

Citation of
Zoe Vittum
for the
2026 Teaching Assistant of the Year

Exceptionally supportive and approachable. Consistently going far beyond required duties. A major contributor to inclusive, encouraging learning environments. This is how both students and faculty describe Zoe Vittum, a Ph.D. student in the Department of Biomedical Engineering. For her tireless and exceptional service to their students, faculty, and department, we are pleased to recognize Zoe as this year's Teaching Assistant of the Year.

The faculty who worked with Zoe were impressed by how she “supported the students in their learning of techniques during lab time and in office hours.” Faculty commended Zoe for how “she helped design the assignments and grading rubrics so that the expectations were crystal clear to the students which promoted their success.” One faculty wrote how Zoe is “a TA like Zoe only comes around once a decade.”

Faculty praised Zoe's dedication to her students by “staying long hours in lab to help everyone understand the material, made herself readily available outside of class, and always responded to emails quickly and thoughtfully.” Students commented how Zoe “was extremely helpful, quick with responses, and always provided great explanations.”

Students commented on how Zoe “encouraged students to ask questions without hesitation,” generated “inclusive and encouraging learning environments,” and repeatedly described her as “the best TA I have ever had” at WPI.

Due to her outstanding support of and dedication to her students, we are pleased to present Zoe Vittum with the 2026 Teaching Assistant of the Year Award.