



MISSION SEMINAR 2009:

Come Apart to a Quiet Place

By Laura Sanders

The sounds of Mariachi music accompanied attendees at the Holy Cross Institute's Mission Seminar 2009 during a side trip to San Antonio to see Holy Cross School, San Fernando Cathedral, the Alamo and the Riverwalk.

The students at Holy Cross School—San Antonio met attendees with cold bottled water and pan dulce. Everyone enjoyed a presentation on the school and the insights the students learned from June's Holy Cross Conference for Student Leaders in Austin. "It was very moving to listen to the students, and hear and feel the pride they have in their school and in Holy Cross," says Jim Patterson, Counseling Department chair at Moreau Catholic High School in Hayward, Calif.

The day before, the 33 attendees and an additional 38 St. Edward's University faculty and staff came together on the St. Edward's campus for a quieter kind of listening, at the keynote address by Father Thomas Looney, CSC (see page 7 for a Q&A about the address). Father Looney called attendees to personally hunger for God, to hear God's call on their lives, to trust in divine providence and to model their lives after Jesus Christ. He emphasized that Father Moreau did not believe such modeling happened in solitude, but in union and collaboration with other believers. Holy Cross educators are part of the Body of Christ in the world and are needed to fulfill the roles and responsibilities of that Body. He ended the speech by giving practical examples of how Holy Cross educators can live out Father Moreau's principles and

PHOTO COURTESY OF BROTHER NICH PEREZ, CSC



Brothers Ronaldo, Ginaldo and Edson representing Brazil at the Mission Seminar

communicate them to non-Catholics. Time for quiet reflection and prayer, as well as corporate prayer time, gave attendees a chance to absorb all they'd heard.

Participants from 13 schools and all three branches of the Holy Cross family — Brothers, Sisters and priests — attended and shared their personal journeys, their struggles and their joys. Included were six Brothers from the CSC District of Brazil and Colegio Notre Dame de Campinas who gave U.S. attendees a connection to the international Holy Cross family.

"It's such a pleasure to be with people who are not just doing a job, but are happy in their profession and show it! The seminar gave me a great deal of hope!" says Sister Kenneth Regan, CSC, a member of the Sisters of the Holy Cross.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BROTHER NICH PEREZ, CSC



Holy Cross Mission Seminar 2009 participants and student leaders from Holy Cross School of San Antonio

INFORMATION

Letter from the Executive Director

By Brother Stephen Walsh, CSC



As an administrator, I learned that nothing could unnerve my colleagues more than when I opened a meeting by saying, “I’ve been thinking ...” This past year, I have been thinking but mostly listening and reflecting with Holy Cross Institute board members and the Program Development Committee. As a result, I would like to share several initiatives with you.

MISSION SEMINAR II

When we began the Mission Seminar program, it was seen as only the first step leading to a more formalized program of formation for Holy Cross educators, which included the possibility of online distance learning. To this end, I am happy to announce that HCI has contracted with Brother Joel Giallanza, CSC, to help us plan and design the elements of such a program. This kind of project is not completed overnight. The first step beginning in the fall will be a series of focus groups across the country involving Mission Seminar participants and school administrators to assess both needs and expectations.

CONVOCATION 2010: APRIL 11–13

The theme of the 2010 convocation is “Holy Cross Educators in the 21st Century: Holy Cross Mission and Catholic Identity.” I am pleased to announce that the keynote speaker will be Father Tom Looney, CSC, provincial of the Eastern Province of Priests and Brothers. Father Looney’s address will be the same presentation that has been so well-received at the last three summer Mission Seminars: “A Spirituality for Holy Cross Educators.”

In response to requests from board members from a number of schools, there will be a special session beginning mid-morning on Sunday, April 11, on “Leadership and Succession” to be facilitated by Heather Gossart, president of Bishop McNamara High School. More time and space will also be allocated for the Board Affinity Group. Sessions on strategies for enhancing Catholic identity and mission assessment are also being planned. And in response to the request of principals, we will have a session on implementing the USCCB Curriculum Framework for High School Religion. A facilitator will share the history and process of the framework’s development.

