Mission and Identity Committee Meeting
Board of Trustees

Thursday, March 11, 2010

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

Agenda

• Call to Order (Jerry Cavanaugh, S.J.)

• Opening Prayer

• Approval of Minutes (December 03, 2010 meeting)

• ‘Hiring for Mission’: Presentation & Discussion
  o Dr. Ed Kvet, Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs
  o Dr. Donald R. Boomgaard, Dean, College of Music and Fine Arts
  o Dr. JoAnn H. Moran Cruz, Dean, College of Humanities & Natural Sciences

• Report: Office of Mission & Ministry/ University Ministry
  (Rev. Ted Dziak, SJ Vice-President of Mission & Ministry and Kurt Bindewald, Director of University Ministry)

• Closing Prayer
I. Opening of Meeting / Prayer by Kurt Bindewald

II. Approval of Minutes / Minutes from October 15, 2009, approved

III. Strategic Goals Update / Fr. Dziak

   Scott Porot continues his work on developing the new Volunteer Center. Scott has been visiting with local individuals as well as Community partners, to ask what they would want to see in such a Center at Loyola. He is seeking their input from the very beginning, exploring what they would want and letting them know that Loyola looks forward to working with them in meeting their needs. He is also exploring foundations and grants. It is hoped that the new Volunteer Center will be open in FY2011 with funding coming from the FY2011 budget.

   Dziak said he is working closely with the Administration to be able to make Judy Deshotels’ Jesuit Center position with faculty/staff mission & identity a full time position. She is limited in her work with the Faculty & Staff since she is only half time. She has been involved in various workshops for the colleges and programs with faculty/staff, and in December, she will hold an Advent retreat for faculty & staff, led by Fr. Jerry Fagin, S.J.

   During the next few months, Mission & Ministry will be linked further to the Boggs Center for National Literacy, exploring how their literacy work and initiatives can be included into the new Volunteer Center.

   M&M is actively seeking donors for the renovation of the Old Library which will become a new Jesuit Center in the new Master Plan. This new Jesuit Center facility will house a new chapel, a learning commons around Catholic & Jesuit academics, the new Volunteer Center, and other Mission & Ministry programmatic and staff/administrative offices. M&M is very excited about this and hopes the project can find donors and begin quickly.

IV. Report: Mission and Ministry / University Ministry by Fr. Dziak and Kurt Bindewald

   Kurt said he would address specific events instead of a general overview this meeting. Loyola Week was held the first week of November, and there was great cooperation with Student Government Association, University Programming Board and the “new” Maroon Platoon [spirit group] this year. These student groups decorated the Danna Center so no one walking through could miss the fact that it was Loyola Week. A drama student, James McBride, dressed in a cassock appearing as St. Ignatius himself. The entire University community enjoyed this week and its activities. Others are already suggesting ways they can be a part of Loyola Week next year.

   M&M is working towards having a larger group of student participating in the MLK Week for Peace in January. It is also M&M’s goal to bring more awareness to our graduating seniors of opportunities to spend a year in service through Jesuit Volunteer Corp, Teach for America, etc.
V. **Presentation:** The Sustaining Agreement Between the New Orleans Province of the Society of Jesus, the Loyola Jesuit Community and Loyola University New Orleans.

**Comments/ Questions on “The Sustaining Agreement”**

- Perhaps our university legal council should look over this document since it so important. Perhaps it should be brought forth to the BD’s Exec Comm for review and maybe even further work on this document (LeBlanc).
- Document states that the Jesuit Provincial ‘missions’ a President to the apostolate (university.) What happens if the President is a lay person – is the person still ‘missioned’ by the Provincial, and what would that mean to a lay person? Can a Provincial ‘take away’ his/her ‘missioning’ (in the same way he can withdraw a Jesuit)? (Soukup)
- How will this agreement be affected when the Jesuit Provinces reorganize? (Soukup) 
- The Univ leans heavily on the Jesuit Community for financial contribution. What happens as the community dwindles down in size? The Univ needs to fund M&M from its budget, not from funds received from Jesuit community. (Gerlich)
- While it is important for the Univ/BD to have a ‘Jesuit Identity & Mission’ committee as so stated, it should also state that all BD committees should have a ‘Jesuit mission’ focus, not just one committee. (Gerlich). For example, no other committee opens with a prayer. Maybe they should (Callier)
- Wondered aloud if the order of approval was right – perhaps the Jesuit Community should have approved it before it came up for discussion before the M&I committee and the BD? (Gerlich)
- Real estate questions relating to the title/housing of Jesuits is something this committee cannot address. Will the university be giving $$ to the Jesuits since they moved out of Thomas Hall? (Leblanc)
- It seems to state that it is the responsibility of the Board (or perhaps the M&I Committee) to educate itself (the full Board) on Jesuit mission & identity. How does the Board or this committee do this? (Bowler)
- Should there be a firm commitment of all trustees to commit themselves to learning more about Jesuit education/ Ignatian spirituality? Should there be a Board retreat (real spiritual retreat, not just a meeting in a hotel?) (Bowler)
- What is the Corporation & what is its relationship with the Board? Need more basic info, especially since the document states the total of Jesuits on the Board is lowered. Doesn’t the Corporation have to approve the number of Jesuits on the Board (not the Board?) (LeBlanc)
- Document almost infers a “Jesuit” accreditation – is this what is happening by the Province? Should there be more real measurable factors? (Quinn)

