The St. Norbert College Peace and Justice Center
Annual Report
2010-11

Mission

St. Norbert College Mission Statement:
St. Norbert College, a Catholic liberal arts college embracing the Norbertine ideal of communio, provides an educational environment that fosters intellectual, spiritual and personal development.

St. Norbert College Vision Statement:
St. Norbert aspires to be the most highly esteemed liberal arts college in Wisconsin and one of the top five Catholic liberal arts colleges in the United States. This advance will reflect the successful pursuit of excellence by every member of the college community.

Division of Mission and Heritage Mission Statement:
The Division of Mission and Heritage cultivates the experience of communio throughout the college by promoting a deep and integrated understanding of the Catholic, Norbertine, and liberal arts traditions and by fostering spiritual growth as essential to the development of the whole person.

Division of Mission and Heritage Vision Statement:
In the tradition of St. Norbert of Xanten, each member of the St. Norbert College community will understand and embody our three core traditions and journey ever closer to the ideal of communio that calls us to grow in our connection to the Divine, build an inclusive and hospitable community, and serve the common good.

Peace and Justice Center Mission Statement:
Through curricular and co-curricular programs, we partner with all academic disciplines in cultivating awareness, compassion and commitment to justice and the building of sustainable peace.

Peace and Justice Center Vision Statement:
The Peace and Justice Center provides resources and opportunities for the St. Norbert College community and others to discuss, understand and partner for change in some of the most complex issues of our time. Our curricular and co-curricular programs help prepare students to engage with issues of peace and justice both locally and globally with clarity and charity.

Institutional Priorities
St. Norbert College’s 2010 Strategic Plan contains several direct references to the Peace and Justice Center. Under the direction of the President’s Cabinet, the college is focusing on identified strategies this year, reporting progress to the Stewardship Committee. The identified strategies affecting the PJC, with italicized updates on progress, follow. Strategies that are repeated in several places will be cited per their first occurrence.

1.2.1 (2) — “Coordinate the offering of special electives, course assignments, and PJC co-curricular programs around an annual theme pertaining to Catholic Social Teaching.”
The campus-wide discussion of this strategy seems to have stalled somewhat after our second interaction with the representatives from Elmhurst College. However, the PJC is going to be more intentional with identified themes in the coming year, particularly in cooperation with the Priority Six Group, which has agreed upon the theme of Solidarity for the coming academic year. That theme will also be the focus of student training in MSA in August.

1.2.1 (4) — “Create a "Priority 6" group that would include all departments (curricular and co-curricular) that touch on areas of local and global community engagement and be coordinated by the Center for Community Service and Learning.” This group has been created, and it will be led in the future by the Senior Director of Community Engagement.

1.2.1 (6) — “Launch Study Group in Global and Local Community Engagement.” This study group was successfully launched, and the participants submitted plans to apply relevant principles in their areas of work on campus. Funding does not continue for the coming year, but a successful start may enable us to repeat the experience in the near future.

1.4.5 (4) — “Develop and launch Faculty Fellows Program in Peace and Justice.” Significant progress has been made on this goal. Conversations with the dean have yielded his initial approval, but the arrangement needs to be finalized and implemented.

6.4.4 (1) — “PJC AND OIE to co-lead international trip with selected alumni, faculty, and staff to visit students studying or serving abroad, serve alongside them, and understand issues of human dignity in the region.” Significant progress has been made on this goal. The VP of Mission and Student Affairs, a PJC intern, a board member, the Associate Dean of Student Development, and a faculty member traveled with the PJC director to South Africa, Zambia, and Swaziland in May to explore potential collaborations. Conversations continue, with several possibilities being discussed.

6.4.4 (2) — “Seek to collaborate on student learning with established local and global organizations and institutions that promote social justice.” Significant and ongoing progress has been made in this area. In addition to the international collaborations discussed in southern Africa May 2011, we have arranged a faculty development workshop in collaboration with Kroc Institute (Notre Dame) for fall 2011, and we are also collaborating with local organizations and school districts re: poverty and homelessness in Brown County.

**Annual Goals and Measured Outcomes**

In addition to the goals identified above, we had several aims within the Mission and Heritage Division Plan for 2010-11. Those goals, with italicized assessments, follow:
• “The PJC will collaborate broadly within the SNC community.” This is an ongoing goal for us at the PJC. Our on-campus collaborations were down slightly this last year, but still over 20. Our off-campus collaborations increased.

• “Explore possibility of new May term course for PJ minor with international trip component and opportunity for audit by staff and alumni.” Significant progress has been made on this goal. An opportunity was created in collaboration with UWGB for a human rights travel course to Slovakia, but interested SNC students were unable to afford it. Potential collaborations in South Africa abound, with conversations continuing following our trip there in May 2011.

• “Raise profile, sustainability, and reach of Miller lectures.” This goal was unquestionably accomplished, with very successful events, elevated profile, and the strong likelihood of additional funding.

• “Publish and distribute guidelines for civil discourse.” Campus-wide civility guidelines are being formulated by a committee of Mission and Student Affairs staff, with expected distribution at convocation in August 2011.

• “Conduct a training for all student orgs in civil discourse.” This goal was not accomplished, but there is much hope for more extensive collaborations under the reorganized division of Mission and Student Affairs.

• “Increase the visibility and influence of the PJC both locally and globally by increasing the web presence of the PJC, developing a new marketing plan, increasing conference participation, developing an informative program for local high schools, and offering international training.” All of this has been accomplished except for the high school program, which may not be a fit in this area. Instead we sponsored a very successful essay contest for Miller Lecture and collaborated in elementary programs. International training was conducted in Zambia in May.

• “Explore possibility of co-hosting conference at SNC for Rwandan and Burundian pastors in U.S.” The PJC hosted a three day convocation of Rwandan leaders in February, coming to the conclusion that area-wide trainings would be useful. We are continuing in conversation while seeking financial support for these gatherings.

• “The PJC will increase the quality and availability of resources available on its website.” Resource links have been reconfigured and improved. Topical links are being developed. We hope to make more progress on this goal in the coming year.

• “Increase writing by PJC director in strategic publications.” No progress made on this goal.

• “Increase outside funding for the PJC.” After multiple conversations with our Advancement representatives, we approached a donor and requested a major gift. We are waiting for her response.

• “The Peace and Justice Center will seek to educate the campus community through programs that cultivate awareness, compassion, and commitment to justice throughout the year.” We sponsored many successful programs this year. While we believe they cultivated the above values, we hope to improve our college-wide assessments with regard to this objective.