

THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME'S

FIGHTING FOR OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE

NATIONAL BUS TOUR





The University of Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) is planning a cross-country celebration of Catholic schools that will mark ACE's 20 years of service to under-served children and to the Church's mission of educating hearts and minds.

"Celebrating the Gift of Catholic Schools" is the message that will literally roll out from the Notre Dame campus this fall, when ACE leaders, faculty and staff will travel by bus to events in nearly 50 cities, advancing their mission to sustain, strengthen, and transform Catholic schools.

Spanning the 2013-14 academic year, the bus tour will be part of a 20th anniversary campaign highlighting the contributions that Catholic schools make to the rich education landscape in America and to civic society generally. An ACE-themed bus will visit communities where ACE has been privileged to send forth faith-filled teachers and school leaders, as well as enter into a variety of innovative partnerships, since it was founded in 1993 by Rev. Timothy Scully, C.S.C., and Rev. Sean McGraw, C.S.C.

"We want to express our gratitude to the teachers, leaders, students, and families that enable Catholic schools to develop the God-given talents of each child, and we hope to draw greater attention to the amazing legacy and bright future of these schools that form engaged citizens and advance the common good," Father Scully said.

"After 20 years of providential growth that has allowed the Alliance for Catholic Education to work with so many communities, dioceses, schools and partners, we want to stand alongside them to renew our commitment to serve more children and families through Catholic schools."

Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C., Notre Dame's president, notes ACE's strong connection to the University's values: "The mission of the Alliance for Catholic Education uniquely embodies the University's mission to 'create a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good that will bear fruit as learning becomes service to justice.'"

THE TRIP





LEG 1

Sept. 30-Oct. 3 Dallas, TX
 Oct. 4-6 Fort Worth, TX
 Oct. 7-8 Memphis, TN
 Oct. 9-10 Indianapolis, IN
 Oct. 11 Columbus, OH
 Oct. 20-21 Cincinnati, OH
 Oct. 22-24 Richmond, VA
 Oct. 24-27 Washington, DC
 Oct. 28 Baltimore, MD
 Nov. 4-6 New York, NY
 Nov. 7-10 Boston, MA
 Nov. 11-12 Philadelphia, PA
 Nov. 18 Milwaukee, WI
 Nov. 19 South Bend, IN

LEG 2

Feb. 6-9 Mobile, AL
 Feb 9-10 Biloxi, MS
 Feb. 10 Baton Rouge, LA
 Feb. 11-12 New Orleans, LA
 Feb 13-14 Pensacola, FL
 Feb. 17-18 Jacksonville, FL
 Feb. 19-20 Tampa, FL
 Feb. 21-23 Naples, FL
 Feb. 25-28 Atlanta, GA

LEG 3

Mar. 8-10 Tulsa, OK
 Mar. 11 Oklahoma City, OK
 Mar. 12-13 Denver, CO
 Mar. 15-17 Austin, TX
 Mar. 18-19 San Antonio, TX
 Mar. 20 Corpus Christi, TX
 Mar. 21-22 Brownsville, TX
 Mar. 23-24 Houston, TX

LEG 4

Apr. 30-May 1 Tucson, AZ
 May 2 Phoenix, AZ
 May 3-5 Santa Ana, CA
 May 6-7 Los Angeles, CA
 May 9 Oakland, CA
 May 10-11 San Francisco, CA
 May 12 Stockton, CA
 May 13 Sacramento, CA
 May 14-15 Portland, OR
 May 16-17 Seattle, WA

HONORING LEADERSHIP

To honor the role of remarkable teachers, leaders, and those who champion quality education for all children, the University of Notre Dame will recognize extraordinary individuals in each local community with a national Notre Dame Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) award.

At the conclusion of the tour, the national Notre Dame ACE Awards recipients will be featured, and their inspiring stories will be shared, so their lives of hope and courage will continue to inspire others in the service of children and our nation's future.

