**Department Chair Approval Form**

**<\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_>** has applied for a Reinert Center ***Try It!*** Mini-Grant for summer 2016.

[Insert name of faculty member above]

**Background**

The purpose of the *Try It!* Summer Mini-Grants is to encourage thoughtful, intentional experimentation with one new pedagogical strategy or tool. In supporting these experiments, the Reinert Center aims to support faculty members’ development as teacher-scholars by promoting innovative thinking about and approaches to teaching, learning, and student engagement.

Successful applicants will receive up to $1,000 toward projects that support student learning and engagement. Awardees will be expected to: **1)** spend awarded funds as proposed through the Reinert Center; **2)** collaborate with Center staff to determine effective, evidence-based strategies for incorporating and assessing the effects of trying their new tool or strategy; **3)** measure the effects of the experiment in some way; **4)** submit a brief report of work done at the end of the summer and at the end of the teaching semester(s); and **5)** share the broad lessons they learn with the broader community.

SLU faculty who hold teaching appointments in any department of the University and who will be continuing in their faculty positions for the 2016-2017 academic year are invited to apply. Although most proposals are submitted by individuals, inter- or intra-disciplinary projects that involve two or more faculty members also are encouraged. In such cases, supporting materials should include a statement specifying whether the applicants are requesting one grant split between them or multiple, parallel grants. In either case, joint proposals will be judged by the same criteria as individual ones.

**Grant Period**

The grant award period is summer 2016, with the new tool or strategy being implemented in a class taught in late-summer or fall 2016 and/or spring 2017. Grant purchases must be made and received by the Reinert Center no later than June 30, 2016. Consultations with Reinert Center staff may continue throughout the summer and into the academic year as needed.

**Statement of Support**

I support **<\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_>** application for a 2016 ***Try it!*** Summer Mini-Grant.

 [Insert name of faculty member above]

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| Signature of Department Chair / Program Director  | Date |

**Please return completed form to Mary Cook in the Reinert Center no later than Monday, May 16, 2016, at 5 p.m. (CT), either electronically at** mcook25@slu.edu **or in hard copy to the Reinert Center in Pius Library, 2nd floor.**