



CURIA GENERALIZIA DELLA COMPAGNIA DI GESÙ

8 January 2011

Mr. William Kemeza  
President  
Boston College High School  
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Dear Mr. Kemeza,

The enormous challenges to Jesuit Education today require our best efforts in order for us to serve the mission that has been entrusted to us. One challenge that invites our close attention these days is how to respond appropriately as a universal apostolic body that serves young people in schools in more than seventy countries across all the continents.

I am happy to know that through the generous help of you and your colleagues, the Colloquium on International Jesuit Education sponsored by Boston College High School will take place on the Chestnut Hill campus of Boston College from July 29 to August 2, 2012. The Colloquium will provide an excellent opportunity for representatives of secondary schools to come together and reflect on the challenges that lie ahead for this important ministry. Even more importantly, the participants will be able to propose ways that Jesuit institutions, as part of an apostolic network in a globalized world, can face and overcome these challenges.

The 35<sup>th</sup> General Congregation reminded us that “Serving Christ’s mission today means paying special attention to its *global* context. This context requires us to act as a universal body with a universal mission, realizing at the same time the radical diversity of our situations. It is a worldwide community—and, simultaneously, as a network of local communities—that we seek to serve others across the world.” (Decree 2 n. 20). The theme of the Colloquium, *The World is Our House*, clearly implements some important themes articulated by our most recent Congregation as people from diverse nations and cultures strive to forge a unity that strengthens our secondary school network and mission.



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By gathering as a *global* body of Jesuit secondary schools for the first time we can begin to establish ways of collectively preparing our students and school communities to address the “joys and hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the people of the present age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted” (*Gaudium et Spes*, 1). Thus, we can creatively engage in our “common responsibility for the welfare of the entire world and its development in a sustainable and life-giving way” (GC 35. Decree 2. n. 20).

I hope this Colloquium can lead Jesuit schools throughout the world to an ever deeper service of faith, promotion of justice, and care for the environment. Initiatives that strengthen programs in these areas can make our apostolate in secondary education more effective by giving students the tools they need to make the world a fitting dwelling place for God’s people.

I understand that the committee in charge of the Colloquium will be working closely with the Secretariat of Secondary Education in Rome and other Jesuit school networks to make the most of this forum. I encourage all Jesuit secondary school networks to take advantage of this opportunity to advance the Society’s commitment to form leaders who can serve both the Church and our world.

Thank you for all you are doing to make this important work possible.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Adolfo Nicolas, S.J.  
Superior General