



Facets of Change

**Dominican
Leadership
Conference
2010 Annual Report**

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DLC Staff Reports:

Executive Director

Lucky Facets of Change

On January 1, 1935, a Conference of Dominican Mothers-General of the United States, called at the request of the Master General's representative, the Very Reverend Louis C. Nolan, O.P., opened at the Dominican Convent in San Rafael, California. All the Dominican Congregations of Sisters in the United States



had been asked to send representatives to the Conference. The following Congregations were represented: Adrian, Michigan; Albany, New York; Everett, Washington; Grand Rapids, Michigan; Houston, Texas; Maryknoll, New York; Mission San Jose, California; San Rafael, California; Sinsinawa, Wisconsin; Springfield, Illinois; Tacoma, Washington. (Excerpt from the minutes of the First Meeting of the Conference of Dominican Sisters)

So begins the story of **75 sparkling years** of commitment to building relationships and collaborating in the mission of preaching the Gospel and experiencing varied facets of change. The 28 Congregations at that time were not so eager to come together. It was a slow start and there was concern about identity and autonomy (sound familiar), but the purpose of the Conference was to discuss matters which would make for greater strength, efficiency, and unanimity of spirit and action. This first conference was followed by a retreat in Norwood, Ohio, in July, 1935, conducted by then Archbishop of Cincinnati, John McNicholas, OP. Twenty congregations were represented and it was decided to hold biennial meetings of the Superiors General. These biennial gatherings continued through 1968, except for 1943 when the conference was canceled due to World War II and in 1961 due to a meeting of Superiors General of all Congregations in the United States. In 1968, the decision was made that the conference be held annually.

The name and membership of the conference changed over the years. In 1964 the name was



modified from the Conference of the Dominican Mothers General of America to the Dominican Mothers General Conference of the United States. In 1970 the name was changed to the Dominican Leadership Conference. Through the years the membership invited more members of the Dominican Family to attend the conference. First the Provincials, General Councilors, and Provincial Council of the congregations were included in the meetings. In 1972 a formal vote was taken to extend membership to the Dominican Friars. As the years moved on Promoters of Preaching; Promoters of Justice, Peace, and Care of the Earth; the Communicators; members of the international Dominican family; Dominican Laity; Dominican Associates; Companions in Mission; DLC Affiliates; facilitators; keynote speakers and other guests added to the energy and dynamic of the annual meetings. It has been the place to be! Now in 2010 the DLC is yet on the verge of another change as the Conference comes together with the Federation of Dominican Sisters USA to unfold and form the Dominican Sisters Conference.

Change occurred in 1989, when the first executive director of the conference began her ministry. Margaret Stechschulte, OP (Adrian) set up the office in River Forest and served in this position until 1993. Elizabeth Ann Schaefer, OP (Akron), fondly called Libby, came to the DLC in 1993 as the second executive director after serving in leadership in her congregation and being a member of the DLC for a number of years. It was lucky for me 13 years ago, in 1997, that I was welcomed by the conference as the third DLC executive director. This ministry brought many gifts and new dimensions to my life. I have been so fortunate to serve in this position. I have been blessed a hundred fold and more. In her poem *Gratitude*, Mary Oliver poses a number of questions. ***What did you notice? What did you hear? What did you admire? What astonished you? What would you like to see again? What was most tender? What was most wonderful? What did you think was happening?*** Aren't these just the best artful, insightful, and reflective questions? If I began to share my reflections on them in relation to these wonderful years with all of you and the DLC there would be no room for anyone else to submit a report, which some might welcome! I am filled with such deep gratitude and awe for all that has come into my life, all that I have learned, all the opportunities I have experienced, all the possibilities that I see, all the places I have visited and been welcomed, all that

has shifted my perspective, all that has deepened and broadened my Dominican life and love for the mission, and to all of you who have supported this Conference, who have supported me and have had the courage and imagination to grow and change in service of preaching the Word of Truth.

I want to share a litany of gratitude for the many who have guided and served the Dominican Leadership Conference for 75 years and mentored, challenged, encouraged, assisted, teased, laughed with, and supported me through these 13 lucky years. It does take a village to manage the DLC.

A Litany of Gratitude

In gratitude to the members of the Executive Committee especially those who have served since 1997 and gifted the DLC with the generosity of their time, talent, energy, care, innovation, imagination, fiscal responsibility, and sense of humor You are the best! Jean Marie Lehtinen (Edmonds), Alberto Rodriguez (St. Martin), Catherine Walsh (Hope), Gloria Marie Jones (Mission San Jose), Barbara Rapp (Kentucky), Anne Lythgoe (St. Catherine de'Ricci), Mary Faith Geelan (Columbus), Bruce Schultz (St. Martin), Cecilia Crittenden (Hope), Mary Ann Collins (Blauvelt), Carolyn McCormack (Mission San Jose), Diane Morgan (Amityville), Adrian Dover (Houston), Toni Harris (Sinsinawa), Roberto Corral (Holy Name), Anne Kilbride (Columbus), Meg Sweeney (Sparkill), Cass McDonnell (Hope), Rebecca Ann Gemma (Springfield), Carol Gaeke (St. Catherine de'Ricci), Charlene Moser (Kentucky), Maureen Geary (Grand Rapids)

With recognition and thanks to the members of the DLC, the sisters and the friars, who actively participated in the annual meetings, served on many committees and task forces, responded to requests for input and insight, made suggestions for collaborative possibilities, posed challenging questions, built lasting relationships with other members, donated door prizes and even won a few, sustained the DLC with financial contributions, provided hospitality for the Executive Committee, welcomed the conference to their mother houses, received the executive director into their homes, moved forward with change and adaptation, and valued an organization for elected Dominican leaders for the sake of our Dominican life and mission. You made your dues work and are the backbone of the DLC!

Lucky Facets Continued

Every sister and friar in elected leadership who has been a member.

In thanksgiving for the leadership of the DLC Affiliates who have collaborated with the Conference through networking, communication, mutual support, sharing of dreams and struggles, exchange of ideas, invitation and presence at events. You are amazing assets to our preaching mission! The Center for Dominican Studies at Ohio Dominican University, CODALC, Dominican Associate Directors, DASS, Dominican High School Preaching Conference, DIA, DSI, DVUSA, DVI, Federation of Dominican Sisters USA, Las Casas, National College Preaching Conference, Province of St Dominic in Canada, Siena Center at Dominican University, Parable Conference, DVI, the Center for Dominican Studies at Barry University

In thanksgiving to the staff of the DLC, which has grown in leaps and bounds since 1997, for sisterhood, for friendship, for always being close at hand although at a distance, for gentleness, for challenge, for creativity, for awesome ideas, for sensitivity, for stretching, for integrity, for good stewardship of DLC resources, and for putting up with my singing and dancing. You are just brilliant! You are superb staff members! I love you and will miss you very much. Eileen Gannon (Sparkill), Anne Lythgoe (St. Catherine de'Ricci), Margaret Mayce (Amityville), Susan Oxley, Dana Brantley, Barbara Suessmann (Amityville)

With gratitude to the DLC Executive Directors on whose shoulders I stand and the Executive Committees who work with them, who helped develop structures and processes that enabled the Conference to change, adapt, and grow. Margaret Stechschulte (Adrian), Libby Schaefer (Akron)

With deep appreciation to the residents of Dominican Alley in River Forest, Forest Park, and La Grange Park, who collaborated, shared, played, cleaned, traveled, dined, helped, joined on field trips, engaged in stimulating conversation and laughed with me on a daily basis. You are wonderful friends and colleagues! Ann Willits (Sinsinawa), Mary Ellen Green (Sinsinawa), Marilyn Francouer (Adrian), Connie Schoen (Peace), Christine Rousakis, Summer Cushman, Julia, Brinski, Shannon Green, Donielle Dodde-Xu, Sophia Xu, Marie Cassidy,

Regina Botterill, Tony Butler, Joan Scanlon (Peace), Judith Hilbing (Springfield), Joan Murray (Sinsinawa), Regina McKillip (Sinsinawa), Colleen Nolan (Sinsinawa), Collette Mary White (Sinsinawa), Mary Woods (Sinsinawa), Sue Brodeur (Sinsinawa), Kathleen Phelan (Sinsinawa), Joan Brichacek (Sinsinawa), Pat Dulka (Adrian), Marilee Ewing (Adrian), Anita Chiappetta (Adrian), Betsy Crannell, Christina Marcantelli, Nicholas Marcantelli, Ginger Phillips (Sinsinawa), Nora Schaefer (Sinsinawa), Maureen McGrath (Adrian), Do Lynch (Sinsinawa)

In admiration of the staff of Project OPUS (History of the Order of Preachers in the United States) and of the Mary Nona McGreal Center for Dominican Historical Studies, who are an inspiration through their scholarship, research, love of the Dominican Family, perseverance, creativity, and years of partnership with the DLC. You have preserved our past to inspire our future as Dominicans in the US! Mary Nona McGreal (Sinsinawa), Loretta Petit (Peace), Lois Hoh (Sinsinawa), Judy Miller (Sinsinawa), Janet Welsh, OP (Sinsinawa)

With appreciation to my local communities, who have supported my itinerancy and welcomed many Dominican travelers into their homes and hearts. Dominican hospitality has been your generous gift to the DLC and the Dominican Family. Nancy Hubeny (Sinsinawa), Pat Francis (Springfield), Elyse Marie Ramirez (Springfield), Mary Therese Johnson (Sinsinawa), Marci Hermesdorf (Sinsinawa), Diane Poplawski (Racine), Carolyn Croft (Sinsinawa), Judy Seiberlich (Sinsinawa), Erica Jordan (Sinsinawa)

And last but not least I am most grateful to the congregation of my heart and home, the Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa, who by their example taught me about collaboration and building relationships, encouraged me to apply for the position, recommended me, supported me in this ministry, welcomed the news and possibilities of ways of being Dominican that I brought home, and have gifted me with a sabbatical which will begin very soon. You make me proud to be your sister!

