

Conference for Mercy Higher Education: Mission Officers

Best Practices

Title:

Mission Formation for Trustees

Summary: [1 or 2 sentences only]

In addition to orientation and other practices, ongoing formation includes a yearly half day mission retreat.

Goals:

- Trustees will be conversant with the basic concepts of Ex Corde and principles of Catholic Intellectual and Social Teaching as they relate to the fundamental stewardship of the Catholic identity of the University. Trustees will be able to articulate the basic story of the foundation of Mercy in Catherine McAuley and to understand the current governance, concerns and direction of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas.
- Trustees will experience firsthand interaction with faculty, staff and students to ascertain mission integration in various aspects of the teaching learning environment.

Description: [Basic details of the practice]

Each year will have a content portion on one or more topics alternating between the Catholic Foundation and the Mercy Charism.

Catholic (Stewarding the Foundation)

Ex Corde, CST, CIT, Issues in CHEducation

Resources: ACCU, Sister of Mercy, Theologians

Mercy (Stewarding the Charism)

Catherine/Legacy, Critical Concerns

Resources: CMHE, ILT, Justice Teams, Sisters of Mercy, MIA website

Each year will include an application/process piece including conversations with faculty, staff and students aligned with content presentations.

Curricular

General Education, Service Learning, FYE, Assessment

Resources: Internal faculty/staff, External experts

Co-curricular activities

Community Service (ASB, Intercollegiate experiences (Dublin, UN, DC, Ireland, Peru, etc)

Resources: Internal staff, students, CMHE

Faculty/staff

Mission Leadership Academy
 Carlow Roundtable
 ASB/Immersion experiences with students

Resources: Internal faculty/staff/ External experts

Sample Plan

Year	Content	Application/process	Presenters
2014	The Story of Mercy then and Now including Circle of Mercy video and presentations by Young Mercy Pilgrims	Engage faculty, staff and students in conversation around preparing Distinctive Mercy Graduates	Pilgrims, Gen Ed Task Force Members
2015	Issues in Catholic Higher Education	Conversation with Deans and VP's about area specific challenges related to CHE	ACCU, Deans, DoS, VP's
2016	CMHE/ Sponsorship	Conversations about sponsorship	CMHE Director, Tina, RSM's
2017	CST and Critical Concerns of Mercy	Engage with MLA scholars about application of program in their work	Marie Michele, John Collins, Raph/Heather or CST Scholar
2018	Ex Corde	Engage Campus Ministry and CM students in conversation about Catholic identity challenges	Barbara McCrabb, Campus Ministers, Students
2019	CIT	Conversations about assessment of new Gen ED	CIT Scholar TBD, Assessment Director, Faculty

Successes:

We have been offering this to trustees for over ten years and have found it to be a great way to assure that as trustees transition on and off the Board they will all have consistent development in key aspects of Catholic/Mercy HE and their responsibility to steward the mission and identity of the University.

Advice:

President needs to be onboard 100% and to see it as critical to his or her stewardship of the Board and the mission.

Contact:

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