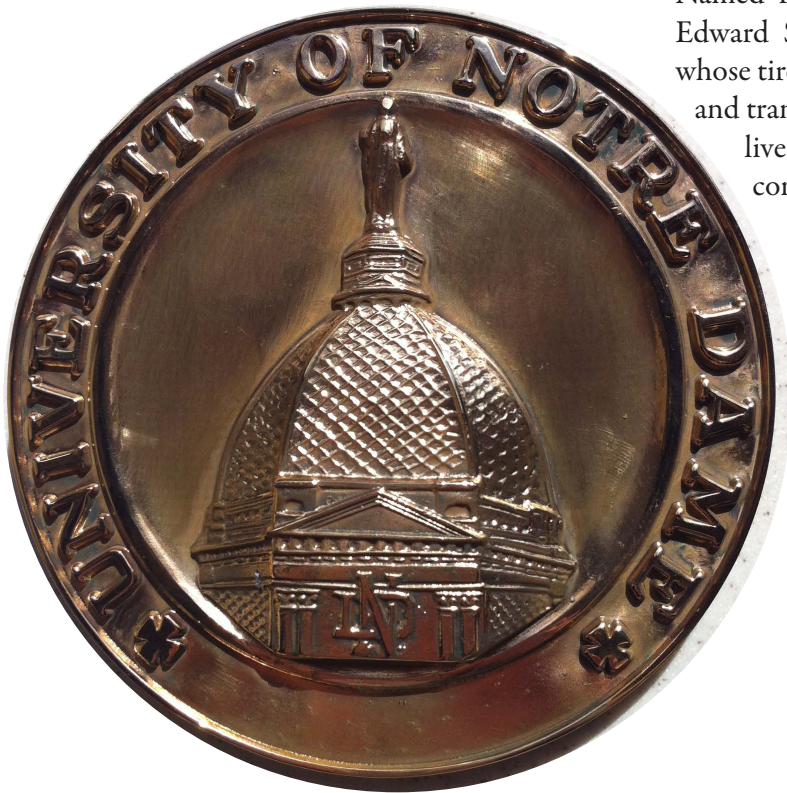
The recognition takes the form of two awards bestowed in each city visited by Notre Dame's "Fighting for Our Children's Future" National Tour:

The University of Notre Dame Champion for Education Award

This award honors those whose lives manifest profound commitment to strengthen the educational opportunities available to children and youth in communities across the country. These awardees inspire others by striving to improve the education for students of all backgrounds through their energetic advocacy and service.

The University of Notre Dame Sorin Award for Service to Catholic Schools

Named for the founder of the University, Rev. Edward Sorin, C.S.C., this award honors those whose tireless commitment to support, sustain, and transform Catholic schools has shaped the lives of countless children and their families communities. These awardees inspire others through their dedicated service to the through the apostolate of Catholic Education.

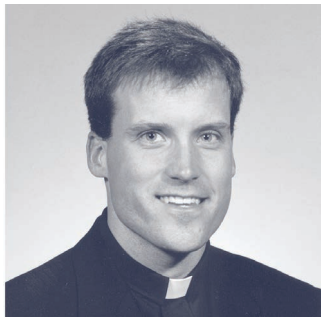


ACE LEADERS ON THE BUS



Fr. Timothy Scully, C.S.C.

Fr. Tim Scully is the Hackett Family director of the Institute for Educational Initiatives and a co-founder of the Alliance for Catholic Education at the University of Notre Dame. He also serves as a fellow, trustee, and Professor of Political Science at the university. He was ordained a Holy Cross priest in 1981 and served his first years as a priest in Santiago, Chile before returning to Notre Dame. Scully has been honored by a number of organizations in the field of education, and was given the Presidential Citizens Medal, the second highest civilian award in the United States, by President George W. Bush in December of 2008.



Fr. Sean McGraw, C.S.C.

Fr. Sean McGraw is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Notre Dame, and also the co-founder of the Alliance for Catholic Education. He currently serves as the chair of the ACE Advisory Board. McGraw entered the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1995 and was ordained a priest in 2001. He served his deacon year and first two years as a priest at Notre Dame High School for Boys in Chicago, where he taught history and served as an interim president during his second year. He recently finished his first manuscript—based on his doctoral thesis—entitled “Democracy’s Choices: Major Parties and the Shaping of the Political Arena”.



Fr. Lou DelFra, C.S.C.

