Mission and Identity Committee Meeting
Board of Trustees
Loyola University New Orleans

Thursday, May 15, 2014

3:30 pm – 5:30 pm
Octavia II/ Danna Center

Agenda

• Call to Order (Rev. Bentley Anderson, S.J., Chair)

• Opening Prayer

• Approval of Minutes (December 5, 2013 meeting)

• Two Graduating Seniors Look Back at their Four Years:
  o Jasmine Brewer & Matthew Higginbotham


• Written Report: Office of Mission & Ministry /
  Rev. Ted Dziak, SJ and Mr. Kurt Bindewald, Director of University Ministry

• Closing Prayer

• Executive Session
Mission and Identity Committee Minutes  
Board of Trustees  
Loyola University New Orleans  
Thursday, December 5, 2013  
Danna Center / Octavia I  
3:30p.m. – 5:30p.m.

Present:  R. Bentley Anderson, S.J., (Chair), Kurt Binewald, Michael Braden, S.J., Ted Dziak, S.J., Dr. Don Faust, Justin Genovese, Christine Johnson, S.J., Dr. Rachel Kent, Barry LeBlanc, Rita Benson LeBlanc, Lawrence Lewis, Heather Mack, Peter Rogers, S.J., John Sebastian, Ileana Suquet, Paul Soukup, S.J., Carol Waguespack. Debbie LaMarca (Recording Secretary), Carol Magendie (Administrative Assistant)

Absent:  Jim Bowler, S.J., (Vice Chair), Ann Gauthier, T. Frank Kennedy, Joe O'Keefe, S.J.

Guests:  Kevin Wildes, SJ; Dr. Alice Clark, Faculty Senate Chair and Professor, College of Music and Fine Arts; Savannah Logan ('14) and Chad Aubert ('14), Awakening Retreat Rectors.

Call in: (no one)

- Opening of Meeting / Prayer by Justin Genovese

- Approval of Minutes:  Minutes from October 17, 2013 were approved.

- The Role of Faculty & Loyola’s Jesuit Mission:  Presentation and discussion by Dr. Alice Clark, Faculty Senate Chair and Professor, College of Music and Fine Arts. “Dwindling numbers of Jesuits at our institutions call for a greater commitment from lay faculty and staff to uphold the Ignatian mission. However, the tightening of the academic job market means fewer qualified candidates available with the adequate knowledge of the Ignatian mission. This provides both a challenge and opportunity to reconsider traditional assumptions about Jesuit education and pedagogy. I was one who knew nothing much about Jesuit pedagogy or Ignatian spirituality before coming to Loyola. Based on my own experience, I think more about ‘educating for mission’ rather than ‘hiring for mission’. We have lots of great opportunities at Loyola for offering faculty ways to understand and incorporate the Jesuit mission into their teaching such as John Sebastian’s Faculty Fellows Program, mission oriented discussions at new faculty orientation, Ignatian Colleagues Program, etc. This is the leaven that is slowly but surely making a difference here. I believe we need to consider incentives for faculty to increase connections to the mission in their work on campus as scholarship, publishing and research currently outweigh other considerations for promotion and tenure decisions. I do not believe, however, that this will be a universally accepted idea on this campus even though there is more apparent discussion of mission currently at Loyola than at any other time during tenure here.”
Discussion: What are some ideas to change the reward structure to encourage more attention to mission? One answer may be a more consistent view across campus among faculty as to whether teaching or research is primary pillar. Review current evaluation processes. This is an issue faced by many other Jesuit institutions in trying to define “what is education?” It is not just about research and publishing. Community service should not be only area of mission related activity in evaluation. An additional challenge to this process is how is mission related activity easily “quantified” in a culture of accreditation and evaluation? Many on campus are continuing the conversation and this committee will revisit progress in this area.

- Most recent Awakening Retreat student rectors, Savannah Logan ('14) and Chad Aubert ('14) shared with the committee their experience of the Awakening retreat community during their time at Loyola and its transformative effect on their lives.

- Written Report / Office of Mission & Ministry by Ted Dziak, S.J., Vice President for Mission & Ministry and Kurt Bindewald, Director of University Ministry. Highlights included: Fr. Wildes has approved and will recommend to the full Board demolition and rebuilding of new structure for the Benson Jesuit Center. Continuing formation programs for faculty, staff and students have been our main focus and biggest area of growth. Review of Loyola Week 2013. 2013-14 faculty and staff birthday card presentation. Report to date of alms given to assist students.

