

**THE BISHOP JOHN S. CUMMINS INSTITUTE
FOR CATHOLIC THOUGHT, CULTURE AND ACTION**

Saint Mary's College of California

**Meeting: Tuesday, 9 October 2007
MINUTES**

Present: Chair, Brother Donald Mansir, FSC; Kara Boatman, Jane Camarillo, Megan Colla, Bishop John Cummins, Alexis Doval, David Gentry-Akin, Scott Kier, Connor McNeil, Ron Olowin, Jennifer Pigza, Brother Michael Sanderl, FSC, Sharon Sobotta, Carole Swain, Frances Sweeney, Darcy Tarbell.
Absent with notice: Brother Charles Hilken, FSC, Ted Tsukahara, Steve Woolpert.

Brother Donald opened the meeting at 3:00pm.
Carole Swain led the members in an opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes

The September minutes were approved. [16 – 0 – 0]

Mission and Ministry

Brother Michael Sanderl, FSC, Dean of Mission and Ministry, completed his information presentation, noting the positions that are available. Members were asked to refer potential candidates for these positions to Brother Michael.

Finance Committee Report

Scott Kier informed the members of the Finance Committee meeting at which the Committee reviewed the request from Mission and Ministry in the amount of \$1,000 to support the attendance by students at the Huether workshop. The Committee noted the impressive essays from the students and appreciated the inclusion of students in the application process. While this is a second request for this event, the Committee recommended granting the request in order to support the new Mission and Ministry Center. The Committee asked Brother Michael to report back to the Institute on the students' experience and how they will contribute to the campus community after the workshop. There was no other business to report.

Events Committee Report

David Gentry-Akin distributed the minutes of the Committee's 8 October meeting at which several items were discussed. After lengthy discussion on each of the items and the recommendation from the Chair that each event have its own ad hoc committee, the Institute members agreed:

1. To sponsor a Fall event: "Fellow in Catholic Thought Lecture."
The date would be sometime in October 2008.
Estimated Cost: \$ 6 – 8,000
Lecturers: Morey & Pidiert
Ad hoc committee: Carole Swain, Sally Jamison, Jennifer Pigza, David Gentry-Akin.
2. To sponsor a Spring event: "Sedes Sapientiae Award and Lecture"
The date to be determined for sometime in Spring 2009.
Estimated Cost: \$ 7,000.
Award to be determined [medal, plaque, stipend, etc.]
Person to be determined.
Ad hoc committee; Norrie Palmer, Ron Olowin, Brother Donald Mansir, FSC, David Gentry-Akin.
3. To sponsor a lecture by Father James Heft on 7/8 March 2008. This event would effectively replace the summer Catholic intellectual tradition workshop.
Estimated Cost: \$ 5,000
Ad hoc committee: David Gentry-Akin, Kara Boatman, Carole Swain.
4. To pursue the idea for a National Workshop on Catholic Education to be conducted by Morey & Pidiret. David Gentry-Akin will complete his information gathering. Morey & Pidiret will absorb the costs, though the Cummins Institute might underwrite SMC participants and/or provide funds for publicity.
Ad hoc committee: David Gentry-Akin, Brother Donald Mansir, FSC

[Motion by Norrie Palmer : 15 – 0 – 0]

Chair's Meeting with the President and the Provost

Brother Donald reported that his meeting with Brother Ronald Gallagher, FSC and Sally Stampf was very positive, with the President and Provost sending their congratulations and appreciation to the members for their work to promote the Catholicity of the College. They asked that the members focus their attention this year on efforts to increase the engagement of the various constituencies represented on the Board and to identify ways to develop the sacramental life on campus.

The members discussed both of these topics in light of Father Tom McElligott's presentation at the September meeting. Kara Boatman noted the difficulty in discussing some of the matters regarding the promotion of the College's Catholic identity with colleagues since there has not been sufficient preparation/education provided. Norrie Palmer exhorted the group not to shy away from being Catholic, nor from promoting the [big "S"] sacramental life on campus. In a pluralistic society, soft stands are not really helpful.

The group agreed to continue the discussion with Brother Ronald who will attend the November meeting to discuss particular goals gleaned from the "Building on Strengths" strategic plan.

Finally, the President and Provost suggest that the Board consider an additional position on the Board, a representative from Advancement.

Guest Speaker

David Gentry-Akin informed the members that Father Contadino who is attending GTU had offered to speak to the Board at a regular meeting about his work to promote the Catholic identity of a Catholic institution of higher education. The members welcomed the idea. David and Brother Donald will make arrangements.

Brother Donald adjourned the meeting at 4:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brother Donald Mansir, FSC
Chair