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

Thursday, December 9, 2010  

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm  
Octavia II/ Danna Center  

Agenda  

- Call to Order (Rev. Gerald Cavanagh, S.J., Chair)  
- Opening Prayer  
- Approval of Minutes (October 7, 2010 meeting)  
- M&M student programs:  
  - Guest: Ms. Laura Quigley, Assistant Director, University Ministry  
  - Guests: Retreats / LUCAP / Music Ministry / Ignacio Volunteers  
- Update on the Tom Benson Jesuit Center (Dziak)  
- Reports: 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

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Mission and Identity Committee Minutes
Board of Trustees
Loyola University New Orleans
Thursday, October 7, 2010
Danna Center / Octavia I
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.


Calling in: Elisa Moran

Absent: Ashley Schaffer

Guests: Mr. Bill Bishop, V-P for Institutional Advancement and Mr. Chris Wiseman, Associate VP for Development, Dr. Ricardo Marquez, Assistant Director of the Jesuit Center

- Opening of Meeting / Prayer by Kurt Bindewald
- Approval of Minutes / Minutes from May 13, 2010, approved with amendment. Paul Soukop, SJ called into the meeting.

- Institutional Advancement and the Catholic/Jesuit Mission
  Mr. Bishop introduced himself as the new Vice President for Institutional Advancement and shared his fund raising experience with the committee. Mr. Bishop commented that he had just arrived this past summer and had met with Fr. Dziak and the other Vice President’s to assess their needs for the upcoming campaign which is now in its prep phase. Mr. Wiseman shared his insight into fund raising in New Orleans with its traditional Catholic base. He gave the Committee an overview of the recent history of Mission & Ministry fundraising, its current status, and discussed the future goals of fundraising in Mission & Ministry. Mr. Renny Simno of Institutional Advancement has been assigned to the Office of Mission & Ministry and is already working on creative ways to generate enthusiasm for the Capital Campaign.

- Ricardo J. Marquez, MSW, PhD
  Fr. Dziak introduced Dr. Marquez as the new Assistant Director of the Jesuit Center. The position was created as part of the strategic plan to assist the faculty and staff in Jesuit mission related areas. For faculty, he seeks to encourage them to integrate Ignatian pedagogy to the classroom. Dr. Marquez will also work with staff offering workshops and prayer opportunities for personal growth in a holistic way. Hailing from Venezuela, Ricardo will also bring Loyola to a closer relationship with the Jesuit Universities of the Southern hemisphere.

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• Report on NEW M&M Building
  New Orleans Saints owner Mr. Tom Benson made an $8,000,000 gift for the establishment of Benson Jesuit Center, which will turn the old Library into a new Center for mission and ministry. This building will be a focal point for Loyola’s Catholic and Jesuit heritage and future. There is still much fundraising ahead and planning will soon begin to determine which departments, centers, and student groups will find new homes here. There is great excitement and gratefulness for this new opportunity to bring forth mission in this way.

• Reports on M&M / Jesuit Center / University Ministry
  A written report was presented to the committee and Fr. Dziak and Mr. Bindewald pointed out a few of the highlights. This included: “Into the Streets” where 600 freshmen participated in service projects at 20 sites around New Orleans. Ignacio Volunteer programs have expanded. UM gave $7,000 from mass collections to help needy students purchase books.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with a prayer by Bentley Anderson, S.J.
• UPDATE on the Tom Benson Jesuit Center
  o Twenty-two architects were invited by RFP to submit a proposal to be the primary architect for the new Thomas Benson Jesuit Center. Twelve architectural firms submitted proposals. A committee led by Fr. Ted Dziak, SJ reviewed each of the architectural firms and five were invited to Loyola to present their case. Prioritized list will be sent to President Wildes for his selection of architect.
  o In the new calendar year, the new architect will begin meeting with M&M staff, with selected individuals and with focus group of faculty/staff/students and the external community to begin the shaping and envisioning of the new building.

