

Welcome to the

**FOURTH ANNUAL BENEDICTINE  
PEDAGOGY CONFERENCE**

**“STEWARDSHIP AND SUSTAINABILITY”**

Thursday, June 3 – Saturday, June 5, 2010

Co-Sponsored by:

Saint Vincent College Science and Theology Forum Grant  
Center for Mission and Identity at Benedictine University  
Saint Vincent College



**SAINT VINCENT COLLEGE**

## FOURTH ANNUAL BENEDICTINE PEDAGOGY CONFERENCE “STEWARDSHIP AND SUSTAINABILITY”

Benedictine education is committed to providing a liberal arts education within a Catholic, Benedictine heritage and tradition. Guiding the values of our institutions is *The Rule of Saint Benedict*. As stated by the Association of Benedictine Colleges and Universities, we “strive to promote the common good of Church and society and assist individuals to lead lives of balance, generosity, and integrity.”

For four years, our Benedictine institutions have gathered to discuss the significance of a common set of values or “hallmarks.” Although each school is considered autonomous, a trait of Benedictine monasticism, we have all been working to develop a common identity based on the values described in *The Rule of Saint Benedict*. Each institution is given the opportunity to develop these values in term and action, in the manner best suited for their institution in which you will hear about throughout this conference.

The conference strives to provide an opportunity to: support and exchange ideas in the area of Catholic, Benedictine education; demonstrate support among faculty, administration and staff for common educational and spiritual goals; develop a collaborative relationship between Benedictine academic institutions; and address key issues regarding our institutions today in respect to maintaining a clear Catholic, Benedictine identity.

### TEN HALLMARKS OF BENEDICTINE EDUCATION

1. LOVE OF CHRIST AND NEIGHBOR
2. PRAYER: A life marked by liturgy, lectio and mindfulness
3. STABILITY: Commitment to the daily life of this place, its heritage and tradition
4. CONVERSTIO: The way of formation and transformation
5. OBEDIENCE: A commitment to listening and consequent action
6. DISCIPLINE: A way toward learning and freedom
7. HUMILITY: Knowledge of self in relation to God, others and creation
8. STEWARDSHIP: Responsible use of creation, culture and the arts
9. HOSPITALITY: Openness to the other
10. COMMUNITY: Call to serve the common good

*Endorsed by the ABCU Executive Committee, August 27, 2007*

# SAINT VINCENT COLLEGE

Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B., Chancellor  
Mr. H. James Towey, President  
Br. Norman W. Hipps, O.S.B., incoming President

## SAINT VINCENT COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Vincent College is an educational community rooted in the tradition of the Catholic faith, the heritage of Benedictine monasticism, and the love of values inherent in the liberal approach to life and learning. Its mission is to provide quality undergraduate and graduate education for men and women to enable them to integrate their professional aims with the broader purposes of human life. The programs, activities, and encounters that make up student life at Saint Vincent College encourage the intellectual gifts, professional aptitudes, and personal aspirations of students to mature harmoniously.

During the 2009-2010 academic year, Saint Vincent wrapped up the commemoration in honor of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of our founder, Boniface Wimmer. The celebration concluded last November with Cardinal Justin Rigali celebrating Mass. To view more information about the front cover of the program visit <http://www.bonifacewimmer.org/wimmerBIO.html>.



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COLLEGE



1889

### SAVE THE DATE:

Fifth Annual Benedictine Pedagogy Conference  
St. Anselm College, Manchester, New Hampshire  
June 2-4, 2011

### BENEDICTINE PEDAGOGY CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Dr. Steven Gravelle, Associate Professor of Chemistry, Chair  
Ms. Julia Cavallo, Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Ms. Alice Kaylor, Dean of Studies  
Dr. John Smetanka, Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Fr. Jean-Luc Zadroga, O.S.B., Assistant Director of Campus Ministry

