Thibodeau’ s Thoughts

Many times in classes we have repeated that servant leadership is a journey. The subtitle to Greenleaf’s book on servant leadership is “a journey into the nature of legitimate power and greatness.” Recent reflections have led me to consider servant leadership is a pilgrimage. Being on pilgrimage together to Assisi and Dublin has formed four emerging themes which might articulate our common experience of servant leadership.

1) Everyone is a gift and everyone is gifted. We are dependent on the gifts of others in all we do. 2) You will bring home what God knows you need. Each pilgrim is unique, each pilgrimage is unique, we all have different needs; sometimes we have needs we don’t recognize. 3) Pilgrimages are good and sacred and are not nice or interesting. Goodness requires sacrifice more than comfort. 4) All pilgrimages are about healing, reconciliation, and peace. Where is your pilgrimage in servant leadership taking you? Who are your companions on pilgrimage with you? How are you serving and being served? How are you leading and being led?

Assisi and Rome, Italy

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND
MASL Franciscan Servant Leadership Study Abroad
This course is open to all students (grads and undergrads), faculty, staff, alumni and those connected to Viterbo (i.e., husbands, wives, etc.). This pilgrimage experience will deepen participants’ understanding of Servant Leadership through contemplation, prayer, meditation, and reflective dialogue. We will bond together as a pilgrim group and discover our Viterbo heritage and legacy together. Estimated program cost: $2,500-$2,800. Includes international airfare, accommodations, cultural activities, in-country transportation, most meals, and international health insurance. Housing is Monastery/B&B. Based on a realistic estimate of participants, fees may change with final enrollment and exchange rate fluctuation. May be taken with/without 3 elective credits.

Contact Taylor Lewis, Viterbo Global Education Specialist, for more information at tilewis@viterbo.edu or 608-796-3170.

Basilica of St. Francis, Assisi, Italy

We are pilgrims on this journey, we are travelers on the road, we are here to serve each other, walk the mile and bear the load.
Peace and all good,

Tom

Tom Thibodeau, Director, MA in Servant Leadership Program, tathibodeau@viterbo.edu

Dates to Remember

- Sept. 9, Capt. Richard Phillips, Viterbo Fine Arts Center-FAC, 7 PM
- Oct. 10, Deadline to register for Assisi & Rome, Italy pilgrimage
- Nov. 6, MASL Social 5:30-6:30
- Nov. 6, Carolyn Wog, 7 PM, FAC
- Nov. 10, Spring 2015 registration begins on VitNet
- Nov. 11, Colloquium, Nursing Center, Room 195
- Nov. 13, MASL Social 5:30-6:30
- Nov. 13, Stanley A. Temple, 7 PM,
- Dec. 14, Commencement
- Dec. TBA, WI Conversation on Servant Leadership

MASL Student, Alumni and Friends Social Gatherings

Nov. 6, Nov. 13, 5:30 - 6:30 PM, before Viterbo Ethics Lecture Series, 2014-15 Lecture Series
Alumni Audit

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

Contact Maureen Cooney for information.
mjcooney@viterbo.edu

Graduate Writing Assistance

This service is offered through the Academic Resource Center for all Viterbo graduate students (both on-campus and off). Writing assistance will be provided primarily online, but in-person appointments can be arranged. For assistance, students should contact Lindsay Cummings, gradwriting@viterbo.edu

Assistance is available for any paper-literature review, sections of a graduate thesis, capstone paper, seminar paper. If the volume of requests is extremely high, the turnaround time for the paper may exceed 48 hours. Students should allow for plenty of time when submitting papers due to the potential for high demand.

Spring Semester 2015  Online registration starts November 10, 2014

Dates and times listed below are required class meeting days.

SVLD 502 Theological Inquiry in Servant Leadership, Matthew Bersagel Braley, Online, Start date is 3/16, End date is 5/8, (3 cr. core course)

SVLD 504 Ethical Decision Making for the Common Good, Rick Kyte, Seminar, Start date is 1/12, End date is 3/16, Meeting dates: 1/23-24, 2/6-7, 2/27-28, Fridays 5:30 - 8:00 P.M., Saturdays 10:00 A.M - 5:00 P.M., (3 cr. core course)

SVLD 546 Franciscan Servant Leadership, Tom Thibodeau, Seminar/Study Abroad, Start date is 1/12, End date is 5/8, Meeting dates: 2/7, 2/14, 3/28, Saturdays, 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M., Spring Break Travel Dates March 7-14, (3 cr. elective course)

SVLD 546 Grant Writing, TBD, Seminar/Online, Start date is 1/12, End date is 3/6, Meeting dates: TBD, (3 cr. elective course)

SVLD 557 Prophetic Leadership, Tom Thibodeau, Seminar, Start date is 3/16, End date is 5/8, Meeting dates: 3/27-28, 4/17-18, 5/1-2, Fridays 5:30 - 8:00 P.M., Saturdays 10:00 A.M - 5:00 P.M., (3 cr. elective course)

SVLD 690 Colloquium, Jennie Anderson-Meger, Seminar/Research, Start date is 1/12, End date is 5/8, Meeting Dates: 1/27; 2/28, 4/11, 5/2; Saturdays, 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M., (1-3 cr. core course) Prerequisite: 601, 602, 604, 610

Register for courses on VitNet. See My VU. Room numbers and book lists on VitNet.

