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THE PRESIDENT *Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD*

The ABC's of Missionary Discipleship

A little girl had a bad day. In the morning while getting ready for kindergarten, she argued with her older sister. Hmm! At school she just couldn't pay attention, so her teacher had to call her name repeatedly to give her instructions. She had to take a note home to her mom. Ahh! At supper time she was mean to her little brother. Uhh!

After supper, Mom told the little girl, "Today was a really bad day for you. Tomorrow will be better. So, please go and brush your teeth and get ready for bed. Don't forget to say your prayers before you get into bed."

The girl obediently brushed her teeth, got dressed for bed, and knelt down to say her prayers. She started out: "In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit." She didn't know what to say, so she started her prayer, "A, B, C, D, E, F, G..." and finished, "...W, X, Y, Z. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen." Then she climbed into bed.



Mom was just outside the door, and heard her daughter recite the ABC's. She wondered, should I say something, or just let it go? She decided she really had to say something to her little daughter. "Honey, you were supposed to say your prayers, but you said the ABC's."

With a tear in her eyes the little one replied, "Mom, it was really bad today. I couldn't make a good prayer, so I gave God all the letters to make a prayer for me."



As Jesus entered into death he prayed: "Father, into your hands, I commend my Spirit" (Lk 23:46). He too gave the Father all

continued on next page

the letters. As missionary disciples, we follow Jesus' lead, striving to give God all the letters while trusting in God's mercy, goodness and kindness.

Mae's Story

Sr. Paula Schwendinger is a Presentation Sister who works in Dyersville with the Hispanic Community. She is originally from Epworth. For the last 35 years her ministry has been to accompany the Hispanic immigrant community at the border and in several US States. As part of her work she gathers the stories of immigrants and shares them with English-speaking people in the USA. Her most recent booklet is *Women's Plight Leads to Flight: True Stories of Migrants/Refugees*. Here is the story of a woman named Mae.

"My husband and I owned and ran a store in a small town. It had a little bit of everything, from soap to soup and other household items and canned goods that people needed. Our big item was rotisserie chicken, which I prepared each day. We had to travel 2 hours to get the products we sold. We worked 6 days a week there, from 8 am to 8 pm. We were making about \$30 a week, and were accumulating debt as time went on.



Mae

"When we had been married 4 years and our son was 3, my husband decided that going to the United States to work was our only option for getting out of debt. Of course he incurred more debt, as he had to borrow money to have someone help him get to and cross the border. He obtained a job in construction which enabled him to pay that money back, and send money to us.

"After 2 years, 9 months of being separated, he sent for us. We had to borrow money from family and friends to begin the journey from our town to the border. For the two of us, we had to find \$22,000 to give to the man who agreed to help us. That was a huge task, but thanks be to God, we were able to get the money we needed. (Thanks to my husband's hard work and all of us being frugal, in 9 months we only have a debt of \$9,000.)

"When we arrived at the border, I was separated from my son for 3 days. I had no idea where he was or if I would see him again. They took all my identification and phone and put me in a trailer with about 30 men and women. We slept on the floor, and it was obvious that the woman in charge was connected to the coyote. We were given a bottle of water a day and beans and eggs twice a day with 2 tortillas. At the time when we were finally reunited, I questioned my son, who was 5 at the time, about his time apart from me. He said he was in a room by himself with no lights or windows and was fed each day.

"An aunt from another state came to pick us up and we stayed with her until my husband came. By this time he had found work through his cousins, and also found a place to live so that we could be with him. My son and I stayed in the apartment all day. In the beginning we had no furnishings, only one bed, but little by little we furnished the apartment. Now my son is in school and learning English and I am attempting to learn as well. If I had known ahead of time what all of this would entail, I probably would not have come. Where I was, I had neighbors to visit with and the kids could play together on the street. Here we are much more isolated."



Divine Word College Seminary - Epworth, Iowa

1.4K likes • 1.8K followers

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Lenten series concludes

Sr. Yolette Dorce, SSpS provides the final installment for the Living Lent series. She urges us to seek opportunities to make a long-lasting impact beyond the boundaries of this 40-day period.

Click on the image to hear her reflection.

Be sure to **LIKE** and **FOLLOW** the college Facebook page so you don't miss any of the uplifting messages from members of the DWC Community.



VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Fr. John Szukalski, SVD

DWC Brother Anthony Kreinus SVD Distinguished Service Award: Nomination Criteria, Procedure, and Form

Divine Word College established the Distinguished Service Award to honor Brother Anthony Kreinus SVD who has served the College with great generosity, selflessness, and dedication for 30+ years. The award is given to faculty members in recognition of his or her outstanding service to the College and the Community. The award is presented during the Recognition & Awards Luncheon held in the spring of each academic year. The recipient's name and award year are added to the plaque permanently displayed at the College. (DWC Policy Handbook 5.03.07)



Eligibility: All full-time faculty members employed by the College for a minimum of three consecutive years are eligible. The President and members of the Board of Administration are not eligible. Previous recipients of the award are not eligible.

Nomination: Nominations for the award may be made by any member of the College community (students, faculty, staff, and administrators) using the nomination form distributed by VPAA memo on February 26, 2024. This is not necessarily an annual award. Nomination forms must be submitted to the Chair of the Faculty Promotions & Awards committee (Dr. Cathleen Cleary) no later than Monday April 1, 2024.

Inaugural Award Recipient: Dr. Seo Hyun Park—IELI Director, Associate Professor of ESL (2022)

ESL Field Trip

ESL students and faculty will travel to Madison in the great state of Wisconsin to learn about American city culture.

- Tuesday April 2 from 8:50 am – 5:10 pm. Activities include a guided tour of the Chazen Museum of Art, visit to the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus and downtown Madison, and a guided tour of the Wisconsin State Capitol. Students will engage in English conversation (ahem!) while traveling back and forth to Iowa on the bus.



from Dr. Yasmin Rioux

What is intra-rater reliability? Or interrater reliability?

Throughout the Assessment Pilot, it became clear that we were encountering issues with intra-rater reliability. To avoid this challenge in the future, the Institutional Assessment Committee revisited the issue and concluded that identically worded PLOs would only be assessed once per faculty evaluations of signature assignments round.

For example: a signature assignment from THM 211 has been used to assess BA/THM/#3; AA/IDS/#2; CF/PTH/#4; AA/THM/#1; BA/THM/#1. In this case, all but BA/THM/#3 are identically worded PLOs, however, we have been encountering data variations. Moving forward, we will consolidate all identically worded PLOs to avoid this issue.

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 important when trying to come up with or generate reliable data!

Marriage Encounter Group - April 12 - 14

DWC is hosting a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend April 12 - 14. A group of facilitators will lead married couples through presentations and exercises to strengthen their marriage through dialogue with God and each other.



Presentations are in Room 107 but you may encounter our guests in the dining room and in other public areas of the building as couples find space for private conversation.

Please make our guests feel welcome!



VICE PRESIDENT FOR FORMATION DEAN OF STUDENTS

Fr. Long Phi Nguyen, SVD

Lenten Reconciliation Service

This Wednesday, March 27, 2024, we will have a Lenten Reconciliation Service at 7:30 pm in the main chapel. The Sacrament of Reconciliation offers us an opportunity to return to our loving God. We know that our sins separate us from God and damage our relationship with God. It is good for us to reconcile with God before entering the Holy Triduum. I encourage everyone to take this time for confession and to experience God's love and mercy.

*"A clean heart create for me, God;
renew within me a steadfast spirit," (Psalm 51:12)*

Holy Triduum

The Holy Triduum is one of the high points of our Roman Catholic faith, commemorating the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. These Great Three Days are a time to reflect on God's self-giving love for all of us as Jesus died for our salvation and the salvation of humanity.

I have mentioned this in last week's LOG that all students are obliged to attend the celebrations of the Holy Triduum; please do not make any plans to attend mass at another parish. The Holy Week program is already posted on the Student Board. Please check all the activities carefully and participate actively in all. It is a busy time of preparations for the celebrations. I ask everyone to lend a hand and support each other with the necessary preparations including decorations, general cleaning, and other tasks.

We also anticipate the arrival of guests, including "Come and See" visitors, who will join our community for the celebrations. Please extend a warm welcome to them when you see them.

Summer Placement Opportunity

Students at Divine Word College have the opportunity to apply for summer placements at parishes and other ministry settings operated by the Society of the Divine Word. The program aims not only to provide students with the opportunity to earn money for their yearly expenses but also, more importantly, to deepen their understanding of the ministry of the Society and gain firsthand experience in community living alongside SVD members. This experience is invaluable for gaining a clearer understanding of ministry demands and community life, helping students to make a well-informed decision about their vocational future.

