

A MAGAZINE FOR THE LASALLIAN FAMILY IN THE LASALLIAN REGION OF NORTH AMERICA

AUTUMN 2016

LASALLIAN LEADERSHIP

NOT TO BE USED WITHOU SUPPLAYISION OF AUTIONIZED PERSONNEL KEEP OFF

Dear Reader,

Leadership happens on many levels. Whether you serve as a president, principal, campus minister, animator, teacher, coach, club moderator, counselor or in any other role that touches the hearts of young people, you are a Lasallian leader.

In this issue, we feature a number of ways Lasallians lead and become leaders. We hear from leaders in ministries throughout our Region on what informs their approach to leadership, whose example they follow, how the young people they serve inspire them, and more.

Most of this issue focuses on forming leaders – from educators to students. You'll see how educators implement what they've experienced in programs, like the Buttimer Institute of Lasallian Studies, the Brother John Johnston Institute of Contemporary Lasallian Practice and the Lasallian Leadership master's program at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota.

We also highlight an example of how the importance of and emphasis on formation has grown by tracing the roots of leadership programs in the District of San Francisco New Orleans. When it comes to cultivating leaders, Lasallian Volunteers (LV) offers a unique experience by inviting recent college graduates into communities and ministries for a year or more of service. For some volunteers, this experience is so powerful that they continue in the mission after their service concludes and grow into leaders. You'll meet two former LVs living the Lasallian vocation as leaders today.

Lasallian ministries have a unique way of guiding students on the path of leadership. You'll see this in the De La Salle Signum Fidei Institute at La Salle High School in Cincinnati, Ohio, and through the efforts of students at De La Salle "Oaklands" inToronto, Ontario, to welcome Syrian refugees.

As we talk about leaders, we would be remiss if we did not celebrate the strong leadership of Brother James Gaffney, FSC, at Lewis University in Romeoville, Illinois. Brother James retired over the summer after nearly three decades as president.

As you'll be reminded throughout this issue, Lasallian leadership incorporates faith and values to lead in a way that meets students where they are. We hope this issue speaks to you and inspires you in your role as a Lasallian leader.

ELIZABETH MOORS JODICE Editor

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At Camp Joy in Clarksville, Ohio, members of the De La Salle Signum Fidei Institute from La Salle High School in Cincinnati participate in team-building activities. Courtesy La Salle High School



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- 8 LASALLIAN LEADERSHIP: MIND, HEART, SPIRIT BY ELIZABETH MOORS JODICE
- 16 BUTTIMER: FORMING LASALLIAN LEADERS BY JENNIFER LYSTRUP
- 18 DE LA SALLE SIGNUM FIDEI INSTITUTE: TURNING YOUNG MEN INTO LEADERS BY ANNA WADDELOVE
- 22 VOLUNTEERS THEN, LEADERS NOW: LASALLIANS FOREVER BY BROTHER EDWARD PHELAN, FSC
- 26 CALLED AND EMPOWERED TO LEAD BY PHILIP DE RITA
- 29 BROTHER JAMES GAFFNEY, FSC, EXEMPLIFIES LASALLIAN LEADERSHIP AT LEWIS UNIVERSITY SUBMITTED BY LEWIS UNIVERSITY
- 30 "KEEP THE TENT BIG": LEADERSHIP AND FORMATION FOR MISSION IN THE DISTRICT OF SAN FRANCISCO NEW ORLEANS BY BOB CARREJO
- 34 LEARNING TO LEAD BY ELIZABETH MOORS JODICE

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

- 2 NEWS AND APPOINTMENTS
- 36 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



NEWS AND APPOINTMENTS

SAN MIGUEL SCHOOLS IN RELAN HIGHLIGHTED AT GENERALATE

The San Miguel schools are receiving international attention as part of an exhibit in the Lasallian library at the Generalate of the Brothers of the Christian Schools in Rome. The exhibit, called Educating for a World of Brotherhood, opened in May and is on display through December 31, 2016. It focuses on the call to challenge the unjust structures and policies that dehumanize the poor, migrants, and youth. The exhibit calls on visitors to reflect on inequalities that today, as in the time of Saint John Baptist de La Salle, produce poverty and misery. The display features one example from each Region of how Lasallians are responding to this call.

(Below) The San Miguel schools represent RELAN in the Educating for a World of Brotherhood exhibit. Courtesy Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools Communications and Technology Service



RELAN REPRESENTED ON NEW INSTITUTE VOCATIONS COMMITTEE



The first meeting of the Institute Committee for Lasallian Vocations was held in May 2016 at the Generalate of the Brothers of the Christian Schools in Rome. The committee is comprised of 10 members, including one representative from each of the five Regions. Chris Swain, director of the office of Lasallian vocation ministry, represents the Lasallian Region of North America (RELAN). He was appointed as the committee coordinator. The committee also includes General Councilor Brother Rafael Matas, FSC, two Brothers from the Institute's Secretariat for Formation, a Guadalupana De La Salle Sister and a representative of the Signum Fidei movement. The committee is tasked with strengthening coordination and collaborative efforts in the pastoral ministry of vocation across the Institute, especially in fostering a culture of vocations.

(Above) Members of the new Institute Committee for Lasallian Vocations gather with Brother Superior General Robert Schieler, FSC, center, during their first meeting in May 2016. Chris Swain, back row, left, represents RELAN. Courtesy Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools Communications and Technology Service

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Carole Swain, vice president, office of mission, left, and James A. Donahue, president, right, present an honorary doctoral degree from Saint Mary's College of California to Brother Thomas Johnson, FSC, center. Courtesy Saint Mary's College of California

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE HONORS NOVITIATE DIRECTOR

Saint Mary's College of California in Moraga honored Brother Thomas Johnson, FSC, director of the Novitiate, with an honorary doctoral degree on April 13, 2016, at its annual De La Salle Week Convocation. The event was part of Saint Mary's Founder's Week Celebration, which also included a symposium on the impact of Lasallian academic research featuring a keynote address by Brother Diego Muñoz, FSC, secretary of Lasallian Research and Resources Services for the Institute.

RELAN UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE HONOR SUPERIOR GENERAL

Manhattan College in Riverdale, New York, and Lewis University in Romeoville, Illinois, each honored Brother Superior General Robert Schieler, FSC, with honorary doctoral degrees. Lewis honored Brother Robert at its Spring Convocation on April 7, 2016, and Manhattan honored him at its undergraduate commencement on May 22, 2016. Last year, several other Lasallian colleges and universities honored Brother Robert, including Christian Brothers University in Memphis, Tennessee, and La Salle University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, both in May 2015, and Saint Mary's College of California in April 2015.

From left, Brother James Gaffney, FSC, then-president of Lewis University, presents Brother Superior General Robert Schieler, FSC, with an honorary doctoral degree. Russ Smyth, board chair, and Brother Larry Schatz, FSC, Visitor of the Midwest District, present the hood. Courtesy Lewis University





Brother Ryan Anderson, FSC, Brother Johnathon Emmanuelson, FSC, and Brother Javier Hansen, FSC. from left. middle three. conclude their novitiate year with Regional Novitiate **Director Brother Thomas** Johnson, FSC, left, and **Regional Novitiate Sub**director Brother Thomas Westberg, FSC, right. They are pictured in the chapel at Mont La Salle in Napa, California, where Brother Javier professed first vows. **Courtesy Brother James** Joost. FSC

VITALITY OF BROTHERS VOCATION WITNESSED THROUGH VOWS

Five Brothers took significant steps on their vocational journeys this summer by professing vows. Three Brothers professed temporary vows (first vows) at the conclusion of their novitiate year. Brother Javier Hansen, FSC, from the District of San Francisco New Orleans, Brother Ryan Anderson, FSC, and Brother Johnathon Emmanuelson, FSC, both from the Midwest District, professed vows at their respective District summer gatherings.

In the Brothers' formation, after professing temporary vows for a period of approximately five years, Brothers in initial formation prepare for and request to make perpetual profession (final vows). Brother Kenneth Kalinowski, FSC, and Brother Anwar Martinez, FSC, from the District of Eastern North America (DENA), professed final vows at the DENA Brothers retreat at La Salle University in July.

Through the end of the academic year and through summer, other Brothers in initial formation renewed vows, some at their ministries, others at District gatherings. Young men actively discerning the Brothers vocation also made promises as Postulants to live in community and minister with the Brothers in the year ahead.

Brother Anwar Martinez, FSC, center left, and Brother Kenneth Kalinowski, FSC, center right, read the Brothers of the Christian Schools vow formula while professing final vows with the support of their sponsors Brother Timothy Froehlich, FSC, left, and Brother Richard Galvin, FSC, right, in the chapel at La Salle University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Courtesy District of Eastern North America Archives



NEWS AND APPOINTMENTS CONTINUED

BLESSED BROTHER SOLOMON LECLERQ, FSC, TO BE CANONIZED OCTOBER 16

Blessed Brother Solomon Leclercq, FSC, along with four others, will be canonized on October 16, 2016, in St. Peter's Square in Rome, and it will be televised worldwide. Brother Solomon was martyred on September 2, 1792, during the French Revolution. He was the first Brother of the Christian Schools to be martyred, and the first to be beatified. He was beatified on October 17, 1926, with 188 fellow martyrs.

