IB CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS 2015

Chicago, IL • 23–26 July

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#IBCHI2015

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Seeking Knowledge
Exercising Reason
Living the Gospel

IB in Catholic and Faith-Based Schools

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Introductions & Logistics of the Panel Discussion

- Notre Dame de la Baie Academy, Green Bay, WI, USA
  - 760 Students, Grades 9-12, Coeducational, Catholic
- Introductions: Matt, Michele, Chris and Other NDA Members
- Agenda
  - Who we are
  - Focus Stories
  - IB in our Catholic School (Coordinator, TOK, Philosophy, Other Subjects)
  - Break; Post a Question
  - Challenges and Opportunities
  - Answer Questions; Contact Information

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Introductions & Logistics of the Panel Discussion

- Send us a Question on **Today's Meet (todaysmeet.com)**
  - Room Name: NDAIB
  - Password:
- Post a Question to a Category
- Comment on how you make IB work in your Faith-Based school

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Knowing Our Catholic Norbertine Heritage

- A deep sense of community lived through dialogue, collaboration, and consultation
- Seeking truth in ongoing dialogue between faith and reason
- Recognize the sacred dignity of all persons
- Use knowledge in working toward a Gospel vision of justice
- Affirm the goodness encountered in creation and culture
- Scrutinize reality in an effort to add to the treasury of human wisdom
- IB and Catholic Schools Article by John White, University of Dayton : An Answer to the Church's Call to Global Solidarity **http://www.notredameacademy.com/PDFs/Employees/SchultzMatt/IB---Catholic-Schools-Article.aspx -**

The Learner Profile and Catholic Education

- **Principled**
  - Students scrutinize knowledge in a critical manner
  - Students examine the relationships between possessing knowledge and the moral obligations their possession carries

- **Open-minded**
  - Students must learn to balance skepticism with belief
  - Students must learn that in many situations there is a need to make decisions without absolute certainty

The Learner Profile and Catholic Education

- **Risk-takers**
  - Students must be willing to risk questioning what they hold to be true
  - They must be willing to risk being wrong
  - They should be prepared to take the risks involved in making judgments in matters where the evidence does not definitively favour one view or another

- **Reflective**
  - Students learn to reflect on the degree to which motivations, beliefs, thought processes and emotional reactions influence what one knows and what one is capable of knowing

