

The Many Faces of Fr. Bob Spitzer

The contributions, talents, and interests of Fr. Bob Spitzer defy easy summarization. In an age where specialization is a rule that is rarely broken, Fr. Spitzer's career and vocation reflects a wealth of disciplines mastered and causes embraced.

Advisor and Mentor

Fr. Spitzer averages 130 major business and public presentations per year, as well consultations with senior corporate and government leaders. A short list of those who have sought his counsel includes

- Corporate leaders at Boeing, Costco, Toyota, and numerous other companies
- Senior leadership at the Pentagon
- Tony Blair's Cabinet in London
- Leaders from both sides of the conflict in Northern Ireland
- Senior Russian Orthodox Church officials

University President

In his 11 years as president of Gonzaga, Fr. Spitzer is credited with restoring the university's financial health and building up the campus and student body. On his watch, enrollment rose from 4,507 to 6,923, and the average SAT scores and GPAs of incoming freshmen improved as well. Annual gifts to the school nearly tripled from \$5.8 million

to \$15.4 million annually, and Fr. Spitzer oversaw more than \$200 million in campus construction projects. He also strengthened Gonzaga's Catholic identity and spiritual life.

Author

Fr. Spitzer has published widely in scholarly journals on such topics as theology and philosophy, astrophysics and cosmology, education, culture, leadership, and the life issues. His books include

- *The Spirit of Leadership: Optimizing Creativity and Change in Organizations*
- *Six Steps Toward Ethical Health*
- *Five Pillars of the Spiritual Life: A Practical Guide to Prayer for Active People*
- *Healing the Culture: A Commonsense Philosophy of Happiness, Freedom, and the Life Issues*

Leader

A man of action as well as words, Fr. Spitzer has put his energy into a broad agenda of cultural renewal. He has founded several institutes to restore our nation's commitment to ethical leadership, respect for life, and a culture firmly rooted in faith and reason.

The Spitzer Center for Ethical Leadership, established in 2005, helps leaders bring out the best in themselves and in the people they lead. The Center's curriculum is based on timeless insights into the four basic drivers of human nature, distilled into practical guidance on how to build a high-performing culture. This approach has been embraced by Caterpillar, Trammell Crow, Trinity Health, the Diocese of Phoenix, and other leading secular and faith-based organizations.

The Magis Institute, founded in 2002 and chaired by Fr. Spitzer, aims to aid the Roman Catholic Church in transforming the culture. Fr. Spitzer is working on a new Faith and Reason curriculum for the Institute.

Healing the Culture, founded in 2003, uses Fr. Spitzer's Life Principle to help build a pro-life culture.

Milestones

- 1952 Born in Honolulu, HI
- 1974 B.B.A. in Public Accounting & Finance from Gonzaga
- 1974 Enters Society of Jesus
- 1978 M.A. in philosophy from St. Louis University
- 1983 M.Div. from the Gregorian University (Rome)
- 1983 Ordained a priest
- 1984 M.A. in Theology, Westin School
- 1984 - Assistant Professor, Philosophy, Georgetown University
- 1990 Ph.D. in Philosophy, Catholic University of America
- 1990 - Associate Professor, Philosophy
- 1998 Frank Shrontz Chair of Ethics, and Trustee, Seattle University
- 1995 - Consultant and Educator
- 2000 The Pacific Institute, Seattle
- 1995 - Speaker and Consultant,
- 1998 The Boeing Corporation
- 1998 - President, Gonzaga University;
- 2009 John Aram Endowed Chair of Ethics; Professor of Philosophy
- Professor of Leadership/Ethics
- 2003 - Produces five series for EWTN
- 2008 including *Healing the Culture*; *Finding God through Faith and Reason*; and *The Spirit of Catholic Leadership*.
- 2005 Establishes Spitzer Center for Ethical Leadership
- 2006 Creates Journey to Excellence program for the Spitzer Center

A New Mission

Fr. Spitzer has embraced a bold new agenda of cultural transformation. In the next three years, the Spitzer Center aims to:

Deliver its leadership curriculum broadly and cost-efficiently using the latest Internet 2.0 technology.

Train 10,000 corporate managers and team leaders.

Train 10,000 clergy, seminarians, and lay leaders.

Build working relationships in 25 dioceses.

