



**Dominican Leadership Conference
Annual Meeting
Sinsinawa, WI
September 22-26, 2006**

Mission Statement

The U.S. Dominican Leadership Conference, sisters and brothers of Dominic and Catherine, is an organization that unites and supports Dominican leaders committed to building relationships and collaborating in the mission of preaching the Gospel.

Contents:

DLC Staff Reports and Projects

2006 Annual Budget 6-7
Appreciations 19
Communications Office 3
Dates for Future Meetings 3
Dominican Life website 5
Email That Matters 19
Executive Director 2
Finance/Investment Report 8-10
Goals (Proposed) 4
NGO at United Nations 3
Notable Configurations 18
McGreal Center for Dominican Historical Studies 4
Reconfiguration Task Force 5

Affiliates:

Center for Dominican Studies 10
CODALC 12
College Preaching Program 15
Dominican Associate Directors and Liaisons 12
Dominican Association of Secondary Schools 13
Dominican High School Preaching Program 11
Dominican Institute for the Arts 15
Dominican Sisters International 13
DSI Financial Report 14-15
Dominican Sisters, USA 13
Dominican Volunteers USA 16
Las Casas Ministry 12
Parable Conference 16
Siena Center (DU) 10

Related Groups:

Dominican Alliance 17
Iraq Coordinating Committee 18
North American Justice Promoters 17
Preaching Promoters 16
United Nations: Geneva 18

**DLC's new
web address:
www.domlife.org/dlc**

Executive Director's Report



As I stand on the threshold of the beginning of my tenth year as the Executive Director of the DLC, I have been reflecting on all that has brought us to this moment as we begin this 55th meeting of the Conference. As the LCWR celebrated its 50th Jubilee this year, Mary Daniel Turner, SNDdeN, who has a 35-year association with LCWR, as member and Executive Director, stated that *through the conference the separation, isolation, and subtle competitiveness that had distinguished congregations of women religious were transformed into relationships marked by passion for the commonweal of the church and the world.*

I believe that the same is true for the DLC. The collaboration and building of relationships engendered through the DLC among the elected leadership of the sisters and the friars over these 71 years has transformed us so we can take bold steps to move over the threshold and through the door to praise, to bless, and to preach in this moment in time.

I am so blessed to minister with the elected members of Executive Committee: Toni Harris, Roberto Corral, Anne Kilbride, Meg Sweeney, Adrian Dover, and the DLC Staff: Eileen Gannon, Anne Lythgoe, and Barbara Suessmann. These Dominicans provided time, energy, great ideas, and accomplished good work for the Conference following the Annual Meeting in Houston last October.

During this year, we drafted goals for the next five years, worked with the Dues Committee to propose options

for dues for the next 3 years, launched the first fund raiser to help meet expenses and find other sources of income, planned the Annual Meeting, considered the overlap with the DLC Preaching Committee and DLC Communications Committee and decided to work with the existing structures of the Promoters of Preaching and OPCOMNET. We created a Task Force on Reconfiguration, and formed a partnership with Dominican University to launch the *McGreal Center for Dominican Historical Studies.*

As we begin our time in Sinsinawa, let us stand on this threshold of a new day together. Let us consider opportunities and possibilities and not snag our sleeves on obstacles, differences, or fears as we move out the door. Let us walk through the door and many other doors *together* as sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, lay and religious, as we catch the fire from Dominic's vision and throw it!

Mary Ellen O'Grady, OP (Sinsinawa)
DLC Executive Director



On the Horizon

The DLC Communications Office's mission is to provide the resources needed to keep members informed of DLC news and projects. This is carried out primarily through the list serve and website. This year, both the list serve and the DLC website were migrated to a commercial service to assure more dependable communication. **(DLC's new address: www.domlife.org/dlc).**

This change was made at the request of St. Albert Province. Al Judy, OP and his brothers, have been pioneers in providing the technology and service that allowed many Dominican groups to preach in the digital age. The province is bringing this service to an end because of aging equipment and changing technology. We are very grateful to our brothers for this innovative ministry.

The work of DLC communications has become more and more integral to the work we all pursue for justice, for preaching the Word and

for connecting the diversity and complexity of Dominican Life today. Continually, the office is about the work of connection and building relationships that reflect the DLC's mission statement.

Communicators continue to develop their sense of the larger picture and devote energy to working with preachers and justice promoters. Recently, the DLC refined its relationship with the communicators (OPCOMNET), the network of congregations and provinces. The Network functions as an organizing body for communicators with its own planning committee. It previously functioned as a committee of the DLC. We will continue to work together to build relationships among congregations and provinces. The annual OPCOMNET conference will visit New



Orleans in 2007 and report on the present realities of the Dominican Family in a post hurricane Katrina world.

OPCOMNET will also celebrate its tenth anniversary in 2007.

As we see that we are one, if not in structure, then in mind and heart, there is brand new day on the horizon. The communications office will continue to find ways to create connections that make that unity more real to all of us.

Anne Lythgoe, OP (Elkins Park)
Communications Coordinator

Mark your calendar!

Future DLC Annual

Meetings:

**October 12-16, 2007
Louisville, KY**

**October 17-21, 2008
Adrian, MI**

Dominicans at the United Nations/ New York

I invite all Dominicans around the world to join together in prayer for peace on September 21, 2006, a day designated by the United Nations as International Day of Peace. (Carlos Azpiroz Costa, OP)

We commit ourselves to work for justice by joining the rest of the Church in realizing the Millennium Development Goals, signed by all governments in 2000, to relieve our world of dehumanizing poverty and to promote integral human development. (Fanjeaux Document)

For me, these two statements reflect great significance. When the

DLC affirmed affiliation with the United Nations, it was hoped that our platform for justice would be stretched to include the whole world, and would offer a venue for the experiences and knowledge of our sisters and brothers as we joined with others to influence the world community. This is important, but it is only half the equation.

The other hope was that this connection with the United Nations would influence us, would in turn invite our participation and would put our experience within a larger context. Both the International Day for Peace and the Millennium Development Goals are UN initiatives; both can include our preaching for

justice and both offer us the opportunity to join the world community. This I believe is very significant; we are growing in our comprehension of ourselves as members of a worldwide Order, a Family living in many countries. The UN presence contributes to this understanding.

Eileen Gannon, OP (Sparkill) NGO Representative to the United Nations/ New York



Project OPUS

McGreal Center for Dominican Historical Studies

Standing on the Threshold of a Brand New Day echoes the sentiments of Project OPUS! In March, 2006, the DLC and Dominican University announced a new collaborative foundation: the **Sr. Mary Nona McGreal Center for Dominican Historical Studies**. Since 1989 Sister Nona has directed the work of Project OPUS. Sister Nona's collaborative style of leadership and scholarship facilitated the acquisition of over 5,000 documents, resources and publications germane to the history of the Dominican Family in the United States.

Establishing the McGreal Center necessitates a multi-year process. The McGreal Center opened September 1, 2006. During 2006-2007, the OPUS collection will be catalogued and relocated to Dominican University. While this work is being done, the McGreal Center will continue the research, writing and publication for Volumes II and III of ***The Order of Preachers in the United States: A Family History***. As the project develops, the McGreal Center will become a research center not only for the continuing study and research on the Dominican Family in the United States but also for the wider academic community interested in the history of religious communities in the United States.

The McGreal Center will carry on OPUS's commitment to preserve, promote and to understand the history of the Dominican Family in the US. As always, we need researchers and writers. Stop by the OPUS/McGreal Center table or contact us to find out how you can participate in this historical ***Brand New Day!***

Janet Welsh, OP
(Sinsinawa)
Interim Director



Proposed DLC Goals 2007-2012

Mission Statement

*U.S. Dominican Leadership Conference, sisters and brothers of Dominic and Catherine, is an organization that unites and supports Dominican leaders committed to building relationships and collaborating in the mission of preaching the Gospel.
(October, 2002)*

The DLC commits itself to the following goals for 2007-2012. This commitment flows from our growing awareness of our interconnection with all of creation and with one another.

Goal 1 To facilitate an environment in which leadership can engage in meaningful dialogue about issues that affect the future of Dominican life and mission

- by uniting and supporting members and mentoring future leaders
- by utilizing our personnel and financial resources for a sustainable future
- by convening a Reconfiguration Task Force to study and link discussion among the Dominican sisters
- by examining the overlap among current structures and projects

Goal 2 To promote the Dominican charism of preaching nationally and internationally

- by collaborating with the Promoters of Preaching
- by encouraging the development of the International Commission on Preaching

- by recommending participation in the High School Preaching Conference, the College Preaching Conference, the Catholic Coalition on Preaching, and preaching workshops and programs

Goal 3 To collaborate with the North American Justice, Peace and Care of Creation Promoters

- by annually reviewing and receiving the North American *Dominican Call to Action*
- by continuing our presence as UN NGOs in New York and Geneva
- by partnering with the International Justice, Peace, and Care of Creation International Commission.

