

TO: Members of the St. Lawrence University Faculty
FROM: Rhetoric and Communication Working Group (T. Fordham, K. Fuoss, R. Hill, S. Horwitz, J. Larsen, V. Lehr, K. Mooney, H. Oakes, S. Smith, C. Watts)
RE: Invitation to the Rhetoric and Communication Faculty Institute

We invite all continuing faculty to join us for the second annual **Rhetoric and Communication Faculty Institute** on **January 9, 10, and 11, 2006**. This institute will be a forum for expanding the conversations that have taken place since the May Faculty College and during the ongoing discussion of the RCLI white paper—conversations about the roles of writing, speaking, research, and technology in our university mission and in our classrooms. This time together offers faculty an opportunity to:

- (1) explore both theoretical implications and practical applications of an integrated approach to rhetoric and communication
- (2) build on that theory and practice by developing a new syllabus and new assignments for a Fall 2006 course
- (3) have students of their choice trained to work as peer mentors for that course.

As outlined in the white paper, the *Rhetoric, Communication, and 21st-Century Literacies Initiative* seeks to extend St. Lawrence's historic commitment to writing across the curriculum to include teaching oral communication and research—across the curriculum and over all four years—through an integrated set of informed and rhetorically sensitive literacies that include the use of technology. Faculty participants will outline learning goals and design integrated assignments for a particular course they will teach in Fall 2006.

To complement the faculty's work in the Institute, each participant will name a student mentor of their choice who will work with faculty throughout the spring semester to develop a syllabus and assignments for a Fall 2006 course. These student mentors will study the pedagogical issues involved with the RCLI curricular work in a required Spring 2006 course, *Rhetoric and Communication Theory and Practice for Peer Mentors*. This half-credit class will meet on Tuesdays from 2:20 to 3:50.

Participants in the January Institute must also attend **three follow-up workshops** during the spring semester, all of which will take place on the fourth Tuesday of the month (February 28, March 28, and April 25) as they plan their integrated course for Fall 2006.

Each participating faculty member will be provided with a \$1000 stipend and all reading materials. This stipend is for your commitment to revising and developing courses that address the rhetoric and communication work we expect to accomplish together in January and throughout the spring.

As you complete the enclosed application, we ask you to share with us your questions about this work; we will use your questions to frame discussion on the first day of the Institute. If you have questions, please contact Kim Mooney (kmooney@stlawu.edu). Any additional information will be posted to the CTL web site: www.stlawu.edu/ctl/rci.htm.

Application deadline: Monday, November 28, 2005.