NEW ROLES FOR TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Natasha Holmes CWSEI End-of-Year Event April 8, 2013

Think — Pair — Share

What do your TAs do that's different or new?

- In-Class or Lab or Tutorials
- Course Development and Organization
- TA Professional Development
- Involvement in Education Research Projects

In Class (or lab or tutorial)

- Run clickers and peer instruction
- Assistant with lecture activities
 - Collect misconceptions
- Teach skills rather than just content
 - e.g. using Peerwise, peer review

Course Development & Organization

- Just in Time Teaching
 - Extracting misconceptions
 - Analyzing/marking responses
- Head TA roles
 - Eliciting feedback from TAs about course content
 - Developing new classroom activities, clicker questions, or labs
 - Re-designing or evaluating activities

Involvement in Education Research Projects

- Through directed studies projects they could...
 - Interview Students
 - Observe students or TAs in class
 - Analyzing student work and assessments
 - Publish!!!

TA Training

- Coordinating TA training programs
- Head TAs
 - Prepare TAs on pedagogy of labs/tutorials
 - How to teach
 - Develop presentations for TAs to use in class
- Mentor TAs

Why do these roles exist?

Why?

More interactions with students

• Face time in class and labs

Students themselves

- Student perspective
- Closer to novice

Future Professors

• Investment into future instructors

Inspired

 Motivated from their own experiences (good or bad)

Let's hear it from the TAs themselves

TA PANEL