The St. Francis Colonnade and Gardens have long served as a holy and contemplative space on campus where students, faculty, staff, alumni, and neighbors come to reflect and grow closer to God. This year, we renovated the historic, peaceful site on campus and held a blessing and ribbon-cutting ceremony on September 13, 2018.
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Photo by Eric Meyer

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

Our students’ experience as they complete their degree is more than just one of intellectual growth. At Marian University, it’s about developing into a transformational leader through a curricular and co-curricular program that forms an inquisitive and knowledgeable mind, instills professional and leadership skills, challenges students to the highest standards of ethics and character, and encourages a healthy approach to life.

Throughout the last year, we’ve embarked on building spaces conducive to the development of the mind, body, and spirit. The Paul J. Norman Center (home to the Byrum School of Business) provides our students with an innovative space where they can expand their minds. Our new Dining Commons provides a space where our students can nourish their bodies and engage in dialogue around the table with friends. The new space also features an interfaith prayer room where students, no matter their faith tradition, can gather and worship to renew their spirit through prayer and reflection. Lastly, we’ve opened new fitness facilities for students to lead an active lifestyle as they study for exams or train to perform at the highest level.

Through our faculty research, you will get a glimpse at the incredible minds teaching our students and showing them that learning happens over a lifetime. Our faculty members have a deep commitment to teaching, as well as to continuing their research that enriches their teaching excellence and adds new insight to subjects from bacteria and immunology, to youth and young adult ministry, to advancing graduate nursing programs.

The great success of our alumni is also evidence of the generous investment we make to ensure our students graduate as well-rounded, transformational leaders for service to the world. In this issue of the magazine, you’ll read about a few of our alumni who are making an impact in the field of athletics. I am very proud to share their stories, including how Father Douglas Hunter ’09 went from being a police officer for the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department to chaplain for the Indianapolis Colts and pastor of St. Roch Catholic Church.

Since our inception, we’ve been unflagging in our efforts to provide innovative educational approaches to students of all economic and social backgrounds. Continuing with that same mission, we recently announced the 2019 launch of our dynamic two-year college. We are confident that we’ve landed on a curriculum that is relevant to employers, is true to our liberal arts foundation, and is a strong foundation for students who will later pursue a bachelor’s degree.

Thank you for your generous donation of time, talent, treasure, and prayers to Marian’s zealous commitment to better serve our students and advance the common good. Go to pages 14-15 and visit marian.edu/forgingleaders for an in-depth look at what we’re doing now and what we have planned for the future.

Mind. Body. Spirit. Our students’ journeys go far beyond the classroom. God bless you, your family and friends, and the many endeavors to which you are dedicated, always!

Go, Knights!

Daniel J. Elsener
President
From favorite moments on the field to the most valuable advice received from coaches, we wanted to hear all about how athletics made an impact on our student-athletes. We asked them to share their favorite memories as student-athletes on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Here’s what they had to say:

**Judy Cenova ’94:** Favorite memory always comes back to Sr. Norma and her MC (It was college at the time I played women’s basketball) bucket hat and sweatshirt stating she was the Lady Knights #1 Fan!!!!

**Sandy Barnett ’93, women’s basketball, softball:** Oh yeah! She was always our biggest fan!!

**Jen Haire Waning ’94:** She still wears a bucket hat!!

**Beth Foster Tarplee ’12, women’s soccer:** Coach Kurt Guldner taught us that God and family were always first, then came school, and last was soccer. He always told us to play with a “fire in our belly,” but consistently reminded us that we should lead our lives the same way. He told us to play and live with passion. Although my favorite memory with the women’s soccer team was winning the MCC title with an undefeated season, my favorite memory of just being an athlete was seeing Sister Norma at every home game cheering everyone on!

**Olivia Pursell ’14, women’s tennis:** My favorite memory as a student-athlete was the ITA Regional tennis tournament in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Besides the conference tournament, the ITA was the biggest tournament for us during the year. It was a chance for us to travel with a few teammates and compete against other schools not in our conference. Making it to the doubles final sophomore year with Sarah Potter was definitely a highlight. Cassie Mackell was a huge part of us doing so well.

**Sarah Potter ’15, women’s tennis:** Such a great memory Olivia Pursell!! Loved being your doubles partner and playing for the Marian women’s tennis team!

**Chris Hanson ’14, men’s cross country, men’s track and field:** “Eat to live, not live to eat.” - @mhtrackfield1 (Mike Holman)

Favorite memory was Mens Track & Field winning the first conference title in 2014.

The four H’s will always be my true favorite, but you gotta be in a special group to know about those.

**Bailey O’Brien ’20, women’s lacrosse:** Favorite memory: @MarianULacrosse (women’s lacrosse) beating a #5 ranked team as a second year team #UKnighted

**Zachariah Graves ’15, football:** “After you’re done playing football you’re just another guy. Put everything you can into this game while you can because when it’s over, it’s over.”

Favorite memory, hands down 2012 championship celebration.

Close 2nd, every pregame speech Coach Karras ever gave.

**Alex Wetmore ’16, football:** “Stay humble, stay hungry, stay foolish.” - @CoachCboa (Brock Caraboa)

Favorite memory would have to be presenting @Batcole (Cole Winnefeld) with his championship ring after 2014 season.

Forever grateful for the coaches who made such a great impact on us!

**Brock Caraboa ’12, defensive coordinator:** You were one of the best leaders and hardest workers to come through 30th and Cold Spring! Really enjoyed working with you every day.

**Alex Wetmore:** Means a lot coach! Can’t wait to see the Knights roll this fall!

**Tawni Trickey ’17, women’s soccer:** The Spain/Italy trip with @MarianWSOC (women’s soccer)

**Katie Kirschner Thompson ’15, women’s golf:** The instant family/community you have with your team from day 1 makes the transition into college so much easier and makes college life much more fun!

**Brendan McNamara ’19, football:** “Christopher Columbus didn’t land in America, look around, and say ‘This looks like nice land for France.’”

_/marianuniversity  @marianuniversity  @marianuniv
ALUMNI IN ATHLETICS

With the opening of such incredible new athletic facilities happening this fall, let’s take a look at a few Knights who have made a career out of sports. Their paths might not have been conventional, but when it comes to athletics, Marian alumni cover all their bases: mind, body, and spirit.

