

# Center for *Teaching Excellence*

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**SoTL Showcase Week 2009**

**Workshop on Community-based Learning**

**Wed, Sept. 30 at 7:45am**

**University Hall 3030**

**Facilitated by Dennis C. Jacobs, Ph.D.**

Vice President and Associate Provost for Undergraduate and International Studies  
Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Notre Dame

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## **“Taking it to the Streets: Chemistry in Service of the Community”**

Learning reaches new heights when students confront problems of significance in their own backyard. Lead poisoning can be particularly harmful to young children, and it most often strikes families in poverty. In conjunction with a chemistry laboratory course, Notre Dame students go out into the South Bend community to collect and analyze soil, dust, and water samples from homes where children have become lead poisoned. Guided by the principles of Catholic social tradition and community-based learning, students apply their laboratory skills to help create a healthier home environment for disadvantaged youth and work for positive change in an underserved community.

Dr. Jacobs has been an innovative leader in the scholarship of teaching and learning. He was a Carnegie Scholar in 1999-2000, with a project that investigated the benefits of cooperative learning activities for at-risk students. In 2002, CASE and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching named him the U.S. Professor of the Year Award for Doctoral and Research Universities. In his role as Vice President and Associate Provost, Dennis Jacobs oversees undergraduate studies at the University of Notre Dame. This includes developing initiatives that foster, recognize and reward effective teaching; enhancing Notre Dame's liberal arts curriculum; and expanding student participation in undergraduate research, global education, and service learning.

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Continental breakfast available from 7:30am in CTE

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