



In This Issue:

COVID Dashboard	3
New Executive Secretary	3
Assessment Bites	5
Liturgy Prep	6
Where are They Now?	7

Birthday Corner

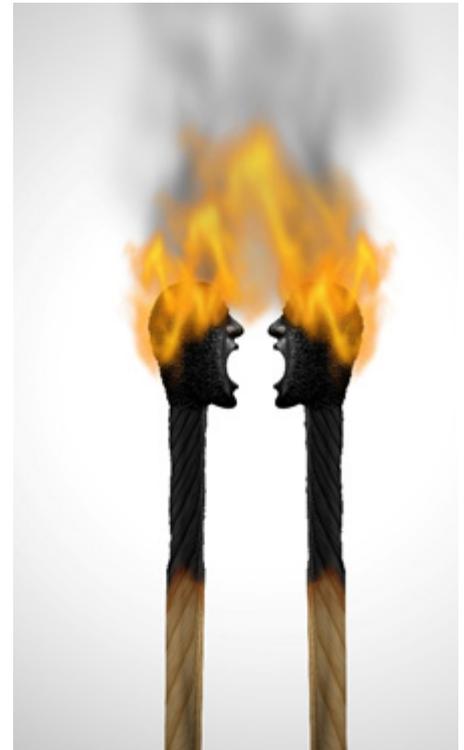
October

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- 17 John-Edeve Augustin

THE PRESIDENT *Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD*

Dialogue in a Time of Vengeance

Frank Luntz, a well-known, conservative pollster on US politics, was interviewed recently for an Australian newspaper, The Age. Luntz contends that American politics, and American culture in general, is becoming more vengeful. He warns Australia, Canada and the UK of the dangers of the Americanization of their politics. He argues that a growing American thirst for revenge has recently been built up on a foundation of resentment that has been laid down over the past 20 to 30 years. He said: "Resentment is 'someone else is doing better than me', revenge is 'I want to bring them down'."



If you have been following the developments in American culture over the last several decades, what do you think about his statements? Has vengeance taken root in our way of life? Tune in to the cable TV opinion programs. Resentment and revenge seem always to be bubbling just below the surface. Luntz claims that "What's different now that did not exist before is a sense of revenge and that is Donald Trump – he put that into the chemical mix."

Luntz also sees a desire for revenge in the "woke politics" in parts of the Democratic Party. Ultrnationalist populism on the right and wokeism on the left is really dangerous stuff! It can destroy peoples and nations.



If you are new to American culture, how are things in your home culture? Is vengeance a significant and/or growing concern?

continued next page

At the College since the start of the semester, we have focused on the core competency of local and global responsibility. At different moments we have reflected, prayed and acted on concerns such as earthquake relief, political violence in Myanmar, pro-life, anti-racist, pro-immigrant policies, and environmental awareness. Such issues provoke strong and often polarizing reactions.

There are also other, more in-house concerns: Why does her group get special treatment? Why do I have to do all this work? Why does he get to decide this question?

Whether our issues are global, or very, very local, we can easily be tempted to resentment and even vengeance. Is there a better way to respond?

Luntz suggests that the only thing that can turn America away from resentment and vengeance is compromise and speaking together. On policy and elections, he counsels:

“The winner gets to choose policy, but the loser needs to be heard. I would operate on an 85/15 mentality, which is the winner gets 85 per cent and the loser gets 15 per cent. Give them a voice and they won’t want to cancel you, deny them a voice and they’ll hate you forever.”

St. Paul had some suggestions for the Christian community at Rome for reacting to disrespect and unjust treatment. In a famous passage that he wrote, you can sense an underlying personal struggle with both resentment and revenge:

“Do not repay anyone evil for evil; be concerned for what is noble in the sight of all. If possible, on your part, live at peace with all. Beloved, do not look for revenge but leave room for the wrath; for it is written, ‘Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.’ Rather, ‘if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals upon his head.’ Do not be conquered by evil but conquer evil with good.” (Romans 12:17-21 NABRE)

Missionaries know that dialogue can be very painful, requiring great self-control and patience. If you are in conflict with someone this semester, can you find enough courage and peace in yourself to give a voice to your opponent? Can you listen? I always wonder about Jesus and Pilate, why did Jesus choose to die rather than kill.

