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

Thursday, May 19, 2011
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Octavia II/ Danna Center

Agenda

• Call to Order (Rev. Gerald Cavanagh, S.J., Chair)
• Opening Prayer / Mrs. Gail Jock
• Approval of Minutes (December 9, 2010 meeting)
• Holly and Smith Architects / Presentation of the Philosophy and Vision for the Creation of the Tom Benson Jesuit Center (Ms Amy Garrett and Mr. Kevin Morris)
• Reports: Review of the Strategic Plan: Jesuit Values at Year II Office of Mission & Ministry / Jesuit Center / University Ministry (Rev. Ted Dziak, SJ Vice-President of Mission & Ministry and Kurt Bindewald, Director of University Ministry)
• Closing Prayer / Mr. Barry LeBlanc

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Absent: Carolyn Callahan, Maria Calzada, Ofelia Delgado, T. Frank Kennedy, S.J.

Guests: Laura Quigley, Assistant Director, University Ministry,

Students: Annie Halbert, Jeff Ramon, Margaret Liederbach, Amanda Williams

• Opening of Meeting / Prayer sung by Annie Halbert (’11)

• Approval of Minutes / Minutes from October 7, 2010, approved with amendment.

• M&M Student Programs/ Since her arrival Ms. Quigley has completely revamped the retreat program, initiating retreats around developmental stages. She gave an update of the retreats offered and a brief description of each. From the Freshman Retreat to Awakening to Emmaus to Senior retreats, they flow from one year to the next. Four students then gave a personal witness on four of M&M student programs:
  o Annie Halbert (’11) spoke about the Music Ministry program.
  o Jeffrey Ramon (’12) spoke about the Ignacio Volunteers.
  o Margaret Liederbach (’13) spoke about the Awakening Community and Retreat.
  o Amanda Williams (’12) spoke about LU CAP.

• Update on the Tom Benson Jesuit Center (Dziak) / The search for an architect to remodel the building is underway. Along with the guidance of Paul Fleming over thirty RFP’s were sent out and we received twelve responses. After reviewing those, five were chosen to come to campus for interviews. It was decided that the interviews would be informal and low key, taking place in the Manresa Den, a room with couches and chairs. We hoped to let the firms know who we are and what it would be like to work with us. We were pleased with the presentations and amazed by their ideas. Father Wildes will be selecting one architect shortly, who will design and oversee construction.

• Reports: Mission & Ministry/ (Dziak) invited the committee to read the report provided in their books, stressing a few highlights. He stated that there are two Jesuits who will be interviewed to possibly join our faculty, working closely with the Deans to bring them to campus.

• Reports: Jesuit Center / (Dziak) Two groups of students will be traveling over Christmas break to Jamaica and Belize. There are about 30 undergraduates and staff members.

• Reports: University Ministry/ (Bindewald) One of the highlights of the fall
semester was a visit by our new Archbishop Gregory Aymond. The Archbishop had dinner with a small group of students then presided at the 9:00 p.m. mass in Ignatius chapel. He then met with our COMPASS group until 11:00 p.m. The students felt that he was very open and answered some tough questions honestly.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with a prayer by Jim Bowler, S.J.

Strategic Plan ‘Loyola 2012’: Implementation 2009-2011
Office of Mission & Ministry

The Loyola 2012 Strategic Plan, passed by the Board of Trustees in May 2009, includes the ENHANCEMENT OF JESUIT VALUES as one of three main priorities. This priority is divided into the following four action plans. The implementation by the Office of Mission and Ministry of the four Jesuit Values action plans during 2009-2011 are listed below.

1.) Jesuit Values: Center for Volunteer Service
With the establishment of a Center under Mission & Ministry, service (Community-based learning and volunteer learning) at Loyola will be raised to a higher profile and more fully integrated with academics and Jesuit values. There will be a renewed focus on quality, on reflection, and in coordinating Loyola’s outreach into the community. Service will be more accessible to students, faculty-staff and alumni and there will be more support for all service-related entities and organizations at Loyola. We will advocate for growth in the overall number of such academic and co-curricular service experiences available to students.

- Began planning of new Center for Volunteer and Public Service (CVPS) in August 2009, with the hiring of Jesuit Center Fellow Scott Porot initiating the process. This included dialogue with community partners as well as Loyola faculty/staff/students to assess needs and resources; fundraising activity; exploration of transportation needs and data collection; and investigation of partnerships. Also included planning of future collaboration with Office of Service-Learning, LUCAP and other service organizations.
- Deferred the opening of the new Center for Volunteer & Public Service until FY 2012-2013, due to lack of funds in FY 2011-2012 for certain strategic initiatives. Jesuit Fellow position was terminated (January 2011)
and a new M&M Fellow will be hired in August 2011 to continue planning of the CVPS and future collaborations.

- Created additional focus on sustainability by broadening the area of expertise of Associate Chaplain Josh Daly, who now has responsibility for Faith, Justice and Sustainability at Loyola University, while continuing to serve as advisor to LUCAp. This includes a new developmental plan for student engagement in community service. The new M&M Fellow [FY 2011-2012] will report to him.

