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New Hire to Lead Lasallian Vocations Promotion

Washington, DC, (May 27, 2014) – Christian Brothers Conference is pleased to announce Mr. Chris Swain as the new Regional Coordinator for Lasallian Vocation Ministry. Swain brings a strong Lasallian background and commitment to vocation with years of service ranging from teaching in the classroom to serving internationally.

Swain will be the first lay person to lead Lasallian vocation efforts full time for the Lasallian Region of North America (RELAN), one of five Regions in the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools ([De La Salle Christian Brothers](#)). He will work closely with Christian Brothers Conference and the Regional Vocation Formation Committee (RVFC) to lead an enhanced approach to vocations promotion. Through this collaboration, they will promote and recruit vocations to the De La Salle Christian Brothers. Swain will also be responsible for leading efforts to promote other vocations to the church, especially within the Lasallian charism, such as educators and [Lasallian Volunteers](#).

Swain currently serves as Director of Community/Student Activities at Justin-Siena High School in Napa, CA, a Lasallian school, where he has also taught religion and coached tennis. Swain has been involved the Lasallian mission for nearly 15 years. After graduating from Saint Mary's College of California in Moraga, a Lasallian institution, he served for two years as a Lasallian Volunteer at the former San Miguel School in Camden, NJ. He also student taught at De La Salle High School, a Lasallian school in Concord, CA, before joining the Justin-Siena community in 2007.

Additionally, Swain has been involved in efforts for the Lasallian Region of North America (RELAN) and for the Institute internationally. He is a member of the Regional Young Lasallians Committee and was a delegate to the 2014 International Symposium of Young Lasallians. He has also taken part in a number of formation programs and service opportunities in the U.S. and abroad.

"I am delighted in the choice of Chris for this new full-time position to support the RVFC in its work of vocation promotion, to collaborate with the Lasallian Volunteers staff in attracting young men and women to serve as volunteers, and with Christian Brothers Conference in promoting the vocation of teaching to women and men aspiring to serve in Lasallian ministries," said Brother Robert Schieler, FSC, former RELAN General Councilor, who was [elected Superior General of the Institute on May 20, 2014](#). "Chris' lived experience as a Lasallian Volunteer and young Lasallian will stand him in good stead for this ministry."

"I am excited about the opportunity to promote Lasallian vocations, especially that of the De La Salle Christian Brothers," Swain said. "I look forward to increasing awareness of this 'best kept secret' of the Church—the Brothers, who by their witness, live simply, pray deeply, teach passionately, and stand with the poor. Their example and invitation to be a partner in mission and ministry is surely a sign of the Spirit at work and the Lasallian vocation, in all its forms, continuing to be deeply needed in our world."

Swain will relocate to Washington, DC, and begin his new role on July 1, 2014.

Christian Brothers Conference is the Regional office for the Lasallian Region of North America, part of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (De La Salle Christian Brothers). The Institute is a Catholic religious order of laymen whose mission is to provide spiritual and human education to youth, especially those who are poor and disadvantaged. Founded by St. John Baptist de La Salle in 17th century France, today approximately 4,500 Brothers and 80,000 Partners serve nearly 900,000 students in about 1,000 educational ministries in 80 countries. For more information, email communications@lasallian.info, call 202.529.0047, or visit www.lasallian.info.

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