insurance)  
Please load up your plates at our catered BBQ, then come back in and listen to Mike Parkin discuss your insurance policy in detail. This is a perfect opportunity to get all your insurance questions answered.
- 1:00-1:45      **Concurrent Session (choose one)**
- Leading a Discussion** (Dylan Dryer) (Stodder Hall, Rm. 48)  
This workshop will highlight ways to facilitate, mediate, and encourage discussion in the classroom in order to foster students’ interest, participation, and active learning.
- Teaching a Laboratory** (Farrah Fatemi) (Stodder Hall, GSG Offices)  
This workshop will introduce new TAs to UMaine policies related to proper conduct, safety, and equipment utilization in the University’s labs.
- 1:45-1:55      **Break**
- 1:55- 2:30      **Technology in the Classroom** (Andrei Strukov) (Stodder Hall)  
This session will cover details about creating and maintaining FirstClass conferences for your courses, using Blackboard, and employing other resources such as clickers to help facilitate an interactive classroom.
- 2:30-2:50      **Reporting to Student Affairs** (David Fiacco) (Stodder Hall)  
David Fiacco, Director of The Office of Community Standards, Rights & Responsibilities, will explain how to manage significant classroom disruptions and the process of getting a consult or referring a student to the Dean of Students for academic or non-academic misconduct