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# Embracing Interfaith Competency as a Part of Our Mission

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## **Embracing Interfaith Competency as a Part of Our Mission**

### **Presenter Information:**

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### **Description:**

This session will explore why developing interfaith competency on both the staff level and the student level is essential to the role of a student affairs practitioner in Catholic higher education. By attending this session, you will learn about the foundational document of the Catholic Church on Interreligious Dialogue (Nostra Aetate), and what it means for the work we do in Student Affairs and in promoting the Common Good. This session will explore how student affairs practitioners from various focus areas, including but not limited to, student activities, student identity development and diversity and inclusion, residence life, and student conduct, can benefit from developing programs and creating learning outcomes that incorporate an interfaith component. Lastly, this session will give you time to develop one goal related to interfaith development and advocacy for your institution/focus area.

### **Connection to the Theme:**

As we encourage our students to “Take Flight” after their education, we must prepare them in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition to encounter and dialogue with modern culture. As we live in a globalized world and an increasingly religiously diverse/unaffiliated country, our students must be prepared to have authentic dialogue with individuals from different religious backgrounds and identities to search for the Common Good.

### **Principles Used:**

- Principle One
- Principle Seven

### **Presentation Outline (PowerPoint):**

- Introduction and review of Nostra Aetate and Principle Seven from Principles of Good Practice
- Connecting interfaith competency to the Common Good and the Catholic Intellectual Tradition
- Synthesizing foundational documents, the Common Good, and the CIT and what they might mean for student affairs practitioners interested into infusing interfaith competency and development into their programs, initiatives, and culture
- Break out into different sections based on focus area to address where there is a need for greater interfaith awareness on campus and/or how interfaith awareness/competency can impact their focus area
- Open discussion around conversations had in small groups
- Resource sharing for facilitating conversations, trainings, and initiatives around interfaith competency
- Goal setting for practitioners to bring back one tangible interfaith related goal/initiative to campus

**Intended Audience:**

- New professionals, seasoned professionals, residence life, student activities, leadership programming, identity, diversity, and inclusion programming, dining services

**Presentation Requirements:**

- Round tables by focus area (Res life, student activities, first year initiatives, etc.)
- Projector with A/V inputs