If you want to explore further:

Interview with Frank Luntz.

<https://www.theage.com.au/world/north-america/donald-trump-will-never-be-president-again-says-renowned-pollster-frank-luntz-20211009-p58yna.html?btis>

The Futility of Vengeance, news analysis by Kate Murphy. <https://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/08/sunday-review/the-futility-of-vengeance.html>

A Mindset That Tears Us Apart, by David Brooks.

<https://www.sltrib.com/opinion/commentary/2021/10/09/david-brooks-heres/>

DWC COVID-19 Dashboard

	Number of Tests	Tested Positive	Number Self-Isolated	Number Recovered	Vaccination Completed
2020-2021	913	101	101	101	129
August 1- 14	165	0	0	0	1
August 15 - 21	46	0	0	0	0
August 22 - 28	8	0	0	0	0
August 29 - Sept. 4	12	0	0	0	3
Sept. 5 - 11	13	0	0	0	0
Sept. 12 - 18	27	0	0	0	2
Sept. 19 - 25	27	0	0	0	0
Sept. 26 - Oct. 2	11	0	0	0	0
Oct. 3 - 9	35	0	0	0	0

The CDC continues to strongly recommend

- **Vaccination** for all those who are able to receive the vaccine – for their own health and the protection of those who cannot be vaccinated. (Contact your doctor or pharmacy.)
- **Facemasks** in all public, indoor areas, especially in schools, even for those who are fully vaccinated. (Facemasks are available at the front door.)
- **Testing** in the case of sickness and in the case of exposure to someone who may have a COVID-19 infection. (Easy access to testing is available by contacting Br. Mike.)

New Executive Secretary to the President

Beginning tomorrow, October 13, Ms. Christine Jackson of Dubuque will begin serving as Executive Secretary in the Office of the President. She succeeds Ms. Donna Puccio who has given exemplary service at Divine Word College for fifty years! Donna will continue to serve as a part-time consultant during the coming months of transition.

Chris worked with the Presentation Sisters for eleven years in areas of finance, fiscal management and human resources. Earlier, she worked as a village clerk for Potosi, WI and for the Fred Jackson Tuckpointing Co., a family operated business in Dubuque.

In her new role at DWC, she will be responsible for clerical and administrative tasks as assigned by the President. This



includes keeping minutes and other records of the meetings of the Board of Administration and the Board of Trustees. The role also requires attention to many details in preparing events such as the Mathew 25 and Donaghey Awards, the opening of school prayer service and the awards banquet at the end of the year.

Why would Chris want to come to work at DWC? She mentioned a few things in a letter to me in July 2020:

“In the fall of 2019, I attended the Moussa Gueye art exhibit, An African Journey, and was extremely impressed by the energy and spirit alive among Divine Word staff, students and attendees. The joyful support in the room was contagious in spite of the tragedy of Moussa’s life story. Clearly, the mission of Divine Word drives its relationships within and beyond the college. I long to contribute to the many facets of such a mission.”

When you see Ms. Jackson in the coming days, please say hello and encourage her as she climbs up a very steep learning curve!



Revisit Mission Sunday

As we prepare for the first “after COVID” Mission Sunday celebration, take a few moments to enjoy a video from the celebration in 2013!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AxpC0NKH4v0>

Blood Drive TUESDAY OCTOBER 26

11:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

There is a sign-up list on the Main Bulletin Board.

Deadline to sign-up is Tuesday October 19.

If you have any questions please see Bro Mike.



VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS Fr. John Szukalski, SVD

Faculty In-Service: Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI)

Monday October 25, 2021 @ 9:00 A.M. – Noon

The Fall 2021 Faculty In-Service is scheduled for Monday 25 October from 9:00 until 12:00 Noon and will explore one of DWC's Five Core Competencies—Intercultural Competence. This event will assess faculty and formators' intercultural competence utilizing the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI). IDI is the premier intercultural competence assessment tool utilized by thousands of individuals, businesses, and educational institutions across the globe. Developed by Dr. Mitchell Hammer, IDI is a cross-culturally valid and scientifically reliable assessment tool that provides valuable data regarding cultural difference along a continuum of mindsets and behaviors ranging from monocultural to intercultural. The IDI is available in multiple languages and is not culturally biased. Insights gained from the IDI will provide opportunities for creating a more culturally responsive teaching and learning environment and a more inclusive college workplace.

Check out the short video overview at <https://idiinventory.com/video/an-introduction-to-the-intercultural-development-inventory-3-28-minutes/?id=357>

During the week of 18-22 October, faculty and formators will receive an invitation from Fr. Sam Cunningham, Ph.D. to complete a 50-item online questionnaire. Kindly complete the questionnaire (approximately 30 minutes long) during that week but no later than Friday 22 October. Fr. Sam Cunningham and Fr. Long Phi Nguyen, as trained administrators and interpreters of the IDI, will facilitate the Faculty In-Service event itself. An exploration of the IDI tool, an anonymized group profile report, and potential implications for our work as faculty and formators will be covered. Fr. Sam and Fr. Long Phi will also be available for private individual profile report interpretation during the following week. All full-time faculty and formators are required to attend (DWC Policy Handbook 7.02.09)

Faculty Professional Development

Ms. Sharon Sinton, Senior Instructor of ESL in the Intensive English Language Institute [IELI], has been granted professional development funding to attend the annual MID-TESOL conference (virtual) from 22-23 October 2021. This year's conference theme is "Paradigm Shift in ELT Education: Forging an Educational Framework for a Post-Pandemic World."



What is intra-rater reliability? Or interrater reliability?

Interrater reliability measures how well two or more individual raters assess something and how closely their subjective assessment scores align with one another.

Intra-rater reliability measures how consistent one individual rater rates given assessment projects. Interrater reliability and intra-rater reliability are extremely important when trying to come up with or generate reliable data!

VICE PRESIDENT FOR FORMATION DEAN OF STUDENTS

Fr. Long Phi Nguyen, SVD

Liturgy Prep

Liturgy Prep will resume on Thursday, October 14, at its usual time of 1:00 PM in the main chapel. As we prepare for Mission Sunday, it is mandatory for all students to attend. I have observed in the past Liturgy Preps fewer students attending and so be reminded that this is not optional.

Annual Weekend Retreat

This weekend, the Romans Formation group will make their annual weekend retreat in East Troy while the Sisters of St. Teresa of Calcutta and St. Therese of the Child Jesus will have theirs at St. Columbkille Retreat Center in Dubuque, beginning Friday, October 15 until Sunday, October 17. Please remember them in your prayers that they may have a spirit-filled retreat.

Taste of DWC

Bravo! We have a complete menu for the Taste of DWC with more than 40 cultural dishes. Many thanks to all the DWC chefs for submitting your grocery list. The kitchen director, Ms. Janna Hammer, will provide as many requested ingredients and products as possible, and I will go to Chicago on Monday, October 18, to buy the rest. If you need anything else, please let me know before Monday, October 18. Thank you so much for sharing your cultural food with the community. If you have any special requests, please contact Sr. Aprilia or me.