- Closing of Meeting / Prayer by Ileana Suquet

- Executive Session

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt Bindewald
The OFFICE OF MISSION AND MINISTRY (M&M) at Loyola University New Orleans serves as the primary entity for promoting and enhancing the Catholic/ Jesuit identity of the institution as a faith based community of life-long learners seeking God in all things by working for service and justice in the world as women and men with and for others.

JESUIT CENTER/ Office of Mission & Ministry is primarily responsible for the orientation and formation of faculty and staff members in the Catholic, Jesuit tradition. Additionally, it provides campus-wide programming and resources educating about and celebrating Loyola’s Ignatian values and provides international immersion experiences for students, faculty and staff.

- **Loyola Week** (November 2 – 8, 2013) carried the theme of “Set the World on Fire.” Eighteen events for & with faculty/ staff, students, alumni and guests that ranged from Wolves on the Prowl to Jesus on Trial to a talk on Pope Francis’ First Encyclical to a tricycle race around the Iggy Statue, a Carnival on the Peace Quad, an inflatable and an Earth piñata, and Dinner with the Jesuits. Over 1000 people participated in the week’s events.

- **Lenten Series: The Heart of Ignatian Spirituality /The Spiritual Exercises:** Over 400 people attended the four lectures and one concert held on Wed evenings of Lent, co-sponsored with the Alumni Association. Five Jesuits (Sylvester Tan, SJ; Robert Gerlich, SJ; Mark Mossa, SJ; Ed Vacek, SJ.) spoke on each of the four weeks of the Exercises. A concert led by UM Staff Ken Weber and a Latin Rite mass at HNJ Church were also a part of the Lenten Series.

**Faculty & Staff Development (Dr. Ricardo Marquez)**
There have been many opportunities for faculty/ staff to appreciate and integrate the Catholic/Jesuit mission into their lives and their work. These include:

- **New Faculty Orientation Breakfast** led off the new semester and new faculty orientation with 25 new faculty attending along with administrators/ M&M staff and Jesuits.

- **The Ignatian Faculty Fellows Program** (IFF), facilitated by Dr. John Sebastian, completed its Cohort 2 mission formation program with nine Fellows. As a learning outcome Fellows are asked to present a Jesuit pedagogical application of what they’ve learned.

- **The Ignatian Staff Fellows Program** (ISF), mission formation program coordinated by Robbie Reed & Dr. Ricardo Marquez, completed its first Cohort with eight staff participants. (Sept 2013 - April, 2014). The ISF program will be held every other year.

- **Faculty Connections** luncheon, a new program in 2013-2014, brought almost 50 new and seasoned faculty together in informal conversation, held monthly.
- **Conversations** luncheons, held around the latest topic of ‘Conversations’ magazine, from Fr. Fred Kammer, SJ on social justice (Fall) to the suppression of the Jesuits (Spring).
- **College of Law Staff Retreat**, a new retreat initiative of Dean López with over fifty College of Law staff participating (August 2013), led by Dr. Ricardo Marquez.
- **Vitamins for the Soul and Reencuentro** (For Spanish speaking Faculty/Staff), Formative and social programs to create a sense of community among staff members at Loyola. 34 Staff have been involved in these programs.
- **Heartland Delta Faculty Conversations** (Feb.14-16, 2014), Three faculty attend with follow up with concrete initiatives.
- **Jesuit Commons –Higher Education at the Margins**, Loyola Faculty, Dr. Jane Chauvin, will offer an online course with students in Kakuma, Kenya. (January 2015).
- **Goals for 2014-2015**: To continue to deepen and facilitate existing programs and activities that foster formation in mission for faculty/staff. To create new opportunities to interact and grow as a learning community in mission with our faculty/staff.
  - To work with Father Dziak and faculty/staff advisors in creatively re-imagining the mission and goals of The Jesuit Center and its role in faculty/staff formation, community-building, Ignatian pedagogy and Faculty /Staff holistic development.
  - Assisting faculty in research and publishing by providing materials and resources on Jesuit-related topics in different disciplines. Supporting such initiatives with grants and small stipends (Broadening the ‘Magis Grant program’).
  - Establishing an “Awakening” type of encounter for faculty/staff, at a local facility.
  - Create more links with the global Jesuit network, including AUSJAL (the Latin American AJCU). Explore video conferencing/ webinars/ exchanges with faculty and students in specific areas of interest.
  - Further explore the role of mission in the hiring and reward process, using best practices in other AJCU institutions. Educate the educators program (Georgetown).

