'CONTEMPLATIVE EDUCATION (CONVERSATIO MORUM): SPIRITUALITY IN THE BENEDICTINE TRADITION'

A simple Web search reveals more and more that non-religiously affiliated colleges and universities are promoting "contemplative education." (Brown, New York University, Emory, Rice, Stanford, to name a few, and even some state university systems). As fellow members of the ABCU, are we missing something, or are we simply taking for granted what we may already be doing? Reflecting our hallmark of conversatio, we nurture an instinctively natural "love of learning and desire for God" over the course of a lifetime. This year's conference aims to disclose the intentionality with which our Benedictine schools are contributing to the apparently now popular, 'contemplative education.' To borrow a colloquial expression: "What do they got that we ain't got?"
ADMINISTRATION

The Right Reverend Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B., B.A., M.Div., Ph.D.
Archabbot and Chancellor

Br. Norman W. Hipps, O.S.B., B.A., M.A., Ph.D.
President

Fr. Paul Taylor, O.S.B., B.A., M.Div., M.A., Ph.D.
Executive Vice President

John J. Smetanka, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Assistant to the President for Mission

OUR MISSION

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.

OUR VALUES

The traditional Benedictine apostolate of education is characterized by an appreciation of truth wherever it is found and by respect for the unique person and talents of every student. In an authentic Benedictine environment, students are not just objects of an educational enterprise; they are valued partners in a common search for the truth and beauty. Saint Vincent College is grounded in the following core values of Benedictinism:

- Hospitality, as exemplified by a tolerant spirit that recognizes the mystery of God's presence in all creation and the sacred dignity of each person as taught by the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Commitment to a concept of community that advocates tranquility and order and is nourished by mutual respect, appreciation and charity. Even in times of historical and personal upheaval, Benedictine life seeks to preserve peace and solidarity, maintained by the communal effort of prayer and work.
- Care and concern for each individual as evidenced in personal interactions that anticipate the needs of others, bear patiently with others and promote the personal growth of others.
- Stewardship for all work spaces, living spaces and the natural environment.
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Saint Vincent College Administrators ................................................................. 2
Saint Vincent College Mission and Vision Statements .................................. 2
Welcome .................................................................................................................. 3
Conference Purpose and History ................................................................. 4
Conference Advisory Board Members ....................................................... 4
Conference Schedule ....................................................................................... 5-7
Keynote Speaker ................................................................................................. 8
Presenters' Abstracts and Biographies ............................................................ 9-16
Participants by Institution ............................................................................. 17
Participant Contact Information ..................................................................... 18-19
Association of Benedictine Colleges and Universities Executive Committee ........ 20
Association of Benedictine Colleges and Universities List of Member Schools ........ 20
List of Benedictine High Schools ...................................................................... 21
Benedictine Hallmarks ..................................................................................... 22
WELCOME

Welcome to Saint Vincent Archabbey and College and to the ninth annual Benedictine Pedagogy conference! The theme for this conference is in the form of a question: "What have they got that we ain't got? Conversatio?"

All of us already know that Conversatio is one of the "ten hallmarks" of the Association of Benedictine Colleges & Universities' Education Within the Benedictine Wisdom Tradition (and we all have the ten hallmarks committed to memory, don't we?)

"Ten core values can be distilled from the Rule of Benedict: love [of Christ and neighbor], prayer, stability, conversatio, obedience, discipline, humility, stewardship, hospitality and community . . . ."

"Hallmark # 4 Conversatio: the way of formation and transformation"

"The aim of life for Benedictines is the same as it is for all Christians – to be transformed in every part of one's life so that God's very image, in which each has been created, becomes palpable and transparent. The Benedictine word for this way of life is conversatio, the process of letting go in day-to-day life of self-centered preoccupations and false securities so that the divine life at the core of one's being becomes manifest in a trustworthy pattern of living.

"Conversatio is a commitment to engage in practices that over a lifetime bring about conversion into the likeness of Christ and, in particular, Christ's giving of self for others. This transformation proceeds according to small steps; and it is tested in unexpected ways over a lifetime. To come to fruition, conversatio requires stability, discipline, faithfulness and resilience."

"Benedictine colleges and universities attempt to call all members of the campus community to move out of their comfort zone for the sake of learning and integrity. We are not afraid to focus on habits of mind that will require many years to develop. In curricular and co-curricular programs we seek to challenge realities we often take for granted, to foster intellectual and personal breakthroughs and to cultivate habits of mind that will transform students, faculty and staff alike, nurturing deep learning and generosity over a lifetime."

Fair enough, but how do we take this central monastic vow with its contemplative aspect and internalize it to shape what we try to accomplish in our classrooms, our offices, in order to become intoxicated with Benedict's experience that "the divine presence is everywhere?" At a time when private and secular universities are promoting "contemplative education," we should find ourselves asking: "What do they got that we ain't got?"

We look forward to the contributions of our presenters, and the mutual encouragement we experience when the membership of Benedictine colleges and universities convenes in a common spirit of work and prayer. The monks of Saint Vincent Archabbey, and the wider Saint Vincent College community, welcome you with love.

The Saint Vincent College Planning Committee:
Dean Alice Kaylor
Dr. Timothy Kelly
Dr. Steven Gravelle
Fr. Nathan J. Munsch, O.S.B.
Fr. Thomas M. Hart, O.S.B.
The Benedictine Pedagogy Conference

CONFERENCE PURPOSE AND HISTORY

The Benedictine Pedagogy Conference was conceived by a sub-committee of the Center for Mission and Identity (CMI) advisory board at Benedictine University. After trying many venues to discuss and implement ideas from the applications of Ex corde Ecclesiae and the Association for Benedictine Colleges and Universities (ABCU) reports and discussion papers, we felt isolated with what we were doing and how well we were doing it and began to question what other Benedictine schools were able to do or if they were doing anything at all. After having many on-campus discussions about our Catholic and Benedictine mission and identity in connection with the ABCU Hallmarks and their place in our academic community, we decided it was time to include others in the conversation. Hence the First Annual Benedictine Pedagogy Conference was scheduled in May-June 2007.

