Caritas et Veritas in a Life’s Work
Tuesday, September 29, 2015

PROGRAM

9:00 a.m.  Opening Plenary

10:00 a.m.  Concurrent Sessions I

A.  A Life’s Work: University Trustees Reflect
Mark Carroll, Anne Kohler ’81, Sister Patricia Mulcahey, OP ’63, Antonio Ortiz
What constitutes a life’s work? Four members of the Dominican University Board of Trustees reflect on the evolution of their professional lives, their commitments to family and community, and their hopes for the Dominican University students and graduates discovering the work to which they are called.

B.  Cultural and Social Contexts for Work: Asian and Pacific Islander faculty explore the concept of work across the diaspora
Anjali Chaudhry, Jane Hseu, Adrian Kok, Joyce Shim
Are there incongruities between the American Protestant work ethic and how work is framed in the Asian and Pacific Island communities? Does the East see “work” differently from the West? The panelists will share their social experiences in order to explore that dialectic relationship between what work means for us and what work means for our Asian and Pacific Island communities.

C.  You were called to do what?!
Tracy Caldwell, Jodi Cressman, Angela Frazier, Michael Lango
Join us as a panel of faculty and staff share their journey of discovery towards the work to which they were called. Their journeys brought them far from their goals as they started college, yet took them on a funny, scary, enlightening path of self-discovery through life that they never could have imagined. As you contemplate your life’s calling, you are invited to consider that you may not yet know what you are called to do, and while this could be scary, it could also be an incredible gift.
D.  "What are you going to do with that?"  The Surprising Value of Philosophy for Life's Work
Kelly Burns, Drew Dalton, Nkuzi Nnam, Tama Weisman
One common misconception about philosophy is that it is an impractical and arcane discipline that deals more with abstract ideas than everyday reality, leading to the classic stereotype that the study of philosophy has no practical use. Thus, philosophy students face the common question: “What are you going to do with that?” This panel will answer this question by challenging the common misconceptions; showing in turn, the various ways in which philosophy is: 1) already at work in so-called “everyday reality,” and 2) that the study of philosophy can be practically applied to excel in that everyday reality.

E.  Finding a Life's Work Online: Strategies for Job Searching and Crossing the Digital Divide
Richard Clegg, MLIS '12
Presenting strategies for searching job-posting sites like Indeed.com or others, we will explore ways to strategically search for a life’s work. We will also explore ways to enhance our personal web presence on social media or web pages. Throughout, we will gain an understanding of how critical internet access and technological literacy are to finding employment in the digital age.

F.  A Working Community: Adjuncts in the University
Dan Born, Joyce Goldenstern, Roxanne Pilat ‘73, Jeane Popowits, Jennifer Stockdale
In this roundtable discussion, adjunct faculty in the English department will consider intersecting issues of work, identity, calling, and truth. As adjuncts, these faculty members offer unusual and important perspectives on the topic of calling. Their discussion will focus on the various directions one's callings might lead and the ways that writing, reading, and reflection help us to discern those paths.

G.  Called to Priesthood: But What If It's A Girl?
Sheila Durkin Dierks ‘65
The exact moment of invitation is still perfectly clear. Cincinnati, 1949. Six years old, female. The angle of light, the moment of perfect clarity remain. What I was told: "Girls can't be priests; you are wrong to want it." Beckoning persisted. Through fifty married years, through and with a houseful of children, volunteering, education, employment, all were textured by the question of how to make a path where there was no path. Could Spirit insist? How could I and other females serve when there was no possibility? A true call? How to discern? A thousand questions of Catholicity, community and sacrament flow from that first moment. Living the questions, this call has been a life of challenging faith and service shaped at six.

Making A Living, Making A Life, Making A Difference:  Reflections on Catholic Social Teaching on Work and the Buddhist Ethic of ‘Right Livelihood’
Hugh McElwain
This study confirms the value and rewards of interfaith dialogue by offering a mutually reinforcing, faith-oriented approach to human work, namely, Buddhist moral emphasis on ‘right livelihood’ and Catholic social teaching on the value and dignity of human work.
**H. Bananas in the Library? Reaffirming Life's Work Among the FairTrade Bananas of the Dominican Republic**  
*Felice E. Maciejewski*  
Fairtrade and organic agricultural production really does make a difference in the lives of the producers and laborers. This paper in an exploration of the difference BANELION, a cooperative of small growers, makes in the lives of the Dominican banana producers and laborers, including a library. It will also explore the difference it makes in one librarian's work life.

and

**The Human Side of Outsourcing**  
*Laura L. Kelley '93*  
This study examines how management techniques can improve the effectiveness and efficiency of a global virtual team. As businesses continue to expand to globalized markets, our use of technology for communication and electronic tools become the standard. Dr. Kelley's research utilized a case study of virtual team members composed of a major Indian-based company who work with U.S. nationals within a global environment. Questions related to culture, religion, language, communication tools, education, business processes/procedures and team skills were posed. Learn the necessity and value of cultural understanding and knowledge of the team prior to the onset of a project. Success at these skills creates a global Project Manager.

