

Augustinian Pedagogy An Asia-Pacific Moment

Presented at
Asia Pacific Augustinian Conference's
Augustinian Family Educator's Congress 2019
November 14, 2019
La Consolacion College Bacolod, Bacolod City, Philippines

Introduction



Privileged opportunity for me

APAC Organizing Committee bringing us together

Opportunity to share Augustinian Family experience

Time to look forward and challenge ourselves to expand and deepen what our Family has to offer





Special Opportunities of Congress

Special Reality for Augustinian Pedagogy Dialogues

Augustinian Family

Shared Experience

Different Congregational Traditions

Different Cultures

Augustinian Pedagogy Dialogues



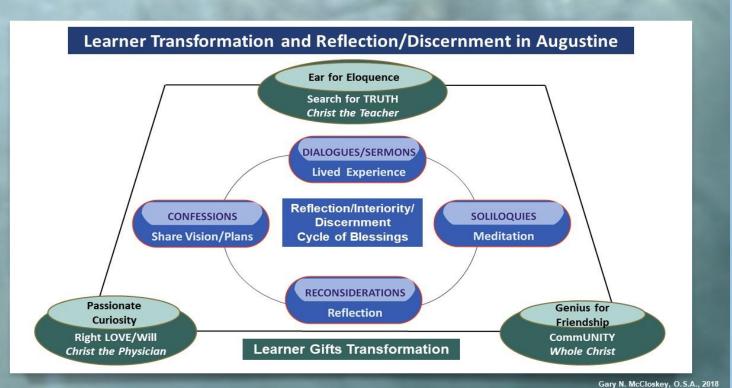
Dialogues of Gifts

Dialogues about Augustinian Values

Dialogues about Augustinian Practices



Dialogue of Gifts – St. Augustine





APAC - Unique Augustinian dialogue

Inter-congregational

Intercultural

FAE (Federación Agustiniana Española) – Inter-congregational



APAC

Heirs to Rich Inheritances

Cross Fertilization

Need to Add to OSA Augustinian Pedagogy Materials

Creativity – Limited Resources



OAR Examples of Gifts

Fr. Enrique Eguiarte, OSA Augustinianum Multiple Intelligences

Bases pedagógicas augustinianas

Teresita Legarra Lopetegui, Maribel Martin Molina, and Pedro Benavides Ruiz. Agustinos Recoletos, 2017



Intercultural Questions for APAC

How Does Asia Understand Augustinian Pedagogy?

How Do the Cultures of Different Countries Understand?

How Do the Different Cultures within Countries Understand Augustinian Pedagogy?



My request of APAC

Please Lead Us to Deepen our Understanding of Augustinian Pedagogy by Exploring and Sharing Your Unique Gifts in Service to Us All!



How many Augustinian Values are there?

3?

10?

15?



Wrong Question!

Right Question =

How can Augustinian Values Help Us Be Better Educators and Serve Our Students in the Spirit of St. Augustine?



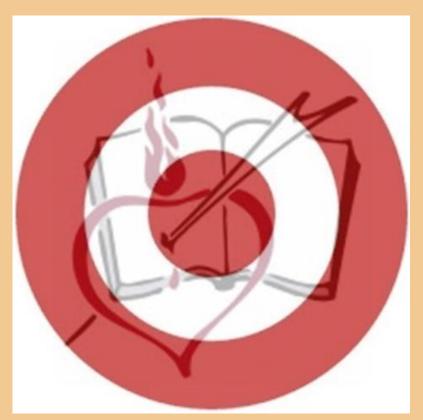
Augustinian Values

Means Not End

A LENS to View Things Through









Augustinian Values of Conference Title

TRUTH

UNITY

LOVE



3 VALUES

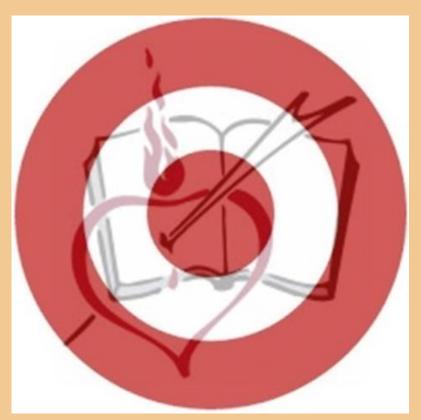
Positive = Leads us to FOCUS

Negative = Culturally/Linguistically Bound?

Are they shaped by the English Speaking Mind?







Esmeralda – Augustinian Values



- 1. Love and Order of Love
- 2. Interiority
- 3. Humility
- 4. Devotion to Study and the Pursuit of Truth
- 5. Freedom

- 6. Community
- 7. Common Good.
- 8. Humble & Generous Service
- 9. Friendship
- 10.Prayer



10 - 15 VALUES

Positive = Leads us to Expansive Thinking

Negative = Culturally/Linguistically Bound?