Blessed Brother Solomon Leclercq, FSC, will be canonized on October 16, 2016. Courtesy Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools Communications and Technology Service

APPOINTMENTS

BROTHER ANTHONY BAGINSKI, FSC, Principal, Central Catholic High School, Pittsburgh, PA, effective July 1, 2016

KATHLEEN BONIELLO, The De La Salle School, Freeport, NY, effective July 1, 2016

DIANE BROWN, Principal, De La Salle Institute, Chicago, IL, effective July 1, 2016

PAUL COLISTRA, President, West Catholic Preparatory High School, Philadelphia, PA, effective July 1, 2016

KERRY CONROY, Principal, La Salle Academy, New York, NY, effective July 1, 2016

WILLIAM GAULT, Executive Director, The De La Salle School, Freeport, NY, effective July 1, 2016

BROTHER LAWRENCE GOYETTE, FSC, Animator, Lasallian Volunteers, Washington, DC, effective July 21, 2016

THERESA FLYNN HOUGHTON, President, De Marillac Academy, San Francisco, CA, effective July 1, 2016

COURTNEY KASSAKHIAN, Principal, La Salle High School, Pasadena, CA, effective July 1, 2016

SARAH LAITINEN, Director of Lasallian Programs, Christian Brothers Conference, Washington, DC, effective August 15, 2016

BROTHER DENNIS LEE, FSC, Auxiliary Visitor, District of Eastern North America, Eatontown, NJ, effective April 1, 2016

AARON MARSHALL, Principal, La Salle High School, Cincinnati, OH, effective July 1, 2016



DAVID L. MASON, President, San Miguel High School, Tucson, AZ, effective July 1, 2016

MARGARET "MAGGIE" NAUGHTON, Associate Director, Lasallian Volunteers, Washington, DC, effective June 14, 2016

MICHAEL O'BRIEN, Principal, De La Salle Blackfeet School, Browning, MT, effective July 1, 2016

JOHN O'CONNOR, Principal, Christian Brothers High School, Sacramento, CA, effective July 1, 2016

BROTHER ROBERT SCHAEFER, FSC, Associate Secretary for Formation for Lasallian Mission, Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, Rome, Italy, effective September 12, 2016

ARMANDO V. VALENZUELA, Principal, San Miguel High School, Tucson, AZ, effective July 1, 2016

HONORED AS AFSC, BFSC DISTRICT OF EASTERN NORTH AMERICA

CECILIA GOTTSEGEN, AFSC, Assistant Principal, Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School, Brooklyn, NY

ANNA KARAPIPERIS, BFSC, food services for the Brothers Community, Manhattan College, Riverdale, NY

JOHN D. MARSHALL, AFSC, alum, past board chair and honorary board member, Christian Brothers Academy, Syracuse, NY

WILLIAM PHILLIPS, AFSC, for service to the District of Eastern North America, Lasallian Volunteers and the Lasallian Region of North America

NEWS AND APPOINTMENTS CONTINUED

BUTTIMER INSPIRES, LSJI CHALLENGES



The Buttimer Institute of Lasallian Studies and the Lasallian Social Justice Institute (LSJI) provided summer formation experiences for Lasallians from around the world.

Buttimer took place June 26 – July 8 at Saint Mary's College of California in Moraga with nearly 100 participants. The three-year formation program immerses participants in Lasallian history, pedagogy, spirituality and community.

"[Buttimer] reminded me that the work we do should always be student-centered, compassionate, caring and motivational," said Collin Pugh, a Buttimer I participant and the coordinator of the Tutoring and Academic Skills Center at Saint Mary's College of California. "I learned that there is true strength in numbers and the support of community."

This year's LSJI focused on human trafficking. Twentythree Lasallians participated in the intense program, which was held July 17-22 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The program examined the commercial sex industry and labor trafficking. Lasallians heard from survivors of trafficking, law enforcement officers, activists and others.

"The genius of LSJI is in tackling a horrific, complicated issue like human trafficking and presenting it in a way that makes it accessible for non-experts," said participant Lois Harr, director of campus ministry and social action at Manhattan College in Riverdale, New York.

LSJI and Buttimer are both programs of Christian Brothers Conference.

LASALLIAN THEME FOR 2016-2017: 'ONE CALL, MANY VOICES'

In the spirit of the 45th General Chapter, the Superior and General Council developed an overall theme for 2014-2021:

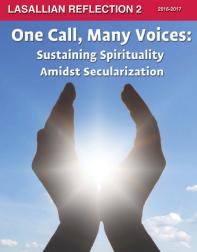
"Living Together our Joyful Mission." Each liturgical year has its own theme; the 2015-2016 year theme, "A Gospel Adventure: Confronting New Poverties and the Culture of Commodification," has evoked dialogue and deepened reflection across the Lasallian educational community. On November 27, with the start of Advent, the new theme of "One Call, Many Voices: Sustaining Spirituality Amidst Secularization" begins. The Lasallian Reflection uses the Gospel icon of Pentecost to encourage Lasallians to hear the single call of the Holy Spirit in dialogue with the poor, the Church, contemporary culture, and people of other faiths. The Superior and General Council invite Lasallians to incorporate

and reflect on this theme in their work and community. The reflection is available on www.lasallian.info, and the 2017 spring issue of *De La Salle Today* will focus on this theme.

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(Below) Brother Emmanuel Ologbenla, FSC, from Mount La Salle College in Naka, Nigeria, was part of the Buttimer I class in 2016. Courtesy Alan Seder, Christian Brothers College High School





NEWS AND APPOINTMENTS CONTINUED

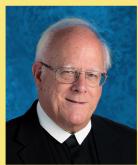


The 2016-2017 Lasallian Volunteers prepare fo<mark>r their service year at Orientation.</mark> Courtesy Lasallian <mark>Volunteers</mark>

From left, Marilyn Paquette, courtesy Lifetouch, Carole Swain, courtesy Saint Mary's College of California, and Brother Jonathan Cord, FSC, courtesy Lifetouch







LASALLIAN VOLUNTEERS PREPARE FOR SERVICE YEAR

A new group of Lasallian Volunteers (LVs) is serving in various ministries across the United States. The 2016-2017 cohort includes 38 LVs, with 20 new LVs and 18 who return for a second year of service. The LVs serve in 24 ministries, 19 of which are Lasallian. For the first time, LVs are serving at San Miguel School in Washington, D.C. Also this year, LVs return to Ocean Tides School in Narragansett, Rhode Island, and the Midwest District Office in Burr Ridge, Illinois, after a brief hiatus at each. The LVs prepared for their service year at Orientation, which was held in July at Lewis University in Romeoville, Illinois.

In addition to serving in ministries, LVs are involved in two events. On October 1, LVs honored supporters with the FSC Awards in a ceremony held at Saint Mary's College of California in Moraga. Marilyn Paquette received the Bassen Service Award, Carole Swain received the Johnston Faith Award, and Brother Jonathan Cord, FSC, received the Farrell Community Award. Additionally, the 11th annual LVs Run will take place November 13 in San Francisco, California. More information on both of these events is available at www.lasallianvolunteers.org.



Colleen Hanycz, Ph.D., the first layperson and woman to permanently serve as president of La Salle University, connects with students on campus. Courtesy La Salle University

LASALLIAN LEADERSHIP: MIND, HEART, SPIRIT

BY ELIZABETH MOORS JODICE

Lasallian leaders are blessed with the privileged ministry of touching the minds, hearts and spirits of young people. They must be passionate, innovative, committed and inspiring. Leaders must bring to life the Lasallian mission each day in their words and actions.

To get an idea of how leaders respond to and embrace the mission each day, *De La Salle Today* reached out to six leaders of varied ministries in the Lasallian Region of North America (RELAN). In the pages ahead, they share how the mission and young people inspire their leadership, how they meet the challenges they face, how they connect to the wider mission, and more.

WHAT IN THE LASALLIAN HERITAGE AND CHARISM INFORMS YOUR LEADERSHIP APPROACH?

Brother James Martino, FSC, President, Ocean Tides School, Narragansett, RI: From a leadership point of view, La Salle provided an interesting example of setting a standard of expectation for his teachers (staff) as a leader while also creating a community for support and fellowship. I think balancing those same items are key parts of contemporary leadership in our Lasallian world. (Ocean Tides is a residential treatment and day school for young men in grades 7-12 placed by the family court system or their local school district to address their emotional, behavioral and educational needs.)

Lori Dressel, Community Director, La Salle Manor Retreat Center, Plano, IL: The Lasallian invocation "Let us remember that we are in the holy presence of God" has been transformative for me, and I know it informs who I am as a leader. Over the years, I have cultivated a contemplative prayer life. This alone informs everything I do and heightens my awareness of God's presence. It helps me to be open to others, hold tensions, release my need to control, be open to change and growth, and have peaceful conversations.

WHOSE EXAMPLE HAS PROVIDED YOU WITH THE MOST ENDURING LESSONS IN LEADING?

