

JOHN A. RYAN INSTITUTE FOR CATHOLIC SOCIAL THOUGHT
CENTER FOR CATHOLIC STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA, USA
Activities of the Institute

The John A. Ryan Institute fosters four sets of activities that characterize the life of the Institute. Below is a snapshot of the kind of projects that it has been involved in and the fruits of its work.

1. Research: The Institute sponsors seminars, conferences, publications, and projects to cultivate a deeper integration of faith and work as viewed through the lens of Catholic social thought. Through these activities it has become a premier institute in Catholic higher education in fostering a community of scholars and practitioners in the area of Catholic social thought.

- Organized eleven International Conferences and several seminars around the world (US, Mexico, India, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Vatican).
 - Major Collaborations with the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and the International Association of Jesuit Business Schools.
 - Grant received to host a series of seminars and conferences on the Catholic mission of business and legal education.
- Published eight books and dozens of articles on the relationship between Catholic social thought and business.
 - Recent publications:
 - ⌚ *Brining Your Business to Life-The Four Virtues that Will Help You Build a Better Business-and a Better Life*
 - ⌚ *Rediscovering Abundance: Interdisciplinary Essays on Wealth, Income and their Distribution in the Catholic Social Tradition*
 - ⌚ *Rethinking the Purpose of Business: Interdisciplinary Essays in the Catholic Social Tradition*
 - ⌚ *Managing as if Faith Mattered: Christian Social Principles in the Modern Organization*
 - ⌚ *Work as Key to the Social Question*
 - Several of the books are part of a series on the Catholic Social Tradition at the University of Notre Dame Press.
- Posted online over 350 conference and seminar papers and several e-books on the Catholic social tradition and business that are available at the Institute website.
- Developed an extensive database from around the world of approximately 4,000 international scholars and practitioners.
- Created a comprehensive online, searchable database of institutes and organizations working throughout the world in Catholic Social Thought.

2. Faculty Development: The Institute offers extensive faculty development seminars on the mission and identity of the Catholic university, especially as it relates to professional education.

- Catholic Intellectual Tradition Seminar for faculty: approximately 120 faculty and administrators have taken the seminar. The seminar is structured on the Aspen Great Books seminars.
- New Faculty Orientation Seminar: in collaboration with the Academic Vice President's office, the Institute provides first year faculty with a four day retreat/seminar on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition during J-term.
- Mission-Driven Catholic Business Education Seminar: an Aspen-style seminar that engages business faculty in examining business education within a Catholic and a comprehensive university. In cooperation with the dean of the Opus College of Business the goal is to eventually have all business faculty participate in this seminar.
- Faculty Dinner Conversations and Seminars on special topics: teaching business ethics at a Catholic university (Laura Nash), business education informed by the Catholic mission of UST (Fr. Bill Byron, Ed Epstein, Andre Delbecq), etc.

3. Curriculum Development: In collaboration with the theology and Catholic Studies department and various professional schools throughout campus, the Institute has played a role in fostering a deeper Catholic integration in the core curriculum.

- Developed a series of courses on Christian Faith and the Professions (management, medical, engineering, legal, education, social work, etc.) with the help of the Lilly Endowment.
 - o Connecting liberal arts and professional education, faith and work, calling and career, virtue and techne, principle and policy, reason and revelation, etc.
 - o The "Christian Faith and the Management Professions: An Entrepreneurial Perspective" course received the National Outstanding Course Award from the United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship in 2002.
- Hosted a seminar on the Core Curriculum and the meaning of integration within the Catholic university, which led to a proposal for the Core Curriculum Committee on a new series of courses that will preserve the third level "Faith and the Catholic Tradition" requirement.
- Contributed to the development of the Business Ethics requirement and the Reflective Manager (spirituality of work) elective in the evening MBA program.

4. Leadership Outreach: The Institute works with organizational leaders throughout the Twin Cities area to engage the practical challenges of organizational life and the spiritual and moral claims of faith.

- Developed the St. Olaf's Faith and Work Breakfast Series: over 10 years of programming, with approximately 100 participants per session. As an established event in the downtown Minneapolis community, the breakfast helps working people deepen the connection between faith and work (some past speakers— Cardinal Van Thuan, Fr. John Haughey, Bill George, Archbishop Harry Flynn, David Koch, David Durenberger, Norm Coleman, George Weigel, Tad Pieper, Rabbi Salkin, Fr. Michael Joncas, Fr. Paul Murray, Fr. William Byron; Ken

- Melrose, Renato Cardinal Martino, president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, Michael Novak, Peter Kreeft, Ken Goodpaster, Andre Delbecq etc.
- Seeing Things Whole Project: practitioner-based programs that bridge faith and organizational life (case studies, roundtables and retreats).