

From the Editor

In this issue of *Integritas*, Sister Katarina Schuth, O.S.F., shares her deep knowledge of the Catholic Church's mission to the world through the lens of a sociologist who is also a member of a religious order in the Church. Her paper offers a historical overview of the ways that the Church has sought to balance its mission to preach the gospel with listening to the voices of people of different cultures. It begins with a scriptural and theological account of cultural difference and goes on to explore what appreciation of culture means for Catholic colleges and universities today.

In response, Chester Gillis pays particular attention to a theme that lies at the heart of much of his own scholarship, namely the question of interreligious dialogue. He describes one program at Georgetown that invites students and faculty to engage in a dialogue of cultures, showing how the trajectory of the Church's self-understanding (ecclesiology) has led to a deeper appreciation of non-Western cultures and the theological questions that intercultural encounters can raise.

Together, these two papers offer a kind of cultural diptych: two ways of looking at what God is doing in the Church and in the world, inviting those of us who work in Catholic colleges and universities to ponder what role we have in learning and teaching.

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