Mary Oliver asks, **What was most wonderful?** Mary, it was 75 years of wonderful and 13 of them very lucky and most wonderful for me. I am filled with gratitude.

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

Communication & Technology Resource Person

The more things change, the more they stay the same -- or so the saying goes, and for me I guess there is some truth to the old adage.

The year 2010 was a year of change for the communications office of the DLC. When Anne Lythgoe left her role in the communications office and as the editor of Domlife.org after being elected to leadership of her congregation, the position was split into two separate roles (yes, it takes two of us to fill Anne's shoes). I was hired as the Communication and Technology Resource Person and Susan Oxley, was hired as the Editor of Domlife.org. We both perform our duties by telecommuting.



I began my new position in January and while working for the DLC was a change for me, working with Dominicans wasn't. I had previously served as the communicator for the Kentucky Dominicans prior to their union with six other congregations to form the Dominican Sisters of Peace.

Most of the work is similar to that of my previous position and while I was already familiar with the Dominican culture and charism, working for a much larger entity miles away from the DLC office out of my own home, was a change and challenge.

During my short time at my position, I have attended the 2010 OPCOMNET meeting where we set our goals and objectives for the new year, updated and maintained the DLC web site, maintained the listserv and assisted in the preparation of materials for the annual meeting and various other projects.

Goals set during the 2010 OPCOMNET meeting include:

Goal 1:
Each Communicator from the Congregation and Provinces will provide to the Editor of Domlife 3-4 stories including pictures, from February 2010 to February 2011.

Goal 2

The Domlife Editor will be encouraged to set up a Facebook and Twitter account to drive traffic to Domlife and inform fans/followers and encourage their members to do the same.

Goal 3 Each Communicator will work collaboratively on the following: Sept. 21 UN International Day of Peace & Nov. 3 Feast of St. Martin DePorres. The Justice Promoters may have suggestions to assist this endeavor. The DLC Communication and Technology Resource Person will send reminders to all.

Goal 4 The OPCOMNET will send ideas and help the DLC in this year of transition by supporting the DLC Communication and Technology Resource Person and the Editor of Domlife.

As the Dominican Leadership Conference begins its transition into its new entity, the Dominican Sisters Conference, I will continue to assist the Mary Sue Kennedy, OP, (Adrian), the Executive Director, in keeping members informed and updated on all the new and exciting changes.

In the upcoming weeks, we will be meeting in Chicago to discuss the transition process and my role during the transition period. We will also be looking at making changes/improvements to the current web site to better fit the identity of the new entity.

Yes, it has been a year of change and there are more on the horizon, but then again the only thing constant is change.

*Dana Lear Brantley
Communication and Technology Resource Person*

"There is nothing wrong with change if it is in the right direction."

WINSTON CHURCHILL



Domlife Editor

Dominican Life | USA, an online news magazine, (www.domlife.org), was started in 2002 by the Dominican friars of St. Albert Province. The Dominican Leadership Conference has sponsored the site since December 2005. The mission of *Dominican Life | USA* (or *DomLife*, as we call it) is to “inform readers of news and activities of Dominican friars, sisters, nuns, laity and associates in the United States, promote the teaching charism of the Order, and inspire action on behalf of justice and peace.”



In February 2010, I was hired as the new editor for *DomLife*. This has been a challenging and enlightening several months as I have been getting familiar with all that the site encompasses and the various individuals and entities that are both resources for and readers of *DomLife*. Every other week or so, a list of news stories is posted to the home page, and an e-mail update is sent to the *DomLife* listserve subscribers, which currently number 3,777.

Since March, we have been tracking the site traffic using Google Analytics. Here is an overview of *DomLife* “by the numbers”:

- The site averages about 1,500 unique visitors monthly
- The site averages about 6,500 page views monthly
- Eighty percent of the visitors to the *DomLife* site are “returning” visitors
- Some of the top stories on *DomLife* (pages most often visited/viewed) between March and August 2010 include:
 - *Dominican Sisters International: Meeting evokes greater unity, solidarity
 - *Jubilees in June: Sisters celebrate anniversaries of religious life
 - *Dominican Alliance: Sisters participate in first annual pilgrimage
 - *Dominican Sisters of Peace: Congregation gathers for first assembly
 - *Adrian Dominicans: Transfer of leadership celebrated July 3

*Nuns Build 2010: Dominican sisters help rebuild in New Orleans

*Province of St. Joseph: Dominican friars elect Mulcahy as prior provincial

I have many hopes, dreams and ideas for *DomLife*. One project that we will be undertaking very soon is an online survey of the 3,777 *DomLife* listserve subscribers. Also in the works is the formation of an editorial advisory committee, whose work would be informed by the feedback we receive from the readership survey. One of my “dreams” for *DomLife* is to create a mobile version of the web site that readers can access from handheld devices such as an iPhone or BlackBerry.

The ministry of Dominican Life | USA would not be possible without the financial support of the Dominican Leadership Conference (soon to become the Dominican Sisters Conference) and its member congregations. We are grateful for all contributions that enable *DomLife* to continue to inform, promote and inspire.

Many thanks all those who have contributed stories and ideas, and a special thanks to all the faithful readers of Dominican Life | USA. We welcome your feedback! Please send comments, questions, story ideas to editor@domlife.org.

Susan Oxley
Editor of Domlife

NGO Representative

As we prepare to make the transition from the Dominican Leadership Conference to the Dominican Sisters Conference, our attention to history takes on some added significance. It becomes important to step back a bit, to appreciate and savor all that has gone on before, knowing that it has prepared us for this next step in the journey. Recently, I had the opportunity to do just that, as I gathered material tracing the history of the DLC/ NGO position for the DLC archives. So much work was done quietly, behind the scenes, by so many of our Sisters who believed that a new world order was, indeed, possible, and that, perhaps, the United Nations was a venue where our Dominican voices needed to be heard. Of course nothing happens overnight, and there were many peaks





and valleys all along the way; even a request for UN status in the early 1990's that was denied. But they never gave up on the dream, and, thanks to their perseverance, here we are today! Now, having experienced many facets of change over the years, we prepare to move graciously into another, perhaps deeper aspect of who we are called to be, both as an organization, as well as a Dominican presence at the United Nations in New York.

Over this past year, our primary goal has been to emphasize the international dimension of the NGO presence at the United Nations in New York, in the hope of engaging our Dominican Sisters worldwide. To that end, Mary Ellen O'Grady and I traveled to Rome last November to speak with the Coordinating Council of Dominican Sisters International about the possibility of DSI assuming sponsorship of the NGO position. Sr. Maria Fabiola Velasquez Maya and her Council enthusiastically supported the idea and agreed to make a formal proposal to the DSI Assembly at its May 2010 meeting. The Assembly met in Rome in May, and Mary Ellen and I were privileged to be present to make a brief presentation and to respond to questions and concerns. It was a thrill for us to witness our Sisters' unanimous acceptance of the proposal to assume sponsorship of the NGO position. But, once again, nothing happens overnight; there are important details that will need to be worked out over the next few years. However, we believe this to be a significant movement on the part of our Sisters worldwide to embrace the internationality of our Dominican presence in New York, and to become more actively engaged in its work. In a very real sense, this is already happening. In September, Sr. Sara Böhmer, OP, DSI Coordinator for Europe, will be in the States, and will spend several days with me here at the UN. Sr. Jacqui Ryan, OP (New Zealand), will be an intern here in New York from February through May of next year.