**Other Jesuit Center Programs**: Jesuit scholastic Sylvester Tan, S.J. completed his third (and final) year of his regency by serving as the Jesuit in Residence for the Honors Program, as an integral faculty member of the program. In this capacity, Mr. Tan taught three courses for Honors in and served as co-instructor with Dr. Naomi Yavneh for a one-credit Ignatian Colloquium for first year students, and led a co-curricular “spiritual readings” group. He also serves as an informal advisor, helping to build the residential Biever Hall community according to the precepts of the “Essential Characteristics of a Jesuit Honors Program.”

**Ignacio Volunteer Immersion Programs**: (Heather Malveaux, Coordinator)
- The application and interview process for both Team Leaders and Volunteers was revamped & updated utilizing new technology, interview questions, and assessments.
- New marketing techniques have been utilized, such as using OrgSync and at the President’s Spring Open House and even a large banner hanging from Bobet Hall. Ignacio Volunteers is now an OrgSync Portal.
• Content has been supplemented that focus on issues of justice, by adding videos and tools that help students process issues of race, culture, privilege and poverty in the countries they will be traveling to and the city in which they live.

• PROGRAMS:
  o Two winter programs were held in Jamaica & Belize in Dec 2013 with 35 participating. In the post-trip evaluation, 96% of the participants rated their experience a 5 out 5 calling it “one of the most important experiences they have ever had.” The remaining 4% participants rated their experience as a 4 out 5.
  o Two summer programs for 30 undergraduates/staff will be held in Jamaica (May 12 – 21) and in Belize (July 21-August 11). In addition, a new Jamaica Faculty/Staff/Alumni eight-day trip (May 17-25) is planned that will overlap with the undergraduate trip. Fr. Gregg Grovenburg, SJ will lead the trip for the ten participants.
  o Selection has already been completed for the winter 2014 trips to Jamaica and Belize (Dec 27, 2014 - Jan 5, 2015) with 37 participants chosen. Included in the Belize program is a Baseball Camp with 8 members of the Loyola Baseball Team traveling to the Mayan villages to teach baseball.

• Goals for 2014-2015:
  o To explore the development of new programs in new countries.
  o To explore a one-credit course for all participants on issues of justice.
  o To develop a closer collaborative relation between the Ignacio Volunteer Programs and the Loyola University Community Action Program (LUCAP).

UNIVERSITY MINISTRY / Office of Mission & Ministry
University Ministry is responsible for pastoral outreach, spiritual formation, and promotion of service and reflection opportunities for the Loyola community which includes students, faculty, staff, administrators, and alumni.

Faith and Sacramental Formation: (Fr. Gregg Grovenburg, S.J., Coordinator)

• Adult Confirmation: Archbishop Gregory Aymond confirmed ten adults prepared through Loyola at Holy Name of Jesus (HNJ) Church. (November 2013) / Bishop Dominic Carmon confirmed 13 adults from both Loyola & HNJ Parish at Ignatius Chapel (April 2014).

• RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults): After a nine-month formation period, 8 students and parishioners from Loyola and HNJ Parish were welcomed into the Catholic faith at the Easter Vigil (April 19th).
Wedding inquiries continue to increase. Fr. Gregg Grovenburg, SJ has worked with over 17 couples (as of May 2014) in various stages of wedding preparation. Univ Ministry also provides FOCCUS materials / scoring to the Loyola Jesuit community for marriage prep.

**Goals for 2014-15:**
- To connect Faith & Sacraments with Liturgy & Celebration.
- To foster ongoing collaboration with HNJ Parish community.
- To be available for Jesuit values talks/presentations.