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Thursday, June 3, 2010

- 5:00 – 8:00 Registration (Fred M. Rogers Center Events and Conferences Office)
- 5:45 Welcome Dinner (FRC, 2AB)  
*Invocation by Archabbot Douglas Nowicki, O.S.B.*
- 6:45 Video: “Discerning Benedictine Pedagogy” (FRC, 2AB)  
*Dr. Tim Kelly, and Mr. David Safin, Saint Vincent College*  
In May of 2009, Dave Safin and Tim Kelly aired a documentary entitled, *Benedictine Pedagogy*. That work contained interviews with a variety of Saint Vincent College faculty and staff on what Benedictine Pedagogy meant to them. They shared their understanding of its purpose, practice, and effects. In the discussion session that followed the showing, participants from Benedictine colleges and universities expressed their desire to see a broader range of perspectives, especially those of students and administrators. Benedictine Pedagogy II seeks to fill that need with interviews with students, administrators, staff, and others. Students in Dave and Tim’s Documentary History class conducted and recorded these interviews. This documentary broadens the perspective of last year’s effort and offers a range of insights – from those brand new to a Benedictine campus to those who have lived in that community for decades.
- 7:30 A Guided Walk and Talk at Winnie Palmer Nature Reserve  
*Ms. Natalie Martz, Undergraduate Environmental Science Major, Saint Vincent College*  
You are invited to explore the flowers blooming and emerging, a 180-year-old reconstructed barn that serves as an environmental learning center, an historic blockhouse from the 1700s, the various ecosystems on this 50-acre sanctuary that native flora and fauna call home, and the creative programming for children, adults, and families. Come wearing your walking shoes and bring along all your senses for a peek at this new addition to Saint Vincent College. (Shuttles available to Reserve.)

### Friday, June 4, 2010

- 6:15 am Morning Prayer and Mass (Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica)
- 8:00 Breakfast (FRC, 1BC)
- MORNING SESSION (FRED M. ROGERS CENTER, 9 – 11:45AM)
- 9:00 Conference Overview and Welcoming Remarks (FRC, 2AB)  
*Dr. Steve Gravelle, Saint Vincent College*  
*Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B., Saint Vincent College*  
*Br. Norman Higgs, O.S.B., Saint Vincent College*
- 9:15 – 10:15 Keynote Address: (FRC, 2AB)  
“Taking Care of Mind, Heart, and Body: Sustaining and Nurturing a Catholic, Benedictine Environment”  
*Abbot John Klassen, O.S.B., Saint John’s University*  
In this presentation I wish to work in the direction of integrating, and educating the whole person, with the skills of an entire campus community. We need to pay conscious, explicit attention to the sustainability of the tradition of a place, the community, and the individuals within it. It is living, breathing, healthy communities that will have the resilience, the imagination, and the courage to think about the heritage being left for future generations.
- 10:15 Break

10:30 – 11:45 **Panel Session (FRC, 2AB)**

**“The Incorporation of Sustainability into the Academic Dimensions of Our Work”**  
*Dr. Matt Fisher, Saint Vincent College (moderator), along with Dr. Donald Wortham, College of Saint Scholastic; Dr. John Kevin Doyle, Benedictine University; Fr. Nathan Munsch, O.S.B., Saint Vincent College; and Dr. Gene Torisky, Saint Vincent College*  
Daniel J. Sherman, in an April 2008 article titled, “Sustainability: What’s the Big Idea?,” wrote “Sustainability must become a pedagogical big idea, capable of complementing and connecting avenues of inquiry across the academic disciplines that organize and prioritize teaching and learning on campus.” What might this look like at Benedictine colleges and universities? In this panel discussion, faculty from various Benedictine institutions will offer comments on how sustainability has been incorporated into the academic dimensions of our work. The panelists will share successful experiences as well as challenges, and questions that they have encountered. Some of the topics that panelists will focus on include

- using the Rule and the Core Values (care, community, stewardship, hospitality) in an environmental ethics course;
- the academic portion of Benedictine University’s three-year Years for the Environment effort - special elective courses in several disciplines, special sections of existing general education courses with a green theme, and inviting all students, to participate in campus conversations on green themes.

