Topic: Reinforcing Academic and Personal Integrity 11/1/2012

Father James Dahlinger led a discussion concerning fostering personal integrity in our students. He presented several issues that may be having a profound effect on the students in regard to their integrity. Feeling vulnerable, wondering what happens next, fitting into peer groups, and making and holding onto friends were identified as issues the students face. In addition the following preoccupations; self-image, peer-pressure (especially those who may still be with High School friends now at Le Moyne), part-time/full time work, and campus activities may also being influencing a student's personal integrity. The question was raised as to the amount of activities offered; could it be prolonging an atmosphere of High School?

These concerns are common to any campus but what can we do to help, at Le Moyne? Are they building unhelpful habits that will be hard to undo once they graduate? How do we get the students to realize that lying, cheating, and plagiarism directly relate to their reputations and get them to reflect on what kind of person they are becoming? How do we foster an ability in the students to see themselves as a professional learner and encourage them to bring built skills forward?

The answers to all of these questions will continue to challenge faculty and staff at Le Moyne. A beginning is found possibly in helping the student to build individuality, perhaps through the skills of planning and time management, and encouraging the ability for the students to say no to peers and relationships, for now.