

# Reinert Center In Review



March – October 2020

Spring through Fall 2020 at the Reinert Center has paralleled much of the shifts and changes we have seen at the University, in our community, and in our country and the wider world.

In January 2020, the Center's director, Debra Lohe, moved into the role of interim vice president of student development, and the Center's associate director, Gina Merys, added the role of acting director to her duties in order to temporarily fill the gap. We hosted two of our annual, signature events, the Winter Institute (January) and the Ignatian Pedagogy Institute (March).

Even as we discussed ways to incorporate discernment and critical thinking practices into courses on that first day of spring break, the Reinert Center staff were already preparing resources for an emergency move to a remote teaching and learning format. We created the [Instructional Continuity](#) page as a space to collect these resources on our website so that faculty could easily access what they needed as they moved into this new teaching situation. We scheduled additional offerings of the [Introduction to Online Teaching seminar](#), created an accelerated version of that seminar, and then scheduled even more of those seminars throughout the summer months serving an unprecedented number of instructors. We quickly learned how to create and facilitate webinars over Zoom, and recreated in-person programming such as discussions and workshops as remote synchronous and asynchronous events.

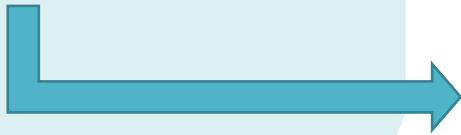
Before we knew it, the fall semester began. We kicked off Certificate in University Teaching Skills programming, with the naming of the main certificate in that program, the *Principles in University Teaching Skills certificate*, as well as asynchronous versions of the Praxis workshops and remote, synchronous Teaching Essentials workshops. We created remote versions of all of our signature services, including teaching observations and small group instructional feedback sessions. Additionally, we continued creating resources and programming for our theme of Community, including anti-racist pedagogy resources.

Most importantly, we have continued and will continue to serve all of the instructors at Saint Louis University in St. Louis and Madrid. Even though we are not in our office in Pius library, we are available to talk to individuals and groups as we have always been.

# Services

## Consultations

The Reinert Center conducted **159** consultations between mid-March and the end of October.



100% rated their consultation as **Excellent (87%)** or **Good (13%)**

Q: Which aspects of this consultation did you find to be the most beneficial?

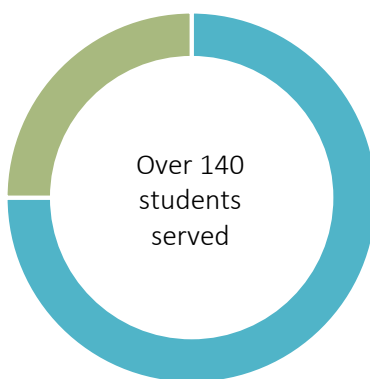
A: "The encouragement to go for it... the faith that it would work!"

A: "[staff member] provided a different perspective related to the delivery of the teaching method . They provided me with specific examples."



## Small Group Instructional Feedback (SGIF) sessions\*

Fall SGIFs



■ Faculty Instructors ■ Graduate Instructors

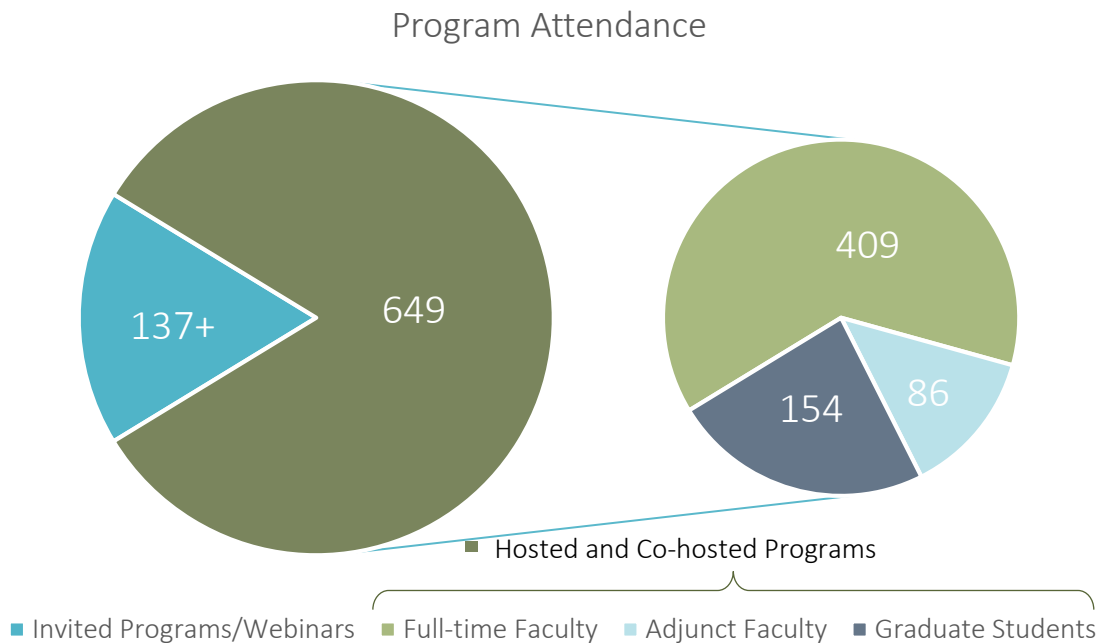
\* SGIF offerings were restricted to Asynchronous only this semester. Also, Spring 2020 SGIFs were cancelled once the pandemic set in.

