Faculty Assembly – February 2, 2006

CMI Center for Mission and Identity – created to promote our Catholic and Benedictine Identity by

- Developing a plan to promote Benedictine characteristics and values in all facets of campus life;
- Bringing about a fuller discussion of Ex Corde Ecclesiae with the faculty and campus community in general;
- Assessing and (where appropriate) continuing a variety of activities and programs that have over the years been instituted to enhance the University’s Catholic and Benedictine identity.

Update of activities --

- Continuing our monthly seminars – presenters and facilitators have been Fr. Philip, Julie Dugger, Barbara Grabowski, John Mickus, Jean-Marie Kauth, Al Martin, and Tait: intended to focus on aspects of our identity and their application to our teaching and the university environment. (Notes on website) Next seminar: March 24, Panel Discussion on Teaching Business Ethics (Kevin Doyle, Catherine Arnold, Sharon Borowicz, Bruce Buchowicz, Sandra Gill, and Alan Gorr).

- Seminars as preparatory discussions for summer workshops for faculty to facilitate the integration of the ideas presented in the seminars ideas into the classroom. Grant funding for the workshops is being pursued.

- History paper -- our Catholic and Benedictine identity and its application to our students. (CMI website)

- Visiting Scholar– February 22-24. Dr. Scott C. Alexander, Associate Professor of Islam at Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, and Director of the Catholic-Muslim Studies Program in CTU’s Bernardin Center for Theology and Ministry. The topic for his visit will be “Catholic Perspectives on Interreligious Dialogue: Christianity and Islam”. (Philip Timko)

- ACTC/NEH Conference (BU co-sponsor) in Chicago in April (Pat Flynn) (Association of Core Texts and Courses/National Endowment of the Humanities).

- Diocese of Joliet speakers list (form will be on website)

- Case Statement -- $10,000,000 endowment that the Center for Mission and Identity (Fr. James)

- ABCU Publication – faculty members have been nominated to write articles on topics associated with Benedictine Pedagogy.

- ABCU Report (Benedictine Pedagogy) due March 15 (Alicia Tait)  
  CMI member Interviews – Is there a Benedictine Pedagogy? Questions are regarding the Ten Hallmarks and how they are being or may be applied to our teaching.

- Adoption of Ten Hallmarks to replace Benedictine Values (handouts available and on website)

- Under development: Catholic Identity/Ex Corde Conference Proposal (Kevin Doyle); creation of a CMI bulletin to be distributed periodically in order to provide more immediate feedback to the faculty on our work and hopefully to facilitate awareness and discussion of the use of the ideas as appropriate for our teaching; set assessment system for Ex Corde compliance; and review Core goal as related to Catholic and Benedictine history and heritage.

- CMI Website http://www.ben.edu/cmi