The intent of this session is to serve as a useful springboard for the efforts that individual institutions are making to incorporate sustainability into the students’ experience of Benedictine education.

12 – 1

**Lunch (FRC, 1BC)**

**AFTERNOON SESSION (FRED M. ROGERS CENTER, 1 – 4:30 PM)**

1-1:45

**Saint John’s Bible: “Visio Divina – A Prayer Practice for Encountering God”**  
(FRC, 2AB)

*Dr. Barbara Sutton (D. Min.), Saint John’s University*

Come and see God’s Word! Pray with The Saint John’s Bible. Learn the practice of Visio Divina – a Latin term which means “divine seeing.” Similar to the sixth century Benedictine practice of Bible reading called *lectio divina*, *Visio Divina* is a prayer practice that facilitates a revelation of God through the opened eye of one’s heart. In this session, we will pray with and ignite your spiritual imagination for the ‘Creation’ illumination and Scripture.

2-2:30

**“Benedictine University’s Faith and Reason Symposium: Transforming the Community and the Liberal Arts Institution”** (FRC, 2AB)

*Dr. Vincent Gaddis, and Dr. Tim Marin, Benedictine University.*

Drawing on the Catholic intellectual tradition, and expressed most clearly in Pope John Paul II’s encyclical, “Fides et Ratio,” Benedictine University embarked on a journey in September, 2007, to bring science and religion, or faith and reason, in dialogue with each other to confront critical environmental issues facing each of us from the local to the global. Over the last three years, we have examined climate change, sustainability and the water crisis. Faculty from across the university have participated in this collaborative effort which is focused on two key ideas – transformation and science with regard to the affect on global systems. In this presentation, Dr. Gaddis will give an overview of the Faith and Reason Symposium series and address issues of transformation, and how the symposium exemplifies our Catholic and Benedictine roots. Dr. Marin will address the issue of using the symposium as a way to engage the community in science education and the importance of the symposium to interdisciplinarity.

2:45-3:15

**"Science and Sustainable Stewardship: Academic Integration" (FRC, 2AB)**

*Dr. Cynthia Walter, Associate Professor of Biology, Saint Vincent College*

We can shift campus sustainability problems from obstacles into opportunities if we use these case studies to teach our students academic concepts and integrative skills such as critical thinking, creative problem solving, and ethical perspectives. Since 2000, science majors in my advanced undergraduate courses apply basic science, practical thinking, and the Rule of Saint Benedict to address environmental problems by designing appropriate technologies. Students assess local conditions including streams, soils, vegetation and wildlife, consult the literature and local experts, and write hypothetical grants that propose short and long term actions. I will describe options to apply this pedagogical approach in science and non-science courses. In addition, posters and handouts from student teams will provide examples. As in the conclusion of the Rule of Saint Benedict, we hope we "have attained some degree of virtue," in pursuit of Benedictine stewardship, and we invite others to share their experiences in building thriving, sustainable, academic communities.

3:30-4:30

**Discussion on Haiti (FRC, 2AB)**

*Dr. Richard Gosser, Executive Director of Partners in Progress and Professor Emeritus in Mathematics, Saint Vincent College*

Partners in Progress (PIP) is a Pennsylvania-based, national 501(c) 3 nonprofit corporation founded in 1999 by members of the Pittsburgh Regional Haiti Solidarity Committee (following one of our "reverse mission pilgrimages" to Haiti). Its mission is to promote and support sustainable community development in rural Haiti, mainly through strategic partnerships with communities that have strong community organizations and visionary leaders. We focus mainly on infrastructure (water, energy, communications), sustainable agriculture (agroecology) and reforestation, public health, small business development, and education. PIP works mainly in two communities, Fondwa and Deslandes. Fondwa is situated near the epicenter of the January 12, 2010 earthquake and almost all infrastructure was completely destroyed. PIP is focusing on rebuilding St. Antoine School in Fondwa. In Deslandes, PIP is supporting (1) the refurbishment and expansion of the community water system, (2) the improvement of "soil health" so as to increase food security and improve public health, and (3) the construction of an elementary school using "compressed earth blocks" (CEBs), a "green" building technology.

