

Our Lady of the Lake College
Annual Report
January 14, 2008-January 14, 2009

This Annual Report describes the progress made on the Institutional Goals and Presidential Goals, which were approved by the Our Lady of the Lake College (OLOLC) Board of Trustees at its March 2008 meeting.

Promote the Mission of the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady, Our Lady of the Lake College, Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center, the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady Health System, and the State of Louisiana

The College has made progress towards this goal during this time period. The following are examples of activities that have taken place:

- College Quarterly Masses continue in their third year;
- The Franciscan Service Award winners continue to be identified at the College—Barbara Napoli in the Department of Sciences (Spring 2008) and Janssen Burris in the Administrative Systems area (Fall 2008) were named.
- The second memorial service on All Souls Day 2008 was held;
- The Franciscan Scholars and Assistance Program recruitment effort began this year.
- The College joined the Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities (AFCU). The College sponsored five individuals (the President, the Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, the Dean of Students, and two faculty members) to attend the AFCU Symposium in summer 2008.
- President Harper, Dean Melanie Green, Dean Carol Waters, and OLOLRMC chief nursing officer Debbie Ford attended the national summit on the partnership between Catholic higher education and Catholic Health Care at the College of St. Catherine's in Minnesota.
- The College sponsored one faculty member to *Collegium*, a one-week colloquy for faculty members at Catholic colleges that is designed to provide ideas about strengthening the Catholic identity at their home institutions.
- President Harper continues as an active member of the Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center (OLOLRMC) Mission Council.
- *The Spirit of Ex corde Ecclesiae at Our Lady of the Lake College* was the culmination of a six month campus-wide discussion to solidify the Catholic identity of the College in specific ways.
- The Health Career Institute is providing assistance toward the magnet status goal set by OLOLRMC.
- A joint survey conducted by OLOLC and OLOLRMC produced results that yielded the necessity to improve the quality of the clinical experiences for College students at the medical center. Attention to this finding has produced

notable positive results as demonstrated by subsequent surveys of OLOLC students.

Establish an Ethos of Assessment to Build and Sustain Academic Excellence

There has been progress towards achieving accreditation standards for both professional accreditation agencies as well as the regional accrediting body of Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The following are the accreditation actions that have occurred during this time period:

- Under the direction of the SACS Leadership Team and the Compliance Committee, the College submitted its Compliance report to SACS. The Off-Site Review Committee judged the College to be in compliance with 74 of the 89 core requirements and comprehensive standards of the Commission. The College is in the process of preparing a Focused Report to address the 15 requirements and standards that the Off-Site Committee could not determine whether or not the College was in compliance by the evidence presented in the report. The Quality Enhancement Committee is proceeding with its plan to improve student learning by emphasizing writing throughout the undergraduate program. Both the SACS Focused Report and the Quality Enhancement Plan will be submitted to the on-site review team in early February 2009.
- The Council on Accreditation reviewed the graduate program in nurse anesthesia this year. A decision on accreditation will be made at their meeting in February 2009.
- ARC-PA, the accrediting review commission for the graduate physician associate studies program visited the campus in November 2008 to review the program. Numerous observations were made by the visiting team regarding improvements, procedures, and assessments that need to be addressed by the faculty and administration of that program. A decision on accreditation will be made at their meeting in March 2009.
- The National League of Nursing Accrediting Commission visited the new East Jefferson site in Metairie, Louisiana that offers the accelerated Associate of Science in Nursing degree. Their decision was to grant approval for this site.

The academic program also developed a new core curriculum that will unify the general education for any OLOLC student, no matter what their major.

Recruit, Mentor, Reward, and Retain a Diverse, Highly Qualified and Engaged Faculty and Staff

With the addition of five new faculty lines in the School of Arts, Sciences, and Health Professions, the goal of having a majority of classes taught by full time faculty has been achieved in the major disciplinary divisions of the College.

The College has entered into a reciprocal tuition exchange program with Council of Independent Colleges partner institutions. This agreement allows OLOLC faculty and their dependents to attend 350 participating institutions tuition-free if the potential students meet the admissions requirements of the institution.

Recruit, Retain, and Graduate a Diverse and Highly Qualified Student Body

The College posted an enrollment decline in Fall 2008, with final numbers of students at census date coming in at 1806. Preliminary enrollment numbers for the spring semester 2009 indicate another enrollment decline from Spring 2008, although the decline was not as large as the fall enrollment drop.

The following are examples of actions indicating strategies to gain enrollment for OLOLC:

- Developed the Franciscan Assistance Award for needy students and will admit our second cohort of this group in Fall 2009;
- Launched the accelerated associate of science degree in nursing at the East Jefferson Medical Center in September 2008.
- Developed a hybrid master of science in nursing program to be launched in Fall 2009.
- Launched the “Get Ready for Life” campaign marketing strategy and a new recruitment plan.
- Became the continuing education provider for the OLOLRMC and the American Heart Association provider for the FMOLHS.

The Datatel Colleague project implementation is proceeding. Once the implementation is complete, more student friendly processes should be in place for on-line registration and tuition payment, timely financial aid packaging, and efficient, accurate, “above and beyond” service.

Create a Distinctive College Identity:

Although the College has begun formulating its strategic identity, this is a long term goal that will take quite a while to achieve. The following steps have been taken to attain this goal:

- The marketing plan, “Get Ready for Life” was launched this year;
- The first phases of a revised College website have been created;
- The 85th Anniversary Dinner Celebration provided the opportunity for alumni, friends of the College, faculty, and students to celebrate the achievements of the College and create visibility in the community.

For a detailed account of other external activities in which President Harper participated, see Appendix A.

