All Things Ignatian

Interdisciplinary Ed.D. Program in Leadership: Leading and Living the Charisms

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Why Creighton and this Program?

Current students in the Ed.D. program were interviewed and shared their experiences with the program and the Jesuit experience.

“Considering that I am working, I wanted it online. …One of the reasons I chose Creighton was because I am a Muslim and faith is an integral part of my life. At Creighton I can do work in the name of God” (Sahadatu Abugari Alolo, Ottawa, Canada – 2 days into the program).

“The first thing is that it is Ignatian and the Catholic component is very important to me, if not in the whole nomenclature but just the whole aspect of taking care of people, and service. Secondly, I loved Creighton's tradition and the reputation that it had. On the East coast not a lot of people know about it, I like to be in a hybrid program, and I love the idea of interdisciplinary: Hearing other peoples’ disciplines really helped me clinch the decision” (Karen Cook, Princeton, NJ – shortly before defense).

“I researched quite a few doctoral programs nothing seemed to fit me and what I want. I actually stumbled across Creighton. I looked at the core values, the mission statement, course offerings of this program. It had courses that directly related to the things that I do on a regular basis. …As far as the mission and Ignatian values, I’m a very spiritual person and it’s how I operate everyday it’s a foundation of how I function every day. The program is completely aligned in almost every aspect of my life: the spiritual, the emotional, the personal, and professional” (Jol Irby, Harrisonburg, VA – 1 year away from graduation).

What Does the Jesuit Component Mean to You?

“We exist for the public good, and higher education is for the public good. So the Jesuit values of always aiming for the greater good, always being reflective of your actions while you are doing them and after you have made them, and always having that commitment to social justice, in both, how it applies in the program and how we apply it in our practice” (Recent graduate, Dr. Matt Ceppi, Carlsbad, CA).

“I think the idea of service and how I can bring service into the government. Being a public servant means something different, I think, to those in the government who may not share the same values and so learning a different way to use these Jesuit values in the government has been really rewarding” (Laura Blanton, Fort Collins, CO – 2 terms into the program).

“There are two main things: …Obviously since they are a Jesuit institution they focus on service, which has always been a big part of my life and continues to be. Also the term magis which means to strive for more. I know for myself I want to take it as far as I can take it and Creighton has allowed me to do that” (Matt Tucker, New York – 3 months before defense).

“My perspective on leadership has changed since coming into this program thinking of what this can do for me, what it can do professionally, to more now what can I do for others toward my family, my work community, for my broader community. Also the whole concept of magis and doing more and striving for excellence, and what that means is not just work but in all facets of life. I think this program is helping me become a better husband, father, community member, and board member for the non-profits for which I work.” (Rob Zinkan, Richmond, Indiana – 1 year in program).

What One Word Would You Use to Describe the Ed.D. Program?

“Impressive, Transformational, Personal, Challenging, Self-Defining, Fulfilling” (Mo Paknejad, Glenmore, PA, 1 year before graduation).

Lori Gigliotti, M.S.
Director of Enrollment Services

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