

**Gery Short, AFSC**  
**Recipient of the 2018 Brother John Johnston, FSC Award**

For more than 30 years, Gery Short has embraced his vocation as a lay person in the Catholic Church serving the students, teachers, staff and administrators of the District of San Francisco New Orleans and the worldwide Lasallian mission of the Brothers of the Christian Schools. As a member of the first generation of lay persons to play a significant role in the leadership of the Institute, Gery is a pioneer who has set the stage for an increasing number of lay men and women to step into leadership roles at local, District, Regional and international levels.

Gery began his groundbreaking affiliation with the De La Salle Christian Brothers as a social studies and religion teacher and department chair at Saint Mary's College High School in Berkeley, California. He then served for 10 years as coordinator of Lasallian School Programs in the then-District of San Francisco focusing on Lasallian formation and professional development activities for mission; and for 21 years, he served as the director of the District Office of Education, during which time he and his staff developed and implemented a highly regarded set of comprehensive formation programs for District administrators, teachers, staff and students. He also helped launch six new District schools, almost all exclusively founded to serve the poor. In addition, Gery developed and coordinated national and international immersion programs to help students and educators meet those less fortunate than themselves and to witness directly and personally the valuable impact that service and education can have on the lives of others.

Gery's expertise, creativity and wisdom are highly valued and appreciated. Throughout his lifetime, he has been invited to participate with the Brothers in significant mission-related leadership roles, affecting the very direction of the international network of Lasallian schools, including as the first lay person to serve on a District leadership team in the Institute; as a member of the Regional Task Force to establish a shared governance structure for the mission of Lasallian ministries in the United States and Canada; as a lay consultant to both the 1993 and 2000 General Chapters in Rome; as a member of the International Commission on Association; and as chair of the First International Mission Assembly in 2006. He has also held numerous other task force, committee and board appointments, including as chair of the National Lasallian Education Council and as a member of both the Instituto Fe y Vida board and the board of Saint Mary's Press.

Born and raised in Detroit, Gery received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan; a Master of Divinity degree from the Franciscan School of Theology in Berkeley, California; a Master of Arts degree in Theology from Graduate Theological Union, also in Berkeley; and a Master of Science degree in Human Resource Management and Organizational Development from Golden Gate University in San Francisco. He and his wife, Rosanne, have two daughters, Nora and Megan, and a son, Joseph.

During his career, Gery has inspired countless individuals to embrace and advance the Lasallian mission. He has followed in the footsteps of Saint John Baptist de La Salle by working to provide a human and Christian education to young people, especially the poor. For these and other pertinent reasons, the Lasallian Education Council is honored to recognize Gery Short with the 2018 Brother John Johnston, FSC Award.