Course descriptions: http://www3.viterbo.edu/cat.aspx?c=SVLD

Course listing tentative and subject to change.

Summer Semester 2015  Online registration starts January 19, 2015

All SVLD Summer Institute courses have an official start date of 6/1, with the end date of 8/14 Dates and times listed below are required class meeting days.

SVLD 546 Ethics and Servant Leadership, Rick Kyte, lecture dates and times are TBA, (3 cr. elective course)

SVLD 501 Servant Leadership Theory and Practice Tom Thibodeau, lecture dates and times TBD, (3 cr. core course)

SVLD 510 Social Scientific Inquiry in Servant Leadership, Lecture dates and times TBD, Prerequisite: 601 or 602 (3 cr. core course)

SVLD 551 Peace Making and Conflict Resolution, Matthew Bersagel Braley, Lecture dates and times TBD, (3 cr. elective course)

The following Ethical Leadership courses are not part of the MASL Summer Institute. These are MASL electives offered in July; start date is 7/1, end date is 8/14.

ETHL 531 Interpersonal and Organizational Excellence I, Tom Thibodeau, lecture dates are 7/6–9, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

ETHL 532 Interpersonal and Organizational Excellence II, Tom Thibodeau, lecture dates are 7/20–23, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Register for courses on VitNet. See My VU. Room numbers and book lists on VitNet.

Course descriptions: http://www3.viterbo.edu/cat.aspx?c=SVLD

Course listing tentative and subject to change.

Graduate campus summer semester housing is available, University housing is available. Contact Vickie Unferth, Director, at vlunferth@viterbo.edu.
Coordinator's Corner

Matthew Bersagel Braley

As our students quickly discover, servant leadership is often described in terms of a set of characteristics and capacities we recognize in a servant leader. For example, servant leaders are characterized by honesty and humility, as persons who have highly developed capacities for listening and foresight. Our daily news cycle continues to reveal the gap (some might even say chasm) between these capacities and characteristics we expect from our leaders and what we actually get. Yet as our students continue to show us in their reflections on the real world challenges of implementing servant leadership, attempts to close the gap are often distorted by difficult decisions in which leaders weigh competing goods - e.g., the good of the organization versus the good of the individual in a personnel decision.

These types of decisions reveal the tragic character of many of our actions and are suggestive of another capacity servant leaders may do well to cultivate: remorse. Leaders who cultivate their capacity for remorse may, in the process, develop greater resistance to forms of self-deception that tempt us to rationalize away the tragic character of our decisions (e.g., "I had no choice."). Such decisions, leaders recognize, cannot simply be resolved by "getting the right people on the bus and the wrong people off," to borrow from one popular restatement of servant leadership.

By inviting leaders to participate fully and with integrity in the tensions animating morally ambiguous decisions, the capacity for remorse may help create space in which imperfect servant leaders can continue to serve and lead in an imperfect world. Standing in this space with other servant leaders we might even discover together the courage, compassion, competence, and creativity to begin narrowing the gap between the theory and practice of servant leadership.

Matthew Bersagel Braley, Assistant Professor, D.B. Reinhart Institute for Ethics in Leadership Coordinator, MA in Servant Leadership

mtbersagelbraley@viterbo.edu

Congratulations MASL Graduates!

MASL 2014 Spring and Summer Graduates
Not present: Molly Bird, Sarah J. Havens, Barbara Carol Johnson and Anh Tran

MASL 2013 Winter Graduates
L-R, Mark Schack, Sheri Schack, Krista Clements Orlan, Deb Mulrain, Audrey Marti, Darci Keenan, Jolene Haines, Stephanie Greenwell and Scott Romane.
Servant Leaders in Action

Current MASL students represent the countries of India, Viet Nam and the US in CA, HI, IA, IL, MN, NV, TN, TX, SC, WI.

MASL Alums are from Rwanda and South Sudan, Africa, and US in AZ, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MN, MO, NC, NY, OH, OR, SD, WA, and WI.

