Jeevani Sammeta has been selected as the 2022 Outstanding International Teaching Associate.

Jeevani is being recognized for her work as a TI in the School of Media and Communication, and specifically, for her positions as the instructor of record in Introduction to Public Speaking (COMM 1020), Organizational Communication (COMM 3070), Visual Editing (JOUR 3150).

In addition to the certificate of acknowledgment, Jeevani also will receive a $750 honorarium to recognize her exceptional achievement.

The goal of the Outstanding International Teaching Assistant/Associate award is to recognize the contributions that international graduate students bring to BGSU, and we are delighted that Jeevani is the second award recipient from the School of Media and Communication. It is an honor to present this award today, especially given the fact that the award was exceptionally competitive, with the number of applicants tripling since the previous, inaugural, year.

The committee members were impressed with Jeevani’s application materials which demonstrated her professional growth, global mindset, and her commitment to teaching. Jeevani’s class materials exemplify her thoughtful process of aligning activities with course learning objectives and reflecting on-action and for-action (Murphy, 2014). Jeevani’s students praise her for the dedication to exposing them to her cultural background by integrating various components of Indian film and language into her classes. For example, one student wrote:

*Something that I’ve taken from class with Jeevani is the concept of jugaad: “a flexible approach to problem solving that uses limited resources in an innovative way” (Oxford Languages).*

Another student highlighted Jeevani’s responsiveness to student feedback and her commitment to helping students develop their interests:

*Ms. Sammeta always balanced her responsibilities of pushing students to complete work that reflected their highest effort, while also showing understanding and compassion to students who may be experiencing a situation that is interfering with their academic performance.*

This student also provided an example:

*While completing our unit on organizational change, Ms. Sammeta conducted an activity that required each table in the class to develop and share with the rest of the class an instructional activity that would exemplify specified concepts from the chapter. My table was assigned organizational mergers, and I took the lead in planning an activity that helped demonstrate the difficulties of maintaining and negotiating identity during a merger; after class, Ms. Sammeta approached our table to ask who developed the idea’s core concept and later scheduled a Zoom call with me to further develop the idea for presentation as a GIFTS paper…. This is beyond the norm of what might be traditionally expected of Ms. Sammeta as an instructor, especially as a graduate instructor who has her own academic workload to manage.*

Join me in congratulating Jeevani on her accomplishment.