Thibodeau’s Thoughts

Servant leadership is committed to excellence. Excellence comes from two Latin words, EX meaning from, COLLIS meaning hills. It is a Roman agrarian term which meant that a farmer after the harvest would go to a hill and look back on the fields that were tilled, planted, and harvested. To reflect on one’s work, service, and commitment to the common good is to practice excellence. As we reflect on this past year we give thanks for all the people who are committed to the good work of servant leadership. People of all ages, from all walks of life, are serving people in their families, neighborhoods, communities, and institutions. Robert Greenleaf wrote that “In short, the enemy is strong natural servants who have the potential to lead but do not lead, or who choose to follow a non-servant.

They suffer.
Society suffers.

And so it may be in the future.”
As a new school year begins for us, we are dedicated to serving you in your journey into servant leadership. We are all committed to this adventure to excellence in serving people for a Greater Good.

Peace and all good,
Tom
Tom Thibodeau
Director, MA in Servant Leadership

Servant Leadership Conference
2016
SAVE THE DATES !!!
June 21, 2016, Keynote speaker
June 22, 2016, All day conference

The MASL program and Viterbo University will host an all day Servant Leadership conference. A keynote speaker will kick off the event the evening June 21. Envision this day of rejuvenation & inspiration! Join the gathering of regional leaders for this full day conference.
Details to follow.
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
Dear Students,
This free service is offered through the Academic Resource Center for all Viterbo graduate students (both on-campus and off). Assistance is available for any paper (literature review, graduate thesis/dissertation, capstone paper, seminar paper, etc.), and I can also answer questions about formatting. Writing assistance is provided primarily online, but in-person appointments can be arranged. Students can submit papers to me electronically using this form. For all of the additional details about this service, you are welcome to check out our webpage. If you have questions about graduate writing assistance, do not hesitate to contact me. And please take advantage of this great resource!
Thank you,
Lindsay
Lindsay Cummings
Graduate Writing Specialist
Academic Resource Center
gradwriting@viterbo.edu

Spring Semester 2016  Register online starting November 9, 2015
Course listing is tentative, check website for verification.
Dates and times listed below are required class meeting days.
Beginning January 11
SVLD 501 Servant Leadership Theory and Practice, Tom Thibodeau, Meeting Dates: 1/15-16, 1/29-30, 2/19-20, (3 cr. core course)
SVLD 546 Franciscan Servant Leadership, Tom Thibodeau, full semester course, Assisi and Rome, Italy, travel abroad 3/4 -3/12, and seminar 2/13, 4/20, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. (3 cr. elective course) Registration deadline Oct. 1, 2015.
SVLD 510 Research Methods: Making a Case for Servant Leadership, formerly known as Social Scientific Inquiry in Servant Leadership, Matthew Bersagel Braley, Meeting Dates: 1/23; 2/27; 4/9, 8a.m.-5 p.m., Prerequisite: 501 , 502 (3 cr. core course)

Beginning March 14
SVLD 550 Building Community Practice, Rick Kyte, Meeting Dates: 3/18-19; 4/1-2; 4/15-16. (3 cr. elective course)

Summer 2016  Register online starting January 18, 2016
All SVLD Summer Institute courses have an official start date of June 1, with the end date of August 19.
Course listing is tentative, check website for verification.
Dates listed below are required class meeting days.
Times are listed on VitNet.
SVLD 502 Theological Inquiry in Servant Leadership, Matthew Bersagel Braley, Meeting dates: June 13, 14, 15, 16, 3 cr. core course
SVLD 557 Prophetic Leadership, Tom Thibodeau, Meeting dates: June 20, 21, 22, 23, 3 cr. elective course
SVLD 504 Ethical Decision Making for the Common Good, Rick Kyte, Meeting dates: June 17, 18 and June 24, 25, 3 cr. core course
SVLD 690 Colloquium, Jennie Anderson Meger, Presentations on June 24, 3 cr. core course, Prerequisites: SVLD 501, 502, 504, 510

The following Ethical Leadership courses are not part of the MASL Summer Institute. These are MASL electives offered in July; start date is July 1, end date is August 19.
ETHL 531 Interpersonal and Organizational Excellence I, Tom Thibodeau, lecture dates July 11, 12, 13, 14, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 a.m.
ETHL 532 Interpersonal and Organizational Excellence II, Tom Thibodeau, lecture dates are July 25, 26, 27, 28, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Register for courses on VitNet. See My VU. Room numbers, times and book lists on VitNet. Course descriptions: http://www3.viterbo.edu/cat.aspx?c=SVLD
Coordinator’s Corner

Matthew Bersagel Braley

Habari za watoto? This was the opening question for our summer peacemaking course this past June. On our fourth and final day together, we were to take up the question of whether or not a truth and reconciliation model could be adapted to address racial tensions in the U.S. That morning we woke to the news from Charlotte of the church shootings – rendering our question for the day no longer abstract and theoretical, but urgent and necessary. Two months later, as the students’ eloquent and passionate proposals for restorative justice and racial reconciliation in their own home communities lay spread across my desk – a hopeful witness to the power of their moral imagination – my office speaker phone announced abruptly that a shooting had taken place in the neighborhood, and the campus was on mandatory lockdown. The victim and the suspect: teenagers, students associated with the La Crosse schools.

