Breakout Group Session #1C: How to Create Inclusive Teaching/Learning Environments Both In and Out of the Classroom

**Facilitator:** Jean Wu, Senior Lecturer, American Studies Program and Tufts University Program and Education Director, AS&E Office of Diversity Education and Development

**Location:** Braker Hall 225

Increasingly, differences in race, class, sex, sexuality, religion, and nationality of students and faculty intersect to form complex diversities in the academy that both engage and challenge us as teachers, advisors, and mentors. For example, a record number of undergraduate students receiving Pell grants* were admitted this past fall, compelling us to re-consider socioeconomic issues in the classroom as well as the overall class climate of the academic community. International and transnational students continue to challenge how we address cultural and linguistic differences in our pedagogy, as well as some of our educational goals and methods. Inequalities in academic experiences based on racial differences remain one of most important issues at all levels of education. Employing case studies, this session will examine methods by which we create learning environments that constructively engage differences in the academy and build level playing fields for all learners. In the course of the discussion, participants will identify three top priorities in the area of creating inclusive learning environments at Tufts to be reported back to the conference plenary with next steps to be taken.

*Federal grant program in which awards are based on need and given to families whose incomes are less than $40,000 a year.