By Katie Bradley
MAKING THE KNIGHT CONNECTION

“THE STUDENTS ARE LUCKY BECAUSE INDIANAPOLIS IS SUCH A SPORTS CITY. I WAS ABLE TO DO AN INTERNSHIP WHILE AT MARIAN BECAUSE I WAS SO CLOSE TO DOWNTOWN.” - CALEB KOLBY ’14

Caleb Kolby ’14 always knew he wanted to work in sports. He’d played soccer all of his life. So, when he heard that an alumna—Angela Hatem ’00—would be coming to campus to talk to students about her work at Indiana Sports Corp, he decided to attend. That day, the two connected, he applied for an internship, and, five years later, they are working together at Indiana Sports Corp, supporting major upcoming events like the NBA All-Star and two NCAA Men’s Final Fours.

So what exactly is Indiana Sports Corp and what does it have to do with these huge athletic events in Indianapolis?

“We like to call ourselves a connector organization,” Kolby said. “We try to get everybody to play nice and work together to make Indianapolis the city of champions.”

Indiana Sports Corp was founded in 1979 as the nation’s first sports commission. They’ve brought everything from the 1987 Pan American Games to the Super Bowl XLVI to the city of Indianapolis.

While the two can’t take credit for the Pan American Games (it was a little before their time), Hatem considers the Super Bowl to be one of her most cherished and surreal memories with the organization.

“We were saying, ‘Have a super day,’ and it felt cheesy, but it was true,” Hatem said. “That was how we felt. I walked away from that like ‘Wow, we did that. We helped put this together. We had a role in it.’"

Kolby holds a special memory for the completion of his first major event: the 2015 Big Ten Football Championship Game.

“To see it all play out and culminate in the naming of a champion here in Indianapolis is a really cool feeling,” Kolby said. “It happens every event now, but that first time it was pretty special.”

Through their work at Indiana Sports Corp, the two see the incredible impact athletics can make on a city and the parallel that can be drawn with Marian.

“When I was at Marian, there wasn’t a football team,” Hatem said. “I’ve seen what it’s done for the university. People come out and tailgate. It creates pride. It changes the vibe of campus. Like with downtown Indianapolis, sports add to the vibrancy. We’ve got a great football team, a great cycling program, our women’s basketball team earned back-to-back national titles. It just creates a vibrancy on campus that makes people want to be there.”

With campus less than 10 minutes from downtown Indianapolis, Hatem and Kolby see Marian’s location as an incredible opportunity for students.

“The students are lucky because Indianapolis is such a sports city,” Kolby said. “I was able to do an internship while at Marian because I was so close to downtown.”

For any students looking to intern and/or eventually work in sports, Hatem has a little advice.

“There are so many different jobs in sports, you just have to keep your mind open and look for them,” she said. “Do what you can to get involved. Interning or even volunteering is the way to get started.”

Caleb Kolby ’14 (left) and Angela Hatem ’00 (right).
Fr. Douglas Hunter ’09 felt called to the priesthood at an early age. But, it was a calling he would resist for many years.

“Becoming a priest wasn’t me waking up one day and thinking, ‘Hey, I want to become a priest.’ It was an experience throughout my life,” Fr. Hunter said.

While he initially wanted to become a priest after serving Masses in grade school, the loss of his father in high school, and the academic struggles that came with his grief, would send Fr. Hunter on a different path. He spent 10 years as a Marion County sheriff and Indianapolis Metropolitan police officer, working in crime prevention and youth education. He then went back to school at Marian and obtained a degree in business administration. He bought a house. He owned cars.

“I kept hearing that call, and I kept running from it for a long time,” Fr. Hunter said. “I had everything that anybody could ever want, and I would have to give all of that up to serve God.”

Ultimately, he surrendered to his calling when he realized that none of those things could bring him the happiness that serving God would give him.

“When I walked away from everything to enter the seminary, that is when I found happiness,” Fr. Hunter said.

This year, Fr. Hunter has taken on two new challenges. He is leading his own congregation at St. Roch Catholic Church, and he serves as chaplain for the Indianapolis Colts.

Out on the field, Fr. Hunter could be mistaken for a defensive lineman. At 6’6”, he’s a big guy. He even jokes about seeing eye-to-eye with the Colts players he serves.

As chaplain, Fr. Hunter provides spiritual guidance to the coaches and players.

“I hope to bring these men a sense of hope and peace because, in their chaotic lives, they need that,” Fr. Hunter said. “At the end of the day, when the lights go out and the fans go home, they’re regular people.”

A lifelong sports fan, Fr. Hunter sees the incredible impact athletes can have on their communities.

“Athletes have this platform and can be on this pedestal as an example for others to follow. And we see where so many have not been a good example for people,” Fr. Hunter said. “But with our Colts organization, I see all of the good that they’re doing and the good example they’re setting. They’re hometown heroes, and their outreach makes our community so much better.”
As Marian University’s first alumnus to make it to the National Football League (NFL), Krishawn Hogan is making headlines for all the right reasons. His journey to the coveted role of professional athlete has been anything but typical...or easy.

After graduating from Warren Central High School with a less-than-stellar playing record, Hogan headed to Walsh University—a Division II school in Ohio—but soon left the school. Back in Indianapolis, he began taking classes at Ivy Tech Community College and working nights as a janitor for the Indiana Convention Center.

Despite the setback, Hogan was determined to continue playing college football and reached out to nearly every school in Indiana. "Marian was the school that consistently called me back," Hogan said. “I felt like they really wanted me to play for them, so I decided to become a Knight.”

Hogan thrived during his three years as wide receiver for Marian University. He finished his career ranked first in Marian history with 4,395 receiving yards and 42 touchdowns. He led the team to two national championship games and one national championship win.

“When I came to Marian, my coaches were really tough on me,” Hogan said. “But, they always understood what I was going through and were always there for me. They still are.”

Hogan again made Marian history when he earned an invitation to the NFL Combine in 2017. While he wasn’t drafted that year, he did sign and work out with the Arizona Cardinals. When the Cardinals waived his contract, Hogan signed with the Indianapolis Colts and became a part of the practice squad.

In September 2017, he earned a spot on the 53-man Indianapolis Colts roster, officially becoming the first Marian alumnus to play in the NFL. After playing two games that season, Hogan suffered a major setback when he tore his ACL. For many, this might have been a career-ending injury, but Hogan spent the last year working his way back to health and back on to the Colts’ pre-season roster.

Throughout his journey, Hogan’s hard work and perseverance have shown through. He sees the lessons he learned as a student-athlete at Marian as guideposts he will continue to use throughout his life, on and off the field.

“Discipline, timeliness, the importance of execution,” Hogan said. “Everything translates to the real world.”
MARIAN UNIVERSITY TO OPEN TWO-YEAR COLLEGE IN FALL 2019

“WE REQUIRE REVOLUTIONARY RESPONSES THAT ADDRESS THE POPULATIONS OF STUDENTS WHO AREN’T GOING TO COLLEGE OR AREN’T FINISHING.”
- PRESIDENT DANIEL J. ELSENER

With the goal of increasing access to higher education that meets the needs of diverse student populations, Marian University will open an innovative two-year college adjacent to its westside campus in Fall 2019.

