Since it was established in 1978, the Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute has become

the most intensive and sustained collaboration among Yale faculty members and public school teachers,

the premier partnership between Yale University and the New Haven Public Schools,

the first such university-school partnership to be permanently endowed as a unit of a university,

and a widely recognized model of high quality teacher professional development.
THE TEACHERS INSTITUTE APPROACH

Collegiality

Academic preparation

Classroom application

K-12

YALE NATIONAL INITIATIVE
to strengthen teaching in public schools
Basics of the TI Approach

• Professional development seminars focused on academic content, led by top college and university scholars. Seminars open only to public school teachers teaching disadvantaged students.

• Teacher Representatives canvass their colleagues for stimulating topics to upgrade their content knowledge. The Institute recruits faculty to lead seminars on those teacher-driven topics.

• Teachers write and teach curriculum units designed to meet district standards that adapt the seminar themes for their students.
CLASSROOM APPLICATION

Each participating teacher writes a curriculum unit.

- Units are published in print and online.
- During 2005, the Teachers Institute Web site received 7,012,000 hits from more than 1,000,000 visitors.
Elements of the Curriculum Unit

- Overview
- Rationale
- Objectives
- Strategies
- Classroom Activities/Lesson Plans
- Annotated Bibliography/Resources
- Appendix/Standards
Curriculums in Action!
Physics and the Arts
The Laws of Motion in Dance
A Collaborative Project created by Shaw Middle Students with Artist Betty Leecraft
The No Child Left Behind Act brought fresh attention to the fundamental importance of teacher quality.

The entire bipartisan Connecticut delegation in both Houses introduced a bill to establish Institutes across the country.
The Institute approach can be rapidly established in other cities.

The approach significantly strengthens teachers in all five of the major dimensions of teacher quality:

- Teachers who really know their subjects;
- Teachers with good basic writing, math, and oral presentation skills;
- Teachers with high expectations of their students;
- Teachers who are enthusiastic about teaching; and
- Teachers who can motivate all students to learn.
The Yale National Initiative to strengthen teaching in public schools is a long-term endeavor to establish Teachers Institutes in cities in states around the country.
PARTICIPATING CITIES

League of Teachers Institutes
- New Haven
- Houston
- Pittsburgh
- Philadelphia

Exploring or Planning Institutes
- Atlanta
- Charlotte
- Santa Fe
- Wilmington
- Chicago
- San Francisco
July National Seminars at Yale
The long-term strategy is to establish an exemplary Teachers Institute in a visible location in most states.
Selected Recognition

"pioneering and nationally significant program with an exemplary approach"

"enormously important... leading the way to improve teaching and education"
Ernest L. Boyer, President of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching (1990)

"illustrates the best hope of the education reform movement"
Robert H. Atwell, President of the American Council on Education (1992)

"the first and foremost of its kind"
Sheldon Hackney, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities (1995)

"beacon of hope for what is possible"

"a remarkably effective, enduring example of such collaboration"