

Culture of Life Newsletter



6901 Mercy Rd.
Omaha, NE 68106
(402) 390-6600
www.popepaulvi.com
Fax: (402) 390-9851

CONTACT US

Appointments to learn the Creighton Model System
(402) 392-0842

Education Program
(402) 390-9168

Publications
(402) 505-8942

Giving
(402) 505-8945
popepaulvi.com/give

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CreightonModel.com
NaProTechnology.com
DrHilgers.com
FertilityCare.org
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Bringing “hope and healing” to Mexico

By Matt Johnson, Marketing Manager



Alejandra Martinez
Goldaracena, OB-GYN in
Mexico City

DR. THOMAS W. HILGERS, DIRECTOR OF THE THE POPE PAUL VI INSTITUTE, has had a great deal of interest in Mexico since the 1980s, and he was responsible for leading the first translation team to work on translating the Creighton Model materials into Spanish.

However, it has been within the last five years that our work has gained momentum, with the establishment of FertilityCare Centers in Mexico, as well as physicians who provide NaProTechnology services. The Institute has developed a five-year plan to establish the infrastructure for this work in Mexico, and this includes our formal affiliation with the Universidad Panamericana School of Medicine.

In 2017, we started our second Education Program in Mexico, training 27 new students at the Casa Lago conference center in Mexico City.

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Help us win during Omaha Gives!



In just a few weeks, the Pope Paul VI Institute will be participating in Omaha Gives, a 24-hour online giving marathon that runs from midnight-to-midnight on May 24! Last year, 153 generous donors helped us raise over \$21,000! This year, there are prizes that can help a gift of just \$10 go even further!

- **Participation prizes:** Organizations with the most unique givers will win one of fifteen prizes throughout the day!
- **Hourly prizes:** \$1,000 will be selected every hour from one randomly-selected gift!
- **Custom Cheer Pages:** Help us raise money with your own custom web page with pictures, video, and a personal appeal! Learn more!

You can sign up to give anytime in May up until **Wednesday, May 24!**
Please take a few minutes to log on to this address:

WWW.POPEPAULVI.COM/OMAHAGIVES

Questions? Contact Maureen at (402) 505-8945 or maureen.karpf@popepaulvi.com.

EDUCATION PROGRAM



The Pope Paul VI Institute had a great turnout for EPII — over 80 students from 14 countries and 20 states joined us in Omaha in April to be trained in our mission to bring hope and healing around the world.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Education Programs

- Class 40, Omaha, NE USA:
EP I: **Oct. 7 – 14, 2017**
EP II: **April 12 – 21, 2018**
- Mexico City Education Phase II
Aug. 14 – 19, 2017

Speaking Engagements

- AAFCP meeting & FCCI Board meeting – Grapevine, TX
July 17 – 23, 2017
- CMA Pre-Conference – Denver, CO,
September 6, 2017

Learn more online
popepaulvi.com/events



Alejandra (right) listens to a lecture by Dr. Hilgers on Advanced Case Management during Education Phase II in Omaha in April, 2017.

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One of the newest recruits to the cause of NaProTechnology is Alejandra Martinez Goldaracena, an OB-GYN in Mexico City. She had never heard of the Creighton Model until Nov. 2016, when she was introduced to the work of the Pope Paul VI Institute by Dr. Gregorio Obrador, Dean of the Medical School at the Universidad Panamericana in Mexico City. Dr. Obrador has been working with the Pope Paul VI Institute to bring NaProTechnology into Latin America.

Now, Alejandra has had a crash course in the Institute's work. Dr. Victor Topete, an OB-GYN medical consultant in Puebla, Mexico, invited Alejandra to participate in EPI in Mexico City in March. Alejandra went on immediately to complete EPII in Omaha in April.

"It's the time," Alejandra says. "I wish more Mexican people would know about the Creighton Model and NaProTechnology ... Mexico needs NaProTechnology."

This mission is also very personal for Alejandra. A close relative had suffered from infertility problems five years earlier and turned

to artificial reproductive technology as a solution. "If I had only known about this," said Alejandra. "My wish is to tell people that there's another option — a better option."