4:30 – 6:00

**Free Time**

*Optional Activities: Bookstore, Campus Tours, Fitness Center. Arrangements to visit the Art Gallery should be made with Br. Nathan Cochran, O.S.B., at 724.805. 2107. The 2009 Benedictine Pedagogy video presentation by Dr. Tim Kelly and Mr. David Safin can be viewed in FRC, 2AB. Dr. Cynthia Walter invites you on a walking tour of storm water management problems and solutions, or the nature trails around the mine drainage treatment wetlands, lake, fields and forest. (Study walking shoes are recommended).*

**EVENING ACTIVITIES (FRED M. ROGERS CENTER AND GRISTMILL, 6-8 PM)**

6:00 – 7:00

**Dinner (FRC, 1BC)**

7:00 – 8:00

**Gristmill Tour and Weaving Demonstration (Saint Vincent Gristmill)**

*Fr. Thomas More Sikora, O.S.B., and Br. Mark Floreanini, O.S.B.*

*Optional evening activity following Gristmill Tour:*

*Cynthia Waler will lead the monitoring of bat foraging with your eyes and ultrasonic receivers/computers.*

## Saturday, June 5, 2010

- 8:00 am **Morning Mass** (Mary, Mother of Wisdom Student Chapel, Carey Center)  
*Fr. Jean-Luc Zadroga, O.S.B., Celebrant*
- 8:00 – 9:00 **Breakfast** (FRC, 1BC)
- 9:00-9:30 **“Years for the Environment, Benedictine University’s Three Year ‘Go Green’ Initiative”** (FRC, 2AB)

*Dr. John Kevin Doyle, Benedictine University*

In chapter 64 of the Rule of St. Benedict, abbots are warned to steward resources, human and material, carefully: “... remember to whom [you] will have ‘to give an account of [your] stewardship’” (Luke 16:2). As recently as Dec. 15, 2009, Pope Benedict described new sins, including ecological abuse and excessive consumption. Tending to environmental issues is the natural nexus between faith and reason, between science and humanities, and between humans and creation – a place we prize at Benedictine University. As part of a three-year, campus-wide effort to “green” Benedictine (2008-2011), we planned an array of courses, events, speakers and activities. This 20 minute presentation will describe what we did in years one and two, our successes and not yet successes, and how we are moving from an ad hoc faculty-led effort to a more institutionalized and institution-wide continuing sustainability program.

- 9:45-10:45 **Panel session: Construction and Master Plan**, (FRC, 1BC)  
*Larry Hendrick, and Br. Norman Hipps, O.S.B., Saint Vincent College*

This panel will focus on the relationship between the Benedictine values of stability and stewardship and how they have been manifested in the overarching planning for Saint Vincent College and the surrounding land. Fr. Earl Henry, O.S.B., Prior, will discuss the transition from the relative self-sufficiency of farming the land surrounding the College to its various usages today. He will touch upon the underlying philosophy that has helped govern the land use and stewardship of resources. Br. Norman Hipps, O.S.B., President-elect, will highlight the mine drainage passive treatment wetlands project as one example which applied these values to meeting a local environmental challenge while creating opportunities for scholarship and new academic programs. Mr. Larry Hendrick, Director of Facilities, will provide additional examples of how the Benedictine values of stability and stewardship are applied in maintaining the facilities of the College.

- 11:00-11:30 **Debriefing** (FRC, 1BC)
- 11:30 **Evaluations and Concluding Remarks** (FRC, 1BC)  
*Dr. Steven Gravelle, Saint Vincent College*

## CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS BY INSTITUTION

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