**I. Carving Lines and Crafting Lenses: How Work is Transformed into Vocation**  
*John DeCostanza, Douglas R. Keberlein Gutierrez*  
For the past three years Dominican University faculty and staff have been fortunate to gather during the summer at “the Mound” to contemplate life’s callings, asking important questions about the connections between work and vocation. In the summer of 2014, John DeCostanza (University Ministry) and Douglas Keberlein Gutiérrez (History) were asked to share their reflections on this theme with those present at the retreat. In this session the two of them will offer a reprise of their presentations and invite audience members to grapple with the question, “How do we discover the work to which we are called?”

**11:15 a.m. Concurrent Sessions II**

**A. Lunch**

**B. Ministry en lo Cotidiano**  
*Rosario Hernandez, Elizabeth Sanchez, Gisella Torres*  
Three students from the first Ministry en lo Cotidiano cohort will explain the purpose and the scope of Ministry en lo Cotidiano and also share stories from their individual experiences and internship placements within the Latin@ community. This panel discussion with a short video will explore, particularly, how culture and faith help shape a vocational call.

**C. Why do we work? Two opposing perspectives from psychology**  
*Robert Calin-Jageman*  
Why do we work: Is it to earn rewards or to find meaning in our lives? Surprisingly, scientists still disagree about the answer to these questions. This talk will review some of the evidence and explain why the answers are so very important.
A New Civil Rights Movement: Include the Neurodivergent in our Lives and our Work
Andrew Meissen
The neurodiversity movement is an internationally-growing movement that hopes to bring vastly improved social accommodation to the neurologically atypical. The only premise of this movement: that neurological 'disorders,' including autism, Tourette syndrome, bipolar disorder and schizophrenia are simply natural variations in the human genome; in other words, the environment isn't causing these disorders. What if this premise is wrong? What if the environment really can cause something like autism? Would that weaken neurodiversity advocates' voices in bringing social accommodation to the neurologically atypical? Whatever the case, what matters is not the faulty premise of the movement, but its purpose: to include the neurodivergent in our lives and acknowledge them in our lives' works.

D. Living the Mission: Caritas and Veritas in the Professions
Karen Brown, Stacy Kowalczyk ’96
Caritas and Veritas, charity and truth, are given substance and direction in the Dominican University mission of pursuing truth, giving compassionate service, and participating in the creation of a more just and humane world. A life's work of Caritas and Veritas necessarily involves service. This study looks at how Caritas and Veritas manifest themselves in the daily work of service professionals, exploring the successes and failures of charity and truth when working in large and complex organizations and with a variety of people in challenging circumstances.

E. Mining Morality: Prospecting for Ethics under the Earth, on the Ocean Floor, and in Outer Space
William George
The ancient yet technologically ever-updated enterprise of mining presents profound ethical challenges involving health, safety, economic justice, environmental and ecological threats, and global property rights that extend to speeding asteroids in outer space. This theological ethicist’s “prospector’s report” lays out certain moral dimensions of mining that, with more time and with interdisciplinary tools, could and ought to be explored.

Can We Dream True?
Gina Dolin ’76
How can a conscious choice be made, when your vision is limited by vocabulary and stereotypes? How does a young woman dream of being an executive, engineer or scientist, if it never occurs to her this is an option? Let us explore the influence words and images play in our decision to choose a life’s work and be honest in our heart and dreams.

F. Living a Trauma-Informed Life in an Increasingly Traumatized World
Bill Jenkins
As more people are being overwhelmingly stressed and traumatized in our society than ever before, trauma from crime, interpersonal violence, and ruptured relationships is having an enduring effect on lives and personalities. How does this disturbing undercurrent impact our homes, schools, and workplaces, and what can be done to recognize and reduce its impact? This conversation focuses on how trauma's effect on the brain is leading us into a silent epidemic and what we can do about it.
Art as Work
Noelle Allen
What is the work of an artist? What does it mean to live a creative and artistic life? How do you pursue a life in the arts? How do you develop your artistic pursuits or creative endeavors? Who is your audience? What are the practical realities of a life in the arts? What is failure and how can it benefit or hinder a working artist? Referencing Sharon Louden and Twyla Tharp and interviews with contemporary artists, as well as a brief discussion of my own art practice, I will discuss sustaining and creating an artistic practice.

