**Thibodeau’s Thoughts**

**THE GREAT ENEMY WE CONFRONT IN SERVANT LEADERSHIP IS APATHY, WHEN PEOPLE JUST “DON’T CARE.”**

If we are to have a more moral society, then moral people must care for institutions, we tend to criticize the impersonal system, but it is our attitude and our level of caring, not the “system” that needs criticism and improvement (Greenleaf, Institution as Servant, 1977.)

In this election year, all of our institutions are coming under scrutiny. Local, state and federal government officials and services are criticized. Teachers are being criticized. Churches are under a barrage of criticism. Financial institutions, healthcare systems and legal institutions are criticized regularly. All systems and institutions are imperfect and in need of continuous improvement and development because all institutions are served and led by people who are in need of continuous improvement and development.

Greenleaf is raising concerns about our ability to care for one another and the persons we serve in institutional life. Do our workplaces communicate caring, kindness, patience to both workers and guests? Do persons choose to attend our institutions based on our abilities to care? Do we care about doing great work together, do we care about the stewardship of the institutions we work for, and do we care about the people we spend the majority of our waking hours with?

The great enemy we confront in servant leadership is apathy, when people just “don’t care.” What is amazing about all of you who are reading this, your lives are “Care Full” and this creates hope and the good society servant leaders strive for.

Peace and all good,

*Tom*

Tom Thibodeau
Director, MA in Servant Leadership Program, Distinguished Professor of Servant Leadership, Associate Professor, Religious Studies and Philosophy

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**New Digs**

The MASL Program is now located on the north end of Murphy Center’s 5th floor, Suite MC 504. Tom Thibodeau’s office is MC 504 A, Matthew Bersagel Brealey is in MC 504 B, Maureen J. Cooney is in 504 C. Just around the corner is MC 500, the “new” MASL classroom. MC 448 may continue to be used for some courses, kindly check the VitNet listings for the correct site. We are just one more flight of stairs up!

Meal and Hospitality will continue in the Chill Room on 4th.
Place of Grace Residency

Anh Tran has arrived and taken up residency at the Place of Grace Catholic Worker House. Anh is a member of the MASL program and is living and working at the Place of Grace as a joint venture between the two programs. Anh’s roommate is Tim Deering, who is completing his education degree at Viterbo. Tim’s dad, John, is a graduate of the MASL program. The call to serve and lead continues to expand and enrich all of our lives. We are grateful that Anh has accepted this invitation to be our first MASL resident.

Colloquium

You are invited to attend Colloquium. Join us on December 1st in the Reinhart Center when John A. Chaffee, Kim E. Cobb, Mary Ann Jacobson and Angela R. Seeger present their research. The students’ topics are “Is the Characteristic of Integrity, the Servant Leader Quality, Necessary for the Development Within the Informal Mentoring Process?” by John Chaffee, “Servant Leadership from a Non-Christian Perspective” by Kim Cobb, “Catholic Charities: Sustaining a Servant Leadership Culture” by Mary Jacobson, and “Organizational Trust and Job Satisfaction” by Angela Seeger. Lunch will be served, RSVP to mjcooney@viterbo.edu by November 30, noon.

Commencement

Congratulations to our December MASL candidates John A. Chaffee, Kim E. Cobb, Mary Ann Jacobson and Angela R. Seeger. Ceremonies on December 15 include: Master Degree Hooding Ceremony, 8:30 A.M.; Fine Arts Center Recital Hall, Baccalaureate Mass, 9:30 A.M.; Mary of the Angels Chapel, St. Rose Convent. Candidates for Degree line-up by 10:45 A.M.; Fine Arts Center room 122, Commencement Ceremony, 11 A.M.; Fine Arts Center Main Theatre. The celebration party for graduates, friends and family will be at Tom and Priscilla Thibodeau’s home following commencement. RSVP for celebration by December 10, noon, to: mjcooney@viterbo.edu

Spring Semester 2013

Online registration begins November 5, 2012

Beginning in January:

SVLD 603 Art of Leadership, Sr. Georgia Christensen, Jan 18-19, Feb 1-2, Feb 21-22 (3 cr, Elective/Core Course)
SVLD 604 Ethical Decision-Making for the Common Good, Rick Kyte, Jan 25-26, Feb 8-9, Mar 1-2, (3 cr, Elective Course)
SVLD 605 Colloquium, Matthew Bersagel Braley, Jan 26 and May 4 (1-2 cr, Core Course) Advisor permission required
SVLD 555 Servant Leadership and Global Change, Matthew Bersagel Braley, Online, Jan 14-May10 (3 cr, Elective Course)

Beginning in March:

SVLD 653 Ritual and Celebration Tom Thibodeau, Mar 22-23, Apr 12-13, Apr 26-27 (3 cr, Elective Course)
SVLD 786 ST, Grantwriting, Glenda Temple, Mar 16, Apr 20 (3 cr, Elective Course) *NEW*

Course descriptions are available www.viterbo.edu/msl.aspx?id=54281

Taking a break for a semester? Register on VitNet as Not Enrolled /LOA to maintain your student status. NENR-000 will appear on your Degree Audit

Serve the common good.
Grow as a person.
Lead change.
Coordinator's Corner

I was encouraged in a recent class to revisit the religious language of witnessing. It is not language that was prominent in my own faith formation, yet I find myself drawn to it now as I live into and out of the practical (and research!) questions of what it means to be a servant leader.