Soccer Tournament

The Sports and Recreation Department informs that the soccer tournament will resume as usual beginning Tuesday, October 12, at 5:00 pm. The last group game will be between HOPE, SVD juniors/Religious men, St. Teresa of Avila, and the Romans, Galatians, St. Teresa of Calcutta. Please come out to support your favorite teams.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMISSIONS *Mr. Len Uhal*

Come and See Visitor

This week we have two Come and See visitors arriving on campus. The first is Brandon Vu from Thornton, Colorado. He will arrive later today and stay with us until October 26. He's staying some extra days for a private retreat. The second visitor is Andrew Caffro and he currently lives in South Bend, Indiana. He will arrive on Saturday, October 16 and stay with us until Wednesday, October 20. Both of these men feel God may be calling them to religious life and they are visiting our campus to learn more about the Divine Word Missionaries and Divine Word College. Thank you for helping them feel welcomed in our community.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR OPERATIONS *Mr. Steve Winger*

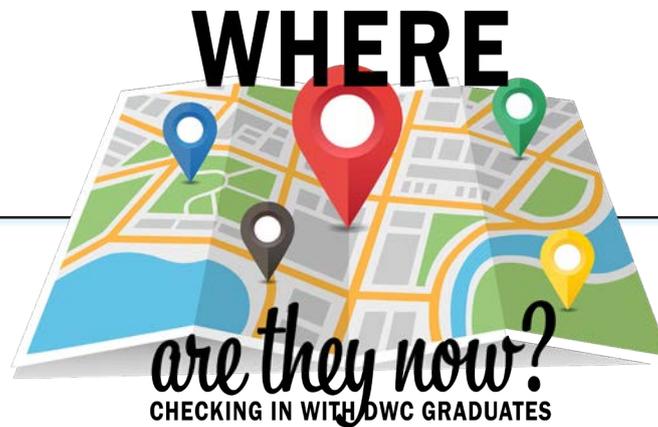
The Heat is ON!

The nights have been getting cold and the boilers (heating system) were turned on yesterday afternoon. The lows will be in the 40's this week and next week. Unfortunately, the heating system is not designed to be turned on and off quickly. You may have to open a window to help regulate the temperature in your office or room over the next few weeks.



Keep the Mouse out of the House

Several years ago, in October, we had a large number of mice infiltrate the building because an exterior door was propped open. Mice are looking for warm spaces when the nights get cold in October. Not only can mice enter the building but leaving doors open is also a safety and security concern. We kindly ask that you not leave doors propped open and unattended.



Fr. Anthony Dai Bui

Fr. Anthony Dai Bui first came to DWC in January of 1996 as a student in the ESL program. He left to earn his GED in 1999, returned and graduated with a BA in Philosophy in 2006.

Fr. Dai escaped Vietnam with his family via boat and was rescued at sea. The family settled in Las Vegas, NV. After graduating from DWC, Anthony continued his studies for the priesthood with the Diocese of San Bernardino, CA. He is now pastor of St. Adelaide Catholic Church in Highland, CA.



Sr. Dung "Theresa" Bich Trang LHC

Sr. Dung "Theresa" Bich Trang LHC is a 2014 graduate. She earned an ESL Certificate in 2009 and then completed a BA in Theology and Mission (Magna Cum Laude).

Originally from Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam, she is now living at Villanova University in Pennsylvania. There she is pursuing a PhD in Theology and Culture. Her areas of concentration are Christian Spirituality and Historical Theology. She writes: "I am in the process of writing my dissertation and have strictly two years to complete it. I am in the final phase, but there is always a lot to learn."

This year, Sr. Dung is also working as a TA (teaching assistant) and is presenting an undergraduate class in Faith, Reason and Culture.



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| October 13 | ESL Term B Classes Begin |
| October 17 | Diaconate Ordination – Frt. Carl Gales, SVD & Frt. Derek Nguyen, SVD |
| October 17 | Presidential Inauguration of Dr. Susan Burns at College of Mount St. Vincent (New York) – DWC Board of Trustees member |
| October 22 | No Classes (ESL & UG) |
| October 24 | Mission Sunday |
| October 25 | No Classes // Faculty In-Service (ESL & UG) |
| October 26 | DWC Blood Drive -- 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM in the gym |
| November 3-5 | Registration – Undergraduate Spring 2022 Semester |