- Increased Ignacio Volunteer domestic immersion programs: New programs include Bayou Immersion over spring break for wet land reclamation efforts in Louisiana (2010 & 2011) and the El Paso Experience in May along the Texas/Mexico border (2010) [now put on hold due to security/risk assessment for our volunteers on Mexico/Texas border.]

- Increased Ignacio Volunteer programs: a 35% increase from 2009 to Jamaica/ Belize in 2011-2012. New programs: Belize Winter Camp (2009 & 2010) and a Jamaica Christmas Camp (2011); New Belize Faculty/Staff Experience (May 2011), with 12 faculty/staff, is being facilitated by Loyola Institute of Ministry (LIM) Director Dr. Tom Ryan. An alumni program in Jamaica in May (in collaboration with the Alumni Association) was cancelled due to lack of interest, but plans are to re-offer this Jamaica program in 2012.

- Increased Ignacio Volunteer applications (over 40% over three years), and greater student involvement in leadership/decision-making, including the establishment of a new Ignacio Volunteer Executive Board (E-Board). New IgVol Manual being created.

- Began a new collaboration with the School of Nursing (SON) which brought SON faculty Dr. Adrienne Bethancourt to Kingston, Jamaica to work with children with special needs. Dialogue has begun for an M&M/SON collaboration to allow for an expansion to SON graduate students (December 2011), faculty and professional health care alumni.

- Played an administrative and collaborative role with the successful awarding of the Carnegie Classification in Civic Engagement, working with the Office of the Provost, Service-Learning, and Student Affairs to oversee Loyola’s application.

2.) Jesuit Values: Orientation and Formation in Jesuit Values
Through Mission & Ministry’s collaboration with each office on campus, orientation and formation programs on Jesuit values will be offered across the university. This includes components for the Board of Trustees, for faculty and staff, for students, and for alumni and parents.

AND

3.) Jesuit Values: Faculty/Staff Support
There will be renewed support for faculty to assist them to find expression of the University’s Jesuit/Catholic mission and identity in academic programming. Specific steps include new faculty orientation and faculty support through orientation and
workshops to assist in the development of Jesuit mission-related components in courses and in majors; working with deans and faculty to implement programming that explicitly advances Jesuit values, and links mission and identity appropriate to each college.

- Establishment of the Tom Benson Jesuit Center, with the renovation of the old library, made possible through a major gift from NO Saints owner Tom Benson (October 2010). This renovated building will be a new physical focal point of Jesuit/Catholic mission activity on the campus. Architect (Holly & Smith) has been chosen. While the Benson gift provided a large percentage of the cost of the building, additional benefactors will be needed.

- Hired new staff: Dr. Judy Deshotels [half-time in 2009-2010] and Dr. Ricardo Marquez from the Jesuit university in Caracas, Venezuela [in the new position of Assistant Director of the Jesuit Center for Faculty/Staff Development in 2011-2012] to initiate conversations/programs for faculty & staff relating to the school’s Jesuit & Catholic mission.

- Increased programs, workshops and activities for faculty/staff. In 2009-2010, 19 events were held for over 200 faculty/staff in all university colleges and divisions. In 2010-2011, 12 activities involving over 200 participants have been held. These ranged from pastorally-focused activities (“Vitamins for the Soul”), to academically-focused sessions on the core curriculum, Conversations magazine and ‘Catholic & Jesuit values in the School of Nursing.’

- Hired two new Jesuit Center Fellows (2011-2012) to expand and facilitate Jesuit Center activities (Loyola Week/Lenten Series/Ig Vols, etc.). In FY 2011-2012, a staff reorganization will establish a new position: Jesuit Center Assistant Director for University Programs.

- Expanded Jesuit speakers on campus, and began collaboration with Student Affairs with a Jesuit Speaker series. Recent speakers include Jesuits Mark Mossa, SJ, Mark Thibodeaux, SJ, T. Frank Kennedy, S.J. and Paul Soukup, S.J.. Future Jesuit speakers coming to Loyola include Charlie Currie, SJ (November 2011) and James Martin, SJ (2012-2013).

- Expanded Jesuit/Catholic component in faculty and staff orientations. This includes Fred Kammer, S.J. assisting in a faculty workshop for the planning of the First-Year seminars, required of all new freshmen. University Ministry (UM) is also collaborating with the Office of Co-Curricular Programming to incorporate a welcome mass into all summer orientation sessions and will provide workshop sessions for the Student Leader Initiative day of training.

