THE GRADUATE SCHOOL
WELCOMES YOU TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE
***

Teaching Assistant (TA) Orientation
Wednesday, August 23rd 2017 – Stodder Hall, Room 57

8:15-8:45  Registration & Continental Breakfast (Stodder Hall)

8:45-8:55  Welcome & Overview
- Jeffrey Hecker, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
- Kody Varahramyan, Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School
- David Neivandt, Associate Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies
- Scott Delcourt, Assistant Vice President for Graduate Studies and Senior Associate Dean

8:55-9:15  Breakout Session — How Do You Learn?
- Natasha Speer, Associate Professor, Dept. of Mathematics & Maine Center for Research in STEM Education

9:15-10:15  Is There a Room Where It Happens? Considering Education Today
- Peter Schilling, Executive Director of the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL)
A discussion about educating this generation of early 21st century students, who have grown up with devices, services & practices for creating & consuming information like no other in history. How can we offer instruction in ways that work within this context?

10:15-10:30  Break

10:30-11:45  Diversity & Nondiscrimination in the Classroom
- Elizabeth Lavoie, Deputy Title IX Coordinator
- Sally Dobres, Interim Equal Opportunity Administrator
- Sara Henry, Director of Student Accessibility Services
- Kenda Scheele, Assistant Vice President and Senior Associate Dean of Students

11:45-1:00  Catered Lunch & Panel with Experienced TAs
Please load up your plates at our catered sandwich buffet, then come back into the room for the Panel with Experienced TAs, which will start at noon. Our panel of TAs, spanning the disciplines, will discuss their roles as TAs, leaving plenty of time to answer your questions.

1:00-1:15  Break

1:15-2:00  Concurrent Sessions (choose one)
- Leading a Discussion - Owen Smith (Stodder Hall, Rm. 48)
  This workshop will highlight ways to facilitate, mediate, and encourage discussion in the classroom in order to foster students’ interests, participation, and active learning.

- Teaching a Laboratory - Mac Stetzer and Frank Dudish (Stodder Hall, Rm. 57)
  An introduction to the basics of being a good lab instructor.

2:00-2:15  Break

2:15-3:00  Preparing for Your First Day of Class
- Natasha Speer, Associate Professor, Dept. of Mathematics & Maine Center for Research in STEM Education
- Peter Schilling, Executive Director, CITL
- Karen Pellteen, Manager of Workshops, Programs, & Training, CITL
In this session, we will explore the messages we convey to our students and ways to plan for your first day of class so you establish classroom environments that foster learning and equity.