

## A Message from the President



Greetings from Marian University!

Since July 2009, I have been traveling across Indiana and beyond talking about building a great Catholic university in Indianapolis. Sometimes people ask me what defines a Catholic university. What are the means by which we can better express our commitment to integrating faith in all dimensions of the academic excellence to which Marian University is committed?

I've said many times that we—both as individuals and as a university—are uniquely called to shine the light of our faith into every corner of our campus. Here at Marian University, we believe Christ is our greatest teacher and indeed the great model for our lives of service to others. In this belief, we seek to illumine all academic coursework and every program we create with the light of faith. This commitment is core to who we are as a community and of great value to all our students, faculty, and staff.

**To more fully live, honor, and celebrate Marian University's Catholic faith and identity, we are creating new sacred spaces for our campus:**

1. The Blessed Mother Mary Shrine and Rosary Walk;
2. A beautiful chapel for the new Center for Health Sciences and the Healing Arts;
3. Major pieces of art that convey our commitment to our prayerful reflection on our four sponsorship values: dignity of the individual, peace and justice; reconciliation; and responsible stewardship; and

4. A large sculpture depicting the Franciscan commitment to the healing mission of Jesus, especially to those most vulnerable and marginalized.

Scheduled to be completed this academic year is the Blessed Mother Mary Shrine and Rosary Walk. I am particularly excited about this project because it represents a sacred space that honors our patroness' faithful response to God's call. This shrine will be a source of inspiration for all who step foot on our campus as they discern God's will for their lives. Perhaps, as a result, they will go on to do the preposterous just like the Sisters of St. Francis of Oldenburg did back in 1937 when they moved this beloved institution here to Indianapolis, or as we are now doing by building Indiana's second medical school.

Phil Carson (featured below), a dear friend and dedicated Knight, Marian University trustee, and 1981 graduate, is a wonderful champion for the Blessed Mother Mary Shrine and Rosary Walk. As we enter this last year of the *Make History* campaign, please join Phil and other leaders in the spirit of gratitude and generosity they have set before us by making a special gift to provide sacred spaces of prominence on our beautiful campus. These projects can only move forward through your generosity to this historic effort to dramatically advance the vision and mission of Marian University.

May God bless you, your family, and all Marian University alumni and friends who have made our vision of building a great Catholic university possible.

Peace.

Daniel J. Elsener  
President

## You Will Seek Me and Find Me When You Seek Me with All Your Heart

The Catholic Church calls its educational institutions to be a Christian witness. On a college campus, that means providing spiritual guidance to students as they explore new paths, integrating Catholic perspectives across the curriculum, promoting deeper knowledge in specific subjects—like nursing and teaching—where our holistic education shines in the light of faith, and creating sacred spaces where everyone who visits campus can be with God.



Site plan showing the location of the Blessed Mother Mary Shrine and Rosary Walk between the new medical school building, Steffen Music Center, and Doyle Hall.

Marian University trustee Phil Carson '81 became a board member in 2008 and serves as the vice chairman for mission and identity. He and other committee members want to make sure that every student is imbued with the university's values and traditions and that they grow in their spiritual awareness.

"I have eight brothers and sisters and my parents sacrificed considerably for us. They really had our best interests in mind. Their deep faith was visible to us kids and they shared it with us every day," says Carson, who runs an Indianapolis insurance agency. His 83-year-old father still comes to the office daily, where he writes checks to various charities and continues to inspire his son.

"When I became involved with Marian University's board, I began to realize that the students who are on campus today often don't have these kinds of inspirational, highly visible representatives of the faith." And so for Carson and others on the committee, creating new sacred spaces on campus became a way for them to strengthen the university's Catholic identity. A shrine to the Blessed Mother Mary and rosary walk are being planned for the area between the new medical school building, Steffen Music Center, and Doyle Hall.

"The shrine and rosary walk will help us think about our faith outside of church and will give all of us a place to be with God," says Carson. "I think we all understand that the distinctive characteristic of the faith life at a Catholic university starts with our commitment to illumine every corner of the campus with the light of faith."

