



Beyond the Bubble

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Announcing Our New Name!!

The Center for Values and Service is pleased to announce that beginning in the fall of 2006 its name will be changed to the **Center for Community Service and Justice**. Based on feedback from students and parents over the past few years, especially during Orientation, we realized that our current name does not adequately or clearly describe our work and purpose. So, starting in the fall our new name will be the Center for Community Service and Justice. **New name. Same mission:** to engage students and the broader Loyola College community in education through service for a just and equitable world.



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"When My Heart Beats for Others"

An essay by Christine Schaad with an introduction by Marya Howell

As the Associate Director of the Center for Values and Service, I have the opportunity to read a lot of essays about service. The following essay by Christine Schaad jumped off the page when I first read it. Even though she is writing about her high school service experience, she describes so well what we hope to do here in the Center for Values and Service. Our goal is to provide service and reflection opportunities that are educational and transformational. As an end result, we want students to realize the inherent value and dignity of each person which allows them to live out the Jesuit ideal of "men and women for and with others."

The road is dirt; the floor is concrete. Packs of filthy dogs roam the streets and trash is everywhere. Her babies are clean, unlike most of the other children. She has a refrigerator and a stove, but this isn't living luxuriously. The entire span of her living space is smaller than the room my family dines in. We are taking them to get their first haircut. I strap Cesar into his stroller, which is a challenge because he has cerebral palsy. As she brushes her shiny black hair out

of her face, Yolanda carries his deaf, blind twin Angel. I cannot imagine how quickly I am becoming attached to this woman. Her grace and simple kindness astound me. I don't understand her patience; as a single mother who has been diagnosed with ovarian cancer, she has no hope in her world that she, or her babies, will get better. When she gets back from the hospital two days later, she asks me if I understand the doctor's report. I can't help but cry as I tell her there is a mass in her stomach—I point to her ovaries—and the doctors have to do a lot of tests. It doesn't matter that I'm a white red-head from New Jersey and that she's a poor Mexican single mother. It only matters that she needed someone to talk to, and that I was that person.

During my week in Oaxaca, I learned that building homes and schools isn't the only way to change the world. I had worked with Habitat for Humanity for the past two years, and I was accustomed to tangible rewards. But in Mexico, we lived in solidarity with the people, taking their public transportation, eating in the town square, and walking miles through the hills. Listening to an

old man's life story or helping a young woman with her three-year-old twins can be just as life changing. At night, we learned about the social justice aspects of service and I fell in love with the following quote by an aboriginal woman: "If you've come here to help me, you're wasting your time—if you've come here because you believe your liberation is bound up in mine, then let us work together." Regardless of economic, racial, or geographical boundaries, the peoples of the world will never be able to work together until we break down these obstacles. As I learned, I wasn't helping Yolanda; we were working together.

In Oaxaca, my spirituality, love for Spanish, passion for meeting new people, and compassion for the impoverished bloomed. If you wanted to see me at my happiest, it would be here, in the poverty-stricken mountains of Mexico, or on the streets of Philadelphia jumping rope and building houses for the kids of West Philly, or on Operation Santa Claus delivering presents. A simple act of kindness can brighten someone's life. The best use of my God-given talents is when my heart beats for others.

Celebration of Service

Christina Harrison, Assistant Director of Immersion Programs and Outreach

On Monday, April 24 at 7:30 pm in McGuire Hall, the Center for Values and Service will host the Celebration of Service, an annual event that celebrates the involvement of students, staff and community members in community ser-

vice, immersion and service-learning at Loyola College.

All students involved in CVS community service, immersion programs and service-learning courses are invited to come enjoy desserts,

beverages, and a fun program of memories and inspiration.

Please R.S.V.P. to x2380 or mcring@loyola.edu by April 19. We look forward to seeing you there!

STUDENT VOICES

Spring Break Outreach Richard Shami

Going to Cumberland, MD on Spring Break Outreach was a rewarding experience in many different ways. Working side by side with Wayne, a representative from the organization we worked with, we learned some of the issues low-income individuals faced through the remnants of their apartments. I often asked myself how people could neglect housekeeping for so long. It dawned on me later that perhaps these individuals were too busy trying to provide for their families to have the time to maintain their apartments after a long and grueling day at work.

Several unexpected experiences were most insightful. Having the chance to talk to the people of Cumberland, I felt the pride which they had of their city. Despite its problems, these individuals felt that their town had the potential to rise like a phoenix. There was such a strong sense of community, united in the struggle to rebuild the city. The people I met in Cumberland taught me the importance of hope and commitment. My experience also gave me an appreciation that as a society, we place too much of an emphasis on material possessions and not enough on the interpersonal relationships which are the greatest asset a person could ever desire.