“The Lumina Foundation’s goal of increasing the proportion of Americans with high-quality degrees, certificates, and other credentials to 60 percent by 2025 will not be achieved if higher education maintains the status quo,” Marian University President Daniel J. Elsener said. “We require revolutionary responses that address the populations of students who aren’t going to college or aren’t finishing.”

Over the past two years, Marian University contracted an outside consultant to conduct a feasibility study around launching a two-year college, and subsequently assembled an implementation task force of faculty, staff, and trustees to determine the best way to roll it out. The innovative and mission-driven two-year college will provide the sense of community, support systems, and professional opportunities that many students need to be successful beyond high school.

The new two-year college has set a goal of enrolling 75-125 students in the first year. Students will have an option of pursuing one of three associate’s degree in liberal arts, information technology, or business administration. The college will be fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), and credits earned will be transferrable to other HLC accredited institutions, including Marian University.

“We are confident that we’ve landed on three focused areas of study that are relevant to employers, are true to our liberal arts foundation, and are easily transferable for students who may want to later pursue a four-year degree,” Elsener said. “We will always have the option of adding more degrees as our economy and the needs of employers shift, but research clearly indicates that it’s in the best interest of students to focus on a few areas of study rather than a plethora of options.”

Elsener said that the personal attention and one-on-one mentoring for which Marian University is renowned will be the hallmark of the new two-year college.

Right: President Elsener holds a press conference in the Paul J. Norman Center to announce the opening of the two-year college.
“Research indicates that learning outcomes are improved when students feel that they are a part of a community. Marian University has always been committed to creating a strong sense of community between our students and their professors,” Elsener said. “Students who are looking for an innovative approach to learning and possess the grit and determination needed to succeed will be attracted to our two-year college.”

Students interested will be required to submit an application and complete a thorough interview process to be considered for admission.

Perhaps the most innovative feature of the two-year college is the employer partnerships that are being established to help students make connections between learning and earning. Marian University faculty will work closely with specific central Indiana employers to ensure that students of the two-year college will be able to recognize connections in what they are learning in the classroom and their future jobs. Students will develop a foundation for lifelong learning while progressing toward their associate’s degree. Flexible class schedules will be established, allowing students to work, if they choose.

The exact cost of tuition will be set by the board later this fall, but students will be eligible to apply for state and federal funding that will, in many cases, cover more than 90 percent of their tuition. Students will be able to use the wages earned from their jobs and internships to cover the remainder of tuition. Additionally, it is expected that the vast majority of students will commute to campus, allowing them to earn their associate’s degree with little-to-no debt.

For at least the first year, Marian University’s two-year college will be located at a property owned by the university on West 30th Street, less than a mile west of the main campus. Riverside High School, a second campus of Herron High School, hosted classes in the facility for its first year before moving to the former Naval Armory building this academic year. Because the two-year college will be located within walking distance of Marian University’s campus, students will have access to the library, computer resources, student health center, fitness center, Writing Center, and other university resources.

Marlene Dotson, president and CEO of the Indiana Latino Institute, joined Elsener at the press conference announcing the two-year college. “Advancing education for the Latino community is a big part of Indiana Latino Institute’s mission,” Dotson said. “There are many Latinos in central Indiana who choose to pursue an associate’s degree after high school. Marian’s two-year college will increase access to higher education and will prove to be an attractive option for many Latinos.”

Dennis Bland, president of the Center for Leadership Development, echoed those sentiments. “The Center for Leadership Development fosters the advancement of minority youth in Central Indiana by providing experiences that encourage personal development and educational attainment,” Bland said. “Marian University has long been a partner and is helping us achieve that mission. We look forward to a continued partnership with Marian’s two-year college, which will provide an affordable opportunity for people from diverse backgrounds to pursue their dream of attaining a college degree.”

Applications are being accepted now for July 2019 enrollment at marian.edu/twoyearcollege.
Even a confident power forward knows you can only control so much in a game, and that you have to be able to roll with the punches. As a member of the women’s basketball team, Karen Jones ’19 has learned that lesson doesn’t just apply to the court.

Community service opportunities are so much more than just another commitment for Marian University student-athletes. They have gained new perspective of their teammates and coaches, their world, and, most importantly, themselves.

“As student-athletes we have a lot of obligations and our time is definitely sacred when we are free, but I never see volunteering as a hindrance or feel forced,” Jones said.

As a member of the women’s basketball team, Jones has participated in a number of service activities, including the recent participation in the Tamika Catchings’ Catch the Stars Reading Corner at Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health.

When Katie Gearlds, head women’s basketball coach, was contacted by Tamika Catchings’ Catch the Stars Foundation with a request for her team to come read to some kids, Gearlds immediately sent a mass text to her team, and, immediately, they responded.

“They all replied in about 30 seconds that they would want to do it,” Gearlds said.

On July 24, four team members accompanied Gearlds to the Reading Corner where they read stories about sharks and helped with craft projects.

“The kids there really seemed to enjoy us being there, but I think our squad had the biggest smiles. We get a great deal out of helping out when we can,” Gearlds said.

Jones was nervous about volunteering at first, afraid she might mess up, but she soon realized that the people you are helping are just happy to have you there.

“I think people grow within themselves by helping others, because they are seeing things they may have never personally gone through or even thought about,” Jones said.
When she heard a parent describe his family’s past three years of hospital stays as just a normal part of their lives now, Jones was shocked.

“I can’t imagine dealing with something so difficult and scary, but I realize these people probably couldn’t imagine it before it happened either,” Jones said. I am learning that no matter what happens in a game, or in my life, I will get through it.”

As a member of the football team, Evan Higgs ’20 appreciated how a mini football camp for the Boys and Girls Club allowed him the chance to have a positive impact on youth who ended up having just as powerful an impact on him and his teammates.

“Anything we do as a team brings us closer together and strengthens our bond as a team, but what really struck me is that spending time with these kids and witnessing the work of people behind the scenes in these organizations hits all points of reality for me. I am a better person now because I appreciate the little things and find myself doing more—even when no one is watching,” Higgs said.

“We strive for balance and, as coaches, have a responsibility to provide the guidance and opportunities that will help these kids develop into great athletes, scholars, and well-rounded, positive adults,” Mark Henninger, head football coach, said.

The football team participates in a variety of service projects, including a second assignment with the Team Impact program, which pairs seriously ill children with a collegiate sports team. The Number 11 jersey that was worn by Cole Winnefeld during the 2014 and 2015 seasons is now property of kindergartener Jackson Stout.

