



MAKING TEACHING PUBLIC

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Overview of Program



In fall 2006, the Dean of the Faculty organized a series of meetings among interested faculty around the topic of becoming better teachers. The discussions from these meetings proved fruitful and have resulted in a new initiative that has become known as "Making Teaching Public" (MTP).

Several new programs are starting un-

der the banner of MTP, each a different approach to sharing what we do, talking about and investigating teaching and learning, and collaborating for innovation and improvement:

OPEN CLASSROOM DAY

As the name suggests, the idea behind the "open classroom day" is that participating faculty would open their classrooms to visitors, including faculty colleagues, community members, staff and others who would like to observe different teaching styles and techniques.

CRITICAL FRIENDS GROUPS

A Critical Friends Group is a professional learning community consisting of eight to twelve educators who come together voluntarily on a regular basis for the purpose of improving their practice through collaborative learning. Participants use protocols designed to focus their thinking about teaching and learning in four areas: learning from dilemmas, learning from students' and teachers' work, learning from texts, and learning from classroom observations.

TEACHING CIRCLES

Teaching Circles are similar to Critical Friends Groups in that they consist of small groups of six to ten faculty who make a commitment to work together to address questions and concerns centered on teaching and student learning. Participants select a theme to explore together through readings and discussion.

MTP Electronic Journal

The Electronic Journal includes a repository for extraordinary teaching materials, lessons, syllabi and assignments, a sourcebook for new ideas, proven rubrics, favorite activities, and ingenious heuristics.

