



Office of the Vice President for Mission

TO: The Gonzaga Community
FROM: Frank E. Case, S.J. and Shanea Giroux
SUBJ: Moment for Mission
DATE: April 23, 2013

Breaking down the Mission Statement – Educates Students

Gonzaga educates students. In line with the hallmark of the Catholic intellectual tradition at its best and of Jesuit education throughout its history, we educate the whole person. This is the primary goal and focus of our work and the expectation of our students, parents and alumni. How we respond to this expectation and the way in which we educate our students is what sets us apart, what makes us distinct.

Note the difference between unique and distinct. We cannot argue we are unique as a member of the 28 strong Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities network within the United States and as a part of the larger Jesuit Colleges and Universities network throughout the world. We are however distinct because of our tradition and individual identity and the quality of educational experience we deliver.

Gonzaga University Mission Statement

Adopted: February, 2013

Gonzaga University is an exemplary learning community that educates students for lives of leadership and service for the common good.

In keeping with its Catholic, Jesuit, and humanistic heritage and identity, Gonzaga models and expects excellence in academic and professional pursuits and intentionally develops the whole person – intellectually, spiritually, physically, and emotionally.

Through engagement with knowledge, wisdom, and questions informed by classical and contemporary perspectives, Gonzaga cultivates in its students the capacities and dispositions for reflective and critical thought, lifelong learning, spiritual growth, ethical discernment, creativity, and innovation.

The Gonzaga experience fosters a mature commitment to dignity of the human person, social justice, diversity, intercultural competence, global engagement, solidarity with the poor and vulnerable, and care for the planet. Grateful to God, the Gonzaga community carries out this mission with responsible stewardship of our physical, financial, and human resources.