“We have appointed six Big Knights who stay in constant contact with Jackson and his family through texts, visits, and special activities to make sure this is a very personal relationship,” Henninger said.

Jackson is a triplet with two sisters who have also been “adopted” by our cheerleading squad.

Between chemotherapy treatments for leukemia, Jackson attends practices and games just like the rest of the team. He takes this commitment seriously—it was Number 11 who proudly carried the ball into the end zone for the final touchdown of the spring game.

Everyone won that day. And winning is important, but so is every minute.

No doubt about it, Marian University student-athletes are serious about winning. They know what it feels like to give their all. And now they’re learning how really good it feels to give back.

Opposite page: Jackson Stout walks across the field hand-in-hand with his teammates for the coin toss before the home-opening football game on August 24, 2018.

Right, top, middle, and bottom: Members of the women’s basketball team read stories and complete craft projects as part of the Tamika Catchings’ Catch the Stars Reading Corner.
How Marian University is working to help solve the teaching shortage

The Indianapolis Star  |  April 9, 2018

Like most of the country, Indiana is experiencing a major teaching shortage. Factors like low pay, working conditions and testing mandates have resulted in precipitous declines in the number of college students pursuing a career in teaching at the same time that existing teachers are leaving the profession in droves.

One Indiana college is looking to reverse that trend with a brand new teacher preparation program that officials say will turn out higher quality teachers who will graduate more prepared and committed to the profession.

Marian University closed its previous teacher prep program last year and opened the Klipsch Educators College this past fall with an inaugural class of 46 students. The move comes after several years of work and research, all with the goal of creating a national model to bring back the status and respect the profession previously enjoyed.

Marian, CU-Boulder win titles at USA Cycling nationals

WISH-TV  |  May 7, 2018

Cycling powerhouse Marian University and the University of Colorado-Boulder won national championships in their team omnium divisions on Sunday, the final day of the USA Cycling Collegiate Road National Championships.

Ben Schmutte, a senior from Noblesville, Indiana, finished second for Marian in the men's criterium through the streets of downtown Grand Junction, and the Marian women's team ran third, fourth and sixth in their race to clinch the D1 Varsity national title over host school Colorado Mesa University, 438 points to 359.

Colts newest chaplain is former IMPD officer who at first resisted calling to priesthood

The Indianapolis Star  |  May 13, 2018

In his new position with the Indianapolis Colts, Douglas Hunter will refer to a Bible more than a playbook.

Father Hunter is the Colts' newest team chaplain. A former Indianapolis police officer, the 39-year-old Hunter entered the seminary at age 31, finally making the life-changing decision he had contemplated for years.

Learn more about Alumnus Fr. Douglas Hunter on page 6.

Marian hoops not wasting time in pursuing Crossroads League powers

Fort Wayne News-Sentinel  |  June 18, 2018

It is an interesting dynamic to contemplate when one reflects on the 2017-18 Marian University men's basketball season.

On one hand, the Knights achieved a great deal as they won 22 games under first-year coach Scott Heady and they advanced to the Elite Eight of the NAIA Division II National Tournament. However, on the other, the Knights barely finished .500 in the Crossroads League and finished fourth in the conference.
Camp aims to help teens become ‘agents of evangelization’

The Criterion | July 13, 2018

Responding to Pope Francis’ call for all Catholics to be “missionary disciples” and “agents of evangelization,” these three students had broken out of their comfort zones to learn more about the people around them. To better understand poverty, they took part in a unique scavenger hunt through an underserved neighborhood on the south side of Indianapolis.

The task was an “immersion experience” of the Missionary Disciples Institute, a weeklong camp hosted by Marian University in Indianapolis on June 18-23. The experience was funded by a grant from the Indianapolis based Lilly Endowment, Inc. The camp taught the 52 attending high schoolers that successful ministry means going out to meet those in need.

As college enrollment trends down nationally, local schools welcome record-setting classes

The Indianapolis Star | August 17, 2018

For the first time in its history, Marian University will welcome more than 400 new students to campus this year. Breaking that threshold is a step forward in a long-term plan to grow the university, both in the programs it offers and the students it serves.

“We feel very fortunate,” said Daniel Elsener, president of the small, private Catholic university. “We have happy challenges, like finding dorm rooms and parking spaces, but that’s more enjoyable than wondering about the budget.”

Marian University Lands First NIH Grant

Inside Indiana Business | August 4, 2018

Marian University has received its first ever funding from the National Institutes of Health. The $300,000 grant will support the College of Osteopathic Medicine’s research on the skin condition rosacea, which the school says affects about 16 million Americans.

The research, led by associate professor of neuroscience and pharmacology Kristen Metzler-Wilson and physiology professor Thad Wilson, will involve using specialized techniques to measure facial neurovascular activity in response to flushing triggers. The goal, Metzler-Wilson says, is to understand the underlying cause of the condition in order to design treatments that go beyond addressing the symptoms.

Marian University to launch 2-year college that will encourage part-time work

Indianapolis Business Journal | September 5, 2018

Marian University announced Wednesday morning that it plans to launch a two-year college next fall, with the goal of enrolling students who are reluctant to seek higher education or who aren’t succeeding in traditional settings.

“Education has to be relevant to students,” Elsener said. “The lines between employment and learning are going to be meddled together in this model. If you can tie it to work, but at the same time, build intellectual skills, character, executive functioning skills like communication and cultural awareness, those are assets.”

Learn more about the two-year college on page 8.

Marian University Hires Silva as Provost

Inside Indiana Business | August 10, 2018

Marian University has selected Alan Silva to serve as executive vice president and provost. He most recently held a similar role at St. Catherine University (formerly The College of St. Catherine) in St. Paul, Minnesota.
Since our inception, we have responded to the needs of our communities. When schools needed teachers, we opened our doors as a teaching college. When a doctor shortage seemed imminent, we opened the state’s first new medical school in more than a century. When we noticed a gap in educational opportunity, we increased access to higher education through the two-year college. Yes, we have a rich history of seeing a need, rising to the challenge, filling it, and, ultimately, making the world a better place. But, we’re just getting started.

Leaders are needed now more than ever. Whether in education, healthcare, business, ministry, or public service, we need people who care, individuals who will make an impact and inspire others to do the same. We’re not talking about job titles, we’re talking about lives changed.

Join us in forging leaders who have, can, and will change the world. This is the legacy we’re made for.