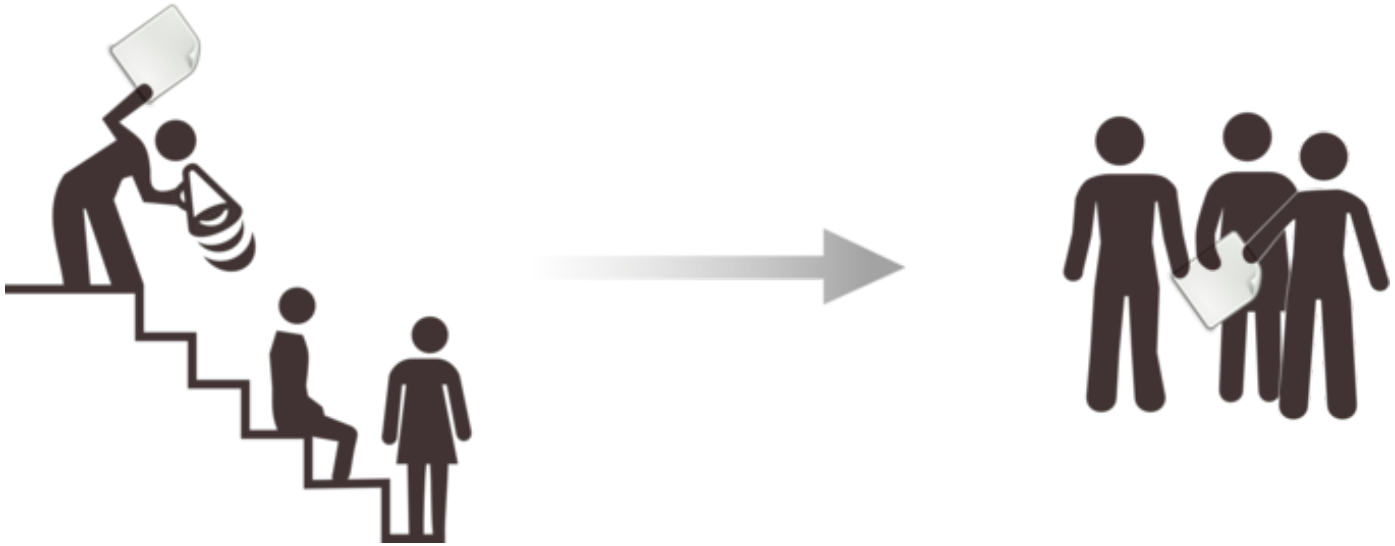
Vision for Student Learning

Stained Glass Window at St. Norbert Abbey in De Pere, WI

- **Seeking Knowledge, Exercising Reason, Living the Gospel**
- History of how we developed our vision

IB Structure at Notre Dame Academy

- Flow Chart of Leadership at NDA
  - IB Coordinator's Relationship with Administration & Faculty



Focused Stories: The Roles We Play

- Principal/Head of School: Dr. John Ravizza
- IB Coordinator: Mr. Matt Schultz
- CAS Coordinator & TOK Teacher: Ms. Michele Mahlock
- Philosophy Teacher: Mr. Chris Gray
- Other NDA Faculty

Role of Principal at an IB Catholic School

- **Principal/Head of School: Dr. John Ravizza**
  - Principal's Engagement in IB
  - Biweekly meetings with IB Coordinator
  - Keep an overview of the IB Programme to assure it aligns with the mission and vision of the school

IB Coordinator in an IB Catholic School

- **IB Coordinator: Mr. Matt Schultz**
  - Keeping the Mission of the Church and the Mission of IB Central to all we do.

Theory of Knowledge in the Catholic School

- **TOK Teacher & CAS Coordinator: Ms. Michele Mahlock**

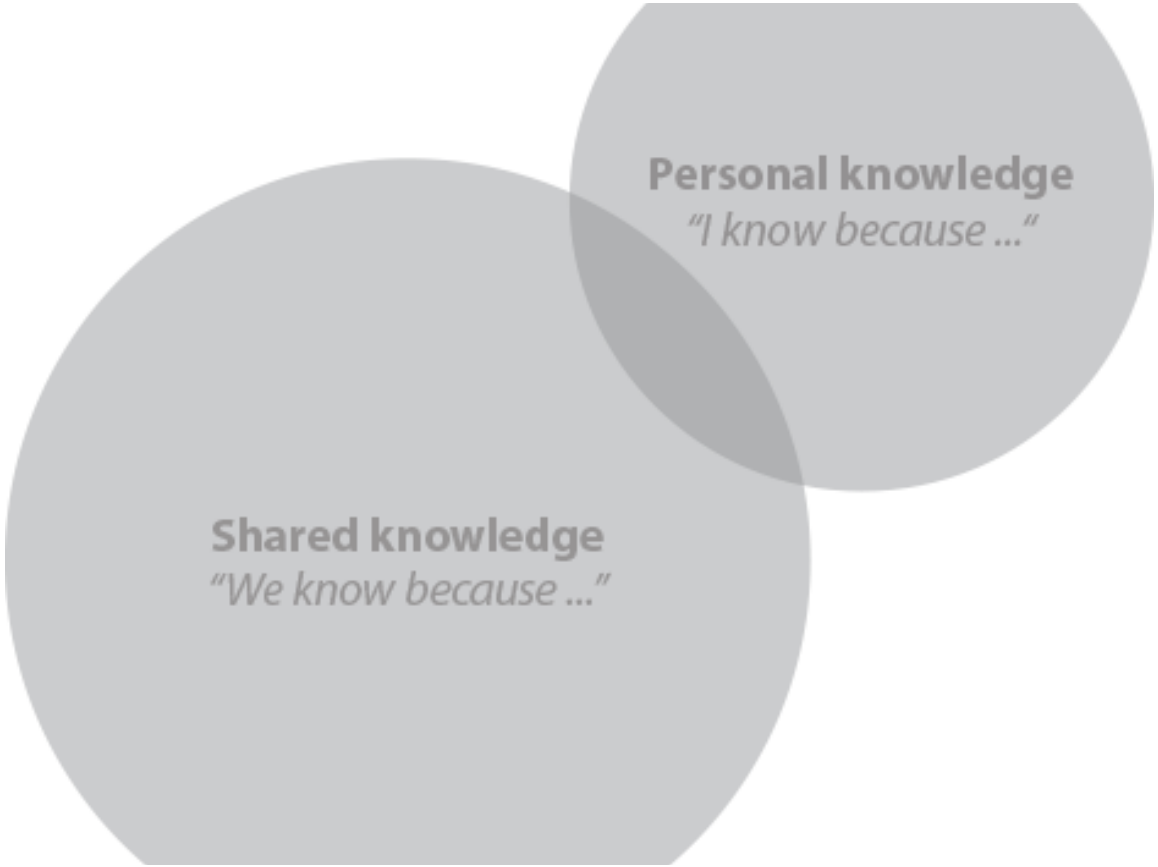
Catholic schools are places for “an encounter between faith, reason and sciences.”

