



In This Issue:

COVID Dashboard	3
ESL Search Committee	4
Roadside Clean Up	5

Birthday Corner

April

- 15 Ms. Carolyn Waechter
- 15 Mr. Duc Minh Vuong
- 20 Bro. James Zabransky, SVD

THE PRESIDENT *Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD*

Inauguration of the Fr. William Shea SVD Scholarship

On Sunday, April 11, the DWC community gathered in the chapel to celebrate the inauguration of the Fr. William Shea SVD scholarship. Over the past year, Fr. Bill's family, friends, and former students have contributed generously to the endowment of the scholarship. The celebration was broadcast over the DWC YouTube channel; the link is www.youtube.com/channel/UCLFCxKVfyPS1ZSs0k-PHiTw. As always, Fr. Bill was both humorous and generous in his expression of thanks.



Thank you, to everyone who said such nice things about me. While I was listening, I was reminded of a story I heard about Mr. McGillicuddy who died and was being waked. Mrs. McGillicuddy sat near the coffin as many friends and neighbors paid their respects. One after another, the mourners stopped to tell her what a wonderful man her husband was: so kind to everyone, an outstanding worker, would do anything for anybody, always in a friendly mood, and a most loyal son of Ireland. The compliments went on-and-on.



After about five hours of this, the wake ended and the first thing Mrs. McGillicuddy did was to call her son over and whisper to him.

"Johnny, will you take a good look in the coffin and see if that is your father there."



I think I will have to take a good look in the mirror and see if I can find the guy that all of you have been talking about.

continued next page

After I finished college and two years in the army, and was thinking about applying to a seminary, I saw a poster that said, "Join the SVD and See the World." The world I have seen has been Girard, PA, Bordentown, NJ, Perrysburg, OH, rural upstate New York, East Troy, WI, Epworth, IA, and stops in a few other places. When I saw that poster about seeing the world, I had something more in mind like Asia, Africa or Latin America. I often thought about suing the SVD for false advertising.

But today, I really would like to accept this award as a representative of many other priests and brothers who have spent all or nearly all of their ministry in education and formation – 40 or more years here in the United States. Immediately coming to mind, just from our own community here at Divine Word College are: Fr. Ken Anich, formator, psychology teacher and counselor, Brother Tony Kreinus, English teacher and librarian, and Fr. Jim Bergin, philosophy teacher, formator and spiritual director.

Just one short story about my vocation discernment. In college, I majored in History and American government and loved both of those subjects. During that time, I was asked to coach a teenage football team on weekends. I really liked doing that and sometimes I thought that, after college, I would like a career teaching history and coaching sports. When I made up my mind to enter the seminary I knew I would have to give up both of those attractive careers. What did God do? After ordination, I spent many years teaching history and coaching different sports in high school seminary and I was very happy doing both. God is never outdone in generosity.

The "Thank You's" here are many. Thanks to Fr Tom for allowing this award, Fr Thang, Director of the Alumni Association, the members of the Development Office and the Public Relations department, all of whom played a large role in making this project a reality.

Thanks to Ms. Evelyn Dias, the musicians and singers; to Fr. Sonny, the chaplain, to the sacristans, decorators, liturgy participants; and technicians. Thanks are also owed to the faculty, staff, and students of Divine Word College. I am always grateful to our wonderful kitchen team, who are so helpful and kind to me. All of this is much more than I deserve. And especially, I thank all those who donated to make this scholarship a reality, including alumni, friends and relatives.

Thank you all!

A very special thanks to my parents, my eight deceased brothers and sisters who supported me, and the Divine Word Missionaries in various ways in the past and to my nieces and nephews who do the same thing here in the present.

Finally, thanks for all in attendance here today, and those watching at home. May God bless each and every one of you abundantly, today and always. **AMEN!**



DWC COVID-19 Dashboard

	Number of Tests	Tested Positive	Number Self-Isolated	Number Quarantined	Number Recovered	Vaccination Completed
Before Sept. 15	~200	9	9	~15	9	
Sept. 15 - Dec. 31	220	8	8	~80	8	
Jan. 1 - March 1	354	33	33	~80	33	16
Mar 2 - 15	25	0	0	0	0	9
Mar 16-22	59	0	0	1	0	3
Mar 23 - 29	15	0	0	1	0	8
Mar 30 - Apr 5	9	0	0	0	0	2
Apr 6 - 12	3	0	0	0	0	10

Vaccinations: The Dubuque County Health Department and the Greater Dubuque Development Corporation have been attentive to the DWC community in helping us find opportunities for COVID-19 vaccinations during this past week: 59 students and employees received their first dose of vaccine in the past week; another 22 are scheduled for the coming weeks. Within a matter of weeks, 92% of our community will be fully vaccinated.