I also had the opportunity to attend the meeting of the Conference of Dominican Sisters of Latin America and the Caribbean (CODALC), which was held in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in January. This afforded me an opportunity to meet and interact with our Latin American and Caribbean Sisters, to hear about their work, and to provide them with an overview of the United Nations and the work of the NGO on their behalf. It is abundantly clear that building relationships with our Sisters worldwide is key to the ongoing development of this work.

On a more local level, new office space has provided its own unique experience of "internationality," as I now share space with NGO colleagues from Australia, Ireland and Mexico. They are a constant reminder to me that the US perspective is only one of many; and that each perspective carries within it a piece of the truth that both clarifies and enhances my own understanding of the issues. Our new office also provides us with additional space to accommodate interns and volunteers. Over the past year, I have been graced by the presence of Marcelline Koch (Springfield), Cass McDonnell (Hope) and Peter Damian Harris (Province of St. Martin). Their assistance in the work of the NGO Committees on Sustainable Development, Status of Women, Disarmament and the Working Group on Girls was invaluable. But more importantly, they serve as reminders to me that this is our work as a Dominican Family; and our corporate witness can only be as strong as the awareness and participation of our members.

It has been a privilege and a grace for me to represent the Dominican Family as the DLC/NGO presence at the United Nations here in New York. While in many respects I work "alone," being the only person in the New York office, I know that I am carried along by the good energy of those Sisters who quietly persevered in their efforts to make a Dominican presence at the UN a reality. I have also enjoyed the privilege of serving as a member of the DLC Executive Committee, which has been a wonderful built-in support system for me as well. And of course, neither I, nor the DLC would be where we are today if not for Mary Ellen O'Grady. Over these past thirteen years, she has led us with style and grace and eminent good humor! As we continue to negotiate the many facets of change that await us in our movement into the Dominican Sisters Conference and DSI sponsorship of the NGO position, we do so building upon a fine legacy; a legacy which Mary Ellen has consistently helped us to appreciate and celebrate. So...thank you, Mary Ellen, for all you have done, and been for all of us in the DLC! And, thank you as well for the many ways in which you have been a quiet, gentle support to me. A closing wish for all of us, and in a special way for Mary Ellen, as she negotiates the facets of change that await her in the months and years ahead....For all that has been, Thanks...For all that will be, Yes!

*Margaret Mayce, OP (Amityville)
DLC/NGO Representatives*



Executive Committee Report

Challenged by the directive of the 2009 DLC, the Executive Committee continued the work of the 2009 annual conference which called for forming a new organization of Dominican Sisters that would include both leadership and membership. The stated purpose is: "to build relationships among Dominican Sisters and to collaborate in mission. The Dominican Sisters/Federation holds as a value connection with our intentionality as a Dominican family."

An Implementation Team (IT) was formed to give a structure to this new organization, which is to be known as the Dominican Sisters Conference (DSC). We hired Sr. Carmelita Murphy, OP, (Grand Rapids) to be the facilitator of the process. With representatives of leadership and membership the IT has worked on investigating the legal, financial and structural components of a new entity. The new Board of the DSC, which will be called the Coordinating Committee, will be composed of 3 representatives from leadership and 3 from membership.

A major component of the work of the committee, under the direction of Maureen Geary and Mary Ellen O'Grady, was to hire a new Executive Director for the new entity. A search committee was formed and Mary Sue Kennedy, OP, (Adrian) was invited to serve in this capacity. In the course of the year we hired Dana Brantley as the DLC Coordinator and Susan Oxley as the editor of DomLife. It was decided to retain this present staff into the new entity to ease transitions as the newly forming group comes to determine its own needs in determining something new.

A major direction into the future of Dominican collaboration worldwide was the venture of exploring the possibility of the DLC-NGO to be under the aegis of DSI. In May this decision was affirmed and the process of going forward with this is being implemented.

In another dimension of intentional collaboration in the family, members of the DLC Executive Committee met with the North American Provincials at their meeting in May.

In addition to planning for the future, the DLC Executive Committee continued the work of financial stewardship for the organization by studying our investments, our expenses and fund raising issues. In addition we received reports from the staff of the DLC and dealt with the issues brought to us for conversation and direction. We continued to meet in Chicago at the DLC offices and had regular conference calls. In addition we worked to maintain connections with the various Dominican entities and affiliates.

The final work of the present Executive Committee is the planning and implementation of the Annual Conference which will celebrate both 75 years of the Dominican Leadership Conference and its birth into the Dominican Sisters Conference.

As a final note, we express our deep gratitude to Mary Ellen O'Grady as she completes her tenure as Executive Director of the DLC for these past 12 years. Under her guidance many deeper connections in the Dominican Family were made and much creativity was brought to fruition.

*Carol Gaeke, OP (Catherine de Ricci)
DLC Past President*



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: MARY ELLEN O'GRADY, DLC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; MARGARET MAYCE, DLC/NGO; REBECCA ANN GEMMA, DLC SECRETARY/TREASURER; MAUREEN GEARY, PRESIDENT, CAROL GAEKE, DLC PAST PRESIDENT.



DLC Budget

	Actual 08	Actual09	Budget 10	Actual 09.07.10
Revenue				
5000 Annual Dues	\$103,375	\$100,185	\$92,600	\$92,590
Gifts and grants:				
6200 Gifts	\$200	\$15,570	\$4,000	\$15,110
6210 Development (April Giveaway)	\$7,160	\$8,037	\$7,500	\$8,140
6211 Grants	\$26,815	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Subtotal Gifts and grants	\$34,175	\$28,607	\$21,500	\$33,250
Annual meeting:				
6300 Reg-Annual MTG	\$31,415	\$30,050	\$30,000	\$28,170
6325 R&B-Ann. MTG	\$20,505	\$-	\$15,000	\$18,890
Subtotal Annual meeting	\$51,920	\$30,050	\$45,000	\$47,060
6600 Sponsored Meetings	\$8,525	\$7,261	\$6,000	\$3,181
Honoraria:				
6212 Exec. Honorarium	\$7,600	\$7,367	\$4,000	\$4,500
6225 NGO	\$1,975	\$1,800	\$1,000	\$2,750
6250 Communicator	\$2,810	\$-	\$-	\$-
Subtotal Honoraria	\$12,385	\$9,167	\$5,000	\$7,250
Other:				
6350 Projects/Sales	\$3,418	\$17,343	\$4,000	\$10,305
6275 DomLife	\$26,119	\$26,978	\$24,500	\$20,730
6400 McGreal Center Donations	\$19,121	\$14,275	\$-	\$-
Subtotal Other	\$48,658	\$58,596	\$28,500	\$31,035
Subtotal	\$259,038	\$233,866	\$198,600	\$214,366
Investment Income				
Investment Interest	\$5,722	\$1,164	\$500	\$574
Unrealized Gain (Loss)	\$(42,870)	-15412		
Realized Gain(Loss) on Invest.	\$(7,616)	0		
Subtotal Investment Income	\$(44,765)	\$(14,248)	\$500	\$574
REPORT FORMAT TOTAL REV.	\$214,274	\$219,618	\$199,100	\$214,939
Expenses				
Executive Director				
7000 Ex. Dir. Sal&Ben	\$46,607	\$47,949	\$52,000	\$36,000
8130 DLC Membership	\$785	\$765	\$800	\$-
8140 Mtgs Attend	\$1,155	\$430	\$900	\$630
8150 Travel/R&B	\$2,395	\$3,421	\$3,000	\$1,666
7040 Devlpmnt Consultant	\$630	\$300	\$300	\$-
7050 Financial Review	\$1,250	\$-	\$1,500	\$-
7060 Development Expenses	\$799	\$475	\$500	\$433
7100 Resource Services	1,028	\$1,023	\$1,000	\$405



