LOYOLA UNIVERSITY NEW ORLEANS
OFFICE OF MISSION & MINISTRY

Report to the
Board of Trustees Mission and Identity Committee
May 16, 2013
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. M&M is in the fourth year of implementation of Loyola’s Strategic Plan, “Loyola 2012” passed by the Board at its May 2009 meeting.

**Academic Year 2012-2013 Update: Office of Mission and Ministry**

- Design and cost estimates for the **Tom Benson Jesuit Center** continues, with a focus on determining exact costs. The cost estimates should be completed by June 2013.
- **A Spiritual Journey to Spain**: Alumni, Faculty and Staff will journey in the footsteps of St. Ignatius on June 16-27, 2013. Co-sponsored with Spring Hill College and led by Jesuit Fathers Ted Dziak/ and Bob Gerlich. 26 people have signed on to join the trip.
- **Holy Name Church** has received a new pastor, Fr. Eddie Gros, S.J. Dialogue has begun with the new pastor to explore a closer working relationship and collaboration.
- **Jesuit scholastic Penn Dawson, S.J.** has been assigned to Loyola Law School for fall 2013 to begin a two-year regency. This is the second Jesuit regent at Loyola.

**JESUIT CENTER/ Office of Mission & Ministry**

The Jesuit Center is primarily responsible for the orientation and formation of faculty and staff members in the Catholic, Jesuit tradition. Additionally, the Jesuit Center provides campus-wide programming and resources educating about and celebrating Loyola’s Ignatian values and provides international immersion experiences for students, faculty and staff.

- **Faculty & Staff Development**

  There have been many opportunities for faculty/staff to appreciate and integrate the Catholic/Jesuit mission into their lives and their work. These include

  - **The Ignatian Faculty Fellows Program (IFF)**, coordinated by Dr. John Sebastian, completed its first colleagues program. The final presentations and reflections were held on April 25, 2013 where the nine fellows presented final projects and reflection on their semester-long program in Jesuit/Catholic mission formation.

  - **The Ignatian Staff Fellows Program (ISF)**, coordinated by AVP Robbie Reed, has recruited nine staff who will begin their year-long program in September 2013 in Jesuit/Catholic mission formation. Dr. Ricardo Marquez is assisting Mr. Reed.

  - **The Heartland Delta Faculty Conversations** was hosted by Loyola on Feb. 22-24, 2013 with the topic of “Eloquentia Perfecta.” 66 participants were present including faculty from nine Jesuit colleges across the U.S.

  - A new program, **Faculty Connections** was established in January, creating an informal dialogue between new faculty and administrators/tenured faculty. The M&M sponsored lunch will be held monthly with 15 people participating each month. It will be another new program to allow faculty communication and bonding.
o **Vitamins for the Soul (VS):** Over 40 staff have participated in four different offerings, which allow staff from various departments/offices and colleges to spiritually share their work and their lives.

o Human Resources and M&M co-sponsored mission-focused sessions for staff, *“Builders of the Ignatian Vision: Gifted, Called and Missioned”* as part of a staff development pilot program. (December 2012 & March 2013)

o **New Staff Orientations:** Every month M&M staff provides a basic orientation for new staff hires, which included almost 60 new staff in the period of January-May.

o A new Mass in Spanish will be offered in the fall by Fr. Eddie Gros, S.J., new pastor of Holy name Church, who is fluent in Spanish. In addition, *Reencuentro* meetings continue to be held for Spanish-speaking faculty/staff (March 2013/7 participants)

o The Jesuit Center continues to offer weekly *Centering Prayer* during the day for staff, spiritual direction and prayer /retreat opportunities for faculty/staff.

o Participation of Loyola faculty/staff in national AJCU programs:
  - **Ignatian Colleagues Program (ICP):** Dr. Cissy Petty, Vice-President for Student Affairs and Dean Maria Lopez of the Law School (Cohort 5). Recruitment for Cohort 7 will begin in fall 2013.
  - **AJCU Leadership Conference** (Loyola Chicago/June 2013): Donald Boomgaarden (Dean, CoMFA), Leon Mathes (AVP, Financial Affairs) / Roberta Kaskel (Director, Career Development)/ Maria Calzada (Dean HuNS) / Michael Olson (Dean, Library).

