Characteristics of Marianist Education: Finding Sustenance for Faculty Community

Presenters: Savio Franco and Sherry McAndrew, Advisor: Michele M. Welkener, Ph.D., Department of Educational Leadership

Need: Literature across institutions identifies faculty need for supportive community

Resource: The University of Dayton offers a rich source for fostering community based on the five characteristics

Increase mentoring
- Insufficient guidance from chairs, colleagues (Bataille & Brown, 2006)
- Little community integration for contingent faculty (Rouche, Roueche, & Milliron, 1996)

Increase collegiality
- Not finding community of scholars (Bataille & Brown, 2006)
- Anxiety discussing work issues (Norman, Ambrose & Huston, 2006)

Decrease isolation
- Academia known for isolation, individualism (Parker, 2002)
- Feelings of fragmentation, loneliness, sometimes incivility (Bataille & Brown, 2006)

Action: The University of Dayton provides many avenues for engaging as a faculty community in the Marianist spirit

1. EDUCATE FOR FORMATION IN FAITH
   - Against the secular trend
   - Both faith and reason
   - Dialogue between faith and culture

2. PROVIDE AN INTEGRAL, QUALITY EDUCATION
   - Promote quality education of the whole person
   - Local impact for the global world
   - Oversight and complimentary of roles

3. EDUCATE IN FAMILY SPIRIT
   - Create a climate of acceptance
   - Foster friendships
   - Form collaborative processes and structures

4. EDUCATE FOR SERVICE, JUSTICE & PEACE
   - Promote a sense of work as mission
   - Attend to the poor and the marginalized
   - Promote dignity, rights, & responsibilities of all

5. EDUCATE FOR ADAPTATION & CHANGE
   - Education to shape the future
   - Educate for living authentically in a pluralistic society
   - Develop critical thinking skills in search for truth

(Chamaine University of Honolulu, St. Mary’s University, & University of Dayton, 1999; Society of Mary, 1996)

References

CAMPUS MINISTRY
- Perspectives on Faith & Life Discussion Series
- Faculty/Staff Wilderness Retreat
- Spiritual Direction: Groups or one-on-one

OFFICE FOR MISSION AND RECTOR WEBSITE
- UD Mission, UD Identity, & Marianist documents
- Calendar of Marianist lectures, other events

LEARNING TEACHING CENTER: INFORMAL SHARING
- Chairs Collaborative: Discussion of ideas
- Inside the Studio: Faculty teaching faculty
- Teaching in the Studio: Experimental classroom with peer support and collaboration

LEARNING TEACHING CENTER: FORMAL PROGRAMS
- The Salon: Far-ranging faculty discussions
- ASPIRE, Associate Professor Inquiry, Reflection, & Exploration program: Collaborative faculty group
- Midterm Instructional Diagnosis: Peer-to-peer
- Faculty Exchange Series: Faculty-chosen topics
- Teaching Fellows Program: Collaborative group

References