Daniel J. Elsener
President of Marian University

VISION CO-CHAIRS
Paul J. ’73 and Debbie Norman
Philip ’81 and Teresa Houser ’80 Carson

COMMUNITY OUTREACH CHAIRS
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Your gift creates opportunities by preparing students to become leaders who create change that impacts the world.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GROWING THE ENDOWMENT

Our mission calls us to provide educational opportunities to a diverse and academically talented student body. Without substantial financial aid, a college education would be unavailable to these very students who enrich our campus community. Your gift makes their dreams possible.

SISTERS’ LEGACY FUND

In 1937, the Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, Indiana, courageously responded to the needs of the time and founded Marian University. Their selflessness in service continues to allow countless students to learn, lead, and serve. Now it’s time to honor them. Your gift supports the Sisters and further advances their legacy of increasing access to a life-changing education.

ENHANCE FACILITIES

Our campus and community spaces serve as transformation zones: places where our students engage their mind, body, and spirit. Your gift provides our growing student body with new spaces to work out, refuel physically and mentally, and collaborate as teams in the classroom and beyond.

SPECIAL INITIATIVES

From addressing the teacher shortage, to advancing healthcare programs, to increasing access to higher education, Marian University has been called to respond to the needs of the time since its inception. Your gift can support:

• Two-Year College
• Fred S. Klipsch Educators College
• Center for Ethics
• STEHM
• Latin@ Initiative

TOTAL: $97.3 million

2021 GOAL: $150 MILLION

Progress as of September 30, 2018
WEIGHT ROOM: The weight room inside of the fitness center not only features mega racks, power racks, power plates, dumbbells, and weight vests, but also 45 yards of field turf. Here, our student-athletes have the opportunity to train at the highest level.

NEW ATHLETIC FACILITIES

Whether you’re a student-athlete training alongside your teammates for the next big game, a student lifting weights to release nervous energy the night before a crucial exam, or a spectator cheering on your favorite Knight, Marian University’s new fitness facility is the place to find all-things athletics. Here’s a closer look inside.

PEYTON MANNING CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL HALL OF CHAMPIONS: In the Peyton Manning Children’s Hospital Hall of Champions, we honor the many achievements of our student-athletes, past and present. Knights fans are able to gather here and socialize before, during, or after games.
ARENA/CONVOCATION CENTER: The new fitness facilities include state-of-the-art spaces for our student-athletes to train, as well as spaces to play. Opening November 1, 2018, the new arena/convocation center will seat 3,000 fans, and will be a place to call home for men’s and women’s basketball, volleyball, and other campus events. Join us for a special ceremony and men’s and women’s basketball doubleheader on January 26, 2019.

FITNESS CENTER: The fitness center is open to students, faculty, and staff. The entire center is equipped with technology that allows students to listen to music, watch video, and engage with interactive cardio applications while they exercise.
In a traditional statistics class, a student learns the key components on the subject. In Andrew Smith’s Business 209 “Quantitative Analysis of Business” course, students learn statistics alongside marketing and management. This integrated approach to teaching business prepares them for the challenges they will face in their careers.

Smith, who is assistant professor of business and information systems in the Byrum School of Business, explained that in his statistics content module, students learn statistics through the lens of their clients’ needs.

“In a traditional class, there’s always a ‘right’ answer. In this class, there isn’t,” Smith said. “They get the ability to work with something real and sometimes ambiguous. They have to meet with clients, find out their needs, and learn to work with one another.”

Like in business, the class draws on the strengths of their students with certain students working as a part of an advanced statistical analysis team. This team analyzes the data collected by the class and works toward conclusions and recommendations of action for their clients.

This nine credit-hour course, taught by three professors, showcases the Byrum School of Business’ integrated, collaborative, and experiential approach to teaching. The semester culminates with students presenting their findings as a team to their clients, professors, and fellow classmates. Past clients include Salesforce and Community Health Network.

“By the end of the semester, our students have experienced something they would likely encounter in the real world as business consultants,” Smith said. “Their work has received praise from every organization we have worked with over the past five years.”

Smith co-teaches the course with Lori Rumreich, assistant professor of marketing, and Robert Schuttler, assistant professor of business and economics.
When Lois Stewart, Ph.D., CRNA, came to Marian University in 2016, she was a woman on a mission to help start the university’s Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program, specifically the nurse anesthesia track. Under the mentorship of Jackie Rowles, DNP, CRNA, director of the DNP nurse anesthesia program, Stewart brought more than 10 years of academic experience in nurse anesthesia education to this new endeavor in the Leighton School of Nursing. Having helped develop and refine nurse anesthesia programs in Virginia, she understood the challenges of bringing a nurse anesthesia program to a state with specific locales unaccustomed to nurse anesthesia practice.

“We're interested in building bridges,” Stewart said. “I have worked on various anesthesia care team models. Providers get to know each other, and it's very collaborative and collegial. You have to get into a place where they are not used to seeing you, and you have to prove your competence. All providers have the same interest at heart, and that is the best interest of the patient.”

Stewart’s dissertation and subsequent research serves as a workforce analysis of anesthesia provision in the U.S. and a critical resource analysis for nurse anesthesia educational programs. In her research she looked at the demand for anesthesia and found evidence that there is more than enough demand for both anesthesiologists and certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) in Indiana and across the country.

“When you do the research, you realize that neither doctors nor CRNAs as a single provider group are going to be able to meet the coming anesthesia needs in healthcare,” Stewart said. “The average age of an anesthesiologist is 50 years old; the average age of a CRNA is 49. All hands are needed because, even without the Affordable Care Act in full force, portions of the population have more insurance options and more disposable income, elderly people have a need for more procedures, people live longer, and for the most part, at a more stable health state. Finally, anesthesia care has never been safer. That means you’re able to consider giving anesthesia to someone you couldn’t have 20 years ago. So, the need is not going away. And neither group has the capability of meeting that need on their own. We must collaborate.”

Beyond looking at the need for anesthesia, Stewart examined the critical resources within typical nurse anesthesia educational programs. These areas included the need for clinical sites, a look at the applicant pool, financial constraints for both the programs and its students, and faculty resources. This research informed Marian’s program and has been one factor in a successful start to this brand new program, with students gaining clinical experience in hospitals throughout central Indiana and more clinical sites being secured as the program continues to grow.

If you would like to learn more about Marian University’s Doctor of Nursing Practice programs, please contact the Office of Graduate and Online Admission at GRadmissions@marian.edu or 317.955.6297.
As an assistant professor of microbiology and immunology, Minal Mulye, Ph.D., teaches immunology to future medical professionals with a focus on critical thinking. Since she started in the Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine (MU-COM) in 2017, she has also built a high-quality, creative, and hypothesis-driven research program which involves Marian students.

“We tend to think that research is only going to be bench work,” Mulye said. “But it will actually help us think very critically about everything. Additionally, any research we do will eventually help future scientists and physicians develop treatment for some disease, or at least pave the path for therapies.”