Brother Louis-Paul Lavallée, FSC, Director, Saint-Michel Lasallian Center, Montréal, Québec: What struck me most in the past, and still today, is the call to be the human face of Christ among youth. I learned this through a Brother who was convinced of it in his relationships with his Brothers and with the young people he was serving. This is what led me to become a Brother. Thanks to the Brothers, I developed co-responsibility with leaders to plan, conduct and evaluate our apostolic action. Since then, my colleagues, superiors, the changes in educational communities, and the many District Chapters have led me to who I am, as a believer and a leader. (Saint-Michel Lasallian Center is located in an area comprised of many ethnicities and faiths that has a great need for activities for teenagers.)

LASALLIAN LEADERSHIP: MIND, HEART, SPIRIT CONTINUED



Jim Benson, Principal, DeLaSalle High School, Minneapolis, MN: The work that today's Lasallian educators are involved in is representative of Pope Francis' calling of "faith working through love." Leadership in any capacity can be extremely difficult. Yet, in *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis emphasizes that this is when those of us in leadership are needed the most. Our schools are places of love where miracles are happening every day, most small and not always apparent. We must keep members of our community mindful of this example, so they are energized with confidence and purpose.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE YOU SERVE THAT GUIDE AND INSPIRE YOUR MINISTRY AND LEADERSHIP?

Colleen Hanycz, Ph.D., President, La Salle University, Philadelphia, PA: For La Salle University, the mission of granting access to education to those who might otherwise be barred is one that deeply resonates with and inspires me. It amazes me that in this age of educational advances, La Salle continues to celebrate significant portions of our incoming freshmen class who are the first in their families to attend college. So many of these young people go on to change the world in ways that would never have been on my radar at their ages and stages, from a place of humility and service. (Left) Jim Benson, far right, and students lead off DeLaSalle's first Founder's Day 5K in April 2016. Courtesy DeLaSalle High School

(Below right) Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC, presents, from left, Matthew Borgatti, Patrick Baldone and Andrew Smith with their Superior Academic Medals for highest academic averages for the 2015-2016 school year. Courtesy Saint Paul's School

Brother James: Knowing we were able to provide our various staff members with what they need to help our young men develop the skills and insights required for better and brighter futures. Knowing that young men who come from very challenging backgrounds arrive in a place they did not choose to be, and seeing them do the very hard work to repair trauma and fill in the missing pieces of their lives to have a better and brighter future. Their work is always motivating as we create the time, space and support they need to grow, bit by bit.

WHAT ARE A COUPLE OF THE EMERGING CHALLENGES THAT YOU FEEL COMPELLED TO ADDRESS IN YOUR MINISTRY OF LEADERSHIP?

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC, President, Saint Paul's School, Covington, LA: Of the many daunting challenges we face, sustainability and accessibility are two of the biggest. How do we provide Lasallian education at a price that makes it accessible to all? How do we welcome the poor and respond to the "new poverties" as we are being called to do? As the number of Brothers in our school continues to decline, how do we ensure that the next leadership generation lives the mission and is deeply rooted in the Lasallian heritage?





Lori: Besides trying to attract a diverse staff out here in rural Plano, Illinois, one of the greatest challenges we face is our commitment to those who are under-resourced and/or marginalized. I feel that it is our responsibility to continually assess how we are doing in these areas with our own financial challenges.

HOW DO YOU SEE YOUR ROLE AS BIGGER THAN THAT OF LEADING YOUR SPECIFIC LASALLIAN MINISTRY, THAT IS, WHAT DO YOU DO TO CONNECT THE WIDER LASALLIAN MISSION TO THE PEOPLE YOU SERVE?

Jim: It is important for staff and students to always be reminded of our Lasallian roots. We are easily distracted by academic rigor, changes in technology, and the demands of life in general. However, through class prayer, Mass, and Christian service (to name a few) we create moments that remind ourselves of the true mission of our work. Our successes in academics, activities and post-secondary work happen because of the core principles that make up the foundation of our schools. As leaders, we must be relentless in keeping our mission at the forefront of everything we do. Lori Dressel shares instructions for a silent walking meditation with participants at La Salle Manor Retreat Center's "Cultivating a Meaningful Life" retreat. The activity encourages people to slow down and practice being in the present moment in order to be aware of God's presence. Courtesy La Salle Manor Retreat Center

Brother Ray: I regularly remind alumni, parents, students and our local community that Saint Paul's is part of something much larger. A few strategies I use are: a yearly review of the Lasallian world with faculty, our twinning program with St. Paul's in Marsabit, Kenya, athletic and non-athletic student activities with the three other Lasallian schools in the area, faculty formation with local Lasallian schools, faculty participation in Regional and District formation programs, and regular "Greater Lasallian World Department" segments in my newsletters.

WHAT, AS A LEADER, DO YOU DO TO ENSURE AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE THE PRESENCE OF GOD IS EXPERIENCED AND FELT?

Brother Louis-Paul: I'm trying to connect not only at the friend level but to go further which is to be in a deep listening mode. To get interested in a person's personal dreams and aspirations. To be attentive to what people say on a personal level as well as what they say about the youth they serve. To include all that in my prayer no matter what belief they have, so I can be the human presence of Christ. It's not always easy.

Colleen: We must remember, in the midst of our busy days, that we are always and everywhere in the holy presence of God. In my time at La Salle, I have been pleased by the extent to which we are reminded of that reality, whether that be in our classrooms, or around the board table or at any number of our many committee meetings and team gatherings. We make space for that reminder and we take hope from that reality. I am pleased to be leading a very diverse team at La Salle, a diversity that includes gender, age, race, ethnicity, faith and experience. The one thing binding us is that we are always in God's presence. It brings me great hope when we face tough challenges to be reminded that we are all instruments and to offer our work up in accordance with that belief.

Elizabeth Moors Jodice is director of communications for Christian Brothers Conference.



BROTHER RAY BULLIARD, FSC

COLLEEN HANYCZ, PH.D.

JIM BENSON





BROTHER LOUIS-PAUL LAVALLÉE, FSC

LORI DRESSEL

BROTHER JAMES MARTINO, FSC (Gauche) Les photos ont été gracieusement fournies par les responsables des différentes œuvre à l'exception de celle de Frère Louis-Paul Lavallée, FSC, fournie par le district du Canada francophone.

(Left) Photos courtesy of the leader's respective ministry, with the exception of Brother Louis-Paul Lavallée, FSC, courtesy of Francophone Canada District. (Below) Ocean Tides students take part in a Christmas celebration in December 2015. Courtesy Ocean Tides School

LEADERSHIP LASALLIEN : ESPRIT, CŒUR, ÂME

PAR ELIZABETH MOORS JODICE

Les leaders lasalliens sont bénis de Dieu dans le ministère privilégié qu'ils ont de toucher l'esprit, le cœur et l'âme des jeunes. Ils se doivent d'être passionnés, innovants, engagés et inspirants. Les dirigeants donnent vie à la mission Lasallienne chaque jour dans leurs paroles et leurs actes.

Pour avoir une idée de la façon dont les dirigeants répondent et embrassent la mission chaque jour, *De La Salle Today* a approché six dirigeants d'oeuvres diverses dans la région lasallienne d'Amérique du Nord. Dans les pages à venir, ils partagent en quoi la mission et les jeunes inspirent leur leadership, les difficultés auxquelles ils font face, comment ils se connectent à la mission vécue au sens large et plus encore.

COMMENT LE PATRIMOINE ET LE CHARISME LASALLIENS ÉCLAIRENT-ILS LA COMPRÉHENSION QUE VOUS AVEZ DE VOTRE LEADERSHIP ?

Frère James Martino, FSC, Président, Ocean Tides School, Narragansett, RI (Internat et centre éducatif de jour offrant des traitements aux jeunes de 7 à 12 ans placés par le tribunal de la famille ou du district scolaire local pour traiter leurs besoins affectifs, comportementaux et éducatifs) : du point de vue du leadership, Jean-Baptiste De La Salle a fourni un exemple intéressant qui établit une norme attendue pour ses professeurs. Ainsi, en tant que leaders, nous avons à cultiver une communauté de pratique et de soutien au sein de notre personnel. Je pense que l'équilibre de ces mêmes éléments est un élément-clé du leadership contemporain dans notre monde lasallien.



Lori Dressel, directrice de la communauté La Salle Manor Retreat Center, Plano, IL : L'invocation lasallienne « Souvenons-nous que nous sommes en la Sainte présence de Dieu » a été transformatrice pour moi et m'inspire toujours dans mon rôle de leader. Au cours des années, j'ai cultivé une vie de prière contemplative. Elle donne sens à tout ce que je fais et augmente ma conscience de la présence de Dieu. Cette dernière m'amène à être ouverte aux autres, à gérer les tensions, libérer mon besoin de contrôle, être ouverte aux changements, à la croissance et à cultiver des conversations pacifiques.



QUEL EXEMPLE DANS VOTRE VIE VOUS A DONNÉ LE PLUS À RÉFLÉCHIR EN MATIÈRE DE LEADERSHIP ?