A theology … which is in dialogue with other sciences and human experiences is most important for our discernement…

Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*

Theology- “Faith seeking knowledge”

Shared and Personal Knowledge in Scripture



The concepts of shared and personal knowledge spur conversations and knowledge questions … To what extent does knowing in religious systems create moral obligations? … Are there situations in which personal knowledge alone is sufficient to claim knowledege? … To what extent is it possible for shared knowledge to play a role in knowing that is not empirical?

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Creativity, Activity, and Service in the Catholic School

The Nature of CAS

- A beacon of IB values, CAS enables students to grow as unique individuals and to recognize their role in relation to others.
- CAS reflection allows students to explore ideas, skills, strengths, limitations and consider how they may use prior learning in new contexts.
- CAS is experiences that provide students with opportunities to explore their interests and express their passions, personalities and perspectives.

Catholic Norbertine Charisms

- *Communio*
  - characterized by mutual esteem, trust, sincerity, faith, responsibility
  - Lived through open dialogue, communication, consultation, collaboaration
- *Contemplio* is pausing for reflection
- *Actio* calls us to animate faith with action

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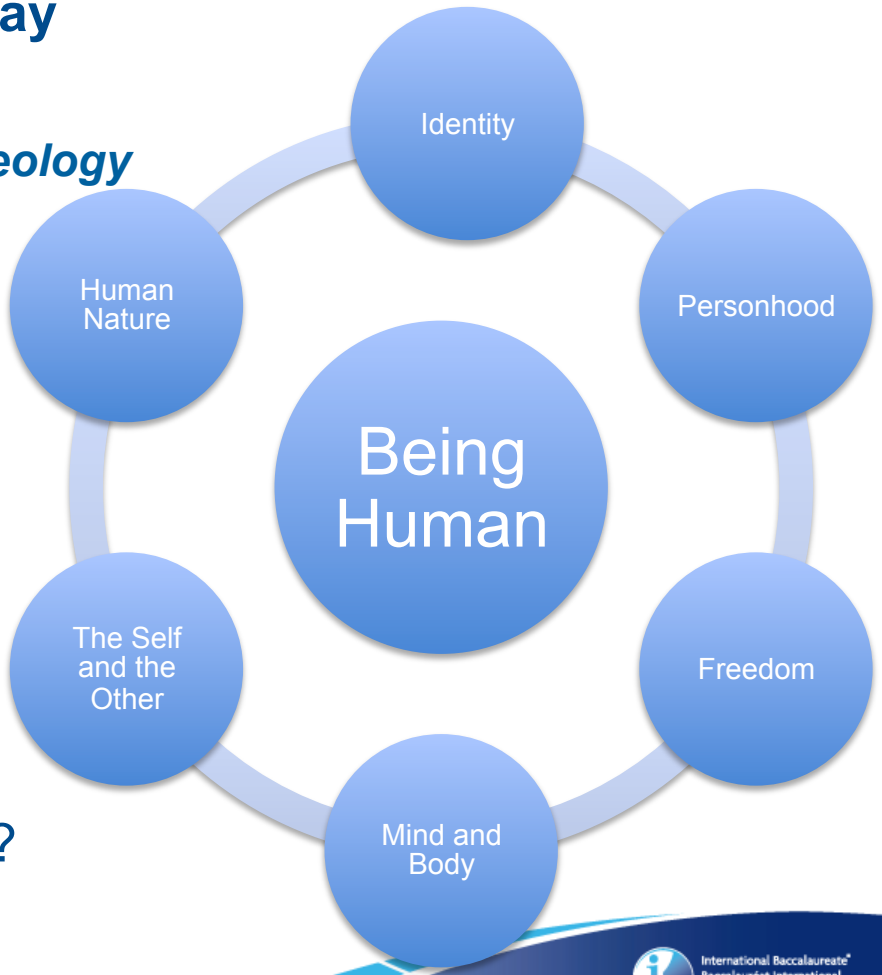
IB Philosophy in a Catholic Context