Fr. Lou DelFra serves as the Director of Spiritual Life for the Alliance for Catholic Education, and is also a faculty member and the chaplain for the ACE Service through Teaching program. Ordained a Holy Cross priest in 2004 after serving as a Catholic middle school and high school teacher in Philadelphia, DelFra is an award-winning homilist and an author who publishes in the fields of religion, literature, teacher education, and spirituality.



I'm going to
COLLEGE in
2025

AN OVERVIEW OF ACE

The University of Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) impacts the lives of several hundred thousand children across the United States daily by preparing highly talented teachers, principals, and administrative leaders, while offering an array of professional services for America's Catholic schools—the world's largest private school system.

ACE has become the nation's premier provider of talent and resources to Catholic elementary and secondary schools. This Notre Dame initiative to sustain, strengthen, and transform Catholic schools is celebrating its 20th anniversary during 2013-2014. More than 100 ACE faculty and staff work in partnership with hundreds of schools, many of them under-resourced and located in inner-city neighborhoods, to help ensure that all students have access to a high-quality education.

Founded in 1993 by Rev. Timothy R. Scully, C.S.C., and Rev. Sean McGraw, C.S.C., ACE is best known for its innovative program of formation that sends forth 180 talented, faith-filled college graduates every year to teach in Catholic schools around the country. The rigorous, two-year ACE Service through Teaching program leads to a Notre Dame Master of Education (M. Ed.) degree and combines academic work, online and on-campus, with real-time experience as educators serving children, including the disadvantaged.

Of more than 1,300 graduates of the ACE Service through Teaching program, some 75% are still working in the education field, mostly in Catholic education.

This formation program was literally just the beginning. In response to emerging needs, ACE has established an array of additional units, including the Mary Ann Remick Leadership Program, whose M.A. degree curriculum has prepared more than 200 graduates to be principals and forces for constructive change in Catholic schools. Other initiatives, including year-round enterprises and annual conferences, can be described in four categories of endeavor: forming the next generation of Catholic school educators; providing services to improve planning and management; re-inventing schools through research and ideas; and building a solutions-oriented network of partnerships.



A woman with long dark hair, wearing a blue sweater and a colorful patterned scarf, is leaning over a desk. She is looking down at an open book. A young man in a school uniform, including a white shirt, dark vest, and tie, is sitting at the desk and looking up at her. He has a pen tucked behind his ear. The background is a blurred classroom or library with bookshelves.

TO FORM THE NEXT GENERATION OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL EDUCATORS

The Alliance for Catholic Education is privileged to conduct the most visible formation programs in the United States for teachers and leaders in Catholic schools. Two nationally recognized graduate-degree programs—ACE Service through Teaching and the Mary Ann Remick Leadership Program—attract talented participants who meet highly competitive admissions standards and demonstrate a strong commitment to Catholic schools and their students. ACE also plays a growing role in its licensure programs, preparing Catholic school teachers with skills that will help make their schools more inclusionary.



ACE Service through Teaching

The nation's premier program forming the next generation of educators specifically for Catholic elementary and secondary schools accepts 90 applicants annually. Education, community life, and spiritual growth are the program's foundational pillars. ACE teachers live in small, local faith communities, engaged with a variety of support resources, while they complete their two-year curriculum, on-campus and online, leading to the M. Ed. degree.

Mary Ann Remick Leadership Program

Supported by a generous gift from Mary Ann Remick, this program responds to the critical need for transformational school leaders in Catholic schools everywhere. This 26-month formation program, which culminates in an M.A. degree in educational administration, enrolls about 80 aspiring principals at any one time. Coursework incorporates rigorous, mentored internships and generation of scholarly "action" research projects aimed to address leadership challenges.

Inclusionary Practices

Two certification programs—English as a New Language (ENL) and Teaching Exceptional Children (TEC)—address Catholic schools' demand for teachers with inclusionary skills. These one-year programs, which lead to licensure and eligibility for state certification, expand the skills of Catholic school teachers to better serve the needs of all children.

