

De La Salle Christian Brothers
District of San Francisco
DISTRICT ASSEMBLY ON MISSION
Saint Mary's College of California
July 30 - August 4, 2006



Breakout Sessions

Introduction: The first part of the District Assembly was devoted to education, discussion, and reporting on the following areas:

The Lasallian Educational Mission: Whom we serve and how we serve.
Association, Formation, and Vocation
Financial and Organizational Structures

Some forty-five facilitators, most of them from our District, offered thirty different “break-out sessions” focusing on a variety of related crucial areas. The Breakout Sessions and facilitators are listed below.

For information on any particular breakout session, please contact the facilitator(s).

Monday, July 31 – AM Breakout Sessions

“The Lasallian Mission and the Admissions Office” – This session is a presentation of ideas and a discussion on marketing the “Lasallian Mission” in the area of admissions while remaining competitive with other Catholic, private, and public schools. How do we introduce the Lasallian Program to potential students, parents, and families? Do our local feeder schools know who “we” are? (Garaventa 140)

Lawrence Puck
Director of Admissions and Alumni Relations
Saint Mary's College High School, Berkeley, CA

“New Schools: Challenges and Hopes; San Miguel/Cristo Rey Model; Tertiary Education” - This session will describe the Cristo Rey model that includes a corporate internship program for all students. Additionally, we will discuss the challenges and possibilities of new schools, including a new college. (Sichel 101)

John Omernik
Principal
De Marillac Academy
San Francisco, CA

Celestino Fernández
Professor of Sociology
University of Arizona
Board Chair, San Miguel High School
Tucson, AZ

Matt Powell
President
De La Salle North Catholic
Portland, OR

“The LEO Experience: The Needs of the Poor” – The clientele, geography, and purpose of the LEO Center give our staff a unique perspective on the needs of the poor. We hope to share our insights as an aid to determining the future direction of the District’s mission. (Brousseau 114)

Brother Robb Wallace, FSC Teacher, LEO Center Oakland, CA	Deacon Noé Gonzalez Alfaro Teacher, LEO Center Oakland, CA
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“Serving the Poor and Accessibility” – This is an opportunity to assess the efforts and progress across the District, including the 5% Program successes and challenges, the impact on the working class, and the measures we use to determine the Poverty Level. (Sichel 106)

Gery Short Director, Office of Education De La Salle Institute, Napa, CA	Denise Jones President La Salle High School, Milwaukie, OR	John Sheils Chair, Board of Trustees La Salle High School, Milwaukie, OR
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“Changing Ethnic, Catholic Demographics in the West” – The young Catholic population in the West is becoming increasingly Hispanic. This workshop will explore the social and religious characteristics of this vibrant and diverse group, and implications for Catholic education.

Ken Johnson-Mondragón
Director of Research and Publications
Instituto Fe y Vida

“The Importance of Including Students from Families with Means in Our Student Body” – Financial viability is critical to our mission. In order to serve the poor, we need tuition paying families. In this session, we will explore the basic economic model of secondary schools and the challenges we face.

John Scudder President Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory, San Francisco, CA	Lorcan Barnes President Christian Brothers High School, Sacramento, CA
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Monday, July 31 – PM Breakout Sessions

“Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve: Espoused Mission and Lived Mission at Lasallian Institutions”- Participants will discuss the following questions: What does the mission statement of our high school or college say about the educational vision and expectations we hold for our students? How do we, as Lasallian institutions, animate the promotion of justice on our campuses? Do we offer a diverse set of opportunities for a majority of our students, faculty/staff to participate in the mission? Do the core values that reflect the Lasallian educational heritage guide our everyday programs, decision-making and budget allocations?

Janet Luce Director, Catholic Institute for Lasallian Social Action (CILSA) Saint Mary’s College, Moraga, CA	Kristopher White Service-Learning Coordinator De La Salle High School, Concord, CA
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“College Preparatory as a Response to the Mission” – College preparatory – a term used to describe our academic programs and institutional outcomes. What do we mean by this description in light of our mission in the 21st century as a Lasallian school?