G. Perfection in Imperfect Lives: Down Syndrome and a Life's Masterpiece
David Perry, Anthony Suarez-Abraham, Emilia Walasik
This session will feature an excerpt from an inspirational documentary film about people with Down Syndrome who in the eyes of society are "imperfect" and yet who truly lead lives of Caritas and Veritas. This film will focus on how the various work that these individuals do throughout their lives are meaningful, inspirational, and true masterpieces. The film will be followed by a panel discussion.

H. A Reflection on Intergenerational Sharing: How a calling to service looks at the beginning and end of one’s career
Julie Bach
Social work students will reflect on an intergenerational project that took place at the Sinsinawa Mound over the summer. The project connected the students in their new roles as social workers just beginning their call of "service to others" and the Sisters, with decades of service to others. Discussion themes will be presented during the panel as well as suggestions on how to sustain a career in service to others.

I. When Making a Living is Tough
Jazzine Acevedo, Diana Cortes, Douglas Gutierrez Keberlein, Andrea Hinojosa, Patrick Homan, Lisa Keller, Andrea Marquez, Bianca Mena, Gema Ortega, Evelyn Sanchez, Claire Shunk, Willa Skeehan, MaDonna Thelen, Katarzyna Tracz, Amanda Villagomez
How do Haitians and Guatemalans “Make a Life” when making a living is so challenging? Students who have done international service in Guatemala and Haiti will reflect on these questions in light of their experiences in these two countries.

12:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions III

A. Lunch

B. Finding Your Vocation in the Age of Extinction
Scott Kreher, Ellen McManus, Tama Weisman
What might it be like to live in a world in which, many scientists believe, human activity will lead to the extinction of thousands of our fellow species? Scientists have begun to refer to our time as the Age of the Anthropocene in recognition of the idea that human activity is now a powerful enough force to determine not only the future of humanity but the future of all life on earth. This panel will explain the scientific principles behind the concept of the Anthropocene, explore the ethical implications of human choices in this context, and invite
discussion about how living in the Anthropocene might influence decisions about the kinds of work we want to do with our lives.

C. **Will You March With Us?**  
_Cheyenne Dyer, Katie Fox, Kayla Jackson, Eric Smith_  
Join students from the “March: A Civil Rights Journey at 50” Alternative Break Immersion Trip as they reflect on the experience’s impact on their commitment to making justice work, in its many forms, a part of their life's work.

D. **Teaching Caritas/Veritas in a Free-Market Environment**  
_Peter K. Fallon_  
Free-market principles pervade not only our economy, but our very culture, engendering attitudes that are inimical to Catholic social teaching. This paper argues that it is not only the work of Dominican educators, but also a moral obligation, to act as counter-agents to an ideology that reduces all human values to monetary values.

and

**Ready for the Weekend: How the Catholic Church Saved the American Worker**  
_Timothy Milinovich_  
The Industrial Revolution introduced many luxuries for society, but also began a new dark age in the treatment of workers. This presentation will talk about how the Catholic Church’s preaching about human dignity and the value of work helped to improve working conditions in the US and across the globe.

E. **To Profess: How 'the Professions' Differ from Other Occupations and Why It Matters**  
_Matt Hlinak_  
What is the difference between a job and a profession? The root of the word “professional” is the verb “to profess,” meaning to make a public declaration, like the vows taken by those entering religious life. This paper will explore the significance of professionals’ actual or implied public declarations to both themselves and the people they serve.

and

**An Unresolved Balance: Am I a Teacher Who Writes or a Writer Who Teaches?**  
_Warren G. Green_  
As many of us contemplate the question of what constitutes a life’s work we find ourselves in dynamic tension between two (or more) aspects of that work. This tension begs the question: What balance are we to strike between our teaching and the practice of our area of expertise? Both represent our work, but which comes first? In this presentation I will address the tensions between the dual callings as Facilitator of Learning and as Creative Writer, between responsibilities existing between the individual and the community, and how, through _Caritas et Veritas_, the possibility of balance between dual callings might be achieved.