DLC Budget Continued

7120 Payroll Fee			\$1,000	\$686
7125 Workers' Compensation Service				\$13
7130 Employer Liabilities			\$2,500	\$1,905
7140 Worker's Compensation Insurance				\$22
8100 Office Supplies	\$688	\$110	\$250	\$302
8110 Subsc./Bks	\$133	\$138	\$100	\$5
8200 Tel., Int., Fax	\$1,469	\$904	\$450	\$288
8300 Postage/shppng	\$230	\$295	\$225	\$301
8400 Office Rental	\$2,946	\$4,567	\$5,100	\$3,855
8410 Office Insurance	\$500	\$(39)	\$-	\$-
8500 Office Equip Compt	\$679	\$420	\$500	\$149
8600 Printng Xerox	\$50	\$(75)	\$200	\$113
9400 Contingency	\$599	\$207	\$350	\$534
9500 Bank Charges	\$92	\$67	\$100	\$178
Subtotal E.D.	\$62,034	\$60,957	\$70,775	\$47,484
NGO				
7010 NGO Sal&Ben	\$41,732	\$39,240	\$39,250	\$29,437
7150 NGO	\$15,710	\$16,549	\$19,354	\$16,000
7180 DVUSA	\$10,338	\$-	\$-	\$-
Subtotal NGO	\$67,780	\$55,789	\$58,604	\$45,437
Communications				
7020 Com Sal&Ben	\$20,095	\$18,977	\$16,000	\$8,000
7160 DLC Com Coord	\$7,000	\$4,595	\$4,220	\$2,726
Subtotal Comm.	\$27,095	\$23,572	\$20,220	\$10,726
DomLife				
7030 DomLife Salary	\$20,095	\$20,277	\$19,600	\$10,400
7170 DomLife	\$5,798	\$5,095	\$4,950	\$3,346
Subtotal DomLife	\$25,893	\$25,372	\$24,550	\$13,746
8145 Sponsored Mtgs	\$8,307	\$4,957	\$6,000	\$3,039
Annual Mtg				
8805 Meeting Prep	\$2,510	\$550	\$1,000	\$602
8810 Mtg Printing	\$1,218	\$919	\$1,000	\$-
8820 Mtg R B	\$26,771	\$7,671	\$20,000	\$-
8830 Mtg Stipend & Travel	\$5,143	\$5,021	\$6,000	\$596
8835 Local Transport	\$-	\$1,406	\$1,500	\$683
8845 Mtg Supplies	\$487	\$157	\$400	\$516
8850 Mtg Post,Fax,Ship \$-	\$100	\$150	\$-	\$-
8855 Mtg Telephone	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
8870 Guests	\$40	\$-	\$500	\$574
Subtotal Annual Mtg	\$36,169	\$15,824	\$30,550	\$2,972
Committees, Entities, Service				
8000 Legal Services	\$5	\$55	\$1,000	\$10
8881 Exec. Com	\$7,116	\$6,553	\$5,000	\$4,312
8882 Election Com	\$-	0	\$-	\$-



8884 Finance Com	\$-	0	\$-	\$-
8885 Design Team		\$2,913	\$-	\$-
8886 Implementation Committee			\$3,000	\$7,677
8888 Dues Committee	NA	NA	\$-	\$-
8889 2020 Task Force	\$1,654	\$443	\$-	\$-
8890 Search Committee	\$389	\$625	\$2,000	\$1,015
9000 McGreal Center	\$19,121	\$14,275	\$-	\$-
9100 Contributions	\$425	\$150	\$500	\$110
9150 Programs	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
9200 Projects	\$1,140	\$14,138	\$600	\$5,175
Subtotal Comm, Ent, Serv	\$29,850	\$39,153	\$12,100	\$18,299

REPORT FORMAT TOTAL EXP.	\$257,128	\$225,623	\$222,799	\$141,703
TRANSFER TO RESTRICTED		\$15,000		
REPORT FORMAT NET REV.	\$(42,854)	\$(21,005)	\$(23,699)	\$73,237
Force to match cash change				

Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$185,350	\$142,496		\$139,344
Gain (Loss)	\$(42,854)	\$(21,005)		
Net Assets End of Year	\$142,496	\$121,491		

Net Assets Restricted		\$15,000		
Net Assets Unrestricted		\$121,491		

NET ASSETS

DLC Checking	\$1,557	\$3,300		\$75,713
NGO checking account	\$-	\$-		
Communicator checking acct	\$-	\$-		
Fifth Third Bank	\$87,352	\$104,553		\$107,119
Institutional Investors	\$53,587	\$15,924		\$16,497
Savings Account		\$15,567		\$15,576
(\$15,000 designated for OP Family)				
TOTAL Cash balances	\$142,496	\$139,344		\$214,906

McGreal Center Support

Beginning McGreal checking bal.				
Gifts directly to McGreal checking				
Investment Income to McGreal acct	\$257	\$26		
Transfer from DLC donations	\$19,121	\$14,275		
Transfer from DLC funds	\$22,396	\$18,795		
Designated funds	\$(300)			
Subtotal McGreal checking	\$41,474	\$33,096		
Transfer to Dominican University	\$41,474	\$33,096		
Ending checking balance	\$-	\$-		
Less Reimbursement to DLC	\$-	\$-		

Ending checking balance

Notes

6200 - includes \$12,500 from Fed plus gifts for NGO from cong/prov
 6211: Grants from Peace and Springfield
 6350 - Profit of \$5130
 Net Rev- still have bills to pay



Affiliates

DLC Affiliates:

Center for Dominican Studies
at Ohio Dominican University

Confederacion de Hermanas
Dominicas de America
Latina y el Caribe (CODALC)

Dominican Associate
Directors/Liaisons

Dominican Association of
Secondary Schools (DASS)

Dominican College
Preaching Program

Dominican High School
Preaching Program

Dominican Institute for the Arts

Dominican Sisters International

Dominican Sisters, USA (Federation)

Dominican Volunteers USA

Las Casas:
Dominicans in Ministry with
Native Americans, Inc.

Province of St. Dominic --
Montreal, Canada

Siena Center
Dominican University

Dominican Volunteers USA

In 2009-10, 14 volunteers served across the nation, from Amityville to San Francisco. Several volunteers served at sites that were never before ministry partners with DVUSA, while at the same time many long-time sites remained vital placements for volunteers. Relationships with many sponsors have strengthened while new ones have been fortified. Our orientation at Mission San Jose helped to broaden our understanding of the Dominicans of the West Coast. For the third year in a row all volunteers who began at Orientation finished with us at the closing retreat, and that is something for which we are very proud.



We are also undergoing a facet of change as we incorporate technology that allows our office to be split into two locations. Our executive director is working out of Chicago, while our assistant director has moved to Kansas to be close to family. Shifting realities are inviting us to change some facets of how we are, but allow us to remain who we are. This year we celebrate ten years as a collaborative project of the Dominican Family in the U.S., which grew out of DLC conversations.

Michael Chapuran, a former volunteer who served at Highbridge Community Life Center in the Bronx, is the executive director. Please join me in welcoming Mike into this position as he seeks to faithfully shepherd DVUSA and continue to share the charism. Mike was on hand in August to welcome seven new volunteers this year at the Orientation in Columbus, Ohio. We wish him, the staff, volunteers and board members a blessed year.

Anthony Butler
Outgoing Executive Director



Dominican Institute for the Arts

Strategic Plan

The DIA Board remains committed to the implementation and development of the Strategic Plan designed for 2008-2012. The plan continues to give continuity, excitement and challenge. The smooth transition of leadership and the fulfillment of goals attest to the value and versatility of the plan.

Membership

Enrollment of new members continues to hold a creative challenge.

Annual Gathering -2011

The DIA gathering will be held at the Springfield Dominican Conference and Retreat Center, Springfield, IL, July 27-30, 2011. We are grateful for the invitation, the location and the response of the initial contacts.

Communication

The DIA website, DIArts.org, invites the wider Dominican Family to the artist's table. Membership initiatives to post and sell artwork on the website are catching the imagination of our artists; the technology will be available soon. Members have access on the web to the membership listing via a password. We continue with our quarterly Newsletter of OPalette, supplemented with an email update on the other months.

Grant

The DIA submitted and received a grant from the Sisters of Peace to implement a cooperative membership artistic venture in New Orleans, Louisiana. Four DIA members responded to the request for implementing a 1-2 week summer program. After much planning, the artists, timing and location logistics did not align. The grant money was returned. The DIA Board will resubmit a request for a similar grant for next year.

800th Celebration

As artists we are all invited to join in the celebration of the 800th anniversary year of the order in 2016. Go to <http://curia.op.org/jubilee> During the 10 year preparation, each year has a different preaching theme.

Registered Fiscal Agent

Due to the upcoming change in the Dominican Leadership Conference, the DIA Board requested that our Fiscal Agency be an in-state transfer to the Springfield Dominicans. The Springfield leadership has graciously agreed. We are grateful to the Springfield Dominicans and to Katherine Elsner, Springfield Dominican's CFO, who filed the papers and will be the DIA connective link in matters pertaining to fiscal agency.

Internal Revenue

New changes in the IRS filing of nonprofit tax information now require that a 990-N form be filed each year. DIA complies with the new regulation.

Finances

Due to low interest rates, DIA closed out our Investment Portfolio with Raymond James, Inc. DIA is pursuing becoming a LEVITICUS FUND member. A credit union offers another possibility.

Constitutional Amendment

The proposal for a Constitutional amendment on extension and rotation of Board terms was approved by the membership at our annual gathering, July of 2009. Two members will now rotate off/on each year.

Outgoing Board Members

We offer our deep gratitude to the outgoing members of the DIA Board, Carol O'Conner and Lucianne Siers. Carol served through the growing pains of developing the DIA website. Lucianne served and gifted us with her leadership, especially during the formation of the Strategic Plan 2008-2012.