Goal 4 To nurture relationships and strengthen communication with the worldwide Dominican Family

- by collaborating with the Dominican Communication Network
- by utilizing Domlife, the DLC Listserv, other Dominican websites, and developing technologies
- by encouraging opportunities for interaction among DLC Members, DLC Affiliates, the Nuns, the Laity, and other Dominican Entities.

The DLC Executive Committee thanks all of the DLC Membership for your participation and positive response in the year long process to create five year goals for the Conference. The goals listed below are draft 4, which we will discuss and then vote to accept during the Annual Meeting.



The DLC is in the second year of a three-year commitment to this website which serves as an important communications link for the Dominican Family in the US. A complete makeover of the site was launched in May, creating a more organized appearance and easier navigation. The news section is updated bi-monthly and a free email update is sent to about 1700 subscribers; a list that grows each week. The site averages about 30,000 page visits a month.

DomLife.org offers a wide range of examples of Dominican charism and mission and invites readers to see themselves as part of a national, indeed, a world wide Dominican Family. I believe the potential this offers leadership has yet to be fully realized.

The site serves as a catalyst for important initiatives on justice and peace. A close collaboration with the North American Co-Promoters of Justice makes DomLife.org a critical link in calling Dominicans to act for justice in many different ways.

DomLife.org also makes it possible for small groups with limited resources to preach through a web presence, e.g. Collaborative Dominican Novitiate and College Preaching Program. This generates some income to help offset the cost of the site. Others have expressed interest in coming on board. The DLC's website is also now hosted here and this is an efficient use of resources for DLC. (www.domlife.org/dlc).

This year we will form an Editorial Board to assist in creating more interesting and useful content and to bring new ideas to its planning. My hope is that the site will become more interactive and offer opportunities for the exchange of ideas among diverse Dominican entities and create a new kind of disputation that is faithful to our tradition.

Anne Lythgoe, OP (Elkins Park)
Editor

www.domlife.org

Reconfiguration Task Force: 20/20 Vision Task Force

At the DLC Annual Meeting in Houston, TX in October of 2005, members engaged in a facilitated conversation about the implications of the many forms of reconfiguration that are currently being pursued or considered by Dominican women's congregations in the US. After the meeting, a survey sent to the DLC membership indicated that 22 out of the 25 congregations responding were supportive of establishing a Task Force on Reconfiguration and made suggestions regarding cautions and adjustments to the purposes of such a task force.

The DLC Executive Committee invited a number of sisters to gather on July 5, 2006, presenting various congregations and experiences of collaboration and reconfiguration efforts to begin the work of the task force. The following sisters contributed to the meeting: Toni Harris (Sinsinawa/DLC Past President), Anne Kilbride (Columbus/DLC Vice President), Donna Markham (Adrian), Mary Ellen O'Grady (Sinsinawa/DLC Executive Director), Barbara Rapp (Kentucky), Lois Silva (San Rafael), and Alice Uhl (Caldwell).

After a full day of excellent conversation, sharing of insights, information, and considering the results of the survey, the group gathered made the following decisions:

1. to name the Task Force: *20/20 Vision Task Force*

2. to raise the question: *What is our 20/20 vision for Dominican life and mission in 2020?*

3. to revise the purposes of the task force based on the conversation of the day and the suggestions from the survey. (the revised purposes are listed below)

4. to invite the following sisters to become members of the working committee – Mary Ann Collins (Blauvelt), Anne Kilbride (Columbus/DLC Vice President), Mary Ellen O'Grady (Sinsinawa/DLC Executive Director), Donna Pollard (Houston), Judy Rimbey (Adrian), Joan Scanlon (Kentucky/Dominican Alliance Executive Director), Lois Silva (San Rafael) (We are grateful that all have accepted)

5. to share the summary chart of all groups compiled by the Dominican Alliance (see folder)

6. to share trends through a handout and presentation at the DLC

Purposes for the 20/20 Vision Task Force

1) to be fully aware of the collaboration and reconfiguration efforts currently being undertaken by many US Dominican congregations;

2) to build on the current efforts and experience of clustering, collaborating, and restructuring in which several US Dominican congregation are presently involved; (i.e., Avoid as much as possible the reinvention of steps already taken, the creation of duplicative structures, and the need for some to start-over.)

3) to connect all those US Dominican congregations who wish to "be at the table" in order to move beyond collaboration to structural reconfiguration;

4) to communicate regularly with both elected leaders and grassroots members of all US Dominican Congregations regarding reconfiguration possibilities.

Mary Ellen O'Grady, OP (Sinsinawa)
DLC Executive Director

2006 DLC Budget

	Budget 2005	Actual 2005	Budget 2006	Actual 2006 July 31,2006
Income				
5000 Annual Dues	\$75,961.00	\$75,641.00	\$79,932	\$79,650.00
6200 Gifts	\$500.00	\$6,089.00	\$500	\$7,386.00
6210 Development		\$0.00	\$2,500	\$8,120.00
6211 Grants	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,500	\$0.00
6212 Honorarium	\$500.00	\$1,569.00	\$500	\$889.00
6225 NGO	\$500.00	\$3,950.00	\$1,000	\$1,200.00
6250 Communicator		\$70.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6275 DomLife	\$22,780.00	\$21,446.00	\$23,594	\$21,448.00
6300 Reg-Annual MTG	\$33,600.00	\$34,628.00	\$35,750	\$3,025.00
6325 R&B-Ann. MTG		\$0.00	\$32,500	\$2,350.00
6350 Projects	\$1,000.00	\$4,752.92	\$1,000	\$1,858.00
6400 OPUS Donations			\$25,000	\$14,500.00
6600 Sponsored MTG	\$9,700.00	\$5,700.00	\$5,500	\$7,500.00
Exchange 1		\$7,949.85	\$0.00	\$1,771.25
Total Income	\$154,541.00	\$161,795.77	\$210,276.00	\$149,697.25
Expenses				
8130 DLC Membership	\$800.00	\$705.00	\$800	\$500.00
8140 Mtgs Attend	\$2,000.00	\$1,297.50	\$1,500	\$840.00
8145 Sponsored Mtgs	\$9,700.00	\$6,508.92	\$5,500	\$4,790.06
8150 Travel/R&B	\$5,000.00	\$3,907.12	\$4,500	\$2,161.80
Total	\$17,500.00	\$12,418.54	\$12,300.00	\$8,291.86
Annual Mtg				
8805 Meeting Prep	\$3,000.00	\$2,156.11	\$2,000	\$939.71
8810 Mtg Printing	\$2,000.00	\$1,705.96	\$1,500	\$982.00
8820 Mtg R B	\$10,000.00	\$16,773.54	\$32,500	\$0.00
8830 Mtg Stipend & Travel	\$8,000.00	\$7,044.96	\$8,000	\$1,214.80
8835 Local Transport	\$2,500.00	\$675.00	\$2,000	\$0.00
8845 Mtg Supplies	\$800.00	\$428.78	\$800	\$0.00
8850 Mtg Post,Fax,Ship	\$250.00	\$83.84	\$100	\$0.00
8855 Mtg Telephone	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
8870 Guests	\$1,000.00	\$275.00	\$1,000	\$0.00
Total	\$27,550.00	\$29,143.19	\$47,900.00	\$3,136.51
Committees, Entities,Service				
8000 Legal Services	\$25.00	\$5.00	\$25	\$5.00
8881 Exec. Com	\$7,500.00	\$5,794.17	\$7,500	\$3,464.19
8881 Preaching Com	\$2,500.00	\$2,720.34	\$1,000	\$396.10
8882 Election Com	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
8883 Commu Com	\$1,000.00	\$1,916.85	\$1,000	\$762.47
8884 Finance Com	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
8885 NGO Advisory	\$250.00	\$0.00NA		
8886 Spnsrshp Task Force	\$0.00	\$0.00NA		
8887 DC Task Force	\$0.00	\$0.00NA		
8888 Dues Committee	\$1,000.00	\$600.57	\$1,000	\$0.00
8889 Reconfiguration Committee				\$1,048.80

expenses continued

9000 Project OPUS	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$25,000	\$0.00
9100 Contributions	\$500.00	\$600.00	\$500	\$0.00
9150 Programs	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
9200 Projects	\$0.00	\$4,439.48	\$0.00	\$1,316.37
Total	\$19,825.00	\$20,576.41	\$36,025.00	\$6,992.93

