



This morning we were sent out in twos to accompany one another—it's one of my favorite spiritual exercises, as there may be no better way to deepen one's relationship with Jesus than to share from the heart with "some body" in the body of Christ. I walked the grounds with Brother Diego Muñoz and we talked about the people who have accompanied us in our vocational journey. We shared what we thought was essential and non-essential for day-to-day life. Finally, we spoke about occasions when we have facilitated others in their day-to-day. That was the short walk preceding the day's long walk into the land of education and mission. Brother Nestor Anaya introduced the first draft of the "Criteria for Lasallian Identity and Vitality." Groups met to voice their observations and recommendations before sharing those in the assembly.

Then, a surprise: we were introduced to the 18 collegians living and studying this semester in the Generalate—from Univ. De La Salle Bajio (Mexico), Lewis Univ., St. Mary's Univ., Christian Brothers Univ., and Manhattan College—it has long been one of our hopes to inaugurate an international Lasallian study center. Thanks to the tireless efforts of Dr. Dominic Colonna (Lewis) the Lasallian semester abroad dream is a reality!

Before lunch we moved to the Declaration on Lasallian Pedagogy, following the same process for review and recommendations, after which we gathered for photos—of the planned and spontaneous variety. After lunch, Brother Jorge Gallardo gave us a thorough presentation on the Beyond the Borders initiatives called for at the Chapter and the eight policies that will guide their implementation. He then interviewed the Councilors about the initiatives being undertaken in their Regions.

After the day's long journey we found our way back in time to break bread at the liturgical table and the dinner table.

Brother Timothy Coldwell, FSC
General Councilor, RELAN
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