Programs and Activities:
• Faculty and Staff Mission & Identity Activities in Jesuit and Catholic values (Ricardo Marquez):
  o Counseling Department Faculty workshop (Oct 8, 2010) on integrating Ignatian pedagogy into the classroom. Offered to other departments/Colleges. School of Nursing Faculty (Nov 16, 2010) and College of Social Sciences (Dec 14, 2010) will participate in similar workshop. These programs assist in “strategic renewal and enhancement of graduate education” at Loyola (Strategic Plan Loyola 2012).
  o “Vitamins for the Soul,” a day of spiritual reflection held for staff of the College of Humanities and Natural Sciences (Nov 11, 2010). Similar workshop for the College of Social Sciences will be held in January.
  o “Values in the Classroom: The Jesuit Education Mission” published. Editor is Dr. Kate Lawrence of College of Business. Similar publication is in preparation to collect experiences from the staff members and graduate students.
  o Centering Prayer group, an interfaith experience of prayer (January 2011)

• Expansion of Ignacio Volunteer immersion trips:
  o Due to demand, another Christmas camp has been added to the Belize Winter Program 2010 in Hopkins where another 150 children will be taught.
  o A new Faculty-Staff program in Belize will be held in May 2011, facilitated by Dr. Tom Ryan, director of Loyola Institute of Ministry (LIM). Ten-day immersion program.
  o Dr. Adrienne Bethancourt (School of Nursing) will initiate a new nursing immersion program. She will be participating in the Jamaica program to determine sites.

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• Plans are being explored for a new Spanish-speaking immersion program next year, either in Honduras or in Venezuela, working with Ricardo Marques’ contacts.

• **Loyola Week** “Throwback with the Wolfpack” (*November 1-7*): Emphasizing our Jesuit heritage, the annual event was a grant success. From an opening liturgy to dinner with the Jesuits to all-Loyola service Day (‘Wolves on the Prowl’), it was widely attended, heavily publicized and we received very positive feedback. Co-sponsored with Student Government Association.

• **Post-Graduation Opportunities:** A new Post-Graduation webpage has been created; personal anecdotes from alumni will be added in 2011. Jesuit Volunteer Corps Rooftop mass and dinner held on November 14th. Increased interest and applications from Loyola students.

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**University Ministry Report**

• **Retreats and Christian Life Communities (CLC):**
  - Seven CLC groups are meeting regularly. These include three “Phase I” groups and two “Phase II” groups, in addition to a LGBT focus group and a graduate LIM group. Many CLCs meet in the residence halls with assistance from Resident Chaplains.
  - *Awakening* retreat was held in October and was one of the most well attended and executed. Based loosely on the *Kairos* model, this retreat is our strongest at Loyola and takes place once every semester.
  - An *Ignatian Silent Retreat* for faculty/ staff will be held in early January. Those participating will be granted liberal leave from their job responsibilities for this retreat.

• **Liturgy, Music & Sacramental Preparation**
  - The quality of music, student ministers and Loyola community involvement in liturgies continues to grow under the leadership of Associate Chaplain Ken Weber.
  - Student liturgical ministers have been studying the US Bishops’ documents on liturgy and reviewing the upcoming implementation of the new Roman Missal.
  - Six students received the Sacrament of ***Confirmation*** at the beginning of November. Thirteen students are currently enrolled for Spring Confirmation preparation.

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• **Interfaith Ministry**
  o An interfaith prayer service was added this year to conclude the annual *Take Back the Night* rally and march to end gender based sexual violence.
  o College of Law Chaplain, Arlene Wiltz, continues to develop more interfaith opportunities on the Broadway Campus while working more in depth with faculty, staff and students on a range of diversity issues.

• **Faith, Justice and Sustainability at Loyola University**
  o *‘Wolves on the Prowl’*, included a record number of participants and students. National and local alumni worked alongside them at eighteen separate service sites.
  o LUCAP students attended the November ISN Teach-In in Washington D.C. and continue to attend the rally at the School of the Americas at Fort Benning, Georgia.
  o LUCAP sponsored a very successful dance-a-thon fundraiser to benefit *Invisible Children*: a program to end child abductions by warring factions in Uganda.

• **General U.M. Activities and planning:**
  o Archbishop Aymond visited campus on October 14 to have an open discussion with students during dinner and a COMPASS meeting. He also celebrated the 9pm Mass.
  o U.M. is working with Student Affairs on the New Student Orientation Planning Committee to incorporate a welcome mass into all summer orientation sessions.
  o Resident Chaplains meet with Residential Life staff monthly to discuss James Martin’s *The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything*. It is also used for formation in 2010-2011.
  o Loyola Life sponsored a *Cemetery of the Innocents* display. Their “Free Speech” board invited a wide range of emotional input from the Loyola community and is a great model for discussion of difficult issues on campus.
  o M&M has led the effort to have *Safe Zones* reintroduced on campus following national news of LGBT student suicides on college campuses.
  o Kurt Bindewald and U.M. is helping to facilitate the Jesuit Social Research Institute (JSRI) strategic planning process.

TAD / KB 11-17-10