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

Thursday, December 6, 2012

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 (October 7, 2012 meeting)
- Promoting the Mission through Student Affairs, Dr. Cissy Petty
  Vice President for Student Affairs and Associate Provost
- Student Input on Loyola's Jesuit/Catholic Mission & Identity
  o Ron Palmer ('14) and Pegah Namazizadeh ('13)
- University Ministry /Kurt Bindewald, Director of University Ministry
- Written Report: Office of Mission & Ministry /
  o Rev. Ted Dziak, SJ Vice-President of Mission & Ministry)
- Closing Prayer
Mission and Identity Committee Minutes
Board of Trustees
Loyola University New Orleans

Thursday, October 4, 2012
Danna Center / Octavia I
3:30p.m. – 5:30p.m.

Present: R. Bentley Anderson, SJ, (Chair); Jim Bowler, SJ (Vice Chair); Kurt Bindewald; Michael Braden, SJ; Laura Broders; Ted Dziak, SJ; Donald Faust; Anne Gauthier; Robert Gerlich, SJ; Gail Jock; Rachel Kent; Margaret Liederbach; Peter Rogers, SJ; John Sebastian; Ileana Suquet; Paul Soukup, SJ.
Absent: Carolyn Callahan; T. Frank Kennedy, SJ; Lawrence Lewis; Joe O'Keefe, SJ; Jenna Vercillo
Guests: Kevin Poorman, Board Chair; Sal Liberto, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Associate Provost
Call in: (none)
Debbie LaMarca (Recording Secretary).

• Opening of Meeting / Prayer by Jim Bowler, SJ
• Approval of Minutes / One correction, Barry LeBlanc did attend meeting.
• Promoting the Mission through the Recruiting & Admissions Process/ by Mr. Sal Liberto, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Associate Provost  Liberto informed the Board on how mission is woven into recruitment at Loyola. Admissions staff is educated in the Jesuit philosophy of education and Jesuit-'speak’. Recruitment stresses Jesuit high schools. Loyola is part of the Jesuit Excellence Tour, and a member of the National Catholic Recruitment Council. One goal of recruitment is to inform the prospective student that we are Catholic & Jesuit, while at same time welcoming all and respecting all faiths.
• Tom Benson Jesuit Center / by Fr. Ted Dziak, SJ. Dziak reported that architects Holly & Smith are completing detail work on Option II, meeting with all M&M staff to gather information on what is needed in each office/room of the building. Until this is completed with cost analysis, no final decision by Fr. Wildes can be made. It is estimated that the detailed design and cost analysis will be complete by January 2013, so a decision on options can be made by Wildes.
• AJCU Board Survey / by Dziak & Anderson  Discussion arose on the new AJCU Board of Trustees survey. Greater details is needed for better review. The committee decided that this should be reviewed by the Trustees committee. A small committee (Soukup and Bowler) will work together to review and create two questions from questionnaire which will be sent to the Trustee Committee.
• University Ministry / by Kurt Bindewald. Bindewald informed Committee on strong presence of Christian Life Communities [CLC] at Loyola. CLC’s
have been at Loyola since 2004, and it is a quality program which includes students from all faith backgrounds or varying levels of faith. Two unique groups are called “Skittles” and include GLBT students. Overall, there are six professional staff leaders and eleven student leaders/facilitators. Bindewald also presented a report on alms giving to the committee, assisting needy students with funds for books, etc. Other donations made to support local, national and international crises and causes. These funds come from donations and collections from student masses and the Ignatius Chapel Community (ICC).

- Office of Mission & Ministry Report / by Fr. Dziak. Dziak reviewed the written report, which included breakdown of all M&M staff and their goals (and pictures.) Comments were offered on the staff and projects planned for the new academic year. Hurricane Isaac caused some disruption with the first week of school cancelled. No evacuation but over 600 students and staff endured living in residence halls without electricity for three days. Early retreats have been filled to capacity. New Iggy Vol program will bring Loyola baseball team players to Belize over Christmas break to teach baseball to Belizean children. The Loyola Week Centennial celebration will present two concerts: The St. Louis Jesuits liturgical group will reunite and perform on November 5th and handicapped singer Tony Melendez will perform on November 7th.