Office Operations

7000 Ex. Dir. Sal&Ben	\$41,368.00	\$41,368.00	\$43,208	\$25,204.62
7010 NGO Sal&Ben	\$36,708.00	\$36,708.00	\$38,354	\$22,373.12
7020 Com Sal&Ben	\$17,779.00	\$17,779.00	\$18,599	\$10,849.44
7030 DomLife Salary	\$17,800.00	\$17,800.00	\$18,599	\$10,849.37
7040 Devlpmntl Consultant	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000	\$0.00
7050 Financial Review	\$5,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
7060 Development Expenses			\$0.00	\$895.27
7100 Resource Services	\$7,300.00	\$5,717.50	\$7,000	\$3,054.00
7150 NGO	\$16,250.00	\$14,088.25	\$16,650	\$10,611.75
7160 DLC Com Coord	\$6,510.00	\$5,322.35	\$8,480	\$7,396.09
7170 DomLife	\$4,980.00	\$3,781.56	\$4,995	\$3,000.00
8100 Office Supplies	\$300.00	\$459.18	\$400	\$293.73
8110 Subsc./Bks	\$100.00	\$212.94	\$100	\$67.50
8200 Tel., Int., Fax	\$1,500.00	\$895.89	\$1,000	\$576.95
8220 Website/Listserv	\$700.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
8300 Postage/shppng	\$500.00	\$565.43	\$600	\$251.23
8400 Office Rental	\$3,000.00	\$2,847.48	\$3,000	\$1,968.94
8500 Office Equip Compt	\$1,500.00	\$2,581.98	\$500	\$20.00
8600 Printng Xerox	\$1,200.00	\$610.03	\$700	\$363.87
9400 Contingency	\$500.00	\$530.25	\$500	\$325.51
9500 Bank Charges	\$100.00	\$110.91	\$120	\$64.50
Exchange 2	\$0.00	\$7,949.85	\$0.00	\$1,771.25
Total	\$168,095.00	\$160,928.60	\$164,805.00	\$99,937.14

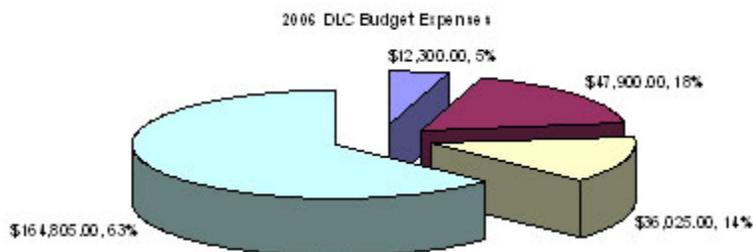
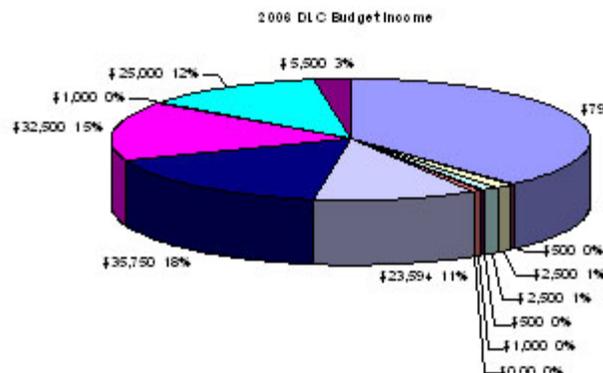
Total Expenses	\$232,970.00	\$223,066.74	\$261,030.00	\$118,358.44
Total Income-Expenses	\$78,429.00	\$61,270.97	\$50,754.00	\$31,338.81

Other Income

Interest IIIIF			\$1,200.00	\$1,451.28
Investment Int/Div Inc (Fifth Third)			\$3,600.00	\$2,238.71
Capital Gains				
Realized Gain/Loss (Fifth Third)			\$1,000.00	\$4,900.93
Unrealized Gain/Loss (Fifth Third)			\$0.00	\$886.33
Total other income+cap.gains			\$5,800.00	\$7,704.59

Other Expenses

Cash withdrawal Inv Int - IIIIF			\$0.00	\$0.00
Cash withdrawal Inv Int - FT			\$0.00	\$0.00
Transfer DLC Checking		\$0.00		
Transfer Fifth Third		\$7,000.00		
Transfer Salomon Smith Barney		\$0.00		
Transfer Institutional Invest		\$58,800.00		
Total		\$65,800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Incm-Expns+Trans		\$4,529.03	\$44,954.00	\$39,043.40



DLC Investment Commentary

DLC Invests for Dominican Life and Mission As It Stands on the Threshold of a Brand New Day

Investment Goals

To generate enough income annually to

- insure the continuance of DLC's mission of building relationships and strengthening collaborative efforts among the Dominican Family;
- support the organization's infrastructure;
- maintain membership dues at a reasonable rate.

Asset Allocation Goal

- Equity 50% / Fixed Income 50%, within +/- 10% parameter
- Cash/Money Market 5%, within +/- 5% parameter

Notes

- As of 7/31/06, the MV was \$22,483 less than last year and \$87,148 (27%) less than the original investment of \$323,000
- During 2005, \$65,800 was transferred to cover operational costs
- The income generated from the principal is insufficient to meet the DLC investment goal
- To achieve this goal, DLC needs to identify ways to increase its investment principal

Style Diversification Goal

Equity portion of the portfolio - Guidelines consist of:

- Large-cap U.S. stocks 60%, within +/-10% parameter
- Mid/small-cap U.S. stocks 25%,

within +/-10% parameter

- International stocks 10%, within +/-5% parameter
- Utilize both growth and value styles of equity management
- Social screening of all mutual funds is performed to assure that they are in accordance with SRI criteria

Fixed Income portion of the portfolio - Approved investments consist of:

- Government obligations (bonds corporate/Federal/Treasury Bills)
- Preferred stocks
- CDs (Certificates of Deposit-FDIC) in laddered positions with a date to mature greater than one year
- IIIF (Institutional Investors Income Fund) mutual fixed income funds

Style Diversification as of 7/1/06 SRI Equity Mutual Funds Fixed Income

- As of 7/31/06, the Asset Allocation and Style Diversification are on target with the goals as stated

• The strategy of investing in a Preferred Stock at a 6.7% rate of return and in IIIF at a 6.0% rate of return has generated additional liquid funds for DLC to cover operational expenses

- Until the last week of May '06, the Fifth Third investments exhibited an increase in Unrealized Gain (URG) which maxed out at approximately \$9,500. However, from the end of May through July 31st, DLC invest-

ments exhibited an Unrealized Loss (URL) of \$886. This was the first time DLC experienced a loss in unrealized gains since its inception in 2002.

- As of July 31, 2006, the nine Socially Responsible Mutual Funds chosen for the DLC investment portfolio have out-performed the appropriate benchmarks for the YTD, as well as for the past one, three and five years. The Morningstar ratings ranked the Mutual Funds selected as follows: one as a 5 star and three as 4 stars (the highest ranks), four as 3 stars and one as a 2 star (average ranks). The Social Investment Forum in their "Socially Responsible Mutual Funds Screening and Advocacy" report listed these Mutual Funds as extremely vigorous in social screening and proxy voting activities for an average of 9 out of 11 social screen categories.

Significant Events over the Past Year

- DLC researched the value of continuing the investments in Fifth Third vs. all funds invested in IIIF.

- It was concluded that being invested in Fifth Third allows DLC the freedom to select and change the asset allocation goal, the style diversification objectives and the SRI Mutual Funds dependent on the market performance at any point in time.

