PROBLEM I

GROWING A GARDEN WITHOUT ANY WATER

Graduate TA’s want to do good work, but find little support or encouragement to learn how to do their job.
190 Depts surveyed: 37% no TA training; 31% improved by course instructor; 32% dept. orientation (only 5% last more than one day).

GRAD SCHOOL IS A ZERO SUM GAME
Worse than neglect: there is active cultural opposition to learning to teach.
“Anything that takes one out of the lab is a diversion from the grad school goal of learning to do independent research.”