Frère Louis-Paul Lavallée, FSC, Directeur, Centre lasallien Saint-Michel, Montréal, Québec (Situé dans un quartier multiethnique et plurireligieux où les besoins des adolescents sont grands) : Ce qui m'a le plus interpellé dans le passé et aujourd'hui c'est d'être le visage humain du Christ au milieu des jeunes où qu'ils soient. J'ai perçu cela grâce à un frère qui en était convaincu dans ses relations avec ses frères et les jeunes. Grâce à ce témoignage, je suis devenu frères des écoles chrétiennes. Grâce à eux (les frères) j'ai développé la coresponsabilité avec les personnes en charge de planifier, d'animer et d'évaluer notre action apostolique.

Et depuis ce sont les confrères, les supérieurs, les changements de communautés éducatives et différents chapitres de district qui m'ont ouvert à ce que je suis devenu comme croyant et leader. Frère Louis-Paul Lavallée, FSC et les moniteurs du camp de jour, servent les convives lors de la célébration de fin de session au Centre lasallien Saint-Michel en août 2016. Photo courtoisie de Denis de Villers

Brother Louis-Paul Lavallée, FSC, and summer camp attendees serve food during the end of summer celebration at the Saint-Michel Lasallian Center in August 2016. Courtesy Denis De Villers

Jim Benson, Directeur général, DeLaSalle High School, Minneapolis, MN : Le travail quotidien des éducateurs lasalliens trouve écho à l'exhortation que le pape François nous a faite pour que la « foi agisse par l'amour. » Le leadership sous tous ses aspects peut s'avérer extrêmement difficile. Pourtant, dans *Evangelii Gaudium*, le pape souligne qu'il s'agit d'un des rôles des plus nécessaires. Nos écoles sont des lieux d'amour où les miracles se produisent chaque jour, si petits soient-ils. Nous devons garder les membres de notre communauté conscients de cette réalité, ainsi ils seront dynamisés avec confiance, amour et sens du devoir.

QUELS SONT LES BESOINS ET LES ASPIRATIONS DES JEUNES QUE VOUS SERVEZ, QUI GUIDENT ET INSPIRENT VOTRE ŒUVRE ET VOTRE LEADERSHIP ?

Colleen Hanycz, Ph.d., Président, La Salle University,

Philadelphie, PA: Pour La Salle University, la mission de l'accès à l'éducation à ceux qui pourraient autrement en être privés est une préoccupation majeure pour nous et qui me motive. Je suis étonnée que, dans cette ère de progrès éducatifs, La Salle continue à dénombrer dans notre classe de première année plusieurs étudiants qui sont les premiers dans leur famille à fréquenter l'université. Beaucoup de ces jeunes gens s'allument pour changer le monde d'une manière qui n'aurait jamais été mon expérience à leurs âges et niveau scolaire, à partir d'une position d'humilité et de service.

Frère James : Nous savons que nous sommes en mesure de fournir à nos divers membres du personnel ce dont ils ont besoin pour aider nos jeunes à développer les compétences et les connaissances requises pour un avenir meilleur et plus prometteur. Nous savons que les jeunes proviennent de milieux très difficiles et ils arrivent dans un endroit où ils n'ont pas choisi d'être. Nous les voyons travailler fort afin de réparer les traumatismes et pour placer les pièces manquantes de leur vie et ainsi atteindre espérer une vie meilleure. Leur effort est toujours plus motivant dans la mesure où nous savons créer le temps, l'espace et l'appui dont ils ont besoin pour se développer, peu à peu.

QUELLES SONT LES NOUVEAUX DÉFIS AUXQUELS VOUS VOUS SENTEZ OBLIGÉ DE RÉPONDRE DANS VOTRE MINISTÈRE DU LEADERSHIP ?

Frère Ray Bulliard, FSC, Président, Saint Paul's School, Covington, LA : des nombreux défis redoutables auxquels nous sommes confrontés, la pérennité de l'œuvre et l'accessibilité sont les deux plus grands. Comment offronsnous à un prix qui la rend accessible à tous l'éducation lasallienne ? Comment accueillir les pauvres et répondre aux « nouvelles pauvretés » que nous sommes appelés à affronter ? Comme le nombre de frères dans notre école continue de diminuer, comment s'assure-t-on que la prochaine génération de dirigeants vit la mission et est profondément enracinée dans l'héritage lasallien ?

COMMENT VOYEZ-VOUS VOTRE RÔLE EN TANT QUE PLUS GRAND QUE SIMPLEMENT CELUI DE DIRIGER VOTRE MINISTÈRE LASALLIEN LOCAL, ET QUELS LIENS FAITES-VOUS ENTRE LA MISSION LASALLIENNE PRISE AU SENS LARGE ET LES GENS QUE VOUS SERVEZ ?

Frère James : ll est important pour le personnel et les étudiants de toujours se rappeler de nos racines lasalliennes. Nous sommes facilement distraits par la rigueur académique, l'évolution technologique et les exigences de la vie en général. Cependant, grâce à la prière de la classe, la messe et le service chrétien (pour n'en nommer que quelquesuns), nous créons des moments qui nous rappellent la mission véritable de notre travail. Nos réussites dans les études universitaires, les activités scolaires et les oeuvres postsecondaires se produisent en raison des principes de base qui constituent le fondement de toutes nos écoles. Comme chefs de file, il faut être implacables dans le respect de notre mission en plaçant cette dernière à l'avant-plan de tout ce que nous faisons. Frère Ray : Je rappelle régulièrement aux anciens élèves, aux parents, aux élèves et à notre communauté locale que Saint-Paul fait partie de quelque chose de beaucoup plus grand. Quelques stratégies que j'utilise sont : une revue annuelle de ce qui se passe dans le monde lasallien avec le corps professoral, notre programme de jumelage de Saint-Paul avec Marsabit au Kenya, les activités sportives et étudiantes en commun avec les trois autres écoles lasalliennes de la région, la formation commune des membres du personnel avec d'autres écoles lasalliennes et la participation de notre personnel aux programmes de formation de District et par des contributions régulières aux échos du « ministère du grand monde lasallien » dans les newsletters.

QUE FAITES-VOUS, ENTANT QUE LEADER, POUR ASSURER UN ENVIRONNEMENT OÙ LA PRÉSENCE DE DIEU EST VÉCUE ET RESSENTIE ?

Frère Louis-Paul : Il faut savoir tisser des liens pas seulement au plan amical mais aller plus loin c'est-à-dire de m'intéresser à ce que font les animateurs, animatrices, savoir les écouter et être attentif à ce qui se dit tant sur le plan du personnel que sur celui des jeunes et dans la prière inclure tout le monde peu importe sa religion pour, de cette façon, être le visage humain du Christ. Ce n'est pas toujours une chose facile.

Colleen : Nous devons nous rappeler, au milieu de nos jours de frénésie, que nous évoluons toujours et partout dans la sainte présence de Dieu. Du temps que j'étais à La Salle, j'ai eu plaisir à vivre la mesure à laquelle ce rappel était fait au coeur de la réalité, que ce soit dans nos salles de classe, ou autour de la table du Conseil d'administration ou lors de l'une de nos nombreuses réunions et rassemblements de l'équipe éducative. Nous avions à faire de la place pour ce rappel et cette réalité nous donnait espoir. Je suis heureuse de diriger une équipe très diversifiée à La Salle, une diversité qui se manifeste au niveau du sexe, de l'âge, de l'ethnicité, de la foi et de l'expérience. La grande chose qui nous lie, c'est que nous sommes toujours en présence de Dieu. Cela m'apporte beaucoup d'espoir lorsque nous sommes confrontés à des défis difficiles et qu'alors nous nous remettons en mémoire que nous sommes tous les instruments de Dieu et que nous offrons notre travail en lien avec cette conviction.

Elizabeth Moors Jodice est la directrice des communications pour la Christian Brothers Conference.

(Right) Jennifer Lystrup, center, talks with fellow Buttimer III participants in July 2016.

(Inset) The Buttimer III class gathers together at the end of the 2016 session. Courtesy Alan Seder, Christian Brothers College High School

BUTTIMER: FORMING LASALLIAN LEADERS

BY JENNIFER LYSTRUP

The Buttimer Institute of Lasallian Studies has formed hundreds of Lasallians since its first cohort in 1984. As we focus on leadership in this issue, *De La Salle Today* asked Jennifer Lystrup, who was preparing to enter her final year of Buttimer at the time this article was written, to talk with a Buttimer graduate and to reflect on the role the program plays in cultivating pedagogical leadership. Lystrup is the director of Christian service and a religious studies teacher at Christian Brothers High School in Sacramento, California.

"Given the speed of change in day-to-day life, it can be a challenge to help students to pause and truly be in the holy presence of God," said Brendan Hogan, a 2013 Buttimer graduate who teaches media arts at Christian Brothers High School and runs the school's television station.

Brendan continued: "Look around in my class. We have 17 computers, 12 cameras and an editing room. The students are on their iPads and iPhones looking up information, filming, participating in group chats. When do they have time for solitude? How do our students separate themselves from life's distractions and noise to make time for quiet?"