Center for Transformative Educational Leadership

This Center is envisioned as a response to the broad need to offer current school leaders innovative formation in best practices and the implementation of high-impact initiatives. Participants, drawn from promising educational leaders, will go beyond conventional professional development, preparing to transform school culture and student learning.

A photograph of three young boys in school uniforms. The boy on the left is wearing a red shirt and a white rope necklace with a wooden pendant. The boy in the middle is wearing a dark green polo shirt with a crest. The boy on the right is wearing a blue polo shirt with a crest that says "St. Ambrose". They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a classroom with colorful decorations.

TO PROVIDE STRATEGIC SERVICES FOR MANAGEMENT AND STUDENT SUCCESS

In 2006, the University of Notre Dame's Task Force on Catholic Education released a major report, *Making God Known, Loved, and Served*, contributing to the public conversation about K-12 Catholic schools. The task force, comprising education experts from around the country, challenged Notre Dame to go beyond the formation of teachers and leaders by developing additional initiatives to address needs for substantive changes, planning, and problem-solving.

ACE Consulting

This premier consulting organization creates new possibilities for schools through research-based consulting, in-depth collaboration, and strategic professional services for (arch)dioceses, local administrators, and national organizations who become its partners. Consultants draw upon their diverse backgrounds, attuned to the many needs experienced in today's schools. They are careful to understand each partner's unique circumstances.

Program for K-12 Educational Access

This multi-disciplinary enterprise is rooted in the belief that all children deserve, as their birth-right, access to a high-quality education. It is dedicated to empowering low-income families to help make this dream a reality. Endeavors to advance educational opportunity occur through teaching, research, and outreach. More than 80 (arch)bishops have engaged with the program in impactful, focused meetings to discuss the future of the Catholic educational apostolate.

ACE Collaborative for Academic Excellence


ACE has designed intensive workshops and materials that prepare K-12 teachers and principals from across a diocese to collaborate on improving curriculum, instruction, and assessment, with the goal of academic excellence in all their schools. This sustained professional development approach, now adopted in partnership with several dioceses, leverages community—a hallmark strength of Catholic schools.

Play Like a Champion Today®

This innovative coach- and parent-education program conducts conferences nationwide, often responding to diocesan or school requests, to frame coaching as a character-building enterprise and an important complement to classroom lessons. The program reaches out to athletic leaders at the grade school, high school, and college level to help them address complex issues with ethical and legal implications.

ACE RISE: Renewing Identity, Strengthening Evangelization

Recognizing that Catholic schools are privileged places for the New Evangelization, this new initiative helps spread the Light of Christ through schools by building a strong Catholic identity. ACE RISE will offer several services to help schools assess and reinvigorate their Catholic school culture.

A photograph of a group of students in maroon shirts playing acoustic guitars. The focus is on a young woman in the foreground, smiling and looking to her right. Other students are visible in the background, also playing guitars. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting an indoor classroom or music room environment.

TO RE-INVENT SCHOOLS THROUGH RESEARCH AND IDEAS

ACE joins with many others on the Notre Dame campus to generate and utilize a full range of research in advancing the University's commitment to children and schools. The interdisciplinary culture of ACE and the Institute for Educational Initiatives promotes diverse, cutting-edge scholarship among more than 60 faculty fellows. At the national and international level, faculty members conduct, publish, and mentor studies that address today's toughest issues, including major contributions to the field of Catholic education. Perhaps the most powerful example of research-informed benefits to students is the Notre Dame ACE Academies initiative—an innovative model of in-depth partnership between ACE and at-risk urban Catholic schools to introduce broad, cohesive change.

Notre Dame ACE Academies

The five Notre Dame ACE Academies currently in operation—in the Diocese of Tucson and the Diocese of St. Petersburg—represent an innovative model of in-depth partnership between ACE and at-risk urban Catholic schools. These schools implement structural features that facilitate comprehensive improvements and accentuate a common Catholic ethos. The entire school community is guided by two goals for all students: College and Heaven. With intensive, on-site support from Notre Dame faculty and staff, this university-school partnership works with teachers and principals to offer a Catholic education of the highest quality to as many children as possible. Parental choice laws foster sustainable funding.

