**Quick Fact Sheet on CALES Teaching Assistance support**

**January 3, 2024**

* **Overall level of support:** FY 2024, $1,381,579 (423% higher than in FY 2016)
* Since 2022, support can be used for TAs, graders or any other form of teaching support
* For FY2024, a ¼ time TA slot/semester costs a minimum of $9,336. If used exclusively for TA slots across the college, this would equate to 148 slots for the year, or 74 per semester. Some units pay more, and that reduces the number of potential ¼ time slots.
* Currently, we do not know (and are not actively tracking) the use of ¼ time slots vs. other forms of assistance. It is certainly discoverable, and would be an interesting statistic to view across academic units.
* Generally speaking, the teaching assistance funds will go further if units do not constrain themselves to using TA slots exclusively. That is to say, graders and the like are much cheaper for the student enrollment coverage they offer.
* All of this comes on the recommendation of the Teaching Assistance Task Force we established back in 2022. The Task Force recommendation was to shift the award of teaching assistance from discrete TA slots (based on Gen Ed and Service Course enrollments) to a more flexible $ allocation based on undergraduate SCH generated by each unit (% of CALES total SCH determines the % of Teaching Assistance Funds received by a unit)
* The Task Force recommended funds be allocated according to each unit’s preference, with the conditions that:
  + Criteria for allocation be transparent to all faculty and consistently applied
  + Funds can only be used for teaching assistance
* Issues we’ve realized with the execution of the new rules:
  + Reduced incentive to launch and grow new Gen Ed courses because no guarantee of TA funding per each incremental enrollment increase of 60 students
  + No budgetary authority for CAS to inject incremental funding to cover unexpected enrollment growth => some instructors have been left to scramble when their unit lacked sufficient funds to cover the extra assistance needed
  + Not all faculty are on board with utilizing undergraduate graders and preceptors in lieu of graduate TAs. This is addressable with some workshops planned for this spring.