Move toward a Unified Physical Campus

The College has begun formulating the campus master plan by researching the possible buildings in the identified ideal perimeter of Hennessy, Essen, Picardy, and Dijon. The College worked with MGT of America, Inc. to assist in devising a long term facilities plan options for the College. These options were reviewed at a joint meeting of the Board Strategic Planning and Mission Effectiveness Committee and the Board Finance and Facilities Committee. Both groups eventually recommended to the full board that the Centennial site for the College should be located in the ideal perimeter as opposed to the other four options that were discussed. The Board of Trustees concurred with these recommendations. This research and the Board recommendation informed the master facilities planning by the OLOLRMC and VOA. The VOA sketch has the College of the future located in the ideal perimeter with a large “signature building” and a symbolic point such as a cross or a college chapel unifying the campus.

In addition to this long range planning, the College occupied the Library Commons on Didesse. This added 6,000 square feet to the College inventory and provided much needed study space, group study rooms, and computers for student use. The College explored the option of occupying 5311 Dijon but determined that this space was not appropriate to be occupied by college personnel or services.

With the recent purchase of property by OLOLRMC within the ideal perimeter, the College leadership is in the process of analyzing the space to determine the most appropriate usage for college academic and student activities.

Establish a Culture of Investment and Stewardship to Ensure the Financial Sustainability of the College

In March 2008, the College hired its first Director of Institutional Advancement. Initial successes by this new division are as follows:

- The development of gift acceptance policies that were approved by the board;
- The development of a public face for *The Centennial Compass* ;
- The assistance in the development of the “Get Ready for Life” marketing campaign;
- The writing of the successful \$340,000 proposal to the Franciscan Ministry Fund that funded the Franciscan Scholars and the Franciscan Assistance Awards; a \$40,000 match was received from the State of Louisiana for the First Generation Endowed Scholarship portion of this grant;
- The writing of the successful \$600,000 proposal to the Franciscan Ministry Fund that partially funded the gerontological endowed chair in nursing; the College is in the process of pursuing a match from the State of Louisiana;
- The development of the alumni newsletter;
- The assistance with the 85th Anniversary celebration;
- The development of the alumni Christmas communication letter.

Evolve purposefully from a Dependent Component of OLOLRMC and FMOLHS to an Interdependent Entity that manages its own destiny

Hiring a human resources coordinator at the College has facilitated a number of personnel issues specific to the College. The College has updated its leases on all of its buildings and updated its service level agreement with OLOLRMC. The large information services charges that the College has incurred continues to be a point of contention that needs to be resolved, particularly since this charge represents such a large percentage of the OLOLC operating budget.

Conclusion

During this calendar year, significant progress has been made in assuring that the College is complying with and exceeding the core requirements and comprehensive standards of its multiple accrediting agencies. Based on the hiring plan developed by the academic leadership, the *Centennial Compass* goal of having the majority of classes taught by full time faculty in each major academic division has been accomplished. Significant progress has been made on planning for the facilities expansion of the College. The College continues to increase its collaboration with the System components. Enhancing the academic programming and quality service, increasing the visibility of the College, identifying and communicating with alumni, and pursuing additional revenue streams continue to be ongoing priorities for the College.

Certainly, the progress that the College has made is always the work of a collection of very talented individuals. The OLOLC community has been energized in 2008 by a new Vice President for Finance and Administration (William “BeBo Wilkes), our first Vice President for Planning and Institutional Effectiveness (Tracy Molidor), our first Director of Institutional Advancement (Denise Dokey), our new Quality Enhancement Plan director (Dr. Glenn Blalock) and several new faculty and staff members. These individuals have joined a community of dedicated, hard-working individuals who are committed to improving the educational experience at Our Lady of the Lake College.

Presented to the Our Lady of the Lake College Board of Trustees
By President Sandra S. Harper
January 15, 2009

Appendix A
Sandra S. Harper, Ph.D.
2008

To enhance the visibility of the College, President Harper participated in the following activities:

“Integrating Strategic Planning, Budget Allocation, and Fundraising”, panelist, *Advancing Women’s Leadership: Texas Regional Leadership Forum for Women Administrators*, ACE Office of Women in Higher Education, Baylor University, October 9, 2008.

American Health Sciences Education Consortium, member of the Board of Trustees, 2008-

American Council on Education, Commission on Lifelong Learning, 2008-

Louisiana Campus Compact, Executive Council, 2008-

Council of Independent Colleges, Presidential Vocation and Institutional Mission Seminar funded by the Lilly Endowment, Glendorn, Pennsylvania, July 2008.

ACE National Summit for Women Presidents, June 2008.

Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities 2008 Symposium, Alvernia College, Reading, Pennsylvania, June 2008.

Catholic Health Association, “Ecclesiology and Spiritual Renewal Program for Health Care Leaders”, Rome, Italy, April 27-May 2, 2008.

Address of His Holiness Benedict XVI, Meeting with Catholic Educators, Catholic University of America in Washington D.C., April 17, 2008.

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Special Committee, Chair, Paul Quinn College, Dallas, Texas, April 2008.

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Special Reader, 2007-

Louisiana Workforce Development Master Plan Workgroup, 2007-

Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities Annual Meetings, Washington D.C., 2007, 2008.

Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities Annual Meetings, Washington D.C., 2007, 2008.

Council of Independent Colleges Presidents Institute, Tucson, Arizona, 2007; Marco Island, Florida, 2008; Bonita Springs, Florida, 2009.

Nominating Committee for the Louisiana Board of Ethics, 2006-

Louisiana Student Financial Assistance Commission and Louisiana Tuition Trust Authority, 2006-; Budget Committee Chair, 2007-