Application forms for this program have already been distributed. If you are interested, please fill out the form and return it to **mailbox, number 108, by Monday, April 1**. It is also important to note that applying does not guarantee acceptance into the program. The Dean of Students and the Vice President for Operations and Finance will review applications and assign students to each site based on the site's specific needs and accommodations available at those sites.

Donor Appreciation and Donaghey Award Mass and Luncheon

On Sunday, April 7, we will welcome many college benefactors to join our community for Mass and an appreciation luncheon. Fr. Carl Gales, SVD will be our celebrant and homilist. In addition, Deacon Roger Kyaw Thu, SVD will share his vocation story during the luncheon.

We will also recognize **Dr. Kim Kissel DDS** as the recipient of the Donaghey Award for Outstanding Service to Divine Word College.

This event is a wonderful opportunity for us to express our sincere thanks for the financial support our benefactors provide our students and the college.

All members of the Divine Word College community are invited to attend the Mass and luncheon. All students are strongly encouraged to join the celebration and to meet our benefactors.



Fr. Carl



Deacon Roger



Dr. Kissel



IT'S A MYSTERY!

All of the crosses - and even some statues - in the college are covered with purple cloth. The mystery is: who undertook the job of covering each and every cross? And that begs the question, "How many crosses are there in DWC?"



JPIC COUNCIL PRESENTS

MOVIE NIGHT

SUNDAY, MARCH 31
7PM | POUR HOUSE

CELEBRATE WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH BY JOINING IN AND WATCHING "HIDDEN FIGURES," A MOVIE PORTRAYING THE INSPIRING TALE OF A GROUP OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN FEMALE MATHEMATICIANS WHO PLAYED A CRUCIAL ROLE AT NASA DURING THE INITIAL STAGES OF THE U.S. SPACE PROGRAM.

Self-Esteem – How Self-Esteem Develops (by Nan Peck)

I found an article on self-esteem written by Nan Peck, a former DWC Counselor. Even though it was written many years ago, this article is still appropriate for us to ponder. I divided it into three sections since it is a long article. Enjoy the third section, titled: How Self-Esteem Develops.

Self-esteem is not something we are born with. During childhood, your self-esteem or self-image starts when you first realize that you are a living, functioning being. Infants love to look at their reflections. They are accepting of themselves. As an infant, you saw pictures of yourself and other children experiencing joy. You probably didn't think, "I wish I looked like that baby," or "That baby sure is ugly!" The worth of your image was not dependent on or measured by the images of others. You did not analyze your received messages; you accepted them as true and recorded them in your memory. As a result, your subconscious mind gradually developed a picture of yourself, whether accurate or distorted, that you came to believe is real.



In adolescence, you probably started comparing yourself to other people. You probably became less happy with who you were. You wished you were more like others you perceived as better, and you began to use put-downs as an equalizer. Teenagers often tear down others to build themselves up, trying to combat their doubts about themselves and their self-image.

As an adult, you will be constantly adjusting the level of your self-esteem to the real world around you. It is important to be aware of how people have influenced and will continue to influence your beliefs about yourself. You will need to learn how to protect your self-esteem against those who try to diminish or limit your potential and how to listen to those who will encourage and challenge you. Such knowledge can help you distinguish between what is helpful and what is destructive, what is true and what is false.

Your family is the earliest source of information that you have about yourself. Parents do not teach their children self-esteem. But they do have negative and positive strokes or messages.

The ages of twelve to eighteen are among the most crucial in developing and consolidating your feelings about yourself. Now that you are aware of the power self-esteem has over your life, you can begin to look at the image you have of yourself. Identify what might need to be changed. Each day can mean another step toward high self-esteem. The person you will be tomorrow has yet to be created. Most people continue to shape the future person in the image of the past, repeating the old limitations and negative patterns without realizing what they are doing. The development of a new level of self-esteem will not happen overnight, but it can happen. Change is the result of slow evolutions that begin with the desire to overcome low self-esteem.



by
Sr. Aprilia
Untarto, SSps

The Counseling Center is open **five days a week, with appointments on weekends and holidays**. Please reach out to us at auntarto@dwci.edu | Room 220 | Ext. 377 for more information.



VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMISSIONS

Mr. Len Uhal

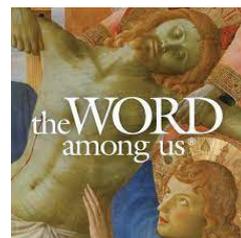
Come and See Visitors

Seven Come and See visitors will arrive on campus tomorrow as they discern a religious vocation. Thank you in advance for welcoming them in our community for helping them to have a meaningful experience at Divine Word College during this Holy Week. Those visiting are:

Peter Le	Bartlett, TN
Paul Le	Bartlett, TN
Kpaw Say	Stone Mountain, GA
Jonatan Gonzalez	Cleveland, TX
Alejandro Gonzalez	Cruz Cleveland, TX
Phong Tran	Rowlett, TX
Nguyen Gia Vo	Davenport, IA

The Word Among Us

The latest issue of The Word Among Us arrived and we will put copies in all student mailboxes this week. Please watch for them. We will have some extra copies in the vocation office for anyone needing the Easter issue. Please pray for the benefactors who make this generous resource possible for us.



External Affairs Goal and Objectives for the DWC Strategic Plan

The External Affairs Council gathers DWC staff members involved in Public Relations, Development, Alumni Affairs, Vocations and the President's Office. The purpose of the Council is to coordinate DWC's outreach to people outside the college, including neighbors, benefactors, volunteers and former students.

The DWC Strategic Plan for 2021-2024 outlined a major goal for the College: *Reaching out, we encourage our friends to support and participate in missionary service.* To make progress toward the goal, four objectives were outlined for particular attention

:

- Strengthen the Divine Word Alumni Association.
- Further organize, strengthen and grow our local DWC Friends.
- Energize our outreach with new and existing benefactors.
- Help DWC students to acquire and develop skills for local outreach.

The attached Summary Report on the External Affairs Goal gives an overview of the success and limitations of our efforts over the past few years. This summary helps us to prepare a new strategic External Affairs goal for the coming three years (July 2024-July 2027).

SPRING BREAK!

ministry reflection

St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Wheeling, Illinois

by Andrew Thanh-Quang Nguyen

At St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Wheeling, Illinois, the pastor Fr. Marcin and the associate pastors Fr. Messan and Fr. Jesus welcomed us like family into the vibrant, diverse community. It is the only parish in the Archdiocese of Chicago offering weekly English, Polish, and Spanish Masses--three languages!

We immersed ourselves into the cultural influences and traditions enriching the nine Masses during which we introduced ourselves to each community. It was amazing that parishioners recognized us and remembered our names throughout the week after meeting us only once! Every parishioner we encountered shared God's love with us through smiles, generosity, and prayers, even when they could not understand or speak English--a testament to our faith going beyond race, ethnicity, and language.

During the week, we tilled soil and overflowed two entire dumpsters with dead brush and branches alongside Ziggy, a long-time Polish parishioner who knew broken English. We also participated in parish activities like the weekly Young Adults Group meeting and Friday Lenten Fish Fry. Throughout the week, we also had fun activities and went sightseeing in Chicago. Overall, we had a great time and hope to visit the parish again soon!