In Witnessing and Testifying: Black Women, Religion, and Civil Rights, Rosetta Ross explores the tradition of witness in the oft-overshadowed lives of Black women civil rights leaders. She sees in the lives of women like Fannie Lou Hamer and Ella Baker a hard-won resonance between their inner disposition and their outer practice as community builders. For Ross, these women’s ability to effect social change reflected a commitment to moving beyond a notion of the good life that ends in personal piety. According to Ross, for these women, “real witness occurs in how one persistently lives in relating to others and to structures in social life, including how one uses one’s own agency to help those in greatest need.”

Understood this way, witnessing is a practice that enters fully into our conversations about servant leadership at Viterbo. It enters in as we consider our response to what Greenleaf came to identify as the critically important, yet most difficult test of servant leadership – what is the impact of any decision on those at the margins of our society? How will our decisions contribute to human flourishing rather than human floundering?

The lives of the women lifted up in Ross’s book provide for us a witness to what it meant to respond to the call of servant leadership in the midst of the Civil Rights Movement. How, then, might our lives be recognizable by future generations as a witness to the call to servant leadership today?

Matthew Bersagel Braley, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies and Philosophy Research Fellow, D.B. Reinhart Institute for Ethics in Leadership Coordinator, MA in Servant Leadership mtbersagelbraley@viterbo.edu

Alumni Audit Option

As alumni you have the privilege of auditing any MASL course for $100 per credit hour

Contact Maureen Cooney for information. mjcooney@viterbo.edu

Summer Semester 2013

SVLD 601 Servant Leadership Theory and Practice, Tom Thibodeau, June 16, 17, 18, 19, (3 cr, Core Course)
SVLD 602 Theological and Philosophical Foundations of Servant Leadership, Matthew Bersagel Braley, June 16, 17, 18, 19, (3 cr, Core Course)
SVLD 610 Methods of Leadership Research, TBA, June 25, 26, 27, 28, noon - 8 p.m., (3 cr, Core Course)
SVLD 655 Stewardship: Franciscan Theology of Environmental Stewardship, Rick Kyte, June 20, 21, and June 23, 24, (3 cr, Elective Course)
SVLD 605 Colloquium, Matthew Bersagel Braley, June 22, Saturday, (1-2 cr, Core Course) Advisor permission required

Also offered during the summer of 2013, but not part of the Summer Institute:

23rd Greenleaf Conference, Indianapolis, IN, June 12-14, 2013 (speak to Matthew about credit for participation).
ETHL 531 Interpersonal and Organizational Excellence I, TBA, 3 credits, (Elective Course)
ETHL 532 Interpersonal and Organizational Excellence II, TBA, 3 credits, (Elective Course)

Course descriptions are available www.viterbo.edu/msl.aspx?id=54281

University housing is available. Contact Vickie Unferth at vlunferth@viterbo.edu.
Servant Leaders in Action

Laurie Finn, '11, has begun a hospital chaplaincy preparation program, Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at Genesis Medical Center in Davenport, Iowa. “I am in the early days of this learning. I believe it allows me to live into servant leadership as I minister with patients and families--some of whom may live among the ‘margins’ of our society--helping them navigate the challenging times associated with a hospital stay.”

Leland Froelke, '10, Ann Kiel, '10, Pat McKnight, '09, Wayne Oliver, '08, Jim Stolpa, ’11, and Maureen Sullivan, '09, organized and volunteered at the Place of Grace on the Saturday of Viterbo Alumni Weekend. The alumni, their friends and family gave the “P of G” lots of TLC.

Sheila Garrity, '05, and Mark Schack, MASL student, will be speakers at the WI Conversation on Servant Leadership, November 15, at the Viterbo University, LaCrosse, Wisconsin venue.

Kristin Johnson, ’11, wishes to share that she is the mother of a son!

Tammy Koenecke, ’08 has published a book entitled, Opening to God’s Messages: an Invitation to Personal Reflection. It is available on Amazon and is also Kindle ready.


Wayne Oliver, ’08, is working with several community members on forming a local Community Development Corporation to help revitalize the Washburn-Powell neighborhood, La Crosse, Wisconsin, the neighborhood around the Viterbo University campus.

Chris Scheuermann, ’10, and two other Viterbo faculty collaborated in recording a CD called 'Anything but Plain.' The CD is a set of early Christian chants arranged for solo piano, cello and voice. It’s a very soothing and spiritual 30-minute album that is perfect for meditation and reflection. The CD will be released on October 21st. Contact Chris at cmscheuermann@viterbo.edu to buy a CD or look for it on iTunes in November.

Sue Sieger, ’06, was named Co-chair of the Education Committee for the Employer Council on Flexible Compensation (ECFC) in Washington D.C. “I lead a volunteer committee responsible for maintaining and creating new designation programs for ECFC. These programs have become the credentialing standard for employee benefit professionals and third party administrators throughout the U.S. I authored a course called “Best Practices- Are your Ducks in a Row?” and taught this at the ECFC Administrator's Conference in Chicago this past August.”

Liz Speltz Sabo, ’10, is living in the rural Pacific Northwest, writing and raising two kids.

Rosine Urujeni, ’11, will be briefly returning to the US this October and November for business. Rosine is the Rwanda Operations Manager at Indego Africa NGO. You can find their products in stores or buy them online through Indego’s website: www.indegoafrica.org.

Mandy Wagner, MASL student, is making a difference working for AmeriCorps with the Learning Early Achieves Potential (LEAP) Program that is sponsored through Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF). “I work with students at the Dakota Area Community School, ages 3 - 7, working on building social and emotional skills.”


Zach Zeckser, MASL student, has been keeping a blog on servant leadership for a few months. Zach invites you to visit at http://theservantasleader.blogspot.com.