Conferences and Symposia

ACE units host an array of annual conferences which attract hundreds of educators and school leaders to the Notre Dame campus to share fresh insights into key issues for Catholic schools. Principals, superintendents, pastors, leaders committed to enrollment gains among Latino students, advocates for parental choice policies, and athletics administrators embracing the possibilities for character education through sports are among the audiences that convene for specialized events.

ACE Research and Publications

Major studies undertaken by ACE faculty, such as the 2012 Notre Dame Study of U.S. Catholic Elementary School Principals, are published in service to educators everywhere. ACE programs encourage the generation and assessment of data by faculty, staff, and students to enhance professional service and enable pursuit of continuous gains in quality. ACE produces analytical research and other resources for Catholic school educators.

Institute for Educational Initiatives

The Institute is an interdisciplinary home for these centers of expertise: ACE; the Advanced Placement Training and Incentive Program for Indiana (AP-TIP IN); the Center for Research on Educational Opportunity (CREO); the Education, Schooling, and Society (ESS) undergraduate minor; the Notre Dame Center for STEM Education; and the Research Center on Educational Policy. More than 60 faculty fellows advance Notre Dame's commitment to schools and children, especially the disadvantaged.



TO BUILD A SOLUTIONS-ORIENTED NETWORK OF PARTNERSHIPS

The Alliance for Catholic Education embraces a wide range of partnerships—with individuals, schools, dioceses, government and business entities, non-profit organizations, and others. They serve locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. ACE draws its mission and energy from the University of Notre Dame and from the Congregation of Holy Cross. The University's founding religious order continues to impart its zeal for making God known, loved, and served through education of the heart as well as the mind. Partnerships naturally emerge as ACE follows its custom of responding to needs—answering requests for assistance from bishops and others who share the goal to sustain, strengthen, and transform Catholic schools.

Catholic School Advantage Campaign

ACE's Catholic School Advantage campaign responds to needs highlighted in a national task force's 2009 report, *To Nurture the Soul of a Nation*. It catalyzes a national movement to dramatically expand access to Catholic schools for Latino families, with a goal of 1 million Latino students enrolled by 2020. The "Catholic school advantage" refers to research that shows Catholic schools have helped Latino and other disadvantaged students overcome the persistent achievement gap in America's schools. Catholic schools promote higher academic achievement and boost graduation rates. Graduates of Catholic high schools are more likely to earn higher wages and become civically engaged.

ACE Advocates for Catholic Schools

Born out of the conviction that ACE graduates have an opportunity to provide much-needed leadership and entrepreneurial innovation for Catholic schools, ACE Advocates keeps more than 1,500 ACE graduates engaged in the mission and values of Catholic education. Regional action networks in more than two dozen U.S. cities—and in Chile and Ireland, as well—provide hubs of support for the ACE movement in support of Catholic schools

International Initiatives

In keeping with Notre Dame's engagement with issues of global importance, ACE supports Catholic education around the world—in Chile, Haiti, Ireland, and other locations. A well-established program that sends ACE educators to Chile, called ChACE, nurtures English as a New Language (ENL) teaching skills within that country. ENL teacher preparation based at Notre Dame welcomes additional Latin American participants. ACE's ENL curriculum has also been provided to hundreds of educators in Puerto Rico.

ACE's role in a coalition of Catholic organizations has fostered substantial gains for Haiti—improvements in teaching and learning which lay the groundwork for long-term, sustainable development in the country. The Haiti Catholic Education Initiative complements the pastoral role of the Congregation of Holy Cross in the country.

Building upon interactions with Irish educators that date back to 1996, ACE has launched two fellowship programs engaging with issues of Catholic schools in Ireland. Dynamic exchanges of views and experiences among leaders in Irish and U.S. Catholic school education receive support from conferences, ongoing visits, and ACE Advocates gatherings.

“We want to recognize the gifts of people who have given their life’s energy to Catholic schools and galvanize support for their efforts.”

- Rev. Timothy Scully, C.S.C.,
Co-founder of the University of Notre Dame’s Alliance for Catholic Education
(ACE)

For more information about the University of Notre Dame’s
“Fighting for Our Children’s Future”
National Bus Tour:

ace.nd.edu/20/

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