DEEPENING THE UNIVERSAL APOSTOLIC PREFERENCES 2019-29 AT XAVIER

This plan for the decade was the result of a thorough discernment process, originating from the collaborations and workings of the 2019 “XU UAP Discernment Group” with subsequent input from the campus community through 2020.

OVERARCHING COMMITMENTS

KEEP THE UAPS TOP OF MIND FOR ALL PEOPLE WITHIN THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY

As Superior General Fr Arturo Sosa underscores regarding the UAPs: “they are not priorities, nor are they a strategic plan. They are more about how we do things than what we do and they are the ‘true north’...So I ask you, as collaborators and friends in the Lord, to embrace and advance these four preferences in your work.”

SUPPORT ‘COMMUNITARIAN’ ACTION

Inspire an esprit de corps among all Xavier people to work together for the common good and advancement of the UAPs (in a similar manner as the campus COVID19-Taskforce did during the pandemic)

To show the way to God through the Spiritual Exercises and discernment.

2019 BEST PRACTICES

- Programs of the Center for Mission and Identity
- Programs and structures of the Dorothy Day Center for Faith & Justice
- The campus culture of living the gifts of the Ignatian heritage
- Academic programs, especially the Ethics/Religion & Society focus of the Core Curriculum
- Service and immersion programs
- Bellarmine Chapel on campus

NEXT STEPS

- Incorporating the daily Examen, prayer or/and reflection even more broadly in the classroom and in meetings
- Offer more retreats and spiritual professional development opportunities for faculty, staff, and students
- More intentionally utilize communal discernment processes, especially at the administrative levels of the university
- Initiate the vocational discernment opportunities via the Road through Xavier
- Post more inspirational signs and quotes on campus
- Develop a cohort of trained spiritual directors for the Spiritual Exercises

ASPIRATIONAL ADVANCES

- Provide more financial support/procure endowments for more spiritual retreat opportunities
- Develop chaplaincy programs for interested clubs, teams, programs and other intact groups
To walk with the poor, the outcasts of the world, those whose dignity has been violated, in a mission of reconciliation and justice.

2019 BEST PRACTICES
• Community-engaged learning opportunities
• Support services for students
• Academic programs, centers and curricular programming around social justice
• Faculty and staff professional development opportunities
• External engagement commitments, including the CBI, Brueggeman and Eigel centers

NEXT STEPS
• Deepen curricular programming around social justice
• Increase faculty and staff professional development on concerns of the poor and marginalized which inspires advocacy
• Further partner with community, regional, and national organizations and agencies to share resources and expand impact
• Create a campus clothes closet for winter weather and professional interviews

ASPIRATIONAL ADVANCES
• Secure funding/endowments to support study abroad, Alternative Breaks and other experiential programming for students
• Remove financial barriers for students attending Xavier
• Compensate work (faculty/staff) at regional/market standards
• Deepen support for interdisciplinary research and curricular programming
• Support and offer more Immersion experiences for faculty and staff

To accompany young people in the creation of a hope-filled future.

2019 BEST PRACTICES
• High-impact learning and support opportunities for students
• The spirituality-focused programs of the Dorothy Day Center for Faith and Justice
• Campus emphasis on cura personalis
• Community-based learning opportunities
• The Core Curriculum is mapped against the Ignatian values

NEXT STEPS
• Focus more intentionally on student well-being and thriving
• Continue to emphasize and prioritize diversity and mentoring
• Encourage and support faculty and staff in serving as role models
• Complete the development of The Road Through Xavier and begin implementation
• Expand recognitions for students engaged academically in service, commitment to justice, and climate work, etc.
ASPIRATIONAL ADVANCES

• Create a University-wide focus on the climate-crisis in programming and building to create hopefulness in students of this generation
• Provide more financial-aid and retention supports to increase the number of low-income students able to attend and to succeed at Xavier, especially from neighboring Norwood/Evanston communities
• Procure an endowment to support more study abroad opportunities

2019 BEST PRACTICES

• Academic programs in sustainability
• Xavier’s annual hosting of the Midwest Regional Sustainability Summit
• Supporting the Xavier Student Sustainability Group in its initiatives
• Collaborating to maintain the NEXUS Community Garden
• Following LEED standards with every major facility new construction or renovation
• Using solar-powered vehicles by Physical Plant
• Xavier’s faculty provide sustainability leadership for the Jesuit network

NEXT STEPS

• Identify a current staff or faculty member to serve as the Director of Sustainability for a portion of their position -reporting to the VP for Facilities
• Review the recommendations and implementation of the 2010 Campus Sustainability Plan and publicize the results
• Review current waste disposal methods and use of landscaping chemicals
• Ensure that there is at least one option to work for the environment in the Xavier Days of Solidarity and Service (faculty/staff) and Alternative Breaks (students)
• Reduce Xavier’s waste stream of paper, water, plastic, etc
• Collaborate with our Jesuit institution network on common goals and share resources

ASPIRATIONAL ADVANCES

• (Re-)Hire a full-time Director of Sustainability
• Create and support the use of low-emission vehicles
• Provide the resources necessary to honor the University’s commitment to the Cincinnati 2030 District
• Review all current investments in fossil fuel companies
• Make green space more inviting upon the razing of any current facility (i.e., lots on Dana Ave.)