

1125-97-814 **David Manuel** and **Tracy Weyand*** (tracy_veyand@baylor.edu). *The Evolution of TA Training at Texas A&M*. Preliminary report.

In 2012, Tracy Weyand developed, implemented, and ran the GREAT (Graduate students Reaching for Excellence in Academics and Teaching) Program while a graduate student at Texas A&M University. This voluntary seminar and mentoring program provided knowledge about university policies and course content, as well as time-saving methods. It also provided an introduction to classroom technology and alternative pedagogical styles. This program has since evolved into the official required Graduate Teaching Assistant training program for the Department of Mathematics at Texas A&M under the direction of Instructional Assistant Professor David Manuel.

We will discuss this evolution and describe the ongoing training which graduate students receive from the time they begin our PhD program to their search for employment in academia as graduation approaches. We will also discuss the impact the program has had on both the culture within the department and on the graduate students themselves. (Received September 12, 2016)