

UIW Mission News

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First “Meet and Greet” of Fall 2004 Brings Joyful Spirit

Special thanks to the wonderful crew of the Dreeben School of Education, the HEB School of Business and the Provost’s Office for a joyful community gathering in “their home,” the Gorman Building. Guests enjoyed delicious treats, door prizes, and a tour of tastefully decorated offices.



Linking Past, Present, Future: UIW Celebrates its 123-Year Old Heritage

Heritage Day at UIW is celebrated close to October 15, the anniversary of the laying of the Motherhouse cornerstone on the Brackenridge property in 1899, thirty years after the first three Sisters arrived to operate Santa Rosa. It was in a wing of that Motherhouse that Incarnate Word Academy opened. From that small beginning it blossomed into what we know today as the University of the Incarnate Word.

Highlights of Heritage Day 2004 included a moving ceremony at the graves of Sisters Madeleine and Pierre. Children from St. Peter’s and St. Anthony’s sang the Hymn to the Incarnate Word and the SGA members prayed



for present and future generations of students.

Various groups responded to the Poster contest by depicting how their activities and clubs are even now creating UIW’s heritage. Winners of the contest are listed on the Mission Board.

Employees who have

served UIW from five to 40 years were honored at a ceremony in the Chapel of the Incarnate Word. Among them were UIW pillars, Dick McCracken, Maureen Halligan and Dr. Caroline Spana who received 40-year pins. The day concluded with a reception hosted at the Brackenridge Villa (the first Motherhouse).

Dr. Doyle Addresses Board of Trustees

Denise Doyle, Ph.D., Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, was the featured speaker at the Board of Trustees quarterly dinner meeting on October 7th. Doyle’s topic: “Educating Concerned and Enlightened Citizens: How We

Do it at UIW,” stressed UIW’s effort to teach students to be critical thinkers, aware of the issues facing them as citizens of a democracy. She also spoke about the importance of the liberal arts foundation for all majors, including business ma-

jors.

This lecture is part of the on-going effort to update Trustees about practical applications of the UIW Mission so that they can better carry out their responsibilities as guardians of that Mission.

Mission in Action: Social Justice Theme Dominates Fall Activities

Fall 2004 at the Word is full of events centering on social justice themes. "Share the Word" series invited Professor Simone Brown to discuss "Your Vote in the 2004 Election: Issues that Touch UIW Students and their Future." Brown supplied national and international statistical data that demonstrated the crucial need for students to be well informed about issues so that their vote would benefit them and future generations.

In the *Genetics, Bioethics and the Common Good Conference*, Dr. Maura Ryan from Notre Dame told the audience that the revolution taking place through discoveries in genomics posed

a moral challenge for the age. She said that all people, and church people in particular, must call for a global common good approach so



T: Brian Wallace presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Dr. Ryan.
R: Dr. Agnese greets Sr. Theresa McGrath, CHRISTUS VP.

that the results of genetic progress will be available to all, that the knowledge will be shared generously and that poor countries will be helped to apply that knowledge to problems specific to their circumstances. Such mobilization for the poor must take place even in the face of competition from the needs of economic development and the power of marketing.

Several upcoming events such as Peace Day : "If you want peace, work for justice," a "Catholic Social Teaching and Service Learning" lecture by Dr. Ambrose and a "Religious Diversity: Challenge and Promise" talk by Dr. Diana Eck from Harvard are also focused on social justice themes.

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Blessing of Animals Celebrates 30th Year

For 30 years, Incarnate Word has had the tradition of blessing the animals on October 4th, feast of St. Francis of Assisi. This 12th century

"Be praised, my Lord, through
all your creatures."

—Canticle of the Sun

Francis of Assisi

saint experienced God's glory in all of creation and invited all people to accept creation as part of one's own family.

Sister Martha Ann Kirk points out that "for the first time in history, humans are destroying parts of creation faster than they can regenerate, which she sees as a spiritual as well as a material crisis. Modern romantic images of Francis, Kirk says, fail to understand "his



prophetic invitation" to respect all of creation and to have compassion for anyone or anything that might be suffering.

Two of the many animals in "attendance" at the blessing ceremony presided over by S. Martha Ann Kirk.



Clingman Commissioned as Chair of UIW Board First layman to assume this position



In a moving ceremony in the Chapel of the Incarnate Word, Fully Clingman was commissioned as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees on October 8, 2004.

Having invited Fully and Gloria to stand before the congregation, Sister Helena asked those assembled to extend their hands in blessing and to

pray that Fully might lead the Board wisely through all the major decisions that will carry UIW into the future.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Sister presented him with a hand stitched copy of the chapel steeple as a reminder of his commitment to the gospel ministry he has undertaken.