Habari za watoto? (How are the children?) It is a Kiswahili greeting common throughout East Africa. More barometer than pleasantry, it is a way of gauging the well-being of the whole community. If the children are well, all is well. A profound correlation recognized by traditional wisdom and buoyed by current research. Societies flourish when individuals and institutions ask first whether or not they are doing all they can to ensure that the next generation becomes healthier, wiser, more likely themselves to serve – Greenleaf’s “best test.”

As part of the response to the preventable tragedy in La Crosse, over forty community leaders- from business to higher education to social services - heeded the superintendent’s impromptu call to be present and accountable at the opening in-service for La Crosse area educators – to stand in solidarity with those who, on a daily basis, keep vigil in hallways and homerooms. In our commitment to leaving no child behind, such witness serves as a reminder that the true measure of our children is not how well they do on “high stakes testing,” but how well we, as trustees of their future, respond to the “best test.” Habari za watoto? Now that is a test question worth teaching towards.

Matthew
Matthew Bersagel Braley, Assistant Professor
Coordinator, MA in Servant Leadership
mtbersagelbraley@viterbo.edu

Servant Leadership Library Resources

Polly Scott, Communication and Resource Librarian, Viterbo University’s Todd Wehr Memorial Library, wants you to know about the online SUBJECT GUIDE AND TUTORIALS created for MASL students. “The Research Guide contains research tutorials and links to scholarly resources for your assignments.” SVLD 510 Research Methods: Making a Case for Servant Leadership, formerly known as Social Scientific Inquiry in Servant Leadership, and SVLD 690 Colloquium just got a little easier! Check it out.
Viterbo Servant Leaders Making a Difference around the World

Current MASL students represent the countries of India and the US states of CA, HI, IA, IL, MN, NV, TN, TX, SC, SD, NC, WI. MASL Alumni are from Rwanda, South Sudan, Viet Nam and US - AZ, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MN, MO, NC, NY, OH, OR, SD, WA, and WI.

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

How are you making a difference in our world? Share Your Good Work!
Email your good news to mjcooney@viterbo.edu

Jeff Dols, MASL ‘08, a Senior Business Architect, has joined Century Link in St. Paul. Jeff is also founder of Integrity Consortium, a leadership consulting firm.

Doris Doherty-Gasper, MASL ‘08, joined Viterbo’s Alumni Board this year for a 3-year term.

Leland Froelke, MASL ‘10, was recently promoted as the Equalization Supervisor for the Madison district office this past January. “While working at the Wisconsin Department of Revenue, I had a chance meeting with another DOR employee and alumna of Viterbo’s Master of Servant Leadership program, Tina Cruze, MASL ‘14. It was like meeting a lifelong friend. The marvelous experiences we had while attending the MASL program were instantly rekindled!”

Cary Heyer, MASL ‘13, has been named a 2015-16 IBPS Fellow by the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, Madison Area Technical College. “Being named an IBPS Fellow [IBPS (issues based problem solving)] is further affirmation of the value of the MASL degree and its practical application to everyday situations in and outside the workplace. Conflict resolution, ethical decision making, interpersonal communications and organizational excellence – all are an integral part of interest-based problem solving. IBPS is about bringing people together to participate in rich conversations with an eye toward advancing the common good. That is the core of servant leadership.”

Alex Johnson, MASL student, has been promoted as the Nurse Manager for Veterans Care with the Green House project at the Tomah V.A.

Pat Kerrigan, MASL ‘05, retired after thirty years of distinguished service at Viterbo. Pat was honored with the title of Vice President Emeritus. Pat’s wife, Linda also just retired from the Franciscan Spirituality Center. Together they, in addition to tending to their miniature apple orchard and traveling, are continuing to volunteer in the community.

Ann Kiel, MASL ‘10, joined Viterbo’s Alumni Board this year for a 3-year term.

Rick Kyte, MASL faculty, was named the Endowed Professor of the D.B. Reinhart Institute for Ethics in Leadership. This appointment is the first endowed professorship at Viterbo. Rick also received honorable mention as top University Professor by the 2015 Best of La Crosse County.

