



Accola Programs & Opportunities Committee
Monday, November 11, 2024; 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
In-person and via Zoom

Attendees: Kevin Berg; Anita S. Duckor, CSJ-C; Karen Gervais; Fr. Larry Snyder; Colleen O'Malley, CSJ; Adele O'Sullivan, CSJ; Anne Weyandt

Staff: Matt Halley; Lacy Sietsema

Special Guests: Cindy Kaiser – SISU Consultant; Sarah Stoesz – SISU Consultant

The Accola Programs and Opportunities Committee convened in-person and online at 2:29 p.m.

Brief introductions were made between all committee members.

Prayer: Colleen O'Malley led the committee in prayer.

DEI Statement: Anne read the DEI Statement and led the committee in prayer.

Minutes: The October minutes were presented to the committee for approval. Anita suggested changing "Not Present" to "Excused Absence". Hearing no other feedback, the committee voted to approve the minutes.

Review of preliminary data & discussion about foundational definitions for Wisdom Ways

Cindy and Sarah presented the data findings and working definitions from the Wisdom Ways interviews. Cindy reviewed the interview questions and the interview process.

There was a discussion about the quantitative results and how the definitions fit into Wisdom Ways. From this data, Sisu was able to discern qualitative data and reviewed several key phrases about clarity and aspiration.

There was a discussion about carefully reviewing the language of the definitions and tweaking them to show the CSJ community that its voice has been heard. There was a discussion about the term "social justice" and how it was received by interviewees and respondents.

The committee agreed to refine the definitions of spirituality and social justice as it applies to Wisdom Ways. Committee members were encouraged to remember how Wisdom Ways will benefit the other Accola programs. Colleen and Anne suggested using "An individual and community practices that open us up to the spirit, transform us, and lead us to justice, peace, and integrity of all creation to promote wholeness in life." There was a discussion about using "social justice" versus "justice".

It was decided that the committee would reflect on the definitions discussed and possibly reordering the framework agreements to be more positive. Lacy will draft a document that enables the committee to revise the definitions based on the data collected and the discussion today.

Looking ahead to our next meetings (12/9 and thereafter)

A definition will be drafted. The consultants at SISU will review the rest of the data and develop a landscape scan.

Next Meeting: Monday, December 9. Anne asked the committee for a volunteer to lead the next prayer. Anita volunteered to give the prayer.

Adjournment: The committee adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lacy Sietsema, Accola