Project Mexico Greg Pace

Without trying to sound too cliché, it is hard to formulate into words such a life altering experience. In our send-off mass, Father Geinzer talked about how Mexico may appear to be materially poor, but in fact it is spiritually and culturally rich. I could not agree more with this statement.

Driving through the streets of Tijuana you can see how a large part of Mexico is impoverished and you cannot help but realize how truly blessed you are to be given the opportunities you have in life. It makes you reflect on how skewed the American mindset of "bigger is better" and the idea that material wealth equals happiness. Being immersed in a different culture allows your perceptions to change. Doing community outreach in surrounding schools was also a very rewarding experience. The sense of community in Mexico was unlike anything I have ever seen. You witness how family and community are stressed. It would be great to see something similar to that in the US, where generally people tend to never live in the present.

Project Mexico taught me to push myself past my comfort zone, which helped me to develop more as an individual. Getting thrown back into my regular schedule has been difficult to adjust to. Every day that passes it becomes easier, but in the back of my mind Mexico is still present and will always be. I feel that it is an important part of our Jesuit education to experience an immersion trip - to help foster one's individual self, and ultimately to have a more worldly perspective.

SOA Protest Jacqueline Melillo

The Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice is an annual event held to commemorate the Jesuits and lay women who were martyred in 1989 in El Salvador, to call for an end to unjust institutions both domestically and internationally, and to reflect on the Jesuit commitment to justice. Each year, thousands of high school and college students, clergy and lay people gather in Columbus, Georgia for the Teach-In. Numerous speakers – ranging from high school students to professors to bishops – reflect on a variety of justice issues. Over the years, the Teach-In has been a transformative and powerful experience for many people.

Participating in the Ignatian Family Teach-In and the School of the Americas protest at Fort Benning was the most fulfilling experience I have had thus far at Loyola. The solidarity among the students there was incredible. It was both comforting and encouraging to see how many people cared about helping others and were willing to travel across the country to represent those who do not have a voice.

The actual protest, which included the role call of those murdered by graduates of the SOA, was the most powerful part of the entire trip. Statistics and numbers can easily be dismissed and forgotten, but the sheer volume of names personalized the lives lost and left a powerful, lasting impression.

Overall, the trip was an immensely eye-opening experience in part because of the Teach-In and the protest, but also because of the tour of Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, which enabled me to formulate my own opinion of the SOA and the actions of its graduates. Visit www.soaw.org for more information!

Meet the CVS Staff: Megan Linz Dickinson

Megan Linz Dickinson, Assistant Director of Service-Learning at the Center for Values and Service, graduated from Loyola College in 2001 with a B.A. in Writing and Studio Art. During her senior year, she worked in the CVS office as a Student Coordinator.

After graduating, Megan spent time in the Northwest as a Jesuit Volunteer, where she ran the children's program at the Community Action Family Shelter in Portland, OR. She later returned to Baltimore to work at the National Health Care for the Homeless Council, doing advocacy work and lobbying on

issues such as living wage and affordable housing. Megan graduated with a Masters in Applied Sociology from Clemson University in May 2005 and joined the staff at the Center for Values and Service at the beginning of the school year.

Megan enjoys the atmosphere of respect and openness among the staff at the Center, students at Loyola, and community partners. She likes being on a college campus because she feels that she gets the best of both worlds working with energetic and passionate students and wonderful members of the

Baltimore community.

Over the past few years there has been an increase in service-learning classes at Loyola. One of the many benefits of service-learning is that it exposes students to service who might not have otherwise come to the Center. Megan believes that service is a key part of education. She hopes to continue offering more opportunities for students to participate in service-learning because it allows them to apply what they are learning in their classrooms and to make connections to the real world.

Upcoming Events

Looking for ways to get involved at Loyola? The Center for Values and Service offers a variety of programs and events. Check out our website at www.loyola.edu/cvs for continually updated information or stop by the Center. Below are descriptions for a few upcoming events before the end of this year.

Hunger Banquet, April 3

The Hunger Banquet is a presentation on global food distribution, where the attendees are participants in a mock "global table" that shows how wealth and food are allocated. The event will be on Monday, April 3rd from 6-7:30pm in the 4th Floor Programming room. Please sign up ahead of time in the Center for Values and Service. Contact Amy Maher at ext. 2989 with any questions.

Social Justice Stations of the Cross, April 10

The Social Justice Stations of the Cross help one to meditate on the Passion of Jesus and help one relate the pain he endured to real injustices experienced in today's world. This year, various groups on campus will prepare reflections and together participants will ponder how to respond to these injustices present in today's society. Join us on Monday, April 10 at 5pm. Questions or for more information contact: MaryAnne Cappelleri, ext. 5352.

