Wednesday, April 11, 2012

3-4:15 pm
**Baptizing your Curriculum: Cultivating School Mission within the Classroom**

_Hynes Center, Room 207_

**Presenter:** Kristin Melley, Associate Director for Professional Development, Roche Center for Catholic Education

**Description:** You love teaching in a Catholic jr./sr. high school but you are not sure if your classes give students a Catholic experience. You may even feel ill-prepared to handle faith-based questions from your students. Learn effective ways to promote the Catholic formation of your students regardless of your subject area.

Thursday, April 12, 2012

10:45 am-12:00 pm
**Innovative Governance Models and Funding Strategies in Urban Catholic Elementary Schools**

_Berkeley (Sheraton Hotel)_

**Presenters:** Erik Goldschmidt, Director, Church in the 21st Century, and Mary E. Walsh, Executive Director, City Connects, Kearns Chair

**Description:** The authors will present the findings from a Boston College study that examined the array of governance models and funding strategies for urban Catholic elementary schools. The session will highlight specific examples of schools and dioceses that have implemented these approaches. The presenters offer innovative trends that cut across the approaches and concrete recommendations to improve the sustainability of these schools. This presentation will involve very practical strategies for school administrators, diocesan leadership, and other stakeholders who are planning for the future of urban Catholic schools.

1:15-2:30 pm
**The National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools. The Time is Now: Using the Standards to Expand the Future.**

_Commonwealth Room, Sheraton Hotel_

**Presenters:** Lorraine Ozar, Ph.D., Director Center for Catholic School Effectiveness, Loyola University Chicago, Patricia Weitzel-O’Neill, Ph.D., Roche Center for Catholic Education, Boston College, Daniel Joyce, S.J. Ph.D., St. Joseph University, Philadelphia.

**Description:** This session will highlight the new National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Schools and review guidelines, strategies, rubrics, and resources for implementing the standards and using them for school improvement.

1:15-2:30 pm
**Is Each and Every Catholic High School Graduate College and Career-Ready?**

_Hynes Center, Room 207_

**Presenters:** Patrice DiNatale, City Connects, Norm Hursh, City Connects, John Marshall

**Description:** Preparing high school students to be college and career-ready is a considerable challenge for today’s secondary schools, including Catholic schools. In this presentation, school leaders discuss specific steps and strategies to introduce a proven program of optimized student support at the high school level that promotes students’ academic achievement, healthy development, and college and career readiness. Problem solving steps and strategies to address personnel, operational, and management systems to promote implementation will be discussed.
Thursday, April 12, 2012
3:30-4:45 pm
Lessons for Sustaining the Legacy from 35 School Leaders On the Front Lines
Berkley at the Sheraton Hotel
Presenters: Patricia Weitzel-O'Neill, Executive Director, Roche Center for Catholic Education., Carrie Fuller, Lynch School of Education ’12, Adam Krueckeberg, School of Theology and Ministry ’12
Description: This presentation reports findings from 35 narratives, based on in-depth interviews with a national sample of urban Catholic elementary schools established in "Sustaining the Legacy" (O'Keefe, et. al. 2004). The presentation will delve into the complex set of factors that contribute to school vitality or failure to thrive. Your takeaway will be a set of practical strategies for ensuring long-term success for a mission-driven school.

Friday, April 13, 2012
9:00-10:15 am
Religious Education: Will There Be Faith?
Back Bay C, Sheraton Hotel
Presenter: Thomas Groome, Professor, School of Theology & Ministry
Description: Teachers, religious educators, and parents find themselves increasingly bewildered by the task of leading young people toward lives of faith. This workshop gives a hopeful vision and approach to religious education that aims to "bring life to Faith."

10:15-11:30 am
Innovation Institute: A Game Changer for Catholic Schools. Panel Discussion
Hynes Room, Convention Center
Presenter: Heather Gossart, NCEA, Kristin Melley, Roche Center for Catholic Education, and Patricia Weitzel-O'Neill, Roche Center for Catholic Education, Rosalie Innacelli, Raleigh N. C., Kathy Mears, Indianapolis IN and Kitty Quinn, Columbus Ohio
Description: The Innovation Institute for Catholic Educators sponsors the discovery and implementation of transformative strategies to provide optimal experiences for Catholic school students. Be a part of this new professional community committed to disseminate innovations, and opportunities. The first Institute program, housed at Boston College, will facilitate the design and delivery of two way immersion programs for adoption and realization by a selected national cohort of Catholic schools. Join the panel and discuss this exciting opportunity to create synergy between research and practice, between universities and K-12 Catholic schools. Learn about this Institute, your opportunity for participation and be part of the launch of the first program beginning in 2012 -2013, sponsored by the Roche Center for Catholic Education at Boston College and NCEA.

10:45 am-12:00 pm
Optimized Student Support as a Core Function of Catholic Education
Hynes Center, 107
Presenters: Mary E. Walsh, Executive Director City Connects, Kearns Chair and Matthew J. Welch
Description: This session describes an evidence-based approach to addressing the out-of-school factors that shape academic achievement and healthy development. We will detail the implementation and delivery of this approach within K-8 Catholic schools and will illustrate student and school outcome data. With this information we will then launch into a discussion about how to optimize student support at your school.