



# Mission & Ministry Newsletter

Seattle University  
Fall Quarter 2010

## *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*

by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

I heard the bells on  
Christmas day  
Their old familiar carols  
play,  
And wild and sweet the  
words repeat  
Of peace on earth, good  
will to men.

And thought how, as the  
day had come,  
The belfries of all  
Christendom  
Had rolled along the  
unbroken song  
Of peace on earth, good  
will to men.

Till ringing, singing on its  
way  
The world revolved from  
night to day,  
A voice, a chime, a chant  
sublime  
Of peace on earth, good  
will to men.

And in despair I bowed my  
head  
"There is no peace on  
earth," I said,  
"For hate is strong and  
mocks the song  
Of peace on earth, good  
will to men."

Then pealed the bells more  
loud and deep:  
"God is not dead, nor doth  
He sleep;  
The wrong shall fail, the  
right prevail  
With peace on earth, good  
will to men."



Greetings to our readers:

Seattle University students have gone home, some to warmer, some to colder climates. A little bit of Hawaii, in the form of the "Pineapple Express," visited Seattle for a few days of warm rain. The Jewish celebration of Hanukkah is over; Christians are still in Advent, looking forward to the coming of Christ with its promises of peace. Christmas has, of course, become a secular holiday as well as a religious one, and people's longing for an end to violence, whatever their religious convictions, is piqued by the image of "The Prince of Peace" in our midst.

The 2002 novel, *Silent Night: The Story of the World War I Christmas Truce*, by Stanley Weintraub gives the true account of French and German soldiers who, on their own authority, concluded a one-day truce in between the carnage that preceded and followed. The superior officers tried to suppress the celebration, fearing that the men would not be able to go back to the business of killing. But the deep-seated desire for peace and the fundamental respect among "enemies" carried the day. All of us, whatever our fundamental beliefs, can identify with this longing for peace.

I wish that peace to all of you as we enter into this season. The image accompanying these remarks is of the "Bowl of Tears" sculpture on the east side of Pigott that commemorates the six Jesuit martyrs of El Salvador and their two women colleagues. This November, we celebrated the 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary of their death. These martyrs remind us of the cost of peace. The story of the celebration is below. We also celebrated the life and death of our much-loved Jesuit brother, Fr. Roger Gillis who spoke, both in his life and in his dying, of the power of love. That story too is below.

Blessings of this Holy Season.

Peter B. Ely, S.J.  
Vice President for Mission and Ministry

## Save the Date!



### **Holmes Rolston III, Ph.D.**

Professor of Philosophy, Colorado State University

Three Big Bangs: Matter-Energy, Life, Mind

February 10, 2011 | 7:00 PM | Pigott Auditorium

<http://www.seattleu.edu/missionministry/chl/>

# Mission & Ministry Department Highlights

## Campus Ministry Celebration of Hope



On November 16<sup>th</sup> at a special Eucharist liturgy at the Chapel of St. Ignatius, the Seattle University community commemorated the 21st anniversary of the deaths of the El Salvador martyrs. In 1989, six Jesuits and two laywomen were killed for their efforts for justice at the University of Central America (UCA).

Every November for the past 20 years Jesuits from our own community accompanied by students, faculty and staff have re-enacted the murders through a die-in. This year the focus was shifted from their murders and instead the program looked to their lives for inspiration. This marked a new chapter in our commemoration of the martyrs. This re-imagining of the Celebration of Hope will honor the lives of the martyrs through honoring men and women, locally and globally, who are working for a more just and humane world. To ensure that every Seattle University student has the opportunity to witness the die-in, we'll host the re-enactment every three years.

This year we were privileged to have Mark Ravizza, SJ, as our homilist. Mark links our university with the UCA in a very special way. Mark lived and taught at the UCA in El Salvador overseeing the Casa de Solidaridad program.

For more information on Campus Ministry programs and events please click [here](#).

