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## The Power of Collaboration: Cross-Boundary Contributions to Students' Holistic Success

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Proposal Title: The power of collaboration: Cross boundary contributions to students' holistic success.

Preamble: The Ghanaian adage, *Ti koro nko agyina* (*One head does not hold council*) aligns with the 2020 Forum theme of cross boundaries and collaboration.

In what ways can The Institute for Pastoral Initiatives (IPI) collaborate with other departments in educating the whole person - mind, hands, and heart? As a Catholic, Marianist Institution, the Declaration on Christian Education (*Gravissimum Educationis*) highlights the importance of educating the whole person by asserting that, "...of great importance is the vocation of all those who aid parents in fulfilling their their duties and who, as representatives of the human community, undertake the task of education in schools, This vocation demands special qualities of mind and heart, very careful preparation, and continuing readiness to renew and to adapt." (par.5). Understandably faculty and staff here at UD play specific roles of assisting in education students.

Delblanco (2012), noted that the general aim of higher education was "to develop the whole man [person]." The idea of nurturing the whole person goes all the way back to Socrates, Plato and Aristotle who had varied propositions of what educating the whole person meant (in their times). In addition, Bertrand Clemens, S.M. noted that, "where there is a faculty working together, expending itself and finding full joy in its work, there will be a student body composed of similar characteristics." I believe that is the goal of UD, as faculty and staff are encouraged to shift silo mentality of education, and collaborate across boundaries to educate and contribute to students' holistic success and development.

Back to the initial question of how IPI could collaborate with other entities on campus to educate the whole person, and the Ghanaian adage of one head not holding council. As a primarily online based faith and leadership formation entity, IPI could bring different bodies on campus together via a series of e-seminars:

1. Work in tandem with various departments to develop basic three week e-seminars for integration of courses that otherwise would be available to only one department.
2. Partner with other departments or specific faculty/staff in promoting events on campus. Examples: Collaborated with World choir (Music department) by teaching a Ghanaian song for the 2013 Christmas program. Collaborated with Campus Ministry in introducing the first ever MAAFA to UD campus last during this year's Black History Month. Collaborated with Center for Catholic Education in forming students who choose catechetics as a minor through the Forum for Young Catechetical Leaders (FYCL).
3. Continue to partner with HR in offering online formation courses, and develop new ones based on the needs of UD Learning and Teaching Forum.
4. Partner with the Office for Diversity and Inclusion to develop e-seminars based on the workshops the office generates for the broader UD campus.
5. The 3rd Annual Learning and Teaching Forum could be videotaped and offered as a facilitated e-seminar for those who would wish to participate but would not be available to do so at that time.

## References

Delblanco, A. (2012). *College: What it was, is and should be*. New Jersey: Princeton University Press.

Declaration on Christian Education (*Gravissimum Educationis*), 1965  
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The Marianists Province of The United States. Quotations from Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, Venerable Adele de Batz de Trenquellon, Venerable Marie Thérèse de Lamourous, Marianists in the Ministry of Education <https://www.marianist.com/files/2011/11/Marianist-Quotes-Related-to-the-Characteristics-of-Marianist-Education.pdf>

Respectfully submitted, October 14, 2019

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