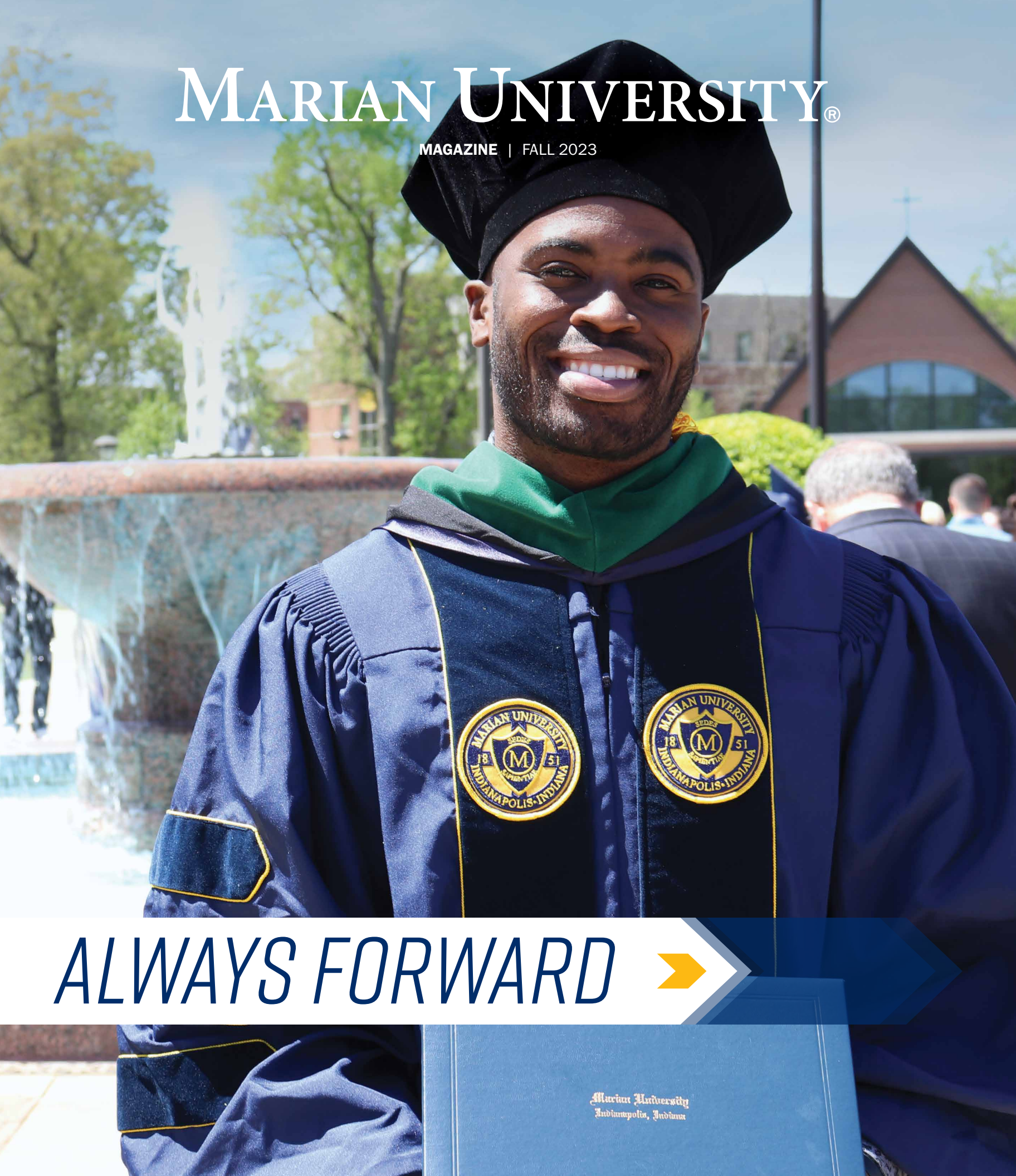


MARIAN UNIVERSITY®

MAGAZINE | FALL 2023



ALWAYS FORWARD ➔

Marian University
Indianapolis, Indiana



**Marian University's Klipsch Educators College
Named Among Best in the Nation for
Exemplary Preparation of Future Elementary
Teachers in the Science of Reading**



The undergraduate teacher preparation program at Marian University's Fred S. Klipsch Educators College (KEC) has been recognized by the National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) as among the best in the nation in preparing future elementary teachers to teach children to read, earning an A+ distinction in NCTQ's new report, *Teacher Prep Review: Strengthening Elementary Reading Instruction*.



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MARIAN UNIVERSITY®

MAGAZINE | FALL 2023



This logo represents all of Marian University's campuses and site locations, and is used when communications are meant for the entire campus community.

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MARIAN UNIVERSITY

JOURNEY TO 2030

ALWAYS FORWARD



On the Cover:

The Marian Miracle: 10 years of innovation, success, and forward progress of the Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Read more on pages 4-7.

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as of October 1, 2023



Dear Marian University Community,

As we embark on a new year in our **Journey to 2030: Always Forward**, I am honored to introduce this issue of *The Marian University Magazine* that celebrates the 10th Anniversary of Marian University's College of Osteopathic Medicine (MU-COM). A decade ago, we set out on a mission to put our **Faith In Action** and foster a new generation of compassionate and skilled healthcare professionals. Today, we stand in awe of the countless lives our medical graduates have touched, the groundbreaking research they have conducted, and the profound impact they have made on the health sciences landscape in Indiana and beyond. Indeed, the MU-COM's journey has been one of dedication, innovation, and unflagging commitment to excellence.

In addition to celebrating this milestone, Marian University is excited for our new state-of-the-art E. S. Witchger School of Engineering. This addition to our academic offerings signifies our commitment to advancing **STEHM education**. The E. S. Witchger School of Engineering will be a hub of cutting-edge research where students and faculty will collaborate to solve some of the most pressing challenges of our time. I cannot wait to witness the transformative journey that lies ahead!

Within the heart of Marian University, we also cherish our Personalized Learning Center, MU Prep, and Latino Leadership Initiative. All of these initiatives help promote **Access and Success**, embracing the individuality of each of our students and ensuring every Marian University student's journey is meaningful and fulfilling.

As you turn the pages of this magazine, let us be reminded that our journey together is one of endless possibility. Of course, to reach our goals, we invite your partnership, philanthropy, and persistent prayer—to move us always forward. Thank you for joining us on this courageous journey to provide an education that encapsulates Marian University's spirit of exploration, growth, and transformation.

May God bless you, always!

Daniel J. Elsener
 President

THE MARIAN UNIVERSITY PROMISE

Marian University students will be exceptionally well prepared for a good life and professional pursuits through:

- 1 An education illumined by the light of faith and grounded in values and ethics;
- 2 Challenging academic programs supported by a vibrant and caring community that guides students in achieving excellence;
- 3 Innovative, active, and engaged approach to learning on campus and beyond; and,
- 4 Leadership education that prepares a **T**rustworthy, **H**ealthy, **I**nquisitive, and **S**killed leader.

The Chancellor's Corner



An interview with Kenith Britt, Ph.D. about his recent appointment to the newly created position of chief operating officer (COO) and chancellor of Marian University.



You've served Marian for over a decade, in important positions that include vice president for advancement, founding dean of the Fred S. Klipsch Educators College, and senior vice president of strategic growth and innovation. Why did the university decide to create this new leadership role now, and what will be your key responsibilities?

"When the new strategic plan was approved, the president and board reviewed the senior organizational leadership to ensure Marian was best positioned to continue the momentum built over the last two decades. This led to the president and chief operating officer model that is designed to maximize the impact of the university on service to our community, region, and state. As COO and chancellor of the Indianapolis campus, I will have the good fortune to work with amazing leaders across many departments, programs, and campuses. Our work, together as a leadership team, will enable Marian to continue to grow in academic quality, enrollment, retention and graduation rates, and fundraising."

Marian has grown tremendously since you first arrived, achieving momentous progress in academic quality, enrollment, and financial strength. What are you most proud of accomplishing in your previous roles, and what are you most eager to accomplish in the future?

"It has been a pleasure to serve Marian over the last decade, and there's so much to be proud of. The most publicity we received during a program I led was the Klipsch Educators College. Working with Dr. LaTonya Turner, Fred and Judy Klipsch, and many other key leaders, we did the impossible—completely transform the way we recruit, develop, and support talent for our K-12 schools. Going forward, we aim to continue following in the footsteps of our founders who dedicated their lives to the mission of Marian University. Because of them, we have an obligation to attend to this mission with great urgency, excitement, and humility."

Can you briefly explain the university's strategic growth plan—also known as the Journey to 2030—and how the position of COO and chancellor will support it?

"The Journey to 2030 plan rallies around three important pillars—Access and Success, STEHM Illumined by the Liberal Arts, and Faith in Action. The enrollment goal is to grow the student population from approximately 5,700 to 10,000, and double the number of graduates to 2,000 annually. As COO and chancellor, I will guide, support, and encourage our university leaders to create actions and outcomes that serve our students well. Journey to 2030 is an inspiring vision but requires weekly, monthly, and yearly monitoring by our team—a level of discipline that will yield great success."

As a Franciscan university, Marian's faculty, staff, and students endeavor to live out its core values every day. How has your professional experience in Catholic education prepared you to serve concerning these tenets?

"My entire adult life has been working for the Church through Catholic education. I earned my Ph.D. from the Catholic University of America and, prior to joining Marian, I served K-12 Catholic schools and universities. But one of the primary reasons I joined Marian was the charism of the Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, Indiana. All of their important values—dignity of the individual, peace and justice, reconciliation and responsible stewardship—serve as a critical foundation for our daily work. Because this isn't just another university. We are Marian University, and our Catholic Franciscan identity feeds our culture across all programs, locations, and divisions."

While this new role will allow Marian's leadership to further solidify the university's long-term vision and strategic growth, it will also further solidify your legacy on campus. What do you hope this legacy will mean for future students?

"I honestly don't think too much about legacy—either institutional or personal. We are called to act daily to build people up to give them a better future and serve our community, and I hope students see me and our leaders at Marian as faith-driven, passionate leaders who care deeply about this mission. My motto has always been to live by Mark 10:45. This scripture teaches us that we are called to serve and give up our life in this service to others. And that is what I strive for each day."



AN INTERVIEW WITH MU-COM DEAN AMANDA WRIGHT, DO

10 YEARS

MARIAN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE (MU-COM)

As we celebrate 10 years of MU-COM, what are some special, standout achievements that come to mind?

Every first for our students is a first for us—that's special and in these first 10 years, we have seen many firsts! First orientation, first Match Day, first graduation, first exam, first day in the clinic—we celebrated each one of these milestones alongside our students.

Before our firsts, MU-COM was a bold dream of many in our community. Our founding dean Dr. Paul Evans and then dean Dr. Don Sefcik each played an important role in why we are here and establishing how we got here. We're here because of their work, work of the IOA, and our visionary President Elsener and our board—each of whom is a major contributor to our story and successes.

We have had many Match Day firsts. **This year we had our first student match into ophthalmology.** Last year we had our first student match into pediatric anesthesiology. Every year between 2017 and now, we have had a really cool first to celebrate.

We got excited when our inaugural class graduated in 2017, and again in 2020 when we had our first alumni in practice. Think about that group in particular. They came to a brand-new medical school, excelled and went to their residency, and came out into a pandemic. If there's a group that can hit the ground running in a pandemic, it's the group that started a medical school.

Another first this year is we are getting into GME (graduate medical education), which is an exciting and important step. MU-COM has long supported GME and our clinical partners, but until now, has not created new residency programs. MU-COM is currently working with two programs to create new residency positions in Indiana.

How do the Franciscan values guide the work and experience of students, faculty, and staff?

MU-COM is where the mission meets medicine. We are a Catholic medical school that trains osteopathic physicians for the state of Indiana. So how do we do that? We focus on faith in action, excellence in STEHM, and student access and success.

We stay true to Catholic and Franciscan values—that's how we live out our faith in action. This means in our curriculum we talk about ethics, values, integrity, and holistic approach to patient care.

We want our students to know this is a safe place to ask questions, to seek help, and that they are supported by our faculty and staff. It's important for us to create a place to foster inquiry. Students can be successful when they bring their whole selves to the learning environment.

Our curriculum is patient-centered. When we learn things, it is not with a layer of judgment—we are teaching and learning for the benefit of the patient. The focus is on evidence-based medicine grounded in research, and that ties into a focus on excellence in STEHM.

When we do all of that and take all those things into account, they're all linked together. It's the combination of a safe learning environment, strong values, and critical thinking that guides our faculty, staff, and students.

What is unique about our medical school?

