

MCLEAN CENTER

Washington, D.C.

November 13, 2017: The **McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values (MCSCV)** was officially inaugurated on CUA campus in Washington DC. **George F. McLean** (1929.6-2016.9) was the



George F. McLean, OMI



founder of the International Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (RVP) in 1983 and the Center for the Study of Culture and Values (CSCV), the Catholic University of America (CUA) in 2000. He taught philosophy, especially metaphysics, at the CUA School of Philosophy from 1958 till 1993 when he took early retirement from his teaching position in order to work full-time promoting global philosophical dialogue and cooperation. McLean lectured in so-called developing countries, and traveled intensively to places where key philosophical and cultural issues were debated. He created opportunities and helped philosophers and scholars from many countries and regions to come together for dialogue, communication and cooperation. He mobilized them to form research teams in order to work on issues important to their countries and peoples. He encouraged scholars and philosophers to contribute their scholarly work in answering the vital questions of present times.

In 1984 McLean initiated the annual seminar to invite scholars and philosophers from diverse cultures and civilizations to participate in five to ten week seminars in Washington, D.C. to discuss



A Group Photo

current and urgent philosophical issues. It has lasted 34 years and will continue with the inspiration of his spirit. When serving as the general editor of the RVP publication series "Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Change," McLean helped to bring the work of philosophers from the farthest reaches of the planet into the public eye. McLean carefully edited each paper in every volume as he prepared them for publication. Much of this work is the result of regional teams working together on themes of common interest. Thus far 300 volumes have been published and many of them are



At the Inauguration

distributed free to 350 university libraries throughout the world, particularly to institutions in 'developing countries'. The full text of most of these volumes is also made available on the internet (see www.crvp.org).

A Memorial Mass was celebrated with **Robert Badillo, Vensus George, Tomas Halik, Philip Rossi, João J. Vila-Chã**, along with **Charles Hurkes, George Kirvin and Louis Studer, OMI**, in the CUA Caldwell Hall Chapel at 12.30pm.

The inauguration was held at the CUA Vincent P. Walter Board Room in Curley Hall, from 3.30pm-6.00pm. **John A. Kromkowski**, Director of MCSCV chaired the event. **Andrew Abela**, CUA Provost, gave an official statement about the establishment of the MCSCV and its significance for the continuation of dialogue among cultures and civilizations. **Charles Hurkes**, OMI, read the congratulation statement from **Louis Studer**, the OMI Provincial. **William Sweet** (Canada), **José Casanova** (Georgetown University), **John Staak**, OMI, **Vensus George** (India), **William A. Barbieri** (CUA), **Tomas Halik** (Czech), **Ouyang Kang** (China), **Merylann J. (Mimi) Schuttloffel** (CUA), **Philip Rossi** (Marquette University), **John P. Hogan** (MCSCV), **Peter Jonkers** (Netherlands), **Anthony Carroll** (Great Britain), **Karim Douglas Crow** (Washington), **Asna Husin** (Indonesia), **Robert Badillo** (New York), **Rosemary Winslow** (CUA), **Mustafa Malik** (Maryland), **Geeta Manaktala** (India), **Gadis Arivia** (Indonesia), **Denys Kiryukhin** (Ukraine), **George Kervin**, OMI, gave testimonies about the importance of the legacy and the spirit in promoting dialogue among different cultures and civilizations, especially in these complex and pluralistic times.



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