**CAPSTONE PROJECT/REFLECTION**

**Glenn Welling**

As my Seminars on Ignatian Leadership experience comes to its conclusion, I wish to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for the privilege to participate. Not only did I have the opportunity to meet new colleagues from across the University, I was exposed to concepts and principles that I had not previously experienced.

The idea of Ignatian Belonging, along with the principles of God’s presence and will; Ignatian Indifference; and active listening are just a few that align with my own spiritual journey and that I will incorporate more fully into my work and daily life.

As the Director of the Veteran and Military Family Center, I am committed to our stated mission of contributing to our Military Affiliated Students’ “unlimited success in the classroom and beyond.” We have an extraordinarily diverse student population with a vast array of life experiences; some of which are hugely beneficial while others may still stand in the way of their success.

Success is ultimately defined by the individual, so by embracing the I.D.E.A.S (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility and Social Justice) of Ignatian Belonging, it allows us to meet our students where they are, not where we wish them to be at the moment.

Truly listening to our students and actively encouraging them to be open and honest with their dreams and goals, without being judged, incorporates the principle of Ignatian Indifference, where there is no pre-determined outcome or self-serving objective, but rather relying on God’s presence and will to guide all of our decisions.

These concepts apply not only to our student engagement, but across our University experience as well. As we navigate the ongoing challenges of growth and sustainability within our own Center, and the changes across the broader organization as we drive toward Xavier’s third century, we will all need to strive to embrace these principles.

As I continue to contemplate and incorporate these values into my daily life, I experience a profound sense of relief knowing that we are not walking this path alone but we are in concert with one another and our ultimate destiny.