Osteopathic medicine is a holistic approach to patient care.

At MU-COM, we practice a holistic approach to medical education.

President Elsener calls all faculty and staff at Marian to work to create transformational leaders. Within MU-COM, we answer that call through our professional identity formation (PIF) series. The PIF series provides a space for students to learn all the pieces that make a great osteopathic physician leader:

- **Academic excellence.** This pillar focuses on study habits, time management, active learning, and teaching students how to become life long learners.
- **Career planning and development.** This pillar supports students as they decide on their medical specialty. Our faculty and staff help them with personal statements, interview skills, and how to best position themselves for the match.
- **Wellness and well-being.** This pillar provides both intentional programming AND intentional time off. We address all aspects of well-being—physical, financial, spiritual, environmental, emotional, intellectual, nutritional, and social.
- **Osteopathic leadership.** All of our students will be leaders, perhaps not in title, but in the work they do (in the clinic, hospital, or community). We introduce them to the osteopathic professional and review important topics like ethics, bias, and professionalism. We also include important aspects like service learning and early health systems exposure.
- **Diversity, equity, inclusion, access, and belonging (DEIAB).** We do programming around creating a safe space to welcome all our students, faculty, and staff to show up fully as themselves.

You hear our clinical partners say, **"I don't know what you're doing at Marian, but your students are different."** That's it—that's the difference maker.

How has MU-COM impacted the Marian, greater Indianapolis, and medical communities?

Marian community: I think all of us are better for other groups and diversity. We in MU-COM are better because of the Leighton School of Nursing across the hall. We are better because of the Byrum Business School and because we have the Klipsch Educators College. There's collaboration in research between our faculty and the College of Arts and Sciences.

Local community: Our students are very service-oriented. They want to know where they can serve and how can they be of value to their community. Our students are active across our local community with



their volunteer work. They are proud to live and work in the Near West community and enjoy giving back to a community that supports them and their school.

Medical community: Many of our students complete their residency programs and then go on to work at our clinical partners across Indiana. This is a great benefit to our partners and community. They're getting residents who have been in Indiana at least four years and there's a real level of commitment. In May of 2023, we graduated our 1,000 alum. With a physician shortage of 1,000 physicians by 2030, Marian is contributing to improved patient access and healthcare outcomes with each physician we graduate.

What excites you most about MU-COM?

Our students. 100 percent. Without question. I'm excited about GME, PIF, and improving access to healthcare. However, these things don't matter unless we have our students. **They. Are. AMAZING. Period.**

These students are having to learn so much from a medical standpoint and the learning curve is steep. There's so much information, and they're having to learn it in an environment that's constantly shifting, and they do it with such an attitude of service to others. They are committed to one another in a way that is truly impressive. On Match Day, they aren't excited until they know it's 100 percent. They care about each other and about their community immensely. They make everything worth it.

With so many factors and shifts in the medical and political landscape, it is easy to question the what will be the future of osteopathic medicine. Those questions are hard and overwhelming. And then you talk to our students and they don't know the answers, but they're here to find them out. The future is bright because of them.

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF

Since our inception, Marian University has had a tradition of meeting the critical needs of our community and world at-large. This is the miracle of Marian.

This year, we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine. Opening in 2013, the Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine (MU-COM) became Indiana's second medical school, recognizing the power of the osteopathic medical philosophy—treating the patient mind, body, and spirit to find the root cause of illness.

With only one medical school in the state of Indiana to educate physicians for more than 110 years, the state was experiencing a physician shortage, unable to completely meet the communities' healthcare needs. Since the late 1990s, the Indiana Osteopathic Association (IOA) searched for a partner with whom to build an osteopathic medical school, and in late 2009, they found one.

In January 2010, the decision to move forward with developing Indiana's first new medical school since 1903 was endorsed by the Marian University Board of Trustees and the IOA. The IOA selected Marian University's proposal, which included a lead gift by founder and CEO of AIT Laboratories, Michael A. Evans, Ph.D. In recognition of his gift, the university's new building was named Michael A. Evans Center for Health Sciences. On January 15, 2010, the university and the IOA announced plans to start Indiana's first osteopathic medical school.

Since the announcement in 2010, the university and the college of osteopathic medicine have worked diligently to bring together many partners to help make the venture possible. These partners include architects, hospitals, pharmaceutical companies, law firms, and other businesses—all investing in the project monetarily and/or by providing our students with a wider variety of learning opportunities at their organizations. MU-COM enrolled the first class of osteopathic medical students in the state's history in August 2013.

2010

January 2010: Marian University and the Indiana Osteopathic Association (IOA) announce plans to start Indiana's first osteopathic medical school.



Paul Evans, DO named as founding dean of Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine.



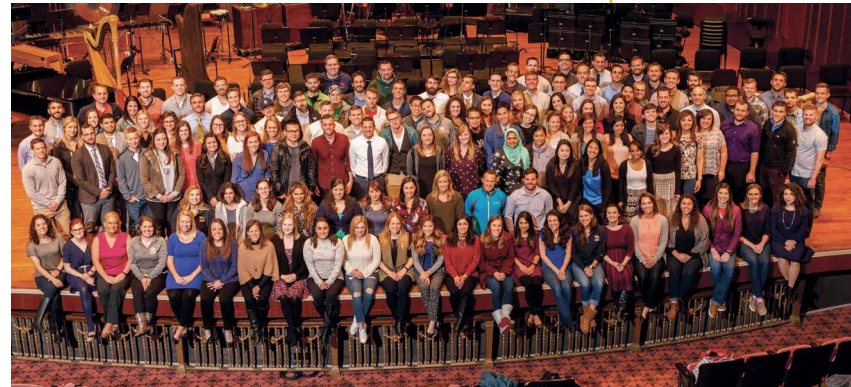
2011

August 2011: Groundbreaking ceremony for Michael A. Evans Center for Health Sciences.



2013

August 2013: Michael A. Evans Center for Health Sciences opens and welcomes its inaugural class.



2016

February 2016: Donald Sefcik, DO announced as vice president for health professions and dean of College of Osteopathic Medicine.



EXCELLENCE

MARIAN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE



2017

May 2017

- 133 new doctors graduate from MU-COM's first class.
- First match day yields 98.5 percent match rate.
- First military match day.



2020

January 2020

- College of Osteopathic Medicine and Daniel Gelfman, MD garner national attention for article published in *JAMA Cardiology* after studying Michaelangelo's "David."
- First graduates complete residencies.

February 2020:

Marsha Casey named senior vice president of health professions.



March 2020: Match Day yields 100 percent match rate for the first time. (Read about this year's Match Day on page 12.)

June 2020: College of Osteopathic Medicine hosts first free healthcare clinic in collaboration with Leighton School of Nursing and the Exercise and Sports Science program.

2021

February 2021: Osteopathic medical students join nationwide COVID vaccination effort.



May 2021: Amanda Wright, DO named as dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine.



July 2021: College of Osteopathic Medicine receives research grant from the American Osteopathic Association.

2023

College of Osteopathic Medicine partners with Marion General Hospital (MGH) and Indiana Health Centers (IHC) to create new residency positions.



CHECKING IN WITH
PRIMARY CARE SHORTAGE AREA
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS,
JESSICA FIDLER AND ARIC KING

BY SHELLY KELLEY
Freelance Writer



Across the nation, rural communities face a documented shortage of primary care providers. These professionals directly impact public health by offering a broad range of services—such as family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, OB/GYN, and general psychiatry—and often serve as a patient’s first point of entry into the healthcare system.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 61 percent of primary care professional shortages were located in rural communities as of March 2021; a deficiency that has restricted access to some of the most basic healthcare by limiting the supply of available services to those who need them most.

To address this issue at home, the Indiana General Assembly partnered with Marian University to establish the Primary Care Shortage Area Scholarship, which seeks to increase the number of practicing primary care physicians within Indiana’s medically underserved areas. The scholarship, which is for Indiana residents enrolled in the College of Osteopathic Medicine, is awarded to those who commit to practicing in a rural area of the state immediately upon becoming licensed physicians—and funds up to \$15,000 per year.

Marian University Magazine talked with scholarship recipients Jessica Fidler, DO '22, and Aric King, DO '21, about the award’s impact on both themselves and their present communities.

Where are you currently practicing and what are your clinical interests?

- **Dr. Fidler:** I’m practicing as a family medicine physician in Greencastle, Indiana for Hendricks Regional Health. My current practice is primarily with children, adolescents, and middle-aged adults, but my passion is preventive medicine and women’s health.
- **Dr. King:** I’m also practicing as a family medicine physician, but in Terre Haute, Indiana for Union Hospital. My clinical interests are in full-spectrum rural medicine, OB/GYN, mental health, and addictions.



This scholarship was founded to improve primary care access in Indiana's rural areas.

Why is this significant?

Dr. Fidler: Rural Indiana's patient-to-doctor ratio is one of the highest in the state. Focusing on the underserved not only allows for alleviating the burden on physicians but also focuses on providing a fundamental need to more people. The Primary Care Shortage Area Scholarship is hugely important as it helps to combat the limited resources, specialists, and funds posing unique challenges to those trying to provide care in these communities.

How does the lack of healthcare access affect population health and patient well-being in a community?

"Limited access to healthcare, as often seen in rural and underserved communities, can lead to detrimental effects on population health. Many patients are forced to travel to receive the care that they need, which can be expensive and difficult—worse still, it can occasionally lead some patients to forgo healthcare altogether. Simply put, population health decreases as access to healthcare declines."

- Dr. King

Why did you choose to apply for this scholarship?

Dr. Fidler: Growing up in a rural farm town in Indiana, my family would need to travel about 30 minutes to receive basic medical care, even if I needed to go to the hospital. Because of this, I knew I wanted to practice in and give back to a rural community from an early age, so I applied to help bridge the gap in the care of medicine.

Dr. King: I originally applied as a way to help get through medical school, but soon found that the financial incentives are shadowed by the joy of getting to know my patients and their families. Lessening

my financial stress allowed me to focus more on my studies so that I could better prepare to provide the best and most affordable healthcare to these individuals.

How have you personally seen your work make an impact?

Dr. King: Throughout my residency, I could tell my colleagues and I were making a difference. Our clinic was a Federally Qualified Health Center and, as such, served some of the most underserved patients in the area, from newborns to geriatrics and everyone in between. I remember working with one gentleman struggling with uncontrolled diabetes—lacking insurance, he was unable to afford many of the medications that would benefit him, so I worked closely with our pharmacy staff, case managers, and social workers to find an affordable option that allowed him to finally get his disease under control.

Dr. Fidler: One instance that stands out to me is an appointment I had with a young woman struggling with significant mental health issues—I referred her to a psychiatrist, but the wait time was months away so I decided to start her on a new medication I felt would help. When she returned for her follow-up, I was delighted to see her beaming from ear to ear and explaining how much the medication had changed her life. She was now able to easily achieve what had once been difficult day-to-day activities, such as going to the grocery store and interacting with others.



61%

OF PRIMARY CARE PROFESSIONAL
SHORTAGES WERE LOCATED
IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

(AS OF MARCH 2021)

If a future student was considering applying for the Primary Care Shortage Area Scholarship, what advice would you give them?

“Providing service for an underserved population is one of the greatest aspects of the job, so if you want to practice primary care and be in Indiana, it’s a great opportunity to help with medical school costs. Basically, we would say go for it!”

- Drs. Fidler and King



MARIAN UNIVERSITY

Indianapolis®

College of Osteopathic Medicine

marian.edu/medicalschool

Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

The DO Class of 2023 achieved a 100 percent residency placement rate.

Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences

94 percent of the BMS Class of 2023 who qualified for a guaranteed interview were offered admission to our DO program.

2023 MATCH DAY

136 Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine students matched with residencies in Indiana and beyond

Excitement, anticipation, and triumph! Those feelings were running high on Marian University's campus as 136 medical students from the College of Osteopathic Medicine learned where they would begin their post-doctoral medical specialty training during a ceremony known as Match Day.

The College of Osteopathic Medicine at Marian University celebrated its 10th anniversary with 100 percent of its students placed in medical residencies, including its greatest number of graduates entering residency in Indiana.



Match Day is administered by the National Resident Matching Program and is held at medical schools throughout the nation each year on the third Friday in March. As part of the Match Day 2023 celebration at Marian University, faculty, staff, community partners, and families joined students and their classmates in the Marian University Arena and Convocation Center for the big announcement.

Marian University's medical school graduates are Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine (DO), who are physicians trained with a whole person approach to medicine—treating the entire person through a partnership with the patient and a focus on preventative healthcare. Utilizing the connection between mind, body, and spirit is central in the DOs approach to patient care.