Part of Alejandra's "crash course" with the Institute was not just learning about the Creighton Model and NaProTechnology, but also learning English, which she was not fluent in at all when she started just a few months ago. Alejandra has discovered since then, however, that the Creighton Model itself is a language all its own, which transcends either English or Spanish.

"The Creighton Model System is more than cultures," she says, "More than countries. The language is not the problem ... I understand that it is a universal language."

As of today, teaching materials for the Pope Paul VI Institute have been translated into 15 different languages, including Spanish.

With more Education Programs scheduled in Mexico City through 2018, *hope and healing* will continue to flourish in Central America and around the world.

The St. John Paul the Great Fellows for 2017

By Maureen Karpf, Development Associate

THE ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT IN MEDICAL & SURGICAL NaProTECHNOLOGY is integral to bringing the *culture of life* to women's health care. Fellows are trained in the specialized field of reproductive endocrinology and in the breakthrough surgical system that utilizes robotic technology and highly effective adhesion prevention measures. The St. John Paul the Great Fellows become equipped with the skills to improve the health of women and restore fertility naturally — all while practicing medicine that fully adheres to the Church's teaching on human reproduction. The St. John Paul the Great Fellows are the future of NaProTechnology, and we are happy to introduce the 2016–2017 Fellows, Neil Sink, MD and Teresa Hilgers, MD.

Dr. Neil Sink

Dr. Sink initially began a career in general surgery, but the calling to become an OB-GYN took root after attending a baby's birth by cesarean section. After one and a half years in general surgery, Dr. Sink decided to visit the Institute after a discussion with his mom about his desire to switch to obstetrics and gynecology. "Although I was only there for a day," he says, "it was so inspiring to see good medical care being offered while also being true to one's beliefs about life and faith. I decided to switch jobs essentially in the Pope Paul VI Institute parking lot."

Coming to the Institute after completing his OB-GYN residency at the Mercy Hospital in St. Louis, Dr. Sink has learned how to perform complex pelvic surgeries through the Fellowship. "There is something enormously satisfying about putting in the effort to remove disease



Archbishop Emeritus Elden Francis Curtiss with Fellows Dr. Teresa Hilgers and Dr. Neil Sink.

while maintaining and healing the pelvic organs as best as possible." Dr. Sink is grateful for the opportunity, challenge, and gift to care for people.

Dr. Sink and his wife, Anne Marie, have two daughters — Moira (3) and Alice (4 months). After completing his Fellowship, Dr. Sink plans to provide quality medical care to patients of all walks of life from a practice that is infused with the Spirit and adheres to its faith.

Dr. Teresa Hilgers

Dr. Teresa Hilgers is the daughter of Dr. Thomas and Sue Hilgers, co-developers of the Creighton Model FertilityCare System. Dr. Hilgers began to pursue her studies in history and never planned on being a physician. "It was annoying to hear everyone ask, 'Are you going to be a doctor like your father?'" she recalls. However, she then decided to answer her calling to become a doctor, and after looking at other specialties, she fell in love with obstetrics and gynecology.

Coming to the Fellowship after completing her residency at Mercy Hospital in St. Louis, Dr. Hilgers has enjoyed working with her dad and looking at Creighton Model charts.

"I am often amazed that you can open up the chart and have a good idea of what is happening to the woman before even meeting her," she said. Dr. Hilgers also enjoys teaching clients how to chart with the

Creighton Model. After her completion of the Fellowship, Dr. Hilgers plans to stay at the Institute and play a role in the education of our patients, practitioners, and other doctors about the Creighton Model System and NaProTechnology.



Fellows Dr. Teresa Hilgers and Dr. Neil Sink give a presentation at Creighton University.



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*Help us give on **Wednesday, May 24!**
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Leaving a legacy

Thank you to all who have named the Institute as a beneficiary in your will or life insurance policy. We are deeply touched by this gesture of generosity. Your gift will help ensure that the work of the Institute carries on. We need loyal supporters like you to help us strengthen and expand the reach of the pro-life women's reproductive health care found in the Creighton Model and NaProTechnology. We are humbly grateful for your decision to designate a portion of your estate to the Pope Paul VI Institute.

If you are interested in learning more about planning a gift to the Pope Paul VI Institute, please contact Maureen Karpf at **(402) 505-8945** or maureen.karpf@popepaulvi.com.

