

Speakers for the 2011 Workshop for Senior Administrators
Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama
October 20-21



Paul H. Benson, Ph.D. is dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and professor of philosophy at the University of Dayton (UD). Benson received his B.A., *summa cum laude*, in philosophy from St. Olaf College in 1979 and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa in 1978. He was awarded a four-year Danforth Graduate Fellowship and a one-year Whiting Foundation Dissertation Fellowship to pursue doctoral work at Princeton, where he received his Ph.D. in philosophy in 1984. Prior to his appointment at

UD, Benson served on the faculty at the University of Vermont and Virginia Tech. Benson specializes in ethics, moral psychology, social philosophy, and action theory. He has published many widely cited papers and book chapters concerning free agency, personal autonomy, moral responsibility, and psychological oppression. Now in his fifth year as dean at UD, Benson formerly served as associate dean for integrated learning and curriculum, chair of the Department of Philosophy, director of the University's integrated humanities Core Program and assessment coordinator for the Humanities Base Program. He led the faculty team that developed the philosophical framework for UD's new Common Academic Program, served on the Academic Senate during the development and review of the curricular structure for the program, and now oversees the College of Arts and Sciences' implementation of the program. He has taken three faculty teams to AAC&U summer institutes since 2005 and has made presentations on general education reform to many conferences and faculty workshops. Benson has also helped to design and facilitate UD's hiring-for-mission retreats and a mandatory mission-based retreat for second-year, tenure-track faculty members.

Mary Strey, Ph.D. is the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty at Central College in Pella, Iowa and Professor of Chemistry and Biology. She received her B.A., *magna cum laude*, in biochemistry and romance languages from Bowdoin College in 1983 and her Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Dartmouth in 1988. Her N.I.H postdoctoral fellowship was in molecular neurobiology at University of Washington in Seattle. She has served as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Gustavus



Adolphus College (2007-2009), Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at University of Dayton (2004-2007), and Associate Dean of the College at College of the Holy Cross where she was also a faculty member from 1991-2004. Throughout her 20 years at church-related colleges and universities, she has been involved in review and reform of general education courses and programs with explicit links to the mission of each institution and has served as a consultant for general education program review. In addition, she has collaborated with faculty colleagues in shared academic strategic planning at two institutions with a focus on the integration of mission and curricular goals. Strey is a past member of the LFP National Network Board and a member of the Board for the Wabash Center for Inquiry in the Liberal Arts.