After the success of the first conference, an advisory team comprised of faculty and administrators from Benedictine University, Saint Anselm College, Saint Vincent College and Marmion Academy who attended the conference, were brought together to talk about the future of such an enterprise. Now in its ninth year, the conference has been an avenue for innovation, collaboration, sharing and camaraderie among faculty, staff and administrators from Benedictine colleges, universities, academies and high schools. The two-day conference consists of presentations and discussions of the many and varied ways in which we incorporate our similar, yet unique, Benedictine concepts, values and traditions into the operations of our respective institutions. Our hope for this conference is that we find common ground for discussion and to develop new possibilities for us all to use. And, as Benedictine scholars, we delight in sharing our unique and timeless charism that was developed by St. Benedict 15 centuries ago.

PREVIOUS CONFERENCE THEMES AND LOCATIONS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>The Nature of a Benedictine University:</td>
<td>Benedictine University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Do We Really Teach Differently than Other Academic Institutions?</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>How Do We Express Ourselves as Particularly Benedictine!</td>
<td>Benedictine University</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>Orienting New Members to Our Benedictine Learning Communities</td>
<td>Saint Vincent College</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>Stewardship and Sustainability</td>
<td>Saint Vincent College</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Haustus: The Challenge of Hospitality</td>
<td>Saint Anselm College</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>Serving the Common Good</td>
<td>Saint Anselm College</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Keeping &quot;Benedictine&quot; Alive: Embracing Change in Benedictine Education</td>
<td>Saint Vincent College</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>The Nature of Benedictine Colleges and Universities:</td>
<td>Benedictine University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Do We Create a Unique Learning Environment?</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>Contemplative Education (Conversatio morum):</td>
<td>Saint Vincent College</td>
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<td>'Spirituality in the Benedictine Tradition'</td>
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ADVISORY BOARD

Alicia Cordoba Tait, Chair, Benedictine University
Steven Gravelle, Saint Vincent College
Gary Bouchard, St. Anselm College
Fr. Joel Rippinger, O.S.B., Marmion Academy
CONFERENCE SCHEDULE – THURSDAY, MAY 21

3 – 5 pm  Registration
Fred Rogers Center

Throughout the Conference Weekend

Schools for the Lord’s Service: Benedictine Colleges and Universities
“The House that Wimmer Built: The American-Cassinese Congregation”
Atrium

5 pm  Vespers
Lecture Hall

5:30 pm  Reception and Dinner
Atrium

7 pm  Campus Tour
Trolley
Ms. Kelsey Harris

8 pm  Planetarium Show
“Eyes of Faith: ‘Night unto Night Whispers Knowledge’”
Angelo J. Taiani Planetarium and Astronaut Exhibit
Br. Lawrence S. Machia, O.S.B.

followed by Tour of Sis and Herman Dupré Science Pavilion
Dr. Steven Gravelle
**CONFERENECE SCHEDULE - FRIDAY, MAY 22**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:15 am</td>
<td>Morning Prayer</td>
<td>Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:50 am</td>
<td>Mass</td>
<td>Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Community Center Dining Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 am</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>E104</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>The Very Reverend Earl J. Henry, O.S.B., Prior,</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Saint Vincent Archabbey</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>“What is Conversatio?”</td>
<td>E104</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Fr. Nathan Munsch, O.S.B.</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Saint Vincent College</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45 am</td>
<td>“Conversatio and the First Year Experience”</td>
<td>E104</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Dr. Christine Gustafson</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Dr. Kevin Staley</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Saint Anselm College</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Midday Prayer</td>
<td>Lecture Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15 pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Science Center Atrium</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:15 p.m.</td>
<td>“Introducing the Rule of Saint Benedict in an Introductory Course on Engineering and Computer Ethics”</td>
<td>E104</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Dr. Stephen Jodis, and</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Br. Albert Gahr, O.S.B.</em></td>
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<td><em>Saint Vincent College</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1:15 p.m.</td>
<td>“Connecting Head, Hand and Heart: Contemplative Education in Quantitative and Professional Disciplines”</td>
<td>E104</td>
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<td><em>Dr. Matthew Fisher</em></td>
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<td><em>Saint Vincent College</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>2:45 pm</td>
<td>“Benedictine Values and Management Education”</td>
<td>E104</td>
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<td><em>Dr. Jeffrey Godwin</em></td>
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<td><em>Saint Vincent College</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>3:45 pm</td>
<td>“Incorporating Contemplative Education into Introductory Courses”</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Dr. Michael Urick</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>5 pm</td>
<td>Vespers</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>5:40 pm</td>
<td>Picnic</td>
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<td><em>Monastery Garden Hosted by Archabbot Douglas</em></td>
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<td><em>Nowicki, O.S.B., and the Monastic Community</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>Keynote Address</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Lecture Hall</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>James T. Fisher, Ph.D., Fordham University</em></td>
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CONFEREnCE SCHEDULE — SATURDAY, MAY 23

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:45 am</td>
<td>Morning Prayer</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:20 am</td>
<td>Mass</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 am</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Community Center Dining Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 am</td>
<td>&quot;Sit Like a Baby Chick&quot;</td>
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<td>E104</td>
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<td>Fr. Thomas M. Hart, O.S.B.</td>
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<td>Saint Vincent College</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>&quot;Benedictine Living/Learning Community&quot;</td>
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<td>E104</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fr. Mark Thamert, O.S.B., Saint John's University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>and the College of Saint Benedict</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 am</td>
<td>Planning the Tenth Benedictine Pedagogy Conference</td>
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<td>E104</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dr. Alicia Cordoba Taft, Assistant to the President for Mission</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Integration, Benedictine University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>Atrium</td>
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Biography

Jim Fisher is Professor of Theology and American Studies at Fordham University, a position that he has held for eight years. Before he came to Fordham, he held positions at St. Peter's College, Yale University, Princeton University, Rutgers University and St. Louis University. He has published numerous books and scholarly articles that focus primarily on American Catholics living out their faith in the often turbulent decades following World War II. Jim's most renowned work, On the Irish Waterfront: The Crusader, the Movie, and the Soul of the Port of New York, focuses on the Irish dock workers in New York City and Hoboken, New Jersey, who became the subject of one of the most powerful and acclaimed movies in American history: On the Waterfront.