- **Other Special Jesuit Center Programs**
  - The 2013 Lenten Series, co-sponsored by the Alumni Association (February/March 2013) had the theme of “Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Vatican II.”
    - Musician/songwriter Kara Klein performed (audience of 35)
    - Gregorian Chant Latin Mass on Laetare Sunday / HNJ (attendance of 150)
    - Fr. Edward Vacek, SJ giving a reflection on conscience (37 in attendance).
    - An Interfaith Panel on Fasting (34 in attendance.)
  - The Spiritual Exercises /18th Annotation retreat was offered to faculty/staff, led by Dr. Ricardo Marquez and Fr. Stephen Rowntree, S.J. The eight-week retreat-in-daily life began in January 2013 had 21 Participants (6 Faculty; 14 Staff; 1 ICC Member). There were 14 Spiritual Directors/Companions (including 10 Jesuits).
  - **Vatican II Anniversary Reflection:** Fr. Fred Kammer, SJ spoke on *Gaudium et Spes*/ Vatican II and Catholic social teaching (April 23, 2013)

- **Ignacio Volunteer Immersion Programs:** A new International Immersion Program Coordinator will be chosen in the spring 2013 to replace departing M&M staff Edwin Madera. The following programs have been or will be held in 2012-13.
  - Winter Programs 2012 (December 2012):
    - *Belize Baseball Camp*/ San Jose, Belize (9 students/staff participated)
    - *Belize Christmas Camp*/ Santa Cruz, Belize (12 students/staff)
    - *Jamaica Winter Experience*/ Kingston, Jamaica (13 students/staff)
  - Summer Programs 2013:
    - *Jamaica Experience*/ May 2013 (15 students/staff will participate)
    - *Belize Summer Camp*/ July/August 2013 (16 students/staff will participate)

Applicants for the summer 2013 programs were 105, an increase of 26% from last year.
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.

- **Pastoral Outreach:** Includes direct contact and support of all members of the Loyola community as needed through prayer, presence and responding to physical and spiritual needs during times of crisis and celebration.
  - Prayer Requests sent out for every Loyola member as requested
  - Original Iggy Birthday card sent to all faculty and staff members
  - Alms donations for emergency financial needs of students (textbooks, tuition, food, medicine, etc.) distributed as funds are available.

- **Liturgy and Music Events and Programs:**
  - **Black History Month Mass** (Feb 17): featured Genesis Gospel Choir and Loyola alumnus Deacon Daniel Green preaching.
  - **Extraordinary Form Latin Mass** (Mar 3): An opportunity for students to pray the Latin Mass during Lent. Co-sponsored by CMFA, celebrated in HNJ Church.
  - **Paschal Triduum** (facilitated for the ICC): Average attendance: 120.
  - **Mass and Pancakes** (May 5) last 9pm Mass of semester with senior blessing.
  - **Law Graduation Mass** (May 9/ Holy Name of Jesus Church)
  - Opening Mass for each Orientation for Class of 2017 (summer 2013).
  - **ONGOING EVENTS:**
    - A community of 50 liturgical ministers operating on a rotating schedule
    - Monthly celebration of congregants' birthdays, with birthday cake after Mass
    - Monthly discernment meetings of the ICC.

- **Retreats:** Provide all members of the Loyola community with opportunities to experience God through familiarity with methods of Ignatian prayer and spirituality.
  - **Lenten Retreat in Daily Life** (February 21 - March 25th): There were 31 Participants (9 staff/ 4 faculty/ 17 undergrads/ 1 community member) along with 18 Spiritual Directors/Companions.
    - Focus this year was praying with the psalms. A booklet & prayer prompt was provided. The retreat offered opening/closing prayer services, weekly communal prayer experiences, & individual spiritual direction.
  - **Spring Awakening Retreat** (March 8 -10): There were 55 new participants and 83 Student Staff along with 8 Professional Staff.
    - Focus was on experiencing the Love of God in community.
    - Was the largest Awakening Retreat in almost 10 years. The retreat continues to grow in the students understanding of its mission. Student leadership selection for Fall 2013 Awakening is underway.
• **Senior Retreat** (April 12-13): There were 17 Participants & 3 Professional Staff.
  - This retreat was a time for seniors to reflect on their time at Loyola, look to post-college life, and share where they are as second-semester seniors.
  - Two recent graduates also shared their experiences of life after graduation.

