



CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMUNITY
COMMUNAUTÉ DE VIE CHRÉTIENNE
COMUNIDAD DE VIDA CRISTIANA

Breaking news. The World Council is getting larger and younger.

To the World Community:

Dear friends:

As we announced in Projects 176 last June, over the past few months, the World Executive Council has been engaged in a process of listening, feedback and discernment to co-opt two young members until the XVIII General Assembly¹.

Through this process, we have witnessed the generosity of our World Community and the diversity of gifts that exist to be placed at the service of others. With joy, we wish to share that the two co-opted members are: Daniela Ochoa Peralta and James O'Brien.

Daniela is 27 years old. She was born in Colombia, but today she is linked to CLC in the Netherlands, as she has been studying there for the last few years. She has been animating and accompanying a community in The Hague for two years. She has training and experience in Ignatian spirituality and the ability to lead groups. Daniela shared with us that "*CLC has meant, therefore, the possibility to live my spirituality to the full, that is, on pilgrimage, together with a community of people who want to know Jesus better, who have learned to pray in other ways and who warm my heart every time they share the fruits of their personal prayer spaces*". She studied Sociology, with a Masters in Urban Development. As a researcher she is interested in community resilience, adaptive governance, and inclusive employment.

James, on the other hand, is 33 years old. He belongs to CLC in Australia. He is a member of the CLC animation team in Asia Pacific. He has a deep knowledge of Ignatian spirituality and is considered to be a good writer and assertive communicator. He has shown leadership experience in CLC and within the Church in Australia. James shared: "*I live the CLC charism in everyday life in work, family, community and friendships. My main mission at present is to encourage high school students to grow attentive to God's presence in their lives. As a Religious Education teacher, I have many opportunities to incorporate experiences of spirituality with my students. Along with intellectual enquiry, I am able to help nurture the faith and lives of the young people entrusted to me*".

In both Daniela and James, the Council sensed two people with big dreams and desires and with the energy and commitment to look to the future with hope. They know that they have been chosen not only for their youth, but also for their talents, and that joining the Council means being able to have a look at all the issues that will be dealt with, but fundamentally we will ask them for a special dedication to continue making strides in the development of the youth area. As we said in Projects 176: "*We feel the desire and the need to listen to young people. To walk with them. To accompany them. We want to do this with a sense of openness, partnership, and empowerment. We intend to work for young people, but with young people*".

¹ Faculty provided for in General Standard No. 21. C: "*The World Executive Council may, if it wishes, co-opt one or two additional consultants*".



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On 22nd January we had our first meeting as World Executive Council with Daniela and James. They will join our annual meeting in person in April to continue preparing for the XVIII CLC General Assembly.

We place in the Lord's hands this new time as we begin our journey as World Executive Council. We trust in your prayers. May Mary, our Lady of the Way, accompany us.

On behalf of the World Executive Council,

Denis Dobbstein
President

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Rome, 24th January 2022

(Original: *Spanish*)



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