## Teaching Observations\*\*



\*\* Due to the limited options of doing remote observations of teaching, the Reinert Center staff is only offering classroom-based observations via Zoom. We are also conducting a hybrid observation/consultations for fully online, asynchronous classes.

# Programs



## Programmatic Highlights

### Introduction to Online Teaching

In 2018, the Reinert Center began offering the Introduction to Online Teaching, a fully-online seminar that provides a pedagogical foundation for Saint Louis University faculty who are new to the online teaching environment. Between 2018 and early 2020, we were averaging 1-2 offerings per semester. In mid-March 2020, when the University closed campus and moved all courses to a remote format, the Reinert Center understood that faculty needed this seminar to be available to them in an unprecedented way.

#### Introduction to Online Teaching By the Numbers:

12	Seminars Offered between March 2018 – February 2020 (pre-pandemic)
107	Total Completions March 2018 – February 2020 (pre-pandemic)
28	Seminars Offered between March 2020 – October 2020
496	Total Completions March – October 2020

## Webinars

To fill the need of offering programs without being on campus, the Reinert Center started developing several webinars. Most webinars were recorded for faculty to view at their convenience. Topics included:

- Fall 2020 Teaching Formats
- Fall 2020 Teaching Formats - Designing and Teaching A/B Hybrid Courses
- Teaching Synchronous Courses for Online and In-class Students
- Increasing Engagement in Online Courses

To see all of our program offerings, please visit the Programs webpage.

LINK: <https://www.slu.edu/ctl/programs/index.php>

## Certificate Program

Since moving to a remote environment, the Reinert Center continued to offer a robust Certificate Program. We have hosted 11 Praxis workshops, 6 Teaching Essentials workshops, 9 online courses, and hosted 2 certificate ceremonies.

### By the Numbers

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415 Participations

125 Unique Participants

52 New Enrollments

11 Completions of the Certificate in University Teaching Skills\*

2 Completions of the Foundations Certificate\*

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\* Completions only include Spring 2020

For more information about the Certificate Program, please visit the Certificate in University Teaching Skills webpage. LINK: <https://www.slu.edu/ctl/certificate-program/>

## Online Teaching Fellows

The Online Teaching Fellowship opportunity enhances Reinert Center offerings, resources, and support for Saint Louis University faculty teaching fully online courses or courses that will transition to online, as well as courses that have remote students. Additionally, the experience of serving as an Online Teaching Fellow provides SLU faculty with formal experience in educational development, expanding their knowledge in pedagogy and academic technologies.

Fellows conduct one-on-one consultations with faculty in their school/college as well as across the university to answer questions and provide peer-to-peer mentorship in hybrid and online teaching. Fellows also facilitate open discussions each semester on topics currently relevant to SLU instructors on hybrid and online teaching.

**Current Online Teaching Fellows:** Torrie Hester, Paul Jellis, Ajlina Karamehic-Muratovic, Scott Sell, Mamoun Benmamoun, Katie Devany, Margaret Benz, Timothy Howell, Hamish Binns, and Katherine Smith

### By the Numbers: July – October 2020

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10

Online Teaching Fellows

212

One-on-one consultations between fellows and faculty

9

Workshops facilitated by Online Teaching Fellows

200+

Faculty reached in OTF Workshops

## Resources

In March, the Reinert Center staff created a new webpage of resources devoted to Instructional Continuity. This page is full of helpful information for teaching remotely, including how to get started, using Zoom, using Panopto, teaching asynchronous courses, accessibility in remote course, recordings of our webinars, and more. From Google Analytics, we can see that between March – July, this page got over 2400 page views, with close to half of those occurring just in March 2020, when we know faculty were intensely focused on moving all their courses to a remote format.

**LINK:** <https://www.slu.edu/ctl/resources/instructionalcontinuity.php>

## About Us

As the pandemic kicked off, we included six full-time staff, two graduate assistants, and two undergraduate student workers. Our graduate assistants Kristin Broussard and Konnor Brennan left us in June, and in July we welcomed Adaobi Anakwe and Victoria Carter as our new graduate assistants. In May, we celebrated the graduation of long time undergraduate student workers Kerry Anderson and Sarah Bostic, and in June we welcomed Colleen Wheadon as our newest student worker. Current full time staff includes Gina Merys (Acting Director), Sandy Gambill (Sr. Instructional Developer), Christopher Grabau (Instructional Developer), Robert Cole (Instructional Developer), Eric Royer (Instructional Design Specialist), and Mary Cook (Program Manager).

For additional information on the Reinert Center staff, as well as information on the Advisory Board, and various Fellows, please visit our About Us page.

**LINK:** <https://www.slu.edu/ctl/about/people/>