- Closing of Meeting / Prayer by Margaret Liederbach

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie LaMarca
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**

- **Centennial** programming throughout all areas of M&M continues. This included having New Orleans Archbishop **Gregory Aymond** speak on campus on ‘The Catholic Intellectual Tradition’ as part of the Presidential Centennial Speaker Series in September. The Presidents of Loyola, Xavier and Our Lady of the Holy Cross responded to the Archbishop. There were over 350 participants.

- **Loyola Week** in particular carried the Centennial theme of “Celebrating Our Past, Embracing the Future.” Key Loyola Week events included:
  - A Concert by the liturgical music group, “The St Louis Jesuits,” who reunited for our Centennial. Almost 300 people were present.
  - Handicapped and inspiring guitarist **Tony Melendez**, whose concert was filled with a strong Christian message and attended by over a dozen youth groups from local churches and high schools. Almost 350 people were present.
  - Other fun-filled events included a tricycle race around the Iggy Statue (‘The Iggy 5’), a ‘Pamplona cannon’ piñata, a Jesuit Cup rugby competition and a talk by **Fred Kammer, S.J.** on Faith, Race & Poverty in Post-Katrina New Orleans.

- For Election 2012, a two-week multimedia presentation on “Faithful Citizenship” was presented in the Danna Center. A life-sized Uncle Sam Ignatius encouraged the Loyola community to enter the voting booth with an informed, faithful conscience. There was also an Archbishop Aymond October 22 LIM webinar on the Faithful Citizenship topic.

- Design and cost estimates for the **Tom Benson Jesuit Center** continues, specifically office spaces and chapel design. The cost estimates should be completed by January 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/ Mark Lewis/ and Bob Gerlich. Currently, 12 people have signed up.

- A dialogue has begun with **Holy Name Church** parish community to explore a closer working relationship and collaboration. A series of meetings between the pastor / parish council and M&M staff will lead to an exploration of ways to create better communication and possible linkage in particular sacramental and ministerial works.

- **Jesuit recruitment** is underway with efforts to recruit a Jesuit scholastic to assist at the College of Law and to recruit new Jesuit PhD’s to teach at the University.

- Loyola was represented the **AJCU Mission and Identity Conference in November in Chicago.** This included a Heartland Delta meeting to evaluate future Heartland Delta programs in light of upcoming Jesuit Province mergers.
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

  o **New Faculty Orientation Breakfast:** The annual breakfast sponsored by M&M and the Loyola Jesuit community led off the new faculty orientation with 45 new faculty attending with key administrators/M&M staff and Jesuits.
    ▪ This has been followed by a monthly ‘New Faculty Lunch’ for new faculty and college administrators and seasoned faculty.
  o **The Ignatian Faculty Fellows Program** (ICC), coordinated by Dr. John Sebastian, will officially launch in the spring 2013 semester with nine faculty participants.
  o **Vitamins for the Soul (VS):** Over 50 staff have participated in five different offerings, which allow staff from various departments/offices and colleges to spiritually share their work and their lives.
  o Human Resources and Mission and Ministry are co-sponsoring a mission-focused session titled, “**Builders of the Ignatian Vision: Gifted, Called and Missioned**” as part of a staff development pilot program scheduled for December 4, 2012.
  o The next **Heartland Delta Faculty Conversations** will be hosted by Loyola on Feb. 22-24, 2013. The topic will be “Eloquentia Perfecta” with 50-60 faculty members from various Jesuit universities expected to attend.
  o **New Staff Orientations:** Every month M&M staff provides a basic orientation for new staff hires, which included almost 60 new staff in September/October.
  o Participation of Loyola faculty/staff in national programs:
    ▪ **Ignatian Colleagues Program (ICP):** Dr. Cissy Petty, Vice-President for Student Affairs and Dean Maria Lopez of the Law School (Cohort 5).
  o Other faculty/staff mission events:
    ▪ **College of Law** staff day-long retreat (45 staff participated)
    ▪ Weekly ‘centering prayer’ groups (25 faculty/staff)