- **Philosphy Teacher: Mr. Chris Gray**

Philisophia Ancilla Theologiae

--Philosophy is the handmaiden of theology

- The supportive role philosophy can play in understanding God, ourselves, relationships with others, and the world
- Opportunities for theology departments in the IB curriculum
- IB Philosophy's Core Theme: What does it mean to be Human?



Optional Theme: Philosophy of Religion

- Nature and existence of God
  - Forms of Theism, arguments for and against the existence of God, omniscience, omnipotence, benevolence, the problem of evil
- Religious Language
  - Language as symbolic, metaphorical, mythological, and analogous
- Religious experience and behavior
  - Types of religious experience, faith and belief

Non Western Philosophy

- International Mindedness
- Taught in the context of World Religions
- "In our times, when every day men are being drawn closer together and the ties between various peoples are being multiplied, the Church is giving deeper study to her relationship with non-Christian religions. In her task of fostering unity and love among men, and even among nations, she gives primary consideration in this document to what human beings have in common and to what promotes fellowship among them."---*Nostra Aetate, Documents of the Second Vatican Council, October 28, 1965*

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Other IB Faculty at NDA

- Ms. Stefanie Jochman – English A: Literature HL
- Mr. Steven Stary – History of the Americas HL; CC English
- Mr. Adam Rudar – Psychology SL
- Mr. Doug Guyette – Mathematics HL

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Take a Break & Post a Question

- Take a few minutes to process what has been shared and what you would like to know
- Post or send a question to us on ***Today's Meet***
- Discuss with others how you approach IB in your faith-based school
- *We will resume with our biggest Challenges and Opportunities*

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Our Challenges & Opportunities

Challenges

- Budget
- Trainings
- On-going Institutional Dynamics: pedagogical, religious & political perspectives & agendas
- "…other people, with their differences, can also be right."
- TOK as a Theology course
- Course Specific Challenges
  - IB English
  - IB vs. AP/Honors/ College Credit

Opportunities

- Specific Donations / Endowment
- Trainings
- Course Offerings
- Enhance the Global Mission of the Church
- Investigate and discuss faith as a way of knowing explicitly
- Reinforce our culture of service

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What Questions Do You Have For US?

Address Posted Questions

- Challenges
- Curriculum
- Budget
- Other

Comments, Questions or Share Experiences of your Faith-Based School

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Contact Us

- Mr. Matt Schultz – mschultz@notredameacademy.com
  - Follow NDA's IB program on Twitter @NDAIBDP
- Ms. Michele Mahlock – mmahlock@notredameacademy.com
- Mr. Chris Gray – cgray@notredameacademy.com
- Dr. John Ravizza – jravizza@notredameacademy.com
- http://www.notredameacademy.com/

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