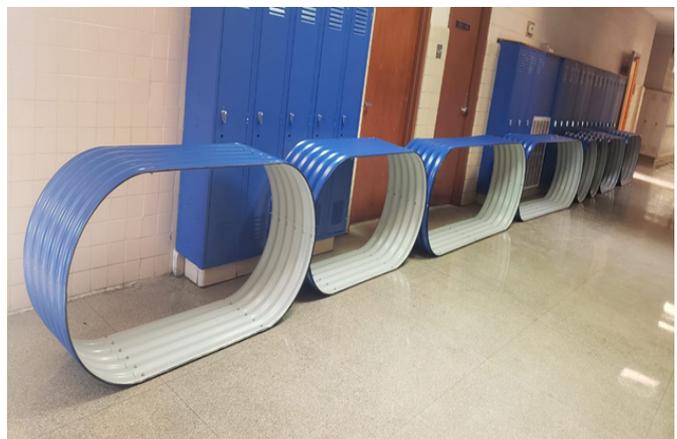




St. Augustine Parish, Memphis, Tennessee

by Ladouceur Flarissaint

The Spring Break Project involvement and participation at St. Augustine Parish in Memphis were commendable. In the span of just four days (from Monday to Thursday), we accomplished several tasks, including building metal raised garden beds, creating a raised garden for the Pastor, Fr. Stephan Brown, SVD, and his parishioners, painting a wall for that garden, going to different places in Memphis for relaxation (Restaurants and Stadium FedEx Forum for watching Basketball). During that time, I also discovered the talent of Fr. Akizou, SVD, my fellow student, and even my own talent in organizing that beautiful raised garden. Despite the considerable effort, it was a rejuvenating experience for us as SVD Missionaries and myself the SVD candidate. Integral to this journey were Fr. Akizou, SVD (who went there along with us) and Fr. Stephan Brown, SVD, the Pastor of St. Augustine parish, and his parishioners, who were so happy to receive and work together with us. I think Fr. Stephan is an example for us through his dedication to his vocation as an SVD priest who is working at St. Augustine parish.



Community prayer, Mass attendance, and personal prayer were consistent and meaningful throughout our time there. Each day was marked by prayer, shared meals, and camaraderie, providing us with a glimpse into the life of a missionary. For instance, as we stayed at Sacred Heart Parish with Fr. Brandon, SVD (the Pastor), he invited us to join him in daily morning prayer. For Masses, we often attended Mass at St. Augustin Parish with Fr. Stephan, SVD at St. Augustine. This experience has also helped us see and understand how the SVDs work with parishioners.

Through interaction with parishioners and participation in community initiatives like Masses and Bible sharing, we witnessed how they like having an SVD for their new Pastor because the parish was given to the SVDs recently. Our time in Memphis, particularly at St. Augustine parish, passed swiftly, offering both physical exertion and spiritual renewal.

Sinsinawa Book and Gift Shop Donation

Last week the library received nearly 200 new books from the Sinsinawa Book and Gift Shop! The shop is closing and they reached out to DWC to see if we could take some of their books. Since the books fit within the scope of the library's collection development policy, I was happily able to accept. The books are very relevant to our undergraduate curriculum, covering topics like Christian spirituality, prayer, spiritual direction, lives of Saints, environmental issues, mission, liturgy, and Catholic social teaching.

If you would like to donate books to the Matthew Jacoby Library (or know someone who would), please fill out the Donation Form. There is a permanent link to the form on the library's OPAC site (opac.dwci.edu) on the right-hand side.

Women's History Month Display

There are just a few days left to check out the March library book display! Stop by the library to check out a book today or watch a movie on [Kanopy](#). If you can't make it to the library before the end of March, look for books in the library's online catalog: opac.dwci.edu.



Coming up next:

In recognition of Earth Day, April's Book Display will be on theme of sustainability.

Project Muse Database Trial Ends Next Week

Try Project Muse before the trial ends: <https://muse.jhu.edu/>!

The library is trialing the Premium journal collection, which is MUSE's foremost collection of high quality, peer reviewed, interdisciplinary journals.

You can access Project Muse content on all campus computers and while connected to the campus Wi-Fi. The free trial ends April 02, 2024.



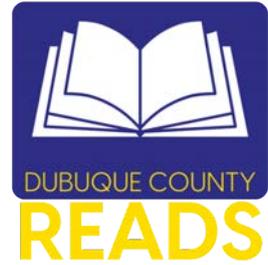
Dubuque County Reads Discussion Events Start THIS Week

Don't forget to pick up a book for the Dubuque County Reads Event! If you would like to participate, the Matthew Jacoby Library still has 6 print copies available. The library also has an [eBook](#) and [audiobook](#) copy available through Overdrive/Libby.

This year's title is "The Personal Librarian" by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. It is a historical fiction novel that tells the remarkable true story of J.P. Morgan's personal librarian Belle da Costa Green.

The Matthew Jacoby Library's discussion event is on **April 9th at noon**. Grab some lunch and meet in room 143 to discuss the book!