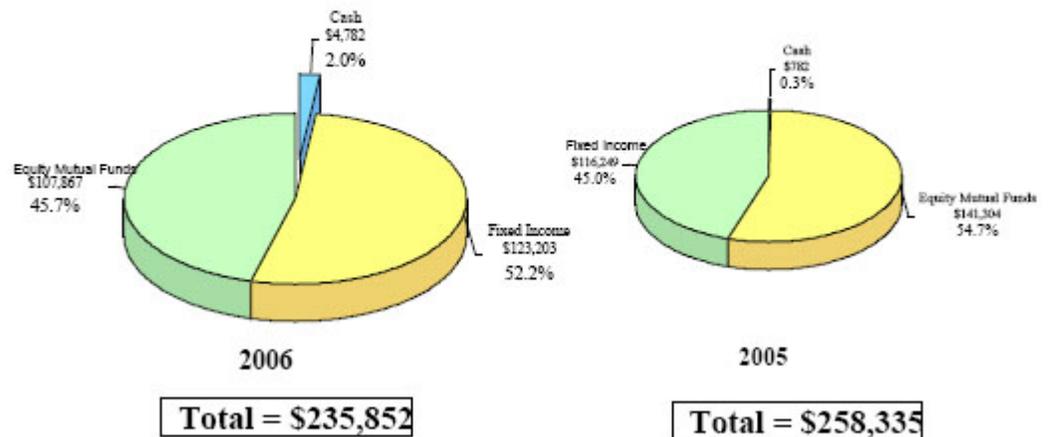
DLC can also choose the Fixed Income types, using a laddered approach that generates cash to cover a percentage of the operating costs. It was concluded that if all funds were invested in IIIF, DLC would be limited to a Fixed Income portfolio and lose the benefits of diversification.

- DLC researched the possibility of investing in iSHARES in order to include value-oriented small and mid-cap mutual funds in the portfolio as these styles were missing. iSHARES combine advantages of individual stocks with those of index funds. Like stocks, they are liquid, easy to use and can be traded in whatever number of shares preferred. Like index funds, they provide diversification, market tracking, and low expenses. In short, iSHARES are powerful investment tools that can be used to get the exposure needed, at the level wanted, at the moment it is needed. The question raised was what would this mean to the commitment of insuring that the DLC investments follow the Socially Responsible Investment criteria guidelines? The indexes do not have this as a criterion and there could be companies within the index that are not SRI focused.

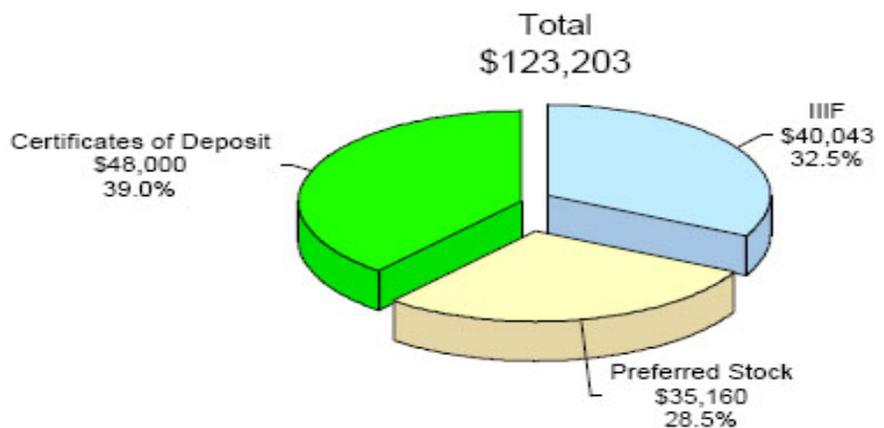
- After thorough investigation inclusive of input from financial and management consultants at Brenner, McDonagh and Tortolani (BMT), it was concluded that even though it is an acceptable strategy to implement in order to fulfill the missing components of style diversification in any investment portfolio, that the trade-off is that since the iSHARES follow a specific index, in this case a mid and small cap value style, that DLC would forfeit the assurance that the companies in the index abide by the SRI criteria. There would be no guarantees that these companies follow any, all or none of the SRI guidelines.

- Therefore, it was decided that in order not to jeopardize the commitment to the SRI criteria, DLC would not invest in iSHARES but would

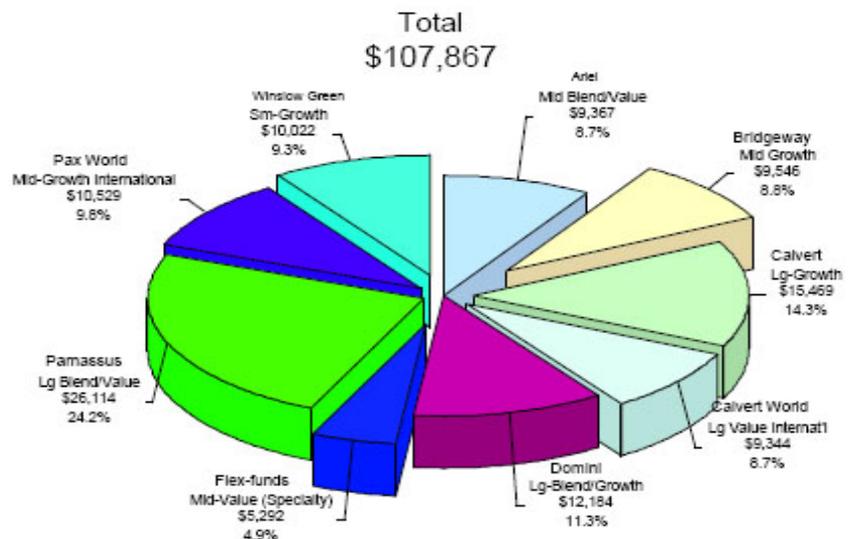
Dominican Leadership Conference (DLC) Asset Allocation July 31



Dominican Leadership Conference (DLC) Style Diversification Fixed Income As of July 31, 2006



Dominican Leadership Conference (DLC) Style Diversification Equity Mutual Funds As of July 31, 2006





There are 14 DLC Affiliates, Dominican organizations who relate to the DLC's mission. They share a common commitment to the preaching mission of the Dominican Order. Here are reports on some of their activities.

DLC Financial Report continued

direct Fifth Third to continue its investigating research activities that would identify value oriented small and mid cap SRI Equity Mutual Funds. The result was that one SRI Equity Mutual Fund [the Flex-fund, a value oriented mid-cap specialty (utilities)] was identified and added to the portfolio.

The Challenge for the Year Ahead

- If DLC is to continue its mission of building relationships and strengthening collaborative efforts among the Dominican Family as it stands on the threshold of a brand new day, the challenge for the year ahead is to identify creative ways of increasing the investment funds to be equal to or above the original investment amount of \$323,000.

It has been my privilege to be of service to DLC over the past five years.

Barbara C. Suessmann, OP
(Amityville) DLC Finance Consultant

Note: The graphics for DLC and DSI were created by the staff of Brenner, McDonagh and Tortolani Inc.

Center for Dominican Studies (CDS)

The Center for Dominican Studies continued to hold preaching workshops this past year for clergy, for laity who publicly reflect on the Scriptures (RCIA, Wake Ministry, Nursing Home Ministry, etc.) and for Barry University student preachers who preach at university rituals. Some of the notable presenters at CDS for programs were: Sr. Helen Prejean (*Dead Man Walking: The Journey Continues*), Bp. Thomas Gumbleton (*Preaching Seeds of Hope*), Sr. Joyce Ann Zimmerman (*Liturgical Preaching*), and Fr. James Neilsen (*The Theology and Spirituality of St. Augustine through the Arts*).

The CDS staff was invited to make Faculty/Staff in-service presentations on Catholic and Dominican Identity in Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Miami, New Orleans

and other sites. The Center was contracted by various dioceses and parishes to hold pastoral and liturgical workshops throughout the year. Sr. Mary Fran Fleischaker, OP is coordinating an on-going Taize prayer experience in the Archdiocese of Miami and holds workshops to teach the prayer method to others. The CDS sponsored three book studies throughout the academic year. The first was a mission book study for faculty and staff of Barry University. The second was a study for local clergy using Paul Philbert's book on the baptismal priesthood, *"The Priesthood of the Faithful: Key to a Living Church"* and the third was a study and critique of *The DaVinci Code* book and film.

Two **new initiatives** that the CDS is sponsoring:

Siena Center of Dominican University Completes Third Year

The Siena Center's first year, 2003-2004, involved hiring staff and initiating a handful of events, including its now-annual St. Catherine of Siena celebration.

The following year, 2004-2005, saw a focus on faithful citizenship timed just before the 2004 elections, the inauguration of the annual Albertus Magnus event on religion and science, and a spring 2005 series on community organizing

around issues of immigration and justice.

