

UIW Mission Newsletter

Volume 3 Issue 1

January-February, 2007

“Meet and Greet” at Wellness Center Puts Focus on New Year’s Resolutions.

Scott LeBlanc, Director of the Wellness Center, welcomed a group of faculty and staff eager to see the new equipment in the Center and to re-energize their resolution to stay with a workout routine.



Scott LeBlanc, serving as tour guide, demonstrated how some of the new equipment works.

Participants could check blood pressure and determine their body mass index as an incentive to continue regular exercise. The Retreat Advisory Council which helped to sponsor the event provided healthy fruit and vegetable snacks for the occasion.

S. Dorothy Ettling Receives 2007 Voice and Vision Award

S. Dorothy, Professor in the Dreeben School of Education, received the **Women’s Chamber of Commerce Voice and Vision Award** at a banquet held at the Westin Hotel on January 19th.

S. Dorothy is the Founder and Co-director of **Women’s Global Connection**, a virtual gathering place for women around the world to share their wisdom, experience and spirituality.

In addition, several times a year, S. Dorothy

leads teams of faculty and students to give workshops and assist with business development plans in Tanzania and Zambia. One major endeavor underway is the **Children under Seven Project** which will help to give young children a better start in life. It will also assist caregivers to deal with the multitude of challenges that are part of raising extended families who have lost one or more parents from AIDS.

S. Dorothy was one of ten outstanding women honored by the



Chamber for major contributions to advancing the cause of women and making life better for the underserved in the city and nation.

Black History Month

The Black Student Association is hosting a variety of activities throughout February to celebrate black heritage and history.

Schools Put Emphasis on Heart Health

On Valentine’s Day, the School of Nursing and Health Professions, Feik School of Pharmacy, School of Math, Science and Engineering, Humanities, Arts and Sciences and Interactive Media and Design

co-sponsored a health fair and red dress fashion show to highlight women’s risk for heart disease. Speaker Beverly Purcell-Guerra, Editor of San Antonio Woman, encouraged women to follow healthy life patterns.



Trevor Alexander has his blood pressure checked at the Health Fair.

Lent's 40 Days: Time for Renewal

Lent 2007 begins on February 21st when the Church celebrates Ash Wednesday. Typically, Lent conjures up images of fasting from things—some very innocuous—to which we are most addicted.

Fr. Michael Guinan, OFM, presents a more positive picture when he describes the forty days of Lent as a “**preparation for some special action of the Lord.**” Lent, he says, “is the Church’s annual ‘wilderness experience,’ its retreat to ask again the basic questions.”

It is also a time of journeying forward: “*After the flood in Genesis, a new creation begins. After Moses converses with God, the*



covenant is renewed. After Israel’s wandering in the wilderness, they will enter into the Promised Land. . . . After Jesus’ temptation, he begins his public ministry; after the Ascension, we enter the age of the church. At the end of the season of Lent, we celebrate Holy Week and the great feast of Easter.” Lent, then, might best be lived in a spirit of renewal and revitalization. As people who will spend the forty days of Lent in an academic environment, perhaps we might seek to examine and revitalize, where necessary, our academic vocation. How are we being the hands and feet and heart of the Incarnate Word as we go about our daily routine?

Lenten resources:

www.franciscanradio.org

www.americancatholic.org

U. N. Millennium Development Goals

- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- Achieve universal primary education
- Promote gender equality and empower women
- Reduce child mortality
- Improve maternal health
- Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- Ensure environmental stability
- Develop a global partnership for development

Millennium Development Goals: How Is UIW Engaged?

In September 2000, the United Nations issued the **Millennium Declaration**, a promise to make major inroads in eradicating poverty and its causes. The Declaration coalesced into eight goals (see above) which, with the help of good people and governments around the world, are to be achieved by 2015.

The University of the Incarnate

Word has been responding to the call of these major goals through its service-learning efforts at home and in several countries. In particular,

Women’s Global Connection has invited UIW faculty and students to offer education for early-childhood teach-

ers in Zambia and for women’s economic cooperatives in Tanzania. Other initiatives include developing literacy programs for remote regions in Peru and working in underserved areas of San Antonio.

“We have the opportunity in the

continued below:

“Passionate learning, supported by a compassionate community of students and scholars, can be the beginning of lifelong transformation of self, and through one’s service to others, of society. This is wisdom in the Augustinian tradition. . . .”

Spirit and Life Series Presents Cuban-born Theologian and Author

Dr. Isasi-Diaz Explores Latinas’ Faith



Saying that, “a new order of relationships is the meaning of justice today,” Ada Isasi-Diaz described the particularities of Latinas’ Catholicism: it is practice-centered, communal and part of their self iden-

tity. By 2050 there will be no numerical majority group in the U.S., so Diaz stressed the need to capitalize on our similarities and appreciate the richness of our diversity. Already, Latinas make up more than 50% of the Catholic Church in the U.S. so that calls for understanding the other’s perspective on God and worship as it has emerged from history.

coming decade to cut world poverty by half. Billions more people could enjoy the fruits of the global economy. **Tens of millions of lives can be saved.** . . . All that is needed is action.” —*from Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals*

See *America*, February 13, 2006 for an update on Zambia’s progress on the Millennium Goals.