Bill George Admissions Director La Salle High School, Milwaukie, OR	Michael Beseda Vice President for College Communications and Enrollment Saint Mary’s College, Moraga, CA
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“Changing the Culture of the School to Serve the Poor: Remedial/Compensatory Program Effectiveness” – Representatives from Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory, an administrator and a counselor, will relay their experience in preparing for and incorporating our Remedial and Compensatory students into the Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory community.

Christine Buell
Administrator
Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory, San Francisco

Susan Ershler
Counselor
Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory, San Francisco

“Educational Innovations: A Seminar” – Starting with schools’ self-identifications of their five most innovative practices, this seminar will consider the hows and whys of initiating the best academic practices.

Ken Hogarty, Principal
Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory
San Francisco, CA
Saint Mary’s College High School, Berkeley, CA

Peter Imperial, Principal
Saint Mary’s College High School, Berkeley, CA

“Touring the Terrain of Lasallian Religious Education: Possibilities, Perils and Promises” – This session offers a tour of some features of the Religious Education terrain as two guides see it. Michael Horan is Religious Studies consultant for the District of San Francisco. Ned Bennett has chaired the Department of Religious Studies at Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory for the past 19 years. Through presentation and process, Ned and Michael will invite the participants to consider these questions: What are the needs and wants of our students at this time in history? What are some current practices of which we can be proud? How might we plan for the future?

Ned Bennett, Religious Studies Chair
Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory
San Francisco, CA

Michael Horan
Professor of Theological Studies
Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA

“Influences of Young People Today” - In our increasingly post-modern, post-Christian culture, how do the influences and values to which our students are constantly exposed impact their lives and decision making? This breakout session addresses these issues as delegates participate in a guided discussion to identify, prioritize, and evaluate the crucial influences affecting the young people entrusted to our care.

Mary Hesser
Director of Guidance Services
Christian Brothers High School, Sacramento, CA

Tuesday, August 1 – AM Breakout Sessions

“Definitions, Experiences, Challenges, and Signs of Encouragement” – This session will provide a brief summary of the characteristics of association, followed by highlights of the presenters’ experiences of association. They will offer insights into both challenges and signs of encouragement, and invite participants to do the same.

Mary Ann Lemire Mattos
Assistant Principal for Academic Life
De La Salle High School, Concord CA

Heidi Harrison
Counselor/Teacher
Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory, San Francisco, CA

“Models of Association in Community” – This session will examine several models of association being lived out in community settings. The Lasallian Volunteers, De La Salle House community in Berkeley, and the Lasallian Student communities at St. Mary’s College will be discussed.

Brother Kevin Slate, FSC
Director, De La Salle House Community
Berkeley, CA

Carrie Kiskila
Teacher
De Marillac Academy, San Francisco, CA

Julie Cortez
Teacher
Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory, San Francisco, CA

Brother Michael Sanderl, FSC
Assistant Dean for Mission/Faculty Member
Saint Mary’s College, Moraga, CA

“Regional Developments: Structures for Association - This session will highlight some of the issues related to emerging forms of association for the Lasallian educational mission. Particular emphasis will be given to the recommendations for action developed at the Regional Assembly in Salt Lake City last November. The session will feature brief video and PowerPoint presentations followed by discussion of these important issues among the participants.

Brother Kevin Dalmasse, FSC
Director of Education
Christian Brothers Conference, Landover, MD

“International Interdependence” – The relationships we have developed with other in the Lasallian world call us and challenge us to a deeper understanding of interdependence as a necessity in facing local challenges. A reflection on the nature and potential of nurturing international relationships will provide a context for discussion of future direction we could explore.

Brother James Joost, FSC
Principal
La Salle High School, Yakima, WA

“Seamless Lasallian Education: Cooperative Efforts” – Are we incredibly limiting our potential in the world? If we can form a mind from grade school through university in a seamless system of Lasallian education, not only is it a great service for humanity, but it strengthens our mission because it rallies us all behind a common vision.

Brother Ed Siderewicz, FSC
President
San Miguel Schools, Chicago, IL

“Lasallian Spirituality in the Context of Association” – Creating a more intentionally spiritual community.

Bill Krueger,
Teacher/Counselor
Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory, San Francisco, CA

Mike Daniels
Office of Development
De Marillac Academy. San Francisco, CA

Brother George Van Grieken, FSC
Director of Vocation Ministry
De La Salle Institute

Tuesday, August 1 – PM Breakout Sessions

“Lasallian Formation of Adults” – In both presentation and discussion, this session will focus on numerous issues, including the critical need for Lasallian formation, the various groups of adults to be served by formation, effective types and delivery of Lasallian formation.