During 2005-2006, the Siena Center hosted 18 different event events, three luncheons, a day and a half conference on the relationship between liturgy and justice, and a seven-part daytime series for those in social service and justice advocacy. About one in three events featured noted Dominican speakers such as Timothy Radcliffe, OP, Barbara Reid, OP, and Donald Goergen, OP. This reflects a pattern since the beginning of the Center, which continues as the center moves into a fall season this year marked by a focus on Muslim-Catholic dialogue. Other speakers of note during 2005-2006 included John Allen, Kathleen Norris, Donald



Dominican High School Preaching Conference

(1) An Interfaith Children's Peace Conference for Jewish, Christian and Islamic students to learn about each others' faith traditions and to learn peace-making skills. This conference will be held in the 2006-2007 school year.

(2) A radio program called "Miraculous Minute" was started on the University's WBRY station. These one minute "preachings" allow for listeners to hear spiritual and uplifting thoughts for the day. Although many are interfaith in their perspective, a large majority of them deal with issues regarding Catholic Social Teaching and Dominicanism.

David G. Caron, OP, D. Min.
(St. Martin) Director

www.barry.edu/opcenter

Cozzens, and Michael Joncas. Mary Ann Fatula, OP, offered the Catherine lecture and a morning of recollection the next day. Her evening talk was preceded by music and preaching by James Marchionda, OP and Ann Willits, OP.

During this period the Center, a department of Dominican University, River Forest, has been funded in part through three different grants, support from admissions fees and donors, as well as payment for services offered by its staff for projects such as the Illinois Catholic Health Care Association's training program for executives in Catholic leadership and tradition.

Bryan Froehle, Ph.D Director

www.dom.edu/siena

The 8th annual Dominican High Schools Preaching Conference was held at Siena Heights University in Adrian from June 24th-29th, 2006

Eighty-two junior and senior students from 24 Dominican high schools from the United States and Puerto Rico attended the conference. Highlights of this summer's conference included a first time visit from Timothy Radcliffe, OP. Focusing on *Preaching and the Signs of the Time*, Timothy told the young people that there is a real "crisis in hope" in our world today. He challenged them to look for signs of hope and forgiveness in their everyday lives, and to share that hope with others. Following his talk, Timothy patiently posed for pictures and signed autographs. One young woman commented: "I'm glad to have gotten a picture and autograph of a future saint." A DVD tape of Timothy's talk has been mailed to all participating high schools. Congregational leadership teams who wish to obtain a copy, contact Pat Brady, OP email: PBrady8798@aol.com

For the first time, the DHS Conference hosted an Awards' banquet. Two alumni from previous

conferences were honored: Anthony Calvi, OP (1999) and Jennifer Purcell (2003). These two young people, both of whom are graduates of Marian Catholic High Schools in Chicago Heights, IL received the St. Dominic and St. Catherine of Siena awards for their commitment to the ideals of the Dominican Order and their deep desire to preach the Gospel in and through their lives.

The DHS Conference also conferred the Veritas award to St. Agnes Academy, Houston; St. Pius X High Schools, Houston, and St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Hammond LA. These school communities were honored for their dedicated and compassionate outreach to the victims of hurricane Katrina. A special Veritas award was presented to the St. Mary's Dominican High School community for their faith, courage, and perseverance exhibited in these most trying times.

The 9th annual DHS Conference will be held at Siena Heights from June 25th-30th, 2007.

Pat Brady, OP (Adrian)
Conference Director

www.op.org/opteens



Former master general Timothy Radcliffe, OP addresses students at the Dominican High School Preaching Conference, Adrian, MI

CODALC

Confederation of Dominican Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

"The cry: We are family! That was heard some 800 years ago. It was subversive then and continues to be so today." (Edgardo Arevalo, lay Dominican- Peru).

These words seem appropriate to express the Spirit that was shared in the Justice and Peace workshops/ meetings that were held in the Southern Cone, Central America and Mexico, and Bolivarian zone. Through the talks, dialogue, personal prayer etc. the suffering and the hopes of our people were made present. We were invited to change the established order that obeys the economic laws; the laws that divide us; a globalization that makes for dominion of one group over others for a just system where all rights are for everyone, especially the right to live, to live on the Earth and to move around without frontiers.

The central topic of these meetings was: *The Land and Migration and Work and Migration*, two wounds that touch the Latin American reality. Through proposals and commitments the Dominican Family for Justice and Peace in each country was strengthened. In response to the call to create communication, the Bolivarian zone created its own site:
justiciaypazbolivariana@yahoo.com.

There were also calls to initiate pastoral care for migrants; create a database that would help us to share different experiences and information about the places where migrants can get help in each country; and to have a prophetic praxis in the Dominican Family, through a presence that promotes a New Earth involved with the poor of the Earth.

Noami Zambrano, OP (Cabra)

Co-Promoter of Justice

2006 DLC Annual Meeting Reports page 12

Las Casas Ministry



Las Casas: Dominicans in Ministry with Native Americans, Inc. welcomed three new board members this year. They include: Peggy Frank (Akron & Columbus

Associate), Kateri Mitchell, SSA (Executive Director, Tekakwitha Conference), and Charlotte Rebbe, OP (Springfield).

As we stand on the threshold of a brand new day we approved a new focus for *Las Casas*. The focus is the granting of funds to support Dominicans in ministry with Native Americans in the U.S. We anticipate implementing this through communication, development and collaboration. This next year

we will be accepting and considering grant applications and awarding funds to help our sisters and brothers in Native American ministry. Your generous response to the annual appeal (May 2006) will assist us in this regard.

Our Handbook states that "*The way of Las Casas required that the dignity of the person or group served be respected at all costs.*" Your support of *Las Casas* helps ensure that this preaching continues today in the Dominican Family. Thanks for your support as together we stand on the threshold of a brand new day!

Diane Poplawski, OP (Racine)
President of the *Las Casas Board*

www.lascasaproject.org

Associate Directors and Liasons Report

The *Dominican Associate Directors and Liaisons of the U.S.* sponsored the fifth convocation of *Voices of Hope* – a gathering of Dominican Associates and Sisters from across the United States – October 21-23, 2005. The theme for the event was *Breaking the Silence* based on Catherine of Siena's words: "No more silence! Shout out with a hundred thousand tongues! I am seeing the world going to ruin because people are not speaking out!"

215 Dominicans gathered in Detroit to reflect on new and different ways that each of us might break the silence: in our everyday preaching, through forgiveness, in various artistic endeavors, works of justice, missionary activity, and through the internet.

Our directors' annual meeting followed VOH. One of the most significant results of the meeting is an ongoing discussion with the leadership of the Federation of Dominican Sisters, USA about the possibility of combining

the Federation's convocation with Voices of Hope as both events draw from the same population. In addition, the "Northeast Six" are designing a blueprint to be used for regional VOH gatherings in place of a national event.

We will be convening October 13-15, 2006 in Columbus, Ohio where the conversations will surely continue!

Anita Davidson, Convener
Coordinator of Associates for the Dominican Sisters of Akron and Columbus



Dominican Association of Secondary Schools

During 2005-06 academic year, the *Dominican Association of Secondary Schools* continued collaborative efforts in Catholic education sustaining the 800 year legacy of the Order of Preachers.

In October 2005 the DASS Convocation, entitled *Dominican Voices for the World* with featured preachers, Timothy Radcliffe and Margaret Ormond, offered opportunities for school representatives to pray and study together.

During the National Catholic Educational Association Convention in Atlanta, DASS received an award in recognition of the 800th year anniversary of the Order and for the Dominican commitment to Catholic education. During the DASS meeting held during the convention, further discussions ensued regarding the establishment, funding, and staffing of a DASS national office to sustain the collaborative endeavors of the organization.

The completion of phase one of the Veritas Retreat Planning Ad Hoc committee represents an important project of DASS this year. The freshman level retreat focuses on *community* and will be piloted by participating schools during the 2006-07 school year. At its completion, the *Veritas Retreat Program*, will encompass four different retreat experiences for each high school level with focus on the four pillars of Dominican spirituality.

Our hope is that the *Veritas Retreat Program* will help our Dominican schools continue developing a common language and expression of our unity in diversity.

Cynthia A. Thomas, President,
Executive Committee, Dominican Association of Secondary Schools

Federation of Dominican Sisters, USA

At their annual meeting last spring, Federation Representatives reviewed the mission, goals and objectives of the Federation and set direction for the future in the context of prayer and preaching on the theme, "Women of the Just Word".

In sharing Federation Chapter activities and congregational and regional movements, representatives modeled what Federation is meant to be: a vehicle for networking and connecting at the grassroots level.

Representatives reviewed the Commitments made at the 2005 Convocation and the progress made on each. These focus on re-configuration, an international Preaching Symposium, collaborative apostolic community and ministry opportunities

and sustainability. The value of each was re-affirmed as was the need for on-going action.