## Office of The Vice President The Catholic Heritage Lectures

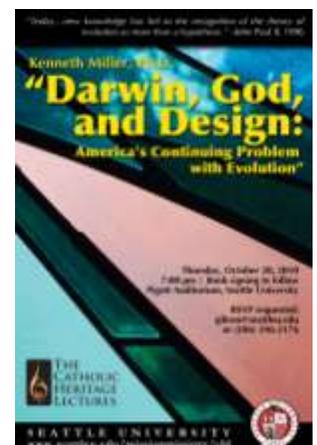
Seattle University inaugurated its Catholic Heritage Lectures on October 28<sup>th</sup> with a standing room only crowd in Pigott Auditorium. In a highly engaging presentation supported by skillful use of power point, Dr. Kenneth Miller made the case for Darwinian evolution and showed why the alternative of Intelligent Design is not truly science. Miller supported his case by references to three popes, Pius XII, John Paul II, and Benedict XVI, all of whom accept the validity of evolution as a scientific position. Even St. Augustine, said Miller, in the 4<sup>th</sup> century rejected a literal reading of Genesis as a revelation that would contradict the evidence of what we learn through experience. Miller cited the work of Gregor Mendel, a Catholic monk who discovered the science of genetics. The conclusion: Christianity is not essentially hostile to science, just the contrary. Genuine faith leads to a desire to understand the world God has created, in other words, to science.

Miller's ability to explain complex concepts, along with his delightful sense of humor, made the hour-long presentation pass quickly. In the question and answer period, Dr. Miller gave well-developed, thoughtful and respectful answers questioners.

For more information on The Catholic Heritage Lectures please click [here](#).



Dr. Kenneth Miller



## **Department Highlights** (continued from page 2)

### **Magis: Alumni Committed for Mission** **Public Square Forum**

This year's Public Square Forum was held on November 3<sup>rd</sup> with follow up conversation circles on November 10<sup>th</sup> and featured well known author, speaker, and Christian futurist Tom Sine. Tom addressed how Jesuit-educated alumni are dealing with our turbulent times, and highlighted the positive work that is being done to make a better world.



The Public Square Forum is an annual event that gathers speakers/authors representing various faith traditions to dialogue around a contemporary issue. In addition to an evening panel discussion, Magis will also host a follow up conversation or reading group with the speakers.

For more information on Magis: Alumni Committed for Mission programs and events please click [here](#).

### **Office of Jesuit Identity** **Colleagues in Jesuit Education**

Colleagues in Jesuit Education met twice this fall quarter with the theme of Ignatian Spirituality with three more sessions to come this academic year. On October 13<sup>th</sup> Mark Ravizza, SJ gave a powerful and at times amusing keynote speech titled "Contemplating the Real: The Ignatian Imagination in Higher Education." Then on December 1st, Ignatian discernment was put into conversation with Quaker discernment by speakers Marilyn Nash, SU's Campus Minister for Ignatian Spirituality and Mike Yarrow, a leader within the Seattle Quaker community.



**Mark Ravizza, SJ**

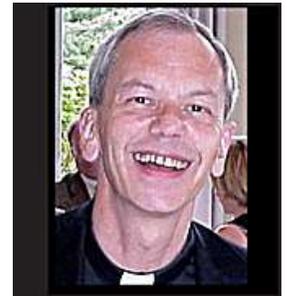
For more information on Colleagues and the Office of Jesuit Identity's other programs and events please click [here](#).



**All Things Jesuit**, a permanent feature on Seattle University's "The Commons" is collaboration between the Office of Mission & Ministry and Marketing & Communications designed to deliver the latest news related to the Jesuit mission at SU and throughout the larger community of Jesuit higher education. The section also includes a list of links for more information on the Ignatian tradition. Please visit "The Commons" [here](#) and then click on "All Things Jesuit".

## In Memoriam SU Remembers "Father Rog"

The Seattle University and alumni community gathered to celebrate the life of Roger Gillis, S.J.—known affectionately as "Father Rog"—who died Dec. 3 at age 63. Since arriving at Seattle University in 1987, Father Rog positively touched many lives as a teacher, mentor, student adviser and friend. [Read the obituary](#), share your memories and view a wonderful slideshow of pictures of Father Rog [here](#).



### Samplings of Upcoming Programs offered by Seattle University partner: **THE IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY CENTER**

**Discernment in Daily Life:** *A series for those pondering life's decisions*

6 Tuesday evenings, January 11-February 15, 2011 | 6:30-9 pm | Seattle University | Fr. Mike Bayard SJ and Marilyn Nash, facilitators **Registration due by January 4th**

**Engaging Spirituality II - Into the DARK:** *Explore the intersection between spirituality & justice*

7 Tuesday evenings from 6:30-9:00 pm, January 18-March 1, 2011 & Saturday, March 5 from 9:00 am-5:00 pm | St. Joseph Parish Center Cathy Murray and Al Roehl, facilitators **Registration due by January 11th**

*For more information about these and many more programs & events, please visit [www.ignatiancenter.org](http://www.ignatiancenter.org)*

