

**Catholic Colleges and Universities
Seventh Annual Forum
for
Institutional Research**



Monday, April 9, 2001
9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Villanova University
Villanova, Pennsylvania



"Integrating Catholic Mission, Identity and Institutional Research"



Panel Presentations

**"Examining Mission and Identity in
Catholic Higher Education"**

and

**"Assessing the Mission and Values of
Church-Related Higher Education"**

For the seventh consecutive year, we are pleased to host the Catholic Colleges and Universities Forum for Institutional Research. This one-day forum is the result of a special interest group of Catholic Colleges and Universities that met originally during the Northeast Association for Institutional Research (NEAIR) Conference in November 1994. The forum is scheduled for:

Monday, April 9, 2001
9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Villanova Room
The Connelly Center
Villanova University
Villanova, PA

Please share this invitation with interested colleagues at your institution and beyond.

Agenda

- 9:00 Registration, Continental Breakfast and Networking
- 9:30 Welcome and Opening Remarks
John M. Kelley, Villanova
- 9:40 Panel Presentation:
Examining Mission and Identity in Catholic Higher Education
- 10:55 Break
- 11:05 Panel Presentation:
Assessing Mission and Values in Church-Related Higher Education
- 12:30 Roundtable Lunch Discussions
- 2:00 Town Hall Meeting:
Conducting Institutional Research at Catholic Colleges and Universities
Facilitators:
Joseph Pettit, Georgetown
James Trainer, Villanova
- 2:45 Closing Remarks and Evaluation

Examining Mission and Identity in Catholic Higher Education

Panelists:

Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M., Ed.D.

Executive Vice President and
Chief Operating Officer
Niagara University, NY

Melanie M. Morey, Ed.D.

Senior Associate
Leadership and Legacy Associates
Belmont, MA

Barbara Wall, O.P., Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Philosophy and Assistant to the President for Mission Effectiveness
Villanova University, PA

Indeed, it is a poignant time to be involved in Catholic higher education. Many express valid concerns about the increased secularization of Catholic institutions and worry that this trend will accelerate if the ranks of the religious continue to decline and we lose those individuals who, through their vocation and visibility, serve as the embodiment of our Catholic heritage, ideals and mission. Others argue that while presenting a variety of challenges, our current situation abounds with many exciting opportunities. At the very least, various institutional constituents find reason to pause and reflect on what makes a Catholic institution Catholic. Others discuss what it means to embrace and animate the charism of a particular religious congregation.

Dennis Holtschneider and Melanie Morey are co-authors of a recent article, "Relationship Revisited: Changing Relationships Between U.S. Catholic Colleges and Universities and Founding Religious Congregations," which focuses on this latter issue, while Barbara Wall works to ensure that Villanova fosters its Catholic, Augustinian values and supports research which helps enliven our Catholic tradition and moves us to new insights.

**Assessing the Mission and Values of
Church-Related Higher Education**

Panelists:

Randall S. Bergen, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Psychology
Geneva College, PA

Ronald J. Burwell, Ph.D.

Professor of Sociology and
Interim Associate Dean for
General Education and Assessment
Messiah College, PA

Laurie Schreiner, Ph.D.

Professor of Psychology
Eastern College, PA

For the past seven years the members of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU) have been actively engaged in a series of projects examining issues of mission and values in church-related higher education. The Collaborative Assessment Project, initiated with a grant from the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE), and originally entitled "Taking Values Seriously: Assessing the Mission of Church-Related Higher Education," includes survey data from more than 21,000 freshmen, 11,500 seniors, 6,500 faculty, and 2,600 alumni two years after graduation. Subsequent efforts have included a project, entitled "Faithful Change," which examines faith development and integration issues via personal interviews with more than 800 students, and a Quality/Retention initiative focused on improving the educational experience of students at Christian liberal arts colleges.

Each of the panelists has played a lead research role in at least one of these projects. In turn, they will discuss their experiences in conducting this research and will highlight some key findings as well as the impact these efforts have had on their institutions.

Roundtable Lunch Discussion Topics

Over lunch, we will assemble roundtable lunch discussion groups to address topics related to the panels offered during the morning session. Please list any topics, questions or issues that you would like to cover at one of the roundtable discussions:

Town Hall Meeting

Following lunch, we will convene a "town hall meeting" to discuss conducting institutional research at Catholic colleges and universities. We will explore whether, and how, what was shared during the earlier sessions relates to (or could) what we do in institutional research. Finally, we will use this opportunity to consider possible activities for this group and whether we may want to pursue any research topics in a collective, collaborative manner. Please list topics you would like to see raised during this meeting:
