

Caritas and Dignitas: Enacting and Protecting Human Dignity
A Catholic Leadership Institute for Caritas Work in Central and Eastern Europe

The Nanovic Institute for European Studies at the University of Notre Dame is organizing a four-day leadership institute for Caritas leaders and Caritas researchers in Salzburg Austria, June 28 (arrival) – July 2nd (departure). The Institute will convene approximately 25 participants with a focus on Central and Eastern Europe (Croatia, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine).

The Institute is designed to provide a platform for professional development, networking, and academic exchange at the intersection of practical Caritas work and the burgeoning field of *Caritaswissenschaft* (Caritas science).

Caritaswissenschaft (“Caritas science”) is well established in German-speaking countries (especially at the universities of Freiburg and Passau). Caritas science aims both to promote the charity of the church(es) and to further develop public, independent and private welfare, health and social services in a justice-based manner in regional and international contexts. *Caritaswissenschaft* seeks to connect theology, spirituality, the experience of charity and humanitarian work, with other disciplines such as organizational studies, ethics, or sociology.

Program

The four-days leadership program will be held in the conference center of the Archdiocese of Salzburg (St. Virgil, Ernst-Grein-Straße 14, 5026 Salzburg), a beautiful and tranquil location:

<https://www.virgil.at/>

Salzburg Taxi: 81-11

Contact Persons:

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Clemens Sedmak (content: csedmak1@nd.edu)

The program will be structured around a series of keynote lectures, interactive workshops, case study discussions, and a site visit to Caritas projects.

PROGRAM

Arrival Day (Sunday, June 28): 6 pm: Informal dinner

Monday, June 29: Caritas and a dignity-centered approach

The day will discuss the key meaning of the principle of dignity and then look at practices and practical challenges in enacting and respecting human dignity: What does it mean to respect human dignity “on the ground?”

Structure of the day:

7.45 am	(optional) morning prayer (seminar room)
8.00	Breakfast
9.00-10.30	Introductions and Welcome Enacting Dignity and Mercy
10.30-11.00	Break
11.00-11.45	Dignity-based Management (Clemens Sedmak)
11.45-12.30	Nándor Birher: The Two Faces of Dignity: Legal Construct or Living Encounter? An Introduction to Dignity in Caritas Science
12.30-2.00 pm	Lunch Break
2.00-3.30 pm	Dignity, Risk, and Disabled Self-Determination (Anne Seul, Emily Voorde)
3.30-4.00 pm	Break
4.00-4.45 pm	Caritas-Work and Dignity: Fr Łukasz Mudrak and Sr Daiva Kuzmickaite Chair: Fr Jim Lies, C.S.C.
4.45-5.30 pm	Enacting Dignity: Bill Purcell, Patrick Harvey Chair: Anne Seul
6.00 pm	Dinner
7.30-8.00 pm	“Reflecting on the day” (Clemens Sedmak)
8.30 pm	(optional) Mass (in the chapel with Fr Jim Lies, C.S.C.)

Tuesday, June 30: Caritaswissenschaft and Case Studies

The day is dedicated to a dialogue between Caritas Science and case studies. What can and should *Caritaswissenschaft* offer, given the realities Caritas projects encounter?

Structure of the day:

7.45 am	(optional) morning prayer (seminar room)
8.00	Breakfast
9.00-10.45	Case Studies on “Enacting Caritas and Dignity”: Introducing Caritas Projects: Pavol Vilcek, Marija Stanešić, Tsvetomir Doumanov, Richard Zagya – Chair: Anne Seul
10.45-11.15	Break
11.15-12.15	Bernhard Bleyer What does a dignity-centered approach mean for theological reflection?
12.15-12.30 pm	<i>Caritaswissenschaft</i> : Handout on Current Research (Clemens Sedmak)
12.30-2.00	Lunch Break
2.00-3.30	Learning from Caritas Ukraine:Keynote Tetiana Stawnychy and presentations (Halyna Yadzhak, Yaryna Dehtiar, Natalia Kryva) – Chair: Clemens Sedmak
3.30-4.00	Break
4.00-4.30	Knowledge Gap Exercise
4.30-5.30	Building Shared Knowledge Exercise
6.00 pm	Dinner
7.30-8.00 pm	“Reflecting on the day” (Clemens Sedmak)
8.30 pm	(optional) Mass (in the Chapel with Fr Jim Lies, C.S.C.)