- **Other Special Jesuit Center Programs**

  o M&M Sponsored an **Ignatian Scholars retreat**, led by Jesuit Fellow Nick Courtney, Honors Program director, Naomi Yavneh and Jesuit scholastic Sylvester Tan, S.J.
  o Planning has begun for the **2013 Lenten Series**, co-sponsored by the Alumni Association. The theme will be “Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Vatican II.”
  o **The Spiritual Exercises /18th Annotation retreat** will again be offered to faculty/staff, led this year by Fr. Stephen Rowntree, S.J. The eight-week retreat-in-daily life will begin in January 2013.
• **Ignacio Volunteer Immersion Programs**: Five to six programs are held each year for undergraduates and one held for faculty/staff (in Belize)
  
  o **Summer Programs 2012**:
    - **Jamaica Experience** / May 2012 (17 students/staff participated)
    - **Belize Faculty/ Staff Experience** / June 2012 (15 faculty/staff participated)
    - **Belize Summer Camp** / July 2012 (16 students/staff participated)
  
  o **Winter Programs 2012**:
    - **Belize Baseball Camp** / December 2012 (9 students/staff will participate)
    - **Belize Christmas Camp** / December 2012 (14 will participate)
    - **Jamaica Winter Experience** / December 2012 (13 will participate)

Applicants for the next program: 105 (Summer 2013), 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.
  
  o Prayer Requests sent out for every Loyola member as requested
  o Original Iggy **Birthday card** sent to all faculty and staff members
  o Alms donations for emergency financial needs of students (textbooks, tuition, food, medicine, etc.) distributed as funds are available.
  o Outreach to victims of Hurricane Isaac and Hurricane Sandy along East Coast, especially to sister Jesuit institutions.

• **Law School Ministry**: ministering to the law faculty/staff and student community of Loyola Law School.
  
  o Serves on committees: Senior Staff, Student/ Faculty Relations, SBA Executive Board, Care & Concern, Recycling, BAC Emergency Evacuation, Law Graduation Mass/Events, Ad Hoc Diversity Committee.
  o Provides Mission and Identity orientations to First Year class, couples, student leaders, visiting/transfer students, LLM students.
  o Assists in faith formation programs: RCIA, adult confirmation, Marriage prep, annulment inquiries.

• **Liturgy and Music Events and Programs**:
  
  o **Mass of the Holy Spirit** (September 13): Featuring over 100 liturgical ministers, including the University Chamber Chorale, Loyola Ballet, Loyola Orchestra. Music included original compositions. Attendance: 744.
  o **Family Weekend Mass** (September 29) (Co-sponsored by Student Affairs).
  o Special Themed masses including **Caribbean Mass** and **Martyrs Mass**.
- **All Saints Day Mass and Carnival** (a Loyola Late Night event assisted by Resident Chaplains) and **Alumni Memorial** Mass (November 1/2)
- **Loyola Week Mass** (November 4)
- Lecture by Dr. Tom Ryan (LIM) on the 50th anniversary/Vatican II (October 7)
- Lecture by Rachel Longest (LIM Intern) on status of young adult ministry in the Archdiocese (November 18)

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**
- Mass and Pancakes (December 9)
- **Black History Month Mass** (February 17)
- Extraordinary Form **Latin Mass** (March 10)

**ONGOING EVENTS**
- “Text to Give” program, enabling students to text a keyword to a specific number to donate $5 to the collection at the Sunday 9:00pm Mass.
- Active liturgical minister program (50) operating on a rotating schedule.
- Monthly discernment minister meetings for the ICC.

**Retreats:** Provide all members of the Loyola community with opportunities to experience God through familiarity with methods of Ignatian prayer and spirituality.
- **Freshmen Retreat** had a record 41 participants and 9 student staff.
- **Awakening Retreat** had a record 56 participants and 56 student staff.
- There is also encouragement of retreatants to continue nurturing their encounter with God outside the retreat period.
- The **Silent Ignatian Retreat** (January 11-13, 2013) will be offered to faculty, staff, and alumni.
- The **Emmaus Retreat** will be offered to sophomore/juniors in January 2013.