HOLY CROSS CONFERENCE FOR STUDENT LEADERS REFLECTION

In late September, I am hosting a meeting of faculty and staff identified by their principals who will meet in Austin as the first step in defining and implementing a united Holy Cross Conference for Student Leaders program. The existing programs — in Austin, Texas and South Bend, Ind. — have had the benefit of remarkable volunteer leaders who have maintained a high level of enthusiasm over a number of years. It has been a labor of love and those who have worked with the program bring experience and wisdom to the process. As this program comes under the auspices of the Holy Cross Institute, it will continue to rely on volunteer participation as well as staff support from the institute.

Taking into consideration the two initiatives I have shared with you — planning for an extended formation program over the long term and the launch of a new Holy Cross Conference for Student Leaders in 2010 — we are not planning a Mission Seminar next summer.

I look forward to seeing many of you in the coming year.

What is the Holy Cross Institute?

The Holy Cross Institute is charged with creating a national community among secondary schools, colleges and universities founded and sponsored by the Congregation of Holy Cross in the United States. It provides resources, programs and events that educate administrators, faculty, board members and students on the unique Holy Cross educational legacy.

Learn more at www.holycrossinstitute.org.



From Holy Cross Student to Educator

By Van Darden

For **Jason Horinger '07**, Holy Cross education has defined his life. A graduate of Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron, Ohio, Horinger was familiar with the attitude and approach of Holy Cross educational institutions before he stepped foot on the St. Edward's University campus. It came as no surprise to him that the school was an instant fit. It was during his time as a Religious Studies major that he was approached to speak at the inaugural Holy Cross Institute Convocation, held at St. Edward's, on his experiences at Holy Cross schools.

"What a Holy Cross education boils down to, both at the high school and university level, is the emphasis on relationships and meeting people," Horinger says. "Life is about taking care of the little things that, in turn, make the big things easier."

Horinger's life came full circle when administrators from Hoban approached him about a job following his graduation from St. Edward's. He now serves as a campus minister at Hoban, helping students track their spiritual and emotional growth along with fielding questions and helping out with liturgies. He also teaches several religious scripture classes, and in his spare time, helps coach basketball and lacrosse teams.

Now that Horinger has experienced the Holy Cross tradition from both sides, he says that he has learned to put an emphasis on relationships in his day-to-day living.

"I think about how I am with other people. How I interact with strangers at the grocery store or the gas station," he says. "I think about what kind of impact I'm making on everyone I meet. I may never see these people again, and I may not change the situation they're in, but I'll go into the next interaction a little wiser. Hopefully, they will too."



PHOTO COURTESY OF GINDI KINNAN

Jason Horinger with students from Our Lady of Holy Cross School in Kasoa, Ghana, during a 12-day immersion trip

First International Moreau Scholar Awarded By Mike Rosenthal

Luiz Henrique Trillo '11 is a long way from Campinas, Brazil, a city of one million in the centrally located state of São Paulo where he grew up. International students are hardly new at St. Edward's University, but Trillo is unique. He's the first ever to win the prestigious International Moreau Scholarship, awarded to top-ranked Holy Cross high school graduates. As a student at Colégio Notre Dame in Campinas, Trillo had no plans for international study. But his Moreau Scholarship provided an unexpected opportunity to enhance his education and prospects for the future.

Trillo says his initial fear about leaving his family and lifelong friends was quickly tempered at St. Edward's by the kindness of his classmates, the personal attention of dedicated instructors and the beauty of the historic campus. Now in his third year, he thinks of St. Edward's as his second home. He and his friends can frequently be found unwinding on the soccer field or tennis courts.

"It's exciting to get out of my comfort zone," says Trillo, a Business major. "You go back home, and you feel proud that you did it. You know more people. You know more places. You have great stories to tell."

For more information on the Moreau Scholarship at St. Edward's, visit www.gotostedwards.com.

