

McMaster School for Advancing Humanity

Volume 9 ♦ Fall 2016

JOURNAL

THE McMASTER JOURNAL

VOLUME 9

FROM THE OUTSIDE LOOKING IN
Barbara Silvis '72..... 4

ADVANCING HUMANITY IN:

BELIZE8

CAMBODIA..... 30

PANAMA..... 58

TANZANIA..... 67



The McMaster Journal, vol. 9
The McMaster Journal is a publication of the
McMaster School for Advancing Humanity, Defiance
College, 701 N. Clinton Street, Defiance, Ohio 43512.

Copyright © 2016
by the McMaster School for Advancing Humanity

The McMaster Journal

Editors: Bryant Green
Mary Ann Studer

Editorial Assistance: Jordan Heiliger
Kathy Punches
Rena Rager

Photo Editor: Ryan Imbrock

Layout: Ryan Imbrock

ISSN 1931-5457

Printed by:
The Hubbard Company, 612 Clinton Street,
Defiance, Ohio 43512

THE McMASTER SCHOOL FOR ADVANCING HUMANITY

The McMaster School for Advancing Humanity was founded to serve as a focal point for teaching, service, scholarship, and action to improve the human condition worldwide. The mission of the McMaster School is:

- ◆ To educate students for responsible citizenship;
- ◆ To produce committed global citizens and leaders who understand the importance of individual liberties in improving the human condition worldwide; and
- ◆ To encourage graduates to take an active role in addressing these issues in whatever professions they may choose.

The School serves as a catalyst for innovative, interdisciplinary, community-based work by creating and supporting opportunities for teams of faculty, students, and staff to use their academic and professional skills to address a community need.

The founding goals of the McMaster School are:

1. To critically examine the root causes of human suffering through community-based research that addresses systemic factors that impede human progress;
2. To give students the knowledge and capacities to be active world citizens and to view themselves as members of the world community;
3. To contribute actively through sponsored scholarship and service to the improvement of the human condition worldwide;
4. To exchange, create, and disseminate knowledge about successful models of active citizenship and public service; and
5. To create at Defiance College one of the nation's premier undergraduate educational programs with a focus on scholarship and service, with a special emphasis on developing an innovative approach to teaching.

THE FOUNDING DONORS

The McMaster family has been an instrumental force in business, industry, and civic involvement in northwest Ohio for many years. Harold and Helen McMaster together with their sons and daughters – Ronald McMaster, Jeanine Sandwisch Dunn, Nancy Cobie, and Alan McMaster – established the School through a generous endowment to Defiance College in 2002. Although Harold McMaster died in 2003, his legacy – a belief in an individual's potential to positively impact humanity through scholarship, leadership and service – lives on through the McMaster School for Advancing Humanity.

DEFIANCE COLLEGE MISSION

Defiance College provides students with rigorous academic programming and distinctive and dynamic service learning experiences. Moreover, Defiance College is recognized as a leader in using ever-changing student-centered approaches to lifelong learning. As a United Church of Christ related college, the Defiance College community of engaged learners is dedicated to developing the whole person through instilling within our students a search for truth, sensitivity to our world and diverse cultures within it; and an ability to lead in their chosen professions in a spirit of global service. Defiance College emphasizes learning based on the four pillars of our educational philosophy: to know, to understand, to lead, and to serve.

TO KNOW

We believe that the liberal arts form a broad basis for all learning. We affirm that academic excellence demands a committed search for truth, competency in research and other problem solving methods, the ability to synthesize knowledge from many sources, and a capacity for self-directed learning.

TO UNDERSTAND

We provide opportunities for students to perceive and make connections between the intellectual realm and the world. We strive to develop awareness of and sensitivity to global interdependence and diverse cultures.

TO LEAD

We are committed to the betterment of the community, the nation, and the world through the development of leadership skills and abilities. We create opportunities for students to initiate and facilitate beneficial action in and out of the classroom and encourage self-reflection on the role of the dedicated leader.

TO SERVE

We encourage our students to be of service to their fellow students, their chosen fields of study, their communities and the world. We provide opportunities for students to transform society through civic engagement along with application of their knowledge and understanding to service.