Dorothy Lenard, MASL ‘07, received the Father J. Thomas Finucan Exemplar of Mission Award. The award is given to a person who has demonstrated exemplary dedication to the mission of the Viterbo University.

Brian Miles, MASL student, and his wife Lindsay, welcomed their son, Ira Benjamin, on January 22.

Lisa Mueller, MASL student, traveled to the orphanage, Casa Hogar, Lurin, Peru, working at one of many soup kitchens, visiting chapels & walking dirt paths in Villa El Salvador. As a pilgrim, following the steps of Fr. Joe Wulijewski, one could not help being moved by the magnitude of poverty in these areas. “I was struck by the willingness of the people working in these facilities to serve others despite their own limited resources. The challenge arriving home is: How can my I share my life & impact others who suffer spiritual or physical poverty?”

Wayne Oliver MASL ‘08, joined Viterbo’s Alumni Board for a 3-year term.

Cheryl Peters, MASL ‘08, coordinates CIRCLES OF SUPPORT, which is a neighbor-to-neighbor inmate re-entry support program for men and women leaving incarceration and returning to the community in the La Crosse, Wisconsin Area. “Our committee is searching for MASL students or alumni volunteers to serve as a committee member.” Call 608.519.3180 or email Cheryl Peters at lacrosse.cos@gmail.com for information.

Ashley Skoczynski, MASL ‘14, accepted the position as the Affiliation Minister for the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration. She provides leadership formation of Regional Coordinators and Affiliation Board, Ashley also coordinates initial and on-going formation for those who answer the call to Covenant or Prayer Affiliation.

Janet Sterken, MASL ‘10, has a new name—Mommy! Janet is adopting her cousin’s three grandchildren. Janet writes “Two of them are with me currently, and the third is coming (hopefully) sometime in October. My daughter Trinity is 2.5 years old, and my son Nolan is 1.5 years old. They’ve been with me almost three months. Isabela is 6 months old.

Tom Thibodeau, MASL faculty, was chosen as top University Professor and an honorable mention as top Public Servant by the 2015 Best of La Crosse County.

Rosine Urujeni, MASL ‘11, at the invitation of the U.S. State Department, participated in a Young Entrepreneur Summit in Kenya and also in Gabon for an AGOA forum. Rosine was in Washington D.C. for an artisan enterprise event in September then leading a workshop on innovations in business skills training at the Aspen Institute in D.C. Rosine is the Rwandan Director of Indego Africa.
MASL Colloquium Presentations  

April 25, 2015

The soon to be commencing MASL students gathered for a day of Colloquium presentations. Alumni, faculty, staff and friends were enlightened by the diverse topics of research. Thank you to our eight students for sharing their Colloquium projects; this scholarship was outstanding!

Nikki Balsamo  
“The Influence of Servant Leadership in Dance Education”

Heidi L. Borgwardt  
“Abraham Lincoln and the Servant Leadership Qualities of Foresight and Persuasion”

Cindy M. Duley  
“Voice, Vulnerability, and Vitality in Leaders and Those They Serve”

Brad Grant  
“Accountability and Servant Leadership”

Lisa Muriby  
“Volunteering and Servant Leadership”

Michael Krueger  
“The School of the Americas: A Case Study Approach to Examining Servant Leadership and Measuring Effectiveness”

Shawn McAlister  
“Why Is My Hotel So Friendly?”

Jason Walter  
“The Integration of Servant Leadership and Community Supported Agriculture”

Tom Thibodeau, faculty, shared his gift of hospitality with the traditional mid-day meal.

SAVE THE DATE: COLLOQUIUM, December 5, 2015

Congratulations to our eight new MASL Alumni, Spring/Summer 2015!

Front row, L-R: Sr. Georgia Christensen, FSPA, faculty, Nikki Balsamo, Melissa Darelius*, Cindy Duley, Lisa Muriby.

Back row, L-R: Tom Thibodeau, faculty, Shawn McAlister, Michael Krueger, Heidi Borgwardt, Jason Walter, Matthew Bersagel Braley, faculty.

Not present: Jervie Windom.

* Walked Spring 2015, graduated Fall 2014

Master’s Scholarship in the Viterbo Research Collection

From the Library

by Jason Skoog

The Viterbo Research Collection (VRC) brings together graduate and undergraduate research produced at Viterbo University for everyone to access. The VRC is a great place to view past scholarship by Servant Leadership students, or view your own after its completed. You no longer need to have a Viterbo login or password to access the VRC. Please contact reference@viterbo.edu with any questions.

Know anyone interested in the MASL program? Refer them!
Email their contact information to: mjcooney@viterbo.edu

Serve the common good. Grow as a person. Lead change.