From the desk of Robin

The start of a new year routinely brings us the opportunity to reflect on the past and to consider new approaches. As of January 1st, I have been re-appointed to a second term as FACET Director, serving until June 30th, 2017. I appreciate the support I have received from FACET members, the FACET staff, and the many FACET supporters both within IU and across the country who are involved with our two journals. FACET has been very active during my first term; with that activity has come greater responsibility to represent, and to advocate for, teaching excellence in decision-making across the university. FACET members are well respected by university administration. I have seen over the past three years that the voices of FACET members can have significant influence. Over the next three years, I would like to see us work toward increasing the voice of FACET on all matters relating to teaching excellence. Obviously, this means we will continue to work with our centers for teaching and learning on each campus. However, I would also like to re-capture the passion of our more than 500 FACET members in addressing teaching initiatives. Each FACET member willingly devoted a great deal of effort in applying to FACET; identifying what we need to do as an organization to re-energize our inactive colleagues is critical to FACET’s future vitality. Finally, over the next three years FACET will be reaching out to non-FACET members to attend our events, bring us their concerns about teaching, and – at some point – to consider joining FACET, submitting an article to one of our journals, or simply finding out more about how FACET operates. As we move forward, please feel free to contact the FACET office with your suggestions.

Retreat Updates

Planning is moving steadily forward for next spring’s FACET retreat. As many of you know, this year’s retreat will be held in Indianapolis, in the Sheraton Indianapolis City Centre located on Monument Circle. Also note that this spring’s retreat will be a bit shorter than usual. We will begin at 2:00 PM on Friday, May 16th. The formal programs will end on Saturday afternoon, after the Annual P.A. Mack Distinguished Service to Teaching lecture given by the 2013 P.A. Mack Award winner, Carol Hostetter (FACET ‘03).

The biggest news is this year’s working theme: REnewal, REtool, REflect, REinvigorate. In keeping with this theme, we are working on a program to be dominated by recently inducted FACET members. We have reached out to the classes of 2011, 2012, and 2013, and the response has been outstanding! We are still working on the details, but we will have activities ranging from “quick hits” style presentations to longer workshops. As always, our presenters will engage and excite us just as they do their students. For the first time, in FACET’s history, we are opening the Saturday portion of the Retreat to all IU faculty. This allows FACET and its members to reiterate its service mission, providing a glimpse of what our members are doing in the arena of excellence of teaching and learning to the entire IU population.

Other News:

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