Bishop John S. Cummins Institute for Catholic Thought, Culture and Action

Meeting: Tuesday, November 8, 2011

MINUTES

Present: Bishop John S. Cummins, Brother Charles Hilken, FSC, Chair; Kara Boatman, Jane Camarillo, Richard Carp, David Gentry-Akin, Scott Kier, Marie Lawler, Sue Marston, Damaris Neilsen, Carole Swain, Ted Tsukahara, Marshall Welch, Roy Wensley, Brother Martin Yribarren, FSC, Sally Jamison, Administrative Assistant

Jane Camarillo led the group in an opening prayer.

Members discussed Chapter Four of Donna Orsuto’s book, Holiness. Brother Charles will provide minutes of the discussion for members to read and offer corrections.

The Board will discuss Chapter Five of Holiness at the December meeting.

Ted Tsukahara gave a synopsis of the Annual Report on the Henning Institute. He also reminded members of the talk by Bishop Richard Garcia, Bishop of Monterey, on Wednesday, November 30th at 3 pm in the Chapel. The talk, focusing on the work of the Bishop in Monterey, will be followed by a Mass. Ted also reported on a planned meeting with Bishop Cordileone to discuss the convention facilities at the Oakland Cathedral re a day-long discussion about Catholic social teaching and economic policies on May 29, 2013. The Henning Institute recently hosted a talk by Father William O’Neill, which could possibly be an article for Veritas.

New Business: An exploration of questions by Richard Carp. He commended a book entitled “Resilience Thinking” [ebook by Brian Walker, Island Press, 2006]. There is also Tobias Winright, Green discipleship: Catholic Theological Ethics and the Environment (Winona, MN: 2011) and Blessed John Paul II, Creation as a Fundamental and Original Gift. In short, sustainability is the ability of a self organizing system to stay whole. How can we sponsor a sustaining, ongoing activity that brings these concerns out of the Catholic intellectual tradition? Members reiterated that there is a sustainability committee on our campus. The timing appears to be good to pursue these questions. What could the Catholic voice add to the conversation? It was suggested that there should be a collection of books that could relate to the subject.
Chair’s Report:
Members are invited to hear music in the life of landscape artist William Keith, tomorrow, Wednesday, November 9 in the Chapel.

Brother Charles announced that there is currently a transcriber working on the Montini Fellow, Dick Yanikowski, lecture. This will be sent to Dr. Yanikowski to edit for our next publication of Veritas.

Update on Montini Fellowship of 2012: waiting for draft of letter to return confirming Cardinal Marcelo Sanchez-Sorondo.

Successful outcome to sponsored events:
   Immaculee Ilibagiza
   Blue Mass

Mention of two articles that could be read by members, at their leisure:


Bishop John reported on the 50th anniversary of the Diocese and the events planned around the year. Events include Mass on August 22, 2012 at the Oakland Cathedral, Feast of the Epiphany in 2013.

Finance Report:
Scott Kier distributed the Finance Report for member review. The Finance Committee considered one Application for Assistance from the Henning Institute for a concert by Coro Hispano de San Francisco. The monies for this assistance ($3000) will be taken from the $5000 annual allocation to Henning. Coro Hispano will perform on January 6, 2012 in the Chapel.

Rome IALU Report: Roy Wensley reported on his experience at the IALU meeting in Rome, June 2011. Roy reflected on the different cultures represented and the opportunity to connect with other Lasallian universities. He pointed out that SMC is unique in its liberal arts tradition.

Catholic Intellectual Tradition conversation: Carole Swain reported on the first conversation with new faculty, Brother Donald Mansir, Brother Charles and Carole which took place in September. She proposed that
another opportunity be offered from the Office of Mission and Faculty Development in the Spring, 2012 to resurrect this conversation with new faculty, including Cummins Board members.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m. with good wishes for Thanksgiving from Brother Charles.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011.