Letters: Don't Forget UCCE

Diana Murphy
Don’t Forget UCCE

To the Editor:

I always look forward to reading the latest edition of Conversations. The articles in the magazine tend to be thought provoking. I would like to add to the article by John Savard, S.J., “The Heart Feels What the Eyes See.” He briefly refers to post graduate work: “…many do consider a year of post-graduate service with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps or Teach for America.” There is no mention of the UCCE.

There are fifteen colleges/universities that are members of the University Consortium for Catholic Education, of which five are Jesuit (Boston College, Creighton, Loyola Chicago, Loyola Marymount, and St. Joseph’s)

The UCCE works to support, strengthen and sustain Catholic education. Each of the 15 member universities hosts a teaching service corps whose members teach in primarily under-resourced Catholic schools throughout the country. Participants of the programs make a two-year commitment to serve as full-time teachers while living in community, developing professionally, and growing spiritually. Some say a UCCE program is like taking the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, Teach for America, and Peace Corps and mixing them all together. If in the future JVC and TFA are mentioned as “post-grad service opportunities,” please consider mentioning the UCCE programs as well. More information about the UCCE can be obtained by visiting the consortium website: www.ucce-connect.com In addition, the staff here at the PLACE Corps office (LMU’s UCCE program), would be happy to share program and consortium literature to anyone interested in learning more about the various teaching service corps sponsored by the Jesuit institutions listed above.

Respectfully
Diana Murphy

Diana Murphy is PLACE Corps Director, Loyola Marymount University

Right, Magis Catholic Teacher Corps, Creighton University. Areas of study are secondary teaching, leadership, and counseling, serving urban, rural, and suburban areas as well as American Indian reservations.

Left, Vanessa Estrada PLACE Corps Cohort 11, Loyola Marymount University, is teaching Kindergarten at St. Athanasius School in Long Beach CA,