In conclusion:

- (Jerry Cavanaugh): an important document with long-term implications. Necessary. Everyone agrees that it is 95% good, but maybe some of the wording seems a little unclear. Should the M&I committee be suggesting revision to it or another committee?
- (Leblanc) It should be the Exec & maybe even the Trustee committees since the implications are far reaching. Is probably necessarily somewhat vague & general.
- (Quinn) Agrees that this may not be the best committee to review this document beyond initial discussion.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with a prayer given by J. P. Shuster (2L).
OFFICE OF MISSION & MINISTRY
Report to the Mission & Identity Committee of the Board of Trustees
March 11, 2010

• Mission & Ministry Assists in Leading the Relief Efforts for Haiti:
  o “Hope for Haiti”: Mission & Ministry (Kurt Bindewald) and Student Affairs (Robert Reed) are co-chairing the ‘Hope for Haiti’ committee which coordinates all Haiti relief efforts on campus. On the committee are representatives from every area of the university. Students are being encouraged in their eagerness and creativity to organize concerts, art shows and other events to benefit and celebrate the people and culture of Haiti. Professors are organizing lectures and class projects. Based on Loyola’s own experience of rebuilding New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, the university is making a long-term commitment to the recovery of Haiti. The “Hope for Haiti” blog has been established at http://blogs.loyo.edu/haiti/ for updated information on Loyola’s continuing efforts to aid Haiti.
  o A special focus on Haiti through stewardship of time, talent and treasure will take place throughout Lent. Collections have been made at all campus masses. A clothes collection has been initiated by M&M students to be brought/sent to Haiti.
  o All the concerts from the ‘Sacred Words & Sacred Music’ Lenten Series cosponsored by M&M and Alumni Association will benefit Haitian relief, including the Ayiti Cheri, Haitian Benefit Concert and Dance Performance held on Feb. 26 in Roussel Hall.

• Increased Focus on Mission & Identity For Faculty/Staff: Dr. Judy Deshoteils has brought and will bring increased Mission & Identity programmatic offerings for faculty & staff this spring/summer including:
  o Workshops: For HuNS & SS by Jerry Fagin, SJ, John Sebastian and Lawrence Lewis. For Business & MFA by Jerry Fagin, SJ Kate Lawrence & Jean Montes. (March)
  o Faculty Lunch Conversations on Jesuit Values & Vision of Education: Held monthly (Feb/ Mar / April).
  o Ignatian Retreat in Daily Life (Feb 24 – Mar 18) Concurrent with student retreat.
  o Lecture on Jesuit / Ignatian Pedagogy (with Center for Faculty Innovation) John Sebastian (March 5)
  o “What You May be Curious About, But Haven’t Asked”: On the Jesuits & Catholicism (April 13.)
  o Directed Retreat at the Jesuit Spirituality Center, Grand Coteau, LA: A silent, directed Ignatian-based retreat for faculty and staff. (May 13 – 16)

• Service: Scott Porot continues to work on the formation of the new Center for Volunteer & Public Center. Progress includes:
  o M&M has applied to the Raskob Foundation to fund a reflection component for the new Center that will be developmentally based and will expand reflection materials and web resources. It seeks to ensure that reflection on service is linked to Loyola’s Jesuit mission and identity.
  o Boggs Center: Dialogue has begun with the Lindy Boggs National Center for Community Literacy as its literacy component is enveloped into an expanded Boggs center. It is hoped that the work of the Boggs literacy center will continue in the new “Lindy Boggs Center for Volunteer & Public Service” Federal funding, foundation and corporate grants and donors are being explored and sought.