F. **For Better or Worse? The Role of Computers and Technology in our Lives and in the Future**  
_Esmail Bonakdarian, Mark Hodges_  
Professors of computer science present competing views of the role computers and technology play in our lives, and how that may change in the near future. Mark Hodges will present the optimistic view: how technology can save lives and improve our style of living. Esmail Bonakdarian will shed light on some of the hidden costs such as the effects of being “always connected” and the loss of privacy.
G. Cultural and Social Contexts for Work and Calling: Dominican faculty and staff explore the meaning and impact of work in Africa
Felice E. Maciejewski, Jessica Mackinnon, Anthony Ochiabator ’14, Kathleen Odell, Alfred Rosenbloom, Joyce Shim
Our panel of presenters from multiple departments will explore how the meaning and impact of one’s work can be understood within an international context. The discussion will incorporate our interactions with individuals and communities encountered during a trip to Kenya and Tanzania with Global Alliance for Africa (GAA) in December of 2014.

H. Humans of Dominican: The Multiple Perspectives of a Story
Mark Carbonara ’07, Vimla Dayal ’13, Jaymee Lewis, Roberta McMahon, Sherri Wick
How does work interact with individual lives and society? The goal of this highly interactive session is to provide practical and experiential training that encourages individuals to recognize their own stories and how their stories influence building and maintaining relationships in the workplace.

1:45 p.m. Concurrent Sessions IV

A. The Work of Human Hands: A Dramatization of a More Just and Humane World
Anthony Suarez-Abraham, Students from LAS 329: Work, Identity, and Class in Latino Chicago
This creative expression presentation by the students of the LAS 329 seminar, along with their professor, will dramatize how the “invisibility” of the Latino/a working class of Chicago has made it difficult, if not impossible, for segments of the population to ever consider questions related to a life’s work and how, through caritas et veritas, a life’s work must be motivated towards the creation of a more just and humane world.

B. Helping Students Discover their Calling Via a Career Development Course
Daniel Beach, Tracy Caldwell, Robert Calin-Jageman, Carlissa Hughes, Sherri Wick
In this panel, Career Development staff and Psychology faculty will share their experiences in building and running a Career Development for Psychology majors and minors course and students will share their experiences taking the course.

C. When the Records Come Alive!
Danielle Becker, Heather Hummons, Michaelene Orzechowski, Cecilia L. Salvatore, Pamela Upsher
In many archives and cultural heritage institutions, there are many records that will entrance, uplift, or perplex. These are records that are waiting to be discovered. In this session, we will take samples of these records and make them come alive. Each audience member will have the opportunity to: 1) read an original story, an original record; 2) think about the person, the creator of that story; and 3) role-play as he/she reads the story aloud. After each reading, other members of the audience will reflect and comment on the stories and the creators of these stories.

D. Center for Community Engagement: Training for Service and Engagement as Vocation
John DeConstanza, Jacob Lesniewski, Paul Simpson, MaDonna Thelen
A presentation by the McCormick Foundation/Illinois Campus Compact Strategic Civic Leader Fellows of the plan for a Center For Community Engagement at Dominican, which will attempt to weave civic and community engagement more fully into the fabric of our university.

E. Your Life Is Your Work
Dianne Costanzo
Everyone is asked, "What do you want to do with your life?" Often, the conversation veers in the direction of career paths. In addition to that important consideration, there might be another way to address this question: who do you want to be in the world? In this reflection, we shall sink into those questions to see if we can explore the necessary tension between being and doing in order to create a disposition of purpose.

F. "The Disease of Being Busy:" Reflections and Remedies
Ann Hillman
In the words of Islamic writer Omid Safi, Americans of all ages and abilities, backgrounds and beliefs, are suffering from the “disease of being busy.” What can bring healing to this dis-ease in a culture where we are continually “plugged in” and find it difficult to slow down? Let’s reflect together on the challenges and hope of finding a balanced rhythm between work and rest as we explore the wisdom of Sabbath-keeping and mindfulness from some of the world’s great religions.

G. Learning and Life's Work
Greg Harman, Susan McDonough, Josephine Sarvis, Penny Silvers
Participants will join four School of Education faculty in examining how life experiences and learning have shaped our beliefs and how those beliefs have led to our life’s calling and work. Using interactive forms of expression, participants will engage in written narrative and poetry, create visual images, use digital media to create short videos, and use other multimodal tools to explore personal educational journeys, with time to share insights into the reciprocal relationships between life and work.

H. The Work that Laudato Si' Calls Us to Do
Omar AlShekhmubarak, Gerald Gulley, Rachel Hart Winter, Amy McCormack, Richard Woods, OP
"Laudato Si,” Pope Francis's recent encyclical on caring for the earth, our common home, has provoked an unprecedented level of response from around the world. The encyclical calls for spiritual awakening, global social and economic change, and careful rethinking of our individual ways of life. It also calls for hard, collective work. In this panel, members of Dominican's administration, faculty, staff, and student body will discuss the different kinds of work that Laudato Si’ calls us to do, individually and together.

3:15 p.m. Academic Convocation