“Mission-aligned successes seen in Match Day 2023 provide a wonderful and exciting way to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the College of Osteopathic Medicine,” said Amanda Wright, DO, dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine. “We are proud that 65 percent of students will begin primary care residencies—meeting Indiana and the Midwest’s critical need.”

Of the 136 students, 45 percent will begin residencies in the state of Indiana. This number increases to 70 percent with the addition of students entering residency programs in Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, and Kentucky, aligning with the university's commitment of placing physicians in Indiana and neighboring states.

→ Top Specialties

- 29% Family Medicine
- 22% Internal Medicine
- 10% Pediatrics
- 7% Anesthesiology
- 5% Emergency Medicine

→ Top Facilities

- Ascension St. Vincent Health, *Indianapolis, IN*
- Community Health Network, *Indianapolis, IN*
- Franciscan Health Network, *Indianapolis, IN*
- Indiana University School of Medicine, *Indianapolis, IN*
- Medical College Wisconsin, *Milwaukee, WI*
- University of Louisville School of Medicine, *Louisville, KY*

100%

PLACEMENT RATE



PRIMARY CARE

Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Pediatrics



PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE AREAS

Primary care areas plus Emergency Medicine, Psychiatry, and General Surgery



MATCHED IN INDIANA



MATCHED IN

Indiana or surrounding states (IN, IL, MI, OH, KY)

DAY FOR THE KNIGHTS

MARIAN UNIVERSITY®

2023

UNITING DONORS FOR
MARIAN'S SUCCESS

BY LINSEY RODAS-HERNANDEZ '24
Office of Marketing and Communications Intern



1,895 DONORS

OVER \$221,000 RAISED

The Unifying Force of a Vision

Few events rival the enthusiasm and impact generated by the annual “Day for the Knights” at Marian University. As the single largest donor day for Marian, “Day for the Knights” is a rallying call that brings together a community of dedicated supporters to champion the university's noble mission. With an ambitious goal of garnering support from 2,030 donors, the 2023 edition aimed to fortify athletics and extracurricular activities, student life, and other initiatives.

A Historic Achievement

March 30, 2023, will forever be etched in Marian's history as a day of unparalleled generosity. With a resounding display of support, the event amassed a remarkable 1,895 donors who collectively contributed over \$221,000 to further Marian's cause. This extraordinary outpouring of financial support illustrated the deep-rooted belief in Marian's educational endeavors and the desire to empower the next generation of scholars and leaders. As stated by John Finke, senior vice president for institutional advancement, “We sought to make ‘Day for the Knights’ 2023 the single largest donor day in Marian History. Mission accomplished. There was incredible enthusiasm on campus and off campus, and this shows what sharing Marian University’s mission with our community can achieve!”

- When we ask each other to invest, it’s not a hard ask—because we know the money we raise is going to support students doing really wonderful things here on-campus and really wonderful things out in the community after they’ve graduated. It gives us a chance to slow down and reflect on the true meaning of the work we do here and celebrate our students.

Clint Whitson, Ed.D., *assistant dean of student affairs*

The Impact

The funds raised on the “Day for the Knights” have far-reaching implications for Marian University. These funds will fuel the growth and development of our university, powering an even higher quality of resources and education for our students. Additionally, the support will bolster the athletic programs, providing student-athletes with the tools and opportunities they need to excel both on and off the field.

- I often say: once a Knight, always a Knight! “Day for the Knights” 2023 was truly a day to celebrate what was, is now, and is coming for Marian University. Knights, from around campus and the world, came together in gratitude for the blessings received at and through Marian—and to support current and future students. It was an opportunity to celebrate, have fun, and embrace our community. All day; all Knight!

Sr. Mary Beth Gianoli, OSF '78, *vice president for mission integration*

Looking to the Future

The remarkable success of the “Day for the Knights” in 2023 has set a precedent. With the foundation of this achievement, the university can strive for even greater heights in the coming years. The event serves as a testament to the enduring spirit and unwavering support of the Marian community—a community that firmly believes in the power of education and its ability to transform lives. As the annual “Day for the Knights” continues to gather momentum, it will undoubtedly cement Marian University's position as a leading institution in Catholic education.

- “Day for the Knights” 2023 was an amazing day to celebrate the generosity of our donors and serves as a reminder that at Marian, the sky’s the limit!

Adrianna L. Ernstberger, Ph.D., *assistant dean for the School of Global and Cultural Studies*

Marian University Celebrates Grand Opening of the E. S. Witchger School of Engineering Center with Governor Holcomb



Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb joined Marian University leaders, community and business leaders, students and faculty, and special guests Thursday, August 10, to celebrate the ribbon cutting and grand opening of the new E. S. Witchger School of Engineering Center.

Over 400 attendees included Marian University faculty, staff, alumni, current and prospective students, and industry partners were joined by members of the community and special guests, including Speaker of the Indiana House of Representatives Todd Huston and Indiana Secretary of Education Katie Jenner, Ed.D..

“Marian University’s new E. S. Witchger School of Engineering Center marks a significant milestone in Marian’s commitment to advancing technology and innovation in Indiana,” Governor Eric J. Holcomb said. “Through these highly-needed engineering disciplines, we are not only providing students with invaluable opportunities for education and growth, but also fueling the future of our state’s economy. These degrees will equip graduates with the skills and knowledge, and ethics needed to tackle the challenges of today and tomorrow.”

The E. S. Witchger School of Engineering expands Marian University’s vision as a Catholic university to offer Bachelor of Engineering degrees rooted in the liberal arts tradition with the goal of graduating a diverse pipeline of talented leaders who will meet the critical workforce need for engineers in Indiana and Midwest. The school offers degrees in biomedical, chemical, civil, computer, and mechanical engineering as well as engineering physics to prepare students to become leaders with strong liberal arts competencies.

“Through the establishment of the E. S. Witchger School of Engineering, we aim to forge a new generation of transformational leaders who will not merely design the future, but compassionately serve the world,” Marian University President Daniel J. Elsener said. “With knowledge as their foundation and integrity as their guide, our graduates will leave a legacy of

progress, empathy, and positive change, shaping a brighter tomorrow for all.”



President Daniel J. Elsener at the podium of the grand opening.



Cutting of the ribbon on August 10, 2023 to officially open the E. S. Witchger School of Engineering Center at Marian University.

E. S. Witchger School Focuses on Increasing Diversity in Engineering

One of the Witchger School of Engineering's top priorities is to offer competitive scholarships to attract the diverse population needed for future engineers and graduate these students into high-need positions. The first group of engineering students began their college careers at the E. S. Witchger School of Engineering in Fall 2022. The class included 25 percent female students, 24 percent of students eligible to receive federal Pell grants, and two-thirds of the inaugural class are from the state of Indiana with 50 percent from central Indiana.

Marian University engineering students participate in on-campus engineering professional associations, such as the American Society of Civil Engineers and Society of Women Engineers. Additional student engineering societies will be launched in the coming years that further connect them to their peers and professionals in the industry—locally and nationally.



Binh Q. Tran, Ph.D. addresses the crowd at the grand opening.

support for our students, will enable students to learn from and work alongside engineering faculty trained at the highest levels in their fields.”

“This is an extremely exciting time at Marian University for our students, faculty, and the community. This state-of-the-art facility that we officially open today will enhance our ability to provide our students with a rigorous, hands-on engineering curriculum steeped in a liberal arts tradition emphasizing leadership, critical thinking, and communications skills, as well as promoting a global mindset,” said Binh Q. Tran, Ph.D., founding dean of the E. S. Witchger School of Engineering. “The collaborative learning environments in the new facility, combined with our small class sizes that provide additional

New Engineering Center Built for Collaboration and Hands-On Learning

The new, state-of-the-art E. S. Witchger School of Engineering Center was built specifically to provide students with the learning environment, equipment, and technology they need to succeed during their collegiate career and beyond.

The 70,000 square foot, state-of-the-art facility features:

- High-tech classrooms built for interaction and hands-on learning that allow students to take theory learned in the classroom and apply them in various laboratory settings.
- Thirteen laboratories featuring collaborative robots, machine shop and Maker Space, materials testing and characterization equipment, wind tunnel for aerodynamic testing, and a two-story process control unit.
- Five study and collaboration spaces, and a prayer room.
- Signature artwork reflecting Marian's Catholic Franciscan values.
- A sky bridge connecting the new Witchger Center to Marian Hall.

Meeting a Critical Workforce Need for Engineers in Indiana and the Midwest

Marian has experienced a 40 percent growth over the past four years in STEHM programs—Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Computer Science, Exercise and Sports Science. Approximately 150 students will enroll in the Witchger School of Engineering for Fall 2023 and will grow to nearly 500 students by 2030. With nearly two-thirds of students matriculating from Indiana and most of the remaining students from the surrounding states, Witchger engineering students will be able to participate in internships with leading companies and partners in the area. Upon completion of a degree, graduates are likely to start their careers in the area to provide a technically trained workforce for Indiana and the Midwest.

“By investing in engineering education, we are not only empowering the next generation of innovators and problem solvers, but we are also laying the foundation for a brighter future for our communities and the entire field,” said William Witchger. “Education is the catalyst that drives progress, and by supporting engineering education, we are ensuring that we contribute to advancements that will shape our world for years to come.”

With a generous lead gift of \$24 million from the E. S. Witchger family and \$1 million donation from Alan Leighton '62, the E. S. Witchger School of Engineering was announced in 2021. The E. S. Witchger family owns and operates Indianapolis-based Marian, Inc., a global provider of custom, die-cut, flexible component parts for the medical, electronics, and automotive industries.

The School of Engineering received full approval from the Higher Learning Commission in 2022, and Marian University will seek accreditation from the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) after the program produces its first graduating class in 2026.

Religious Art in the E. S. Witchger School of Engineering Center

Take a closer look at some of the sacred spaces in the E. S. Witchger School of Engineering Center. Additional religious works of art on campus can be found on pages 28-29.

1. Resplendence

Resplendence conveys the inseparable bonds between concern for creation, promoting Franciscan values, the work of engineers, and the studies of all Marian University faculty, staff, and students. As it lights up the atrium and campus, it signifies that the light of faith illumines all of Marian University. *Resplendence* was created by Project One Studio and was made possible by a generous gift from Adam '08 and Julia Ehret and Frank and Marianne Price.

2. We All Create Together

Inspired by Saint Francis' spirituality, Pope Francis casts a vision in which we see God, creation, and humanity in integral relationships with each other. This stunning mural created by Matthew Plett expands upon this idea as the panels illustrate The Canticle of Brother Sun. The viewer is called to consider how we participate in the creative act of building our future home together.

3. Creation (top) and Birth of Christ (bottom)

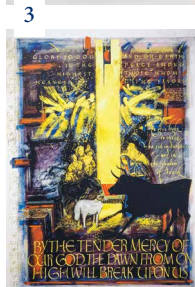
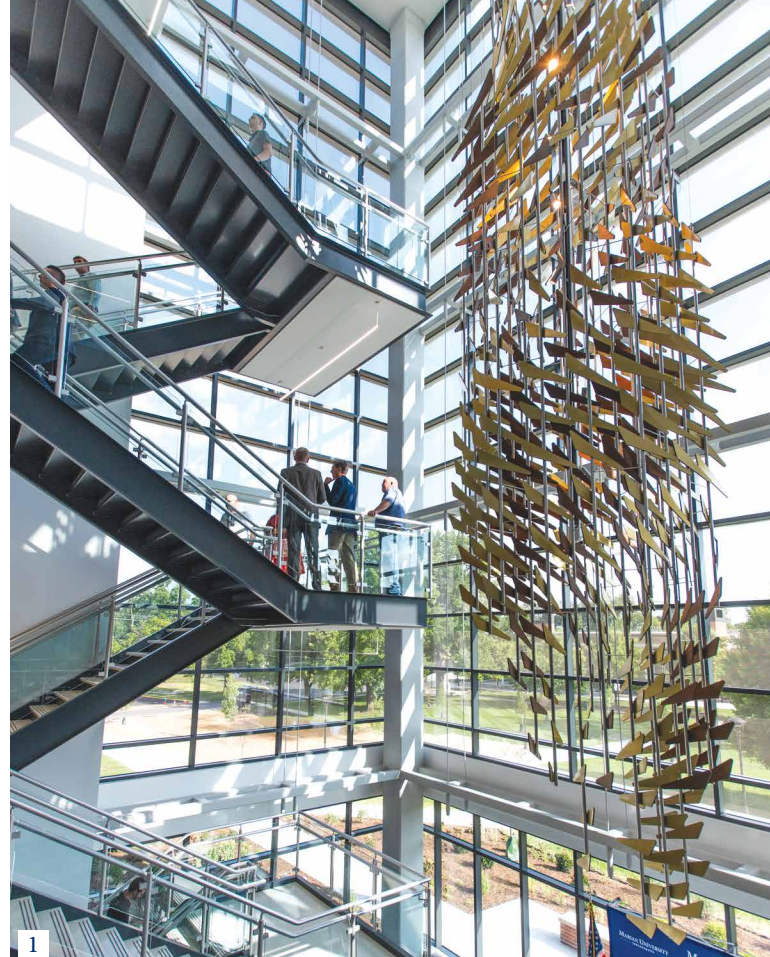
These illuminations come from *The Saint John's Bible* (SJB), which is the first completely handwritten and illuminated Bible commissioned by a Benedictine abbey since the invention of the printing press. Led by Donald Jackson, the SJB seeks to ignite the spiritual imagination of people from all faith journeys. Marian University is proud to display one of only 299 copies of the Heritage Edition, which is on display in the Mother Theresa Hackelmeier Memorial Library.

