invited to serve

Many educators have become living witnesses of the Gospel by discovering the worth of their mission through the journey and spirituality of St. John Baptist de La Salle. This dedication of education in Lasallian institutions is a mission shared and sustained by Christian Brothers, lay partners, sisters, and priests. We are challenged to reflect the religious and cultural variety and complexity of those involved in the Lasallian mission. We must prepare the laity for sacred participation in ecclesial life. We have witnessed an increased demand for mission formation programs offered on the international, regional, district, and local levels, programs such as the Lasallian Leadership Institute and the Buttimer Institute of Lasallian Studies.

These formation opportunities—along with participation in school or institutional communities—have given new life to the Lasallian educational mission. The once-fledgling organization has evolved to become a growing partnership. The Brothers and Partners join in discernment and prayer to act upon the pressing needs of those entrusted to our care. We are impelled by St. La Salle’s words, “Lord, the work is yours!” This is our deeply held conviction. This is the journey of faith about which we shall excitedly proclaim, “We are not our hearts burning.”

—Br. Kevin Dalmasse, F.S.C., ’81, is the Director of Education for the Christian Brothers Conference in Washington, D.C. He also represents the U.S./Toronto Region on International Council for the Lasallian Educational Mission. Over the last 11 years, he has been involved in the planning, development, and implementation of mission formation programs on the provincial and national levels.

For more information on Lasallian formation programs or volunteer opportunities, please email Ray Ricco, Special Assistant to the President for Mission Integration at ricco@lasalle.edu. We welcome feedback on this issue. Please contact Marian Butcher at butcher@lasalle.edu.

universal nature of the Christian Brothers and their call to educate the most vulnerable in society. Shortly after, I joined the development of La Salle Academy in one of the poorest parts of Philadelphia. We have the blessing of the Holy Spirit and continue to work with the guidance of the Christian Brothers to meet the educational needs of the poor.

Deborah Yost, Ph.D.

President of Lasallian Institute Lasallian Leadership Institute, 2006–09

During my Lasallian Leadership Institute (LLI) experience, I learned the power of connectivity. This idea has filtered into my work as I strive to create a community of learners in my classes at La Salle. I help students make meaningful connections between course content and their personal experiences. I also have established relationships with my LLI cohort from La Salle and other Lasallian ministries. These relationships have taught me that my work is a small but integral part of the greater Lasallian mission.