

MARIAN UNIVERSITY®

Ancilla College

Commencement 2023

The 86th Annual Commencement of Marian University



FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2023

5 P.M.

ANCILLA DOMINI CHAPEL

PLYMOUTH, INDIANA



Kenith Britt, Ph.D., Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer, *Presiding*

PROCESSIONAL

WELCOME

Denise B. Feser '77, *Chair of the Marian University Board of Trustees*

INVOCATION

Sister Shirley Bell, PHJC, *Provincial of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ*

NATIONAL ANTHEM

OPENING REMARKS

Joseph P. Heidt, *Chancellor*

STUDENT SPEAKER

Mario Perez Alvarado '23

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Regina L. Emberton

CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREES:

Kenith Britt, Ph.D., *Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer*

Joseph P. Heidt, *Chancellor*

Regina L. Emberton,

Doctor of Regional Planning

Jackie R. Walorski Swihart, *posthumously,*

Doctor of Public Service

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Joseph P. Heidt, *Chancellor*

Gay Lynn Crossley, Ph.D., *Dean of Academics*

Names of graduates read by

Natalie Tucker, Ph.D., *Department Head*

CLOSING REMARKS

Kenith Britt, Ph.D., *Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer*

BLESSING AND COMMISSIONING OF SENIORS

Sister Mary Beth Gianoli, OSF '78, *Vice President for Mission Intergration*

BENEDICTION

Sister Mary Beth Gianoli, OSF '78, *Vice President for Mission Intergration*

FANFARE AND RECESSIONAL

Organ music by Andrew Jennings

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Marian University grew out of the dedication and vision of Mother Theresa Hackelmeier and the Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, Indiana, who established a school in Oldenburg, Indiana, in 1851. After a number of transformations, the school became Marian College in 1936. The college moved to Indianapolis in 1937 and classes began on September 15 in Allison Mansion. On July 1, 2009, Marian College became Marian University.

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ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

Marsha Casey, BSN, M.A., *Senior Vice President for Health Professions*

Gay Lynn Crossley, Ph.D., *Dean of Marian University's Ancilla College*

Dorothy Gomez, Ph.D., *Dean of the Leighton School of Nursing*

Greg Rawski, Ph.D., *Dean of the Byrum School of Business*

Bessie Rigakos, Ph.D., *Dean of Marian University's Saint Joseph's College*

Alan J. Silva, Ph.D., *Provost and Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences*

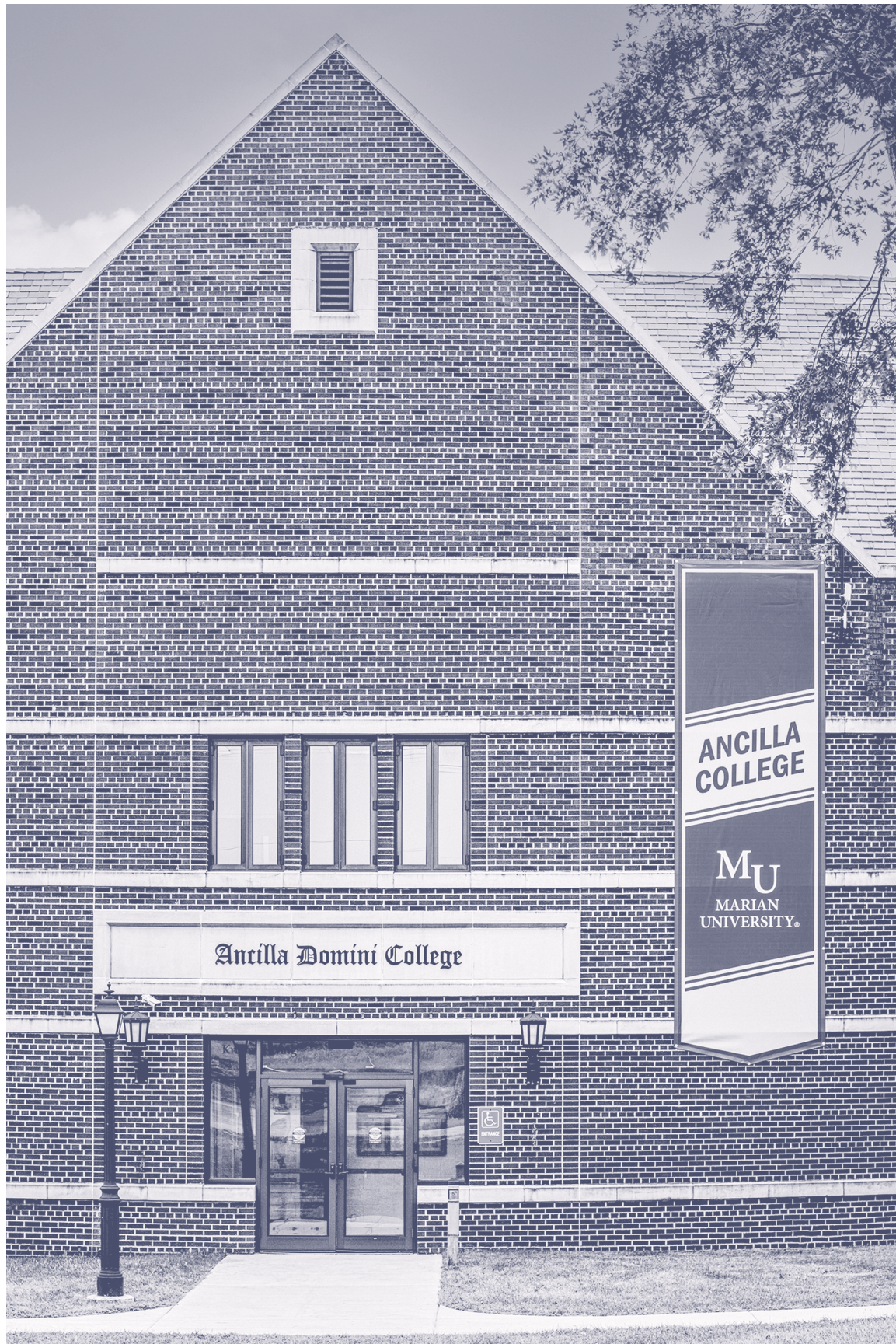
Binh Tran, Ph.D., *Dean of the Witchger School of Engineering*