As I prepared to enter into my final year of Buttimer and considered Lasallian spirituality, I grappled with those same feelings. Our world is far from Saint La Salle's world but there is one constant: people, and more to the point, students, want to be included. They want to be heard, they want to challenge, and they want to believe. I listened as Brendan told me how, at Buttimer, he came to understand Saint La Salle's passion for the salvation of young people. This motivated him to become a better teacher and help lead his students to reach their fullest potential.

"When I am in my classroom, I try to keep in mind Lasallian pedagogy and tie it into Lasallian spirituality in conversation with the students," Brendan said.

Brendan decided to focus on what he knew best: technology. With digital dependence and distraction plaguing him, Brendan and his students put down their devices and talked about empathy as a way to disconnect from the online world and focus on people. To incorporate the topic into course work, Brendan had his students create videos on empathy, which were shared through the school's television station and discussed schoolwide. He also worked with other Buttimer graduates at school to lead a workshop for faculty on Lasallian pedagogy in this digital age.



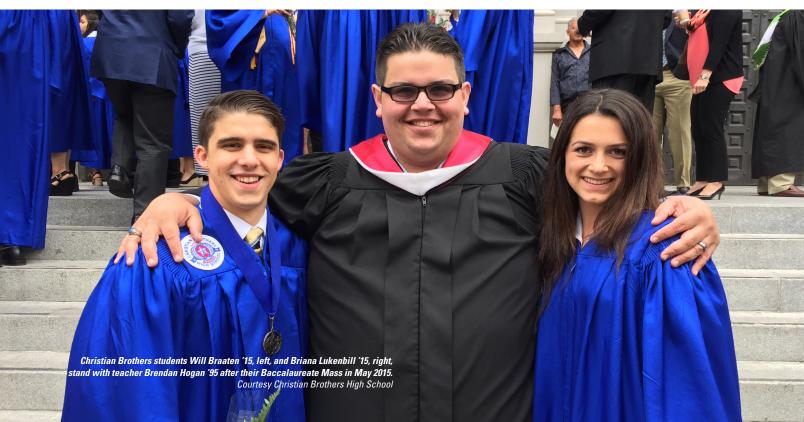
The drive to focus on pedagogy is something we both took home from Buttimer. Buttimer opened us to the roots of the mission and truly taught us to be mindful of the presence of God. It helped us better understand Lasallian pedagogy and spirituality, and, in turn, helped us to become better leaders in our classrooms.

Silence at Buttimer allowed me to consider this: who is my God, and who am I right now in this moment besides being a student? We encourage our students, in their moments of happiness, pain and confusion, to be thoughtful of these considerations too. Taking a step back from technology gave Brendan's students this much-needed time.

"Students need solitude, mindfulness, silence, prayer, peace, God and each other to be saved," said Brendan. "I see a need for Lasallian spirituality in my classroom every day."

As my final year of Buttimer approached, I found myself grateful for conversations like this and for the continuing elevated dialogue with other Buttimer participants from different parts of the world. I look forward to more discussions about students, ideas and philosophies on life, and musings about Saint La Salle's pedagogy and spirituality and how they apply to today's world.

The Buttimer Institute of Lasallian Studies is a three-year formation program offered by Christian Brothers Conference. Year one focuses on the founding story, year two highlights Saint La Salle's educational vision, and year three immerses participants in Lasallian spirituality. Buttimer also includes a practicum with several topic options.





(Inset) Members of the 2015-2016 Senior Leaders Program, part of the De La Salle Signum Fidei Institute, gather together. Courtesy Steve Dalton

DE LA SALLE SIGNUM FIDEI INSTITUTE: TURNING YOUNG MEN INTO LEADERS

BY ANNA WADDELOVE

"AT THE HEART OF LEADERSHIP IS A DESIRE TO SACRIFICE YOURSELF FOR THE COMMON GOOD. YOU LEAD NOT BECAUSE YOU EXPECT SOMETHING IN RETURN, BUT BECAUSE YOU HAVE A DUTY TO DO SO. IF GOD GAVE YOU THE GIFTS AND TALENTS TO LEAD IN A CERTAIN AREA, YOU ARE CALLED TO USE THOSE TALENTS TO HELP OTHERS. LUKE 12:48 TELLS US, 'MUCH WILL BE REQUIRED OF THE PERSON ENTRUSTED WITH MUCH, AND STILL MORE WILL BE DEMANDED OF THE PERSON ENTRUSTED WITH MORE.'"

- Drew Otten, a 2011 graduate of La Salle High School in Cincinnati, Ohio, and its De La Salle Signum Fidei Institute

At La Salle High School in Cincinnati, Ohio, the De La Salle Signum Fidei Institute (DLSFI) is working to create a space for young men so that they can go on to be leaders among their peers and within their communities. DLSFI operates on the general tenets of accountability, recognizing and responding to the needs within a community, and achieving best practices for academic achievement. The legs upon which this program stands are grounded deeply in both the Catholic and Lasallian ideals and traditions.

"Coming into La Salle I was a shy, quiet kid with an insane amount of social anxiety," recalled Philip Zulli, a 2015 La Salle graduate. "Signum Fidei changed everything. Signum Fidei challenged my ideals, forced me to see from different perspectives. It made me care, and most importantly, brought me out of my shell. Signum Fidei did not make me a leader, it merely fueled the flame that had been flickering within myself the whole time." DLSFI came to fruition in the 2010-2011 school year, after students and faculty recognized that the transformation students underwent during their senior year Kairos retreat could not only begin earlier, but that the flame of that spirit could be fanned sooner. The educators at La Salle deeply wanted the students to be able to face the challenges of high school and beyond. Heavily instilled in the 183 young men who have completed this program is the knowledge that they are called to act as leaders of faith, who are strong in mind, body and spirit, and that they should recognize the call to serve.

Steve Dalton, director of both DLSFI and student life, makes sure the program instills confidence in these young men, a quality Dalton believes is lacking in today's youth and is critical to leadership.

19 | DE LA SALLE TODAY AUTUMN 2016

DE LA SALLE SIGNUM FIDEI INSTITUTE CONTINUED

(Right) Young men from the Signum Fidei Institute prepare to deliver the goods collected during the 2015-2016 school year Truck Full of Love campaign. Courtesy La Salle High School

> (Below) Three students involved in the 2014 Signum Fidei Institute participate in Freshmen Orientation. Courtesy La Salle High School

"I believe this lack of confidence stems from their inability to socially interact on a personal level," explained Dalton. "The majority of their interactions are through social media which is a mile wide and an inch deep. Their sense of self-confidence is based on the number of retweets and likes they get. While there has never been a more globally connected generation, they have lost the art of interpersonal communication, and it is in that personal connection that we discover our abilities, we help others find themselves, and ultimately are in communion with God."

At its core, DLSFI strives to give every student the opportunities to become Signs of Faith, meaning every student should have faith in himself, faith in others, and ultimately faith in God. It also provides opportunities for students to learn important leadership skills through planning events in service to the school and the community. This teaches students key skills, such as time management, project planning, marketing, public speaking and working as a group to accomplish a goal.

Part of DLSFI is the Senior Leader Program, which Dalton believes has the largest impact on helping to prepare the

students for the future. This program has 32-35 seniors who take a servant leader class as part of their senior courses. Over the course of a year and half, these young men explore what it means to be a servant leader with a focus on serving the La Salle High School community.

Some examples of this contribution to the community include DLSFI student leaders helping to orchestrate the Truck Full of Love Canned Food Drive, which collected 57,521 pounds of food in 2015, planning homecoming and prom activities and other spirit rallies, helping to lead a schoolwide blood drive, and serving as mentors to underclassmen, among other things.

Skills students learn through experiences like these have a lasting impact. Al McNeal, a 2015 graduate, is one of many students who carried those experiences to college.

"I am currently the assistant treasurer in the Delta Tau Delta fraternity, a senator in the Student Government Association, a member of Commuter Council, and a member of the Black Student Union," McNeal explained. "With the time and effort I used being a senior leader, it made me realize that I can get involved with anything I want to and have a big impact on the organizations I help with."





Brandon Middendorf, a 2014 graduate, said the Senior Leader Program of DLSFI had the most significant impact on him out of everything he experienced in high school.

"I still find myself to this day bringing it up in classes to my professors, and I even mentioned it in my interview for my current job," Middendorf said. "The program made me more comfortable talking and interacting with anybody, as well as being able to think quickly on my feet and not being afraid to take the initiative sometimes."

A unique aspect of the program ties students back to the early days of the Lasallian mission.

"As part of their role [in the Senior Leader Program], the students sign the Heroic Vow, based off of the Heroic Vow of De La Salle and the Brothers," Dalton said. "They vow to be leaders who live out the five Lasallian pillars of faith, service, community, leadership and scholarship." The program ends with the Lasallian Servant Leadership Declaration, the senior capstone project that invites each student to reflect on his growth in the five pillars over his four years at La Salle. On Declaration Night, each student presents to family, teachers and the school community about what it means to be Lasallian and what type of man they want to become.

