Institutional Examen for
REGIS UNIVERSITY

BACKGROUND
The member institutions of the American Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU) are directing an institutional examen, which asks the community to consider how it has lived the Jesuit Catholic mission and how it desires to live the mission in the future.

This is a self-directed process, beginning with awareness of what we have done and are doing, and it encourages the community’s input for the future of the University. The process is conversational and communal, drawing on the Jesuit principle of learning in conversation with each other. We will engage colleagues across the University about their desires for living out the Jesuit mission at Regis.

The “examen of consciousness” is a tool for discernment in Ignatian spirituality. There are many different ways to practice the examen, but often they start from the perspective of gratitude and awareness of God’s presence, guide reflection on experience, encourage discernment of desire for growth, and look ahead to the future.

TIMELINE
Fall 2016: Focus groups and open sessions around the University will make the examen (see below). Watch your email and today.regis.edu for more information about specific sessions and dates.

December 2016: The responses will be compiled into an institutional examen report. The report will include reflection on an inventory of mission activities around the University.

Spring 2017: A visiting team from other AJCU schools will provide feedback on our institutional examen process.

THE REGIS INSTITUTIONAL EXAMEN
In focus groups and open sessions, we will reflect on and discuss the following questions. In your reflection, you may want to consider some of the characteristics of Jesuit colleges and universities in the sidebar.

1. Consider various ways that you, your department/team and the University have engaged the Jesuit Catholic mission of Regis. What are you grateful for? What do you value? What is working well?

2. How would you like to foster growth — in your work, in your department or team, and in the University — so that Regis may live its mission more fully and work toward the greater good, that is, the magis? What are your aspirations and hopes?

If you have questions, please contact the following:

- Tom Reynolds, Vice President for Mission at treynold@regis.edu.
- Kristi Gonsalves-McCabe, Director of University Ministry at kgonsalv@regis.edu.
- Shari Plantz-Masters, Academic Dean of the College of Computer and Information Sciences at splantzmasters@regis.edu.
- Kari Kloos, Associate Professor and Chair of Religious Studies at kkloos@regis.edu.

SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF JESUIT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

1. Leadership’s Commitment to the Mission: The University’s leadership competently communicates and enlivens the Jesuit Catholic mission of the institution.

2. The Academic Life: An academic life that reflects the Catholic and Jesuit mission as an integral part of its overall intellectual commitment to research and teaching excellence. The University’s academic life and commitments clearly represent the Catholic and Jesuit interest in and commitment to the liberal arts and Christian humanistic education for all students. In addition, academic programs can be found which are distinctively informed by the University’s Jesuit and Catholic character, thus contributing to the diversity of higher education in the United States with an education shaped by the service of faith and the promotion of justice.

3. A Jesuit Catholic Campus Culture: The University works to foster within its students, faculty, staff and administrators a virtuous life characterized by personal responsibility, respect, forgiveness, compassion, a habit of reflection and the integration of body, mind and soul.

4. Service: The University as an institution and all of its various parts seek to insert itself in the world on the side of the poor, the marginalized and those seeking justice. It does this in particular by using its academic and professional resources.

5. Service to the Local Church: The University offers educational and formational programs and resources that build up the local Church; in union with the local Church, it also provides a locus where people of faith can wrestle with difficult questions facing the Church and the world.

6. Jesuit Presence: The University values the presence, work and witness of Jesuits on its campuses with its students, colleagues and alumni.

7. Integrity: University management and administration reflect its mission and identity.