Details about the Dubuque Reads Program and events are available here: <https://libguides.dbq.edu/dubuquecountyreads>.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2024

Divine Word College Seminary

PALM SUNDAY, March 24

- 8:00 AM Breakfast
10:00 AM Eucharist (*Gather first in the gym for blessing the palms*)
7:30 PM Vespers—All students

MONDAY, March 25

- 6:30 AM Breakfast
8:00 AM **Eucharist**
6:00 PM Evening Prayer—All Students
7:30 PM Holy Hour

TUESDAY, March 26

- 6:30 AM Breakfast
8:00 AM **Eucharist**
6:00 PM Evening Prayer—All Students

WEDNESDAY, March 27

- 6:30 AM Breakfast
8:00 AM **Eucharist**
6:00 PM Evening Prayer –All Students
7:30 PM **Lenten Reconciliation Service** (main Chapel)—All Students.

HOLY THURSDAY, March 28

- 8:00 AM Breakfast
9:00 AM Morning Prayer (*Main Chapel*)
9:30 AM General Spring Cleaning (*check the assignments on separate sheet*)
11:15 AM Practice for the Lord's Supper - Servers and assistants (main Chapel)
12 NOON Lunch
1:00 PM Liturgical Music Rehearsal (*see a separate sheet*)
5:30 PM Supper
7:30 PM Celebration of the Lord's Supper – (*formal attire required*).
8:45 PM Adoration in the Mother of Asia Chapel until midnight.
(Adoration schedule will be posted on the student bulletin board)

GOOD FRIDAY, March 29

PLEASE KEEP GENERAL SILENT THROUGHOUT GOOD FRIDAY.

8:00 AM	Breakfast
9:00 AM	Morning Prayer (main Chapel)
10:00 AM	The Stations of the Cross –(<i>gather in the gym</i>)
11:30 AM	Practice for the Lord's Passion - Servers and assistants (Main Chapel)
12 NOON	Lunch
12:45 PM	Readers Practice (main Chapel)
1:45 PM	Presider, cantors & musicians Rehearsal (main Chapel)
3:00 PM	The Lord's Passion in the main Chapel—(<i>Formal attire required</i>)
5:30 PM	Supper
7:30 PM	Stabat Mater —Prayer of the Sorrowful Mother (main Chapel)

HOLY SATURDAY, March 30

8:00 AM	Breakfast
9:00 AM	Morning Prayer (Main Chapel)
10:00 AM	Readers Practice
12 NOON	Lunch
1:00 PM	Practice for Easter Vigil – Presider, Servers and assistants)
4:30 PM	Cantors and Musicians rehearsal (see a separate sheet)
5:30 PM	Dinner
8:00 PM	Easter Vigil –(<i>Formal attire required</i>)

Gather in the back courtyard if weather permitting
Social in the dining room after the Vigil.

EASTER SUNDAY, March 31

8:00 AM	Breakfast
10:00 AM	Easter Sunday Mass –(<i>Formal attire required</i>)
	Easter Egg Hunt after Mass (Student Senate)
11:00 AM	Brunch
5:30 PM	Dinner
	Sunday Vespers private

MONDAY, April 1– FRIDAY, April 5 (Octave of EASTER)

8:00 AM	Eucharist (large community Mass only)
7:30 PM	Holy Hour (Monday)



Divine Word College Dr. Donna Puccio Distinguished Service Award

The College established the Distinguished Service Award to honor Dr. Donna Puccio who has served the college with great generosity, grace and dedication for over 50 years. The award is given to a staff member for his or her outstanding service to the College community.

Eligibility

A nominee must be a full-time staff member employed by the College for a minimum of three consecutive years. The President and members of the Board of Administration are not eligible. Previous recipients of the award are not eligible for nomination.

Nomination

Nominations for the award may be made by any member of the College community (students, faculty, staff, and administrators) using the attached nomination form. It is not necessarily an annual award.

Criteria

- Employed by the College for a minimum of three consecutive years as full-time staff.
- Provides outstanding service to all or some part of the College community (colleagues, students, faculty, SVDs) and the public.
- Strives to continually improve the quality of work and delivery of service.
- Develops creative solutions to recurring problems to improve operational efficiencies in significant ways.
- Demonstrates a willingness to go beyond the call of duty to serve the needs of all colleagues.

Procedure

1. Complete the nomination form attached.
2. Address how the nominee meets the criteria and cite specific examples of accomplishments (three pages maximum)
3. Submit your nomination to the Vice President for Operations and Finance. The deadline for nominations is **April 1**.

Selection

The Board of Administration will select the recipient. The President will present the award during the Spring Recognition ceremony. The College will inscribe the recipient's name on a plaque displayed on the College Honors Board.