4. Saint Patrick

Welcoming students, faculty, and staff to the entrance of the E. S. Witchger School of Engineering is Saint Patrick. Born in Britain in 387 A.D., Saint Patrick was ever humble and responsive to the Holy Spirit. He entered the priesthood, was ordained a bishop, became a dynamic missionary, and today is known as the Apostle to and Father of Ireland. The statue of his likeness was made thanks to a generous donation by Bill and Roberta Witchger and David and Bridget Witchger.

5. Holy Family Seal

Eugene S. Witchger was a devout Catholic and an innovative engineer. His love for the Holy Family and passion for design inspired him to create this crest of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. This design is meant to reflect a strong union and the power of a life centered around Christ, and inspire all to pray for strength and love within all families.



Behind the Scenes: Personalized Learning Center



BY LOGAN SMITH '25
Office of Marketing and Communications Student Intern

In the Catholic Franciscan tradition, we celebrate the dignity of each individual to ensure all students, including those with disabilities, have equal access and opportunities during their time at Marian University. The Personalized Learning Center staff, along with students and faculty, engages in an interactive process to ensure accommodations are set up in a reasonable and supportive manner.

OUR SERVICES

- Extended test time
- Preferential seating
- Readers for test questions
- Scribes for tests
- Reduced distraction testing environment
- Adaptive technology (magnifier, screen readers, speech to text software)
- Enlarged print on notes or exams
- Use of computer/assistive technology

OUR STAFF

Mandie Greiwe, M.S., Director
agreiwe@marian.edu | Clare Hall, Room 109C

Mandie Greiwe joined the Marian University community as the founding director of the Personalized Learning Center in July of 2022. Prior to becoming a Marian Knight, she had the opportunity to work within disability offices at Purdue University, the University of Notre Dame, and Emory University over the last 10 years. Greiwe enjoys having conversations with faculty, staff, and students around accessibility being a shared responsibility and is excited to continue building collaborative relationships around the Marian and greater Indianapolis community.



Amanda Bell, Ph.D., Assistant Director
abell@marian.edu | Clare Hall, Room 109B

Dr. Amanda Bell has over a decade of experience working in higher education. Her experience includes academic advising, orientation and first-year experiences, and disability support services.



Before coming to Marian, Dr. Bell worked in the Disability Resource Center at Purdue University, where she served as an access consultant for the College of Science and Engineering. Dr. Bell also held positions at Eastern Michigan University, University of Michigan-Dearborn, and Eastern Michigan University.

In addition to her work as a disability service professional, Dr. Bell has served as a dissertation committee member for Ph.D. candidates studying the experiences of collegians with disabilities. She also has published articles and presented her research focusing on the experiences of the disabled in higher education at The Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) and the Association of Higher Education and Disability.

Hannah Melton, M.S., Autism Coordinator
hmelton@marian.edu | Clare Hall, Room 109D

Hannah Melton has worked within the field of higher education for over five years and her passion for supporting college students with autism began during her master's program at Texas A&M University. She has previous experience working with the Spectrum Living Learning Community and the Aggie Achieve Program which were both geared towards providing direct supports and resources to students with autism spectrum disorder. Melton enjoys researching and her article concerning the needs of students with autism within on-campus residence life was published in the *Journal of College and University Student Housing*.



Trinity Marshall '23, Office Manager and Testing Coordinator
tmarshall@marian.edu | Clare Hall, Room 109

Trinity Marshall is the office manager and testing coordinator at the Personalized Learning Center. She graduated from Marian University in May of 2023. Before coming back to Marian as an employee, Marshall gained experience by working administrative and clerical jobs throughout her high school and college career.



Marian University's Ancilla College Nursing Simulation Lab



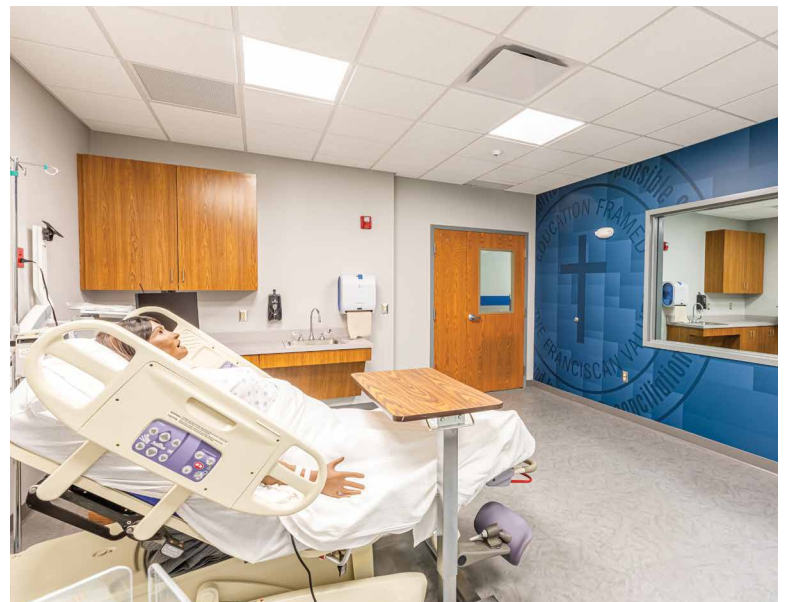
BY CALVIN HOPPLE

Marketing Manager for Marian University's Ancilla College

In 2021, Marian University's Ancilla College launched the first four-year degree ever offered on the Ancilla campus—a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. In order to expand upon the launch of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, a new nursing simulation lab is being constructed to ensure that Marian University's Ancilla College students are working with the most up-to-date technology.

Saint Joseph Health System (SJHS) has been instrumental in the deployment of this project, partnering with this project to bring cutting edge industry practices to the classroom.

“Nationwide, there is a dire need for skilled nurses. This partnership to expand the nursing program and create a nursing simulation lab is an incredible way for Saint Joseph Health System to help train new nurses,” said Loretta Schmidt, SJHS chief nursing officer. “We know wherever these nurses serve, the training they receive will benefit their community for years to come.”

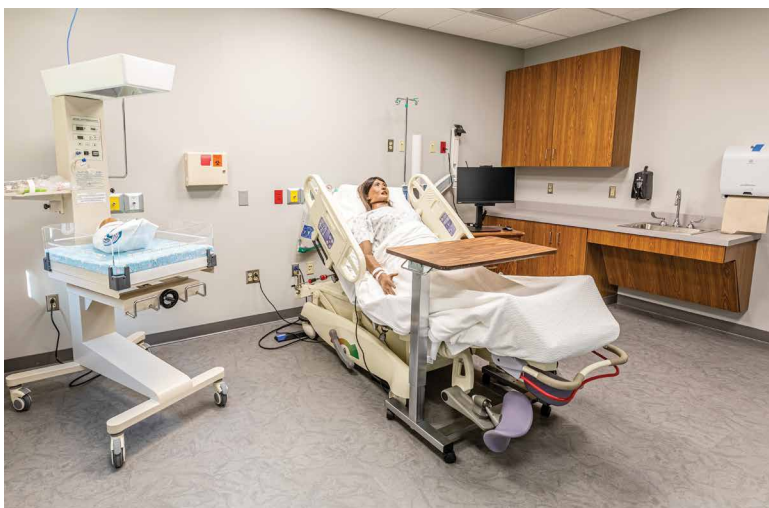


Student Erin Stacy, who completed the prerequisite classes to start the program this fall, expressed her dedication to the program.

“The bachelor's nursing program is big for why I chose Marian University's Ancilla College. Knowing I will have a new facility to learn in will help my work to better support individual's needs.”



Simulation education will prepare students for real-life nursing scenarios prior to their clinical rotations with actual patients. Graduates will have the tools, knowledge, and experience needed to be able to bring transformational leadership teachings to the local workforce—these soft skills are exactly what employers need to continue building a thriving community.



New Brand for the Marian University's Ancilla College Chargers

Marian University's Ancilla College is proud to announce the new Chargers athletics logo.

“ The Chargers have proudly served 26 years as leaders on and off the playing field, securing national recognition in athletics and support through volunteering for organizations in Marshall County. This represents the continued evolution in purpose that the Chargers have been called for in their service to the community,” Brian Pearison, director of athletics, said.

The new logo is a modern and uncompromising take on the lightning bolt that has continued to represent the Chargers since its inception. Also enshrined in the design is the team's name, the Chargers, a call back to the legacy and dedication to tradition that Marian University honors from Ancilla College.



MARIAN UNIVERSITY ⚡ **ANCILLA**

MARIAN UNIVERSITY

Ancilla College

YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO FAR, TO GO BIG. At Marian University's Ancilla College, you'll find unique degrees in popular fields including agriculture, nursing, and veterinary nursing, in addition to other great options including business, education, exercise science, and liberal arts!

Visit marian.edu/ancilla to learn more.



MARIAN UNIVERSITY

JOURNEY **TO** 2030

ALWAYS FORWARD

Driven by innovation, quality, and swift acts of courage, our Journey to 2030 will help secure a better future for our university and our students. In the spirit of boldness, we are setting forth on a path to raise \$350 million by 2025 and \$500 million by 2030.

The funding is imperative in continuing the exponential growth of the university and setting our students on the pathway to achieving their dreams academically, professionally, and personally.

ALWAYS FORWARD

In staying true to being good stewards of the resources shared with the university, funds raised for this initiative will be aligned with our strategic initiative priorities and other supporting initiatives that will secure financial support for:

- 1 Endowment growth for student scholarships; faculty positions; and program excellence;
- 2 Facilities related to fulfilling our mission;
- 3 Strategic programming to better serve students, the professions, and excellence in learning.

TO DATE: \$305.7 MILLION



TO 2025 GOAL OF \$350 MILLION



TO 2030 GOAL OF \$500 MILLION

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR GIVING OPTIONS:

E. S. Witchger School of Engineering

Opened in the Fall of 2022, the E. S. Witchger School of Engineering has moved Marian University forward, expanding its vision as a Catholic university to offer bachelor of engineering degrees that are rooted in the liberal arts tradition, and to graduate a diverse pipeline of talented leaders. Fulfilling our *Marian University Promise*, engineering graduates will receive a rigorous, personalized education that prepares them for successful and productive careers.



➤ **2030 GOAL: \$80 MILLION**

➤ **TO DATE: \$43.2 MILLION** 54%

Fred S. Klipsch Educators College

Marian University is a national leader in attracting and developing talent to support, accelerate, and invest in vibrant schools. And, we are committed to providing access and success for all Fred S. Klipsch Educators College students, including first-generation and minority individuals. In keeping with Marian's commitment to endowed scholarships, one goal is to have a permanent endowment that funds scholarships for prospective education majors. Please consider making a financial gift to support this, and other Klipsch Educators College funding priorities.



➤ **2030 GOAL: \$215 MILLION**

➤ **TO DATE: \$106.1 MILLION** 49%

Mission and Identity

Marian University will be a national leader in recruiting, educating, and forming ethical leaders who integrate faith in service to the Church and lifelong service to their faith communities, families, businesses and the towns, cities, states, and countries in which they live, pray, work, and play. Your gift supports the journeys of all students, by significantly increasing their participation in Marian's faith community through service, prayer, and worship, through campus ministry and theological exploration.



➤ **2030 GOAL: \$30 MILLION**

➤ **TO DATE: \$13.6 MILLION** 45%

Athletics

Marian University is committed to the development of the “whole person”—mind, body, and spirit. The expansion of athletics programs has been a major force in Marian University’s ability to achieve remarkable outcomes in academic achievement and the creation of a vibrant campus life. Because athletics has been such a powerful source for good, our effort will include the recognition, celebration, and significant investments in these programs.



