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Dr Francois Cilliers is the Deputy Director at the Centre for Teaching and Learning of STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY. Dr Cilliers previously worked as a senior advisor at the Centre, but was later seconded to the Health Sciences Faculty, where he lectured from 1992 to 2000. He obtained an MPhil in Higher Education in 2001 and further distinguished himself in the field of teaching and learning by receiving the Rector's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1997.



Enabling transitions:

How a centre for teaching and learning enhances teaching quality at a research-led university

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This paper highlights the role that the Centre for Teaching and Learning plays in enhancing individual practice, departmental approaches to teaching and the teaching culture at Stellenbosch University, a research-led university.

Our Centre undertakes three types of activity aimed at achieving individual and institutional outcomes. These are: providing growth opportunities for academics; enhancing departmental and institutional regard and reward for teaching; and creating an enabling environment. We also seek to understand how academics grow as educationalists, and factors that facilitate and hinder growth and good practice. Individual academics follow a trajectory along a continuum of growth in teaching practice and achievement that ultimately results in both contributions to the scholarship of teaching and learning and providing leadership in the teaching arena. Thus with a clear strategy and initiatives targeted at individual and institutional level, a centre for teaching and learning can identify, promote and reward good teaching practice.