• International Initiatives: Partnerships are being explored for further collaboration with Jesuit schools in the Caribbean/ Central America. M&M has been in dialogue with Debbie Danna (Center for International Studies) and with Uriel Quesada (Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies) about possible joint pilot projects in Caribbean/ Central America. Discussion has arisen to explore and develop a unique relationship with Belize, a Jesuit mission of the Missouri province, which will soon merge with the New Orleans Province.
• **Student formation and involvement:**
  o Twelve students represented Loyola University at the annual *March for Life* in Washington D.C. in January. LUCAP sent several students to the *Ignatian Solidarity Network Teach-in* on sustainability at Wheeling University at the beginning of March.
  o *Ignacio Volunteer* immersion programs have expanded, with a new *Belize Winter Camp* held in the Mayan villages in southern Belize over Christmas break, with twelve students/staff participating. Volunteers have been selected for a new Louisiana Bayou immersion trip over spring break (*Bayou Immersion Experience*) and in May (*El Paso Border Experience*) working with the migrant population at the Mexican border. Twelve volunteers served on the Jamaica Christmas Camp in December, while record numbers applied for the two summer programs to Jamaica and Belize this summer.
  o Students continue to work with the family who received the *Loyola Habitat for Humanity House* through touch-up painting, landscaping and visits.
  o LUCAP members in the *Worker Justice Project* have been assisting employees of Sodexo Dining Services on campus in their efforts to explore establishing a union at Loyola.
  o Fourteen students & community members are enrolled in the Spring Adult Confirmation class.

• **Master Plan & Old Library/new Jesuit Center Plans:** There has been increased excitement about the new Jesuit Center, which will be a cornerstone project of the capital campaign.
  o Mission & Ministry has begun to get input from Loyola Institute of Ministry (LIM), Jesuit Social Research Institute (JSRI), Institute for Catholic Studies, the Twomey Center and other related Catholic/Jesuit groups to discuss ideas for a learning commons that would allow for greater collaboration and programming on Catholic & Jesuit intellectual programs. This would include offices, classrooms and meeting spaces for all Catholic and Jesuit related endeavors of the university.
  o Discussion with the College of Music has begun to explore use of new chapel for sacred music concerts with an addition of a new organ, as well as greater collaboration in the area of sacred music, with new offering of a certificate in liturgical music.
  o Discussion has arisen to explore the relationship between the university and Holy Name parish – with the hope to bring the parish and its community into use of the new Jesuit Center and further into the life of the university. Other Jesuit schools are being examined for best practices.
  o M&M is represented on the Facilities Planning Group in an effort to maintain a strong sense of mission and identity in the Master Plan and in the building and renovation taking place on campus.

• **Miscellaneous**
  o The *Sacred Words & Sacred Music Lenten Series* will start with the benefit concert for Haiti on Fed 25. This annual series is sponsored by the Jesuit Center and the Alumni Association. Each following Wednesday will have a concert or speaker. Included in this series is a concert by UM Assoc Chaplain Ken Weber and the Loyola Music Ministry (March 3) and Professor John Mahoney and his band (March 24). Also Fr. Joe Tetlow, SJ (March 17) and diocesan priest Fr. R. Tony Ricard (*’87*) (March 5.)
  o Loyola New Orleans will send a delegation of eighteen faculty and staff members to the *Heartland Delta VI* conference to be held at Xavier University May 25 through 28. M&M is facilitating the selection and will fully fund the program.
  o LM&M will select two faculty/staff for the *Ignatian Colleagues/ Cohort 3 program*. Faculty members Tom Ryan and John Sebastian are completing their eighteen-month Cohort 1 program.
  o M&M will sponsor three faculty/staff for the *AJCU Higher Education Leadership* conference at Loyola/Chicago in June. This is the second summer for participants and Vice-presidents Ed Kvet, Cissy Petty, and Sal Liberto.
  o An icon of St. Ignatius (painted by Kurt Bindewald) and video monitor displaying all M&M activities/programs has been installed in the main hallway of Bobet Hall.

  *Ted Dziak, SJ/ Kurt Bindewald  03/11/10*