DIA Board

Elizabeth Sully, OP - President (Sinsinawa)

Lucianne Siers, OP - Vice President (Grand Rapids)

Dominic DeLay, OP - Secretary (Holy Name)

Ann Eigenbauer, OP - Treasurer (Sparkill)

Carol O'Connor, (Dominican Associate - Peace)

Mary Pat Reid, OP (Caldwell)



Dominican Sisters International

The year 2010 marks the fifteenth year in the life of Dominican Sisters International, the global movement creating links among all Dominican Sisters of Apostolic Life throughout the world for the sake of the mission of the Order. In May 2010, Sr. Maria Fabiola Velasquez Maya hosted her first DSI General Assembly as International Coordinator as she warmly welcomed nearly one-hundred Congregation Prioresses (or their delegates) to Rome. These Prioresses gathered to look realistically at religious life as it is today and, for the sake of their preaching mission, to prepare for the future together. Overcoming anxiety about the decreasing number of religious women in some continents, they chose instead to work to cultivate community life and to give renewed meaning to religious life. DSI is facilitated by the International Coordinator and a Coordinating Council.

In May, the Assembly re-elected four of the Councilors and welcomed a new Sister for North America into the team. Sincere thanks were extended to Sr. Patricia Simpson (San Rafael), who completed her term, for the excellent work performed over these years with dedication, enthusiasm and thoroughness. The DSI Coordinating Council is now composed of the following Sisters: Sisters Maria Fabiola Velasquez Maya, (International Coordinator), Michael Mdluli, (Africa), Cecilia Espenilla (Asia Pacific), Sara Bohmer (Europe), Irene Diaz (Latin America and the Caribbean) and Rose Marie Riley (Springfield) (North America). DSI includes about 25,600 Dominican Sisters from 154 Congregations ministering in 111 countries. The General Assembly of Congregation Prioresses



THE DSI COORDINATING COUNCIL: MICHAEL MDLULI, CECILIA ESPENILLA, MARIA FABIOLA VELASQUEZ MAYA, IRENE DIAZ, ROSE MARIE RILEY, SARA BOHMER

or their delegates meets every three years. Offices of DSI are at Santa Sabina in Rome. (Please see www.dsiop.org for more information.)

Perhaps this worldwide experience of global Sisterhood might not have developed if it had not been for the Solidarity Fund of the Dominican Leadership Conference. This Fund was established at the 2000 DLC Assembly, when members adopted this 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." Dominican Sisters International thanks the members of the Dominican Leadership Conference for their extraordinary generosity. DSI continues to need ongoing support from US congregations and provinces in order to maintain this experience of international solidarity. (DSI is grateful for Kathleen McGinn OP, who serves as Financial Consultant for the Solidarity Fund, and for the Dominican Sisters of Amityville who make her services available to DSI.)

DSI Solidarity Fund Report

July 31, 2010

❖ Fund Purpose

The Goals of Dominican Sisters International guide the use of the Solidarity Fund. These Goals are:

- To support one another in living out the Dominican Charism and to claim and promote our identity as women preachers;
- To facilitate communication and networking among Dominicans at national, regional and international levels;
- To foster a more compassionate world order through the promotion of peace and justice, the integrity of creation and human rights, especially those of women;
- To explore and foster collaborative initiatives within the Dominican Family.

Particular emphasis is given to the Goal related to "**COLLABORATION.**" The DSI SF makes possible collaboration and coordination that would otherwise be impossible in many regions of the world. Whether it is support for the efforts of the DSI Coordinating Council Member in the region, intercongregational OP formation courses, justice and peace efforts, or other collaborative projects, the DSI SF is a key element for **the building of relationships** among Dominican Sisters of the world. We cannot emphasize strongly enough: **the Solidarity Fund makes international collaboration possible.**



❖ **History of Contributions**

Calendar Year	# of Congregations	Contributions
2001	20	\$335,000
2002	13	\$ 78,482
2003	17	\$ 82,208
2004	16	\$113,005
2005	14	\$112,663
2006	8	\$ 74,897
2007	12	\$ 71,170
2008	16	\$ 85,701
2009	9	\$ 42,508
2010	9	\$ 38,482

Total Contributions as of 7/31/10 \$1,034,116

❖ **Contributions Analysis for Year 2010**

Source:	Total of 9 Congregations	Range of Contributions
	2 congregations	\$10,000 to \$15,000
	5 congregations	\$ 1,000 to \$ 5,000
	2 congregations	\$ 100 to \$ 900

❖ **Distribution Analysis for years 2002 to 2010**

Total Principal Invested, as of:		Distributions based on a percentage of the total Principal for:	
12/01	\$335,000	Calendar Years 2002	\$ 33,500
10/02	\$425,000	2003	\$ 42,500
10/03	\$495,690	2004	\$ 49,500
10/04	\$559,190	2005	\$ 55,900
8/05	\$657,105	2006	\$ 65,700
8/06	\$702,789	2007	\$ 70,300
8/07	\$769,031	2008	\$ 40,000
8/08	\$876,313	2009	\$ 25,000
8/09	\$835,610	2010	\$ 17,700
8/10	\$916,684	2011*	

*Projected distribution for Fiscal Year 2011 to be determined by Coordinating Council

Total Distributions (38.7% of total contributions) \$400,100
Total Principal Invested (61.3% of total contributions) \$634,016

❖ **Activities Supported by DSI Solidarity Fund 2009-2010**

- Advance preparation for the DSA (Dominican Sisters Africa) meeting in 2011
- Contribution to support the 2010 Asia-Pacific Dominican Family Justice and Peace and Care of Creation (JPCC) Conference, Indonesia 2010
- Assistance to Sisters attending Dominican Sisters International-Philippines (DSI-P) Collaborative Renewal Program
- Meeting of the DSE (Dominican Sisters Europe) representatives (Paris)
- Visits to congregations and communities (Düsseldorf, Altenhohenau) by the Continental Coordinator for Europe
- CODALC (Latin American Sisters) website updating
- CODALC council meeting: transportation, accommodations, etc.
- Visits by the Continental Coordinator for North America to Nashville, Hawthorne, Ossining Congregations

❖ **Fiscal Year 2011**

➤ Projections for DSI Solidarity Fund Distributions

- ✓ As of 7/31/2010 the total Principal Investment as market value was \$916,684. Coordinating Council has agreed that 5% of the Market Value be distributed each year.

*Maria Fabiola Velasquez, OP (Presentation),
 Toni Harris, OP (Sinsinawa),
 Kathleen McGinn, OP (Amityville)*

Las Casas: Dominicans in Ministry with Native Americans, Inc.

Greetings during this 500th anniversary year of the arrival of the Order of Preachers in the Americas. What a rich tradition of presence and passion for truth and justice we are all reminded of this year. There have been countless facets of change for the Order of Preachers since our first arrival.

The Las Casas Board has known many facets of change over the years. You may recall that in 2005, the Las Casas Board approved and transitioned to a new focus which involved the annual granting of funds to support Dominicans in ministry with Native Americans in the United States.

Each year the Las Casas Board invites Dominicans ministering with Native Americans to apply for grant funds. The Board met in April and responded to a record number of ten grant requests. In addition, donations were sent to all Dominicans who minister with Native Americans throughout the U.S. This was an additional way for the Las Casas Board to honor and commemorate this special anniversary year.

To honor the rich storytelling tradition of Native Americans, Las Casas annually publishes a newsletter. This year it will be sent in the Fall and will share some of the stories of our Dominican sisters who were awarded grants in 2009. The newsletter is also full of helpful information. It will also be posted on our website at www.domlife.org/lascasas.

The Las Casas Board continues to evaluate the frequency and format of meetings, as well as our board structures so the majority of our service and financial resources support Dominicans ministering with Native Americans well into the future.

Our Dominican sisters and brothers in Native American ministry continue to face many challenges 500 years later as they minister with Native Americans throughout the U.S.

Thanks ~ Miggwech ~ for your generosity and prayers in supporting Dominicans as they minister with and seek justice and truth in the lives of Native Americans some 500 years later.

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

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LAS CASAS BOARD MEMBERS LEFT TO RIGHT BARBARA BOGENSCHUTZ, OP (SPRINGFIELD), CHARLOTTE REBBE, OP (SPRINGFIELD), MARILYN WINTER, OP (ADRIAN), MARY THERESE JOHNSON, OP (SINSINAWA), DIANE POPLAWSKI, OP (RACINE), EUGENE CAHOJET, OP (ST. JOSEPH), KATERI MITCHELL, SSA (SISTER OF ST. ANN).