Of special note to the Saint Vincent community in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, Jim began his engagement with institutional Catholicism as a young student at Sts. Simon and Jude parish in Green Tree, a town in Pittsburgh's south hills suburbs. Though he subsequently moved to the New York area, his attachment to western Pennsylvania remained fairly strong. He has admired Roberto Clemente throughout his life, and adorns his office with a fifty-year-old poster of Clemente at bat in Forbes Field.

Jim and his wife, Kristina Chew, have a son with autism, and this has turned Jim's focus in recent years to autism study and advocacy. He organized Fordham University's Autism and Advocacy Conference in 2006 and coauthored the chapter "Autism: Presence & Justice" with his wife. It appears in Mary Beth Walsh, Alice Walsh and Gaventa, eds., Autism and Faith: A Journey Into Community.

Jim's work has appeared in a number of scholarly journals as well as publications aimed at a more popular audience. One might find his work in Commonweal, America, American Catholic Studies, U.S. Catholic Historian, the South Atlantic Quarterly, and a host of other publications. In addition to On the Irish Waterfront, he has published a number of other books. They include Communion of Immigrants: A History of Catholics in America (Oxford University Press, 2000), Dr. America: The Lives of Thomas A. Dooley, 1927-1961 (University of Massachusetts Press, 1997), The Catholic Counterculture in America, 1933-1962 (University of North Carolina Press, 1989, a Choice Outstanding Academic Book, 1990-91). He is currently working on a book for Columbia University Press entitled The Columbia History of Roman Catholicism in America.
Mrs. Ann Holmes
Director of the Saint Vincent College Concert Series and Administrative Director of The Saint Vincent Gallery

Mr. Jordan M. Hainsey
Assistant to the Archabbot, Public Relations Associate
Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA
Throughout the Conference Weekend
Schools for the Lord’s Service: Benedictine Colleges and Universities "The House that Wimmer Built: The American-Cassinese Congregation"

Abstract
The Saint Vincent Gallery is presenting two temporary exhibits in honor of the Benedictine Pedagogy Conference and the Association of Benedictine Colleges and Universities meeting here at Saint Vincent this May. One is entitled "Schools for the Lord's Service - Benedictine Colleges and Universities" and features photographs of the campuses of all of the Benedictine colleges and universities in the Association. The other is entitled "The House that Wimmer Built: The American-Cassinese Congregation" and features photographs of all of the monasteries of the congregation. Brother Nathan Cochran, O.S.B., prepared the exhibits with the thought in mind that they could be displayed at future conferences. Brother Nathan died unexpectedly in July 2014. The current Gallery Director, Mrs. Ann Holmes, with the assistance of Jordan Hainsey, Assistant to the Archabbot, Public Relations Associate, made the exhibit possible for the conference this year.

Biography
Following the untimely passing of Br. Nathan Cochran, O.S.B., Ann Holmes returned to Saint Vincent College in 2014 as Director of the Saint Vincent Concert Series and Administrative Director of The Saint Vincent Gallery. Ms. Holmes had served previously as Concert Manager with Fr. Joseph Bronder, O.S.B., with responsibility for the Concert Series, the Camera and other choral programs, student and faculty recitals and related musical performances on campus. As Concert Series Director, Ms. Holmes works to identify dynamic classical musicians for monthly performances. She also works with the Visual Arts staff to manage, maintain and display the Saint Vincent Gallery's extensive collection of fine art.
A resident of Ligonier, Ms. Holmes received her undergraduate degree from Hood College in Frederick, Maryland, and her master's degree from the Saint Vincent Seminary.
Br. Nathan served as artistic director of The Saint Vincent College Concert Series, chair of the Department of Visual Arts, director of The Saint Vincent Gallery and a lecturer in fine arts. In 2011, he was the first recipient of Der Projektenschmacher Award of Saint Vincent College, given in recognition of creative initiative that has made a valuable difference to the campus community and the arts at Saint Vincent. Br. Nathan passed away unexpectedly on July 30, 2014.

Biography
Jordan M. Hainsey is a 2011 alumnus of Saint Vincent College where he earned his B.A. in Graphic Design. He frequently collaborates on projects with the Saint Vincent Archabbey Archives and The Saint Vincent Gallery. In the autumn of 2012 Hainsey curated Ut in Omnibus Glorificetur Deus, a permanent display in The Saint Vincent Gallery honoring Archabbot Boniface Wimmer, O.S.B., on the 125th anniversary of his death.

Ms. Kelsey Harris
Residence Hall Director
Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA
Thursday, May 21, 2015
7 p.m.

Biography
Kelsey Harris completed her undergraduate degree in history at Saint Vincent College in May 2014. She is the Mr. Rogers Trolley Tour Manager as well as the Saint Vincent Grismmill Curator and Tour Coordinator. Additionally, Kelsey serves the students of Saint Vincent through her role as a Residence Hall Director for Gerard Hall.