As of today, only 5 of 97 students, 2 of 33 SVDs, and 8 of 48 off-campus employees are yet to be scheduled.



Wear Face Masks, Watch Social Distance, Wash Hands. The three W's of health protection are still very important.

The recent Holy Week and Easter celebrations might have given the impression that the threat of a COVID-19 outbreak at DWC has passed. Unfortunately, that is far from true. The number of cases is rising in Dubuque County, and the newer variant of the disease is much more contagious. Even those who have already received the first dose of a vaccine are not fully protected until two or three

weeks AFTER their second dose. That would be AFTER graduation.

No cases of COVID-19 have been detected on campus since mid-February. Don't let down your guard! BE CAREFUL.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Fr. John Szukalski, SVD

Dialogos Academic Newsletter – Spring 2021 Edition

All Undergraduate and ESL faculty who were granted professional development funding during the 2020-2021 Academic Year—and have not already done so—should submit a brief written article for publication in the Spring 2021 edition of the DIALOGOS academic newsletter. The article may concisely highlight one or two aspects of learning from your professional development activity for sharing with academic colleagues. Recommended length: 250-500 words.

Kindly submit your contribution to the Registrar, Ms. Kimberly Burnett-Hackbarth, no later than Friday 16 April 2021. Publication date: Tuesday 27 April 2021.

Search Committee Results For Full-Time Esl Instructor (August 2021)

The Search Committee for a Full-Time ESL Instructor was established November 2020 in accord with the normal faculty search procedure as outlined in DWC Policy Handbook 8.01.02. The committee received and reviewed 22 applications. From those 22 applications, the committee identified a slate of five viable candidates and conducted initial remote interviews with those candidates during February 2021. All-day interviews and classroom teaching demonstrations were held on-campus with two finalist candidates in March 2021. The Chair of the Search Committee submitted the committee's hiring recommendation to the VP for Academic Affairs shortly thereafter. The VP for Academic Affairs extended job offers to both finalist candidates. Unfortunately, DWC was unable to reach a mutually agreeable contract with either finalist candidate. I want to express my gratitude to the members of the Search Committee for the many hours invested in this exercise of shared governance—I share their disappointment that a contract agreement did not result despite all their excellent and dedicated efforts:

Dr. Seo Hyun Park (Chair); Ms. Sharon Sinton; Ms. Gwyneth Gates, and; Dr. Benjamin Winter.

The VP for Academic Affairs will now work directly with the IELI Director to identify, interview, and recommend the expedited hiring of two Full-Time ESL Instructors for August 2021 under abbreviated emergency hiring procedures (DWC Policy Handbook 08.01.04). The VP for Academic Affairs will publish an announcement once duly qualified ESL instructors are hired.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR FORMATION DEAN OF STUDENTS

Fr. Long Phi Nguyen, SVD

Appreciation

From all indications it seems the launch of Fr. Bill Shea's scholarship program was a big success. A big thanks to all of you who helped with the planning and helped to make the celebration a memorable and meaningful one. Special thanks to Fr. Rector, Thang Hoang, SVD, Sandy Wilgenbusch, Shedek Emily, Dr. Evelyn Dias and all of our students who worked hard, as usual, to make the program a success. God bless you all.

Covid 19 Vaccine

Almost all of our students are signing up for their vaccine shots. I want thank all of you for making this important personal decision for the good of yourself and for the community. God willing, we can soon get back some normalcy in our lives. The few students who are still having difficulty deciding, I encourage to think about the community.

Nigerian Cultural Week

From April 12 until April 16, we shall be introduced to some aspects of the Nigerian culture by three of our students: Sr. Angela Omola, SON, Sr. Francisca Aoraaka, SON and Friday Onoja. This is an opportunity to deepen our intercultural community by learning about others. I encourage you to be attentive and curious this week to learn something about Nigeria. I thank our two sisters and brother for their willingness to share with us their cultural heritage.

Roadside Cleaning

Br. Brian has posted a sign-up sheet for those willing and available for this clean up exercise this coming Saturday, April 17. Remember this is part of the little things we can do to help keep our environment clean and safe.

Dean's Forum

Dean's forum is scheduled for this Thursday, April 15, at 1:00 pm in the main chapel. All students are required to attend. The first part will be a cultural heritage presentation by our three students from Nigeria.

Summer vacation

All students, please contact Fr. Son Le as soon as possible for your traveling purchase. Then, send Fr. Long Phi Nguyen your contact information and location where you might be reached during the summer.