LEARNING WHAT IT MEANS

to be a Holy Cross Leader

By Rob Thomas and Casey Yandek



In June and July, two Holy Cross Conferences for Student Leaders provided opportunities for students to make connections between their lives and the wider Holy Cross community. Both conferences focused on five themes: “A Shared Family,” “A Shared Heritage,” “A Shared Mission,” “A Shared Service,” and “Living the Mission.” Conference leaders challenged students to plan how they could share what they learned back on their home campuses and how they could live as role models, keeping the heritage and mission of Holy Cross alive and vibrant.

The Austin, Texas, conference brought together 46 student leaders from Notre Dame High School (West Haven, Conn.), Holy Cross School (New Orleans, La.), Holy Cross School (San Antonio, Texas); Moreau Catholic High School (Hayward, Calif.), St. Francis High School (Mountain View, Calif.); and Notre Dame High School (Sherman Oaks, Calif.) to the St. Edward’s University campus. During the conference, students were immersed in Holy Cross heritage and mission, completed a service project in the Austin community (Heart House of Austin or Catholic Charities Food Pantry) and prepared to support the theme of “Educating Hearts and Minds” through student activities at their schools during the upcoming school year.

The students shared time with members of the Congregation of Holy Cross, visiting the South-West Provincial Center and the Brother Vincent Pieau Residence. They also got a chance to experience some of the local Austin culture.

“I learned that Holy Cross was a family, and no matter what Holy Cross school you are at, you have the same values,” says Notre Dame Sherman Oaks junior Marisa Blumer.

St. Edward High School senior Marty Lewis learned the same lesson at the South Bend, Ind., conference. “It amazed me to see what happens when you take twenty or so individuals who were all different, but who all share the common theme of Holy Cross,” he says.

The South Bend conference took place at Holy Cross College. This year marked the third year of the Indiana conference, with 31 students from Archbishop Hoban High School (Akron, Ohio), Bishop McNamara High School (Forestville, Md.), Holy Cross High School (Flushing, N.Y.), Holy Cross High School (Waterbury, Conn.), Holy Trinity High School (Chicago, Ill.) and St. Edward High School (Lakewood, Ohio). During the conference, students examined the roles they play at their schools and studied the ways in which they, as leaders, contribute to the mission and heritage of Holy Cross. The students also participated in a day of service at various sites throughout the greater South Bend area and shared Mass, meals and plenty of stories with members of the Congregation of Holy Cross staying at Columbia Hall.

“I loved the way that everyone was able to mesh together so easily and get along,” says Lewis.

Holy Cross Students Immerse Themselves in Service

In July, Holy Cross students at Notre Dame High School (Sherman Oaks, Calif.) spent four days helping the poor and needy of Los Angeles. They weren’t the only ones giving back: 2009 marked the third year of a joint immersion service program in Brazil between St. Francis High School (Mountain View, Calif.) and Colegio Notre Dame de Campinas (Brazil).

To learn more about these immersion experiences, contact:

- Terry McGaha, director of Mission Outreach and Parent/Volunteer Programs, Notre Dame High School at mcgaha@ndhs.org
- Patricia Tennant, principal, St. Francis High School, via the contact form at www.sfhs.com

... see photos on the next page



NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL

ST. FRANCIS HIGH SCHOOL



PHOTO COURTESY OF TERRY MCGAHA

Serving dinner to the homeless in Los Angeles, Calif.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATRICIA TENNANT

Spending time with the children of Secoia



PHOTO COURTESY OF TERRY MCGAHA

Volunteering at Silverado Senior Living Center in Calabasas, Calif.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATRICIA TENNANT

Spending time at the Franciscan home for the disabled homeless



PHOTO COURTESY OF TERRY MCGAHA

Students clean a wheelchair for Wheels for Humanity through United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATRICIA TENNANT

Participating in a painting project in Secoia

A SPIRITUALITY FOR HOLY CROSS EDUCATORS: Q&A with Father Thomas Looney, CSC

By Van Darden



Father Tom Looney, CSC, (left) and Father Rick Wilkinson, CSC, (right) director of Campus Ministry at St. Edward's University

In June, former Stonehill College Vice President Father Thomas P. Looney, CSC, delivered the keynote address at the Holy Cross Institute's Mission Seminar. His speech, "A Spirituality for Holy Cross Educators," focused on the integration of the spiritual and the worldly in everyday life, and the role education plays in that balance. Shortly after the seminar, Father Looney was installed as the newly elected provincial superior of the Congregation of Holy Cross, Eastern Province of Priests and Brothers. He recently shared his thoughts with the Holy Cross Institute about the experience.