Br. Lawrence Machia O.S.B.
Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA
Eyes of Faith
Thursday, May 21, 2015
8 p.m.

Abstract
For followers of St. Benedict, the pursuit of knowledge through prayer and study leads to conversion of life. Eyes of Faith, a planetarium presentation developed by Br. Lawrence Machia O.S.B., of Saint Vincent Archabbey, explores some of the discoveries of contemporary astronomy from a prayerful and continued
scientific perspective. Creation both amazes with its beauty and humbles with its immensity. Just as those who use telescopes to study the cosmos have been transformed in their understanding of creation, so also, those who look upon it with eyes of faith cannot help but be transformed in their hearts through an encounter with their Creator.

Biography
Br. Lawrence Machia, O.S.B., is 29 years old and a native of northern Vermont. He made his first profession of simple vows at Saint Vincent Archabbey on July 10, 2013. He holds a bachelor of arts in theology from Eastern University, where he also studied astronomy. Br. Lawrence is currently enrolled in seminary formation, anticipates solemn vows in July 2016 and ordination to the priesthood in 2018. He is planning for future graduate studies in astronomy and astrophysics.

Dr. Steven Gravelle
Associate Professor of Chemistry
Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA
Welcome and Learning in and about the Dupré Science Pavilion
Thursday, May 21, 2015

Abstract
The newly completed Sis and Herman Dupré Science Pavilion provides students and faculty at Saint Vincent College a place to study and reflect. The pavilion was designed with the Benedictine values in mind. In this presentation, we will examine how those values have been expressed in the structure, classrooms, labs and even the electricity. It has provided not only a unique place to study, but an example to be studied.

Biography
Steven Gravelle is an associate professor of chemistry who joined the faculty at Saint Vincent College in 1991. He served as chair of the chemistry department from 1996 to 2005 and is currently the director of the Teaching Enhancement and Mentoring Program for the college. Starting in the early 2000’s, Dr. Gravelle served on the steering committee charged with overseeing the design and construction of the Dupré Science Pavilion, which was completed in four phases from 2010-2013. The design of the building followed the recommendations of Project Kaleidoscope, an organization begun in the 1990s for the purposes of improving science education in colleges and universities. Dr. Gravelle has made numerous presentations and facilitated a number of workshops on the “Science Writing Heuristic” a pedagogical strategy for making chemistry laboratories more inquiry-based and student-oriented. He is married to a potter and has two sons who are recent college graduates.

Fr. Earl Henry, O.S.B.
prior of Saint Vincent Archabbey
Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA
Friday, May 22, 2015
9 a.m.

Biography
The Very Rev. Earl J. Henry, O.S.B., is prior of Saint Vincent Archabbey. As prior, Father Earl has a major administrative role in one of the largest monasteries in the world, with nearly 200 monks.

A native of Whitney, Pennsylvania, Father Earl was born April 21, 1957, a son of Cyril and Stella M. (Dempsey) Henry. He is one of 11 children, including his brothers Donald, Raymond, Russell, Leo, Cyril, Fred, Lawrence, Benedict, Paul and a sister, Rose Mary.

He attended St. Cecilia Grade School in Whitney and graduated from Saint Vincent Preparatory School in 1975. He received a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy from Saint Vincent College in 1960, and a master of divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 1964. He made simple profession of Monastic vows on July 2, 1958, and solemn profession of vows on July 11, 1961. He was ordained a priest by the late Bishop William G. Connare of Greensburg on June 6, 1964.

Following ordination, Father Earl was associate pastor at St. Gertrude Parish, Vandergrift (1964-1965); and then returned to Saint Vincent, where he held the positions of food service director, assistant director of athletics and prefect/counselor (1965-1967); dean of students at Saint Vincent College (1967-1975); director of admission (1975-1982); and director of admission and financial aid (1982-1984). In the fall of 1984 he studied at Sant’ Anselmo, and then served for seven months as administrator of St. Nicholas Parish, Nicktown. From 1985 to 1987 he was rector of Penn State Catholic Center, State College. He then returned to Saint Vincent College to assume his position as dean of admission and financial aid (1987-1997). In 1997 he was named Prior of the Archabbey.
Fr. Nathan Munsch, O.S.B.
Assistant Professor of Theology
Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA
American Benedictines: Who is our Founder and is there a "Benedictine" Charism of Higher Education?
Friday, May 22, 2015
9:30 a.m.

Abstract
Saint Benedict, in chapter 58:17 of his Rule, requires that a person joining the monastic community take vows of stability, obedience, and conversatio morum. The meaning of this last phrase became unclear to Benedictines within a few centuries after the death of Benedict, and they substituted the more intelligible term conversio morum which means roughly "conversion of life." For more than a thousand years "conversion of life" was thought to be the correct reading of RB 58:17. Within the past century textual scholars have convincingly demonstrated that the original and correct reading is conversatio morum; in addition scholars of the Rule are convinced that understanding what Benedict meant by this obscure phrase is central to understanding his monastic project. This presentation will analyze the history and meanings of conversio and conversatio and conclude with a proposal for understanding conversatio morum in a modern context.

Biography
Fr. Nathan Munsch, O.S.B., has been a Benedictine monk of Saint Vincent Archabbey for 20 years. Prior to that he was a monk for 13 years at Mt. Saviour Priory, a small, contemplative Benedictine monastery near Elmira, New York. A native of the Pittsburgh area, he developed interests in theology and liturgy while an undergraduate at Notre Dame, pursued a degree in classical languages at Duquesne University and taught high school for three years. He holds an STB from Catholic University, a Ph.D. in theology from Boston College and has been involved in parish work. His current full-time assignment is teaching theology, monastic studies and Latin at Saint Vincent College and Seminary.

Dr. Christine Gustafson
Dr. Kevin Staley
Saint Anselm College
Developing a Mission-Centered Shared Learning Experience at Saint Anselm College
Friday, May 22, 2015
10:45 a.m.

