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Editorial

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Editorial

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Many of the articles presented in this issue of Jesuit Higher Education share a theme of challenge and response. It’s unintentional; unlike the past two issues, there is no special collection of related articles—although one of these articles does link back to the Fides et Ratio collection published in Fall 2017.

Unintentional, certainly more pronounced in some articles, less so in others; and perhaps subtler than anything that fully deserves to be called a “theme.” Unintentional as a deliberate editorial directive, yet perhaps more deeply intentional as we explore the foundations, shape, and practice of Jesuit higher education in these pages.

A commencement speech—somewhat by definition—is an opportunity to celebrate accomplishments and a call to action. Fr. Massingale’s speech to this year’s Regis University graduates calls them to find and act on their passion and reminds us all that “there is always a cost for acting out of your truest, deepest self.” The cost of standing with and for others and of being “other-ed” is explored more deeply in Kabadi’s autoethnography, “Shadowed by the Veil of the Colorline.” The book review of Undocumented and in College invites us into “a deeper understanding of the DACA problem and its effect on young students.”

The challenges abound. Yet in these pages we also see evidence of thoughtful and effective responses. The descriptions of “Bringing Emotional Intelligence to the Jesuit Business Academy” and “Integrating a Spiritual Care Model within an Accelerated Nursing Curriculum” are just two of these. We invite you to read this issue cover-to-cover and find inspiration as well as practical examples of responsive action.

Ashley’s exploration of “The University as an Instrument of Mercy” shapes our perspective on current crises with the Ignatian lens of the Spiritual Exercises. He asserts: “The modern university is and should be diverse, pluralistic, and open to conversation and debate by its various participants and stakeholders, even regarding its own most fundamental principles.”

We hope that this issue of Jesuit Higher Education energizes that conversation and helps to transform words into hope and hope into action. We invite you to share your challenges and your teaching, research, and administrative responses in future issues of Jesuit Higher Education.