Mulye’s research combines cell biology, microbiology, and immunology. Her research interest lies in understanding host-pathogen interactions with a focus on identifying how pathogens manipulate host cell lipids and the immune system to promote their survival.

“We study a bacterium called Coxiella burnetii which initially infects the lungs and eventually causes heart infection, which can be fatal if untreated. What our research has shown recently is that these bacteria try to manipulate the lipids that are in our lung cells so they can suppress the immune response that we have,” Mulye said. “Basically, they are trying to live in the body for longer periods of time.”

Mulye noted that it is quite recent that researchers have linked lipids with inflammation or immune response.

“Typically, what we scientists aim to do is look at one aspect of a disease, but our body has so many things going on,” Mulye said. “Take inflammation for example—we know about inflammation, but we only think of it in one aspect, the immune system. We didn’t think that lipids play an important role in inflammation until recently. But, everything in the body is related to one another, and that’s why we’re taking a multi-disciplinary approach in our research.”

Mulye is looking to see if something as simple as an aspirin could help prevent this particular bacteria from living for long periods of time in the lungs and eventually infecting the heart as well.

Committed to her research, Mulye has been awarded an American Heart Association Postdoctoral Fellowship. She has presented her research at several national and international conferences and has been a member of the organizing committee for Midwest Microbial Pathogenesis Conference in Indianapolis and a co-organizer for American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB) Midwest Symposium in West Lafayette, Indiana. She is a member of American Women in Science (AWIS), American Society for Microbiology (ASM), American Society for Rickettsiology (ASR), the American Society for Cell Biology, and the American Heart Association. She serves as an ad hoc reviewer for the journals PLoS One and Emerging Microbes & Infections (Nature Publishing Group).

“A lot of people die of diseases that they should not die from,” Mulye said. “We have the capabilities; our body is made to fight these infections off. I’m working to understand why our own immune system isn’t always successful.”
While there are many theologians who study the Catholic Church’s rich history, philosophy, and tradition, not many of these scholars focus on adolescents in the Church. Arthur Canales, D.Min., associate professor of theology, is one of the few adolescent ministry scholars in the Catholic Church.

“Youth ministry is something that Protestants have done very well historically. Catholic studies are often focused on theology and history, which are important, but it’s also important for people to have ministry understanding.” Canales said.

Canales recently published the book, *Methods and Models for Youth and Young Adult Ministry: Ecumenical Examples and Pastoral Approaches for the Christian Church*. The book is a scholarly guide for youth and young adult ministers, empowering them to think theologically alongside their pastoral practice.

The book predominantly takes a look at four theological models: the Biblical-Hermeneutic Model, the Servant Leadership Model, the Liberation Model, and the Christian Discipleship Model. Each model in the book includes its own theology, suggestions for implementation, and a case study.

“I hope the book inspires youth and young adult ministers to be different in their ministry, to use it as a resource, to continue to read,” Canales said.

Because youth and young adult ministry hasn’t been a main focus in the Church’s theological education, Canales explained that parishes, in turn, sometimes hire ministers with little to no understanding of adolescent ministry.

“I am not so sure there is a lot of continued education when you get into ministry because it can be so busy and time consuming, but other professions require that. Nurses, educators, physicians continue their education, and our ministers should, too,” Canales said.

A guide for youth and young adult ministers worldwide, Canales especially hopes those in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis use the book as a resource to further develop their studies in the field and become impactful leaders to Catholic youth.
Save the Date

Marian University
Indianapolis

TRANSFORMATIONS Gala 11.09.18

JW Marriott Indianapolis
Friday, November 9, 2018
All-Alumni Reception 6 p.m.
Reception 6:30 p.m.
Program and Dinner 7:30 p.m.

Post-Program Reception and Live Entertainment
by Endless Summer Band

HONOREES:

Denny Sponsel
John Purdie Innovator and Mentor of the Year Award

Ed and Peggy Bonach
Franciscan Values Award

David '71 and Anne Haire
Dillon Family Distinguished Alumni Award

marian.edu/gala

For more information, contact Andrea Grube
at 317.955.6137 or RSVP Gala@marian.edu.

presented by

St. Vincent
Marian University began with a commitment to education and a Catholic Franciscan tradition that calls us to nurture the faith of our students. Our commitment to the physical well-being of our students goes back to our origins, as well. From the early days, when Allison Mansion housed the entire college (was that news to any of you?), students swam in the pool in the basement and practiced rowing in the “wetlands,” now known as the Nina Mason Pulliam EcoLab. Over the years, the facilities and programs used in support of students’ education, faith development, and physical well-being have all grown, changed, and been improved.

Examples of the university’s commitment to every aspect of our students’ well-being abound. We are continually upgrading our educational facilities. Next time you are on campus, check out the Paul J. Norman Center, home of the Byrum School of Business. This building was designed around curriculum taught in the Byrum School of Business—there are high-tech classrooms, breakout rooms for teams to collaborate, and a theatre-style presentation room. You should also visit Clare Hall to see the simulation lab classrooms of the Fred S. Klipsch Educators College. There, students lead a class in front of a screen containing virtual “students.” The “students” exhibit both positive and negative classroom behaviors to give students a chance to respond to the behaviors and receive feedback from their instructors.

Our new Physical Education Center is an amazing place for students to improve their physical fitness using state-of-the-art equipment in a light-filled environment. Our EcoLab provides a place for students to walk or run while encountering some of God’s most fascinating creations. Last year, in a single hike, I was barked at by a fox and encountered two box turtles!

Alumni Hall, the Dining Commons, and the Paul J. Norman Center all contain spaces for students to gather, collaborate, socialize, and relax together. Those of us who graduated in the previous century would agree that this is a huge improvement, allowing students who commute to school to interact much more fully with those who live on campus.

Marian’s commitment to our students’ educational, physical, and spiritual well-being goes beyond our wonderful facilities. Our Center for Academic Success and Engagement has several programs which support our students in various ways. First, we have increased our focus on the experience of our first-year students by enhancing the First-Year Experience program, and increased our retention of first-year students by over 12 percent. Our 21st Century Scholars Program, designed for students in lower income households who are typically first-generation college students, is held up as an example for universities state-wide. In addition, we offer peer tutoring and other free academic support to all students to ensure the best chance for their academic success.

On a weekly basis, students are given the opportunity to take part in yoga classes, intramural athletics, pop-up volleyball games, and many other activities to promote physical fitness and provide entertainment.

To aid in formation and development of our students’ spirits, we have four chapels on campus where students may practice quiet reflection, participate in daily Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, or attend multi-faith prayer services. Students may further develop their faith by participating in retreats and pilgrimages, and have the opportunity to put their faith in action by participating in outreach projects, such as working in homeless shelters and food pantries or making an Alternative Break mission trip.

