Faith Informing Social Entrepreneurialism

Social Venturing Internships

University of Notre Dame
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Faith and Values
• Catholic Social Thought

Principles

The Common Good
Human Dignity
Rights and Responsibilities
  Right to Work
Subsidiarity
Preferential Option for the Poor
Stewardship
Theological readings include:

Margaret Pfeil, “Microcredit and the Struggle Against Poverty: The Moral Perspective”

Michael Himes, et.al., Chapter 4 “Responding to God’s Love: Compassionate Service” in *Doing the Truth in Love*.

McNeill, Morrison and Nouwen, Chapter 5 “Displacement” in *Compassion: A Reflection on the Christian Life*

Social Entrepreneurship defined

It combines the passion of a social mission with an image of business-like discipline, innovation and determination commonly associated with, for instance, the high-tech pioneers of Silicon Valley.

People with new ideas to address major problems who are relentless in the pursuit of their visions, people who simply will not take “no” for an answer, who will not give up until they have spread their ideas as far as they possibly can, pursuing systemic change.
Selection of Sites

Partner identification key to success:
- reciprocity of value
- appropriate supervision for intern
- deliberation in determining project
- robust projects that reinforce interns’ classroom experiences and extend skills
- set expectations that align with learning objectives

Site locations: San Antonio, Denver, Albuquerque, Appalachia, Chicago, Boston, NYC, Minneapolis, New Orleans, South Bend/Elkhart, Indiana

Site partners: Accion USA, WESST, Handcrafting Justice, Network for Better Futures, Broadmoor Community Development Corp, Soup for Success, Crossroads Institute, etc.
Selection of Students

Juniors or Sophomores
Business Majors or Completion of Social Venturing Courses
Languages
Openness to the Interdisciplinary Course

Selection Process
Application
Campus Interview
Top Candidates Interview with Organizations
Student Experience

Brinya Bjork

**Major:** Finance, Class of 2012

**Internship Experience:** ACCION-USA in Boston, MA
Focus on…

Social Impact
  • Internship Experience

Catholic Identity
  • Theological coursework

Professional Success
  • Personal reflection
Experiences at ACCION-USA

Corporate Partnerships
- Samuel Adams

Meet Brady
- Delectable Desires

Meet Lily
- Voltage: Coffee & Art

+Social Impact
Catholic Social Thought

Common Good
  • Allow full participation

Preferential Option
  • Assist the most vulnerable

Human Dignity
  • Value every individual

+Catholic Identity
Relationships…
Key to Success

Success Stories
• Tangible rewards
• Sustainable solutions

Living Values
• Fulfilling work
• Commitment to bettering lives

+Professional Success
Focus on…

Catholic Identity

Social Impact

Professional Success
Where do you see (or where would you like to see) the intersection of faith/values and social entrepreneurship on your campus?