• **Christian Life Communities:** CLCs work to strengthen connections among other Loyola CLCs as well as the national and global CLC community.
  - Five new students will also be serving as facilitators next year.
  - Four students/3 staff will attend National CLC Conf in Houston, TX in May.
  - Weekly “Tea Time” gatherings continue to be a success, with participants gathering to reflect on a question related to the CLC way of life.
  - Members participated in a CLC-wide prayer-partner activity throughout Lent. Each member received a small stone with the name of CLC member and were encouraged to carry the stones to lift up the person in prayer throughout Lent.
  - Christian Life Communities by the numbers:
    - 11 total groups with 76 student members and 7 pro staff members
    - 34 Phase One members / 12 Phase Two members
    - 4 Phase Three members / 14 Skittles members (LGBT-focused CLC)
    - 12 student facilitators / 7 pro staff members

• **Faith, Service and Justice Programming:**
  - The **Spark 2013 Orientation Service Program** has announced partnership with three agencies: Hike for KaTREEna/ St. Paul’s Homecoming Center/ Second Harvest Food Bank. Incoming first-year students will volunteer to support reforestation, home rebuilding, and food security efforts in the New Orleans area.
  - A task force was formed to suggest reforms to the community service conduct sanctions program operated by Student Affairs, and includes M&M Fellow Joe Deegan, Service Learning Director Kelly Brotzman & Community Engagement Director Heather Mack. The task force drafted a detailed policy memo with specific recommendations, and is working with Student Affairs to implement some reforms as early as this summer.

• **Loyola Community Action Program (LUCAP)**
  - New LUCAP projects for 2013-2014:
    - **Salama USA** (a fair-trade advocacy/ fundraising group with ties to a school for disabled children in Kenya)
    - **LAHI** (Loyola Against Hyper Incarceration): an advocacy project involved in educational programming around escalating incarceration rates among African-American males in Louisiana.
  - The **LUCAP project Support and Advocacy for Mental Illness** (SAMI) had a week of programming around mental illness stigma. Events included a pledge drive to resist stigmatizing those with a diagnosis, as well as a Psych departmnt speaker.
  - **LUCAP Projects:** The number of volunteer hours total 3,350 hours for 2012-2013. Sample projects: **Habitat For Humanity** (483)/ **Freret Initiative** (113) / **PAWS** (147). **University-Wide Service Days:** Wolves on Prowl (580)/ **MLK Day**/ City Year (165)
  - Total in-kind value generated for community partner agencies: **$64,741**.
• Faith and Sacramental Formation
  o Eight participated in the full RCIA program from September 2012 - April 2013 & three children (of the RCIA candidates) who prepared at HNJ grade school, took part in the Easter Vigil (March 30) These included: One Loyola alum ('05) two Loyola Law/grad students, 2 undergrads, two Tulane students, one HNJ parent.
  o Eight received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Archbishop Hughes at the 9pm student mass on April 14. (5 Loyola students/ 1 Tulane Staff/ 2 Loyola connections through HNJ Confirmation prep program) Mr. & Mrs. Tom Benson were in attendance to support Annie Hills – Loyola junior who was confirmed.
  o Since Sept 2012 there have been fifteen couples who have sought assistance in the marriage preparation process.
  o 13 Baptisms took place in Ignatius Chapel since September 2012.

• Law School Ministry: ministering to the law faculty/staff and student community of Loyola Law School.
  o Law Chaplain serving on Law committees: Senior Staff, Student/ Faculty Relations, SBA Exec BD, Care and Concern, Recycling, BAC Emergency Evacuation, Law Grad Mass/Events, Ad Hoc Diversity Committee
  o Convened leadership skills meeting for student leaders (January 18). Speakers included: Ceci Almedia (SBA President), Mark Morice '98 (Leadership Skills), Dean Jumonville (Personal Leadership), M&M Staff Arlene Wiltz (Jesuit Values and Leadership).
  o Faith formation programs offered to members of College of Law: RCIA, adult Confirmation, marriage prep, annulment inquiries and pastoral counseling.

• The Center for Community Engagement (CCE): Its mission is to promote a more just and compassionate world by creating, supporting and enhancing relationships that connect the needs, assets and wisdom of community and university partners, locally, regionally, nationally and globally.
  o Community based federal work study: A Task Force with members from Mission and Ministry, Service Learning, Institutional Research, Financial Aid and Human Resources has been established to recommend future alternatives in maintaining operation of community based federal work study issues.
  o M&M Staff Josh Daly and Joe Deegan will attend and present at the Justice Summit at Creighton University. (August 2013).

** Due to university budget cuts in strategic initiative funding, the Office of Mission and Ministry will not be able to continue the establishment of the CCE after July 31, 2013.**

TAD/ KJB 4/25/13