Zulli, who considers DLSFI to be so much more than a leadership program, called it a learning experience that lasts a lifetime.

"It is a path of growth that makes boys into men," he reflected. "It makes the passive into the active. It makes the stubborn into the willing. It makes the cynic into the believer. It makes a servant leader."

Anna Waddelove is the communications specialist for Christian Brothers Conference.



On November 21, 1691, along with two of his "principal Brothers," Nicholas Vuyart and Gabriel Drolin, De La Salle took the proverbial "leap of faith." In secret from the rest of the community, he and his closest confidants made what today we refer to as the HEROIC VOW. They vowed to the God of the Trinity that they would remain in a life-long association for the running of the Christian Schools, no matter what ... even if it meant to beg in the streets and to live on bread alone.

- From "The Heroic Vow: The Beginning of the Year of Consecrated Life," by Brother Charles Kitson, FSC, November 2014

- Artwork by Brother Richard Buccina, FSC



VOLUNTEERS THEN, LEADERS NOW: LASALLIANS FOREVER

BY BROTHER EDWARD PHELAN, FSC

In the spring of 1681, after an Easter week retreat with four or five men, De La Salle invited the handful of Adrian Nyel's recruits to live in his family's home on Rue Sainte-Marguerite in Reims, France. It was a valiant effort to give them a group identity and confidence in facing the little waifs to be schooled. (Left) Marilyn Paquette, right, takes time for a selfie with her students. Courtesy Marilyn Paquette

(Right) Andy Blake, center, and two of his former students, Jon Delwiche, left, and Andrew Million, right, work together as the 2015-2016 Totino-Grace High School campus ministry team. Courtesy Totino-Grace High School

> Before long, he and these first leaders were sharing meals and praying together, and the idea began to spread. With De La Salle, they moved and later established a training center at Saint Yon in France.

> Two hundred years later, in 1981, Brothers again invited young men – and soon after young women – to live with them in New York City. Again, these blossoming leaders learned from the Brothers how they could share in the mission, and shared meals and prayers. This idea took off across the United States, and today more than 700 Lasallian Volunteers (LVs) have dedicated a year or two in service. Close to a hundred of them – like Andy Blake and Marilyn Paquette – have continued to serve and become leaders in the Lasallian family.

FORMATION IN COMMUNITY

Both Blake and Paquette joined Lasallian Volunteers with a taste of the mission. Blake attended Saint Mary's University of Minnesota in Winona, and Paquette attended Saint Mary's College of California in Moraga.

With higher education as a foundation, both immersed themselves in the mission as LVs, with Paquette assigned to The San Miguel School of Providence in Rhode Island in 1999, and Blake at St. Frances Academy in Baltimore, Maryland, in 2003. Each accompanied by another volunteer, they joined communities of Brothers and their journeys continued.

In just his first few days at St. Frances, in a city known for gun violence, Blake was struck by the stark juxtaposition between this school of hope and the Baltimore City Correctional Center that was in its very shadow. The students, just three or four years younger than Blake, had parents who worked two or more jobs, and they were the first in their families to go to private school.





Blake found himself surrounded by supportive communities at home and in school – his community mate, Chenelle-Alana Bruce, already one year into her service at St. Frances, was a gift from God.

"Chenelle taught me by her words and example how sacred the classroom is for the young people of St. Frances," said Blake. "I learned the importance of hard work and hours of preparation – loving those kids meant giving my all."

An exhausted Blake returned home each night for those two years to nourishing prayer and food, as well as a good dose of old-fashioned wisdom from sages like Brothers Greg Cavalier and Ed Gallagher.

Paquette had a similar experience with the Brothers in her community: Brothers Lawrence Goyette, the founder of the San Miguel movement, the late Charles Kitson, Michael McLoughlin and Kevin Junk. The Brothers, along with LV Trish Reichenberger, rounded out her "east coast family." They shared a regular TV night, Saturday night dinners and movies, and shopping trips.

"Each person in the Miguel House community helped me to learn about myself," said Paquette. "They helped me understand how to live the mission, and most importantly, they welcomed me into the community to share in the work."

(Left) Miguel House community members support each other during the 1999-2000 service year. From left, Marilyn Paquette, Brother Lawrence Goyette, FSC, LV Trish Reichenberger (Hunter), Brother Michael McLoughlin, FSC, and the late Brother Charles Kitson, FSC. Not pictured: Brother Kevin Junk, FSC. Courtesy Brother Kevin Junk, FSC



Andy Blake and his community members in Baltimore, spend an evening together. Back row, from left, Brother Joe Kines, FSC, LV Chenille-Alana Bruce and Andy Blake; front row, from left, Brother Donald Dimitroff, FSC, Brother Ed Gallagher, FSC, and Brother Greg Cavalier, FSC. Courtesy Andy Blake

LIVING INTO LEADERSHIP

Two years later, Paquette moved back to California and realized her experience as an LV at San Miguel had cemented her vocational call to the mission. Since her LV days, she has served in a variety of leadership roles for the former District of San Francisco, at Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory High School in San Francisco, and at Justin-Siena High School in Napa. In 2014, this educational innovator defined her leadership in a new way: as a founder of a new San Miguel school. Drawing on her powerful experiences as an LV at San Miguel Providence, Paquette led the way as principal of De La Salle Academy in Concord, California.

Paquette looks back on her LV service as "teacher/leadership boot camp," where she learned more in two years than in any class, conference or seminar.

"Through service you quickly realize that you are a small piece of a giant puzzle. You understand that what you do and how you do it truly matters," she said. "But, the realization that it's all part of something so much bigger, that it's not about one person, or one school, etc. To me, that understanding is the core of a skilled leader. Leaders see the bigger picture. That realization has helped me prepare for leadership roles I never imagined for myself."

In the midst of her busy days leading De La Salle Academy now, Paquette leans on one lesson she learned in Providence: the importance of reflection and prayer.

"I rely on daily prayer," said Paquette. "I have no doubt that daily prayer – our community prayer – that is what I rely on most in my leadership role today." In the 10 years since leaving Baltimore, Blake has served at Totino-Grace High School in Fridley, Minnesota. As campus minister, he is friend, teacher and Lasallian leader to the students and faculty. Starting with the 2016-2017 academic year, Blake continued to serve as campus minister as he added the new role of co-dean of students.

"Through the leadership of others, my efforts as a teacher and campus minister have been more purposeful, more missiondriven, and more impactful for my students," said Blake. "As a Lasallian Volunteer I was guided by my community, challenged by my students, and supported by the LV community. I would not be the educator or leader I am today without those first two formative years. As I have grown into my own leadership opportunities since then, it is my humble prayer that I might offer that same support and blessing for my colleagues and students."

As LVs, Paquette and Blake experienced a common formation that set them each on their paths to leadership. In the years since, they have continued their formation through opportunities like the Buttimer Institute of Lasallian Studies, the former Lasallian Leadership Institute, the Lasallian Social Justice Institute and the Huether Lasallian Conference, all programs of Christian Brothers Conference. All this, combined with a commitment to the Lasallian mission, their sense of belonging, and their year-by-year personal commitment have made them first-class leaders in the Lasallian family today.

Brother Edward Phelan, FSC, Ph.D., is an Auxiliary Visitor of the District of Eastern North America and helped start the volunteer program in New York in 1981.

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CALLED AND EMPOWERED TO LEAD

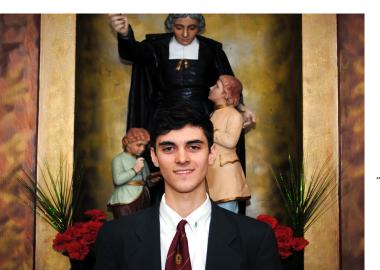
BY PHILIP DE RITA

"YOU HAVE THE CAPACITY TO DO ANYTHING, BUT YOU NEED SUPPORT ALONG WITH PASSION."

That's the mindset of Anthony Mastromarini, a 2016 graduate of De La Salle College "Oaklands" in Toronto, Ontario. During his senior year in 2015, passion and support merged for the student leader around one cause: how his school could help the 25,000 Syrian refugees that Canada had committed to resettle. That sparked Mastromarini to initiate conversations with faculty and administration.

"We wanted to find a way to help that spoke to who we were as Lasallians and Canadians," said Lynda Burlon, Lasallian animator at De La Salle College. "It was at [President] Brother Domenic Viggiani's suggestion that we have Syrian families come here to the school and offer them an education."

For students, that support was all they needed to move forward. The groundwork for student-led initiatives had already been laid at De La Salle College by supporting a culture that values respect for each individual, and encourages students to lead and use their education to move social justice causes forward. De La Salle College faculty foster a philosophy in which De La Salle College extends beyond its borders to further embrace the Lasallian culture.



Administration encourages students to participate in the school's Lasallian Youth program and District of Eastern North America's (DENA) Lasallian Youth Assembly, which is where Mastromarini first connected with the larger Lasallian family. There, he engaged with other students in thoughtful social justice conversations and community service.

"After my Lasallian Youth experience in 2014, I came to realize that service to others is not intangible, but something that you can make happen if you choose to," said Mastromarini.