- Implemented conversations and workshops at the Faculty Academy on the importance of mission & identity and on Ignatian pedagogy. Published a new pamphlet (Fall 2010) on Ignatian pedagogy, with faculty contributions, edited by faculty Dr. Kate Lawrence. Assisted in The Center for Faculty Innovation Advisory Committee preparing the Faculty Mentoring Program.
- Held a Jesuit/Catholic mission-focused Board retreat [March 2011].
- Increased collaboration with Student Affairs, Human Resources, and the Women’s Resource Center (WRC) on wellness activities, including workshops on Ignatian techniques to remain spiritually healthy at the Staff Conference Day, and an interfaith service day in conjunction with the WRC “Love Your Body Week” (March 2011).
- Expanded involvement of faculty/staff in national Jesuit/AJCU programs: including 12 attending Heartland Delta/Cincinnati [May 2010] and 15 faculty, staff and senior administrators are participating in national Jesuit programs in 2010-2012, including the Ignatian Colleagues program (4), AJCU Leadership Conference (8), to Heartland Delta Faculty Conversations (5) and a new Catholic intellectual initiative called Collegium (2).
- Facilitated Jesuit Values sessions for student leaders (Ambassador & Res Life staff).
- Initiated Ignatian Pilgrimage to Spain [Summer 2012] for faculty/staff/ and Board.
- Initiated and continuing to expand individual spiritual offerings for faculty/staff including Advent Day of Recollection/ Lenten Retreat in Daily Life & Directed Retreat at Center/Grand Coteau, [2010]. A new Ignatian Silent Retreat for faculty, staff and alumni took place in January 2011 with 28 participants and 12 faculty/staff and Jesuits serving as speakers and spiritual directors.
- Facilitating a new developmental student Retreat Program, led by UM Assistant Director Laura Quigley. This includes a new Freshman Retreat (Fall 2010) with 24 participants, and the Emmaus Retreat, step three of the retreat developmental model (January 2011) which had 17 student participants and 7 staff directors, and the annual Senior Retreat (February 2011). The Awakening retreat, Loyola’s largest, (twice each year) involves an average of almost 100 students each retreat.
- Continued growth in Christian Life Communities (CLCs), which now has over 50 participants in eight currently established CLC’s. Loyola received a grant from the national CLC office to train facilitators to provide post-graduate CLC’s for local alumni and young adults in the Archdiocese of New Orleans.
- Hired a new Associate Chaplain (Ken Weber) [August 2009] for music and liturgy, revitalizing student attendance/participation & improving the quality of music. New programs include the study of the US Bishops’ documents on liturgy to prepare the university community in its implementation of the new Roman Missal (in Advent 2011).
- Expanded Interfaith Ministry and hired graduate intern, Sam Bradley. This includes the establishment of a student Interfaith Advisory Council and an increase in events, such as 69 participants in a new Hare Krishna discussion/meal (February 2011). Collaborative events are being planned with the newly constructed Hillel Center near campus.
- Expanded mission work in professional schools with Loyola Law School’s ‘Center for Volunteer and Public Values,’ which now has a Law and Poverty requirement for graduation.
- Increased interaction with the Archbishop of New Orleans, including Archbishop Aymond hosting New Orleans-area Catholic campus ministry directors from Loyola, Tulane, Xavier, Holy Cross and UNO at his home (Feb. 2011), hosting over 100 students/faculty/staff of the College of Law at his home (Feb. 2011) for a prayer service/discussion. Last Fall the Archbishop had dinner and attended a Compass meeting with undergraduates. He will be facilitating confirmation in Ignatius Chapel (May 2011) and attending Loyola’s graduation (May 2011).
- Initiated a new M&M e-newsletter, Magis Moments (Fall 2009), which is published twice-a-semester as a new means of communication to the entire Loyola community, including alumni. In addition, a new revamped M&M web site, launched in November 2009, will further develop our web-based resources. This includes on-line resources for spirituality & an on-line retreat.

4.) Jesuit Values: Collaboration with Jesuit Network

Building on the vast world-wide network of Jesuit educational institutions, there will be initiatives to expand academic and non-academic collaborations with Jesuit colleges and universities across the U.S. and world-wide. Unique collaborative and cooperative programs and initiatives will be developed between Loyola and other Jesuit schools.

- Began collaborative relationship with Center for International Education (CIE) and the Center for Caribbean and Latin American Studies to develop pilot projects to outreach to Jesuit institutions in Central and South America.
- Dialogue begun with Dr. Ricardo Marquez and the AJCU to allow him to assist in the establishment of more communication between the 28 Jesuit universities in the U.S. and the 22 colleges in Latin America.
- Hosted three Columbian Jesuits from the Javeriana University of Bogota, Colombia. (April 2011), who came to the U.S. to learn best practices in the area of mission, identity, faculty and staff development and social responsibility. Future collaboration is being explored.
- Hosted Annual AJCU Campus Ministry Directors Meeting (April 2011).
- Initiated dialogue with the Missouri and Belize Jesuits to explore new collaborative possibilities with Belize, including expanding LIMEX and new faculty/staff initiatives.
- Began exploring expansion of our Ignacio Volunteer international immersion trips into other countries, such as Honduras, Haiti and Columbia in the near future.
- Initiated an Ignacio Volunteer scholarship, supporting a graduate (Chris Knibbs) of the Jesuit high school in Jamaica. Chris is now on full-scholarship with M&M supporting his room and board. Initiated a new scholarship to a Mayan young man, Samuel Pop, in Toledo district, Belize to attend junior
college to receive a teaching credentials to teach in his Mayan village primary school.