

Center for *Teaching Excellence*



SoTL Showcase Week 2009

Tue, Sept. 29 at 12:15pm

University Hall 3030

Keynote Speaker:

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

“Uniting the Heart and Mind: A Faculty Member’s Explorations in Teaching”

The university is a unique place where knowledge is generated, shared, learned and applied. The mission of a university demands that its faculty teach with genuine purpose and to great effect if it is to be a transformative environment where the mind is not cultivated at the expense of the heart. The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) invites all faculty members to consider their students’ learning as a subject of inquiry – appropriate for study, reflection and discourse. Dennis Jacobs will describe his own SoTL investigation uncovering the extent to which alternative pedagogical approaches in a large introductory science course impact student learning, attitudes, reflection and academic success.

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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