Charisms in Student Teaching

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Jesuit Charisms – Programs in Education Department

The programs within the Education Department are based upon a constructivist philosophy in which effective leaders “construct learning and understanding from previous knowledge, skills, dispositions, charisms and experiences. Charisms, drawn from Ignation core values, are defined as special gifts of the Holy Spirit, or God-given graces, which characterize a person or group and are used to contribute to the common good and glorify God in the Church and world. The charisms selected by the Education Department for inclusion within the curriculum and educational experiences are: Cura Personalis – personal care of the whole individual-caring relationships; Magis – the more-striving toward excellence; Men and Women for and with Others – service-building community and all inclusive classrooms; and Contemplation in Action – a faith-based process of reflection and prayerful moral and ethical decision making. The reflective decision making process of the effective leader is developed through strengthening of critical thinking and problem solving skills. Students utilize reflective decision making to evaluate their own educational experiences, actions and consequences, and develop a personal plan for improvement. Effective leaders are reflective of the charisms.

Field Experiences

The program within the Education Department also provides students with practical experiences in an actual school setting under the supervision and guidance of a highly qualified classroom teacher in the area for which the students are seeking endorsements.

Evaluation Form

As supervising teachers evaluate the work of our teacher candidates, consideration is given to Ignatian/Jesuit Charisms. The teacher candidates are rated on their ability to understand, value, and bring to teaching the following faith-based gifts and ideals, as listed on the evaluation form:

- **Cura Personalis**: Displays and responds to a personal concern for the individual; demonstrates an ethic of care and dignity; realizes that education occurs within a context of caring relationships.
- **Magis**: Strives toward excellence; sets high expectations of oneself; demonstrates potential by personal, spiritual and professional development activities.
- **Men and Women For and With Others**: Commits to sharing gifts and building an inclusive society; fosters respect and dignity; service/stewardship and education for social justice.
- **Contemplation in Action**: Utilizes ethical, reflective decision making; examines beliefs and actions; advocates action; empowers others.