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Editorial

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Editorial

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In this issue we are excited to introduce a new series of articles on Ignatian Pedagogy for Sustainability. In a 1973 speech in Valencia, Spain, Superior General Pedro Arrupe, S.J. urged Jesuit school alumni meeting to read “the signs of the times” when discerning how to use their education to serve others and pursue justice.¹ In recent days, the United Nations’ Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services released a report summary about the accelerating threats to biodiversity—up to one million species could become extinct in the next ten years. And, building upon Pope Francis’s 2015 encyclical letter on the environment, *Laudato Si’*, the Society of Jesus in early 2019 published a new set of four Universal Apostolic Preferences for the next ten years, one of which is to “collaborate in the care of our Common Home,” the earth. Clearly, one of the major signs of our times is the environmental crisis, which Jesuit universities seek to address with the best of our academic, civic, and spiritual resources.

With the publication of this series, we offer resources to apply Ignatian pedagogy to transformative education for sustainability. Authors James Leighter and Kathleen Smythe introduce us to the Ignatian Pedagogy for Sustainability (IPS), developed by faculty from various Jesuit universities in the United States. Their article lays out the vision and major themes of IPS. Two additional articles, one by Smythe and the other by Leighter and John O’Keefe, present how this pedagogy is practiced in specific courses at Xavier and Creighton Universities, respectively. We invite discussion, collaboration, and future

publication of resources to help Jesuit universities address this urgent sign of our times.

Other articles in this issue take up transitions in career journeys: Mark Slatter interprets writing a dissertation as a spiritual *camino*, a journey of both challenge and spiritual opportunity. Four “seasoned clinicians” and one-time “academic novices” (SCANs) from physical therapy, occupational therapy, and pharmacy—Amy Rich, Shelene Thomas, Suzanne Holm, and Christine Feltman—offer their reflection, insight, and curriculum to assist other SCANs transitioning to Jesuit higher education.

And finally, one of us is experiencing her own academic transition, retiring from the editorship of *Jesuit Higher Education*. Janet Lee, who has served a five-year term as co-general editor, shares her perspective on her tenure at the journal:

It has been an honor and a privilege to have served as co-general editor of *Jesuit Higher Education* for the past five years, eight issues with Linda Lange, and with this issue, transferring leadership to Kari Kloos.

I am grateful to working with a dedicated group of authors, reviewers, and editors who have made each and every issue one in which we can all be proud.

I am especially grateful to staff from the Regis University Library who seamlessly managed the migration from one platform to another, who served as copy editors, who helped promote the journal through various types of social media, and

provided tools to keep the editorial board on track.

JHE is a prime example of the possibilities of an online, open access, peer-reviewed journal. The editorial board can take great pride in providing a forum for many gifted authors who will stand the test of time and also in mentoring emerging

authors who are sharing their passions for the first time.

I look forward to reading future issues as the journal continues to mature, expand its authorship among the other Jesuit universities, both in the United States and internationally, and to reflect the passion and scholarship of those who live the Jesuit mission. HJE

¹ Pedro Arrupe, S.J., “Men for Women for Others,” in *Pedro Arrupe: Essential Writings*, ed. Kevin Burke, S.J., Modern Spiritual Masters Series (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2004). In the speech Arrupe cites the earlier usage of the phrase in the

Second Vatican Council’s “Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World” (*Gaudium et Spes*) and in the 1971 World Synod of Bishops document “Justice in the World.”