

2011 TA Training: Team-building session

Department of Biological Engineering

The questions below are intended to help you explore your attitudes and goals regarding teaching. Discuss them as a group to see what common issues arise, and consider asking your TA mentor about them over lunch.

If you have time now or perhaps later in the week, try making a list (individually or together) of 3 key dos and don'ts that you want to strive for in your teaching this year.

Remember that when it comes to teaching, energy in = energy out. Your students will take notice if you are both prepared and engaged, and ideally your behavior will be contagious!

- 1) Who is one of the best teachers you ever had? What did s/he do that was particularly effective?
- 2) Describe a class in which an instructor *didn't* contribute to (or even actively impeded!) your learning.
- 3) What concerns you most about teaching MIT undergraduates/graduates? What excites you most about the opportunity to TA?