How is spirituality important for Holy Cross educators?

Spirituality is essential for a very pragmatic reason. Father Moreau taught that the work of education was so demanding that no one could engage it fully unless he or she had a call from God. As such, we have a responsibility to grow in awareness of the gifts and strength that God gives us and to cooperate with them.

What's the most important thing facing Holy Cross educators today?

Helping young people to understand the reality that at the heart of every human longing is a desire for fullness of life, for meaningful and life-giving relationships, and for God himself. Our desires need to be shaped and formed according to what is good and life-giving for all people.

Why are Mission Seminars important?

The seminars provide an opportunity to explore Father Moreau's spirituality and philosophy of education that form the heart of every Holy Cross educational institution — making explicit that reality as an affirming and challenging experience. The gathering of women and men from various Holy Cross institutions provides each person with a sense of interconnectedness and belonging.

What do you want educators to take away from your speech?

I want them to understand something of the spiritual and educational vision of Father Moreau and to walk away from the seminar with a longing to live it in their lives.



CHANGES TO Program Development Committee



PDC, FALL 2007

Standing (left to right): Brother Thomas Dziekan, CSC; Brother Donald Blauvelt, CSC; Brother Robert Lavelle, CSC; Brother Stephen Walsh, CSC; and Kevin Makley. Seated (left to right): Gene Boyer, Heather Gossart, Mary Ann Beiting and Brother George Schmitz, CSC. Not pictured: Gail Bellucci and Brother Stephen LaMendola, CSC.

The Holy Cross Institute would like to extend its gratitude to the following outgoing members of the Program Development Committee (PDC):

- **Brother Stephen LaMendola, CSC** (Holy Cross High School, Flushing, N.Y.)
- **Ms. Gail Bellucci** (Notre Dame High School, West Haven, Conn.)
- **Brother George Schmitz, CSC** (King's College, Wilkes Barre, Penn.)
- **Brother Robert Lavelle, CSC** (Gilmour Academy, Gates Mills, Ohio)

Ms. Bellucci and Brother Lavelle will continue to serve on the HCI Board of Governors. New PDC members will be elected to the committee at the HCI Board of Governor's Meeting in September, and will be announced in the Spring 2010 issue of *inFormation*.

CALENDAR

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars for the following HCI events to be held at St. Edward's University:

Sept. 20–21, 2009

HCI Board of Governors Meeting

Sept. 27–28, 2009

Unified Student Leaders Conference
Planning Meeting

October 14, 2009

HCI Program Development Committee
Online Meeting via Elluminate

April 11–13, 2010

Convocation 2010

*For more information on these events, contact **Laura Sanders** at laurads@stedwards.edu.*

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RISING FROM THE MUD: Holy Cross School—New Orleans

By Laura Sanders



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

In the Spring 2007 issue of *inFormation*, we shared the needs and hope of Holy Cross School in New Orleans, whose 150-year-old campus had been devastated by Hurricane Katrina. The extended Holy Cross family around the world quickly reached out to assist with housing, temporary relocation of classes and financial contributions. Today, Holy Cross School rises from the mud in a new location, an illustration of what happens when Blessed Father Basil Moreau's principles of trusting in divine providence and working in union and collaboration come together.

Kelly Claverie and Adrian Jackson, faculty members at HCNO, attended July's HCI Mission Seminar and announced that construction on the

new campus is nearly complete. A ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 16, 2010.

For more information on HCNO, visit www.HolyCrossTigers.com.