

Reinert Center for Transformative Teaching & Learning

This report provides a snapshot of activities and accomplishments in the Paul C. Reinert, S.J. Center for Transformative Teaching & Learning at Saint Louis University for **January-February, 2017**.

Programming & Services Overview

The spring term kicked off with our annual Winter Institute and latest call for Applications for the Innovative Teaching Fellowship. Additionally, we continued developing resources and programing for our focus on inclusive teaching.

Reinert Center— By the Numbers

- 6 Workshops/Panels**
- 3 Small Group Instructional Feedback Sessions**
- 8 Posts to The Notebook (blog)**
- 3 ITF Information sessions in the Learning Studio**
- 1 Grant Funded**

Bringing Theory to Practice Grant

The Reinert Center received a Campus Dialogue Grant from Bringing Theory to Practice, an organization associated with the Association of American Colleges and Universities. The grant will be facilitated by Debie Lohe and Gina Merys and will bring together 10 faculty and administrators to explore the questions, *What would it look like if all formal learning experiences at SLU were intentionally designed for inclusion?* and *What would it take to get there?* The grant will result in a set of recommendations to be delivered to the Provost.

The Graphic Syllabus Mini-Workshop

In this one-hour workshop, led by Debie Lohe in the Reinert Center, participants explored ways that visual representations of key aspects of a course might be used to deepen student learning and engagement.

Winter Institute 2017

On January 12, we hosted our annual day-long Winter Institute, which drew 66 faculty and graduate student attendees. This year's event focused on *Creating Inclusive Learning Environments*. The morning featured Dr. Peggy Brickman from the University of Georgia. Dr. Brickman began with a keynote, *Are Students Right to Perceive Group Work is a Waste of Their Time? Evidence That All Students Learn Better When They Collaborate*. After the keynote, Dr. Brickman facilitated a highly interactive workshop on *Designing Collaboration to Ensure Equity*. Following lunch, concurrent sessions were led by SLU faculty members. Sessions and facilitators were:

Concurrent Sessions:

- ◆ *Art and Science of Building Student Readiness for Collaboration:*
Tony Breitbart (Physical Therapy and Athletic Training) and **Kathrin Eliot** (Nutrition and Dietetics)
- ◆ *Managing Politically-Sensitive Topics and Discussions in the Classroom:*
Tony DeCesare (Education), **Elizabeth Embry** (Global Health), and **Amber Johnson** (Communication)
- ◆ *Using Classroom Response Systems to Create Inclusive Learning Environments:*
Benjamin DeFoy (Earth and Atmospheric Sciences), and **Blythe Janowiak** (Biology)

Announcing Our Newest Innovative Teaching Fellow

In January, we opened the spring Call for Applications for the Innovative Teaching Fellowship (ITF). Faculty from a wide range of disciplines attended a pre-application information session.

In early February, two faculty members were selected to (re)design and teach courses in the Learning Studio. One fellow has deferred until the next academic year. Therefore, one new Innovative Teaching Fellow will join the Center next fall.

Congratulations to Pascale Perraudin in Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. Dr. Perraudin will re-design FREN 4180, French and International Relations, in fall 2017 and teach the course in the Learning Studio in spring 2018.