This report provides a snapshot of activities and accomplishments in the Paul C. Reinert, S.J. Center for Transformative Teaching and Learning at Saint Louis University for September-October 2013.

Programming & Services Overview
The heart of the fall semester is always a busy time for Center staff. This year was no exception: we kicked off the newly-revised Certificate in University Teaching Skills (CUTS) program requirements and added new CUTS programming (including the Teaching with Technology Forums described below and a new reading group for CUTS participants; we heard from more than 500 students in mid-semester focus groups; we contributed to UMSL’s regional Focus on Teaching & Technology Conference, and facilitated workshops and conversations on teaching for several different departments and schools/colleges.

CTTL — By the Numbers
19 SGIFs (16 faculty/instructors, 565 students)
7 Effective Teaching Seminars
2 Madrid Effective Teaching Seminars
4 ITF Pre-Application Workshops (21 faculty)
2 Book Club Conversations (10 attendees)
5 Other Workshops and Facilitated Dialogues (78 attendees)

Focus on Teaching & Technology Conference
The Reinert Center's Michaella Thornton participated in the Focus on Teaching & Technology Conference at UMSL on October 24-25, 2013. Kella served on the conference's program planning committee and volunteered as a session convener. Former Faculty Fellows Mike Lewis (chemistry) and Shawn Nordell (biology) also presented at the conference, as well as Jillian Baldwin-Kim, who teaches part-time in SLU’s English as a Second Language program.

Teaching With Technology Forums
This fall, the Center hosted a new series of interactive workshops entitled, “Teaching with Technology Forums.” These one-hour, hands-on workshops are designed for faculty and graduate students; each focuses on one teaching strategy and specific technologies that might support it. The first, "Creating Visual Content: Using Online Tools for Educational Purposes," facilitated by instructional designer Chris Grabau, showed attendees how to use free online tools to create infographics in support of visual learners. The second, "Down the Rabbit Hole of Discovery: Online Curation as a Teaching Strategy," facilitated by Assistant Director Michaella Thornton, aimed to help attendees identify what online curation is, how it can help students, and how to use online curation tools to engage students in active and higher-order levels of learning. A third and final fall session will focus on using PowerPoint to support active learning.

Applied Creative Thinking Workshop
On October 10, Dr. Russell Carpenter, director of the Noel Studio for Academic Creativity at Eastern Kentucky University, gave a workshop on Applied Creative Thinking: Innovative Approaches for Teaching and Learning. This interactive workshop introduced the idea of applied creative thinking while distilling research on creativity and on the question of whether creative thinking can be taught. Participants were prompted to consider the place of creativity in their own disciplines and were introduced to activities to promote creative thinking for students. The workshop featured hands-on "play" time for participants to experience some of these strategies in action. A total of 48 faculty, staff, & graduate students attended.

From the Learning Studio
In October we conducted another Call for Applications for our Innovative Teaching Fellowship (ITF). We had a number of very strong candidates, and we awarded three fellowships for the upcoming year:

Douglas Boin, History
Kim Druschel, Math & Computer Science
Leslie Hinyard, SLUCOR

These faculty members will work closely with an Instructional Designer to (re)design a course in Spring 2014, teaching the course in our Learning Studio during Fall 2014.