Dr. Donna Puccio Distinguished Service Award

Nomination Form

Deadline for submittal is **Monday, April 1, 2024**

Please submit to: Vice President for Operations and Finance

Mr. Steven Winger, Box 142

I nominate: _____

Please provide information about your nominee and how he or she meets the criteria for the award. If you need more space, please attach additional pages.

- Has been employed by the College full-time since: _____
- Provides outstanding service to all or some part of the College community (colleagues, students, faculty, SVDs) and the public.
- Strives to continually improve the quality of work and delivery of service.
- Develops creative solutions to recurring problems to improve operational efficiencies in significant ways.
- Demonstrates a willingness to go beyond the call of duty to serve the needs of all colleagues.

Name of person nominating: _____



DIVINE WORD COLLEGE
BROTHER ANTHONY KREINUS, SVD
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The College established the Distinguished Service Award to honor Brother Anthony Kreinus, SVD who served the college with great generosity, selflessness, and dedication for nearly 30 years. The award is given to faculty members in recognition of outstanding service to the College and the Community.

Eligibility

A nominee must be a full-time faculty member employed by the College for a minimum of three consecutive years. The President and members of the Board of Administration are not eligible. Previous recipients of the award are not eligible for nomination.

Nomination

Nominations for the award may be made by any member of the College community (students, faculty, staff, and administrators) using the attached nomination form. This is not necessarily an annual award.

Criteria

- Employed by the College for a minimum of three consecutive years as full-time faculty.
- Provides outstanding service to all or some part of the College community (colleagues, students, faculty, SVDs) and the public.
- Strives to improve continually the quality of work and delivery of service.
- Develops creative solutions to recurring problems to improve operational efficiencies in significant ways.
- Demonstrates a willingness to go beyond the call of duty to serve the needs of students and colleagues.

Procedure

1. Complete the attached nomination form. Nominations are received during the month of March. Address how the nominee meets the criteria and cite specific examples of accomplishments (two pages maximum)
2. Submit completed nomination forms to the Chair of the Faculty Promotions & Awards Committee. The Committee will review all nominations forms and forward these to the Vice President for Academic Affairs with their comments by 1 April.
3. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will present the nominees, along with recommendations, to the Board of Administration which will select the award recipient.
4. The President will present the award at the Spring Recognition and Awards Luncheon in April. The recipient's name will be displayed on a plaque on the College Honors Board.

BROTHER ANTHONY KREINUS, SVD
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Nomination Form

Submit the completed nomination form to the Chair of the Faculty Promotions & Awards
Committee no later than April 1.

I nominate: _____

Please provide information about your nominee and how he or she meets the criteria for the award. If you need more space, please attach additional pages.

- Has been employed by the College since: _____

- Provides outstanding service to all or some part of the College community (colleagues, students, faculty, SVDs) and the public.

- Strives to continually improve the quality of work and delivery of service.

- Develops creative solutions to recurring problems to improve operational efficiencies in significant ways.

- Demonstrates a willingness to go beyond the call of duty to serve the needs of all colleagues.

Name: _____

**Summary Report on External Affairs GOAL
of the 2021-2024 Strategic Plan
March 25, 2024**

GOAL E: Reaching out, we encourage our friends to support and participate in missionary service.

Objective 12. Strengthen the *Divine Word Alumni Association*.

The Divine Word Alumni Association has been *greatly* strengthened over the past three years. The Director, Fr. Thang Hoang SVD, working closely with the Public Relations and Development Departments, has been able to complete almost all the action steps.

12.1 Mail a quarterly newsletter to reach out to those who do not have access to email or electronic devices. A three-times-a-year printed newsletter and the three-times-a-year magazine *DWC World* have been sent out to Alumni members regularly. The print publications have been well-received by those who do not engage so much with electronic communications. The first several mailings allowed for a significant number of corrections on contact information with alumni.

12.2 Add at least 200 contacts to the database. The Association has grown steadily adding and updating the contact info for hundreds of members, greatly exceeding the goal of adding 200 contacts. This effort is ongoing.

12.3 Complete the appointment of coordinators for each of the six regions in the U. S and Canada. The Association is organized around six regions. Coordinators are quite active in most regions. An ongoing effort is underway to refresh the list of regional coordinators as people necessary.