**Christian Life Communities:** CLCs work to strengthen connections among other Loyola CLCs as well as the national and global CLC community.
- Events and Programs:
  - **Tea Time** hosted weekly, a community-wide open house gathering for reflection and discussion on the CLC way of life.
  - Establishing a social media presence for interactive weekly community-wide reflections questions, allowing for comments by members.
  - **Fall Festival** was held to celebrate participants’ commitment to their CLC communities. 24 CLC members attended.
  - **Phase III CLC** established for veteran CLC members, with a special focus on discernment.
  - Offering support and assistance to Office of Young Adults/Archdiocesan-wide CLC groups, with two young adult groups continuing to meet.
- Christian Life Communities (by the numbers):
  - 11 groups (76 student members & 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 and 7 pro staff members
• **Faith, Service and Justice Programming:**
  o **Spark 2012** orientation service week which involved a seminar by Fred Kammer, S.J. Volunteers worked through Green Light New Orleans to install energy-efficient CFL light bulbs in the homes of 42 low and fixed income residents of New Orleans. Participants: 19 first year students.
  o **Into the Streets** program enhancement of the new excursions-based format by facilitating three service sites. Participants: 120 volunteers.
  o **Wolves on the Prowl** day (co-sponsored with Alumni Relations). Seeking to increase student-alumni contact and focus on underserved volunteer sites. Participants: 200+ including 37 alumni.
  o Serving on Catholic Charities *Isaac Relief Team*, mobilizing student volunteers to gut storm-damaged houses in LaPlace and Braithwaite and generating a total of 165 hours of service to those communities.

• **Loyola Community Action Program (LUCAP)**
  o **Projects and Programs:** Three new LUCAP projects added in fall of 2012
    - A revitalization of the *Shrockin’ project* with Saint Bernard Project;
    - **The Freret Initiative:** neighborhood cleanups in Loyola’s backyard communities;
    - **Caring Across Cultures:** providing free, high-quality childcare to the Latino Farmers’ Cooperative once per month during workshops.
  o Current volunteer hours total (not including Wolves on the Prowl): 1,296 hours
  o **School of the Americas Watch** trip to Ft. Benning, GA planned as a Centennial event with LUCAP students/alumni. Co-sponsored with the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies.
  o Two new LUCAP Internship positions added to allow community engagement leadership development for first year and sophomore LUCAP students.

• **Faith and Sacramental Formation**
  o Loyola University and Holy Name of Jesus church have formed a joint *RCIA* program with 21 classes on the Catholic faith presented by a 10 member team. There are currently 8 in the RCIA program (4 catechumens and 4 candidates). The RCIA formation team consists of members of the Loyola University and Holy Name of Jesus communities.
  o **Marriage preparation** is being offered to 8 couples requesting assistance with the process. Five have completed the process.
  o **Vocation awareness:** Students are recruited for the JVC (Jesuit Volunteer Corp) and for religious vocations. Discernment retreats and spiritual direction are offered to interested students.
**Center for Community Engagement:** The mission of the Center for Community Engagement (CCE) 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.

- **Community based federal work study:** 49 students were placed with 15 agencies (an increase from 12 students placed/5 agencies last year). 180 students expressed interest from 498 students emailed.
  - Agencies include a diverse variety, including the New Orleans Film Society, Audubon Nature Institute, and tutoring with Elevate, New Orleans Outreach, and Wilson Charter School.
  - Loyola is set to exceed the 7% community placement requirement for its work study funds.
  - New agency selection and training process: comprehensive, half-day training for community partner agencies, and regular site visits and meetings.

- New **"Five Minute Interview"** event to connect students and agencies.

- New online presence (program information, job listings and agency information, student interest and placement forms).

- Traveled to Georgetown to meet with presenters at a Justice Conference about Just Employment/Contract Worker policies.

- Begun dialogue with East Carolina University/Portland State University about new community engagement assessment vehicles. Continuing to research best practices for community engagement infrastructure at various universities.

- Will purchase new bikes for the **Iggy Bikes** program and pilot a daily bike-share program for students in the spring.

*TAD/ KJB 11-9-12*