The Federation's Corporate Stance Process was reviewed and its value as a means of promoting action on social justice issues affirmed. At the close of the gathering, the Steering Committee for the third Convocation to be held April 24-27, 2008 was formed.

As the meeting ended, it was clear that US Dominican women are moving toward something new; something not yet imagined that will challenge the Federation to be open to change as the new reality unfolds.

Michaela Connolly, OP, (Blauvelt)
Federation Coordinating Committee

www.dominicans.us

DSI Report

We Can't Wait for the Storm to Blow Over We Have to Learn to Work in the Rain

Peter Silas

The Justice and Peace promoters of DSI in Asia, Africa and Latin America are working in the rain to discuss topics that devastate the lives of their people.

The Asian meeting will take place October 16-20, 2006 in Kaohsiung, Taiwan and focus on *Migration, Trafficking and Spirituality*. Eileen Gannon will speak there about *Dominicans at the UN*. Dusty Farnan, OP (Adrian) North American Justice Co-Promoter will also attend.

The African meeting for the English speaking group, entitled *Plant Seeds of Justice, Harvest Peace*, took place in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, July 6-10, 2006. Sisters from Nigeria, Tanzania, and South Africa discussed such topics as Muslim-Christian relations, conflict resolution and children.

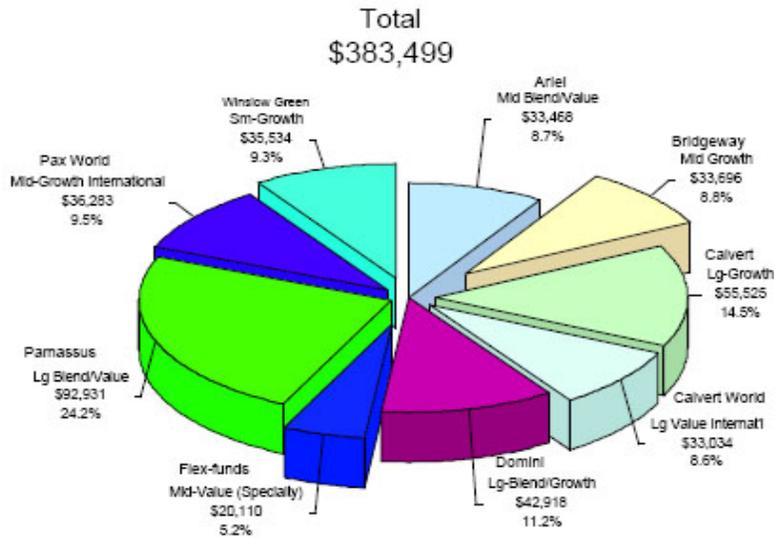
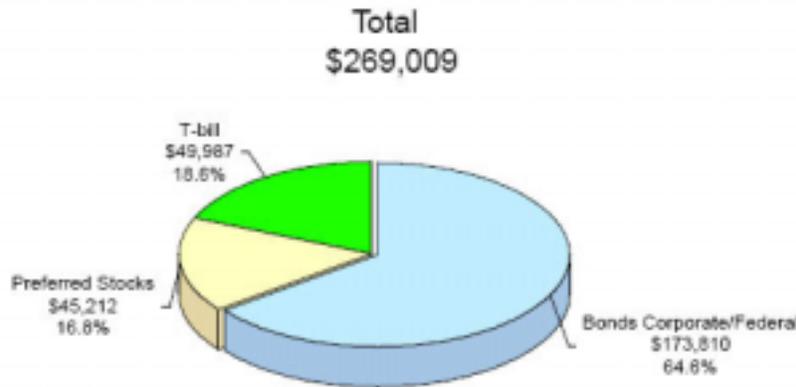
The African meeting of French-speaking justice promoters will take place in Benin, October 14-19 and reflect together on *Womens' Rights are Human Rights*. Lastly, the Latin American justice promoters held two meetings, one in El Salvador, November 25-28, 2005 and the other in Bolivia, June 9-14, 2006 to discuss migration and its impact on culture and family.

Supported in part by the DLC/DSI Solidarity Fund, these meetings focus on topics that create storms of destruction. As one participant noted: "Through these meetings, we are equipped to work in the rain!"

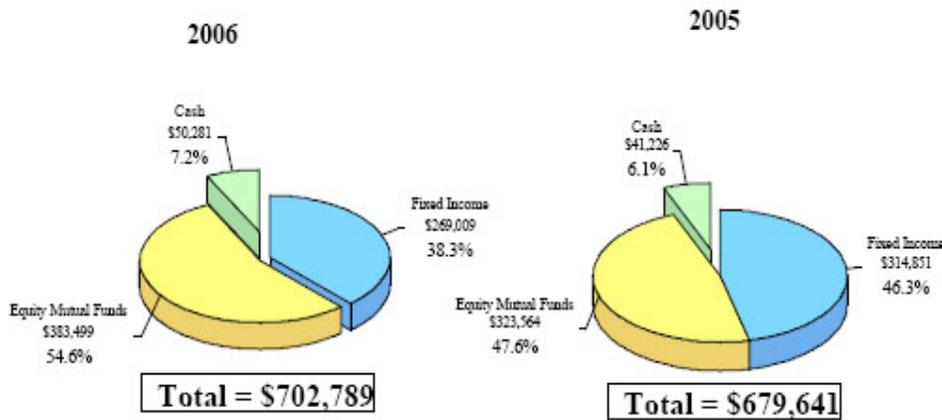
Sr. Margaret Ormond, OP (Columbus)
Dominican Sisters International

see financial report next page

**DSI Style Diversification
SRI Equity Mutual Funds
fixed income (7/31/06)**



**Dominican Sisters International (DSI)
Asset Allocation
July 31**



**A Catalyst for
Collaborative Preaching
among the Dominican
Family**

The initiation of the DLC/DSI Solidarity Fund in 2001 was in response to DLC's resolution: "DLC members are encouraged to demonstrate their solidarity with Dominican Sisters in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America/Caribbean by seriously considering making an annual donation to benefit the DLC/DSI Solidarity Fund".

The DLC/DSI Solidarity Fund offers DLC the opportunity to respond to Carmelita Murphy's challenge to organizations that "together we can accomplish what none of us can do alone". It provides an instrument for Dominicans in North America to be in solidarity with our Dominican Sisters who minister in the poorest sections of the world.

The goal of the DLC/DSI Solidarity Fund is to encourage annual contributions from DLC membership, to invest these funds for the purpose of increasing their value and to distribute 10% of the total principal invested to specific projects beyond the US borders. These grant awards are used to alleviate poverty, strengthen family life and provide educational opportunities to Dominican Sisters throughout the world. From 2001 to 2006, the total amount contributed is \$796,255 with 21% (\$247,100) distributed and 79% (\$549,155) invested. An additional 26% of funds was generated from interest/dividends over a period of 4 1/2 years (an average of 5.7% per year) and was added to the contributed monies invested. As of July 31, 2006, the total investment at market value was \$702,789. Therefore, **10% (\$70,300) will be distributed during Calendar Year 2007.**

The DLC/DSI Solidarity Funds are invested in a balanced portfolio

with Fifth Third Bank. The asset allocation, style diversification and SRI (Socially Responsible Investment) goals mirror those of DLC's [refer to the DLC Investment report on page 9]. As seen in the charts (left) DSI investments are well within the parameters stated in the guidelines.

Significant Events

Because of this partnership between DLC and DSI, a total of **\$74,897** was **contributed** from 8 congregations from September 2005 to August 2006. **88%** or **\$65,700** was **distributed** in grant awards during calendar year 2006 to the following projects:

- Dominican Sisters Africa (DSA) \$32,000 for its leadership meetings and justice and peace workshops in Tanzania;
- Dominican Sisters of Asia Pacific \$9,000 for a leadership meeting in Pakistan and for justice and peace meeting in Taiwan;
- Sisters in Eastern Europe \$9,000 for a leadership workshop in Sweden;
- Latin America/Caribbean \$9,000 to CODALC for its leadership meeting in Argentina and its justice and peace activities; and
- \$6,700 contingency funds for internet assistance for Sisters in Africa.

Future Challenge

The long term **vision** of the DLC/DSI Solidarity Fund is to **generate \$200,000 interest annually** to be distributed to projects beyond the US borders. To be collaborative preachers in solidarity with our Dominican Sisters in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America/Caribbean,

- Can each DLC member congregation and province choose DSI as one of its priority alternative investment projects?
- What other strategies can DLC members implement to realize DSI's long term vision?

It has been my privilege to be of service to DSI over the past five years.

