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Jesuit Education and Ideal and impact on PCPS “Helping Professions”

A famous saying of the University is “Go Forth and Set the World On Fire”. As Father Rick Malloy pointed out to us at his lecture this past month, as PCPS students we will be “the healers of tomorrow”, might be able to help others “wake up”, and change the world. I believe that through academic service learning and the Jesuit Education we receive at the University as PCPS students, we will be given the tools to do those things.

Some of the Jesuit ideals that will be taught to us are dedication to service, critical thinking and questioning, and dialogue. An important ideal of the Jesuits is Cura Personalis; care for the person, helping others, and learning how to help others. Through academic service learning, not only are we serving others in the Scranton community, but we are learning about ourselves too. As we serve the community, we can learn more about the problems outside the University and the different lives others lead. We will be able to see parts of society we would not ordinarily see and find out what needs to be changed. We can also learn about our interests and possibly find out what we would like to do in our professions. For example by volunteering at the Jewish Nursing Home, nursing majors can see whether or not they would enjoy or be able to work in geriatrics. Another important ideal Father Rick stressed during his lecture was critical thinking and questioning. Throughout our Jesuit education we will be challenged to ask if something is right, can anything be changed and to question our values. As helping professionals we need to be open to learning and trying to find what calls for change. We must be able to help make changes, develop or improve where we are working or volunteering. A third ideal Father Rick discussed was the importance of dialogue. Dialogue can occur with just you, those you serve and with God. It is the best way to make change because you learn understanding as to what is happening around you. The importance of Jesuit ideals such as dedication to service, critical thinking and dialogue will be stressed during our time as PCPS students at the University.

The lecture Father Rick Malloy gave was important to me as a nursing major. It showed me how the Jesuit education works so well with the Nursing curriculum here at Scranton. While working in the healthcare field, I will see conditions or systems that need to be changed or improved. Through dialogue I can see what patients or other nurses think should be changed or improved. As a nurse most of your time is spent directly with patients. The idea of Cura Personalis and dedication to service will help me in learning how to care and deal with patients correctly. Overall I think the Jesuit education I will receive here at the University will improve not only my personal values but also my skills as a nurse.

As “helping professionals” we must learn important Jesuit ideals such as dedication, critical thinking and the important of dialogue. Academic service and the education we will receive here at the University will help us “Go Forth and Set the World on Fire” as graduates of the Panuska College of Professional Studies.