Greg Kopra
Assistant Director, Office of Education
De La Salle Institute

“Lasallian Formation for Students” – A look at the current state of Lasallian student formation programs and the impact on campus life, Lasallian identity, and student leadership for mission. We will explore possibilities for the future.

Robert Jordan
Assistant Director, Office of Education
De La Salle Institute

Marilyn Paquette
Coordinator of Lasallian Student Programs
De La Salle Institute

“Emerging Leadership” – Most healthy organizations, including the history of the Brothers, develop a leadership succession plan that includes “growing our own” first line administrators. This session will explore our experiences, challenges and review of a new model for developing the emerging leaders across the District.

Gery Short
Director, Office of Education
De La Salle Institute

Lorcan Barnes
President
Christian Brothers High School, Sacramento, CA

“Lasallian Initiatives at Saint Mary’s College” - These initiatives deepen faculty, student, and staff understanding and commitment to the Lasallian mission by building community within the college, the Region, and the International Institute.

Carole Swain Brother
Dean for Mission and
Faculty Development
Saint Mary’s College, Moraga, CA

Brother Ronald Gallagher, FSC
President
Saint Mary’s College, Moraga, CA

Brother Michael Sanderl, FSC
Assistant Dean for Mission/Faculty Member
Saint Mary’s College, Moraga, CA

“Formation and Vocation” – In addressing the ongoing formation of a culture of vocation within and through Lasallian ministry, the presenters will offer observations on the development of vocation programs in the context of the local, District, Regional, and International level, and present the key challenges and direction facing us as we look toward the future.

Brother James Joost, FS
Principal
La Salle High School, Yakima, WA

Tina Bonacci
Service-Learning Coordinator
La Salle High School, Pasadena, CA

“Conveying the Message on Mission to Parents and the Broader Public” – Telling your Lasallian story to prospective families and donors and to parents, alums, and the broader community. Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?

John Scudder,
President
Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory
San Francisco, CA

Ken Hogarty
Principal
Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory,
San Francisco, CA

Wednesday, August 2 – AM Breakout Session

“How to Serve the Poor. Financial Aid: Successes and Challenges; Innovative Funding Models” – Catholic schools that serve the inner-city poor are closing at an alarming rate. Which types of schools will survive or thrive to continue educating those who need it most?

Martin Farfan
President
Cathedral High School, Los Angeles, CA

“District Finances: Investments and Alternative Funding Sources” - A short description/presentation on District resources and investments which will lead to discussion by the audience on alternative sources of funding.

Steve Taylor
Director of Finance
De La Salle Institute

“The Role and future of School Governance and the Lasallian Education Corporation” – We will explore the role of school boards in the District and their relationship to the Lasallian Education Corporation. We will then examine some of the current challenges and possible solutions relative to our corporate structures as we consider future realities of the Institute.

Robert Jordan
Assistant Director, Office of Education
De La Salle Institute

“Assessment Structures: CLASP, Religious Studies” – This session will examine the District’s CLASP and Religious Studies assessment programs. Common themes which have surfaced in the evaluation will be highlighted. Participants will be given an opportunity to provide feedback based on their experience of these programs and suggest ways to improve them over the next four years.

Richard Gray
President
La Salle High School, Pasadena, CA

“School Choice and the Lasallian Mission” – A growing movement for “school choice” is an undeniable feature of our social landscape. What are the principles of school choice; what are the mechanisms; what are the results; what are the unsettled issues? Is school choice consonant with Catholic and Lasallian values? If so, in what forms? And where do Lasallian align themselves?

John Gray
Director of Public Relations
De La Salle Institute

Robert Bulman
Associate Professor of Sociology
Saint Mary’s College, Moraga, CA

“New Economic Models for Funding the Schools” – The San Miguel Schools in Chicago were invited to replicate its model as a charter school by the CEO of the Chicago Public Schools. This session will examine this new partnership while reflecting upon the opportunities and challenges of this and other private-public partnerships.

Brother Ed Siderewicz, FSC
President
San Miguel Schools, Chicago, IL