Ruth J. and Howard F. Newton Memorial Graduate Student Teaching Award in Statistics
2022 Recipient - Jacob Helwig

Jacob Helwig is the 2022 recipient of the Ruth J. and Howard F. Newton Memorial Graduate Student Teaching Award in Statistics. Jacob was selected to receive the Newton Teaching Award based on his outstanding evaluations by the instructors he was Teaching Assistant for during the Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 semesters. In Fall, Jacob TA'd STAT 404, which is a senior-level computing course for undergraduate Statistics majors. The course requires expertise in the R and Python programming languages and the ability to grade homeworks with substantial coding components, in addition to being able to provide guidance to a large number of advanced undergraduate Statistics majors. In Spring, he TA'd for STAT 651, a graduate-level introductory service course for students from outside the Statistics Department. This is a challenging course to service, based on the wide array of backgrounds of students. They are a demanding group of students who are eager to learn practical ways to apply statistics to research in their respective fields. It is especially impressive that Jacob was in just his first year of our PhD program. We look forward to several more years of strong TA service.

Jacob's performance as TA was evaluated very highly by his assigned instructors. A few of the comments from the instructors:

- "Jacob is definitely the best TA I have ever had during my 13 years at TAMU."

- "What impressed me most was his sincerity and professionalism."

- "He was systematic and thorough with his homework grading, and generally followed all my instructions."

- "He will get things done on time and also do a thorough job with his grading."

- "He helped me a lot in arranging exams for students with accommodation needs."

- "He is very caring about students."

Honorable mentions go to Connor Brubaker, who received very strong student evaluations after teaching an introductory Statistics service course in Fall, and Gozde Sert, who received very strong evaluations from instructors for whom she TA'd in the Fall and Spring semesters.

Alan R. Dabney
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