



SIXTH ANNUAL
BENEDICTINE PEDAGOGY CONFERENCE
“SERVING THE COMMON GOOD”
Thursday, May 31– Saturday, June 2, 2012
Saint Anselm College
Manchester, NH

Sixth Annual Benedictine Pedagogy Conference Schedule

Serving the Common Good

Thursday, May 31:

- 2:00 – 3:00 pm Conference Check-In/Registration (North Lounge, Cushing Center)
- 3:00 pm Welcome – (North Lounge, Cushing Center) Dr. Gary Bouchard
- 4:00 pm **Session I: Benedictine Hallmarks and the Common Good (North Lounge)**
- *“Stability a Guiding Principle for Service, Advocacy, and Promoting the Common Good”*
What is distinctive about an Alternative Break Program, Service Learning, or Community Engagement at a Benedictine College or University? This paper will explore the Benedictine Hallmark of Stability as a guiding principle for both service and advocacy. Reflecting on the role of stability where the realities of social injustice ensure instability. Integrating this Hallmark along with the Benedictine Hallmarks of Hospitality, Stewardship, Community, Conversatio, and Prayer as integral components of both curricular and co-curricular service prepares our students to be critical thinkers who will engage in the global society promoting the common good.
Ms. Susan Gabert, Saint Anselm College
 - *Circles of Community: Teaching and Living the Paradox of the Common Good and Self-Interest.*
The teaching of Business Ethics is always a challenge, especially today, given that many business students arrive at college with a staunch belief in the primacy of self-interest and an almost idolatrous belief in the self-correcting mechanism of the market. Many business professionals seem unaware of the necessity for a sound ethical and moral code if market based systems are to bear the necessary fruit that both encourages the growth of individual self-interest while promoting the common good. This presentation explores the pedagogical approach used at Saint Vincent College integrating the four key Benedictine Values of Hospitality, Stewardship, Community, and Stability throughout the student’s course of study. Links are made with the cardinal principles of catholic social teaching: Human Dignity, The Common Good, Subsidiarity, Solidarity, and the Universal destination of Goods.
Dr. William J. Hisker, Saint Vincent College
 - *Conversatio: Transformational Teaching and the Common Good.*
This paper addresses the relationship of the Benedictine Hallmarks, the revolutionary teaching pedagogy of Paulo Friere and the need for students who graduate from Benedictine Institutions to be servant leaders to the global community. We hold the Benedictine heritage and hallmarks in high esteem on our campuses, but where do we find them in the classroom? The understanding of hospitality in the Kingian sense of neighbor, the hallmarks of balance, work, and silence for strategies for transformative teaching that makes our students better problem solvers, in the revolutionary Frierian

way, and orients them to the common good as defined by Pope John Paul II as those efforts that affirm the individual, unique person as worthy of dignity and respect. If we teach with this transformative goal in mind, rather than as part of a vocational, or credentialing model of education, we not only preserve the best of what it means to be a Liberal Arts Institution, we produce students with a savvy, compassion and desire to transform our world for the good.

Dr. Vincent Gaddis, Benedictine University



5:35 pm *Vespers (evening prayer) Saint Anselm Abbey Church*

6:00 pm Dinner (Davison Dining Hall) and Keynote Speaker, Fr. Bryan Hehir

Rev. J. Bryan Hehir is the Parker Gilbert Montgomery Professor of the Practice of Religion and Public Life at the Harvard Kennedy School. He is also the Secretary for Health Care and Social Services in the Archdiocese of Boston. His research and writing focus on ethics and foreign policy and the role of religion in world politics and in American society. He has served on the faculty of Georgetown University (1984 to 1999) and the Harvard Divinity School and served as the President of Catholic Charities U.S.A. from 2001-2003. His writings include: *"The Moral Measurement of War: A Tradition of Continuity and Change; Military Intervention and National Sovereignty; Catholicism and Democracy;"* and *"Social Values and Public Policy: A Contribution from a Religious Tradition."*

Friday, June 1st:

7:30 – 9:00 am Continental Breakfast (NHIOP, Auditorium)

8:30 am *Mass (Saint Anselm Abbey Church)*

9:15 am – 10:30 am **Session II: Contemplation and the Common Good (NHIOP)**

• *Accompanying Service with Reflection and Prayer.*

In Service, without reflection you cannot obtain transformation; without prayer you are not open to the transformation God wants for you. On Alternative Break Experiences participants are expected to reflect and pray nightly on the service experiences they have had. This reflection and prayer in service helps us achieve our Five Pillars of ABE. Reflection and prayer are necessary when working for Social Justice as it is not enough to meet the immediate needs of God's people; we must also ask why the needs exist. Reflection and prayer are necessary to form Community amongst the group. Reflection and prayer provide a way to analyze the experiences and Learn from them. Lastly, reflection and prayer are used on ABE trips to encourage Intentional Living. Through reflection and prayer during service participants "Listen with the ear of your heart" while Learning, and building Community, in order to work toward Social Justice by Living Intentionally.

