ANNUAL ALL-FACULTY MEETING

Thursday, January 5th
10am to Noon
Meinig Recital Hall in the
Lorton Performance Center



LUNCH will be provided from Noon to 1pm in Graves Grand Hall



Following lunch,
Professor Immerwahr will host a

WORKSHOP ON GRADES AND GRADING:

WHADJAGET?

Mark Twain supposedly remarked about the weather that "Everyone talks about it but no one does anything about it." The situation is the opposite with grades. We all do it, but we rarely talk about it. When we do talk about grades, we focus mostly on *how* we should grade. In this interactive workshop we'll start with two other questions: *why* we grade and *what* we should grade. We'll use audience response devices (clickers) as one tool for starting our dialogue. The goal of the workshop is help the participants refine and clarify their own philosophy of grading.

With guest lecturer

Dr. John Immerwahr

Professor of Philosophy at Villanova University



MIND THE GAP:
Understanding &
Responding to
Disconnects in
Teaching & Learning

Our work as teachers becomes more challenging every year in part because of a widening gap between our own perceptions and expectations and the lived realities that our students bring to their college experience. In this session we will isolate and explore some of these disconnects and review some of the strategies we can use to manage (but not eliminate) them.

Some of the tensions we'll address are: our emphasis on learning vs. their focus on grades; our memories of our own college experience vs. the chaos of student lives today; our talk of merit and their talk of effort; our conception of excellence vs. what worked for them in high school; our sense of time vs. theirs; and the needs of male students vs. those of female students.



John Immerwahr is professor of philosophy at Villanova University and Senior Research Fellow at the Public Agenda. At Villanova University he served as Associate Vice President for Academic

Affairs from 1996 to 2007 and prior to that was chair of the Philosophy Department. He is the founder and director of <u>TeachPhilosophy101.org</u>, a website featuring resources for philosophy professors. His publications in philosophy primarily focus on 18th Century Philosophy (especially the work of David Hume) and he has also written a number of articles on teaching philosophy.