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

Saint Mary’s College of California

Meeting, May 8, 2012

Present: Bishop John Cummins, Seefurth Chair; Brother Charles Hilken, FSC, Chair; Sally Jamison, Administrative Assistant; Molly Allen, Jane Camarillo, Richard Carp, David Gentry-Akin, Scott Kier, Marie Lawler, Sue Marston, Brother Martin Yribarren, Marshall Welch, Joe Zepeda

Opening Prayer: Brother Charles led the members in an opening prayer, Wonder, Awe and Reverance.

Discussion: Members then discussed Brother Jeffrey Gros’ paper, “Building Communion in Mind and Heart: The Ecclesial Vocation of the Religious Sponsored University”.

Minutes: The minutes were read, corrected and approved.

Chair’s Report: Brother Charles reminded the membership of the farewell/thank you gathering tomorrow (May 9) for Marie Lawler.

Brother Charles distributed a questionnaire regarding membership for the governing board. It was requested that a membership list be sent to everyone on the board, along with membership materials to be completed. This will facilitate filling any vacancies for the coming year.

This led to a discussion about the role of the Cummins Institute on campus. The question was asked as to how the Institute serves the Catholic identity of the College. Is the current membership list the correct mix for this role? Brother Charles suggested that the membership take stock of what and who we are. Scott suggested that a membership retreat could focus on where the Cummins
Institute is now, has been and where it is going. Molly commented that there could be more students at the table. She also asked how the information and activities coming out of the Institute could be shared with the campus constituencies, such as student body, Mission and Ministry, CILSA, and/or the Diversity Club. Scott added that we should include Brother Ronald and Beth Dobkin in a retreat. Possible times for a retreat were discussed. No date was determined, but the end of January 2013 seemed like the best date to explore since it would give us enough time to settle into the academic year and would allow for as many members as possible to attend.

**Finance Report:** Scott reported that finances are on track for the 2012-2013 academic year.

**Report on Resilience Working Committee:**
Marshall gave an update on the future of the Sustainability Committee. He emphasized that the students are “tied into” the concept of green. Any concrete theological implication has not been considered in activities of sustainability (or, better, 'resilience') and the students. There will be further exploration this summer as to the future and focus of the committee. Marshall will not serve on the committee in the future.

**Brother Charles adjourned the meeting at 4:45. Meetings will reconvene in September.**