► 2030 GOAL: \$50 MILLION

► TO DATE: \$28.7 MILLION

57%

Byrum School of Business

Building on the Byrum School of Business’ enrollment growth, national recognition, and career outcomes success, the school asks for support to achieve its strategic initiatives. Specific giving opportunities exist to enhance the school’s experiential learning programs to continue graduating passionate, trustworthy, inquisitive, and skilled transformational future business leaders.



► 2030 GOAL: \$30 MILLION

► TO DATE: \$9.8 MILLION

33%

College of Arts and Sciences

The College of Arts and Sciences provides students with an interactive, enriching curriculum that empowers future leaders to become big thinkers, exceptional communicators, and strong collaborators. Our curriculum includes behavioral and applied social sciences, global and cultural studies, science and mathematics, theology, philosophy, and ministry. Your generous gift will help support students and prepare them for life after graduation.



► 2030 GOAL: \$15 MILLION

► TO DATE: \$13 MILLION

87%

Data current as of 8.31.23.

Health Sciences

The Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine was opened in 2013—only the second medical school in Indiana. In 2023, the school graduated its seventh class of osteopathic medical doctors (DO) and the 1,000 physician! The class of 2023 achieved an incredible 100 percent residency placement rate, with 65 percent going into primary care and 45 percent matching into residency programs right here in Indiana, meeting the ever-changing needs of healthcare in Indiana, across the nation, and around the world.



► 2030 GOAL: \$60 MILLION

► TO DATE: \$25.8 MILLION

43%

Access and Success

Growing endowed scholarships, positions, and programs will ensure that Marian University remains accessible and sustainable well into the future. Your gift will help advance academic excellence through engaged student learning and by integrating curricular and co-curricular learning to realize the *Marian University Promise* and achieve goals of supporting the growing need for leaders who are well-educated, experienced, and trustworthy.



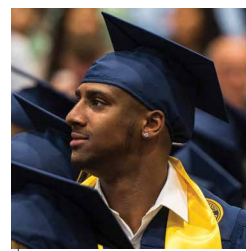
► 2030 GOAL: \$20 MILLION

► TO DATE: \$3.2 MILLION

16%

Other Giving Options

Like you, we share a passion for improving the lives of students. In fact, our *Marian University Promise* is our commitment to every student at Marian University. Their success as leaders is critical to human flourishing, and the common good. We invite you to share this passion by making a financial gift, a multi-year pledge, or a deferred gift by prayerfully reflecting and advancing our efforts to fulfill our commitment to all Marian University graduates.



For more information and the latest data about Journey to 2030, visit marian.edu/journeyto2030.

City Connects is thriving in the Midwest

A look inside Marian University's K-12 student support program

BY LINDSEY GIARDINO
Freelance Writer

A K-12 comprehensive student support program implemented by Marian University is addressing the strengths and needs of every single student in more than 80 schools in Indiana and Ohio.



The program, City Connects, launched in 34 schools throughout Indiana and Ohio in 2021, initially impacted more than 16,000 students. To date, more than 26,000 students have been served through City Connects. Each student at a City Connects school receives a personalized plan, which includes recommended community programs,

resources, and school supports that will help improve their time spent outside of school. This enables them to achieve their fullest potential when they're in the classroom setting.

The Marian University Center for Vibrant Schools houses the Midwest's Technical Assistance Center for the program, which was established at Boston College in 2001. The university's implementation is the largest City Connects expansion to date and the first in the Midwest.

While the program is relatively new to Indiana schools, in other cities, it's proven to reduce student dropout rates and improve test scores and school attendance over several decades.

According to director of City Connects Midwest Jillian Lain, the program serves "every classroom, every student, every year" in the schools in which it's offered. City Connects differs from the traditional student support model in which students who have the highest needs are the ones who receive the most services.

“ This program is all about implementing equity,” Lain said. “We’re talking about addressing the needs and strengths of every single student.”



She added that City Connects focuses on students holistically, including their health and social emotional learning.



“Traditionally, we look at student support as making sure that students are achieving academically; however, we know that everything around them and all the outside school factors also make a big impact on their ability to achieve.”

Lain said that City Connects has been a dream of Marian University's leadership for some time. With the massive learning loss students have experienced as a result of the pandemic, this past year was “the ripe time to bring the program to the forefront.”

Marian University is implementing City Connects through a variety of local, state, and federal grants and philanthropic support.

The program's Midwest Technical Assistance Center, which is the hub for all City Connects programming in the Midwest, is housed at Marian University's Center for Vibrant Schools—a center founded in early 2021 to support and improve K-12 academic performance in Indiana and throughout the Midwest.

“Historically, Marian University has been highly involved in the community and giving back to it, so this is another way in which the university is doing that, but in a really organized and intentional way, and hopefully creating transformation in schools,” Lain said. “We’re hoping to create long-term impacts in the Indianapolis and Indiana communities, which goes along with the mission of Marian University and continues to forge that mission forward in a new way.”



Top Left: The Midwest Technical Assistance Center has been busy traveling the state and visiting schools to meet with site coordinators, teachers, and administrators to help schools launch the City Connects practice. City Connects Midwest Director Jillian Lain, Assistant Director of Implementation Margaret Smith, and Program Manager Gretchen Zientek visited Muessel Elementary School in South Bend.

Bottom Right: GEO Next Generation High School Indianapolis is implementing City Connects to meet the needs of children and their families. They launched a food pantry, which students help keep stocked with donated items, and those in need can take home a bag with food.

Marian University Named 2023-24 Career Development College of Distinction

BY JENNY MORRIS '05
Executive Director of The Exchange

Remember the days when you looked for job openings in the local newspaper, updated your resume on fancy paper, and interviewed in person for a job you might hold for many, many years? Me too. Which reminds me, it's about time to schedule my colonoscopy.

Today, the job search looks a bit different. For example, at the time of this writing, there are more than 12,000 positions listed in Handshake, our online job portal, and nearly 180,000 openings listed in the Indianapolis area on LinkedIn. And those are just the ones that are posted. Around 80 percent of jobs are part of what's called the "hidden job market." In other words, they're filled through networking without ever being shared online.

Another reality, despite the numerous job openings, there's a disconnect between what employers seek and the perceived experience and skills students bring. And the vast number of openings can be overwhelming with students not knowing where to start or how to stand out.

So, if we know all of this, what can we do to prepare our students for success not only upon graduation but far beyond?

Well, we *can* and *have*:

- Embedded career exploration and development **within the academic curriculum** and throughout their four years, so students don't see it as an "extra" but rather, integral to their future success.
- Utilized **on-campus employment** as a model for future professional opportunities, guiding both students and their supervisors to maximize the experience for student growth.
- Partnered with faculty and employers to pair applied learning during **internships** with intentional reflection and goal-setting.
- Engaged employers in **targeted, niche career fairs, panels, and roundtable discussions** held (with faculty-support) during class time, so ALL students are able to take part.
- Helped students more **effectively market themselves** in their career documents, via LinkedIn, and (new this year) by tracking their success and engagement within their leadership transcript.
- Provided **robust virtual offerings** for 24/7 support on our website at marian.edu/exchange.
- Maintained our *Dress to Impress* **clothing closet**, a free resource to students in need of professional attire.



We know the pressure students feel to have their futures all figured out. Part of our work is helping students pause, realize it's okay to feel uncertain, and then providing a roadmap and support as they embark on that journey of self-discovery.

For these reasons and more, The Exchange has been a four-time recipient of the Career Development College of Distinction.

"Marian University offers resources and provides unparalleled support throughout every stage of career exploration, development, and application," said Tyson Schritter, chief operating officer at Colleges of Distinction. The Exchange brings career readiness into the classroom, making intentional connections between students of all majors and the careers they pursue after graduation. It's the kind of innovative, ingrained career preparation strategies that make Marian University's outstanding Career Center worthy of praise."

Impressive, eh? So, once you're done scheduling that appointment, you should probably check us out.

Jenny Morris '05 is the executive director of The Exchange, a team empowering students and alumni to explore and discern potential career paths and develop key skills critical to their long-term professional success. The Exchange has been recognized as a 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24 Career Development College of Distinction.



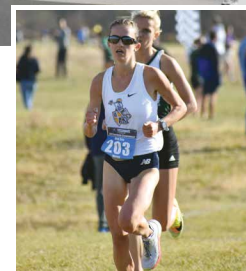
THE EXCHANGE
EXPERIENCE THAT MATTERS

WIN COLUMN

2022-23 MARIAN UNIVERSITY KNIGHTS

The 2022-23 fall and winter seasons saw a host of standout team performances from the Knights at the conference level and on the national stage. Marian student-athletes racked up an astounding 63 All-Conference honors and 28 All-American designations.

For comprehensive results and individual accomplishments, visit muknights.com.



Volleyball

NAIA National Tournament Quarterfinals appearance
Crossroads League Tournament Runner-Up

Women's Soccer

NAIA National Championship Runner-Up
Crossroads League Regular Season Champions

Football

NAIA National Championship Quarterfinals appearance

Men's Indoor Track and Field

NAIA National Championship – 6th Place
Crossroads League Champions

Women's Indoor Track and Field

NAIA National Championship – 8th Place
Crossroads League Champions



Women's Basketball

NAIA National Tournament Quarterfinals appearance
 Crossroads League Tournament Runner-Up
 Crossroads League Regular Season Runner-up

Men's Basketball

NAIA National Tournament appearance

Wrestling

NAIA National Championship – 7th place

Men's Bowling

NAIA National Championship Runner-Up
 Crossroads League Regular Season Champions

Cycling

USA Collegiate BMX National Champions
 USAC Collegiate Track National Championship Runner-Up
 USAC Collegiate Cyclocross National Championship – 3rd
 USAC Collegiate Mountain Bike National Championship – 6th

MARIAN UNIVERSITY[®]

Preparatory School

POWERED BY STRIDE K12

Nothing in our lives seems quite the same as it was just a few short years ago. Including education. As a result of rapidly changing needs and desires of both students and parents, Marian University launched the new private, faith-focused Marian University Preparatory School (MU Prep). Powered by Stride, Inc., MU Prep is a flexible, virtual/hybrid school that opened in 2022 to support students in grades 6-9.

A Uniquely Designed Educational Approach

MU Prep offers learning options tailored to the individual abilities and interests of each student. The school combines the best of virtual instruction with face-to-face engagement, providing high-quality academics and meaningful work- and project-based experiences. The flexible nature of the school empowers students to master what they love and learn as they live.

“We’re really excited about offering different learning options,” says Elisha Schlabach, Ed.D, head of school for MU Prep. “Each option has the quality and the faith focus, so it really just depends on what makes sense for students and families.”



The flexible schedule allows families to customize their educational needs that fit into their lives, which means they can travel, pursue athletic opportunities, or participate in clubs. Students who enroll in virtual classes can learn anywhere an Internet connection exists. In addition to full- and part-time virtual learning, families can enroll in Prep Plus, a full-time hybrid learning options that combines virtual and in-person education for a more hands-on experience. Hybrid classes are taught on Marian University’s Indianapolis campus twice a week.

Schlabach and her dedicated staff have big goals and plans. “In our first year, we piloted our hybrid program at Marian University,” she says. “We’re really excited about connecting our students and staff to all the wonderful resources available on campus.”

Marian University Preparatory School: Addressing the needs of today’s students

BY SAMANTHA HOLIFIELD
Director of Marketing and Outreach
Center for Vibrant Schools, Marian University

Why Marian University?

As a leader in education innovation, Marian University launched MU Prep to meet the needs of students across the state in a faith-focused environment. A top-priority of Marian University Preparatory School is a strong focus on faith, especially the university's four Franciscan sponsorship values: dignity of the individual, peace and justice, reconciliation, and responsible stewardship.

"Faith is integrated into everything we do," explains Schlabach. "We're very mission-driven at Marian University, and MU Prep is no different. MU Prep weaves the university's four core values into every aspect of our school."

Schlabach says students can access flexible, innovative learning options without missing out on a high-quality, faith-focused education.

Engaging, Interactive Curriculum

Marian University Preparatory School offers mastery-based core courses lead by Indiana-certified teachers, including language arts, math, science, history, and religion. Students have access to electives such as art, health, physical education, music, world languages, and more.

In addition, MU Prep is focused on college and career preparation, ensuring students will graduate ready for their future. Students will gain valuable skills through internships, modern youth apprenticeships, and other work-related experiences. The school incorporates project-based learning and professional skills development into each student's education.

All of this occurs alongside the goal of students being able to reach their full potential.

How We're Different

MU Prep serves a distinct, powerful mission—to personalize each student's education in an accessible, faith-focused environment, while transforming the delivery of traditional K-12 education for every student and teacher.