Barbara C. Suessmann, OP
(Amityville) DSI Finance Consultant

THE 4th NATIONAL COLLEGE PREACHING CONFERENCE

This year 27 students and 16 mentors from 13 Dominican Colleges, or colleges which have a Dominican presence, gathered at Caldwell College for the Fourth Annual *Preaching in Action Conference*. They came together to learn about the Dominican charism of preaching and how that charism can be incorporated into their lives. Most importantly they were encouraged to fulfill their own Christian mission of preaching the Good News. It was a great week and one that will hold wonderful memories for a long time.

The presenters for the week, Ann Willits, OP, Nancy Murray, OP, Patrick Spedale, Joe Kilikevics, OP, Joann Timmerman, OP, Honora Werner, OP, and Barbara Schwarz, OP, highlighted the charism of preaching as it has been practiced from the earliest days of the order. This year's conference participants had the opportunity to visit the UN where Eileen Gannon, OP, our Dominican NGO representative at the United Nations met the students and spoke to them about their responsibility as citizens, and Dominicans, to stay abreast of what is happening abroad and within our own communities. A highlight for the students was a presentation on the UN Millennium Development Goals.

In this short period of time they formed community which hopefully will continue after this experience. Next year's conference will take place May 22-27 at Barry University in Miami.



The College Preaching Program also collaborated with the DLC to create a new website, hosted on Dominican Life | USA. This brings our students to learn more about Dominican Life and gives them the opportunity to upload their photos of the preaching conference to the web -- they love it! Thank you to the DLC for help in creating it.

Gina Fleming, OP (Amityville)
Director

www.domlife.org/collegepreaching

Dominican Institute for the Arts

The DIA celebrated its 10th anniversary with a national gathering at Mission San Jose in July of 2006. It was fitting to celebrate in California where the founding members had begun the DIA dream. Several founding members were present for a lovely tribute.

The tree grows...the fruit ripens was a beautiful image as we honored a very gifted Grand Rapids Dominican artist, Phyllis Mrozinski, OP with the Fra Angelico award. On this 10th anniversary we also recognized four members for outstanding services in

the past several years. Joanne Daley, Elaine Desrosiers, Mary Fran Gorman, and Barbara Schwarz were given the DIA Spirit recognition.

DIA stays faithful to its commitment to preach through the arts. We believe that the arts will bring harmony and balance in a world of chaos. If all Dominicans claim the artist within, we can change a continent or even a world!

Jean Ackerman, OP (Racine)
Board member ex officio

www.diaonline.org

Parable Conference: What we're up to?

Have you heard the latest? Check out Parable Conference's new website, www.possibleconference.org, to discover what's up and coming in programs and resources for the Dominican Family.

A Couple of Highlights—

In 2005, PC launched the first sold-out edition of *The Parable*. The publication, under the direction of co-editors, Don Goergen and Patricia Walter, features Dominican authors in dialogue about contemporary issues facing preachers in the 21st century. *The Parable* will be available semi-annually, during Advent and Lent.

Forty-five sisters from the Northeast Six congregations gathered in Saugerties, NY, June 26-July 2, for the first 6-day *At Home with Dominic Pilgrimage* modeled after the original

Lands of Dominic Study Pilgrimage. The pilgrims experienced the excitement of traveling with Dominic from his birthplace in Caleruega, Spain, to the founding and flourishing of the Order of Preachers in France and Italy.

A beautiful 2007 wall calendar (11 x 17) featuring the sights of the Lands of Dominic was designed using original photographs taken by pilgrims who have made the journey. Whether one has actually traveled in the footsteps of Dominic or not, these superb photographs will inspire the soul and arouse the Dominican passion.

The Board of Directors will convene in River Forest, IL, September 8-9, to continue to build the foundation that will actualize PC's mission of uniting the energies of the Dominican Family for the sake of the preaching.

Connie Schoen, OP (Oxford)
Director

www.possibleconference.org

Dominican Volunteers USA

It is with great enthusiasm that we announce the largest Dominican Volunteer program group to date, with 15 Dominican volunteers in ministry and community for 2006-2007.

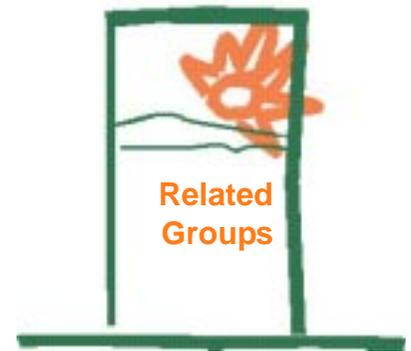
Site locations include Houston, Atlanta, California, Chicago, Racine, Grand Rapids, Weslaco, and Columbus. DV's are working in diverse social justice positions, including schools, social service agencies, worker and environmental justice centers, and on organic farms.

As we look forward to 2007-2008, we are most hopeful to involve additional sites in New York and Denver, to continue to grow the individual donor base, and to improve systems for growing the program further.

The last year has been a year of transition for DVUSA. Within the last year, the staff has seen a complete turnover. Marie Cassidy left in November 2005, and Donielle Dodde Xu left in June 2006, after serving four years with the program. Regina Botterill started in December 2005 as the new Executive Director, and Tony Butler (DV '05-'06) begins a 9-month commitment in September 2006. Tony is an Adrian Dominican Associate and continues to live in the House of Connections in Chicago. Veronica Rodriguez completes the staff, as an undergraduate student at Dominican University she is DVUSA's part time administrative assistant.

Regina Botterill
Executive Director

www.dvusa.org



Preaching Promoters

The Promoters of Preaching have been busy throughout the country during this last year.

A major interest of the group has been discussion and inquiry around the July 2006 letter of Fr. Carlos A. Azpiroz Costa, Master of the Order. In this letter he invited Dominican theologians and preachers to form a second international "Preaching Commission of the Order".

Regional groups have been meeting on a regular basis. A joint meeting of the Midwest/Alliance Promoters of Preaching and the Midwest Promoters of Justice met in March 2006. It was an essential piece to furthering collaboration between the two groups.

The Alliance Promoters met with Alliance leadership in July 2006. The Western Promoters are considering sponsoring a preaching workshop in the future.

The Northeast sponsored a retreat in June 2006. The Preaching Promoters and Parable Conference are sponsoring a National Dominican day of study for preachers in conjunction with the Catholic Coalition of Preaching Conference in September 2006. The National business meeting of Promoters of Preaching will also be held in tandem with this conference

Elyse Marie Ramirez OP (Springfield)
National Co-Convener of
the Promoters of Preaching

Dominican Alliance

When the DLC was held at Sinsinawa in 1996, the concept of the Dominican Alliance was birthed by the leadership of Akron, Kenosha, St. Mary's NO and Springfield. This year marks the tenth anniversary of the Alliance which now includes thirteen member congregations. The Racine Dominicans joined the Alliance in July, 2006. A tenth anniversary celebration will be held in St. Louis in October, 2007.

During this past year, the Alliance Africa Connections Committee realized its dream of sending two

Dominicans to Zambia for a six month immersion experience. Two alliance members are currently in Africa living and ministering with the Dominicans of Zambia.

The Committee to promote Apostolic Communities and Ministries held its first discernment weekend in an effort to create collaborative communities and missions. The Kaleidoscope Committee, a joint effort of both the Alliance and the Federation, sponsored its third conference which brought together the newer and younger members of the Dominicans

in the US and Central and South America.

All committees are committed to the goals of addressing our call to contemplation and preaching, collaboration in ministry and promoting non-violence and simple, sustainable living. The Dominican Alliance continues to interface with the Federation and the Cluster Process.

Joan Scanlon, OP (Kentucky)
Executive Director

www.domalliance.org

North American Promoters of Justice and Peace

2005-06 began with the Iraq Coordinating Committee's restructuring and re-writing of the Public Position Statement on Iraq. The statement was endorsed by eleven congregations and another six who have corporate stances in Iraq. We thank Ursula McGovern, OP, Mary Sean Hodges, OP, Gloria Escalona, OPL and Roberta Popara, OP whose term ended March 2006.

Sr. Pat DeMarco's new immigration committee created and distributed an informative brochure in Spanish and English.



Marie Inez Toro, OP (Presentation) translates for Miguel Concha, OP (Mexico) at the North American Justice Promoters Meeting in Adrian

Following the 2005 DLC meeting in El Salvador, Philippe and Durstynne began correspondence with the Latin American and Caribbean Co-Promoters, Noemi Zambrano, OP (Argentina) and Miguel Concha, OP (Mexico). In May, we all met in France. Miguel attended the 2006 North American Justice Promoters meeting.