**Liturgy and Music:** (Ken Weber, Coordinator)
- **Mass of the Holy Spirit** (Sept. 13): Featuring over 100 liturgical ministers, including the University Chamber Chorale, Loyola Ballet, members of the Loyola Orchestra, student athletes and representatives from most student clubs and organizations.
- **Advent Wreath Drop** (Dec 2013): Event to mark the beginning of the liturgical “new year”. Refreshments, Christmas music & a countdown as a large Advent Wreath descends along a zip line from the top of the West Road Garage to the front of Bobet Hall.
- **Bluegrass Mass** (Jan. 26): Mass featuring bluegrass music provided by student musicians.
- **Black History Month Mass** (Feb. 16): Mass celebrating Black History, featuring Genesis Gospel Choir, Fr. Tony Ricard presiding, Mr. Ansel Augustine, Director of Black Catholic Ministry for the Archdiocese of New Orleans speaking, and soul food after Mass.
- **Music to Accompany the Spiritual Exercises** (March 26): Lenten series concert featuring music to accompany themes and texts of the Spiritual Exercises.
- **Founders’ Day Mass** (April 10) and **Mass of Thanksgiving for Loyola Retirees** (April 24).
- **Cookies with a Catholic** (weekly): A Univ Ministry staff member is available during the midday break to hand out cookies & engage students in topics regarding Catholicism.

**Goals for 2014-15:**
- To pursue publishing original liturgical music compositions for use by wider Church.
- To increase on-line presence by publishing blog about faith and liturgy, and by recording regular podcast of interviews with students about their spirituality.

**Retreats:** (Laura Quigley Alexander, Coordinator)
- The retreat program continues to deepen and strengthen, using a developmental model which takes participants through “on-ramp” experiences like *Awakening* and *Freshmen Retreat* that focus on community and an introduction to Ignatian spirituality, and encourages them to participate in more in-depth and reflective experiences like *Emmaus* and the *Lenten Retreat in Daily Life* that focus more specifically on Ignatian prayer experiences and discernment. 329 participants in a Univ Ministry retreat in 2013-14, 220 unique participants.
• Created specific and measurable program outcomes for each of the seven retreats offered, and then implemented evaluation instruments to measure a retreat experience’s impact on those outcomes. This has led to a more accurate understanding of the impact of a retreat experience on a participant’s spiritual life and understanding of Ignatian Spirituality, and will allow for more targeted improvements as we continue to develop these retreat opportunities in the future.

• Continued growth in connection between retreat and CLC program, as opportunities to join a CLC are offered for all fall semester retreat participants immediately after the retreat. 19.3% of Freshmen Retreat and Fall Awakening participants joined a CLC after their retreat experience. The Emmaus Retreat has also been specifically designed as a CLC Retreat, with CLCs attending together and meeting as a group throughout the retreat.

• This was the first year of posting daily reflections online for the Lenten Retreat in Daily Life. 61% of directors and 40% of participants accessed the reflection materials online, while others used the printed reflection booklet. The Ignatius Chapel Community and parishioners of Holy Name of Jesus were also invited to use the online reflection materials. We look forward to continuing to improve this online retreat next year, so as to reach new populations such as alumni and online students.

Christian Life Communities (CLC): (Laura Quigley Alexander, Coordinator).

• Nine total groups (34 members, 11 student facilitators, and 4 pro-staff facilitators). One group of six alumni began meeting weekly in January. Though smaller in number of total participants this year, the CLC program as a whole was much stronger than in previous years. All groups began the year focusing on the three pillars of the CLC way of life: community, spirituality, and mission. As a result, groups were able to truly live out the charism of CLC, of helping students see and respond to God’s movement in their lives as they discover their vocations. All leaders reported being able to have more in-depth discussions about faith and discernment than in previous years.

• CLC events this year included a field-day style inter-group competition, a Thanksgiving pot-luck dinner and reflection, a day of service at Crescent City Café, an evening of Taizé Prayer, and the Emmaus Retreat. An end-of-year ice cream social is planned for April 28th.

• Ten strong leaders, most rising sophomores & juniors have been accepted as facilitators for the 2014-2015 academic year. They will help the program grow and deepen over the next few years.

• Next year’s CLC leadership retreat and training (August 17-19) will involve students from both the Loyola and UNO CLC communities. We are also hopeful that members from the Loyola alumni group and the Mary Queen of Vietnam Young Adult CLC will be able to join us.
Service & Justice Programs: (Joe Deegan, Coordinator & LUCAP Advisor)