LaTonya Turner, Ph.D., *Dean of the Klipsch Educators College*

Amanda Wright, DO, *Dean of the Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine*

REGISTRAR

Jennifer Schwartz, M.S., *Executive Director of Academic Operations and Registrar*



Board of Trustees

MARIAN UNIVERSITY • 2022-23
 Indianapolis

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 Edward Bonach
 Scott Bruns '96
 John T. Cardis '63
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 Marianne Price
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 Jerry D. Semler
 Rachel Shockley, DO
 Michele Steele '91
 Sister Bernice Stenger, OSF '77
 Robyn R. Werner
 Ramarao Yeleti, M.D.
 Richard Andrew Young
 Scott Young '98
 Raul E. Zavaleta

Trustees Emeriti:
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 Eugene Henn
 S. Michael Hudson
 William Kelsey '61
 James F. Matthews
 Robert H. McKinney
 Charles O'Drobinak
 Joseph L. Smith Sr. '71
 Jack R. Snyder, *Chairman Emeritus*
 D. Anthony Watt '69,
Chairman Emeritus
 Mary L. Welch '68
 Gerald S. Zore '63

Honorary Degrees

Regina Emberton



Regina Emberton is the CEO of ChoiceLight, Inc., a public-private partnership providing access to broadband infrastructure through a dark fiber optic network serving commercial, financial, educational, healthcare, and governmental agencies in Elkhart, Marshall, and St. Joseph counties. ChoiceLight is a vital asset in the South Bend-Elkhart region, enabling companies to adopt new technologies and compete in the 21st century.

Prior to this role, Emberton served as CEO of the South Bend - Elkhart Regional Partnership, catalyzing a culture of inclusive regional collaboration resulting in a thoughtful strategic plan and unprecedented investment to the region. Before that, Regina was engaged in a variety of commercial real estate projects, including consulting, brokerage, investment, and development.

Emberton received her BS and MPA in Community and Economic Development from Indiana University South Bend. A lifelong learner, she also graduated from the Leadership South Bend/Mishawaka program, earning the CCIM (Certified Commercial Investment Member) and SIOR (Society of Office and Industrial Realtors) designations while working in the commercial real estate industry, and the CEcD (Certified Economic Developer) certification while working in regional economic development.

Emberton was recently recognized in the Inaugural Indiana 250 awardee class by the Indiana Business Journal and was previously awarded the Inaugural Outstanding Young Business Leader by the South Bend Regional Chamber. Her civic involvement includes serving as a board member for the Community Foundation of St. Joseph County and the Medical Education Foundation, as a Dean's Advisory Board Member for the IU South Bend Judd Leighton School of Business and Economics, and as a member of the Marian University Ancilla College Board of Visitors.

Regina and her husband Brad have two daughters.

