Calling All Readers Book Discussions

Lily Endowment, Inc., provided funds from 2003 to 2011 which laid the foundation for a culture of vocation-as-calling.

For eight years Creighton Faculty and Staff have explored the theology of vocation focusing on:
1. our individual response in relationship to God
2. our response to others in community and
3. the relationship between fulfillment and sacrifice for the good of one’s community.

To accomplish this, Cardoner at Creighton provides the university community with opportunities to explore and reflect upon how faith, their personal lives, and their professional lives interrelate. Topics covered at events included balancing vocation and life, the exploration of theology, recognizing and using our gifts, and Ignatian values in work and life to name a few.

Evaluation of Program Activities

Participants’ Feedback:
“Loved that we could learn and talk with someone miles away.” (on Skyping)
“Cross-campus interest indicates the importance of this topic.”
“We need more presentations like this.”
“Excellent subject to familiarizing most of the population.” (Eastern philosophy)
“Very moving and encouraging to know organizations like this are doing such wonderful work.” (Computers for Africa – Uganda).
“Helen Fox’s offering was rich and grounded in personal experience. It heartened me and affirmed my approach to teaching.”
“It’s wonderful that the speakers addressed being called and also how to incorporate the mission into everything we do.” (Africa, Chiwengo, Rodlach)
“It was nice to see a mix of faculty, administrators, staff and students. I think these events do a lot to bring these groups together to bear about and discuss topics of mutual concern.”

Book discussions featured:
• Skype presentations with the authors
• Health Policy and Ethics annual book discussion
• Meditation and Eastern cultural influences seeking spirituality

Staff and Faculty Retreat Days

“From Vision to Mission” for the College of Arts and Sciences
“An Evening of Reflection for Creighton Staff: Significant or Important?”
“Critical self-reflection” for the School of Nursing
Ignatian Silent Retreats – four or eight days, including spiritual direction
Challenge Five Minute Exercises for faculty, staff and students of the School of Pharmacy

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Part of the series Spirituality in History, the authors Eileen Burke-Sullivan and Kevin Burke, S.J. talk about men and women influenced by Ignatius.

“An Ignatian Advent(ure)” with Greg Carlson, S.J.
Annual Staff Retreat Day and Spiritual Direction – Larry Gillick, S.J.
Call to Serve in the Community: How were they called? How are you called?
Brian Kokensparger – Arts & Sciences
Brian Henriksen – Pharmacy Sciences
“Finding Soul and Work in Life” a roundtable discussion with Drs. Prafulla and Vasant Raval
“Called to Service in the Third World” with Dr. Ngwarsungu Chiwengo and Dr. Alex Rodlach

Cardoner at Creighton is named after the Cardoner River in Spain where Ignatius of Loyola found guidance for his personal calling in life.