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VITERBO
SERVANT LEADERS
MAKING A DIFFERENCE
AROUND THE WORLD

We're on the web!
www.viterbo.edu/masl

Viterbo MASL Alumni and Students

“Closed Group” – You are invited to join!
https://www.facebook.com/

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Friends, colleagues, family members interested in the MASL program? Refer them! Email their name, address, phone numbers and email address to: mjcooney@viterbo.edu

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Emilio Alvarez, MASL student, and wife Emily welcomed their baby girl, Lucia Rose Alvarez, 11/5/13.
Matthew Bersagel Braley, MASL Faculty, led a group of Viterbo students to South Africa this spring.*
Brandy Cleveland, MASL ’13, presented her Colloquium research and paper “A Content Analysis of Servant Leadership Attributes in Job Descriptions of Child Care Providers Within Wisconsin’s Coulee Region” at the Hawaii University’s International Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii, Jan. 2014. Her paper was published in the conference program and is part of their online program publication as well. “We also had the opportunity to spend some time with fellow MASL student, Jervie Windom and his lovely wife, Nilda.” *
Derek Freese, MASL ’14, accepted a position with Coca-Cola in the St. Cloud area as a Marketing Coordinator. “I will be responsible for managing social media platforms and design work with advertising and websites.” *
Lisa Hahn, MASL student, writes that she and Rhonda Akeson, MASL ’09, work with the Aquinas High School Robotics team. Lisa writes “Thanks to Rhonda and her community building skills and Servant Leadership mentality. She has been extremely instrumental in making our team more than just a group of kids who build robots. From organizing the kids, getting them to write letters of thanks, looking for and organizing fund-raising events, contacting the press to let the community know what we are building, and pitching in to help where working parents are not able. Our team have become great friends taking from Rhonda’s guidance of unity above what they originally gathered together to do.”
Alex Johnson, RN, MASL student, has accepted a transfer position at the Tomah VA Medical Center. She will bring servant leadership practices to her care of Iraq and Afghanistan War Veterans at the post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) unit.
Darci Keenan, MASL ’13, is adjunct faculty at Globe University in the Medical Assistant Program. “Through a visit with students to The Place of Grace my hope was to raise awareness of our community. This is one small way for me to spread servant leadership to others. I was thrilled how enthusiastically the students embraced this project.”
Michael Krueger, MASL student, and wife Haley welcomed Clara Elizabeth Krueger born on 4/21/14.
Lisa Kremer, MASL ’99, shares “Our project formerly known as “Abuelos y Nietos Juntos” meaning “Grandparents and Grandchildren Together” recently changed the name to “Familias Juntas” (“Families Together”) to better represent the expansion of the work that we do. The goal is to unify families who are disrupted by our broken immigration system. “Read more at www.familiasjuntas.com
Jolene Haines, MASL ’13, writes “It’s time to update my • on your map! I have accepted a promotion with the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation and have moved to Denver, CO”
Krista Clements Orlan, MASL ’14, works as a Reverie Harp Support Specialist with the Spiritual Care department at Mayo Health System - Franciscan Healthcare, La Crosse, WI. Krista visits patient rooms and the cancer center as part of a two person team offering healing sounds that promote relaxation.
Amy Pehrson, MASL student, is Director of Mentoring, Vocation and Leadership in the Center of Servant Leadership at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN. She co-directs the Servant Leadership Program (a non-curricular leadership development cohort for 30 undergraduate students) along with the G.O.L.D. (Gusties in Ongoing Leadership Development for around 150 students) program. She co-teaches both the Exemplary Leadership track (utilizing Kozues and Posner’s student leadership challenge) and the Servant Leadership track.
Molly Simones, MASL student, is receiving the Viterbo 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award Young Alumni Recipient. Read more at Viterbo Alumni Distinguished Alumni Awards
Tom Thibodeau, MASL faculty, led Viterbo students on trips to Italy and to Ireland this 2014 spring and summer semesters. MASL Alums, students, parents, spouses, siblings and adult children and Maureen J. Cooney, MASL Staff, joined.
Robert Toomey, MASL ’11, began a new job with UW-Madison Continuing Studies in March. Robert is active with Servant Leadership in the Madison, WI.
Linda Trent, MASL ’08, writes “I am using my community organization skills I developed from my wonderful teachers, Tom T and Earl Madary by reaching out to area organizations. I am working with Fond du lac County’s Juvenile Court Services to provide yoga for the teenagers on their case load. This offers how do deal with bullies, breathing, and non-violent communication to build their self esteem and conflict resolution skills and teach at The Center for Spirituality and Healing in Fond du Lac, WI.”
Melinda Van Slyke, MASL ’06, is the Viterbo 2014 Distinguished Alumni Awardee for Community Service. Read more at Viterbo Alumni Distinguished Alumni Awards
Julie Wiedmeyer, MASL 10, submits “Sunshine Supper recently celebrated it’s 4th anniversary in Sun Prairie, WI. Sunshine Supper is a weekly free community meal for approx. 200, started from a Prophetic Leadership assignment in the Spring of ’09. Each week a different group, business, or church sponsors the meal by providing the necessary food and volunteers. I credit the inspiration to Tom Thibodeau who challenged me to figure out a way to make a difference in the world.”

Share Your Good Work! How you are making a difference in our world?

Email your good news to mjcooney@viterbo.edu