Dominican Association of Secondary Schools (DASS)

The Dominican Association of Secondary Schools (DASS) looks forward again to a year of continued programming to assist our member schools in promoting the Dominican preaching mission.

We especially highlight our fourth Convocation of Schools which will be held from Oct. 21-23 at the Hilton Post Oak Hotel in Houston. The theme this year is "Partners in Ministry: Sustaining the Mission." Keynote speakers include Ann Willits, OP, (Dominicans, Sinsinawa), Patrick Spedale (St. Pius X High School, Houston), Dr. Carolyn Woo (Director of the Mendoza School of Business at Notre Dame University) and three of our veteran school leaders: Jane Meyer, OP (St. Agnes Academy-Houston), Barbara Daush, OPA, (St. Agnes-St. Dominic Schools in Memphis), and Dr. Cynthia Thomas (St. Mary's Dominican High School New Orleans.) We encourage congregational leaders of all our sponsoring schools to support and attend this event. Visit the dominicanschools.org website for registration information.

The third annual gathering of Theology Teachers and Campus Ministers from the Midwest area will take place on Nov. 9 at Marian Catholic High School in Chicago Heights, IL. Featured presenters include Mary McNulty, OP (Sinsinawa) and Joshua Kramer (Edgewood H.S. in Madison, WI)

Another program highlight for includes plans to bring together new and prospective administrators for a workshop focusing on their role as mission leaders in the schools. It will be in Adrian, from June 28-30, 2011.

*Pat Brady, OP (Adrian)
Executive Director*

Federation of Dominican Sisters USA

In December 2009, the Federation Coordinating Committee met to prepare for the Representatives meeting and respond to the request from DLC to select representatives of the Federation to be on the Implementation Committee for Design

#2. The Committee selected: Marie Michelle Hackett (Springfield), Rose Celeste O'Connell (Adrian) and JoAnn Timmerman (Sinsinawa)



In March 2010, the 11th and final meeting of the Federation Representatives took place at the Felician Motherhouse in Chicago centered around the theme of "Stepping Forward Together." The meeting was poignant since this would be the last meeting of the Federation of Dominican Sisters USA. The keynote speaker was Mary Ellen Green (Sinsinawa), who explored the "golden threads" that hold our lives together as Dominican Sisters. The "golden threads" of Federation history were shared and woven into the lovely visual memories provided by Pat Farrell (San Rafael). The group engaged in conversation regarding Design #2 led by Mary Ellen O'Grady and Maureen Geary. During the meeting six Federation Members volunteered to leave their name in nomination for the Executive Committee of the new entity. During evening liturgy the Federation expressed gratitude for the past and looked to the words: "See, I am doing something new!" (Isaiah 43: 19)

Ballots were sent to Federation Members May 12 to vote for 3 Members to the Dominican Sisters Conference Coordinating Committee. Elected were Michaela Connolly (Blauvelt), Mary Virginia Leach (Mission San Jose) and Rose Celeste O'Connell (Adrian).

The Federation Coordinating Committee met May 28-31 in Denver to affirm the election and to review requests from the 2009 Funding the Fires applications. Forty-nine requests were reviewed and 19 more grants totaling \$15,000 were awarded by

income interest for projects throughout the US and beyond. In addition, \$5,500 was given for the publication of the history of the Iraqi Dominican Sisters. A request was received from the DLC for funds to help begin the formation of *the new entity*. \$12,500 was given for this purpose. The Coordinating Committee also discussed future plans regarding the dissolution of the Federation, placement of the Archives, remaining funds, etc. The Coordinating Committee will meet again after the DLC meeting in October to complete these plans.

Federation Coordinating Committee
Marie Michelle Hackett, OP (Springfield)
Margaret Mary Kennedy, OP (Peace)
Rose Celeste O'Connell, OP (Adrian)
Francine Schwarzenberger, OP (Peace)
JoAnn Timmerman, OP (Sinsinawa)

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world."

MOHANDAS GANDHI

Please remember to send your latest congregation or province directory to the DSC office by November 1. Thank You

Siena Center at Dominican University

The St. Catherine of Siena Center of Dominican University enjoyed a year of record-setting growth fueled by outstanding scholarship, expanding partnerships, and zeal for Dominican mission.

Our series, *Envisioning Grace: The Sacramental Imagination in Literature and Film*, opened with Dominican theologian Sr. Kate Dooley, OP (Sinsinawa) presenting the classic Danish film *Babette's Feast*—an extraordinary artistic rendering of Eucharistic themes. The season closer celebrating St. Catherine's feast featured Dr. Colleen Carpenter Cullinan, a Sinsinawa Dominican Associate and assistant professor of theology at St. Catherine University demonstrating the power of women's writing to reframe experiences of grief in light of the resurrection. Mary Catherine Hilkert, OP (Peace) delivered the Caritas et Veritas Lecture, "What the Saints and Poets See (Maybe): Human Life as Sacrament." Hilkert wove the insights of poets and the examples of saints into a superb tapestry of Catholic theological anthropology. Thanks to a generous gift from the Federation of Dominican Sisters USA, we were able to turn this annual lecture into an opportunity for formation in Dominican mission for the lay leadership of the university.

The visits of Elizabeth Johnson, CSJ and J. Bryan Hehir, two of the country's most prominent theologians drew capacity crowds. Johnson gave the

Albertus Magnus Lecture, and graciously allowed us to print her text, "Deep Incarnation: Prepare for Astonishment." Monographs were mailed to 325 Siena Center patrons living as far away as Texas, Georgia and even Australia. U.S. Catholic carried a slightly edited version of Johnson's lecture in their April 2010 issue. Partnership with Dominican University's Center for Global Peace through Commerce and a grant from Catholic Relief Services Fair Trade Fund enabled us to invite Hehir to give the keynote for our Caritas in Veritate Symposium exploring Pope Benedict XVI's first social encyclical.

The Siena Center's Albertus Magnus Society, which explores issues related to the intersection of religion and science, sponsored Health, Healing and the Human Spirit: Religion and Science in Conversation. Richard Woods, OP (St. Albert) launched the series with a presentation on developments in neuroscience and psychophysiology which suggest new understandings of the relationship between faith and health. Daniel Sulmasy, OFM (recently appointed to the President's Commission on Bioethics) drew the largest crowd in the Society's history (152 participants) to his lecture, "Spiritual Issues in the Care of the Dying."

These are just the highlights of our truly remarkable 30 event season. You may learn more by visiting the new Siena Center wiki. From our homepage (www.dom.edu/siena) a click on "Resources" will link you to recordings of many of our lectures, as well as resources for further study of lecture themes.

LOOKING AHEAD

We began our exploration of this year's theme From Generation to Generation on September 15 with award-winning religion writer Cathleen Falsani reflecting on the possibilities of "Finding Sacred Space in Cyberspace." Our Albertus Magnus Society's series on Biomedical Ethics: Emerging Questions began September 23, with esteemed Dominican ethicist Kevin O'Rourke, OP (St. Albert) discussing legal and moral issues associated with end of life care. We were honored to host Timothy Radcliffe, OP on September 30 for the Caritas et Veritas Lecture. And many extraordinary evenings of scholarship, faith and community are still to come!

Claire Noonan
Director



SR. ELIZABETH JOHNSON, CSJ, DELIVERS HER ALBERTUS MAGNUS LECTURE.



Dominican High Schools Preaching Conference

The 12th Annual Dominican High Schools Preaching conference was held June 26 – July 1, 2010 at Siena Heights University. Twenty-two high schools participated for a total of 98 students along with Dominican Sisters of Adrian, Amityville, Caldwell, Grand Rapids, Houston, Mission San Jose, Peace, San Rafael, Sinsinawa, Sparkhill, Springfield, and St. Catherine of Mosul, and the Friars of St. Albert the Great and St. Martin de Porres provinces.

The St. Dominic Award was presented to first-year preaching conference attendee Casey Lefante for her continued commitment to the ideals of the Dominican Order and deep desire to preach the gospel in and through her life. After graduating from St. Mary's Dominican High School, New Orleans, Louisiana, Casey attended Tulane University and received her bachelor's degree in English. That following November, she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. "What I know now and what I think I have always [known] to some extent, is that it was only through intense questioning that I truly found the answer: that God's presence and love have no expiration date... and he (God) was there during recovery, a recovery that was largely made possible by the support of my Dominican community, both local and nationwide," she said.

Casey went on to say, "I never would have guessed in 1999 that 'cancer survivor' would be one of my modes of preaching... By the fall of 2005, I'd successfully entered remission... But a week after starting graduate work, Hurricane Katrina hit the city I'd lived in and loved for more than half my life. It was during this second uprooting that I reconnected with Jason Calvi, one of my fellow Dominican Preaching Conference preachers. Jason sent prayers and well-wishes from Illinois, where he'd started a career as a local news anchor. Although we hadn't seen each other or really spoken to each other in years, the common experience of being Dominican preachers kept us connected in a very real and positive way."

