“FACET advocates pedagogical innovation....”
excerpt from FACET Mission

From the desk of Robin

The FACET Retreat Planning Committee, chaired by Neovi Karakatsanis ('03), began meeting in November to determine the theme for our upcoming retreat. I am pleased to announce that the theme for the 2012 FACET Retreat will be Learning: Tradition to Transformation. This theme emphasizes that excellent teaching incorporates a focus on student learning and continued faculty learning. Our FACET retreats have consistently helped faculty rejuvenate, enhance their own learning, and revitalize their interactions with students. This theme also emphasizes our focus on best practices in teaching and learning, our willingness to take risks in creating a learning environment, and the changes confronting higher education over the next few years. Learning occurs in traditional classrooms, hybrid classrooms, and in online environments. Learning also occurs during one-on-one interactions we have with our students, internship experiences, and study abroad courses. Maintaining the most effective techniques that we currently use while moving forward with new ideas and new learning environments is a challenge for all university faculty. A call for proposals will be forthcoming; we hope each of you will consider submitting a proposal. I look forward to seeing you at Pokagon State Park in May for the Retreat.

Teaching Innovations

Last month, Don Coffin ('90) shared a fascinating article from The New Yorker on the FACET listserv. The article (http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2011/10/03/111003fa_fact_gawande), written by Atul Gawande, focused on the use of coaches for improving performance not just for athletes and singers but also for professionals in many areas, including professors. As typical with Don's posts, this posting generated discussion and excitement. One of the outcomes of this discussion was the generation of a task force for exploring how FACET might best be able to capitalize on this idea by developing our own FACET coaches utilizing our retired and soon-to-be retired FACET members. The task force, composed of a combination of retired (Millard Dunn, '90), soon-to-be retired (Melinda Swenson, '98), and not-there-yet (T.J. Rivard, '94) have already met and begun work on developing a proposal. If you have ideas that you would like to share with the task force or if you would like to join this group in helping to shape this proposal, please contact the FACET office.

Check out: Faculty Focus for interesting short articles on teaching topics. You might find the following particularly interesting:

- The 5 Rs of Engaging Millenial Students (http://www.facultyfocus.com/articles/teaching-and-learning/the-five-rs-of-engaging-millennial-students/)

Campus Updates

On Wednesday January 4th, IU Kokomo FACET and the IU Kokomo CTLA are bringing to campus the nationally known speaker in faculty professional development and author of Learner-Centered Teaching: Five Key Changes to Practice, Dr. Maryellen Weimer. Please contact Julie Saam (jsaam@iuk.edu) for more details.

IU Southeast Annual Spring Teaching Symposium is scheduled for Friday, January 27th. Please contact Katy Wigley (kwigley@ius.edu) at the ILTE for more details.

FACET Campus Visit to IPFW - February 10th. Details forthcoming.

E.C. Moore Symposium will be held on March 2, 2012 at the IUPUI campus and is open to everyone. For more information: http://ctl.iupui.edu/ecmoore/.

The 2012 Annual Midwest Regional Conference on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning on the IU South Bend campus will be held in April 2012. Please check back for more details.

Planning Ahead:

2012 Retreat: May 18-20 at Potawatomi Inn in Angola, IN

2013 Retreat: May 17-19 at French Lick Resort in French Lick, IN

Please keep the FACET office abreast of FACET and SoTL related activities on your campus so that we might schedule our 2011-2012 campus visits accordingly and offer our support.