

GROUP REFLECTION

Describe the group and their shared characteristics (e.g. Province, jobs, ...)		Number of people	Number of Collaborators/Partners in Mission
6 USC San Diego RSCJ (3 Spiritual Directors, 1 Vocation Director, 1 Nurse, 1 Retired)		6	0
Age of Group members	Approx. number of people	Whom should we contact with regard to the response? Email: mfinlayson@rscj.org	
Under 50	0		
50 – 70 years	3		
Older than 70	3		

QUESTION __2__ What would allow for life to be agile and dynamic for mission?

- We do what we do with others; we don't do this alone
- Teasing out themes that are helpful to all; sharing together is helpful
- Good communication is very important
- Trust is important, grows by coming together, prayer and sharing
- Trust myself, trust God, pray for courage, to keep going
- When Jesus died, what happened to the disciples? Future of religious life – still life there? Is it worth it? Disciples stayed together. There is still life; how do I radiate it and give hope?
- Pray and God keeps it alive. It's worth it.
- In spiritual direction, if we focus, we find energy, give hope
- Grow in trust in One Body, trust and support risk-taking of group
- Hope, risk putting ourselves out there
- Having been a bridge person between our history and the ongoing revolution, we created a whole new Society after Vatican II, which will be a basis for future change
- Whatever we do include love of the environment, nurture and protect it, we are called by the Church through Laudato Si. A lot of different people are working hard together on this issue and that is a door for us.
- Don't want to throw out our identity, as educators, maybe it will be in a new form, but an essential part of our call.
- Letting go of my project, my ministry, my place... not so that they will be abandoned, but supporting others to keep a project going while allowing ourselves to begin new things; necessary to let go of some places we are serving to respond radically to needs of the world
- Ignatian Indifference helps me let go and respond to a new call and God blesses us in that; if we don't cling to things, it works out; trust God will work it out
- Importance of support we give to rscj to develop their gifts, calls, even if different from the group ministries

Email to dct@rscjiroma.org before March 31, 2019

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• QUESTION __3__

What would hinder us from a more agile, dynamic life for mission? What might we do to overcome it?

Hinder:

- People are too busy, no spare time/energy to build relationships
- We have a lot of paper, letters/info I print, then what do I do with it?
- Feeling my least agile due to aging, health
- We don't participate a lot in big decisions (e.g. a house bought without an area knowing it); we are tricky about finances in that we often don't discern together and share about how we spend our monies. How does the Province discern the use of our monies? How are we part of this process?
- Recognizing that the provincial Team has a lot of power, and yet all are asked to be agile, dynamic and thus open to the Spirit, the Team can hinder progress when it has asked for a process for the Body to undertake, and then doesn't carefully shepherd it to a fruitful end. For example, one team asked for proposals that many worked on for several months - there was a transition to a new team and only 1 out of 6 were accepted, and even that one never was implemented.
- Sometimes discernments don't work out, plans/decisions don't always work out. Things fall apart.
- Fear, old hurts, insecurities keep us from moving forward
- Inconsistencies of making decisions; having to go through discernment after discernment, but nothing happens, or it falls apart or isn't supported
- Not just what I have done, but what I have failed to do; stopping the Spirit
- Living on the edge, not at the center, happy not to be disturbed
- We've done it this way forever (in formation); it won't change. Is there something in our formation that is too much of the past and not of the present? Stress and fear caused by formation – having to move, forced transparency...

To overcome:

- To discern corporately; offer real supportive discernment
- Trust leads me to want to be a little more open and be the person to invite others to something new, to participation
- Support others to do something new, develop their passions, support the growth of each one and this is leaven for the rest of the body
- Regarding formation, we need to be open to work on our processes and our expectations of new generations entering religious life; initial formation needs to evolve
- Long term live-in experiences as process of discernment to entering
- Learn from other congregations
- Have just one international English-speaking noviceship, one international Spanish-speaking noviceship to build formation to an international Society and international peer group relationships

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QUESTION __4__

What organizational changes would allow us to be more agile and dynamic for mission?

- More professional help hired to do work so that rscj can live the charism (e.g. PH, Sophie's Well, Spiritual Ministry Center...) discerning the gift that you might have the energy to give and have professional help to do other things 'around the edges' so that you are free to offer that gift
- Newer members need to know each other more deeply, face to face deeper sharing; importance of relationships and doing this together

QUESTION _5__

How could we more effectively share our resources not just financial but personnel, expertise, property etc. to allow us to be more agile and dynamic for mission?

- Get together face to face and do things together to really know each other at a deep level
- How do we put the resources of personnel/property/etc to the future? Education; centers of education, new ways of educating, offering the gift together, bringing energies together in new ways; rscj professors teaching together in new places, such as setting up a college credit course on racism etc for high school seniors. Some RSCJ might give the course and other college affiliated professors might be invited. Stuart Center with beds might work well with the connection with Georgetown University.

(Time did not allow more sharing on Question 5.)