Casey currently teaches at her alma mater,

St. Mary's Dominican High School. "My hope for Dominican's future is that these young ladies will come to discover what I have: that the journey of preaching God's work starts now, and it doesn't end with high school. It doesn't end with college or personal illness or a catastrophic act of nature. These are the moments when preaching rises to its utmost importance, when those of us called to be preachers must stand tall and do our work."

The conference continues to grow and be an essential element in supporting the Dominican identity at the schools and supplementing programming that strengthens the campus ministry and religion departments.

Candidates, novices and temporary professed are always welcome to experience the conference. If anyone is interested in presenting or participating in the 13th Annual Conference, June 25-30, 2011, please contact Mary Soher, Conference Director, at ophs@adriandominicans.org.

*Mary Soher, OP (Adrain)
Conference Director*

**Mary Sue Kennedy, OP (Adrian)
Executive Director
Dominican Sisters Conference
1515 West Ogden Ave
LaGrange Park, IL 60526
(708) 482-5033
sisters@domlife.org**



National College Preaching Conference

National College Preaching Conference

The Eighth National "Preaching in Action" Conference for college students was held at Dominican College in Blauvelt, New York. Once again, these young people came together to learn about the Dominican charism of preaching, and how that charism can be incorporated into their own lives. Students who had previously been participants of the conference and are now members of Dominican Young Adults USA came back as adult mentors for their respective schools. The transfer of leadership from adult mentors to Dominican Young Adult mentors was wonderful to see. It was what had been dreamed about, put into action.

A plethora of talented Dominicans graced the conference participants with their wisdom and giftedness. They spent a good part of a day at the UN; a day in immersion sites ministering to the poor of the area; one night participating in a "Midnight Run." where they made sandwiches, collected clothes, toiletries, etc. and went by van, with adult supervision, to the sections of the city where the homeless are. And this year for the first time we added time for "Theological Reflection." There was a wonderful sharing of stories, people, reactions, fears, attitudes, and underlying issues. Many of the students felt the experience mirrored organizations in their own home towns and made commitments to get more involved with their communities.

The week's presentations concluded by awakening the participants to "the Art of Preaching" where students are given to use their creative energies for the preaching. The closing liturgy was a moving witness to each student making a commitment to continuing the "Holy Preaching." Each then received the Dominican Cross and were commissioned to go forth and preach the "Good News" to their fellow students.

It was a jam-packed week, full of opportunities for study, community, prayer and mission/preaching. Upon leaving, these young people feel part of our Dominican Family and will forever be connected. The dates for next year's National College Preaching Conference will be held at Dominican University, River Forest during the week of May 24-29, 2011.

Virginia Fleming, OP (Amityville)
Director

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Center for Dominican Studies at Ohio Dominican University

Ohio Dominican's University community celebrated The Center for Dominican Studies Fifth Year Anniversary on August 31, 2009. Over the first five years, programs have enriched both the internal and external community by providing a wide variety of programs designed to highlight the dynamic interchange between the promotion of the intellectual life in the pursuit of truth and a commitment to the common good. Major Programs available during the 2009-2010 academic year featured noted speakers including John Dear, SJ; Patricia Siemen, OP, J.D.; Dave Caron, OP, D. Min.; Barbara E. Wall, Ph.D.; Helen Cahill, OP, D. Min.; Rev. Paul J. Philibert, OP, Ph.D.; Juliana D'Amato, OP, Ph.D.; as well as Truth Seekers Luncheon Panels featuring both faculty and local professionals from the area community. On October 3, 2009 a Sacred Music Concert: I do Believe featuring Tatiana Cameron (Tajci) was held in the campus chapel drawing over 125 participants. Ongoing employee orientation programs as well as time for informal conversations during lent and advent enhanced the ongoing spiritual development of the community.

Preparations for the Centennial celebration of the university began by launching a new Heritage space as an extension of The Center for Dominican Studies. The theme of the Centennial - A Century of Transforming Lives has brought new energy and excitement to the campus. For further information regarding all programs visit The Center for Dominican Studies web site.

Catherine Colby, OP (Peace)
Director

"Continuity gives us roots; change gives us branches, letting us stretch and grow and reach new heights."

PAULINE R. KEZER



Dominican Associates

The Dominican Associate Directors from the Congregations of Adrian, Amityville, Blauvelt, Caldwell, Catherine de Ricci, Grand Rapids, Hope, Houston, Peace, Racine, Sinsinawa, Sparkill, and Springfield are invited to attend the Associate Directors meeting annually. In keeping with the theme of the DLC Annual Report, "Facets of Change," the Associate organization of these congregations share their stories of growth and change.

A vivid example of growth is what is happening in the newly formed Associate program started by the Houston Dominican Sisters. This year 51 men and women have made their commitment for one year after two years of formation in the Dominican Charism. There are 42 candidates beginning their second year of formation. As Sister Carol Mayes, Prioress of the Houston Dominicans, states "it's an exciting time here in Texas."

All the directors at last year's meeting feel that a major change in the way they communicate now is through the Internet. For many of the congregations their Associates are scattered throughout the U.S. A prime example is with the newly formed Sisters of Peace where seven congregations are now one. They along with other congregations ministering in various states have formed cluster groups by region with mentoring teams for study and orientation.

In the Northeast region, Associate organizations of the five congregations hold days of prayer and an annual retreat for their Associates to keep within the spirit of committed collaboration of the Northeast Congregations.

At last year's meeting we invited two speakers, Michael Kammler, OP, Promoter General of the Dominican laity and Anthony Butler, Executive Director of the Dominican Volunteers, USA. The emphasis of our meeting was to better understand the role of other lay Dominican organizations.

Father Kammler referred to the Dominican Laity as truly a part of the Dominican family. He emphasized that all Dominican lay organizations are part of the worldwide Dominican

Family who are commissioned by St. Dominic to "go preach." He gave a breakdown on the structure of the order in our time.

- 3,000 contemplative nuns in 240

congregations

- 6,000 friars in 100 countries
- 27,000 apostolic sisters in 170 congregations
- 44,000 members of lay chapters
- 20,000 associates of sisters'

congregations

- 200,000 total Dominican men and women

worldwide

Anthony Butler explained that the DVUSA began in 2000 as a collaborative project of the Central and Southern provinces of the Dominican men and US congregations of Dominican women. The ministry sites have expanded throughout the US. Young college graduates volunteer for at least one year to live and work within the religious community and share in various ministries of the congregation.

This years meeting, which will be held in Adrian, will continue to investigate the role of the other lay organization in living the charism of Dominic by preaching the Gospel. Gina Fleming, OP (Amityville), Promoter of Youth, will speak about the High School and College preaching teams.

*Mary Jane Ryan (Amityville Associate)
Associate Coordinating Director*

Mark Your Calendars

*Dominican Sisters
Conference
Leadership Meeting
September 30 –
October 3, 2011
Springfield, IL*



Related Organizations

McGreal Center for Dominican Historical Studies

The McGreal Center is just one facet of change initiated by the Dominican Leadership Conference. In 2006 it became apparent that change was necessary for the development and expansion of Project OPUS. The DLC formed a partnership with Dominican University and the Mary Nona McGreal Center for Dominican Historical Studies came into existence.

Under the direction of Grant Gerlich, the McGreal Archivist, undergraduate and graduate students and numerous volunteers work to preserve and organize materials that document the history of the U.S. Dominican Family. The McGreal Center's Advisory Board Anna Donnelly, Lois Hoh, OP, Suzanne Noffke, OP, Jill O'Brien, Mary Ellen O'Grady, OP, Liesl Orenic and David Wright, OP gives sage advice and direction for Project OPUS and the Center.

2009-2010 offered abundant opportunities to promote the McGreal Center's ministry. Our website was launched in the fall of 09; Albert Judy, OP, (Central Province) serves as web manager. Dominican University's Office of Marketing and Communications designed a beautiful McGreal Center brochure.

We welcomed various visitors. Sisters spent sabbatical time at the center; researchers used the Parable Collection for their study. Eight Maryknoll sisters learned about their Dominican roots. The Dominican Alliance Pilgrimage began at the McGreal Center. The pilgrims numbered 25 sisters representing 6 of the 7 Alliance congregations.

I was a visitor too! I gave a presentation about Project OPUS and the McGreal Center to 25 officers of the Provincial Council of the Fraternities of St. Dominic, St. Joseph Province. Visits to Corpus Christi Monastery in the Bronx and the archives of Amityville, Blauvelt and Sparkill increased my awareness about Dominican history in the East.