If any of you have had the opportunity to encounter our students, you have seen that our university’s support of students’ well-being is paying off. Our students are phenomenal people and go on to be leaders in education, business, healthcare, and society. Thank you for your support of our students’ growth and development, and thank you for your continued commitment to Marian University. If you are interested in a tour, or would like to learn more, please reach out to me at alumni@marian.edu. I look forward to hearing from you!

Go, Knights!

Cathy Watt Siler ’86
Director of Alumni and Parent Engagement
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.

1960
Ron Summers and Leo Clouser ’64 gathered in Las Vegas sporting their Marian University baseball alumni t-shirts. To get yours, contact Cathy Siler, director of alumni and parent engagement at alumni@marian.edu.

1965
Chuck Federle was inducted into the East Central High School Athletic Hall of Fame on May 18, 2018.

1967
Jerome and Elizabeth Krider ’68 Traub celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 20, 2018.

1968
Bernadette Dufour Lathrop and her sister Maria Dufour have published a book on their nearly 20-year ownership of Dufour’s in Irvington, a well-known restaurant on the Eastside of Indianapolis. The book, titled: Dufour’s in Irvington, BLESSINGS IN OUR SOUP: Memoirs and Recipes, tells the story of the two sisters’ journey of starting and building the restaurant, then making the heartfelt decision to close its doors on a high note. The book is filled with history of the large, Catholic, eastside family, fun stories, pictures, and, of course, recipes. Available at: ibjbp.com or amazon.com.

1974
Mary Kay Wagner Hood was featured by the United Way for her career in community service beginning with the Indianapolis Zoo in 1988. She later transitioned to the Hendricks Regional Hospital, where she played an integral role in educating employees on the importance of giving back to the community. Hood served as the United Way chairperson for many years and was heavily involved with developing United Way’s office and board leadership in Hendricks County.

1978
Laure Robinson has two daughters adopted from China. Her oldest, Hannah, is a sophomore at Marian University and a resident assistant in University Hall.

1987
Joan Miller has two race horses currently racing at Turfway Park in Evansville, Indiana. Joan is a teacher and assistant girls’ basketball coach at Reitz Memorial High School.

1988
Mary Ann Dewan was named superintendent for the Santa Clara County Office of Education.

1996
Ed McGuire has been promoted to principal at Somerset CPAs and Advisors.

1998
Scott Young has been promoted to vice president, sales and marketing at George E. Booth Co., Inc.

1999
Jeff Rotmeyer was nominated for a Spirit of Hong Kong award for his work with Hong Kong’s homeless population. Rotmeyer has been teaching English in Hong Kong for the last 12 years.

2000
Kimberly Minya Fetzer is managing director at Tikijian Associates.

2001
Amy Flodder Ertel was named Zionsville Community Schools’ Teacher of the Year.

2002
Adairius Gardner was named to the Indianapolis Business Journal’s “40 Under 40” list for 2018.

2005
Dana Allen is vice president of product marketing for CNO Financial.

2006
Jennifer Briggs was named president and chief executive officer of the Indiana CPA Society.
2007

Ashley Chandler married Brandon Sims on April 8, 2017. Their wedding was attended by alumni Andrew ’15 and Rachel Nakabayashi ’14 Howard, Philippe Moore ’14, Angela Miles Simms ’06, Professor Kris Steege and wife, Michelle Steege ’16, and bridesmaids Christina Frey Kolb ’06 and Elizabeth Essink ’06.

Dan and Kiley Watson Kallenberger both work at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. Dan is the assistant dean of admission and financial aid at William Beaumont School of Medicine (OUWB), while Kiley works as an admissions adviser in undergraduate admissions.

2009

Brittney Knies married Keith Suttle on September 29, 2018.

2010

Kali Katina Genos married Thomas Howey on October 14, 2017.

2011


Thomas Hakim, MAT was named principal of Washington Woods Elementary School.

Adam Salzman and Olivia DiFilippo ’14 were married on June 23, 2018.

2012

Brock Caraboa and Katie Kaiser ’14 were married on June 30, 2018. Their bridal party included many Marian alumni: Kirby Johnson ’15, Megen Ruff Kelley ’15, Jaci Bowman ’14, Kacie Kelly Miller ’14, and Dan Brunke.

Jeffrey Dufresne was ordained to the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis on June 2, 2018.

Ian and Amy Wilson Garner welcomed Maria Ruth in March 2018. She joins big siblings Christian and Ava.

Christopher Rayburn married Erin Bane on April 28, 2018.

2013

Allison Bielefeld is a worker’s compensation policy analyst at Protective Insurance.

Amy Follett, MAT married Michael Kovanda on September 3, 2017 in Madison, Wisconsin.

2014

Andrew Kolb has been promoted to senior associate in the Indianapolis office of BKD.

2015

Four members of the Class of 2015 were ordained transitional deacons this Spring: Anthony Cecil was ordained a transitional deacon for the Archdiocese of Louisville by Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz at the Basilica at St. Joseph Proto-Cathedral in Bardstown, Kentucky on March 24, 2018. Andrew Thomas and Luke Hassler were ordained as transitional deacons for the Diocese of Evansville by Bishop Joseph Siegel at the Basilica of St. Francis Xavier in Vincennes, Indiana on April 14, 2018. Declan McNicholas was ordained as a transitional deacon for the Diocese of Gary by Bishop Donald Hying on June 2, 2018, at the Cathedral of the Holy Angels inGary, Indiana. All attended all four years of college at the Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary at Marian University and have one year left in their seminary formation before their hopeful ordination to the priesthood.

Austin Thomen married Alaina Zloty on August 18, 2018.

Dan Watson is offensive coordinator, offensive line coach, and strength coordinator for the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology football program.

Cristina Fontana is an elementary school nurse with Peyton Manning Children’s Hospital.

Leah Miller passed the CPA Exam.

Patrick O’Driscoll, MAT married Reva Weiss, MAT on March 17, 2018.
1. Glue Nomadic Knightro to poster board or construction paper for a little extra heft.
2. Cut out Nomadic Knightro.
3. Snap a photo of Nomadic Knightro on a trip, at a Marian University event, or anywhere fun you go.
4. Post your photo on Facebook, Twitter, and/or Instagram with the hashtag #NomadicKnightro or send the photos to jkelb@marian.edu.

You can also find Nomadic Knightro online at marian.edu/knightro.

