

The Center for Instructional Excellence presents  
A Faculty Club Luncheon



# **Dist-E, Public Dialogue & University Life**

With  
**Peggy Gerard, Academic Affairs**  
**David Detmer, Philosophy**

On occasion, universal e-mail postings at Purdue Calumet have stirred debate, controversy, and even objection to the conversation itself. One response is to curb any potentially disagreeable subject so as not to offend...another is to confine the discussion to self-selecting sites for like-minded participants...but what becomes of university life?

Is this a question of available technology and its use? Or do we begin with how issues of public concern can or should be aired in a university setting? What responsibility does an academic community have for engaging scholars and students in discussions regarding issues of national and international importance? What if those topics are controversial? Should students and faculty expect to witness contesting ideas or be concerned only with their own subject matter? Ivory tower? Engaged research? What becomes of the public sphere if challenging debate is tamped down or relocated away from open, unexpected exchange?

This Faculty Club Luncheon provides one site for faculty interested in reflecting on what, how, where, and why unsettling topics might be part of a university's culture.

Reservation for \$5 lunch is required!

**Monday, February 25**  
**12:30-2:00 PM**  
**Room with a View**  
**Student Union Library Building**



**\$5 Lunch with pre-registration required by Wednesday, February 20**  
**Email: [cie@calumet.purdue.edu](mailto:cie@calumet.purdue.edu) — Type "Feb 25" on Subject line**