

Going Deeper and Broader

Looking forward, the Centre is being asked to go deeper and broader in its work – to increase its impact – to help change the way people and organizations work. We will devote our unique combination of entrepreneurial energy, academic discipline and global reach to four areas of leveraged activity.

Building and Nurturing Community

We will gather leaders together to share experiences and ideas about spirituality and work. The conversations will often be face-to-face, but they will also include virtual on-line interactions. Some will be large and public, others will be small and intimate – some will be at Saint Mary's University, others will take place in leaders' workplaces. For example:

The Spirituality and Work Leadership Learning Labs will be a special setting for nurturing new thinking, capacities and relationships among workplace leaders who are seeking to explore spirituality in their workplaces. Facilitated by Centre staff and leadership volunteers, and sparked by knowledgeable guests, the Labs will be a unique opportunity to reflect, explore and share – preciously rare activities in today's frenetic world of work. They will also be a source of support and community for leaders as they seek to transform their organizations ... and themselves.

Deepening and Sharing our Understanding of Spirituality and Work

We will conduct research studies, using methods from both business and academia, and we will gather stories of leaders who have made progress as evidence that can be used by others to make change. For example:

The Spirituality and the Workplace Leadership Stories Library will be an on-line collection of stories about leaders who have explored spirituality in the workplace and have transformed their organization (or part of their organization) as a result. The stories will serve as an inspirational resource for other leaders and students, and an archive for academics from which deeper research can begin. It will also serve as a focal point of a community of like-minded leaders through which they can connect with each other.

Introducing Students and Leaders to Spirituality and Work

We will develop and implement courses relating to spirituality and work that help transform leaders in their own lives and help them transform their organizations. The courses will be offered at Saint Mary's University and in workplaces. For example:

Religious Diversity in the Workplace is an interactive full-day course that will be offered to organizations to encourage reflection, conversation and understanding about people with different religious, faith and spiritual beliefs in the workplace. The course will use contemplation techniques and symbols, art and artifacts to spark conversation and learning.

Contributing Energy to an International Network

We will nurture and contribute energy to an international network of like-minded people through our global email list and our website, by collaborating on projects with people in other countries, and by assisting with the formation of centres like ours in new locations. For example:

www.spiritualityandtheworkplace.ca will be a hub of activity – providing information and sparking conversations and action – for people regardless of their location. People will be able to visit the site from all over the world to contribute information, research results and papers, ask questions, and participate in on-line discussions using blogs, videos and other methods.