

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 **May - June, 2017.***

Programming & Services Overview

The Reinert Center team closed out the academic year with the annual Spring Certificate Ceremony and the summer Online Teaching and Learning Institute. In June, we kicked off the third cohort of the Culturally Responsive Teaching Academy. Team members also attended the annual Teaching Professor conference, which was held in St. Louis this year, and participated in the Diversity Awareness Partnership's Diversity Summit, which was held at SLU.

Spring 2017 Certificate Ceremony

On May 5, the Reinert Center awarded a record number of certificates for a single semester, with 13 Foundations Certificate and 27 Certificates in University Teaching Skills. Adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Dr. Chad Huddleston, began the ceremony by sharing a reflection on teaching with the recipients, friends, and family in attendance. The reflection was followed by the awarding of the certificates and a short reception.

A full list of awardees, as well as the audio recording of Dr. Huddleston's reflection, is available on the Reinert Center blog, <http://www.slu.edu/blogs/ctl/2017/05/10/congratulations-spring-2017-certificate-recipients/>.



Photo of certificate recipients and their mentors at the May 5 Certificate Ceremony.

Online Teaching & Learning Institute

In May the Reinert Center held our annual 3-day Online Teaching and Learning Institute, which features participant-driven workshops and conversations about creating collaborative learning environments online, online learning theory, and authentic and traditional assessment methods. This institute is designed for faculty who have little-to-no experience teaching in the online format, and who are preparing to teach this summer or the upcoming academic year. In each OTLI session, we aim to create a group of faculty who represent a cross-section of different departments, schools and programs at SLU so as to foster an interdisciplinary cohort interested in exploring effective practices and pedagogy for teaching online. Each group is kept small to maintain individualized attention, with this year's cohort including seven faculty from seven different departments across the university. Additional information about OTLI can be found here: <https://www.slu.edu/ctl/programs-and-services/institutes-and-academies>.

Culturally Responsive Teaching Institute

The newest cohort of the Culturally Responsive Teaching Academy (CRTA) kicked off their year of programming with the 4-day Culturally Responsive Teaching Institute (CRTI), June 12 -15. The CRTA is an intensive instructional development experience for SLU faculty and graduate students who teach INTO Pathway courses and other courses with high concentrations of international students enrolled. The Institute is the first activity of the year-long experience, in which participants engage in highly interactive sessions and sustained individual work time. Topics covered include: cultural differences in higher education, course design, the cultural situatedness of core learning activities, and more. This cohort, which will continue to meet throughout the 2017-2018 academic year, includes sixteen faculty (full- and part-time) and graduate students from a broad range of disciplines across the University. Additional information about the CRTA program can be found here: <https://www.slu.edu/ctl/programs-and-services/institutes-and-academies>.