### NOMADIC KNIGHTRO TRAVELS...

**Dr. Dick Phillips ’63, Mary Ellen Benedetto ’63 Phillips, Dr. Gaye Moseman, and Dr. Bob Moseman ’63**

explore Mayan ruins in Costa Maya, Mexico on their Western Caribbean cruise in February.

**Dan O’Brien ’67 and Ginny Mosele O’Brien ’67**

celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in Ireland this past June.
2015, continued

  Jill Mayo is a customer service representative for Ricoh.

  Andrea Gaither is an executive assistant for the NCAA.

2016


  Dakkota Gary is a smile guide at Smile Direct Club.

  Will Grabowski is a pharmacy intern at St. Francis Hospital.

  Rose Nakibuuka is a housing specialist for Catholic Charities.

  Chad Roberts has passed the CPA Exam.

2017

  James Abbett is business development officer at Indiana Members Credit Union.

  Topher Anderson and Claire Husting ’18 were married on June 30, 2018.

  Chandler Ball is an IT internal auditor at Cardinal Health.

  Patrick Bell is Incite project manager at Emmis Communications.

  Broden Chapman is digital marketing coordinator at Coles Marketing.

  Olivia Kalscheur and Fletcher Kitchell were married on May 12, 2018. The wedding party included Liam Thompson ’15, Sam Rasp ’16, Kevin Effron ’16, Luke Messmer ’17, KJ Fallon ’17, Claire Husting Anderson ’18, Nichole Rorick ’18, Brittney White ’19, and Abigail Spitler ’20.

2018

  Robert McKee and AlyxaKay Shields ’18 were married on July 28, 2018.

  Luke Messmer is a missionary at the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS).

  Hana Roessler has been named an Orr Fellow.


  Cassie Dishman, DO, married Kevin Kessler on May 19, 2018.


  Presley Martin and Kiersten Schrøpe were married on August 11, 2018.

  Stephanie Purdy has been named an Orr Fellow.

  Vince Ravotto accepted a job with Sponsel CPA Group and began in September 2018.

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Host your holiday party at Allison Mansion.

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Seating for up to 200 people
On-site parking
On-site catering
Full bar services

For more information, contact Kortni Wright, conference services and special events coordinator, at kwright@marian.edu or 317.955.6120.
Mary Duffy Collins ’42—August 16, 2017
Geraldine Power, OSF ’47—February 16, 2018
Wilhemina Burkemper, OSF ’57—January 6, 2018
Caroline Siedling Gerard ’57—2017
Don King ’60—February 24, 2018
Don Ash ’61—July 25, 2018
Tecla Jaehnen, OSF ’62—March 11, 2018
Paul Pangallo ’62—March 18, 2018
Sigrida “Zigi” Maria Gzibovskis Heathcote ’65—May 5, 2018
Donna Williams Beyer ’69—March 22, 2018
Marian Trick Sullivan ’75—July 27, 2017
James C. Barnes ’77—February 17, 2018
Vicki Gioscio Schwab ’79—April 5, 2018
Chad Michael Miller ’81—February 9, 2018
Samuel Hamilton ’88—September 21, 2017
Susan Williams Jones ’91—June 30, 2018
Trent Conn ’07—July 2, 2018
Nicholas Schmutte ’07—May 27, 2017
Mary Malatesta, longtime professor of Accounting and Economics—July 28, 2018
Sr. Adele Zahn, formerly Sr. Karen, Faculty Emeritus—January 24, 2018

Walt Fields, Marian (College) University’s first athletic director, basketball coach, baseball coach, and physical education instructor, passed away on August 28, 2017. Fields served in those and various other capacities during his tenure at Marian, which lasted from 1957 through 1972. During 2014, many of Fields’ friends and former players banded together to establish the Walt Fields Endowed Scholarship, which is now given annually to a student-athlete.
Vernon Smith ’11: Building Tradition

By Toni Polizzi

In August of 2007, Vernon Smith ’11 stepped on to Marian University’s campus as a freshman, eager to take the field for the Knights in the first football season in school history. Smith and his teammates on the inaugural squad were motivated by a completely blank slate, a chance to create history, and a unique opportunity to build a tradition.

In just over 10 years at Marian University, Smith hasn’t stopped building. Director of strength and conditioning since 2011, Smith was instrumental in planning the brand-new, 27,000 square-foot weight room and fitness center that opened in August 2018. From the flooring, to the hand-picked equipment, to the technology that will propel Knight athletics to even greater success, Smith has overseen every aspect.

“Now what I see at Marian is, we can push the limit even more. With new facilities, the caliber of student-athletes we’re recruiting, and the type of students that we have on campus—this will give not only our athletes, but our whole community a chance to have a taste of success.”

Q&A WITH VERNON SMITH

Q: How does this facility change the way you, your staff, and student-athletes operate?

A: We work with just under 700 student-athletes in 28 varsity sports. With this facility, we shed hours. We’re smarter. A workout that took an hour and 20 minutes takes 40 minutes. We’re more efficient, our staff is happier, we have time to plan workouts and enlarge the territory of each strength coach.

Q: What are you most excited for the student-athletes and community to see?

A: First and foremost, I want to show them that they have something they can call their own. We can build a new tradition. We’re not in a dungeon anymore, everyone can see us. They see how much work and dedication and devotion it takes to win these championships. It gives everyone a fresh start.

Q: How does this space compare to others, nationally?

A: We are one of the few in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) who have a facility of this size. Not many small Division 1 schools have weight rooms that look like ours. In Indiana, we have one of the largest weight rooms for athletics at the college level, 18,000 square feet in the weight room, 27,000 combined with the fitness center.

Q: 27,000 square feet is A LOT. What’s in it?

A: The equipment is some of the best in the country. We have 15 mega racks, 45 yards of field turf, power racks, power plates, dumbbells, weight vests —everything you’ll ever need in a collegiate weight room.

Q: Powered by this new facility, what does Marian University bring that’s different from what anyone else is doing?

A: We bring an intensity and attention to detail that most programs will never see. With our staff, coaches, and the backing of our athletic department and administration, we have something that is unmatched. The work we put in directly correlates to the number of championships that we’ve won. You can see the growth. We’re winning championships that we’ve never won before and hadn’t even thought about before. Now our athletic program is putting Marian on the map.”
**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Transformations Gala**
November 9 at the JW Marriott Indianapolis.
For more information, visit marian.edu/gala.

**Global Studies Speaker Series:**
*Senator Richard G. Lugar (retired)*
December 9

**Blessing and Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony**
for New Arena/Convocation Center
January 26, 2019

If you have any questions regarding alumni events, visit marian.edu/alumni
or email alumni@marian.edu.

For more details and events, visit the calendar on the Marian University website at events.marian.edu.

*This year’s Transformations Gala is an event you don’t want to miss!*