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, 2015.

Programming & Services Overview
The new year has continued the high pace of activity we started in the fall. The annual Winter Institute kicked off the spring term by asking faculty participants to consider the multiple formats in which we teach our students. Additionally, we are piloting a new series of mini-workshops to support graduate students and faculty (especially those new to teaching) in honing foundational skills for instruction, Teaching Essentials. We opened the call for Innovative Teaching Fellowship applications, conducted several workshops, and February marked the start of mid-semester focus group sessions.

Reinert Center—By the Numbers
7 Workshops/Seminars at SLU
3 Invited Conversations/Presentations
6 Small Group Instructional Feedback Sessions
8 Posts to The Notebook (2 faculty contributors)
3 ITF Information sessions in the Learning Studio

From the Learning Studio
The call for applications for the Innovative Teaching Fellowships went out January 16, and this semester, we continued the practice of requiring attendance at one of our three information sessions, which are designed to give potential applicants an opportunity to learn more about what is possible in the Learning Studio. Center staff conducted multiple pre-application consultations with faculty who were interested in applying for a fellowship. New Innovative Teaching Fellows will be announced in March.

2015 Winter Institute: Teaching Today’s Students in Multiple Formats
76 faculty and graduate students attended our annual Winter Institute, which this year focused on different formats that courses can take. The day-long institute was framed by a short keynote and Q&A session in the morning entitled, "Lessons from the Online Classroom, for Every Classroom," by Dr. Rita-Marie Conrad. The keynote was followed by multiple break-out sessions, lunch, a second round of break-outs, and a workshop from Dr. Conrad on engaging today’s students in multiple ways. The breakout sessions focused on a range of course formats:

Teaching Accelerated Courses
with Heather Bednarek, Craig Boyd, Steven Howard

Teaching Flipped Courses
with Elena Bray Speth and Mike Lewis

Teaching Online and Blended Courses
with Tony Breitbach and Karen Myers

Teaching Co-taught Courses
with Dan Haybron, Sherry Muir, Charlotte Royeen

Teaching Essentials Series
The Center is piloting a new mini-workshop series this semester. Each workshop in this series will present a fundamental teaching strategy or technique that could be in any teacher’s toolbox. After a brief introduction about the why's and how's of the teaching strategy, participants will draft a lesson plan, assignment, or project that will put the tool to work immediately. This series is especially beneficial for those who are new to teaching or who want to refresh their teaching essentials.

The first, Using Concept Mapping to Learn Key Concepts, took place on February 16. Two more are coming up:

Cooperative Learning: Jigsaw Classroom (March 23)

Discussion as Active Learning (April 13)

For more information and to register, visit our events page at http://slu.edu/cttl/events.

Dr. Conrad during her interactive workshop