## You Can Make History—Don't Pass Up This Opportunity!

We are very thankful for your support. Here are some ways you can help us build a great Catholic university:

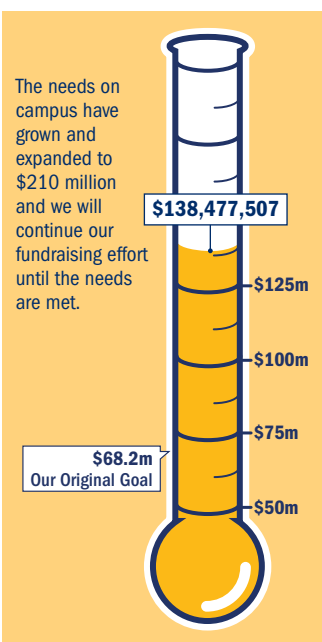
- pray for the success of this effort
- invest in Marian University with a three- to four-year pledge
- consider taking advantage of the dollar-for-dollar matching gift opportunity that is available for endowed and/or annual scholarship support
- consider taking advantage of the dollar-for-dollar matching gift opportunity that is available to help enhance and/or develop new campus facilities
- make a deferred gift
- invest in a brick, pillar of support, or residence hall room

Learn more about *Make History: Advance the Mission of Marian University* at [www.marian.edu/makehistory](http://www.marian.edu/makehistory).

Progress Toward Our Goal		as of 6.30.11
Initiative	Progress	
Health and Life Sciences	\$82,360,736	
Investing in Students, Academics, and Campus Life	\$46,485,314	
"Rebuild My Church"	\$9,631,456	
<b>Total*</b>	<b>\$138,477,507</b>	

\* Includes gifts, pledges, deferred, and nongaap gifts  
\*\* Target celebration date: October 2012

**Act Now!** Contact John Finke, vice president for institutional advancement, at [jfinke@marian.edu](mailto:jfinke@marian.edu) or 317.955.6202.



## On the move and making history! MARIAN UNIVERSITY

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

AUG. 2011

## Make History Leadership

### COMPREHENSIVE LEADERSHIP



#### COMPREHENSIVE EFFORT

*John and Phyllis Cardis (Jackson Hole, Wyoming)*  
John Cardis '63, Marian University alumnus, trustee, and retired national managing partner of Deloitte & Touche's Global Strategic Clients Division, and Phyllis Cardis, volunteer.



#### CENTRAL INDIANA AND CORPORATE Honorary Co-Chairs

*John and Sarah Lechleiter (Indianapolis)*  
John Lechleiter, president and CEO of Eli Lilly and Company, and Sarah Lechleiter, community volunteer.

### INITIATIVE LEADERSHIP - CHAIRS



#### HEALTH AND LIFE SCIENCES

*Jerry and Rosemary Semler (Indianapolis), left*  
Jerry Semler, chairman emeritus of American United Mutual Insurance Holding Company and Marian University trustee, and Rosemary Semler, community volunteer.



#### INVESTING IN STUDENTS, ACADEMICS, AND CAMPUS LIFE

*D. Anthony "Tony" and Carole Kunkel Watt (Indianapolis), middle*  
D. Anthony "Tony" Watt '69, Marian University alumnus, trustee, and former plant manager with Chrysler, and Carole Kunkel Watt '65, Marian University alumnus and community volunteer.



#### "REBUILD MY CHURCH"

*Dan Hoyt (Indianapolis), right*  
Dan Hoyt, broker, Fitch Hoyt Benefits Group, and chairman of the board of Biological Systems International.

### INITIATIVE LEADERSHIP - VICE-CHAIRS



Top row, left to right: Michael Browning (Indianapolis); Vince Caponi (Indianapolis); and Len '68 and Sue Smith Strom '68 (Baltimore, Maryland). Bottom row, left to right: Chuck '68 and Mary Leahy Welch '68 (Easton, Connecticut) and Raul Zavaleta (Indianapolis).