Ms. Carley Braegelmann, College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University

- *Lectio Divina, the Study of Rhetoric, and Serving the Common Good.*

Benedictines have long recognized that *lectio divina* serves the common good by contributing to spiritual and intellectual growth—both individually and collectively. What may not be equally obvious is that the study of rhetoric, properly understood, can enrich *lectio divina* so as to help each “reader” grow in mindfulness, thoughtfulness, clarity, empathy, compassion, and wisdom—thereby advancing the common good. This paper argues that practicing *lectio divina* with an awareness of the Aristotelian rhetorical concepts of reason (*logos*), emotion (*pathos*), and morals (*ethos*) contributes to the common good by enabling those who read in this way to consciously integrate the response of their minds, hearts, and spirits to what they read. The balance that results benefits individuals and the common good by helping such “readers” understand texts, life, and others more deeply—and respond to them more fully.

Dr. Anne Carson Daly, Belmont Abbey College

- *Benedictine Values in the Educational Structure: A Case Study of Jesus the Educator.*

Unique insight for today’s educator and educational institutions that are grounded upon an examination of Jesus’ life as an educator. His interactions with His classes, whether composed of twelve or thousands, reveal respect, hospitality and all of the treasured Benedictine values. Without a building, Jesus’ life as an educator exemplified tenets that should be foundational within every educator and institution of learning. Jesus’ foremost earthly occupation was that of an educator. Next to the cross, I argue that His greatest assignment was to instruct others of His ideologies, persuade them to agreement and equip them to teach them to others. Much can be learned by those who serve in education, as they daily teach and encourage others to live a life that glorifies the creator.

Prof. Cynthia Townsend, Benedictine University (Lisle, Illinois)

10:30 am Break

10:45 am – 12:15 pm **Session III: Science, Social Sciences and the Common Good (NHIOP)**

- *To be Here, Now: Examining the Rule for Guidance into Social Science Research.*

The Rule calls on members of the community to serve others. It calls on individuals to serve with humility and to demonstrate stability in their community. Psychological research into social problems is often transitory rather than stable; often basic psychology research includes only a brief opportunity on the part of the researcher to interact with and impact the community from which they are drawing their sample. This “hit and run” style of social research seems to be contrary to some aspect of the Rule. How might virtues of stability be applied to increasing the effectiveness of social problems research? This paper seeks to present a framework to review and reflect social scientific applications of the Rule as it may apply to psychology as a discipline. Ways in which this view might be modeled and shared with students will be considered.

Dr. Loretta Brady, Saint Anselm College

- *A "Benedictine" Vision for the Benedictine University College of Science.*
An innovative vision is presented for the Benedictine University (BenU) College of Science, endeavoring to enrich our current programs via intercalation of an environmental and quantitative science theme across the curriculum. The proposal put forth is based upon principles of holism, interdisciplinarity, and scholarly diversification, and is anchored in the Catholic and Benedictine philosophical themes of community, intellectual activity, and stewardship. We aspire that the impacts of its adoption will be multifold in nature and envision the following: 1. an increase in the intellectual diversity of our student and faculty bodies; 2. buttressing of synergy and collaboration across departmental lines; 3. an increase in student retention; 4. augmentation of marketability for recruitment to BenU science programs; 5. furthering the mission of BenU in promoting its core principles.

Dr. Tim Marin, Benedictine University

- *Serving the Common good by Environmental Service Work through a Benedictine College Biology Department.*

The College of St. Scholastica is an academic community grounded in rich Benedictine heritage. Faculty, staff and students strive to live by values distilled from the Rule of St. Benedict. Three of these values in particular, "Dignity of Work", "Stewardship" and "Common Good" can be seen in action through service work done by the college's biology department. The greenhouse/green roof "sustainable edibles initiative" is a new project underway in conjunction with students and the biology department to grow edibles for the campus food services department. Annually, the *Current Environmental Topics* - biology class works on service projects of an environmental nature. These projects range from culling exotic, invasive species from school grounds, to creek cleanups, campus litter removal and garden restorations. This presentation will highlight some of these projects in regard to Benedictine values.

Ms. Jane Wattrus, The College of St. Scholastica

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm Lunch (NHIOP – West Wing)

1:15 pm – 2:00 pm Reflection

2:00 pm – 3:45 pm **Session IV: Bringing Students to the Common Good**

- *St. Benedict's Tools for Good Works in the Community.*

As part of a STEM/Service-Learning Grant, first-year students enrolled in The College of St. Scholastica's Dignitas program increased their awareness and interest in local food issues by developing a community nutrition survey which they then distributed to participants in their community of interest, the central hillside area of Duluth. They also created a list of area resources/assets available to community members. Survey results were then shared with a group of senior nursing students who carried out several food-related intervention projects within the Duluth community. Students learned not only about food—they learned about themselves, the community, and the results that collaboration can bring.