12.4 Launch the new website for the Divine Word Alumni Association including updated directory and missionary stories of lay and religious alumni. The website for the Divine word Alumni Association has been online since 2021 and is updated on a regular basis (<https://www.svdalumni.org>).

12.5 Provide opportunities for alumni to gather virtually. The effort to gather alumni in virtual meetings has been less productive. While the coordinators do gather online from time to time, the general membership is less inclined. While online encounters may be helpful from time to time, with the passing of the COVID-19 epidemic, the focus is strongly shifting to in-person gatherings.

Objective 13. Further organize, strengthen and grow our local DWC Friends.

Efforts to strengthen our relationship with local friends of DWC have not really prospered over the past three years. The principal reason is the COVID-19 pandemic, beginning in early 2020. Quarantines and the elimination of nearly all events open to the public made this objective nearly impossible to implement.

13.1 Name a part-time coordinator for inviting and recognizing DWC Friends. The principal contacts for DWC Friends include: present and former trustees, conversation partners for ESL, previous participants in the FAN Club, local benefactors, former and present employees, local alumni, Matthew 25 and Donaghey award winners, Sister collaborators in Dubuque, and former recipients of the Matthew 25 and Donaghey awards. We have continuing contact with these groups of people, mostly through the PR and Development departments. However, the need for a coordinator was not clear during the COVID-19 era.

13.2 Establish and maintain a contact list of DWC Friends for use when promoting activities at the College. The development department has been active in gathering and double-checking information for the Friends of DWC. That effort is ongoing and has been reasonably successful.

13.3 Enlist the help of SVD confreres from Epworth to invite people to participate in the mission of DWC. We were not been very successful in articulating what we want from Epworth SVDs in regard to

inviting folks from the surrounding area to be more involved in the mission of the College. In part, the College seems a bit too self-contained in the wake of the COVID outbreak. Also, there is enormous pressure on the students and SVD community to carry out various College activities. Perhaps we have made ourselves too busy to really reach out to local friends.

13.4 Prepare a printed booklet of frequently asked questions about DWC to help faculty and staff to invite others to be DWC Friends. A printed booklet of "frequently asked questions about DWC" was developed, but it was not very effective in communicating with our employees or other local friends.

Objective 14. Energize our outreach with new and existing benefactors.

The DWC Development Office continues to add new benefactors, and very importantly, has a very high rate of retention of benefactors. The usual donor retention rate is 40%; DWC has maintained a retention rate of 67%!

14.1 Develop and implement a plan for personal visits to long-time benefactors and major donors to strengthen our relationships with them. A specific plan for personal visits was not developed. An important factor was the elimination of the position of the Chicago Province Executive Secretary for Development. It was hoped that the Executive Secretary would be able to help prepare a plan and to help confreres and other employees carry out effective personal visits. The DWC Development Office continued to carry out extensive personal visits in the Vietnamese Outreach, but phone calls and personal letters were the principal contact for the General Outreach.

14.2 Develop a website for Vietnamese language donors to be linked to the DWC website. The website for Vietnamese language donors is nearing completion.

14.3 Seek increased collaboration from SVD members and alumni throughout the North American provinces in order to promote SVD missionary outreach and fundraising efforts by attending regional alumni gatherings. Especially since the summer of 2023, the development office has been able to organize larger gatherings with the collaboration of alumni, local SVDs and with long-term donors. There is a great deal of synergy among the Development, Alumni and Vocations departments.

Objective 15. Help DWC students to acquire and develop skills for local outreach.

Sustained efforts to encourage greater student participation in DWC outreach events have been consistent throughout the triennium. These have accelerated in the post-COVID-19 months.

15.1 Prepare DWC students (and local SVDs) to take part in outreach events (All Souls Day, Matthew 25, Meet and Greet, Epworth Country Christmas...). The Mission Sunday celebrations of 2022 and 2023 were open to outside guests. These gatherings were built on very extensive student participation. Students were also very active in the Matthew 25 and Donor Appreciation events. One of the most important things the students contribute is their "stories," telling how they have come to DWC and their hopes for future missionary service. The PR department has been especially helpful in assisting students to articulate their stories.

15.2 Encourage students to send personal notes or cards to DWC Friends and benefactors for birthdays (if known), holidays, or just to thank them for supporting DWC. The students regularly prepare thank-you notes and cards to be sent to DWC benefactors. This has been "institutionalized" as an activity in the Formation program.