Abstract
Rooted in the Benedictine vow that encourages faithfulness to a way of life within community, Conversatio is the foundational shared learning experience for every Saint Anselm College student. This two-semester course provides students with an intellectual orientation to studies in the liberal arts and acquaints them with the distinctive value of those studies within the Catholic Benedictine tradition. As the common academic conversation orienting students to Saint Anselm College, Conversatio invites individuals to discover their intellectual place and voice within the Saint Anselm learning community by encouraging them to read critically, to contemplate significant questions about human existence and to communicate their ideas to others with greater effectiveness and respect. This presentation will describe how this course, which has just completed its debut year, was created, piloted and implemented. It will also briefly discuss initial evaluations of the course by students and faculty members.

Biography
Christine A. Gustafson is associate professor of politics and the associate dean for faculty development and assessment at Saint Anselm College in Manchester, New Hampshire. She holds a Ph.D. in political science from Brown University. Her areas of research interest include the international political economy of development, Brazilian political economy, theories of culture and institutional change and the politics of religion. Her most recent work has examined the divergent political strategies of Catholics and Evangelical Protestants in Brazil. Her most recent

Dr. Kevin Staley holds a Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Toronto. His specialties include ancient and medieval philosophy, Islamic philosophy, and classical and neo-classical metaphysics. He began teaching at Saint Anselm College in 1986 and has served as chair of the department of philosophy, founder and first director of the Honors Program, as the director of the College’s former humanities program, Portraits of Human Greatness and co-chaired the committee to develop the new first-year program, Conversatio. He currently teaches full time.

Dr. Stephen Jodis
Dean of the Herbert W. Boyer School of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Computing
Br. Albert (Scott) Gahr, O.S.B.
Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA
Introducing the Rule of Saint Benedict in an Introductory Course on Engineering and Computer Ethics
Friday, May 22, 2015
1:15 p.m.

Abstract
The Rule of Benedict provides a guide for living life and can be very naturally introduced into a course on professional ethics in a variety of disciplines. At Saint Vincent, we have created an introductory course in engineering and computer ethics to serve students in these programs. ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology) is the accrediting body in the United States and across the world for engineering, computer and technology programs. This body lists ethics among the required criteria for accreditation. Although not currently accredited by ABET, we are in the process of aligning our curricula with ABET requirements. In this presentation, we will describe the introductory course structure; topics covered and how the inclusion of the Rule of St. Benedict as a virtue ethic theory fits naturally with the contemporary discussion of ethics. The aim of this presentation is to demonstrate how the Rule can be incorporated as a semester-long reference point for class discussion.

Biography
Dr. Stephen Jodis came to Saint Vincent College in July of 2011 to serve as the Dean of the Herbert W. Boyer School of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Computing. Prior to that he was a faculty member for 21 years at Armstrong Atlantic State University in Savannah, Georgia. He served as interim dean of the College of Science and Technology and professor of computer science before his move to Saint Vincent.

A 1985 graduate of Auburn University where he earned a bachelor of computer engineering, he also earned a master of science degree and a Ph.D. from the department of computer science and engineering there.

He is completing his fifth year as a Commissioner of the Computing Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), the recognized accreditor for college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering and technology, and is active as a program evaluator and accreditation team chair. He is also a member of the Association of Computing Machinery (ACM).

Biography
Dr. Albert (Scott) Gahr, O.S.B., is an assistant professor of biology at Saint Vincent College joining the college faculty in Fall 2012. He received his Ph.D. in genetics and developmental biology from West Virginia University in 2002 and his B.S. in biology from Saint Vincent College in 1995. He entered the monastic community at Saint Vincent in July 2008 making his solemn profession on July 11, 2012. He completed an M.A. in Monastic Studies at Saint Vincent Seminary in 2012. He has additional work experience at the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Center for Cool and Coldwater Aquaculture in Leetown, West Virginia. His research interests include the molecular analysis of mechanisms regulating development in avian and aquaculture species.
CONFEERENCE PRESENTERS

Dr. Matthew Fisher
Associate Professor of Chemistry
Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA
Connecting Head, Hand and Heart in a Reflective Manner: Contemplative Education in Quantitative and Professional Disciplines
Friday, May 22, 2015
1:15 p.m.

Abstract
Much of the work to date involving contemplative pedagogies has focused on humanities, psychology or neuroscience. But what about disciplines like chemistry or economics? How might contemplative education be incorporated into courses in these subjects? This talk will explore this question from three perspectives:
1. the broad use of contemplative pedagogies in higher education over a period of several decades;
2. William Sullivan's "three apprenticeships" of professional education - cognitive, skills-based and moral/ethical - that present some possible starting points for bringing a contemplative dimension to student learning.
3. Donald Schon's work on "reflection in action" and "reflection on action" by professionals.

I propose these perspectives provide potential starting points for bringing a contemplative dimension to how students experience these quantitative and professional disciplines that are often viewed as unrelated to contemplative pedagogies.

Biography
Matt Fisher came to Saint Vincent in 1995, where he is now an associate professor of chemistry. His teaching responsibilities include general chemistry, organic chemistry and all of the upper level biochemistry courses. He served as director of the college's Teaching Enhancement and Mentoring Program from 2002 to 2009, and was chairperson of the chemistry department for seven years. Outside of Saint Vincent, he is a senior fellow with the National Center for Science and Civic Engagement and was a member of the American Chemical Society's Committee on Environmental Improvement for more than a decade and served as committee chair in 2013. He was a 2005 Carnegie Scholar, and his work in the scholarship of teaching and learning over the past decade have focused on integrative learning in courses for science majors and how students learn to "think like chemists." His perspective on undergraduate teaching and learning has been profoundly influenced by the Camaldolese Benedictine monks of New Camaldoli Hermitage (Big Sur, California), where he has been an oblate since 1998.

