

UIW Mission News

Volume 2 Issue 9

November-December, 2005

News Notes

- Special thanks to the recycling crew: Johanna Anthony, Balta Peral, Oscar Perez, Eva Prieto, Shylene Coronado, Elisa Avila and Eduardo Galan who faithfully volunteer their time twice a week to pick up paper and newsprint in the Administration Building.
- Congratulations to SGA and the 213 students who collected 4,000 lbs of food through the Golden Harvest Project. Eight charities benefited from their efforts. They received a city and state proclamation recognizing their consistent service.
- "Peru: Faith and Solidarity" Tour will take place June 1 to 14, 2006. The tour is being hosted by Maria Elena Schuerman, Director of Associate Members of the Incarnate Word Congregation and Sr. Martha Ann Kirk..
- Rev. James E. Hug, SJ, will speak about: "What Does the Lord Require: The Demands of Social Justice for Christians Today," at the February 3rd, 2006 Spirit and Life Conference at the ICC.

UIW "Lights the Way"

"In the beginning was the Word: the Word was God...All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark....Jn. 1.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of Incarnate Word's dramatic lighting of the campus during the Christmas season. The lights are a sign of joy and also of hope, a virtue sorely needed amidst today's darkness.

Archbishop Gomez' opening invocation, the St. Anthony Jazz Band and the young student voices from St. Anthony's, St. Peter's and Incarnate Word High School joined the University Chorale in expressing Christmas sentiments of peace and jubilation. Tejano singer and international recording artist Patsy Torres delighted the audience with her songs and pyrotechnic show.

Special guests such as the Mayor of Kumamoto,



San Antonio's sister city, and members of the local city council enjoyed having a part in illuminating the campus. The lights turn on before Thanksgiving to give students time to enjoy them prior to graduation in early December.

A special word of appreciation is extended to HEB for its support of Light the Way over the years.

Let our campus prayer this Advent season be: "Protect us from all anxiety, Lord, as we wait in joyful hope."

"Living the Legacy" Community Service Efforts to Mark the 125th Anniversary

Bishop Claude Marie Dubuis' call to service is still alive and well in twenty-first century UIW. This spiritual call: "Our Lord Jesus Christ seeks relief at your hands," is underpinning the "Living the Legacy:

125 hours for 125 Years" Project, kicked off on Peace Day.

To celebrate UIW's 125th anniversary in 2006, Campus Ministry will provide a process to recognize UIW employees' service

to their communities above and beyond their daily work commitments. Campus Ministry will also arrange group service projects so that as a community, UIW faculty and staff can work side by side for the betterment of society.

In the Spotlight:



A commemorative wreath honoring veterans was placed in Mission Plaza during a ceremony on Veterans' Day.

Dr. Agnese prepares to serve UIW students at the annual Spaghetti Dinner.



Students enjoyed spaghetti, Italian sausage and all the trimmings at the traditional Christmas dinner—Italian style!

Holy Land Garden Planted in Front of New MSE Building

On October 29th, representatives of the School of Math, Science and Engineering gathered to bless a small garden devoted to plants and herbs mentioned in sacred writings.

Flourishing in the Texas sun are plants such as olive trees, aloe, Syrian oregano (hyssop), and fig—all tagged with references to the Bible or Qur'an. Dr. Richard Peigler and S. Martha



Above: S. Martha Ann Kirk gathers a group from various religious traditions to bless the Holy Land Garden at the front of the new MSE building.

Ann Kirk pointed out that UIW now has students from over 47 countries so efforts are made to help them understand each others' religious traditions. "It is important," she said, "to work together to care for the earth created for all the human family."

S. Dorothy Ettlting Presents Moody Lecture on "A Global Agenda for Catholic Higher Education in the 21st Century: An Ordinary Journey"

S. Dorothy Ettlting, 2005-2006 Moody Professor, challenged her audience with an ambitious agenda for a Catholic university in the 21st century at her public lecture on November 16th.

S. Ettlting listed several imperatives that must be part of university discourse: the elimination of extreme poverty; provision of basic education for all, especially women; rec-

ognition of global interconnectedness; transformation of relationship with nature; commitment to values, while respecting pluralism; appreciation of and fostering of diverse cultures; and development of the capacity for critical self/human reflection.

As a Catholic university, UIW must educate students to understand these imperatives and to

know how they can be transformative shapers of a new world. Helping teachers to stay rooted in this transformative learning requires that their spirituality be nourished within the institution, within this "holy community." They must develop the capacity to listen deeply, to be open, to cultivate a contemplative spirit in a communal manner. "If you lift me up, you must be on higher ground." (Emerson)

UIW Vocabulary...

Mission Plaza

Mission Plaza (the flag circle) was dedicated on March 25, 1988, in honor of all the Sisters, especially the pioneering work of Sisters Columkille Colbert, Charles Marie Frank and Sor Maria Gabriela Virgen in education and Sisters Mary Vincent O'Donnell and Sor Maria Ala-

cogue Cerisola in healthcare.

A plaque with the script of the Mission and a commitment to rededicate ourselves to the spirit of service that inspired the Founders and that distinguished former colleagues was added on March 25, 1996, when the College achieved university status.

"These, then, are the qualities I would hope to find in the graduate of a great Catholic university: A Catholic vision; sensitivity to justice and injustice; appreciation of, and thirst for, knowledge; facility in spoken and written word; open-mindedness; critical capacity; ability to listen; willingness to serve."

Richard McCormick, SJ