

## Conversations on Jesuit Higher Education

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### For Openers: Ave Atque Vale

Editorial Board

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## Ave atque Vale

*With this issue the National Seminar on Jesuit Higher Education welcomes a new secretary, Rev. Terrence Toland, S.J. and bids farewell to Rev. Martin D. O'Keefe, S.J., secretary of the seminar for the last eight years. Fr. Toland will be organizing and coordinating the seminar's thrice-yearly meetings from the University of Scranton, where he is special assistant to the president. To Fr. O'Keefe, we say "ave atque vale": "Hail and farewell!". A skilled organizer, gifted Latinist, and discriminating diner. We'll miss you, Marty.*

This issue of *Conversations* is meant as a follow-up to issue #12 (fall, 1997), titled "Hiring for Mission." The seminar thought it appropriate to revisit a major theme after three years, offering new opportunities for reflection to those who, having embarked on the fostering of mission in our institutions, are now seeking in a variety of ways to live that mission out.

Joseph Appleyard, S.J. and Howard Gray, S.J. provide an historical overview of mission and identity conversations and institutional efforts, from 1967 to the present. They offer their own analysis and end with a number of suggestions for "living the mission." Professor Merold Westphal's address at Hope College offers a number of points for reflection on the relation between humanism and the realization of mission. In the first of two institutional perspectives, Professor Ronald Modras relates the tradition of Jesuit humanism to the efforts

underway at Saint Louis University. Larry Singer provides a perspective on "sponsorship," the name currently being used to describe religious communities' relationship to various health care ministries.

In the first of three faculty perspectives, Professor Lille Albert reflects on the change in the way she views her vocation as a teacher of teachers, in the light of the mission of Boston College. Professor Joanna Ziegler's essay describes how she has sought to incorporate aspects of mission in an art course for undergraduates at the College of the Holy Cross. Finally, Fr. Thomas, S.J., an assistant professor of history at Seattle University, discusses how he has come to see the relation of his vocation and the mission of Seattle University during a first year teaching there.

The National Seminar continues to solicit responses to individual articles and whole issues of *Conversations*. We plan to re-institute "Letters to the Editor" in future issues. Please send letters or inquiries about future issues to Ed Block: e-mail Block5336@cs.com.

The Seminar is also interested in hearing about ways in which readers make use of *Conversations* on their respective campuses. We plan to include a column, "Best Practices," for the benefit of colleagues who are looking for new ways to put the magazine to good use in conversations about mission and identity.