Dr. Jeffrey Godwin
Associate Professor of Management
Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA
Benedictine Values and Management Education
Friday, May 22, 2015
2:45 p.m.

Abstract
This presentation looks at the use of Benedictine values in management education. In particular, I will share three exercises designed to simulate classroom discussions utilizing Benedictine values and the topics of emotional intelligence, strategic decision-making and organizational culture. For example, after examining the construct of emotional intelligence (EQ) and reviewing ten Benedictine values, I facilitate a discussion around questions such as: “How do the ten Benedictine values help build the Emotional Intelligence (EQ) of members of the community?”

Biography
Dr. Jeff Godwin teaches the business policy and strategy and organizational behavior courses in the business department at Saint Vincent College. He has academic, corporate and church-related work experience. Dr. Godwin is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church. His educational background includes: Ph.D. (Management), Virginia Tech; M.B.A., West Virginia University; M.Div., Wesley Theological Seminary; and B.B.A., The College of William and Mary.

Dr. Godwin’s research interests are primarily in the areas of transformational leadership, organizational culture and goal setting. In addition to conference presentations, his research record includes articles published in the journals: Human Resource Management Review; Journal of Managerial Psychology; Journal of Management Development; International Journal of Organization Theory and Behavior; Journal of Applied Behavioral Science; Journal of Management Education; Journal of Organizational Behavior Education; and the Journal of Small Business & Entrepreneurship.
Ninth Annual
Benedictine Pedagogy Conference

'Contemplative Education (Conversatio morum):
Spirituality in the Benedictine Tradition'

Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA
May 21-23, 2015

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Dr. Michael Urick
Assistant Professor and Graduate Director
Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA
Incorporating Contemplative Education into Introductory Courses
Friday, May 22, 2015
2:45 p.m.

Abstract
Contemplative education often requires participants to step back
and reflect on their experiences to build awareness. Though
useful in many classes, such an approach could be difficult in
some freshman-oriented introductory courses in which students
may have limited experience with course concepts and in which
there are many topics that must be covered quickly, thereby
not leaving much time for purposeful contemplation. This
presentation provides a starting point to generate ideas regarding
how such courses can incorporate contemplative education and
meaningful self-reflection.

Biography
Michael J. Urick earned his Ph.D. in management (organizational
behavior) from the University of Cincinnati and master’s degrees
from Duquesne University. As graduate director of the Master
of Science in Management: Operational Excellence program and
assistant professor of management and operational excellence
at Saint Vincent College, he teaches two extreme groups –
introductory courses to freshman and graduate-level electives to
master’s students. In part because of these teaching experiences,
Dr. Urick is interested in two major pedagogical areas: (1)
finding the right balance of content and appropriate amount of
lecture in introductory courses and (2) leveraging pop culture in
the classroom to effectively illustrate course concepts. In addition
to these areas, Dr. Urick researches topics related to generations
in the workplace, organizational conflict, identity at work and
leadership. Dr. Urick reviews for a variety of well-respected
journals and conferences and also serves as an associate editor
for the Journal of Leadership and Management as well as on the
Board of Directors for the Institute for Supply Management, Pittsburgh.

Mr. David Safin
Assistant Professor
Ms. Shannon O’Reilly
Class of 2017
Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA
Web Redemption
Friday, May 22, 2015
3:45 p.m.

Abstract
Saint Vincent student Shannon O’Reilly took an unusual approach
to a video assignment for the communication course, Digital
Culture. The task was to create a video that had the potential to
go viral, meaning that it would be shareable online. Typical viral,
videos are short, snappy, usually feature popular music and are
often inconsequential. O’Reilly broke every rule of the assignment
by producing a lengthy, thoughtful documentary about the
transformative power of faith. The video yielded more than 1,000
views in less than 24 hours illustrating that the Internet can be a
place where meaningful content can thrive.

Biography
David Safin is an assistant professor of communication at
Saint Vincent College in Latrobe. He has a bachelor’s degree
in communication from Saint Vincent, a master’s degree
in multimedia technology from California University of
Pennsylvania, and a master of fine arts in film and digital
technology from Chatham University. His thesis film, “The
Birthday Present,” screened at the Steeltown Film Factory
Short Film Fest, Chatham University’s Best of the MFA Series,
Downtown Film Night sponsored by Future Tenant & the
Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership, and the Johnstown Film
Festival. He and his wife, Kate, reside in Manor, Pennsylvania.

Biography
Shannon O’Reilly, class of 2017, is delighted that her video will
be showcased in the Benedictine Pedagogy Conference. As a
communication major, Shannon took a night class called digital
culture. The final assignment of the class was to create a video that
she believed could go viral. Ironically, Shannon began working on
her video the day that it was supposed to be finished.

After three weeks of interviews, post-production and re-filming
after footage was deleted, Shannon finished “They Will Be Done.”
Shannon has always been intrigued with how film can inspire and
evoke emotion. She hopes to continue making videos that impact
people. Finally, Shannon would like to thank all of the monks
at Saint Vincent and remind them that they are all lights in a
darkened world.
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CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Fr. Thomas Hart, O.S.B.
Assistant to the President for Mission
Saint Vincent College
“Sit Like a Baby Chick”
Saturday, May 23, 2015
9 a.m.

Abstract
The title is taken directly from “The Rule of Saint Romuald,” founder of the Camaldolese Hermits 1000 years ago. What might consecrated hermit-religious have to contribute to higher education in the postmodern era?