Are they shaped by the Spanish-Speaking Mind?



BUT – Esmeralda Challenges in Asia-Pacific Way

Is he on to something here?

Do the 3 values help cultures in Asia-Pacific to fully understand Augustinian Ways of Teaching and Learning?

Are There OTHER ways to understand Augustinian Values that help various cultures?



My request of APAC

Please Lead Us to Deepen our Understanding of Augustinian Values by Exploring and Sharing Your Various Cultural Experiences in Service to Us All!



Dialogues about Augustinian Practices

Augustinian Interiority - Spur to Dialogue

Learning about Our Gifts and Sharing of Our Gifts

AI – Our Secret Weapon

Augustinian Interiority

NOT Artificial Intelligence



Dialogues about Augustinian Practices

Augustinian Interiority –

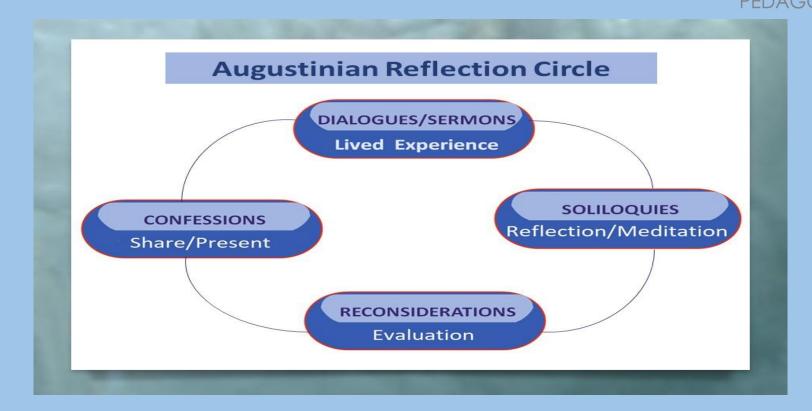
Do not stay outside yourself, but enter within since the truth dwells in the interior person.... Therefore, step to where the light of reason is lit. (On True Religion, 39, 72)

4 Step Processes

Keller

Galende

Dialogues about Augustinian Practices AUGUSTINIAN





Dialogues about Augustinian Practices

Possibility of Using Framework to Build

Dialogue about Practices Cross-Culturally

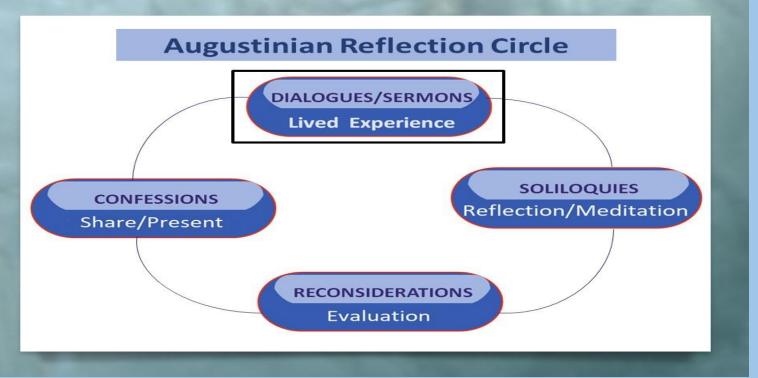
Build Communities of Practice

Augustinian Practices

Across Schools

Across Cultures







My soul found all manner of joy when I was in their company

— to talk and to laugh and to be kind to each other — to read engaging books together, to go from the lightest joking to talk of the deepest things and back again — to differ without discord, as I might differ with myself, and when on the rarest occasion disagreement arose, to find it highlights the sweetness of our normal agreement — to teach or to learn from each other



— to be impatient for those absent and welcome them with joy when they return — these and similar things, emanating from our hearts as we gave and received affection, shown in our faces, our voices, our eyes, and a thousand other gratifying ways, ignited a flame which fused our very souls together and made the many of us Confessions IV, 8, 13 one.



Where are our Augustinian Pedagogy Dialogues?

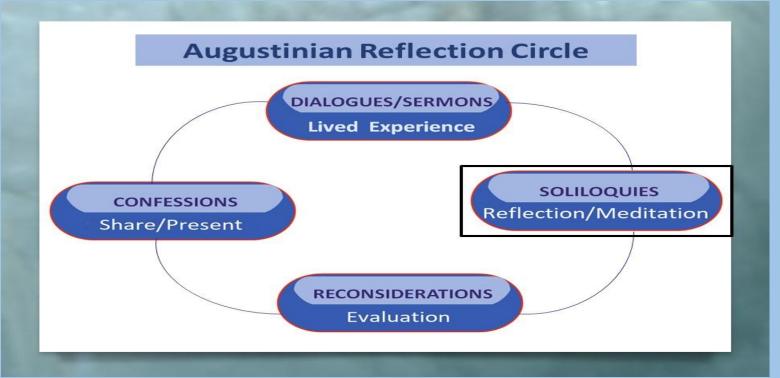
How are we learning from one another's practices?