Wednesday, July 1: Dignity-centered leadership

What does “dignity-centered leadership” mean in a Caritas context? In the afternoon we will organize an excursion to local Caritas projects. There will also be some free time to explore Salzburg and we will have dinner in downtown Salzburg.

7.45 am	(optional) morning prayer (seminar room)
8.00	Breakfast
9.00-10.30	Klaus Baumann: Dignity-centered leadership and Caritas
10.30-11.00	Break
11.00-12.30	Round Table: insights and action points
12.30-1.30 pm	Lunch
1.30-2.00 pm	Coffee in the seminar break room

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON PROGRAM

2:00 pm	Start of the walk to the Mobile Palliative Care Team and Virgil Outpatient Clinic/Virgil Bus, Gaisbergstraße 27 (on foot – 20 minutes)
2:30 pm	Guided tour of the Virgil Outpatient Clinic/Virgil Bus with Dr. Stephanie Svoboda and Felix Wanger (both Caritas Salzburg) , Gaisbergstraße 27, followed by a discussion (duration: max. 1.5 hours)
Around 4:00 pm	Group trip by public bus to the city center (Bus No. 6); Group ticket will be purchased in advance by ifz
Until 5:30 pm	Free time in the city, exploring on your own or in groups; for example, visiting the seminary, the Mirabell Gardens, Linzergasse, Getreidegasse, the cathedral...
5:30 pm	Closing Dinner at “Sternbräu” Restaurant (Old Town: Griesgasse 23)
After Dinner	Return to St Virgil (either by public bus No. 7 from City Hall directly to St. Virgil) - tickets will be purchased in advance by ifz and distributed. Alternative: Shared taxis

Thursday, July 2nd: Departures (after breakfast)

Participants

Fr Klaus Baumann, Professor of Caritas Science, University of Freiburg, Germany

Nándor Birher, Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at Pázmány Péter Catholic University, Budapest, Hungary

Bernhard Bleyer, Professor of Theological Ethics, University of Passau, Germany

Tomas Daugėla, Caritas Kaunas, Lithuania

Yaryna Dehtiar, Protection Expert, Caritas Ukraine

Tsvetomir Doumanov, Director, Caritas Sofia, Bulgaria

Patrick Harvey, Caritas Malta, Malta

Sr Daiva Kristina Kuzmickaitė, Caritas Kaunas, Lithuania

Natalia Kryva, Head of Social Programs, Caritas Ukraine, Ukraine

Fr Jim Lies, C.S.C., Nanovic Institute, University of Notre Dame, USA

Kinga Lis, Agape Lublin, Poland

Anna Łoś, Agapa Lublin, Poland

Mejrema Lujinović, Caritas Zagreb, Croatia

Fr. Lukasz Mudrak, Director, Caritas Lublin, Poland

Andrea Niederfriniger, director of communications, ifz Salzburg, Austria

Bill Purcell, Prof Emeritus (Notre Dame), President/CEO Crossroads United Way, USA

Zsófia Sárkóczy, Communications Officer of Caritas, Hungary

Balázs Szalma, Head of the Caritas Refugee Integration Centre, Hungary

Clemens Sedmak, Nanovic Institute, University of Notre Dame, USA

Maria Sedmak, Institute for Social Concerns, University of Notre Dame, USA

Anne Seul, Nanovic Institute, University of Notre Dame, USA

Kurt Sonneck, director, Caritas Salzburg, Austria

Marija Stanešić Mrčela, Caritas Zagreb, Croatia

Tetiana Stawnychy, President, Caritas Ukraine, Ukraine

Stephanie Svoboda, Medical Director of the Mobile Palliative Care Team of Caritas Salzburg, Austria

Pavol Vilcek, Director, Caritas Spiš, Slovakia

Emily Voorde, CEO of INTO Strategies, South Bend, IN, USA

Felix Wanger, Director of the Virgilambulanz/Virgilbus Service Salzburg, Austria

Halyna Yadzhak, Child protection expert, Caritas of Sambir-Drohobych Diocese, Ukraine

Richard Zagyva, Director, Caritas Hungary, Budapest, Hungary

Franziska v. Zijal, Head of the Mobile Palliative Care Team Pongau, Austria