

# HOWARD UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

Press release  
For Immediate Release

## **Some Howard University Teaching Assistants and Graduate Students are Still Not Paid After Five Weeks**

Washington, D.C. (September 24, 2019) Some Howard University teaching assistants and graduate students have been unpaid for 5 weeks since the start of classes this semester.

Every year Howard University academic departments find themselves going into the Fall semester without enough teaching assistantships (TA) to provide an appropriate amount of coverage for courses or enough funds to fully compensate the graduate students with stipend and tuition.

The reasons for these delays are not always clear and could be symptomatic of issues above the level of schools and colleges. Furthermore, when the final numbers of assistantships are determined and TAs are named, it can take weeks for students to be hired even if they are returning to the same positions as held in previous years. This means that students are often several weeks into the semester before they ever receive payment. This situation of delayed compensation has also been noted in cases of research graduate assistantships, including those that are funded by external grants.