Students receive comprehensive support through the City Connects practice and are part of an engaging school community that extends beyond the classroom. Graduates will have the skills needed to succeed in today's world.



Who MU Prep Serves

Currently, MU Prep is enrolling students in grades 6-9, with plans to add grades each year, so students can continue throughout high school graduation. Elementary grades will be added each year until grades K-12 are all available. Courses will also be available to K-12 schools nationally seeking to enhance or create new learning experiences in traditional schools.

Qualifying families can receive financial aid through the Indiana Choice Scholarship Program, which helps cover tuition costs at accredited, nonpublic schools. Marian University employees receive a 50 percent discount for their students.

Our Leadership: The Best and Brightest

Schlabach has worked in various roles within education for close to two decades. That runs the gamut from pre-K to high school and college levels. She's been a teacher and principal, and is a licensed superintendent with a doctoral degree.

"I love engaging with families," she says. "I am definitely a student-centered educator, and that's really where my core focus is: building up students and helping them succeed."

Despite technology adaptations mobilizing, personalizing, and transforming countless other industries, education has been slow to adopt these tools that can personalize and individualize K-12 learning. Now more than ever, curriculum and instruction need to be research-based, engaging, relevant to students' futures, and flexibly delivered, combining meaningful work-based experiences and high-quality academics. In short, education needs to serve both the individual needs of the student and the imperatives of the 21st Century.



Marian University invites families interested in this innovative opportunity to learn more and enroll at muprep.k12.com.

RELIGIOUS ART ON CAMPUS

Marian University's identity as a Catholic Franciscan institution is grounded in Jesus Christ, and our faith is ever-present and visible in the fabric of the educational philosophy and operation of the university. As you explore campus, make sure to look around at the beautiful works of religious art throughout campus that tell the story of Marian University's rich heritage. These sacred spaces are welcome to all for reflection and prayer.

1. Sam Damiano Cross

Eight centuries ago, a young man named Francis had an experience that changed history. As he knelt before the crucifix in the church of San Damiano in Italy, Francis heard Christ speak: "Francis, go rebuild my church, which you see is falling into ruin." Marian University's San Damiano Scholars strive to understand and discern what "rebuild my church" means to them and explore their calling as a future church leader.

2. Christ the Teacher

The scene of Christ the Teacher was a gift from the Doyle Family in October 2007 and moved from the Mother Theresa Hackelmeier Memorial Library to its new home in the Dining Commons.

3. Francis and the Leper

The stone mural in the Michael A. Evans Center for Health Sciences, home of the Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine, portrays Saint Francis' encounter with the leper, whom he embraced despite his initial aversion. This experience not only led Saint Francis to dedicate his life to serving the poor and the sick, but also to create caring and inclusive communities that showed respect for the dignity of each individual.

4. St. Francis Colonnade and Statue

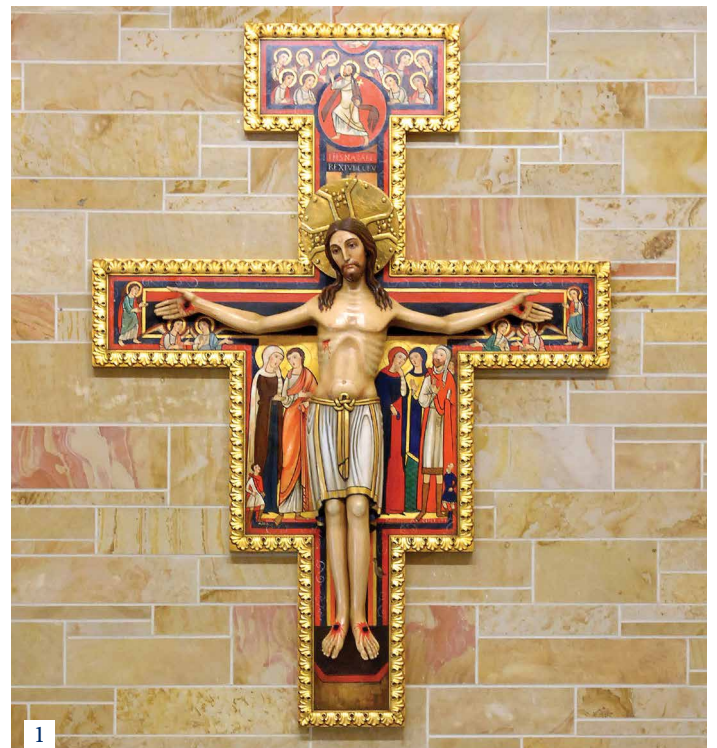
On October 24, 1940, Marian University mourned the loss of sophomore Georgiana Feldman, who passed unexpectedly as a student. A year later, her parents donated a life-size terracotta statue of Saint Francis of Assisi to honor her. Additionally, that same year, the Stations of the Cross were erected on the inside of 14 of the pillars (that circle around Saint Francis). Today, the St. Francis Colonnade has become a special landmark on campus that serves as an important place for reflection and prayer.

5. Nativity Scene

The brick mural of the nativity scene outside Alumni Hall honors not only Saint Francis and his admiration for the Holy family, but also the families of Marian University. Students, faculty, staff, and their families can witness this sacred image lit up at night.

6. Blessed Mother Mary Shrine and Rosary Walk

The Blessed Mother Mary Shrine and Rosary Walk were the combined projects of four San Damiano Scholars. With the help of an architect to design the space and artists to design the statue for the shrine and symbols for the mysteries of the rosary, this peaceful spot was brought to life and serves as a place of veneration and reflection.



1



2



3



4

7. St. Joseph Chapel

Marian University celebrated the grand opening of its newest residence hall, Caito-Wagner Hall, in August 2021. This 57,000 square foot facility is home to 210 first-year students and includes a bell tower—dedicated to the Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, Indiana—St. Joseph Chapel, and a garden and reflection area.

The St. Joseph Chapel features five stain-glass windows depicting young saints from around the world: Mother Theresa Hackelmeier, Saint Toribio Romo, Saint Martin De Porres, Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, and Saint John Paul II. There is also a large, arched stain-glass window that sits over the front doors on the northeast side. This piece was inspired by Saint Bonaventure, who used the image of the six-winged seraph that appeared to Saint Francis on Mt. LaVerna to explain how a university education can draw students closer to the mind of God.



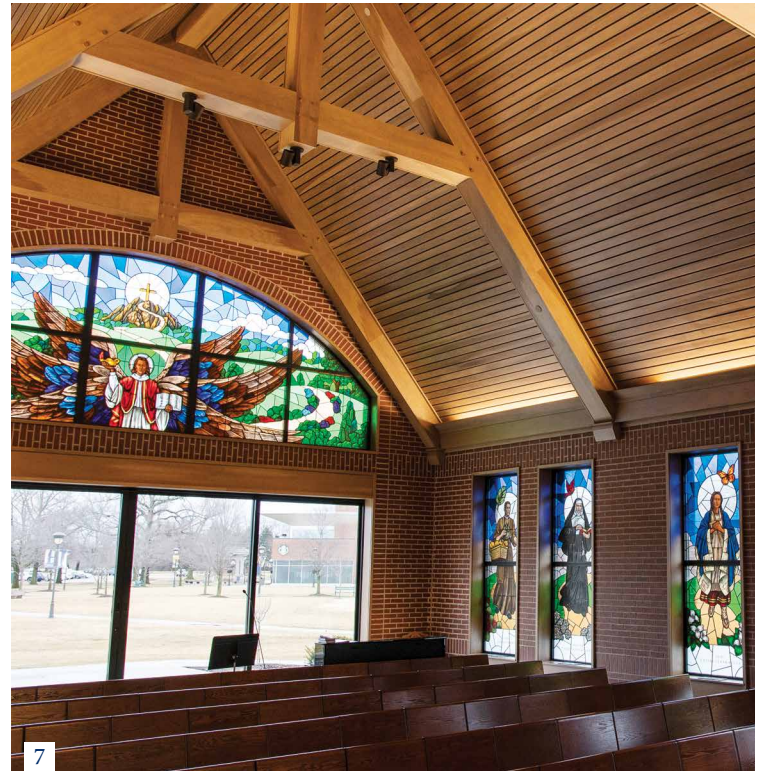
5

8. Mosaics of the Franciscan Values

Mosaics of the four Franciscan sponsorship values: dignity of the individual, peace and justice, reconciliation, and responsible stewardship, are displayed on the first-floor hallway of the Michael A. Evans Center for Health Sciences. The sponsorship values are the legacy of our founders, the Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, Indiana, and the heart of Marian University's approach to educating the whole person.



6



7



8





Designing Accessibility On Campus

How Schmidt Associates designers made Alumni House at Allison Mansion welcoming to all.

BY LISA GOMPERTS, FAIA AND STEVE ALSAUGH, FAIA, LEED AP, BD+C

Emulating historical character and turn-of-the-century charm, Allison Mansion housed the family of transportation pioneer, James Allison when it was built in 1911. Possessing opulent taste, the mansion was outfitted with an imported German chandelier, a sunken conservatory, music room with a pipe organ, and a marble aviary where exotic birds freely flew and entertained guests.

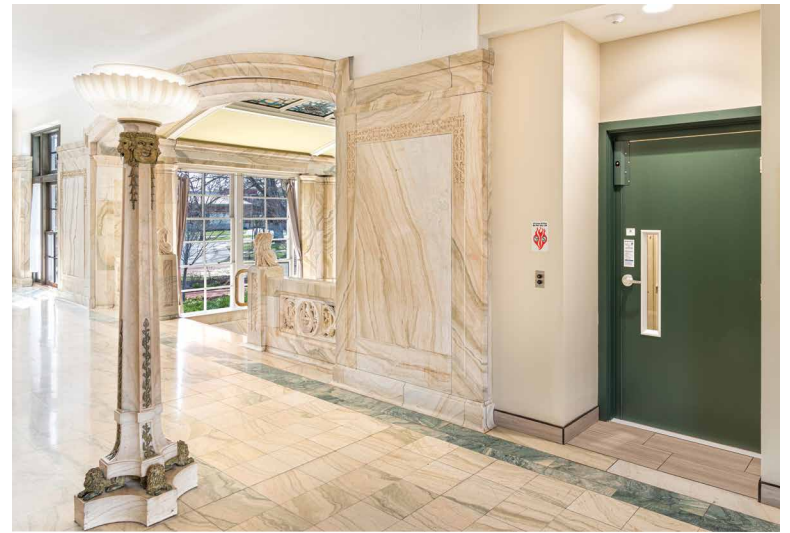
The mansion was acquired by the Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, Indiana, and in 1937, Marian University took possession. Today, the mansion houses the Office of the President, the Office of Conferences and Events, the Nina Mason Pulliam EcoLab, and most recently, the Office of Alumni Engagement, which celebrated a ribbon cutting on March 3, 2023. With a \$1 million gift from an alumnus and working with the university's leadership, Schmidt Associates architects, engineers, Brandt Construction, and interior designers completed a 456 sq. ft. addition and renovated the 1,570 sq. ft. overlook, along with making significant exterior site work enhancements.

PROJECT GOALS

The entire project was about creating accessibility and finding a more inclusive solution for all alumni. As such, the project scope included an accessible entrance, a ramp providing entry to an enclosed event space, an accessible lift allowing access to the entire first floor, and two unisex, single-occupancy restrooms. Large, picturesque windows in the connecting corridor/ramp area connect to the outdoor spaces, and the garden areas match the size and proportion of the existing window in the aviary. A new raised access floor system in the overlook offers flexibility to run or modify technology cabling and power. Outside, a natural podium and pathway to the gardens were created off the aviary for special events.

“ Making Alumni House at Allison Mansion accessible was a critical step for reaching all alumni and for connecting with the community,” said Executive Director of Alumni Engagement, Jen Waning '94. “I call Allison Mansion the heartbeat of campus because it's where everything started years before with classrooms, the original library, chapel, and nuns' quarters being housed inside. Years later, it was the preferred venue for alumni weddings, but over time and due to not being accessible, we couldn't host as many events.”





ADDRESSING CHALLENGES

Due to the building's age, there were many small, yet quirky conditions that had to be addressed. For starters, the building being 112 years-old meant there were outdated systems to accommodate modern technology. There also were no Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance requirements in 1911, which meant steep stairs were acceptable and there was no accessibility throughout the mansion. Finally, there were no restrooms on the first floor, so adequate plumbing had to be established.

"It was painful to see such a beautiful space not being fully utilized," Waning said. "Here was a hidden gem that serves as a lovely backdrop for photos and special events, but it wasn't versatile enough, so it was often overlooked, and that was unfortunate."