- Total Service Hours from all LUCAP Projects in 2013-2014: 1,803 hours (worth $39,905 in in-kind value).
- LUCAP helped facilitate the annual Wolves on the Prowl day of service, which mobilized 189 participants (including 23 alumni) to set up a temporary dental clinic at Mardi Gras World—660 total hours of service for the event, worth about $13,000 in in-kind value.
- A delegation of eight students was sent to the School of the Americas Watch Peace Vigil & Conference in Columbus, GA (November 2013); The delegation received pre-trip preparation from Fr. Andrew Kirschman S.J. (MO Province), who had lived and studied at the UCA in San Salvador.
- LUCAP hosted an evening of winter break volunteer groups from St. Joseph’s, Rockhurst, Fairfield, Wheeling Jesuit, and John Carroll Universities (January 2014). Participants shared their experiences & reflected on the Jesuit understanding of service & justice.
- A LUCAP delegation met with staff members of Senator Mary Landrieu to advocate for proposed legislation to raise the federal minimum wage.
- An Earth Day Fair (April 23) was co-sponsored in the Peace Quad featuring booths from fair-trade and local organic produce vendors.
- The 6th Annual Student Peace Conference (April 2014) brought in front-line activist Kevin Caron from the Drone Task Force of the Georgia Peace & Justice Coalition for the concluding lecture about drone technology.
- LUCAP Advisor Joe Deegan is working with Dr. Becky Ann Nesbit of Indiana University to develop and implement a comprehensive evaluation study of LUCAP for Academic Year 2014-2015. The mixed-methods study will focus on measuring LUCAP participant learning in five key focus areas: charity/justice orientation; knowledge of University Mission & Identity; compassion for the marginalized; civic engagement; and spiritual identification. Dr. Nesbit is an expert on voluntarism.
- A domestic alternative break opportunity will be sponsored by LUCAP during Spring 2015, tentatively called the “New Orleans Experience” which will involve 15 Loyola students, along with pre and post-trip formation involving Loyola faculty members.
- The Spark Themed Living Community opening program for August 2014 has been planned. It will now include volunteer service and a retreat in Covington, LA.

LUCAP Awards & Recipients:
**College of Law Ministry:** (Carol Magendie, Law School Chaplain)

- Archbishop Gregory Aymond celebrated a special liturgy for all Loyola and Tulane law students, faculty and staff at Holy Name of Jesus Church (September 29).
- Archbishop Aymond hosted Catholic law students, lawyers and judges at his residence for prayer and fellowship (January 15).
- Encouragement and completion of interfaith meditation room at College of Law.
- Peanut butter and prayer pre-final exams are offered (April 14-May 6).
- Evening breakfast and prayer for day & evening law students (April 15) as students prepare to start final exams. Joint event with SBA and Law Dean’s office.
- A spirituality component of wellness now offered by the Law Chaplain during new student orientation in August, 2014.
- Ignatius Award presented to leading Law Student during Law Graduation Mass.

**Goals for 2014-15:**

  - To have an active and visible role in the Law School three-day orientation.
  - To create and develop 'wellness' presentations addressing how wellness connects to every aspect of our lives; create and develop weekly offerings of how Ignatian Spirituality crosses all faiths addressing how we are spiritual beings and what does this mean.
  - To offer more intentional 'marketing' of worship opportunities, such as Mass, Centering Prayer, Spiritual Direction, etc.
  - To continue to work collaboratively with faculty and staff; connecting Social Justice, Jesuit values and the law and raising awareness of Jesuit values and the law.

**Ecumenical and Interfaith Ministry:**

- Continued collaboration with on-campus entities to co-sponsor lectures including: “Tolerance and Diversity in a Multi-Ethnic Society” (Sept 26); “American Jewish History Backwards and Forwards” (Oct 30); “The Muslims Around You” (Nov 5); “Spirituality in the City” Series (year-long).
- Sand Mandala for Compassion & Sacred Music Performance by visiting Tibetan Buddhist monks. (Nov 12-14).
- Representation on campus Affirmative Action and Diversity Committee.
- For 2014-15, closer collaboration and programming with the Archdiocesan ecumenical officer, Fr. Buddy Noel, former Loyola Resident Chaplain and HNJ staff member.

**Archdiocesan Outreach:**

- Kurt Bindewald has been appointed by Archbishop Aymond to serve on the 12 member Leadership Team for the newly opened 9th General Synod of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Officially convoked on April 15, the synod will be a 14 month period of prayer, reflection and consultation to establish pastoral priorities for the Archdiocese.
- Kurt Bindewald serves as the advisory chair to Archbishop Aymond’s newly established Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual & Transgender Ministry in the Archdiocese, particularly focusing on pastoral outreach and safe/welcoming school environments.