As we begin a new year, I'd like to take the opportunity to review major FACET initiatives over the past year. In November, we saw the rebirth of our Leadership Institute with campus teams focused on developing, implementing, and assessing projects relating to high impact practices. This focus on high impact practices aligns well with one of the Blueprint initiatives, emphasizing our goal of making FACET an essential component of the university. Beth Kern began as our new Associate Director of FACET for the Mack Center; she offered a very successful SoTL 101 workshop and is working with several applicants for the Mack Fellows program. JoSoTL continues to grow; and we launched our newest journal, JoTTLT. Finally, we have completed our Peer Review procedures and will be offering our first Peer Review training session in April. However, there is still much to accomplish. I would like to see FACET take a more active role in advocating for teaching excellence, especially in documenting teaching excellence and in advocating for greater recognition of teaching excellence in determining annual raises. I would also like to see FACET work more closely across campuses and with teaching and learning centers. We have already taken steps to increase the connections between campus teaching and learning centers and FACET. These collaborations can only make us stronger. I would also like to encourage each of you to share with me your ideas about making FACET more effective.

As Robin so eloquently noted in her column, FACET has seen some tremendous growth and renewal of programs in the past several years. We have expanded one journal, launched another, reinvigorated the Leadership Institute, had record attendance at various events, increased our level of collaboration with other units across the IU system, and sought out new ways for FACET to play a role in guiding the teaching and learning mission of the university. With all this growth, FACET has also been confined and limited by the current fiscal situation. FACET was, and is an innovation in the support of teaching and learning. Never before has FACET had to rely on our foundation accounts as we do now - this is one of many issues in our changing terrain of higher education.

The FACET staff and those holding leadership positions in FACET (liaisons and steering committee members) have all been asked to give in support our FACET programming initiatives. I am pleased to report that 100% of the staff has contributed and participation numbers from the FACET leadership will be available in January. In 2013, this request will also be made to our membership at large. We all have varying levels of giving ability but please consider this...if each of our 500+ members gave $5/month, FACET will have an additional $30,000/year to support programs, travel to teaching/learning conferences, travel for peer reviewers, and to provide additional programming funds to each of our campuses. When the request makes its way to your inbox please consider what role you and your gift will play in the level of innovation FACET can reach in the future.

by Kimberly Olivares
Asst. Dir. of FACET for Strategic Outreach

IUS Teaching Symposium: IUS - UC 127 on January 25, 2013 from 8:30AM - 1PM. Contact the web-ilte@ius.edu for more details.

Global Learning and Teaching Institute: IUPUI Campus Center on March 1, 2013 from 8:00AM - 4:30PM. This event is a joint venture with Center for the Study of Global Change. Register at: www.indiana.edu/-global/teachingandlearning/

EC Moore Symposium: April 4, 2013 at the IUPUI Campus Center. This annual event is open to ALL IU campuses and we encourage you to attend. Registration link will be forthcoming.

Peer Review Training: April 5, 2013 at IUPUI, UL 1126 from 8:30 - 12:00PM. More details and registration links will be forthcoming from the Statewide FACET office.

IUSB SoTL Conference: April 26, 2013 on the South Bend Campus. Registration information will be sent as the date approaches.

Planning Ahead:

2013 Retreat: May 17-19 at French Lick Resort in French Lick, IN
2014 Retreat: May 16-18 at Sheraton City Centre in Indianapolis, IN

Please keep the FACET office abreast of FACET and SoTL related activities on your campus so that we might aid in advertising the events.

Would you like to have your FACET sponsored or teaching related event highlighted on the FACET calendar? Please send requests to the FACET office at facet@iu.edu. The calendar can be viewed here: https://facet.indiana.edu/events-programs/index.shtml