Dear Conversationalists

Patrick Howell S.J.
Dear Conversationalists,

You will notice that we have launched a new era for Conversations. We now have access to full color for all of our pages, and we have significantly updated the layout. We calculate that the last time this was done was about 15 years ago. The new look and full color mean that we will be seeking more high quality photos for this and future issues. The Conversations board is very grateful to Pauline Heaney, valiant layout editor, for providing this new design which the board had a chance to review and to suggest alternatives at our April meeting at Rockhurst University.

The new printing process, still with Peacock Communications, is web-based so that our printing costs are actually reduced. Seems ironic, but it’s true. The slight downside is that the trim of the magazine is about 1/4” less than it was before.

In addition, to the hard-copy changes, we now have a fresh new website up and running. Mounting this new site has been a considerable challenge since most of us on the board are “low tech.” In addition, we had to change servers midstream from Adventure Studios to Square Space, which we believe will be much more user friendly and allow for frequent updates.

Currently, I am in dialogue with a Jesuit scholastic doing his theology studies to see whether he can regularly monitor and update our website and keep it fresh. The website will allow us to “continue the conversation” between issues and to publish certain features, such as Youtube takes, in a timely manner.

Thank you for your generous support and readership, and we always appreciate hearing about how Conversations is being used and which articles or issues you have found most useful for advancing the Jesuit Catholic mission at your university or college.

Best wishes and blessings for this forthcoming academic year.

Patrick Howell, S.J., chair
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