Good Stuff Campaign, May 15-20

After graduation, seniors need to clear out of their housing quickly. The Good Stuff Campaign provides students with an opportunity to live out Loyola's mission by donating their clothing, dishes, small appliances, and unopened food to local agencies. Drop off sites are located around campus during Senior Week and vans and trucks are available near dumpsters on Graduation Day. Volunteers are needed during Senior Week and on Graduation Day to collect, sort and deliver items. Contact Dennis McCunney, x2909, for more information.

CVS Radio Show: Centering On...

Steve Pomplon

"Centering On..." is the official radio show for the Center for Values and Service at Loyola College. On a weekly basis this half hour show aims to provide its audience with a deeper understanding of the Center's mission and programs through in-depth interviews with the people who make things happen. Hosted by Steven Pomplon, "Centering On..." will focus on the Center's involvement on campus, in the city of Baltimore, and beyond. This show is modeled after the popular WBAL program, Provoke Radio, and has great plans for expanding in the future. You can hear "Centering On..." every Wednesday live from 2:30-3pm, and every Sunday at 11am. WLOY can be heard on the radio at 1620am, on Loyola T.V. channel 50, or on the internet at www.wloy.org. Archived shows are also available for download on WLOY's website. Below is an episode guide for the rest of the semester. If you have any questions or ideas for a new show, email Steven Pomplon at stpomplon1@loyola.edu.

Archived Shows on www.wloy.org:

February 15th - [Introduction to "Centering On..."](#)

Featuring: Missy Gugerty and Jenna Umbriac

February 22nd - [Just Language](#)

Featuring: Amy Maher

March 1st - [Encuentra El Salvador](#)

Featuring: Gregory Tomezsko

March 15th - [Spring Break Outreach](#)

Featuring: Phoebe Connell, Anne Koza, and Justin White

March 22nd - [Project Mexico](#)

Featuring: Suzy Pacia, Devon Lynch-Huggins, and Marc Mongeau

March 29th - [A.I.D.S.](#)

Featuring: Joel Bumol

Remaining Shows:

April 5th - [UNITE, Beans & Bread, and FOH House](#)

Featuring: Jenna Umbriac, Megan Dunning, and Keri Smotrich

April 12th - [Post-Graduation Service](#)

Featuring: Greg Mellor, Erin O'Keefe, and Diana Desierto

April 19th - [Year of the City](#)

Featuring: Father Brian Linnane

Baccalaureate Mass Pledge

At the Baccalaureate Mass in May, members of the graduating class will be invited to stand and state their intention to incorporate Jesuit values into their personal and professional lives by repeating a pledge together. Please review the pledge below and consider its meaning for you in order to be prepared for the unison reading at the Mass.

Senior Class President: I now invite all members of the graduating class to stand and state together your intent to

apply Jesuit values in your personal and professional lives.

"As a member of the graduating class of 2006 of Loyola College in Maryland, I have heard the call and the challenge to live for and with others.

I am committed to justice and service, and therefore will strive:

To use my knowledge, my time and my

material resources for the betterment of society;

To build community wherever I am, drawing from my experience of community at Loyola; and

To maintain an attitude of respect toward all people and protect the inherent dignity of God's creation."

We look forward to seeing you at the Mass!

CENTER FOR VALUES AND SERVICE

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Loyola College in Maryland
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Calendar of Events

Centering On... *The CVS Radio Show — Hosted by Steve Pomplon*

Wednesdays, 2:30-3PM, & Sundays, 11AM

April

- **Hunger Banquet:** Monday, April 3rd, 6-7:30PM—4th Floor Programming Room
- **Blood Drive:** Monday, April 3rd & Tuesday, April 4th
- **“Fiesta” - El Salvador Fundraiser featuring Chipotle burritos, Geary for President, and Bravo Romeo Bravo:** Wednesday, April 5th, 5-7PM
- **“Higher Education for Social Change in Rural Bolivia”:** *A documentary by a Loyola Alum,* Tuesday, April 4th or Thursday, 6th (Date & Location TBA)
- **Social Justice Stations of the Cross:** Monday, April 10th, 5pm
- **Easter Extravaganza:** Saturday, April 11th
- **“A Line in the Sand” Dramatization of stories from the Mexican border:** *Project Mexico brings their stories back to Campus,* Tuesday, April 11th, 8-9:30PM—Knott Hall B01
- **Dance Marathon:** Sunday, April 23rd
- **Celebration of Service:** Monday, April 24th, 7:30—8:30PM—McGuire Hall East

Stats on Service at Loyola

1,759 Loyola students participated in service during the 2004-2005 school year.

Loyola students spent **5,823** hours doing community service during the 2004-2005 school year.

Every year more Loyola students are getting involved with service.

Check out the CVS Bulletin Board outside the Chapel for updated information.