

PROJECT SUMMARY

The IU South Bend Mission Statement includes: *The campus values excellence in teaching, student-faculty interaction, research and creative activity...* FACET supports this excellence by prioritizing faculty peer review. Pursuant to that, Gwynn Mettetal asked the School of Nursing to pilot such a program, and the Faculty Affairs Committee determined that the best approach was to have a faculty member create, organize, and lead the project.

Last summer I participated in the FACET training to become a peer reviewer, and lead two discussion groups to encourage others to complete the modules. That training confirmed what I already knew: peer review is poorly understood and rather intimidating. Most faculty are ignorant of the process, and really do not know that it should be non-confrontational and advantageous for them to gain recognition for their work and to advance their careers. Professional peer review promotes excellence for the faculty as individuals and for the School of Nursing at IU South Bend and the greater IU school network.

This endeavor is essential for faculty development. I am qualified and motivated to create, organize, and lead a peer review pilot. Such a project in the School of Nursing will improve the culture of teaching excellence, and when fully implemented will be a positive motivator for both faculty and students. Once the added value is demonstrated in our department, we can offer to extend the project to all departments at IU South Bend.

APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS

Qualifications:

- Assistant Professor on tenure track beginning Fall 2016;
- Completion of the FACET peer review modules, except for the final module (in process);
- Leading two discussion groups about the peer review modules;
- Current member of Faculty Affairs Committee; and,
- Documented excellence in teaching from student reviews, FAE, and FAR.

Further enhancement of qualifications:

- Complete and receive a peer review, ASAP;
- Become an expert in peer review, sharing that knowledge with department faculty; and,
- Be a leader and peer review champion for other departments wanting to improve their peer review process.

My interest in peer review has progressed with my career at IU South Bend, but it was not until joining the tenure track that I became fully aware of its profound importance to faculty development personally, professionally, and departmentally. My hope and desire are to share this passion with my colleagues, remove the stigma and intimidation of the process, and to pursue excellence in all our endeavors.

ESTIMATED TIMELINE AND BUDGET

Timeline: 2016 – 2017

1. **December:** review the questionnaire sent out by Faculty Affairs. Review literature on peer review best practices and models of successful programs.
2. **January:** meet with faculty about the peer review process, requesting their input. Encourage them to complete the FACET modules. Create the program under the auspices of UCET.
3. **March:** present the program to faculty. Set up Lunch and Learns so that faculty can share their teaching practices. Ensure that faculty begin their own peer reviews.
4. Program evaluations at the end of **Spring and/or Fall semesters.**

BUDGET

\$2500 for the Spring semester.

A statement of support from Assistant Dean Teri Dobrzykowski has been requested and acknowledged.