

From the Editor

In this issue of *Integritas*, theologian William C. Mattison III makes the claim that theology without the sciences would not be possible: it both deputizes and is accountable to the findings of scientists. Catholic theology—one of the (preeminently?) distinctive dimensions of Catholic university education—is intimately bound to the direction of human knowing opened up through the methodologies of scientific inquiry. Mattison explores how in his own theological training he came to an understanding of this science-theology relationship, and goes on to inquire what such a relationship might suggest for the way we conceive of the task of Catholic higher education. He pays particular attention to the appreciation of the human persons who are researchers, thinkers, teachers, and learners; and he also raises important questions about the undergraduate curriculum, reflecting conversations from the Fall 2013 Roundtable (published in *Integritas*, volume 2).

David Quigley, in his response to Mattison, reflects on his role first as the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and, more recently, as provost and dean of faculties at Boston College. He affirms Mattison's conviction about the central place of the sciences in the integrating wholeness prized in Catholic university education: "To achieve a kind of wholeness, to construct a contemporary self of integrity, deep and sustained engagement with our scientific age seems increasingly essential." He pays particular attention to the people and the relationships cultivated on campus, recalling that the aim is not only knowledge *per se* but also wisdom, understood as living well one with another. If such is the case, it is increasingly critical that mentoring relationships model a shared pursuit of wisdom. Undergraduates, especially, often lack an imagination about what a training in the sciences can mean for their lives, myopically seeing such training only as a pathway to medical school. He points to the need for larger questions about vocation and human flourishing.

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