Judith Hilbing, OP and Reg McKillip, OP co-chaired the new Dominican Anti-Trafficking Committee. Sixteen congregations responded to a survey, followed by a Think Tank meeting and the creation the Dominican Trafficking Committee.

The new UN Human Rights Council of March, 2006 will have an impact on the work of Dominicans. This is the 10th Anniversary of Dominicans at the UN in Geneva. We congratulate Philippe LeBlanc, OP and the staff. This is a major reflection of the Order's commitment to Justice and Human Rights.

Eileen Gannon, OP, Philippe LeBlanc, OP and Durstynne Farnan, OP wrote letters to legislators and UN officials imploring that the U.S. implement the recommendation to

close immediately the detention centre in Guantánamo Bay and bring all detainees before an independent and competent tribunal or release them.

Fanjeaux, France was the site of the International Dominican Justice and Peace Meeting and created the "Call from Fanjeaux." It was preceded by the historic 800th Anniversary of the Order "Catching the Fire". The two North American Dominican Co-promoters attended along with Eileen Gannon, OP.

In 2005-06 Dominicans addressed: Trafficking, Immigration, Africa/AIDS, Iraq, SOA, nuclear weapons and GMO's. We participated in demonstrations on the Iraq war, immigrants, as well as workshops on the impending immigration legislation. The World Day of Migrants and Refugees was a large focus of Canadian Dominicans. Updated articles and created corporate positions on Iraq and Anti-Trafficking were held around the country.

The incredible commitment and energy of the North American Dominican Justice Promoters has made a difference.

Philippe LeBlanc, OP (St. Dominic)
Durstynne Farnan, OP (Adrian)
Co-Promoters of Justice and Peace

Notable Configurations:

Dominican Alliance:

Akron
Columbus
Eucharistic Missionaries
Grand Rapids
Great Bend
Houston
Kenosha
Kentucky
Oxford
Racine
Sinsinawa
Springfield
St. Mary's New Orleans

Cluster:

Akron
Columbus
Eucharistic Missionaries
Great Bend
Kentucky
Oxford
St. Mary's New Orleans

Northeast Six:

(as of 8/31/06)

Amityville
Blauvelt
Caldwell
Elkins Park
Hope
Sparkill

West:

Mission San Jose
San Rafael
Tacoma

Dominican Sisters, USA

Also known as
Dominican Federation,
this group includes 24
congregations

Dominicans at the United Nations Geneva

A "momentous" change in the field of human rights protection worldwide happened at the UN when the General Assembly voted overwhelmingly on March 15, 2006 for the creation of the UN Human Rights Council that replaces the UN Commission on Human Rights which had been created in 1946. This change will have an impact on the work of Dominicans involved in human rights at the United Nations.

In a written statement at the first meeting of the Council in Geneva, in May 2006, *Dominicans for Justice and Peace* joined four international organizations, the World Council of Churches, the Lutheran World Fed-

eration, Franciscans International, and Pax Christi Internationalis in committing themselves to work with the new Human Rights Council "as a key international instrument for the promotion of justice and human dignity."

The mandate of the Order's non-governmental organization (NGO) at the UN, *Dominicans for Justice and Peace*, remains significant and relevant in terms of the new Council. However, the work will become more demanding as the Council develops its agenda and expands its mandate.

The new Council can also offer a stronger and more effective platform for raising issues that are brought forward by our brothers and sisters worldwide who are involved in the struggle for justice and human rights.

At the first meeting, the Human Rights Council made two major decisions which augur well for the future: the adoption of the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Philippe LeBlanc, OP (St. Dominic) Permanent Delegate to the United Nations/Geneva www.un.op.org



Dusty Farnan, OP (Adrian) Philippe LeBlanc, OP (Canada) and Eileen Gannon, OP (Sparkill) celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Dominican presence at the United Nations/Geneva.

Iraq Coordinating Committee Report

2005-06 began with restructuring and redefining the mission of the committee as well as updating the Public Position Statement on Iraq. The Statement on Iraq was finalized in January, 2006 and has been endorsed by eleven congregations and another six who passed a corporate stance on Iraq. We thanked Ursula McGovern, OP, Mary Sean Hodges, OP, Gloria Escalona, OPL and Roberta Popara, OP who completed their term in March, 2006. The present committee members for 2005-06 are:

Philippe LeBlanc, OP (Canada) Durstynne Farnan, OP (Adrian) Eileen Gannon, OP(DLC/Sparkill) Lucianne Siers, OP(Grand Rapids) Anne Lythgoe, OP (DLC/Elkins Park) Reg McKillip, OP(Sinsinawa) Richard Woods, OP (St. Albert) Luma Khudher, OP(Baghdad) and Gloria Escalona, OPL (Laity)

Philippe LeBlanc, OP (St. Dominic) and Durstynne Farnan, OP (Adrian) Co-Promoters of Justice and Peace

email that matters

DLC members receive important notices and news announcements through the DLC listserve, a free email subscription for members of the conference. DLC never sends unnecessary mail. So when you hear from us, please be sure to read and respond if needed.

Want to send a message to everyone in the DLC? Easy! Use your regular email system and send your message to dlc@listserve.com.

This list serve is an announcement only service; you cannot reply to a message sent, you need to send another message.

Having trouble subscribing to the list? No problem. Ask Anne Lythgoe, OP to do it for you. Email: anne.lythgoe@verizon.net.

She will be glad to help you.

Easy, Fast, Free

Want to be sure your members know what's happening for Dominicans in the US? Introduce them to a free update of Dominican Life | USA (domlife.org) They will receive a bi-monthly email with news from around the Dominican Family in the US with links to stories. Talk with Anne Lythgoe during the meeting and she will arrange it. It's easy, fast and free!

Visit DLC on line:
www.domlife.org/dlc

Dominican Life | USA
www.domlife.org

Learn more about the
**McGreal Center for Dominican
Historical Studies
at the booth
in the marketplace.**



2006 DLC Executive Committee: first row: Toni Harris, OP (Sinsinawa) Past President, Adrian Dover, OP (Houston) Secretary, Mary Ellen O'Grady, OP (Sinsinawa) Executive Director) Eileen Gannon, OP (Sparkill) NGO Representative to the UN/New York, second row: Anne Lythgoe, OP (Elkins Park) Communications Coordinator, Meg Sweeney, OP (Sparkill) Treasurer, Roberto Corral, OP (Holy Name) President, Anne Kilbride, OP (Columbus) Vice-President.

DLC Executive Committee and Annual Meeting Planning Committee:

Roberto Corral, OP (Holy Name) President
Toni Harris, OP (Sinsinawa) Past President
Anne Kilbride, OP (Columbus) Vice President
Meg Sweeney, OP (Sparkill) Treasurer
Adrian Dover, OP (Houston) Secretary

DLC Staff:

Mary Ellen O'Grady, OP (Sinsinawa) Executive Director
Eileen Gannon, OP (Sparkill) UN/NGO Representative
Anne Lythgoe, OP (Elkins Park) Communications Coordinator

Facilitators:

Bryan Froehle, OP, Ph.D
Carmelita Murphy, OP (Grand Rapids)

Election Committee:

Carol Gaeke, OP (Elkins Park)
Therese Leckert, OP (St. Mary's New Orleans)
Alice Uhl, OP (Caldwell)
Mary Ellen O'Grady, OP (Sinsinawa) DLC Executive Director

Finance Advisory Committee:

Raya Hanlon, OP (San Rafael)
Charlene Moser, OP (Kentucky)
Barbara Suessmann, OP (Amityville)
Meg Sweeney, OP (Sparkill) DLC Treasurer
Mary Ellen O'Grady, OP (Sinsinawa) DLC Executive Director

Liturgy and Environment:

Carol Artery, OP (Sinsinawa)
Pricilla Wood, OP (Sinsinawa)

Dues Committee:

Audrey Harsen, OP (Amityville)
Mary Kay Homan, OP (Adrian)
Ray Daley, OP (St. Joseph)
Maryann Summa, OP (Sparkill)
Meg Sweeney, OP (Sparkill) DLC Treasurer
Mary Ellen O'Grady, OP (Sinsinawa) DLC Executive Director

Special thanks to our Dominican Sisters in Sinsinawa for their hospitality and socials, the staff at the Mound, all those who submitted reports for the Annual Report, and those who donated door prizes.



Catching Fire From Dominic's Vision

800 years of proclaiming the Gospel
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