Summer Teaching Grants and Support for Conference Travel
Amy Hark worked with Provost John Ramsay and Stefanie Sinno, Chair of FDSC, to coordinate funding opportunities for faculty development. We successfully advocated for increasing the monetary amount of summer teaching grants to be equal to awards made for scholarship and other professional development. For 2012, we awarded two pedagogical development grants and three joint pedagogical development/new course development grants. We have publicized 2011 pedagogical grant recipients on the FCT website and plan to continue to do so in the future.

We continued to provide up to $500 in support for faculty participation in teaching conferences or workshops and made ten awards this fiscal year. Additionally, we supported attendance at POD (Trish Boyles and Kathy Wixon), AAC&U (Amy Hark), and Lilly conferences (Amy Hark and Susan Kahlenberg). Please let Amy or another FCT Board member know if you are interested in representing our institution at these programs in the future.

We would like to thank the 19 colleagues who participated in our Spring 2012 program designed to showcase the work of teaching grant awardees and conference attendees. It is our plan to continue to sponsor sessions that allow us to share our pedagogical development with one another.

Programs
We circulated a full schedule of events electronically in the week before classes started for both the Fall 2011 and Spring 2012 semesters. Programming reflected:

a. renewed commitment to faculty-driven programming through the opening forum
b. continued commitment to programs for new faculty, including the one day orientation in August, the peer partner program, and sessions throughout the year
c. partnering with other campus groups; specifically this year, Trexler Library, Humanities Seminar, Office of Campus Sustainability, Academic Resource Center, and Office of Disability Services
d. follow up from AAC&U STEM workshop and on-campus Course Design workshop
e. response to FCT faculty survey and conceptual framework with session on getting students to do the reading
f. faculty interest in conversations with colleagues from ARC and ODS around working with students with disabilities
g. increasing exchange of ideas and transparency of FCT support with showcase of
work by recent grant recipients and conference attendees
h. faculty desire for opportunities for informal conversation
i. support for strategic plan initiatives as a second theory-to-practice learning community
begins in Summer 2012

In developing program schedules, Amy worked with Provost Ramsay, Holmes Miller (APC Chair), and Peter Bredlau (College Chaplain) for Fall 2011 and Laura Edelman (Director of Common Hour) for Spring 2012 to use Common Hour effectively and with respect to other groups scheduling events. We will work with Chaplain Callista Isabelle to continue to plan collaboratively for use of Common Hour in the coming year.

Other resources
We purchased 15 new titles for FCT collection at Trexler Library based on suggestions from colleagues and evaluations by FCT Board members. An overhaul of the FCT website with the goal of making resources more accessible was successfully managed by Trish Boyles, outgoing Assistant Director of FCT. We continue our subscription to The Teaching Professor for faculty and staff use.

Updates on the FCT Board
During Summer 2011, four new Board members were selected based on faculty who expressed interest, suggestions from previous Board members, and representation of diverse backgrounds/interests/disciplines. Marcia Morgan agreed to begin a three-year term in Fall 2011 as did Mike Huber, with a limited involvement in Fall 2011 due to his sabbatical. Diane Follet and Mohsin Hashim agreed to serve two-year terms.

In the Fall, Amy worked with the Board to develop a proposal for a search process for the next Assistant Director, in which there was an open invitation for faculty colleagues to express interest. Amy executed the search conducting interviews of two candidates with Diane, Mohsin, and Kathy Harring (ex officio member of FCT Board). Marcia transitioned into the AD role during the Spring 2012 semester.

Sue Jansen joined the Board at the end of Spring 2012, as Trish Boyles steps down. Mohsin will serve as Acting Director in Fall 2012 during Amy’s sabbatical. Erika Iyengar, who has served on the Board previously and expressed interest in serving again, has agreed to serve in Fall 2012 as a representative from the Natural Sciences Division during Amy’s sabbatical. We will be seeking a second representative from the Science Division to join us as Mike Huber assumes his role as DOCAL.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of FCT,

Amy Hark, Director, Faculty Center for Teaching