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LA SALLE COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Newsletter

Vol. III No. 3

February 1969

EDUCATION WEEK

Students across the nation are questioning social values and traditional methods of education. Many are disheartened by what they feel is their college's or university's failure to offer adequate tools to help them learn to live humanely in today's world. Many faculty members share these concerns; others do not understand the student's pleas for immediate relevance.

In an effort to stimulate campus-wide dialogue at La Salle the students have planned a special "Education Week," February 16 to 21. It is hoped that the open discussions of the week will bridge some of the chasms that exist between and among faculty, students, administration and alumni.

An open discussion between students and alumni will be held on Sunday afternoon, February 16 at 1:30 p.m. in the College Union. Interested alumni are cordially invited to attend. No reservation is needed. However, since both the Alumni Office and the student government would like to have an idea how many alumni to expect, alumni are asked to write or call the Alumni Office (VI 8-8300) indicating their plan to attend. Further information will be sent to each participant.

Other activities of the week include art displays, a Masque parody on the classroom situation, the running of "relevant" films, and class discussions about higher education in general and La Salle in particular.

On Wednesday, February 19, classes will be cancelled for at least part of the day while individual and departmental groups will sponsor discussions on a wide range of topics, including the military, sex, technology and society, environmental studies, theology, etc. Alumni are invited and urged to participate in these discussions. Contact appropriate department chairmen or the Alumni Office.

BASKETBALL "HOOP"—LA

The third annual joint luncheon with St. Joseph's alumni, the big five basketball game between the two institutions with the alumni hoop trophy at stake, and the 12th annual post-game alumni party are highlights of what might be termed the "hoop" weekend—February 14—15.

The hoop trophy was inaugurated seven years ago when Francis X. Donohoe '55 contacted some members of St. Joseph Alumni Board and found they were as interested as we in seeing our basketball rivalry formalized. The result was a unique trophy; an actual basketball hoop and net gilded and mounted on a 4½ foot stand. It has been awarded each year since 1963 to the winning school and held until the next years game. The St. Joseph team has won the trophy four times. The Explorers will be seeking a third win on February 15. In the over all series which began in 1900, La Salle has won 34 games to St. Joseph's 29.

The joint luncheon of the two alumni Downtown Clubs will be held again at the Adelphia Hotel, 13th and Chestnut Streets, on Friday, February 14 at 12:15 p.m. The opposing coaches, Jack McKinney and Tom Gola, will be the featured speakers. Tickets are \$3.50 and may be procured by sending checks payable to "La Salle College", to the Alumni Office, La Salle College, Philadelphia, Pa. 19141.

The alumni party after the game will be held this year at the Green Trees Tavern, 33rd and Arch Streets. Drinks and sandwiches will be available at moderate prices and a free parking area is adjacent to the Tavern.

SIGNUM FIDEI DINNER MARCH 7 AT ALDAN PARK

The alumni association's annual Signum Fidei Medal for 1969 will be awarded to Rev. William J. Finley on March 7 at a dinner at Alden Park Manor, it was announced by alumni President Daniel H. Kane.

Father Finley served for 12 years as assistant pastor in the Philadelphia ghetto parish of The Most Precious Blood. He was one of the founders of "Operation Discovery," which now offers summer training for about 1200 pre-high school students at six centers in the city. He has promoted classes for slow readers, set up a hot lunch program for poor children, and participated in the organization of a housing development program, which reconditioned homes and assisted in financing.

The dinner will commence at 8:00 p.m. in the Alden Park banquet hall. Cocktails will be available at 7:00 p.m. Chairman Richard Becker, '50, has announced that dinner tickets are \$5.00 per person and may be procured from a member of the committee or from the Alumni Office.

In agreeing to accept the honor, Father Finley said he had not "deluded" himself with the thought that he had done anything very special. "I do perceive that in honoring me," he said, "you may be giving heart to many others of my 'level' who might seemingly be working in a vacuum."

The Medal derives its name from the motto of the Christian Brothers—"Sign of Faith." Since 1942 it has been given each year to recognize personal achievements in harmony with the established aims of La Salle College and the objectives of the Brothers, and is awarded annually to a person who has made "most noteworthy contributions to the advancement of Christian principles."

Among previous recipients have been Dennis Cardinal Dougherty; Bishop Fulton Sheen; Dr. Francis J. Braceland; Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy, and last year's recipient, the Rev. Leon H. Sullivan.

NOTES

Class committees are meeting and planning reunions for the classes of '44, '49, '54, '59 and '64 . . . The Washington, D.C. Chapter will meet on February 12 in conjunction with the American University basketball game . . . The New York Chapter will meet on February 13 . . . A reorganization meeting of the South Jersey Chapter is scheduled for February 27 . . . The annual Spring Reception (and Hall of Athletes induction ceremony) is scheduled for the Sunday after Easter, April 13. Frederick Leinhauser, '57 is chairman.