How are we interchanging outside of Congresses?

How might the Internet help us to build additional dialogues?



AI: Soliloquies/Reflection/Meditation





AI: Soliloquies/Reflection/Meditation

"Listen to the voice of truth in reflection and in silence so that you are able to understand it." *Sermon* 52, 19, 22

Soliloquies - Model of Augustine's inner reflection/dialogue

"Let me know myself. Let me know You." Soliloquies, II, 1, 1



AI: Soliloquies/Reflection/Meditation

How can APAC foster common reflections among Communities of Augustinian Practice?

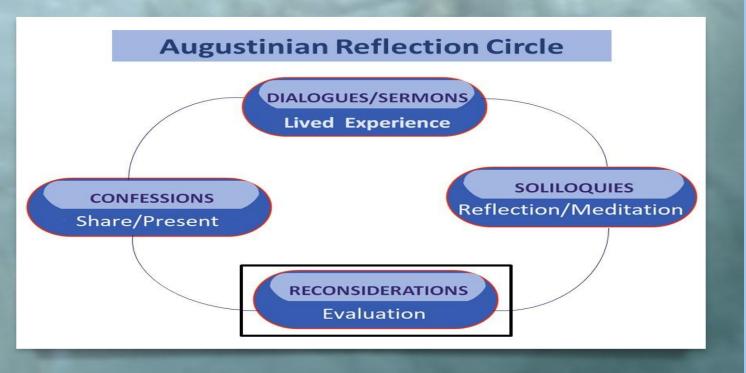
Within Schools

Across Schools

Across Schools of Different Congregations

Across Schools of Different Cultures







"Use knowledge as a kind of scaffolding to help build the structure of love and understanding, which will last forever even after knowledge destroys itself. Knowledge is useful when it is used to promote love. But it becomes useless, even harmful in itself, if separated from such an end." *Letter* 55, 33



"To reach a high spot you need a ladder. To get to the height of greatness, use the ladder of humility." *Sermon 96*, 3.



Reconsiderations

Scaffolding and Ladders – We are building

Love – Evaluation of Practice as Love

Humility – Commitment to Ongoing Learning/Formation

Augustinian Gardens – Intellectual Gardening



How can APAC foster a culture welcoming
RECONSIDERATION of Past Practices through
Communities of Augustinian Practice?

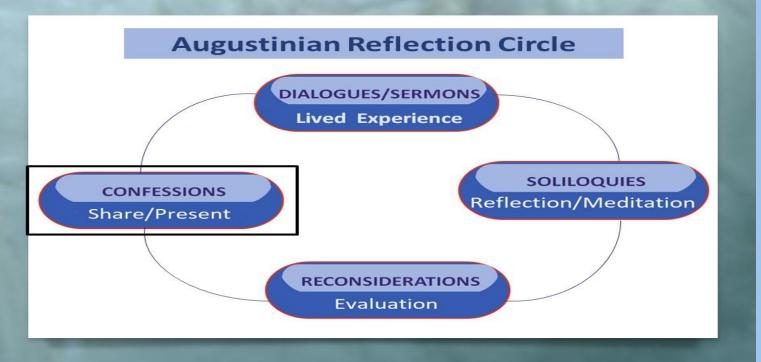
Within Schools

Across Schools

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"Search in ways by which we can make discoveries and discover in ways by which we can keep on searching." *The Trinity,* IX, 1, 1.



Contemporary Corollary:

"For student reflection to be meaningful, it must be metacognitive, applicable, and shared with others." Larissa Pahomov, Authentic Learning in the Digital Age: Engaging Students Through Inquiry (Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, 2014), 109.



For Augustinian Pedagogy Dialogues to be shared (confessed), they must LEAD DIALOGUERS:

To not only know, but to know what they know and how they know it (metacognitive).

To apply new learning to past understandings and future directions (applicable).

To be challenged to share/present what they have learned to others (shared).



My request of APAC

Please Lead Us to Deepen our Augustinian Interiority by Using it as a Sacred Means to Reflect on Our Practice of Augustinian Pedagogy in Order to Serve God in Better Ways!



Conclusion

How Can APAC Take This Asia-Pacific Moment to:

Lead the Augustinian Family to Deeper Understanding of the Richness Our Gifts?

Lead the Augustinian Family Practice Augustinian Interiority in our Reflections on Our Practice of Augustinian Pedagogy?

Lead the Augustinian Family to Build Inter-Congregational and Intercultural Communities of Practice?

43



Conclusion

Questions/Observations



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