

From: Peter Salovey, Provost <provost@yale.edu>
Sent: Thursday, November 15, 2012 4:06 PM
To: Yale Faculty
Subject: Announcement: Yale Teaching Center and Provost's Teaching Initiative

Dear Faculty Colleagues,

I write to share two exciting new developments in the University's recognition and support of teaching. First, I have appointed Bill Rando to be the director of the new Yale Teaching Center. Many of you already know Bill as the very effective director of the Graduate Teaching Center for the past 14 years. Although his official role was in the Graduate School, many faculty from all over the University have sought him out as a teaching coach. For the past several years we have increasingly asked Bill to support faculty teaching initiatives, and he has been holding very popular sessions on teaching at our new faculty orientation every summer.

In his new official role, Bill will be working with the deans and with the Provost's Office of Faculty Development to strengthen our support for teaching, beginning with programs and awards for non-tenured faculty. In the coming months, you will receive updates on our expanded slate of teaching workshops, mentoring opportunities between tenured and non-tenured faculty, and more. The current schedule of faculty development activities, including teaching programs, is online at <http://provost.yale.edu/faculty-development/program-calendar>, and anyone wishing to schedule a confidential one-on-one teaching consultation with Bill may contact him at william.rando@yale.edu. I am delighted that Bill has agreed to take on this important new role, and I look forward to working with all of you in supporting outstanding teaching at Yale.

Second, I want to let you know that I am establishing a Provost's Teaching Initiative to recognize and support excellent teaching University-wide. Beginning this coming spring, I will present 10 faculty members with the Provost's Teaching Award: six non-tenured faculty members who teach Yale College undergraduates (supported by the Sokoloff Fund for Excellence and Innovation in Undergraduate Teaching) and four additional faculty members from any of the schools or units at Yale. To assist me in identifying the award winners, and also to help foster a community of faculty engaged with improving teaching on campus, I will appoint a faculty-led steering committee, based on recommendations from deans and department chairs. In addition to selecting the annual teaching award winners, the steering committee will, together with Bill Rando, help me develop the direction of the Provost's Teaching Initiative and contribute to teaching programs and resources.

We are fortunate that some of the world's greatest teachers are on the Yale faculty, and I welcome your thoughts as we think further about the ways we can foster a culture of teaching excellence at Yale.

With all best wishes,
Peter

Peter Salovey
Provost
Chris Argyris Professor of Psychology

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