



News of the Center

Sheridan Center welcomes new Associate Director for the Life and Physical Sciences

It is with great pleasure that we welcome Kathy M. Takayama, Ph. D. to the Sheridan Center as Associate Director for the Life and Physical Sciences. After a careful search involving members of the University senior administration, faculty Advisory Board, Center Faculty Fellows, graduate students and staff, the Center was delighted to have Dr. Takayama accept its offer to join the Center and the University community.

Dr. Takayama holds a B.S. in Biology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. She was an NIH Postdoctoral Fellow from 1991-1993 in the Department of Biochemistry at the University of Madison-Wisconsin.

In 1994 Dr. Takayama joined the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia, where she continued her research in the regulation of bacterial RNA processing, and was appointed to the faculty as a Senior Lecturer (tenured) in the School of Biotechnology and Biomolecular Sciences. In addition to her work on RNA regulation, she has engaged in cross-disciplinary research on the impact of visualizations on learning in the sciences and has published several papers and a book chapter on this work.

Dr. Takayama has been awarded the UNSW Vice Chancellor's Award for Teaching Excellence, the Australian College of Educators New South Wales Quality Teaching Award, and the Australian Society for Microbiology David White Award for Excellence in Teaching. In 2003, she was selected by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as the first Carnegie Scholar from Australasia. She is a founding member of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL) and served as ISSOTL's first Regional VP for Australasia, and Chair of the 4th ISSOTL Conference in Sydney. After 13 years in Australia, she will move back to the US in August to join the Sheridan Center. In addition to her work in the scholarship of teaching and learning, Kathy has been extensively involved in outreach projects for elementary schools and museums, and has mentored underprivileged children in the sciences.

The Sheridan Center will host an Open House in September to give all members of the University community a chance to come and meet Dr. Takayama. We hope that you will help us welcome her to Brown.