Editorial

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Milestones

This tenth issue of Jesuit Higher Education (JHE) marks the culmination of five years of development, growth, reflection, experimentation, and most importantly, sharing our respective and collective experience and learning in this remarkable enterprise. With Volume 5, Number 2, JHE has published 36 scholarship articles, 64 praxis articles, 12 reflections, 14 resources features, and 3 perspectives features (the latter a relatively recent addition to the lineup). Article downloads range from a few to hundreds and even thousands for the top-rated items. Open access provides global availability for those with access to a computer, a device, or smart phone and internet connectivity. Online delivery allows the Journal to offer high-quality images, video and audio links, and searchable, hyperlinked resources in addition to scholarly research, thoughtful reflections, and practical applications.

Hosted at Regis University, we have benefited not only from a dedicated core of editors, reviewers, and an amazing production team; we also have early access to the teaching and scholarship efforts of faculty, administrators, and staff. Happily, colleagues from many of our sister Jesuit universities have added their support, both in submitting articles for publication and in providing editorial, review, and creative support. Our immense gratitude to everyone who has contributed to this good work!

In this issue

Fr. Peter Balleis, S.J., a finalist for the 2016 Opus Prize, reflects on the origin and growth of the Jesuit Commons: Higher Education at the Margins project from a pilot project serving two African refugee camps to its latest incarnation as Jesuit Worldwide Learning. Balleis has taken leadership of this burgeoning project following the retirement of founding director Dr. Mary MacFarlane. The Opus Prize (www.opusprize.org) is an annual faith-based humanitarian award, recognizing leaders and their organizations for developing creative solutions to some of the world’s most pressing problems. The prize is awarded in partnership with a Catholic university in the United States. Creighton University is hosting the 2016 Opus Award events, and Regis University will host the 2017 Opus Award events.

A brief scholarly article by Drew Roberts and Desiree Zerquera examines the continuing challenge of access and affordability in Jesuit universities, and it serves as the opening piece for a series to come in future editions of JHE. Future articles will not only delve more deeply into these perennial challenges, but also share encouraging examples of creative responses to the call.

Experience, reflection, and assessment run deep in this issue. The “Reflective Examen” presented in the article “Are We Fulfilling the Jesuit Mission?” taps the perspectives of faculty, staff, and administrative roles within the university. A pair of stories from the National Jesuit Student Leadership Conference both show, in images and
a video, and tell about experiential learning beyond the classroom. Jenny Nordman describes a Service Learning project in Literacy, and Richard Stackman and Kimberly Connor detail the “Management Exercises” incorporated into the University of San Francisco MBA program. Anna Floyd’s unexpected insights into “Holding Space” integrate professional training with classroom teaching as well as learning.

And more…. We welcome you into another wide-ranging exploration of the spirit and practice that make our higher education Jesuit.