

PROCEEDINGS



UNISERVITATE
Service-learning in Catholic Higher Education

UNISERVITATE COLLECTION

I Global Symposium UNISERVITATE

October 29th-30th, 2020

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Conclusions

1.8

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I Global Symposium UNISERVITATE

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8. CONCLUSIONS

María Nieves Tapia

Thank you very much to all those who participated in this I *Uniservitate* symposium. I do not want to say much more so that the voices of the youths remain as a closing; I would simply like to underline what these brilliant young people from different parts of the world have told us. As universities, we have to feel part of the ministry of youth, because all of us who have been involved in it know that sometimes the ministry and the young people themselves know how to attract all those young people who are sometimes pushed away from faith by Catholic educational institutions. It is Catholic youth groups that bring them back. We have a lot to learn from them, from their passion, from their commitment, from their dedication. So thank you very much again, Mariano, Sebastian and Oksana. Thank you very much to all the speakers, to all those who participated, to all those who are making the dream of *Uniservitate* possible, the dream of sowing service, of sowing concrete love for others through our educational institutions. To conclude I am going to let Maria Rosa tell us how the *Uniservitate* programme will continue. Thank you very much.

María Rosa Tapia

I am deeply moved by the beautiful stories shared by Sebastian, Oksana and Mariano. In just one year, we were able to form a team from which we have been enriched so much; for this reason, I invite you to visit the website www.Uniservitate.org, where you will be able to meet each of the members who make up our beloved team and who are accompanying us in this space. I would also like to thank the entire CLAYSS team and each of the institutions that are part of *Uniservitate*. Representatives of Higher Education Institutions from 43 countries from all five continents have participated in this symposium.

I would also like to emphasize the idea of a Church “which goes forth” to the periphery and that all this shared wealth—as was said in one of the presentations of the Catholic Higher Education Institutions—should also go towards the periphery. Let’s make this wealth be known so that it can be shared, and let’s do the same with all we exchanged in this symposium. Therefore, I invite you to join us through our social media, to publish all these messages, so that everyone can enjoy them and we can continue to learn together.

On our website, as I said, you will also be able to know what our next activities will be and the different calls we will be making within the framework of the programme.

To conclude, I would like to share with you my reflections on all that we have been discussing these days and how the *First Letter to the Corinthians* on the pre-eminence of love resonated with me. Because if we think about the role of Catholic universities, the role of the University and the role of service-learning and how we want to face such a difficult situation as the one we are living, I think we reaffirm once again these words that “even if we speak with all the tongues of men and of angels, if we do not have love, we are like a resounding gong [a university, we might add] or a clanging cymbal.” Because “if we have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if we have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, we are nothing.”

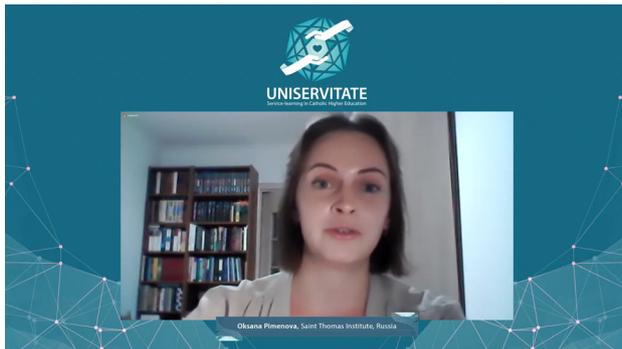
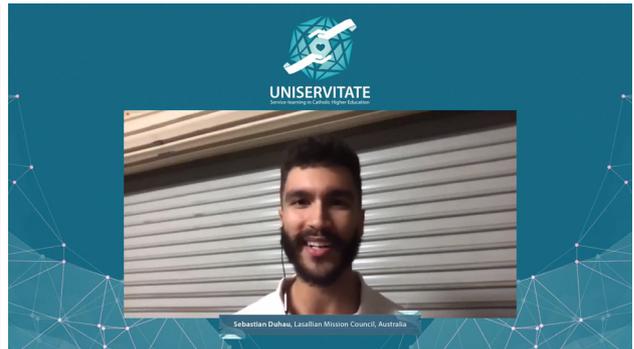
In the context of a pandemic, we know that prophecy will end, the gift of tongues will cease, science will disappear, because our science is imperfect and our prophecies are unlimited. But love shall never pass away. And the truth is that we have to be thankful to have this opportunity to meet, to share this richness, to share this love and now we have to multiply it so that everyone can continue to enjoy it. So thank you all very much for joining us and I am particularly grateful for the opportunity to be accompanying Nieves in this programme and each one of the members of the team.

Links of interest and complementary contents:

https://youtu.be/NkHUrD_z92E



UNISERVITATE
Service-learning in Catholic Higher Education





In support of the Global Compact on Education

Uniservitate is a global programme for the promotion of service-learning in Catholic Higher Education. It aims to generate a systemic change in Catholic Higher Education Institutions (CHEIs), through the institutionalisation of service-learning (SL) as a tool to achieve its mission of an integral education and formation of agents of change committed to their community.

UNISERVITATE COLLECTION

“Only by changing education can we change the world”

Pope Francis

1 I Global Symposium UNISERVITATE

This first volume of the Uniservitate Collection is dedicated to the I Global Symposium Uniservitate, whose objective was to initiate a series of meetings within the framework of the Uniservitate programme, as a multicultural, global and plural space, based on the contributions of the pedagogical proposal of service-learning to integral university education. The event, held in October 2020, sought to facilitate the exchange between experts, authorities and professors from Higher Education Institutions from diverse cultural contexts around the world, on university community engagement and service-learning practices and programmes. The present Proceedings are a compilation of the reflections and experiences shared there.

Uniservitate is an initiative led by Porticus, with the general coordination of the Latin American Center for Service-learning (CLAYSS)

<https://www.uniservitate.org>



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