DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE
New M.Ed. Cohort

Xavier’s Center For Catholic Education is involved in a number of extraordinary projects. One notable project is our cohort Master of Education degree program that began in January 2008. The 62-member cohort of Catholic school teachers and administrators are taking the first 12 semester hours of the 30-semester-hour program at Purcell Marian High School. These courses are being offered with an emphasis on Catholic education. The balance of the program’s course work will be completed on Xavier’s campus. The group is receiving a 60 percent tuition scholarship. This opportunity makes a Xavier Master’s degree available to Catholic school teachers while enhancing Catholic education in our area. Participants can choose degree concentrations from Elementary Education, Secondary Education, School Administration, Reading, Children’s Literature, Multi-Cultural Literature, and Special Education.

We are also working with a number of these and other Catholic school teachers to obtain state teacher licensure. Teacher licensure is important because it helps to insure the preparation of all teachers and is key to quality assessments and accreditation.

Although I have only highlighted one of our projects, The Xavier Center is about invigorating Catholic Education for a bright future.

ASSOCIATE’S NOTES
Reaching Schools

As the new Masters cohort moves into mid-term, the 62 students and educators in the program are an interesting blend of experience and intellectual interest. Saint Anselm said that theology is “faith seeking understanding” and the new program’s pedagogy might well be termed “experience seeking understanding.”

Each degree seeker is an experienced teacher, already teaching in the Catholic school system. These teachers represent 27 elementary schools, 6 high schools, and the St. Rita School for the Deaf.

This program also continues the partnership that the Center for Catholic Education has established with the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, since all but three of the teachers teach in the archdiocese (the other three teach in the diocese of Covington). In this new program, the Center has a special opportunity for promoting Catholic education by providing a foundation in history, philosophy, and the theory of education that is not only open to Catholic teaching but is guided by it.

The four instructors in the first two courses all have Catholic education pedigrees: Al Early, Principal of Purcell Marian High School; Roger Bosse, interim director of Xavier’s Office of Graduate Services; Larry Bowman, superintendent of Education for the Diocese of Covington; and myself.

Purcell Marian High School is the sixth and latest offsite degree program for Xavier University.
Mark Brown
To Address Teachers and Students

Mark Brown will return to Xavier University as the 2008 speaker in the annual Ann Buenger Catholic Speaker Series. This year’s event will be hosted at Xavier’s Cintas Center on October 30th at 4pm. In addition Mark will present his acclaimed “no-bullying” program to Catholic School students during the morning. Nearly 2,600 seventh and eighth grade students participated in the program last Fall. Mark Brown’s work is part of the outreach program of Reader’s Digest and Catholic Digest. This is an event you will not want to miss. Watch for more details in September. Both Mark Brown events will be free but reservations will be required.

Initiative For Catholic Schools
Applications Due

Through the generosity of the Clement and Ann Buenger Foundation, Xavier University, in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, has pioneered an outstanding professional development program for Catholic elementary educators in the Greater Cincinnati area for the past four years—The Initiative for Catholic Schools (ICS). Thirty-five area elementary schools have already participated in this special educational opportunity. Application for participation is again open to any Catholic elementary school in the Northern Kentucky/Cincinnati area. Fifteen schools will be selected to participate in the professional development opportunity. The application deadline is April 9th and more details can be found at the link:

http://www.xavier.edu/Education/ics.cfm

Xavier Hosts Teacher Awards

The presidents of Northern Kentucky University, the University of Cincinnati, and Xavier University have joined together to honor teachers who exemplify the best in classroom instruction and professional involvement with their schools and community.

Two elementary, middle school, and high school teachers will be selected from the Greater Cincinnati area to receive the six Outstanding Teacher Awards for 2008. The winners will receive a cash prize of $1,000 and an award plaque noting their achievement. The keynote address will be presented by Guy Doud, a National Teacher of the Year. All area teachers are invited to attend. Please RSVP to 513-745-3477.