



Cordially invites you to attend the

**Fourteenth Annual
Catholic College and University
Forum for Institutional Research**



Studying Spirituality on College Campuses



**Sunday, March 9, 2008
3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

**Monday, March 10, 2008
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

The Villanova Conference Center
601 County Line Road
Radnor, Pennsylvania 19087
(1 mile from Villanova University)

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

Colleagues,

We hope that this finds each of you doing well. We're about a month out from the annual CHERC Conference, which will be held this year on Sunday and Monday, March 9 and 10 at the Villanova Conference Center, adjacent to the Villanova University campus in suburban Philadelphia – same location as last year.

This year we will be wrestling with the topic of how we go about studying spirituality on our campuses. All of our institutions, by their very nature, have the spiritual development of our students as part of our missions. Likewise, many of us have a sincere desire to help address the spiritual needs of our broader community members, as well. However, it is often difficult to determine what impact we may be having in this area. At this year's conference we hope to begin to discuss, as a group, how one might go about exploring the impact of our work in promoting spiritual development. Obviously, we're looking forward to a lively discussion of this topic. And, certainly we're open to anything anyone may have to share in this realm and to suggestions folks may have about others whom we should invite to join us in this dialogue.

At this point, we're hoping that we'll be joined for our time together by Dr. Elizabeth J. Tisdell, Associate Professor of Adult Education at Penn State University – Harrisburg, author of "Exploring Spirituality and Culture in Adult and Higher Education" (Jossey-Bass, 2003) and a host of other papers and publications addressing this topic.

As usual, we'll also have our annual business meeting, roundtable discussions and informal information sharing. Fr. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., who is now in his second year as President of Villanova, has agreed to speak to the group. You may remember that Father Peter welcomed us to Villanova last year. Father will talk about the role he sees for IR, planning, etc. at Catholic institutions moving forward from his perspective as a President. He'll specifically focus on how he has used a Campus Community Climate Survey, which he commissioned from Villanova's Office of Planning, Training and Institutional Research as one of his first acts as President, to better understand the University and promote organizational change.

We look forward to seeing you next month at Villanova. Please come ready to share and help us wrestle with this important topic. Information about the conference is attached. A full agenda will be sent as soon as it is finalized. In the meantime, please feel free to register for the conference and make your room reservation. Remember that outside of the cost of overnight rooms, the conference fee is inclusive of all meals and materials. Please send suggestions for the conference to Joan O'Brien at Villanova <joan.obrien@villanova.edu>. Joan is also available to address any questions you may have about the conference.

Sincerely,

Jim Trainer

Registration Information

To register, please fax, e-mail or mail the attached form to Joan O'Brien by February 29, 2008.

When we receive your registration form, we will send a confirmation notice via fax or email with specific driving directions to the Villanova Conference Center.

Fees (All meals, continuous breaks, and amenities are included in the registration fee.)

| | Sunday Only | Monday Only | Sunday & Monday |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| CHERC Member Fee | \$80.00 | \$80.00 | \$130.00 |
| Non-Member Fee | \$105.00 | \$105.00 | \$175.00 |

Information on joining CHERC (and a Membership Enrollment Form) can be found at <http://www.cherc.org/registration.htm>

Please make checks payable to Villanova University - CHERC and mail to:

Joan M. O'Brien
Office of Planning, Training and Institutional Research (OPTIR)
Villanova University
800 Lancaster Avenue
Villanova, PA 19085-1699

General Transportation Information

The Villanova Conference Center is located a mile from the Villanova University campus. Villanova is located a few miles outside of Philadelphia. The University is easily accessible by plane, train or automobile. The Philadelphia International Airport is approximately 25 minutes away by car and the Villanova train station is located right on campus. The University is served by the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) R5 Paoli/Thorndale line out of 30th Street Station, which also serves as Philadelphia's Amtrak hub. A train is available from the airport into the 30th Street, where you can transfer to the R5 line. SEPTA schedules are available at www.septa.org. Taxi and shuttle service is available from the airport to the Conference Center. We can arrange transportation from the Villanova train station to the Conference Center, if requested.

Hotel Information

We have reserved a limited number of overnight rooms for conference attendees at the Villanova Conference Center, 601 County Line Road, Radnor, Pennsylvania 19087. Please call (610) 523-1757 or (610) 523-1792 for reservations.

Rooms are available on a first come, first served basis for \$125. **Reservations for the Villanova Conference Center must be made by February 22nd.** Please be sure to mention that you are **CHERC attendees**.

In a wooded setting on Philadelphia's "Main Line," the charm of early 20th century architecture meets the sophistication of 21st century technology. The Villanova Conference Center enhances the learning and meeting environment with excellent accommodations, dining and recreational activities. We are confident that the Conference Center will meet and exceed the expectations of CHERC. Additional information on the Conference Center is available at: <http://www.villanovaconfctr.com>

Please let Joan O'Brien know if you are planning to stay at the Villanova Conference Center and will need help with a ride from the Villanova train station to the Conference Center (610-519-4558 or joan.obrien@villanova.edu).

Other hotel options are available near the Philadelphia Airport, in Center City, in the area near the Valley Forge/King of Prussia exit of the Pennsylvania Turnpike or nearby Villanova. Joan O'Brien at (610) 519-4558 or joan.obrien@villanova.edu can assist you with additional hotel information.

Mass Schedules

Sunday Campus Liturgies are available at 6, 8 and 10 p.m. in the Saint Thomas of Villanova Church on the Villanova University Campus.

Sunday Morning Liturgies are also offered by the Saint Thomas of Villanova Parish at the Church on campus at 7:30 and 10:30 a.m.

Liturgies are held on Mondays at 12:05 p.m. and 5:20 p.m. in the Corr Chapel on Villanova's Campus.



Illumination through
Research • Reflection • Collaboration

**The Fourteenth Annual Catholic College and University
Forum for Institutional Research**

**Villanova University
March 9-10, 2008**

Registration Form

Name: _____

Title: _____

Institution: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

- _____ I plan to attend Sunday Afternoon's session only
- _____ I plan to attend Dinner on Sunday
- _____ I plan to attend Sunday Evening's Organizational Meeting
- _____ I plan to attend Monday's session only
- _____ I plan to attend all sessions on both Sunday and Monday

Please return form via mail, fax or e-mail by **Friday, February 29, 2008** to:

Joan M. O'Brien
Office of Planning, Training and Institutional Research (OPTIR)
Villanova University
800 Lancaster Avenue
Villanova, PA 19085-1699

Phone: 610-519-4558 • Fax: 610-519-7162 • e-mail: joan.obrien@villanova.edu

If you have any items you would like to share with others at the Forum, please forward them along with your registration. Please copy and share this form freely.