Biography
Fr. Thomas M. Hart, O.S.B., was born in 1957 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, youngest of six children. He earned a B.A. in theology and philosophy from the University of Steubenville, Ohio; M.Div. from Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe, Pennsylvania; and did graduate studies in biblical theology at the Catholic University of America. He made simple profession of Monastic vows in 1984 and solemn profession in 1987, and was ordained a priest in 1988. At Saint Vincent he has worked as assistant director of Oblates (1985-1987). He was named in 1993 to the college faculty. From 1997 until 2007, he was with the religious studies/theology department, where he continues to teach. He has served as assistant to the president for mission (2002-2008, and 2010-present), and taught in the religious studies department at West Virginia University from 1994 to 1997. His secondary interest is in interreligious dialogue. Fr. Thomas has had articles published in Share the Word and The Bible Today. He contributed to Purity of Heart and Contemplation: A Monastic Dialogue Between Christian and Asian Traditions. He holds memberships in the Catholic Biblical Association, the Society of Biblical Literature and The Pittsburgh Jung Society. He is a fallen-away practitioner of T’aijiquan.

Fr. Mark Thamert, O.S.B.
Associate Professor of German at the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University
Benedictine Living/Learning Community
Saturday, May 23, 2015
10 a.m.

Abstract
In fall of 2014, St. John’s University housed its first residents in our Benedictine Living Community, a mission-based, living-learning community. This is our first intentional community centered on the mission of our institution and our founding Benedictine values. In this session, we will discuss the 18-month process by which we developed this intentional community and garnered institutional support for the initiative. We will discuss how the coursework was developed, how we’ve recruited students, screened applicants and collaborated with members of the monastic community to strengthen the Benedictine experience. We will also discuss the process by which we selected the facility to use for this community and our efforts to make sure that the facility clearly supports the environment we wish to create. Finally, we’ll share what we’ve learned during this first year.

Biography
Fr. Mark Thamert, O.S.B., associate professor of German at the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University, teaches Great Books and world poetry seminars in the Honors Program as well as German in the languages and cultures department at the two colleges. Fr. Mark’s interest in group dynamics and intentional living communities has developed throughout his teaching career, during which he has led more than 20 study abroad programs to places like Germany and Austria, Italy, Nepal, India and Mexico. In June 2013, as Director of the Benedictine Institute at Saint John’s, Mark led a faculty and staff study tour of Benedictine sites in Italy and Germany, including the monasteries of Eichstatt and Metten. Foremost in his mind during these trips abroad and now in directing the Benedictine Learning Community at Saint John’s is the question: “How can the formation of strong community interactions based on Benedictine hallmarks enhance the quality of learning for student or faculty/staff participants?” His presentation will describe the process of forming and teaching on a Benedictine campus.
Dr. Alicia Cordoba Tait
Assistant to the President for Mission Integration
and Professor of Music
Benedictine University
Planning the Tenth Benedictine Pedagogy Conference
Saturday, May 23, 2015
11 a.m.

Biography
Alicia Cordoba Tait is the assistant to the president for mission integration, director of the Center for Mission and Identity and professor of music at Benedictine University in Lisle, Illinois. She received degrees in oboe performance from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana and from The Juilliard School in New York City. She was the first woman to receive a doctor of musical arts degree in English horn performance. Dr. Tait performs regularly as a soloist, chamber and orchestral musician throughout the United States; she has been heard concertizing throughout Europe and has performed in South America, Russia and Australia on the oboe, oboe d'amore and English horn. She has premiered many new works for all three of her double reed instruments. Her most recent compact disc releases include Patricia Morehead: Good News Falls Gently (Navona Records), Arbitrio: Music for Oboe Bassoon, and Piano (Centaur Records) and Roberto Sierra: Souvenirs (Albany records). She has been heard often on NPR and local public radio stations including WFMT. As an academic, Dr. Tait teaches a variety of courses in music and the humanities and has been invited to present at conferences on her expertise in areas of professional development, critical thinking, Benedictine spirituality and musical performance and musicianship. In her role as mission officer at Benedictine University, Dr. Tait provides leadership in the design, development, implementation, evaluation and coordination of programs and activities to ensure and advance the Catholic and Benedictine identity of the institution and is the staff liaison to the mission integration committee.
Ninth Annual
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‘Contemplative Education (Conversatio morum): Spirituality in the Benedictine Tradition’
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May 21-23, 2015

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Member Schools

Saint Leo University
33701, State Road 52
Saint Leo, FL 33574-6655
(352) 588-8242
Dr. Arthur Kirk Jr., President
www.saintleo.edu

Benedictine University
5700 College Road
Lisle, IL 60532-0900
(630) 829-6000
Dr. William J. Carroll, President
www.ben.edu

Benedictine College
1020 N. 2nd Street
Atchison, KS 66002-1499
(913) 367-5340
Dr. Stephen D. Minnis, President
www.benedictine.edu

College of Saint Benedict
37 College Avenue
St. Joseph, MN 56374-2099
(320) 363-5505
Dr. MaryAnn Baumerger, President
www.csbsju.edu

College of St. Scholastica
1200 Kenwood Avenue
Duluth, MN 55811
(218) 723-6000
Dr. Larry Goodwin, President
www.cst.edu

Saint John's University
Box 2000
Collegeville, MN 56321-2000
(320) 363-2011
Dr. Michael Hemesath, President
www.csbsju.edu

Saint Anselm College
100 Saint Anselm Drive
Manchester, NH 03102-1310
(603) 641-7000
Dr. Steven DiSalvo, President
www.anselm.edu

Belmont Abbey College
100 Belmont-Mount Holly Road
Belmont, NC 28012-1802
(704) 825-6748
Dr. William Thierfelder, President
www.belmontabbeycollege.edu

University of Mary
7500 University Drive
Bismarck, ND 58504-9652
(701) 255-7500
Msgr. James Patrick Shea, President
www.umary.edu

St. Gregory's University
1900 West MacArthur Street
Shawnee, OK 74804
(405) 878-5421
D. Gregory Main, President
www.stgregory.edu

Mount Marty College
1105 West 8th Street
Yankton, SD 57078
(800) 658-4552
Dr. Joseph Benoit, President
www.mmtc.edu

Saint Martin's University
5300 Pacific Ave. S.E.
Lacey, WA 98503
(360) 491-4700
Dr. Roy Heynderickx, President
www.smu.edu
Ninth Annual
Benedictine Pedagogy Conference
'Contemplative Education (Conversatio morum):
Spirituality in the Benedictine Tradition'
Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA
May 21-23, 2015

MEMBER HIGH SCHOOLS

Maur Hill -Mount Academy
1000 Green Street
Atchison, KS 66002
Monika King, Head of School
913-267-5484
www.mh-ma.com

Marmion Academy
1000 Butterfield Road
Aurora, IL 60506-9742
Dr. James J. Quaid, Headmaster
630-897-6936
www.marmion.org

St. Scholastica Academy
7416 N Ridge Blvd
Chicago, IL 60645
Dr. Lynne Farmer, Head of School
773-864-4715
www.scholastics.us

Benedictine High School, Cleveland
2900 Martin Luther King Blvd.
Cleveland, OH 44104
Ms. Joseph E. Gross, Principal
216-421-2080
www.cbhs.net

Saint John’s Preparatory School
1857 Watertower Road, Box 4000
Collegeville, MN 56031-4000
Fr. Timothy Backonas, O.S.B., Head of School
320-363-3319
www.sjprep.net

Saint Bernard Preparatory School
1600 Saint Bernard Dr, SE
Cullman, AL 35055
Fr. Joel Martin, O.S.B., President
256-729-6682
www.sbnardprep.com

Delbarton School
230 Mendham Road
Morristown, NJ 07960-4899
Br. Paul Divney, O.S.B., Head of School
973-538-2231
www.delbarton.org

Benedictine Academy
840 North Broad Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07208-2599
Kenneth Jennings, Head of School
908-322-0570
www.benedictineacad.org

Mt. Michael Benedictine School
22520 Mt. Michael Rd
Berkner, NE 68022-3400
David Peters, Head of School
402-289-2541
www.mountmichaelhs.com

St. Lucy’s Priory High School
555 W. Sierra Madre Ave.
Glendora, CA 91741-0917
Sr. Monica Collins, O.S.B., Head of School
626-335-3322
www.stlucyhs.com

Cistercian Preparatory School
3660 Cistercian Road
Irving, TX 75099
Rev. Paul McCormick, O.Cist, Headmaster
469-499-5400
www.cistercian.org

Benet Academy
2200 Maple Avenue
Lisle, IL 60532
Stephen Martin, Principal
330-959-6550
www.benet.org

St. Benedict’s Preparatory School
520 Dr. Martin L. King Jr. Blvd.
Newark, NJ 07102-1314
Rev. Edwin D. Leisby, O.S.B., Head of School
973-845-4800
www.stb.org

St. Bede Academy
24 W US HWY 6
Peru, IL 61354
Mrs. Michelle Marshon, Principal
815-223-5140
www.stbede.com

Portsmouth Abbey School
285 Corly’s Lane
Portsmouth, RI 02871
Dr. James De Vecchi, Headmaster
401-683-2000
www.portsmouthabbey.org

Benedictine High School
304 N Sheppard Street
Richmond, VA 23221
Jesse Grapes, Headmaster
804-342-1300
www.benedictinehighschool.org

St. Gertrude High School
3215 Stuart Avenue,
Richmond, VA 23221
Ms. Susan Walker, President
804-358-9114
www.stgertrude.org

Benedictine Military School
5602 Sea 158 Drive
Savannah, GA 31406
Rev. Colonel Frank Ziemkiewicz, O.S.B., Headmaster
912-644-4000
www.bmsbc.org

Saint Louis Priory School
500 South Mason Road
St. Louis, MO 63141-9500
Fr. Linus Dolce, O.S.B., Headmaster
314-634-9590
www.priory.org

Subiaco Academy
405 N Subiaco Avenue
Subiaco, AR 72685
Robert A. Leis, Headmaster
501-934-1005
www.subiacoacademy.us

Villa Madonna Academy High School
2500 Amsterdam Road
Villa Hills, KY 41017-3798
Mrs. Pamela McQueen, Head of School
859-351-3533
www.villamadonna.net

St. Anselm’s Abbey School
4501 South Dakota Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20017
Bill Crittenden, Headmaster
202-269-2350
www.stanselms.org

Woodside Priory School
302 Portola Road
Portola Valley, CA 94028
Tim Molsk, Head of School
650-851-8221
www.prioryca.org
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THE TEN HALLMARKS OF BENEDICTION EDUCATION
Endorsed by the Association of Benedictine Colleges and
Universities Executive Committee, August 27, 2007

Love of Christ and Neighbor
Prayer: A life marked by liturgy, lectio and mindfulness
Stability: commitment to the daily life of this place, its heritage and tradition
Conversatio: the way of formation and transformation
Obedience: a commitment to listening and consequent action
Discipline: a way toward learning and freedom
Humility: knowledge of self in relation to God, others and creation
Stewardship: responsible use of creation, culture and the arts
Hospitality: openness to the other
Community: call to serve the common good
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THE SAINT VINCENT COLLEGE PLANNING COMMITTEE
Ms. Alice Kaylor
Dr. Timothy Kelly
Dr. Steve Gravelle
Fr. Nathan Munsch, O.S.B.
Fr. Thomas M. Hart, O.S.B.

To everyone in the Saint Vincent Community
who helped to make the Ninth Annual Benedictine Pedagogy Conference a success

THANK YOU!

Learning is the best advocate for what is true and just.