Jackie Walorski - posthumous



Jackie Walorski was born and raised in South Bend and graduated from Riley High School. She attended Liberty University and ultimately graduated from Taylor University with a Bachelor of Arts in Communications and Public Administration. Jackie started her professional life as a stringer photographer for the South Bend Tribune, and later became an on-air reporter for WSBT-TV. She went on to be the Director of the St. Joseph County Humane Society and the Director of Development for Ancilla College. She also worked for the South Bend Area Chamber of Commerce and was the Director of Institutional Advancement at Indiana University South Bend.

Jackie and her husband Dean Swihart, both licensed and ordained ministers, were full-time non-traditional missionaries in Romania where they assisted in church planting, worked with homeless children, orphanages, the children's burn unit, and remote villages. They were living in Romania during the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Two years later they returned home to South Bend as her father's health had declined.

Walorski first ran for Indiana State Representative of District 21 in 2004 and won, serving in that position until 2010. In 2012, she was elected as the Congresswoman for Indiana's 2nd District, holding that position until her passing. Jackie split her time between Washington D.C. and District 2, always eager to meet constituents, business owners and veterans.

Jackie's passion for her district and the United States of America was evident to all who met her, and her energy and determination will be greatly missed. Jackie always viewed her position in the Congress as an opportunity to serve God's people through Christ's love.



Candidates for Degrees

May 5, 2023

Phi Theta Kappa recognizes the academic achievement of students. Students who earn a 3.50 cumulative grade point average are invited to join Phi Theta Kappa. Members must maintain a 3.30 cumulative grade point average to remain active members. Candidates in the associate program are recognized as a member of Phi Theta Kappa by the golden stoles worn during commencement.

Candidates in the associate program who are active or veteran members of the United States Military are recognized by the cords worn during commencement.

Associate in Arts

Education – Elementary Education

Colin M. Burger
Luyen Thi Do
Victoria Rose Highland
Kody R. Horan
Edith Nichole Teeter
Huong Thi Tran
Lindsey Weldon
Aubrie Renee Werner

Education – Secondary Education, History

Megan Leann Byrd
Graham Chapman
Clair Opal Prior

Liberal Arts

Reece Nicole Danford
Jordon K. Freeman
Kaleb Joseph Perri

Liberal Arts – Biology

Jessica Danielle Dineen
Jasmine Lynn Huff

Liberal Arts – Communication and English

Dalian Joel Leach
Jaybreon Nakehmn Litsey

Liberal Arts – History

Amialla Rose Wojcik

Liberal Arts – Human Services

Victoria Minix
Jane Diane Wright

Liberal Arts – Social Sciences

Kalei Rose Cave
Kyra Duncan
Alexis F. Janeczko

Associate in Applied Science

Veterinary Nursing

Jenna Marie Justice
Elizabeth S. Rogers
Kelsey Elizabeth Sanders
Paige Elizabeth Simmons
Kayley Rene Thornburg
MacKenzie Tilleraas
Madison Jean Willoughby

Associate in Science

AgriBusiness

Hannah Goldsborough

Animal Science

Hope Florence Walkowiak

General Business

Nicholas Ramon Avila
Kevin Cruz
Halie R. Ebersol
Alexis German
Joshua David Ledgard
Daniel Loza
Kane Michael Lutz
Lane Daniel Pace
Javier Ulises Villalta Jimenez
Bryce Randolph Woodruff

Business – Sales & Supply Chain Management

Henry J. Merriman III
Yareli Janice Toledo

Business – Sports Management

Isabel L. Johnson
Yovani Navarrete
Damian Vargas

Exercise Science

Elissa Fausnaugh
Mario A. Perez Alvarado

Exercise Science – Nutrition, Fitness, & Wellness

Sergio Ricardo Bueno

Exercise Science – Sports Performance

Victoria Leigh Franklin

Associate in Science in Nursing

Crystal Fay Ali
Arminda Chapman Dreibelbis
Debbie S. Combs
Audrey Lee Morris
Ashley Dawn Sallee



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 Trustworthy, Healthy, Inquisitive, and Skilled leader.
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VISION

To provide an education distinguished in its ability to prepare transformative leaders for service to the world.

MISSION

To be a great Catholic university dedicated to achieving excellence in learning, which is achieved through teaching, research, and scholarly activities in the Franciscan and liberal arts tradition.

VALUES

To reflect prayerfully on the Gospels in an unflagging commitment to advance the dignity of the individual, peace and justice, reconciliation, and responsible stewardship.

MARIAN UNIVERSITY[®]

Ancilla College

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Plymouth, IN 46563-9416

marian.edu/ancilla



Marian University is sponsored by the Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, Indiana.