

Rev. Craig B. Mousin
Associate Minister
Wellington Avenue United Church of Christ
Annual Report 2011
January 20, 2012

Thank you for the opportunity to serve Wellington Avenue United Church of Christ in 2011. Given the covenanted ministry to work outside of Wellington as well as share in the many ministries of Wellington, I have listed work done within the congregation as well as those elements of my work at DePaul and my community activities that tie in with immigrants, refugees and the call to social justice.

A. Ministries within Wellington and the United Church of Christ

During the last year I have preached and led worship two times and also served as a liturgist in other services. I participated in the Wellington fall retreat. I joined the WAUCC contingent at the annual memorial service at Ft. Benning, Georgia in November 2011. I have participated in the prayer services at Broadview and downtown Chicago on Friday mornings. I have continued conversations with Dan Dale, Deb Derylak and with our interns to explore how to strengthen Chicago Theological Seminary's field education work in conjunction with WAUCC's ministry. I also served on Denise Grossman's support committee as she proceeds towards her vocation. I also serve on The Board of Trustees at Chicago Theological Seminary where I serve on both the Academic Program and the Anti-Racism Committees.

B. Related Activities

I currently serve as the Ombudsperson at DePaul University where I also teach Asylum and Refugee Law, Mediation in the Peace Studies Department, and ethics in the Religious Studies Department. In keeping with my covenant to work with immigrants and refugees, my teaching enables me to teach law students who seek to work with programs that address refugees and immigrants. Last year, I was also involved with planning and hosting an October conference to foster comprehensive immigration reform.

1. I presented a talk entitled "Immigration and Biblical Scripture," for Chicago Theological Seminary's Lenten Workshop, Naperville, Il., February 16, 2011.
2. I presented a talk entitled "Is Dreaming Illegal?" Dominican University, River Forest, Il., March 15, 2011.
3. I presented a talk entitled "Immigration Today: Facts, Myths and Debates: Ethical and Moral Issues," Grace Lutheran Church, River Forest, IL., November 6, 2011.

4. I published an op-ed on:

“Is it Just the Horns of a Dilemma?” in *Update, the ACCU Newsletter*, Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, Vol. XXXVII.1, Spring 2011 in which I discuss faith responses to the anti-union activities in Wisconsin. You can read the column at: <http://www.hr-forum-ccu.blogspot.com/2011/03/is-it-just-horns-of-dilemma.html>

A colleague and I write a quarterly column (or invite guest columnists) for The ACCU Newsletter of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities on how an institution’s mission dovetails with Human Resources. Through that work, we developed a blog which discusses the impact of mission on Human Resources which included articles on immigration and faith responses to unions. See blog at: <http://www.hr-forum-ccu.blogspot.com>

C. I have continued my education by involving myself in additional training as a mediator and have taken on a pro bono mediation case for the local court. I have joined the Association of Attorney Mediators and the Association of Conflict Resolution.

D. In addition, I serve on the following Boards or involved in activities of the:

1. National Immigrant Justice Center Leadership Council (Formerly Midwest Immigrant and Human Rights Center Leadership Council)

2. Board of Trustees, Chicago Theological Seminary.

3. Invited as a Public Interlocutor for Ph.D candidate dissertation discussions for the Martin E. Marty Center, University of Chicago Divinity School, June 2011.

4. Board of Directors of the Eco-Justice Collaborative.

E. Last winter, I consulted on an interfaith *amicus curiae* brief to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in which I invited religious leaders to sign on to the brief on behalf of an asylum applicant who had been denied asylum by the Immigration Court and the Board of Immigration Appeals. This brief addressed the arguments in favor of reversing the decision of the BIA denying asylum because of persecution on account of religion. We still are waiting for the decision.