Dr. Mary Tanner, The College of St. Scholastica

- *Know Your Roots, Expand Your Perspectives: A First Year's Introduction to the Benedictine Values.*

Bringing the Benedictine values to life through peer mentors in new student orientation and First Year Seminar classes is the model utilized with great success at CSB/SJU based upon national benchmarking studies and anecdotal data. An intentional training curriculum has been developed for 100+ Orientation Leaders and classroom OLTAs (Our Leaders Taking Action). Both orientation and FYS leaders are expected to achieve learning outcomes focused on the values which enable incoming first year students to gain awareness, appreciation and an understanding of the values and how they are evident throughout the everyday life of our campus community. This has resulted in our upper class students being more intentional in their own language and behavioral choices as well as modeling those choices to our first year students.

Ms. Maribeth Overland, College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University

- *Integrating Benedictine Values into Pedagogy, Curriculum, and University Experience.*
This presentation will focus on the evolution of a values-based approach to preparing university students for "serving the common good." Saint Leo University was founded in 1889 by the Order of Saint Benedict of Florida. The university is defined, in great part, by its subscription to six core values which are infused throughout all aspects of university life. These core values, which are rooted in the Benedictine tradition, include *Excellence, Integrity, Community, Respect, Personal Development, and Responsible Stewardship*. They are infused in course syllabi, taught and assessed in assignments, used as a standard of expectation in field experiences, and as a standard of measure in the hiring and assessment of faculty, staff and adjuncts.

Dr. Candace Roberts, Dr. Carol Walker, Dr. Karen Hahn, St. Leo University

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Break

5:35 pm *Vespers (evening prayer) (Saint Anselm Abbey Church)*

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm Dinner (Cushing Center – outside patio)

8:00pm – 9:30 pm *Concert (Saint Anselm Abbey Church) "Heeding the Message to Serve the Common Good." Jazz Vespers Service*

Music has long been a voice for social justice and a means of communicating and serving the common good. As a "tool for good works," music can and is used for its transcendental ascetically pleasing communicative qualities. As St. Benedict so eloquently states in the prologue of his *Rule*, "Listen carefully..." music provides us with a vehicle to not only express inner spiritual passion but develop community, provide the "tools" to "listen," and join with others to promote messages for those in need -- all in God's name to serve the common good. Bringing together jazz musicians from Benedictine University and St. Anselm College to perform a Jazz Vespers service in the Abbey Church. The synthesis of traditions is intended to provide a local organization in need with a voice, while the service itself will join the monastic community together with the academic and surrounding local communities in prayer, meditation and worship.

Dr. Alicia Cordoba Tait, Benedictine University in collaboration with guest artists from Saint Anselm College and Benedictine University

Saturday June 2nd

7:30 am – 9:00 am Continental Breakfast (NHIOP)

9:30 am – 10:45 am **Session V: Extending the Reach of the Common Good**

- *Collegial Librarians: The Faculty-Librarian Partnership in Distance Education.*
Serving the Common Good is the inspiration for providing Library service to both faculty and students of Benedictine University's distance graduate programs in Lisle, Illinois. Based on a recent paper *Collegial Librarians: The Faculty-Librarian Partnership in Distance Education* (Carrico & Neff, 2012, published by the 15th Distance Library Services Conference), Discussion of librarian, faculty, and student collaborations in graduate level online and blended courses and how librarians here have become champions for *Serving the Common Good*, serving as need is discovered, as research consultants, thesis coaches, and course outcome facilitators for students by providing personalized academic support. Our personalized approach is in keeping with the Founders of St. Procopius College, Lisle, IL who believed that "...real education is the development of the latent powers of the whole man, of body, mind and soul...that education is a preparation for complete living"(Vesely, 1915).

Mr. Kent Carrico, Benedictine University

- *Cultivating the Common Good: Virtuous Structures in the Rule of St. Benedict.*
This paper explores the ways in which the Rule of St. Benedict promotes the common good. St. Benedict understood that the good of a whole community was promoted through structures that inculcated virtue. Benedict and his followers institutionalized the works of mercy (such as nursing the sick). In doing so, they created a community in which the well-being of all was served, and the virtues were acquired. In addition to drawing theological ethical insight from the Benedictine tradition and Catholic Social Teaching, the paper suggests ways in which these insights might guide action today.

Dr. Dan Daly, Saint Anselm College

- *Assessment: Integrating Benedictine Hallmarks with the University's Mission to Serve the Common Good.*
St. Gregory's University is a Roman Catholic university, offering through the master's degree level a liberal arts education that has been cherished and handed down in the educational institutions of the Benedictine Order. *St. Gregory's promotes the education of the whole person in the context of a Christian community in which students are encouraged to develop a love of learning and to live lives of balance, generosity and integrity.* Our vision, "*Building the Kingdom of God through education in the Catholic and Benedictine tradition,*" as demonstrated in the College for Working Adults, is supported by Catholic Social teachings, curriculum threaded with Benedictine values and focuses faculty development on the four essential characteristics of a Catholic University (*Ex Corde Ecclesiae, On Catholic Universities*, John Paul II, Apostolic Constitution given in Rome, at Saint Peter's, 15 August, 1990).

Dr. Jean Thornbrugh, St. Gregory's University

11am – noon

Reflection, Wrap Up and Announcement of 2013 Conference
– Dr. Gary Bouchard, Dr. Dale Kuehne and Dr. Alicia Cordoba Tait

Noon – lunch and departure (Davison Dining Hall)