A Crossings Point of View  Michael G. Cartwright, Executive Director

When you have to do so, how do you go about crossing Hanna Avenue? I think most of us would say that we do so carefully while watching cars that may or may not be prepared to stop despite caution lights, signs and a crosswalk. A recent cartoon published by The Reflector newspaper suggests that however adventurous it may be, crossing Hanna is “not as much fun as Frogger.” Hmm! I will have to think about the implications of that image. In the meantime, I will try to get across safely. Whatever may be the case with the crosswalks between Good Hall and Esch Hall, some crossings require guidance if we are going to arrive at our destination safe and sound. Such is the case with this project. It is fairly typical for a grant-funded project of this scale to have an advisory board of persons from outside our campus community who bring particular experience and counsel to bear on the eight sets of initiatives that make up The Crossings Project. I am pleased to announce that the following eight leaders have agreed to serve as the Advisory Board for the next three years for this venture:

Ron Anderson, Christian Theological Seminary
Kenda Creasy Dean, Princeton Theological Seminary
Michael Duffy, Hanover College
Jennifer Horner O.S.B., Our Lady of Grace Monastery
Alan Kolp, Baldwin-Wallace University
Carol Simon, Hope College
Paul Valliere, Butler University
Karen-Marie Yust, Christian Theological Seminary

PROJECT UPDATES

Crossing Thresholds: Fourteen new faculty and professional staff persons participated in the recent “Discovering ‘Education for Service’ Retreat” (11/8-11/9). . . In mid-November letters will be sent out to all university faculty who have been hired since 1996 to invite them to consider applying for the EDUSERV Seminar for Faculty that will be offered next semester for the first time. Although only one “section” of the seminar will be offered this year (space limited to 12 participants), beginning Sem. I 2003-2004, multiple sections will be offered subject to the number of faculty desiring to participate in this conversation about what it means to be involved in “education for service” as we embark on the university’s second century.

Crossing Intersections for Service: Rebecca Blair and Jim Fuller have agreed to work on the “Discovering ‘Education for Service’” book project, which will be written and published over the next 12 months. Emeritus Professor of History Fred Hill and Provost Emeritus Lynn Youngblood will serve as advisors to this project. . . Steering Committee members P. Kea, F. Valentine, P. Gabonay joined M. Cartwright in making a day-long (10/24) site visit to Hanover College to learn about the Vocational Mentoring Program directed by Michael Duffy.
Crossing into Community Partnerships: Janet Hoover ’97 was hired in September to serve as Interim Director for the Youth Ministry Training program . . . The jointly-sponsored Convocation on Youth Ministry (with Christian Theological Seminary) has been rescheduled for Sept. 27, 2003. . . The joint curriculum for youth ministry training will begin Sept. 2003. . . Recently, M. Cartwright and J. Hoover met with officials from the North Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church to discuss our plans in progress for the proposed Youth Ministry major.

Crossing the Commons: A total of 15 persons are participating in two Crossings book discussion groups about the practice of hospitality. Those persons who were not able to participate in the discussions this fall are invited to consider doing so next semester (please contact x2106 if you are interested in discussing Christine Pohl’s book Making Room). . . Perry Kea will chair the University Chaplain Search Committee. Other members include Rebecca Blair ’80 (English Dept.), Sarah Nunley ’04 (Religion major), Jim Fuller (History & Political Science), Flora Valentine (Nursing), and Maureen Kinney (Student Affairs Division).

The Crossings Calendar:

2/13/03 Peter Ochs, Bronfman Professor of Judaic Studies at the University of Virginia, will give the Showers Lectures on the subject of “Christianity in Jewish Terms” at 2 & 4 p. m.

3/15/02 Date that second round of Proposals for EduServ Faculty Mini-Grants are due

9/26/03 Advisory Board Meeting to review the first year of The Crossings Project

9/27/03 Youth Ministry Convocation will be hosted by U of I in collaboration with Christian Theological Seminary

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