Through data analysis, research, and strategic design, along with a series of ongoing team conversations, weekly owner meetings, and consistent communication, challenges were overcome, and the team delivered a timeless design that marries both old and new to create a beautiful space for generations of alumni to enjoy.

"It's such a vast improvement, and in the short time since the ribbon cutting, we've already seen increased building usage," Waning noted. "It's now the historical spot where alumni can gather to share stories and fondly remember their time on campus."

DESIGN ELEMENTS

In 1970, Allison Mansion was added to the National Register of Historic Places, so it was important that the addition and renovation respected the existing building without trying to match it exactly. With a focus on historic preservation, the team was careful to uphold the original integrity of the building, and used matched heights, original bricks, and mortar joints that were matched closely. New tile used in the addition closely resembles the original marble in the aviary.

At Left: From left to right: Jen Waning '94, Alex Sylvester '12, David Haire '71, Phil Carson '81, representatives from Schmidt Associates, president Daniel J. Elsener, Sr. Mary Beth Gianoli '78, and Al Leighton '62.

Top Left: New updates to the Overlook room include lighting, flooring, and an accessible ramp.

Top Right: View of new elevator lift for accessibility for the entire first floor.

"One of the most impressive things about the renovation is how hugely impactful all the details are," Waning said. "I took an alumnus through the other day, and as we were walking, he could not believe how well the historical character was preserved in a new area of the building."

CREATING ACCESSIBILITY

As the alumni population was aging, the university found it imperative to consider alumni with mobility issues. As a result, features such as accessible public restrooms, an accessibility ramp and lift, and a wheelchair-accessible pathway leading to and from the mansion and gardens were added. These improvements not only adhere to ADA standards, but also allow visitors who may not have been able to attend events previously to be included. More than 40 years following the ADA enactment, Allison Mansion's first floor is now fully accessible to everyone.

A NEW HOME

Before the addition and renovation, Marian University alumni had no dedicated space for meetings and events on campus. Because of the improvements, not only do campus alumni have a dedicated space for programming, but end users also now can fully utilize the first floor. Together with the renovation and addition details, all alumni have a second place to call home, and it's gorgeous, inviting, and best of all, welcoming.

"We are absolutely thrilled with the final product," Waning concluded. "Every aspect was well planned out and thanks to the design work completed by the Schmidt Associates team, the Alumni House at Allison Mansion has an elevated profile with alumni, students, friends, and community members."

→ The Alumni House at Allison Mansion is available for rentals, business meetings, retreats, rehearsal dinner, parties, or weddings. For more information, reach out to university events or email krsmith@marian.edu.



Did You Know?

You Could Be Eligible for a Tax Credit Increase.

Historically, Indiana taxpayers have been able to receive a state income tax credit equal to 20 percent of their contributions to a CollegeChoice 529 account, up to \$1,000 per year (\$500 for married filing separately). Starting in 2023, that credit has been increased. Contributions by Indiana taxpayers made on or after January 1, 2023, will qualify for the 20 percent tax credit, with a new maximum credit of up to \$1,500 (\$750 for married filing separately).

For an overview of the tax credit with respect to CollegeChoice 529 contributions, Indiana Department of Revenue Information Bulletin #98 (<https://www.in.gov/dor/files/reference/ib98.pdf>) provides an overview of the tax credit detailing who qualifies, the amounts, eligible contributions, and other important information to consider. The bulletin will be updated soon to reflect the increased maximum tax credit after it goes into effect during the 2023 tax year.

Gift Tax Updates

If you are trying to bundle your contributions to a CollegeChoice 529 or other qualified education savings plan and avoid gift tax consequences, use the annual gift tax exclusion in your favor. Effective January 1, 2023, the annual gift tax exclusion has been increased to \$17,000 (\$34,000 for married couples) per beneficiary without incurring gift tax consequences. Using the annual gift tax exclusion rules, individuals can elect to contribute up to \$85,000 per beneficiary in a single year (\$170,000 for married couples) and take advantage of five years' worth of tax-free gifts at one time.



Federal Tax Updates

On December 20, 2019, the SECURE Act was signed into law. The SECURE Act amended Section 529 to permit withdrawals to pay for expenses for apprenticeship programs registered and certified with the Secretary of Labor under the National Apprenticeship Act. In addition, you can use 520 withdrawals to pay principal and interest on certain qualified education loans for a beneficiary or any of the beneficiary's siblings. The loan repayment provisions apply to repayments up to a lifetime maximum of \$10,000 per individual. The effective date of the SECURE Act was January 1, 2019.

In March 2020, Indiana Code Section 6-3-3-12 was amended to:

- exclude education loan repayments from Indiana the definition of Qualified Higher Education Expenses; and
- revise the definition of an Indiana taxpayer to include married individuals filing separately. The maximum annual credit allowed for a married taxpayer filing separately is now \$750 with the 2023 tax law change mentioned above.

These changes are effective January 1, 2020. This means that, beginning January 1, 2020, a distribution to make an education loan repayment **will be** subject to recapture of the Indiana state income tax credit. In addition, any earnings distributed will be included in your Indiana adjusted gross income for the applicable tax year.



As with any change to tax law, I encourage everyone in the Marian University community to consult a qualified tax advisor regarding the application of federal and state tax laws to their situation.

Jason Crace '97, CPA
Principal and Founder, Crace.CPA



Dear Fellow Knights,

As I begin my 10th year at Marian, I am often in awe about how much this place has changed, but also how much it has stayed the same. One of the greatest things about Marian is the community—enhanced by the close to 100 alumni working in some capacity at Marian, they all choose to call this place HOME every day. This picture was captured last fall as a part of our community day, we weren't able to get everyone in the picture, but you can see the many proud alumni that make our alma mater better. I am incredibly grateful for their commitment, passion, and dedication.



When I transitioned to this role in alumni engagement, I promised three things, and I hope that I have continued to *listen to you, to pray for you, and to ask you for help*. I intend to keep that promise as we go forward. I want to share with you some of the exciting things happening at Marian. This is only a few of the things we have in store this year—be sure to check out marian.edu/alumni for all the latest.

- ➔ **Our Marian University Alumni Association (MUAA)** is developing ways for you to stay connected in your passion areas, whether that be around athletics, faith, or a school of study, we have a way for you to plug in to the excitement at Marian. We love when our alumni can feed their passion and volunteer at the same time. We want to help you do just that, so please reach out for more information.
- ➔ **Our New Home:** the Alumni House at Allison Mansion is now open. See the article about the ribbon cutting (page 30) and how we intend to utilize this great venue.

As always, I am grateful for our alumni. You are the heart of Marian and you are **ALWAYS** welcome. Please reach out if you would like a tour, if you are on campus, or if you just want an update on all the incredible things happening at Marian. It is always a great day to be a Knight and the future is full of endless possibilities. The best is yet to come. All Day All Knight. Go Knights!

Peace and All Good,

Jen Haire Waning '94
Executive Director of Alumni Engagement



➔ Follow us:
 f /marianuniversityalumniassociation
 @marianuniversityalumni

JOIN US!

A full list of events can be found at events.marian.edu.

2023



Marian University's Ancilla College Changing Lives Dinner
Plymouth, Indiana



Marian University Gala
JW Marriott Indianapolis

2024



Day for the Knights
Virtual and On Campus



President's Appreciation Dinner
Marian University Campus



Annual Women of Marian Luncheon
Marian University Campus

Did you get an exciting new job or promotion? Make a career change? Want to show the newest member of your family to the Marian University community? Did your wedding party or reception include Marian University alumni? If so, let us know by emailing alumni@marian.edu. It could be included in the next issue of the *Marian University Magazine*.

1962

Al Leighton and **Kathy Fox '75** were married in St. Joseph's Chapel at Marian University on July 8, 2022.



1963

Joseph Kempf is still going strong at 82. He has 13 grandkids with the youngest being five years old. He still writes poetry and is scheduled to release his second book of poems next year.

1970

Melanie Munchel Chacon is currently an interventionist for 7th grade at Perry Meridian Middle School and an ESL tutor as an independent contractor.

1971

Ladies from the Class of 1971 came home for a walk down memory lane. They were able to get a sneak peek into the new Alumni House at Allison Mansion, a visit to the old living quarters, Clare Hall, a presentation of *The Saint John's Bible* and a tour of the newest residence hall and chapel. The ladies in attendance were: Lynn Schwartz Mealy, LeaCarol Knueven Bennett, Judy Weingartner Haynes, Laura Jo Biltz Tebbe, Marcy Clark Morgan, Marty Scheper Huss, Marsha Meltz Schuler, Susan Mennel Rolfsen, Jane Huesman Kuhn, Cindy Alig Morgan, Wanda Rogalski, Kathy Killigrew Hoya, Sharon Stark.

If you want to arrange a group tour, please reach out to alumni@marian.edu. We will be happy to welcome you HOME!



1972

Karen Hawkins Wissinger and her husband Terry celebrated 50 years of marriage in May 2022.

1976

Mary Beth Bonaventura was invited to describe one of her most influential teachers in a book called *My Teacher, My Future*. She chose to feature former Marian University psychology professor Dr. Drew Appleby.

Patricia Lampkin was named interim vice president for Student Affairs at Northwestern University.

1980

Jeanita Guenther Schulten is officially cancer-free since May 2021.

1982

Christy Wesselman became a certified Veriditas labyrinth facilitator in Spring 2022.

1983

Carol Bates Peak completed her 31st consecutive Indy 500 Mini Marathon.

Brenda Burkhardt Allspaw retired after a 39-year teaching career.

1996

Paul Nicholls left his day job to go full-time in his own voice over business. He currently voices YouTube channels, commercials, audio books, eLearning courses, and corporate narration.

2000

David Rusbasan, Ph.D., dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, was interviewed by **Angela Hatum** in *National Geographic* to discuss troubling current events that can be upsetting and confusing to children.

2001

Dr. Anne Elsener now serves as Director of Literacy for the Center for Vibrant Schools at Marian University.

2006

Margaret Hoyt is an advisor scientist in Values, Evidence, and Outcomes at Eli Lilly. She was awarded Ph.D. in epidemiology by the Indiana University Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health in August 2022.

Eric McGuire welcomed a new child, Eamonn McGuire, on June 27, 2022.

Jessica Miller Plew now serves as secretary of MUA.

Megan Hunter Murray welcomed a daughter. Lennon Grace Murray was born July 12, 2022.

2007

Michelle Meneguzzi moved back to Australia after graduating from Marian and found herself in media career. She currently works with multi-million-dollar strategic negotiations and investments on behalf of the brands her agency represents, as well as major brand partnership activation across sporting codes and prime time TV programs in Australia.

Justin Shamell was promoted to director of recruiting for United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio.

2008

Samantha Stevens Baldwin celebrated the one-year anniversary of a local non-profit coffee shop, The Branch. Samantha manages the Greensburg, Indiana business and was able to give \$2,000 in grants to the community of Decatur County.

Brittany Hendrix serves as the vice chair of the board of directors for The Caring Place, a non-profit serving those affected by domestic violence and sexual assault in Valparaiso, Indiana.

Julia Konopasek Rack returned to campus for a reunion in May 2022. She attended with her husband Lance and her two sons drove from Chicago. They met up with **Adrienne Shepard McQuiston '11** and her three daughters from Kokomo, as well as **Jenny Roberts Melind '06**, her husband, and three kids from Indianapolis.



2009

Jacqui Payne serves as assistant director of student retention at the University of Chicago.

2010

Jessica Davis now serves as Associate Vice President and founding Chief Sustainability Officer at Indiana University.

Abigail Wetterer Stasic and her husband AJ welcomed their second child Jack Everett into the world in February 2022.



Walt Nordstrom was conferred as a doctor of education on May 20, 2022 by the Johns Hopkins University School of Education. His EdD is in mind, brain, and teaching. His dissertation, *From Exclusion and Punishment to Collaborative Problem Solving in School Disciplinary Systems*, focused on teacher response to replacing punishment with support for students who chronically struggle with behavior in the middle school setting. He is excited about his next steps, serving as the Middle School Behavioral Coach for the Metropolitan School District of Washington Township.

2011

Alyssa Richard Brawner published a children's book titled *Walt and Jo's Adventure through the Pages*.

Cassandra Cudworth graduated from a medical laboratory technician program in December 2022.

Meredith Riley Elam welcomed Peregrin Elam to the world on May 14, 2022.

Jesse Kirkwood Kaufman and her husband Kris welcomed their fourth child (and first girl!), Lucy Marie.

Dan Watson completed two master's programs, one in physical education and coaching from Indiana State University and one in secondary education and teaching from Black Hills State University. He is now a health enhancement educator at Billings West High School in Billings, Montana.

2012

Alex Sylvester now serves as MUAA president.

