

THE BANNAN INSTITUTE

DISCOVER

STAFF REFLECTION GROUPS

In these reflection groups we wish to create a space for staff members to share reflections upon their work life here at Santa Clara University. Through discussion of our own personal lived experience we wish to discover and claim the ways in which our work is integrated into the mission of the university. Throughout the sessions we will examine contributions that our spirituality can make toward achieving a greater sense of calling in our work.

This past year 33 staff members participated in one of three groups. Here are some comments:

Thank you! I so appreciate the opportunity to take part in this meaningful, valuable, and rare community-building group.

While there are so many university activities planned for students and faculty to explore their interests and vocations, this was the first time in 9 years that I, as a staff, person, have been invited to share my values, vocation and experiences. Thank you for finally inviting us to the table

This reflection group has opened my eyes to some new and exciting visions of the future for me.

What luxury it is to work in an environment that supports time for reflection on vocation, calling, and mentoring.

Topics we discuss include, among others: How is your career or vocation being fostered in positive ways here at SCU? What gives me joy in my work? Have I developed spiritual practices that enhance my vocational journey? How can I as a staff person respond to the Jesuit ideal of the “Service of Faith in the Promotion of Justice”? In what ways is SCU a mentoring community and how do staff members participate in that? How do we find healthy and creative ways to balance the pressures of work and personal life?

Each group will be made up of 8 – 10 persons selected from different departments across the campus. There will be two separate Reflection Groups. No two persons in any one group will be from the same department. Each group will meet six times this year in Benson for 90 minutes (11:30 AM—1:00 PM). Lunch will be served.

We intend over the six sessions to develop a sense of community and a sense of trust among the group participants. In order for this to occur we all need to be present for all of the sessions. Please plan to attend every session. See the dates on the reply card.

A trained facilitator will lead the six group discussion sessions through a series of topics, one per session. Background readings related to the topic will be provided for each session. You should plan to spend two hours a month before each session doing the readings and preparing your reflections. We expect that the discussion of the different topics will incorporate the issues that are important to us in our work life here at Santa Clara University. Naturally, the depth of sharing will depend on the trust level built among the members of the group. As is always the case, everything shared in these groups is expected to be confidential.

Supervisor's permission is required to attend. Since this is a University, mission-related program, it is hoped that you will be compensated for any work release time you spend in these groups. You will need to discuss this with your supervisor.

This past year 27 staff members participated in one of three groups. Here are some comments:

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