Two highlights marked the summer of 2010: In Our Keeping Conference: Keeping and Telling the Dominican Story – Our Gift for the 21st Century and the Volume II Editors' meeting. The generosity of Anna Donnelly, laity of the Eastern Province and the Sisters of Sinsinawa made the Conference a reality. The planning committee, Marilyn Francoeur (Adrian), Rose Marie Martin (Grand Rapids), Cecilia Murray (Hope), Mary Ellen O'Grady (Sinsinawa) and David Wright (Central Province) fashioned an outstanding program. Participants represented 11 congregations: Adrian, Amityville, Blauvelt, Catherine De Ricci, Hope, Mission San Jose, Peace, Racine, Sinsinawa, Springfield and Tacoma. Central Province Friars attended as well as laity from the Eastern and Central Provinces and Adrian, Sinsinawa and Springfield associates. Participants traveled from coast to coast and from Argentina and Norway!

Suzanne Noffke's address: "Doing History as "Sacramental Remembrance" marveled everyone; Kathleen Sprows Cummings, University of Notre Dame, offered an engaging presentation: "Changing History: Catholic Sisters and the American Church," and we 'skyped' Barbara Beaumont, OP in Fanjeaux! Beautiful prayer and excellent workshops filled our days. We concluded with an inspirational panel composed of young Dominicans, representing the laity, nuns, sisters and friars; they expressed their hope filled vision for the future of Dominican life.

Editors for Volume II of our history, Patty Dougherty (San Rafael), Susan Karina Dickey (Springfield), Tom McGonigle (Central Province), Doris Rauenhorst (Sinsinawa), and Carl Trutter (Southern Province) gathered for a profitable meeting. Jill O'Brien, (Central Province laity) facilitated the sessions. We hope to publish online the chapter on the South next year!

At this time of change, all of us at the McGreal Center express our profound gratitude to the DLC and especially to Mary Ellen O'Grady, OP. Mary Ellen's entrepreneurial skills, encouraging support and good humor fostered a firm foundation for the McGreal Center!

*Janet Welsh, OP
Director*

Mary Nona McGreal, OP Center for Dominican Historical Studies

Promoters of Preaching

The 2010 national Promoters of Preaching meeting took place August 13-15 at Weber Center in Adrian MI. Eleven people attended, representing seven congregations (Peace, Caldwell, Grand Rapids, Adrian, San Rafael, Sinsinawa, Springfield), one province (Southern), and the laity (St. Albert the Great). This was the first national meeting to occur since 2008.

The purpose of the meeting was: 1) to share best practices on promoting preaching; 2) to support and encourage each other in our roles as promoters of preaching; 3) update ourselves through discussion of an article/book or presentation and 4) to collaborate on ways to promote our charism of preaching. Joan Delaplaine, OP presented "The Spirituality of the Preacher" on Saturday morning.

One of the outcomes of the meeting was to review the history of the Promoters of Preaching and significant developments in preaching, i.e., the Catholic Coalition on Preaching, Aquinas Institute's Doctor of Ministry in Preaching, and the international Preaching Commission.

Future work by the Promoters of Preaching will focus on strengthening our preaching presence on the Internet by development of a central site for preaching resources as well creation of a template for all congregations/provinces to post on websites. Promoters will be developing a list of issues/concerns critical for preaching and distributing it.

Jeanne Wiest's (Adrian) term as national convener ended. Judith Green (Central Province Laity) has agreed to be a co-convener along with Elyse Ramirez (Springfield). The next national meeting is scheduled for June 2011.



Promoters of Preaching: Left to Right: Jude Sciliano (St. Martin DePorres), Jeanne Wiest (Adrian), Honora Werner (Caldwell), Brigid Clingman (Grand Rapids), Judy Green (St. Albert Laity), Elyse Ramirez (Springfield), Patti Bruno (San Rafael), Marian Castelluccio (Adrian), Laura Dejmek (St. Albert Laity), Mary Margaret Pzdan (Sinsinawa, and Mary Ann Wiesemann-Mills (Peace).

North American Dominican Justice Promoters/ Iraq Coordinating Committee

The North American Dominican Justice Promoters has had a few shifts in the past year. Several Justice Promoters completed their work due to the new union of the Dominican Sisters of Peace and the Dominican Laity of the West have become quite active as has other chapters of the laity. Of course with shifts comes increased diversity of thought and this has called for a significant amount of dialogue.

The most active Continuum of Actions has been the Nuclear Disarmament, Immigration, Palestine/Israel committee and the Iraq Coordinating Committee. Several Dominicans participated in the large demonstration on Nuclear weapons in the spring in New York, the Palestinian committee has issued numerous action alerts, and the immigration committee has had two conference calls throughout the year, there is hope that the US will begin to have legislation to more intentionally.

The Iraq Coordinating Committee this year presented two webinars as a different approach to updating information on Iraq; one in April and another in June. These were met with some success. The attendees were from all over the world and around 150 different sites longed on some with multiple persons watching. Implementing the use of technology is another way to inform and make participation more feasible and no travel involved. The use of facebook, especially the new Dominican Net Facebook Account contributed to increased viewing.

The election of a New North American Co Promoter for Justice will take place this Fall. The New term begins May 2011. We encourage all justice promoters and members of the Dominican Leadership to nominate someone for this significant role. Job description and Nomination forms can be secured from Durstyn Farnan, OP at dfarnan@adriandominicans.org. Nominations are due November 9th. The forms will also be on Domlife.org.

*Fr. Chuck Dahm, OP and
Durstyn Farnan, OP*

Dominican Alliance

The Dominican Alliance has experienced Facets of Change in a dramatic way this year as we have transitioned from a membership of 13 Congregations of Dominican Sisters to seven Congregations. This change is the result of the historic reconfiguration of seven Congregations in April 2009 when they became the Dominican Sisters of Peace.



With fewer members the dynamic of our meetings has changed to allow for more personal interaction and a greater sense of community. We have moved from two weekend meetings a year and a half-day meeting in conjunction with the DLC event to one weekend meeting and a day and a half in the fall. We have refined and, in some cases, redefined our goals and action steps. The committee structure is still in place, but more streamlined than before. The question always before us is this: What is this group called to do that cannot be done by another Dominican entity? How can we involve our members who are not in elected leadership?

A project that assisted in bringing together many Sisters from the Dominican Alliance was a Pilgrimage that took place June 23-July 2. Twenty-five Sisters from six Congregations toured the motherhouses of Racine, Sinsinawa, Springfield, and Grand Rapids. We also visited The McGreal Center in River Forest where Sr. Janet Welsh oriented the group with an overview of the history of the Alliance Congregations. This was reinforced at each venue as the motherhouse communities shared with us their archives, their local ministries, their liturgy, and their personal welcome. There is a thirst for more, a sign of a successful experience! Where will it lead?

Dominican Alliance Executive Committee
Naphalie Myer, OP (Grand Rapids)
Mary Ellen Green, OP (Sinsinawa)
Sharon Simon OP (Racine)



Mary Charmaine Kribs, OP (Springfield) becomes acquainted with one of the llamas at Jubilee Farm near Springfield.

Dominican Young Adults (DYA), USA

The 3rd National meeting of DYA USA was held this summer. During the weekend, they set goals, planned events for the upcoming year, shared their love of the Dominican charism, prayed together and just enjoyed each other's company.

This gathering of young adults, representing chapters throughout the United States, was a chance for the group to discuss successes from the past two years and make suggestions for meeting the challenges associated with such a young organization.

Some of the challenges they face are: 1) DYA chapters were based around the colleges and universities, but many members have now graduated. How can we keep those members, still attract the young adults who are attending colleges/universities and yet attract other young adults from parishes and other venues? 2) the need to develop better formation materials for new members and chapters, as well as raise awareness of DYA to other places where the Dominican Family is present. 3) to create national projects that would involve the simultaneous participation of all of our chapters (on their local level), promoting solidarity and unity in the organization. And 4) To restructure the DYA board.

In true Dominican fashion, they prayed, discussed, and debated the tenets of the proposal then voted on the new structure. The new structure now consists of four young adults mentored by four members from the other entities that make up the Order (friars, sisters, associates, laity, etc.)

During the weekend, several Dominicans offered valuable input and material that supported our work. Overall, it offered valuable time to re-evaluate the present workings of DYA, revitalize the passion of the four pillars and the Dominican charism, and plant new and interesting seeds of thought that will help DYA grow and blossom in its mission to build the Kingdom of God. National Coordinator Andrew Vivian (Wisconsin) summed up the experience by saying: "The members showed commitment and dedication by coming back in 2010 to look at the strengths and weaknesses of the current system and, in moving forward, have renewed hope for the future of DYA." For more information, visit www.dya-usa.org.

Virginia Fleming, OP (Amityville)
Director