It was a combination of that Lasallian Youth Assembly experience, school culture enabling leadership, and conversations at De La Salle College about the Syrian refugee crisis that led students to take action.

As a member of the Student Executive, De La Salle College's student council, and co-head of the Student Athletic Associative Council, 2016 graduate Michael Borean, with guidance from Andrew Tulshi, a coordinator of the health and physical education department and moderator of the athletics committee, coordinated a schoolwide fundraising hockey tournament. For Borean, the Syrian refugee crisis hit close to home, as his grandparents were refugees of the Greek civil war during the 1940s.

"I recognize that every refugee is a human being who has made a terrifying decision to flee his home only to stare uncertainty in the face," said Borean. "I feel a deep sympathy for this community, which has motivated me to raise awareness."



The Student Athletic Associative Council partnered with the school's Lasallian Youth Leadership Initiative Club, which Mastromarini created specifically to organize arrangements for refugees, and brought the initiative before the entire student body.

"I'm so thankful and so happy that this resonated with the student body," said Mastromarini.

Mastromarini, and a core group of students, under the guidance of Lasallian Youth moderator Frank lacobazzi, reached out to local parishes and organizations that would be sponsoring Syrian refugees. Connecting with the refugee committee at Holy Rosary Parish in conjunction with Irish Project Hope, De La Salle College now had an avenue to support and house refugee families. Additionally, students raised awareness and donations, and some stepped in as interpreters for non-English speaking Syrians.

In January 2016, "Mike" Samhar Awad, a 19-year-old Syrian displaced in Jordan for more than three years, arrived at De La Salle College. As he acclimated to Canadian life, he worked quickly to find a job at a restaurant, and one day hopes to work in the IT field. In February 2016, De La Salle College's first family arrived, the Alkadri family, a mother, father and three children.



Eithne Heffernan, a committee member at Holy Rosary Parish and Irish Project Hope, and De La Salle College's point of contact, said, at the time of publication, at least three more families were lined up to stay on campus.

"I can't emphasize enough our gratitude to the De La Salle community and to Brother Domenic, who, along with the students, have made them [Syrian refugees] feel so welcome," said Heffernan.

The effort to support Syrian refugees is one example of how the students are empowered to lead. A strong and very involved parent community allows students to bring their energy and enthusiasm home, continuing their advocacy outside the school's walls.

With a solid structure of teachers, faculty and family in place, students know they can rely on adult support, while they continue to lead the charge. Through Mastromarini, Borean and other students' leadership, the young people were empowered to be at the forefront of making change and contributing significantly to society, in this case, to aid Syrian refugees.

"Any way that we can plant a seed as Lasallian educators," commented Burlon. "It is important that our students recognize that it is up to us to inform them, but they must feel empowered and allowed to go off with that knowledge to make positive change."

Philip De Rita is the director of communications and public relations for the District of Eastern North America (DENA). For more on this story, visit DENA's website at www.fscdena.org/ lasallians-unfiltered.

(Left) The Akaldri family, with Brother Domenic Viggiani, FSC, right, president of De La Salle College "Oaklands." Courtesy Brother Domenic Viggiani, FSC

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Brother Joel Damian, FSC Founder of Christian Brothers Services

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BROTHER JAMES GAFFNEY, FSC, EXEMPLIFIES LASALLIAN LEADERSHIP AT LEWIS UNIVERSITY

SUBMITTED BY LEWIS UNIVERSITY

As president of Lewis University for the past 28 years, Brother James Gaffney, FSC, has established a Lasallian legacy of enduring values and a consistent student focus that will positively impact the university and its mission for decades to come.

> Brother James retired on June 30, 2016, after almost 30 years of leadership and service on the Lewis campus. Now designated as president emeritus by the university's board of trustees, Brother James has followed in the footsteps of Saint John Baptist de La Salle in guiding Lewis into becoming one of the finest mid-sized universities in the Midwest.

"It has been an extraordinary blessing to serve and to offer leadership at Lewis for almost three decades. The work has been tremendously meaningful. I will miss most the exceptional relationships that I have had, while being open to how the Lord wants to use my presence and talents in support of the mission of the Christian Brothers and our Lasallian Partners in the years ahead," commented Brother James.

"Brother James' passion and student-centeredness has remained the same since 'Day One' of his presidency," said Joseph Falese, senior vice president for student services and Lewis alumnus. "His student-first philosophy has carried on De La Salle's legacy at Lewis University."

Brother James has been commended by many for his vision for the university, promotion of scholarship, support for innovative new academic offerings, encouragement of outstanding teaching, constant focus upon academic success, and the goal of educating the whole-person. In the Lasallian spirit, he also has encouraged the creation of numerous scholarships to assist students in need.

"He is a 'school man," explained Brother Pierre St. Raymond, FSC, professor of chemistry at Lewis University. That term refers to Brother James' understanding of how to administer a university while constantly supporting student success.

Brother James has been instrumental in transforming the Lewis campus through the addition of multiple new academic buildings, residence halls, various athletic facilities and environmental improvements. During his presidency, overall enrollment of traditional,



Brother James Gaffney, FSC, retired on June 30, 2016, after serving for 28 years as president of Lewis University. Courtesy Lewis University

adult and graduate students grew from close to 2,500 to more than 6,700 due to increased programs and services for all students. More than 125 undergraduate and graduate programs are available, including doctoral programs in education and nursing practice. The university has received recognition nationally and internationally.

The 2016 CollegeChoice.net rankings of the 75 best Catholic colleges and universities listed Lewis as one of the finest in Illinois. The university has truly become a center for the educational ministry of the Christian Brothers, with 24 Brothers carrying out various roles on campus in 2015-2016, comprising the largest group of Brothers serving at a Lasallian university globally.

Beyond the borders of the beautiful 425-acre Lewis campus, which has arboretum status, Brother James has served as a leader in the Lasallian worldwide network, receiving honorary degrees from Bethlehem University in the Holy Land, Saint Mary's University of Minnesota and the University of St. Francis in Illinois. He has also arranged for representatives of the Lasallian global network to visit Lewis to help develop joint international programs on Lasallian higher education. In retirement, Brother James will continue to promote the university and its Lasallian mission, noting the words of De La Salle, "To touch the hearts of your students is the greatest miracle you can perform" (*Meditations* 139.3). •

"KEEP THE TENT BIG": LEADERSHIP AND FORMATION FOR MISSION IN THE DISTRICT OF SAN FRANCISCO NEW ORLEANS

BY BOB CARREJO

Within every District, a common priority is to cultivate both present and future leadership. This can mean planning and training for formal leadership, such as District or school administration. However, this can also mean advancing leadership as a responsibility shared by all Lasallians everywhere for the vitality and growth of the Lasallian charism and mission. It is generally assumed that a critical element to achieving this is the systemic formation of Brothers and Partners for mission.

In the District of San Francisco New Orleans (SFNO), primary responsibility for Lasallian formation belongs to its Office of Education. The office is charged with promoting the Lasallian mission and charism in order to advance the Lasallian Catholic character of the District's communities and ministries. Through its formation programming, the office works to animate the District's Lasallian praxis and to mentor its members in how to provide leadership through everyday stewardship of Lasallian tradition.

BUILDING FROM SIMPLE BEGINNINGS

From simple beginnings, the office has grown to a sevenperson team and more than a dozen formation programs that serve school administrators, faculties and staffs, boards of trustees, and Young Lasallians. These include retreats, jobalike workshops, leadership workshops, board of trustees training, mission assessments, service immersions, Young Lasallians activities and facilitating participation in Regional and Institute programs and events.

The office and its programs have their roots in the former Districts of San Francisco (SF) and New Orleans-Santa Fe (NO-SF). The SF District education office's story began in 1984 when Gery Short was hired as its director of formation for mission. A career religious educator, he was charged with working with the District's schools in their faculty and staff Lasallian formation efforts.

Short decided that his first project would be a District-wide justice education program. Despite an enthusiastic start, the program struggled to take hold. When he asked one of the school's principals for feedback, what he heard gave him an insight that would become the centerpiece of his formation approach.

"I was told," Short said, "that if [faculties and staffs] understood what it means to be a Lasallian educator, then they would understand the importance of justice education. I realized that everything had to start with listening and talking



(Right) The staff of the SFNO Office of Education. Back row, from left: Brigid Crotty, manager, Office of Education – Mont La Salle; Kenenna Amuzie, director, Young Lasallians; Gery Short, outgoing director, Office of Education – Mont La Salle; Jackie Berlogar, outgoing manager, Office of Education – Mont La Salle; Middle row, from left: Katie Batt, executive assistant, Office of Education – Mont La Salle; Mike Daniels, incoming director, Office of Education – Mont La Salle; Chrie Troup, outgoing District Secretary; Charlie Legendre, AFSC, director, Office of Education – Covington; Jeanne Miller, manager, Office of Education – Covington; Janet Ruggerio, director, board formation; Greg Kopra, director, formation for mission. Courtesy District of San Francisco New Orleans

to people to determine what we needed to do. A top-down design approach just wasn't going to work."