2013

Kate Russell Landwehr is a registered nurse with Community Health Network. She is an ambulatory triage in family medicine.

Eric Sheppard and his family are moving to Washington. While they still plan to keep their Indiana home, they intend on living in the Pacific Northwest for quite some time.

2014

Aaron Evans joined the Atlanta Hawks organization for the 2022 season as a basketball operation assistant with their G-League affiliate, the College Park Skyhawks.

Crystal Kalogris got engaged on July 9, 2022.

Mary Hoehn Piasecki married Adam Piasecki on November 5, 2022.

Chris Roberts started a new role in January as an associate with Woodard, Emhardt, Henry, Reeves & Wagner, a U.S. patent firm focused on intellectual property litigation.

Kayla Wilder now serves as Coordinator of Recruitment and Strategic Partnerships in the Fred S. Klipsch Educators College at Marian University.

2015

Amy Davis went back to school in Fall 2022 to pursue a master's of science in historic preservation at Ball State University.

Julie Bede Garwood gave birth to Theodore Garwood in May 2022.

Jessica Skrobul Paul and her husband Tyler, Director of First-Year Experience, welcomed their first baby, Natalie Edith Paul, on October 28, 2022.

2016

Jack and Rebecca Kuhlman Hiatt welcomed their son, Liam Michael Hiatt, on December 14, 2021.



Alex McCool and **Amanda Scanameo** were married in July 2022.

Sr. Rose Nakibuuka serves as a housing specialist with the Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Luz Flores was named to the *IBJ's* "20 in their Twenties" in August 2022.

Kayla Burkhart Smith gave birth to her first child, Violet Abigail Smith, on February 15, 2022.

2017

Shelbi Berry has been a mainstay at Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre for a few years. This year, she has played the roles of Minnie Fay in *Hello Dolly!* and Wednesday Addams in *The Addams Family*.



Ruthann Gorrell has been accepted into the novitiate with the Poor Clare's in Kokomo, Indiana.

Katherine Schultz graduated from Marian University with graduate degrees in clinical mental health counseling and school counseling.

Jenna Sullivan was named head girls basketball coach at Lafayette Jefferson High School.

2018

Logan Glaze started as vice president of sales and marketing at Glaze Tool and Engineering, Inc.

Evan Mathias competed in the inaugural U.S. Adaptive Open in July 2022. He was one of only 96 golfers across the United States to qualify for this tournament.

Zach Nehr manages his own coaching company, ZNehr Coaching, to assist cyclists.

Audrey Rang and **Nate Kolter** are engaged and set to marry in 2023.

Carolyn Swartz gave birth to Rita MaryAlice Moore on May 14, 2022. Carolyn also got engaged and is set to marry Ronald Moore in July 2023.

Cody Turpen is a senior accountant at Somerset CPAs & Advisors.

Sam Winters is currently pursuing a masters of public affairs degree at Indiana University.

2019

Morgan Hayse Boyle and **Andrew Boyle '18** purchased their first home.

Madeline Kurcz is now Assistant Professor of Accounting in the Byrum School of Business at Marian University.

Elizabeth Poynton served as a missionary in Brazil with Con-solatio from September 2019-January 2022.

Jonas Smith now serves as president-elect of MUAA.

Sr. Israel Mercy Magnificent Verhiley entered the novitiate in July 2022 with the Sisters of Life in Suffern, New York.

Arriane Whittaker took her final vows as a Sister of Providence of Saint-Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana on August 20, 2022.

2020

Pamela Albrecht serves as Theatre Technical Director at Speedway High School.

Madison Barker is a neonatal intensive care unit nurse at Peyton Manning Children's Hospital.

2020, continued

Peter Bock earned an aviation slot for the USMC Officer Candidate School with plans to start flight school to become a Marine Corps Aviator.



Bailee Enlow is an assurance auditor at RSM US LLP and has just recently bought her first home in downtown Indianapolis.

Holly Earhart-Weir was a nominee for Nurse of the Year at Deaconess Hospital in Evansville, Indiana in May of 2022.



Madeline Dexter Evans welcome her son Karl to the world on June 23, 2022.

Benjamin Girton purchased a home this year.

Regina Obergfell now serves as Assistant Registrar for Graduate and Professional Health Science at Marian University.

Mo Zopff Prikkel gave birth to son Andrew Prikkel on December 9, 2022.

Katie Schafer Dees joined the Indiana Fever Inferno Hip Hop Team for the 2022 season.

Caleb Swartz finished 22nd in the world as part of the USA Cycling team at the Cyclo-Cross World Championships in January 2022.

Sarah Wood Sullivan got married to **Drew Sullivan** on July 30, 2022.

2021

Pol Belinchón Tenorio works on the financial side of a human resources department of a German pharmaceutical company, Boehringer Ingelheim.

Kayla Fisher Clark recently returned to Mt. Vernon High School to serve as a color guard tech.

Hayden Cole Roth and **Dylan Roth** were married on July 16, 2022.

Bryne Cotton is now a multi-engine commercial pilot after completing all initial training certificates and will move into flight instructing to transition her career into airlines.

Aaron Kazmierski entered religious life with the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal in Brooklyn, New York.

Kara Kubancsek completed her MSW from Ball State University and now serves as Program Coordinator in the Office of Violence Against Women at Marian University.

Rebekah Radloff has been working steadily with multiple theatre companies and venues. In the summer of 2022, she managed the professional production *Boy (Robin) Hood* at the Lilly Theatre of The Children's Museum.

Georgia Hinkle serves as head sideline cheerleading coach at Mooresville High School.

2022

Abby Downard is an assistant women's basketball coach at Purdue University.

Grace Hamilton has entered religious life with the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Mishawaka, Indiana.

Imani Guy joined the Eastern Suns, a basketball team out of Australia, in May 2022.

Annie Klare now serves as Guest Experience Coordinator in the Office of Undergraduate Admission at Marian University.

Aubrey Miles joined the Kokomo Bobcat Dance Team for the 2022 season.

Leah Thompson Marin and **Jacob Marin** were married June 4, 2022. Leah also joined the Indiana Pacemates in the 2022 season.

28 MU-COM alumni returned to campus for the annual MU-COM Hospital Day and Residency Fair. This was the largest alumni presence at this event to-date. Those in attendance were: Garrett Bastin '21, Matthew Kening '20, Bryce Buente '20, Nicholas Walters '19, Garrett Muhlstadt '20, Blake Christy '20, Patrick Feeney '20, Andrew Hyrzca '20, Adam McDevitt '21, Kevin McNulty '17, Elizabeth Chandler Blanton '21, Nicole Moon Slaten '18, Charles Hill '18, Tyler Pickell '19, Stephen Jensen '19, Brandon Chambers '19, Carly Chapman '21, Brittani Corbisiero '17, Cynthia Stanton '22, Kelly Loman '20, Kelly Fields '21, Taylor Daggett Key '20, Carly Thoma-Perry '18, Paul Ormston '21, Kyle Whistler '20, Jenny Dong '20, Meaghan Mobley '21, Michael Siap '17, Ethan Blocher-Smith '19, and Nicole Waters '19.



IN MEMORIAM

2022

- Junella Vachon Burns '48 – March 1
- Jeanne O'Brien Dearing '49 – April 1
- Mary Haugh '50 – July 22
- John Armington '58 – March 1
- Lois Opal Bromley '58 – November 16
- Rose Chan Houston '59 – March 6
- Thomas Smith '59 – October 31
- Sr. Marilyn Hofer, OSF '60 – March 26
- Betty Cleary Schmidt '60 – November 7
- Mary Lee Lauck Battles '63 – June 3

- Donna Frerick Baumgartner '64 – December 5
- Michael Dryer '64 – January 20
- Stephen McCracken '64 – March 9
- Cecilia O'Bryan '66 – February 11
- Arthur Timpe '68 – November 8
- Susan Beck Watson '70 – December 14
- Dennis DuBois '72 – February 26
- Sr. Judith Werner, OSF '72 – March 5
- Robert Smith '73 – August 16
- William Smith '73 – April 17
- David Zapp '78 – September 1
- Timothy Dall '82 – July 11

- Katherine Reese '84 – February 20
- Robert Chezem '94 – July 9
- Philippe Moore '12 – May 24
- Taylor Helgason '19 – March 7

2023

- Peggy O'Hara '51 – January 3
- Barbara Kuhn Farrell '59 – January 2
- Carmela Whitton '60 – February 26
- Rachel Lindenmaier '62 – April 7

Marian University Alumnus and Cancer Survivor Publishes Book to Critical Acclaim

BY GLENDAL JONES

Manager of Communication, Marian University

Forced into extensive down time while undergoing radiation treatment for cancer, Marian University alumnus Tom Fahey '75 had a lot to think about. While undergoing 43 rounds of radiation therapy, Fahey decided to make the most of the time spent in treatments. Feeling inspired and reflective, Fahey recorded thoughts and topics to share with his children, family, and close friends. With that, a book was born. *43 Days of Reflections and Ruminations*, Fahey's autobiography, is now available at Barnes and Noble and through online bookstores like Amazon.

“While facing 43 treatments, I sure had time for 43 topics,” Fahey said. “My brother said I needed to share this experience outside of family and friends, so I wrote it hoping others would find some humor and commonality in spirit.”

Fahey is a survivor of two different types of cancer and felt compelled to help others understand just how precious life is. Austin Macauley Publishers called the book an autobiographical probe into the meaning of life and “An absolutely delightful read...simply yet brilliantly expressed.”



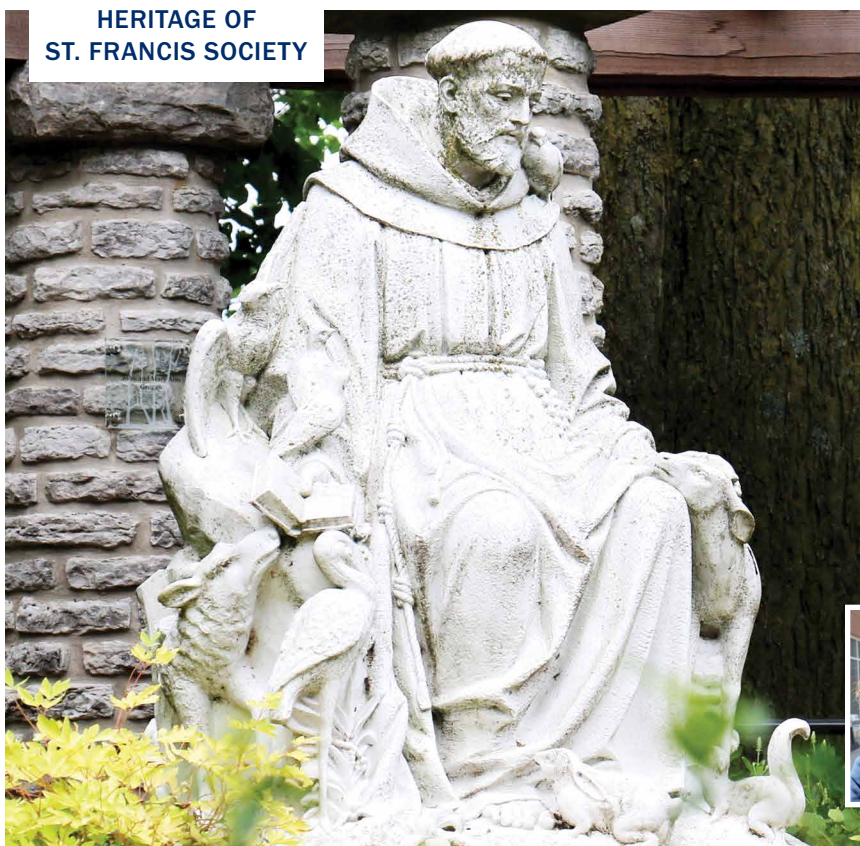
After a successful sales management career which took him all over the world, Fahey is now retired and lives in Colorado Springs, Colorado with his family. The second generation Marian graduate, who earned his bachelor of science degree in biology, succeeded his

mother, Marianna Todd '40. Fahey and his wife, Nancy Haracz, met in Chicago, then she followed him to Marian, fell in love with the campus and graduated in 1978.

Already an avid reader, Fahey found catharsis in writing the book. “Writing helped me take a look at all of the things that sometimes are taken for granted, like family and friends, how bright the sun shines, and the fact that many of us go to bed at night expecting to wake up in the morning,” says the father and grandfather.

And concentrating on the little things is exactly what Fahey says he'll continue to do.

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“A planned gift is just an extension of the giving we've done through the years. It is one last time to share what we have and to show our appreciation. It doesn't have to be a large gift to help others have a better life.”

Dan and Nancy Morales '76 Krodel

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