

**TO:** Members of the St. Lawrence University Faculty  
**FROM:** [Rhetoric and Communication Initiative Working Group](#)  
and institute facilitators Traci Fordham-Hernandez and Hillory Oakes  
**RE:** Invitation to the 2007 January Rhetoric and Communication Faculty Institute

We invite all continuing faculty to join us for the third annual [Rhetoric and Communication Faculty Institute](#) on **January 3-5, 2007**. This institute will be a forum for continuing and expanding ongoing conversations regarding the roles of writing, speaking, research, and visual media in our university mission and in our classrooms. [The Rhetoric and Communication Initiative](#) (RCI) 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 digital media.

This time together offers faculty an opportunity to:

- (1) explore both theoretical implications and practical applications of an integrated approach to rhetoric and communication in our disciplinary courses and assignments
- (2) build on that theory and practice to enhance a syllabus and create new assignments for a Fall 2007 course
- (3) select students of their choice trained to work as peer mentors for that Fall course and
- (4) collaborate with creative facilitators and colleagues throughout the entire process.

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 2007 course. These student mentors will study the pedagogical issues involved with the RCI curricular work in a required Spring 2007 course, *Rhetoric and Communication Theory and Practice for Peer Mentors*. This half-credit class will meet on Tuesdays, 2:20-3:50 pm.

Participants in the January Institute must also attend **three follow-up workshops** during the spring semester, all of which will take place on the second Monday of the month (February 12, March 12, and April 9) as they plan their integrated course for Fall 2007.

**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 the spring meetings. For examples of innovative pedagogical projects that grew out of last year's RCI January Institute, please visit the [RCI Best Practices web site](#).

As you complete [the 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](mailto:kmooney@stlawu.edu)). Any additional information will be posted to the [RCI page](#) on the [CTL web site](#). **Application deadline: Friday, December 1, 2006.**