With this in mind, Short brought together representatives from every SF District school for Lasallian Vision Workshops. There would be three such gatherings, all centered on how best to broaden Lasallian leadership within the schools. Short had resolved to build programs based not on his expertise but on that of Lasallians in the schools, gathering a core of persons who had begun to identify themselves as part of a District family working in association for mission.

Following this grassroots model for doing formation, the SF education office would grow and flourish. In 1995, Short was named director of the Office of Education, and Lasallian educator Greg Kopra joined as the new director of formation for mission. To coordinate District student formation programming, the position of director for student programs was added – it is now the Young Lasallians director position – and currently is held by Kenenna Amuzie. When policy governance was introduced into the District's schools, the director of board formation position was created, and since 2009 has been filled by Janet Ruggiero. The office had now effectively established its leadership role in the area of formation for mission. Halfway across the country, the District of NO-SF was also working on its own education office's structure and programming. In 2010, Michael Prat was named director of Lasallian programs, and in 2011, Charles Legendre, AFSC, was named director of Lasallian mission. As Legendre remembers, it was an exciting and promising time.

"Out of necessity," Legendre said, "the Brothers of the New Orleans-Santa Fe District had a 'build it yourself' ethic which then shaped the Mission and Ministry Council's sense of stewardship of the mission. Brother Tim Coldwell, then-Visitor, charged the Mission Council to dream, discern, design, build and implement."

Led first by Prat and then Legendre, and utilizing the District's Mission and Ministry Council as both sounding board and planning committee, work began on a five-phase comprehensive formation program. Early results of this process included a Commitment Retreat for young faculty and staff, "gateway" retreats for new Lasallian educators, and a "common mission language" initiative for schools based on the Lasallian five core principles. Efforts would soon extend to enhancing chief administrator and board of trustees formation.

Leadership from the Districts of New Orleans-Santa Fe and San Francisco meet at Mont La Salle during the early stages of planning for the new District of San Francisco New Orleans. Courtesy District of San Francisco New Orleans



It was during this period that NO-SF and SF began to collaborate on formation programming, participating in each other's events and introducing each other to their own District's unique cultures and gifts. This arrangement greatly benefited both Districts and, as it turned out, was a prelude to something even greater.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Today's Office of Education was born on July 1, 2014, with the establishment of the District of San Francisco New Orleans. Short and Legendre directed the office and the process of synthesizing the two former offices. (Short stepped down at the end of September and was succeeded by Mike Daniels, former De Marillac Academy president.) Having to rethink programs for the larger and more diverse SFNO District has led to reconfigured activities and staffing, as well as new initiatives such as the Lasallians Without Borders Committee, dedicated to raising awareness of migrant and refugee issues, and the new Lasallian Resource Center, established to manage Lasallian resources for use by Brothers and Partners. According to Legendre, "The combined strengths of the approaches and experiences of the legacy Districts is particularly suited to meet the needs of our new District. The District's size calls for greater empowerment and responsibility at the local level, particularly at a time when the Institute is emphasizing 'quality formation for all.' Our Office of Education and District Leadership Team can work to be a catalyst and resource for local leaders in guiding Lasallian formation."

As the SFNO Office of Education continues to serve the District's Lasallians, it is clear that its leadership approach will remain building relationships in order to "create from the conversations." In Short's words, "For me, the question will always be, 'How do we make sure to keep the tent big and the doors open, so that people can come to us as they are and, by talking and listening to one another, find where they fit? The process is the product.'"

Bob Carrejo is the director of communications for the District of San Francisco New Orleans.

LEARNING TO LEAD

BY ELIZABETH MOORS JODICE

"I want to get the mission out there, that enthusiasm," said Barbara Chesnik as she described why she developed a Lasallian formation program for new teachers at La Salle College High School (LSCHS) in Wyndmoor, Pennsylvania.

It was her drive to learn more about the mission that led her to enroll in the Brother John Johnston Institute of Contemporary Lasallian Practice, a formation program of Christian Brothers Conference, and then receive her master's in Lasallian Leadership from Saint Mary's University of Minnesota in May 2016.

"I knew something was different about working in a Lasallian school, but I couldn't put my finger on it," said Chesnik, who is now in her fifth year at LSCHS as a learning specialist in the David Program, which serves college-bound students with documented learning needs. "I wanted to learn more about what separates Lasallian schools from other schools – what makes them work. I wanted to get more, and I did."

Saint Mary's launched the master's program in 2010 as an initiative of Saint Mary's President Brother William Mann, FSC. He wanted to create a degree program that met needs specific to Lasallian educators.

"Our schools need professional educators who integrate the Lasallian charism into their everyday work and relationships," explained Dr. Roxanne Eubank, director of Saint Mary's Institute for Lasallian Studies. "This program was designed to help people do just that."

The master's program combines Lasallian formation with courses in specific tracks, including administration, pedagogy, adult formation, accompaniment and theology. Students can earn credits for participating in the Johnston

> Barbara Chesnik works with student Jack Pogyer in the David Program at La Salle College High School. Courtesy La Salle College High School

Institute or the Buttimer Institute of Lasallian Studies, also a formation program of Christian Brothers Conference.

The program requires the completion of 12 credits and a capstone. It is primarily online, with students encouraged to travel to the Saint Mary's campus in Minneapolis for orientation or to present their capstone project. Chesnik described her time in Minneapolis as a highlight of her experience.

"I have really opened myself up to such great resources and people who are experts in their field," Chesnik said.

Those experts inspired her not only to incorporate the mission more into her teaching, but also to create a new formation program as her capstone project. Her program builds on a new program at LSCHS, and is designed for teachers in their first three years. It focuses on the story of Saint John Baptist de La Salle, Lasallian pedagogy and spirituality. As a mission and ministry associate at La Salle, formation programs are part of her responsibilities.

Chesnik's capstone project is one that has Eubank excited.





Barb Chesnik, front row, second from right, stands with fellow participants from the District of Eastern North America at the March 2015 gathering of the Brother John Johnston Institute of Contemporary Lasallian Practice.

"I am thrilled with the capstone projects that are currently underway or completed," Eubank said. "Not only Barbara's formation program, but also a student travel experience that explicitly integrates the Lasallian core values into the curriculum, and a Lasallian volunteer program for retired Lasallians. They are just three examples of what our students are creating."

For Chesnik, the master's program helped her build leadership skills – even outside of the Lasallian sense. The program offers electives in fields including nonprofit finance and funding, curriculum and assessment, supervisory principles, adult learning, teaching and technology, and more.

Chesnik is one of nine people who have graduated from the program, with seven more set to graduate at the end of this semester. Twenty-five students from all over the world are currently enrolled, and Chesnick encourages other Lasallians to enroll as well. "It helps you to become a better teacher, administrator and colleague," she explained. "It's given me more purpose in my daily job working with students and others. Learning more about the founder and his style of teaching. It's all coming together."

By combining coursework in Lasallian formation and organizational leadership, the Saint Mary's master's in Lasallian Leadership helps leaders embrace Lasallian values while navigating the challenges of the 21st century school environment.

Elizabeth Moors Jodice is the director of communications for Christian Brothers Conference. Dr. Roxanne Eubank contributed the information on the program for this story. To learn more, contact Dr. Eubank at reubank@smumn.edu.





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 2016

1	Lasallian Volunteers FSC Awards, Moraga, CA	17 – 19	Huether Lasallian Conference, Chicago, IL
12 – 15	Regional Vocation Formation Committee (RVFC) Meeting, Chicago, IL	JANUARY 2016 9 – 11	Lasallian Education Council (LEC) Meeting, Techny, IL
16	Canonization of (Saint) Solomon Leclercq, FSC	9 – 13	Regional Conference of Christian Brothers (RCCB) Meeting, Techny, IL
16 – 19	Lasallian Publications Committee Meeting, Chicago, IL	13 - 16	Lasallian Volunteers Midyear Retreat,
25	Novitiate Postulancy Committee Meeting, Philadelphia, PA		Brant Lake, NY
26 – 29	Regional Conference of Christian Brothers (RCCB) Meeting, Ocean City, NJ	FEBRUARY 201 26 – March 1	7 Lasallian Association of Secondary School Chief Administrators (LASSCA) Conference, Orlando, FL
NOVEMBER	2016		
10 – 13	Brothers in Initial Formation Gathering, Chicago, IL	MARCH 2016 1 – 2	Regional Education Advisory Committee (REAC) Meeting, Orlando, FL
13	LVs Run, San Francisco, CA		
		16 – 19	Brothers in Initial Formation Gathering,

10 – 13	Brothers in Initial Formation Gathering, Chicago, IL	MARCH 2016 1 – 2	Regional Education Advisory Committee (REAC) Meeting, Orlando, FL
13	LVs Run, San Francisco, CA		
15 – 17	Regional Council of Young Lasallians (RCYL) Meeting, Chicago, IL	16 - 19	Brothers in Initial Formation Gathering, Napa, CA
16 – 17	Lasallian Education Council (LEC) Meeting,	19 – 22	Regional Vocation Formation Committee (RVFC) Meeting, Napa, CA
10 17	Chicago, IL		



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