

MARIAN UNIVERSITY

2025 Annual Report



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Mission Statement

Marian University is a Catholic applied liberal arts community that welcomes diverse spiritual traditions. Sponsored by the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes, Marian University engages students in the education of the whole person. We embrace justice and compassion and transform lives for professional service and leadership in the global community.

Marian University is a community committed to learning, dedicated to service and social justice, and joined together by spiritual traditions.

Strategic Plan

In the Fall of 2024, work began on a new Strategic Plan for Marian University. The team included a cross-section of the university: faculty, staff, students, CSA Sisters, and Trustees all coming together. We wanted this process to be different — a plan focused on how Marian can truly thrive and best serve our students and the community. The plan is built on four Cornerstones of Excellence, listed below.

To ensure our success, cross-functional teams have developed key performance indicators to measure our progress and hold us accountable. This is more than just a plan; it's a commitment to action — we are moving forward and excited about the future.

Cornerstones of Excellence

Enrollment & Engagement

Marian University is a destination of choice for students, faculty, staff, and the community.

Student Belonging

Marian University students feel accepted, valued, and connected to the institution.

Trusted Source of High Quality Graduates

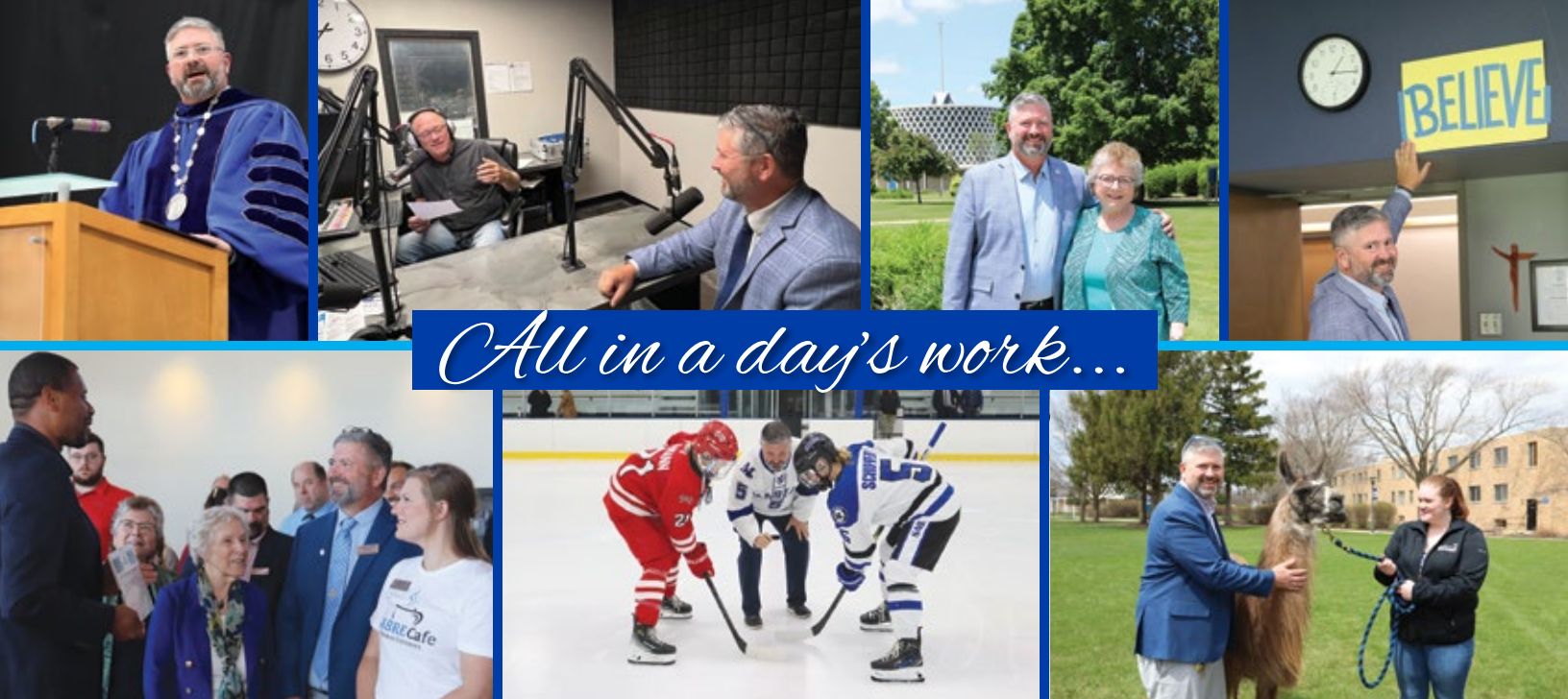
Marian University graduates are prepared, highly sought after, and the best people for their community.

Financial Stewardship & Sustainability

Marian University is financially self-sustaining.



Strategic Planning Committee



All in a day's work...

President's Message

Dear Marian University Community,

As I reflect on my first year as the 18th President of Marian University, I am filled with pride and gratitude. Our mission of **"making students the best for the world"** has been our guide as we have embarked on a remarkable journey of growth and transformation.

This past year, we've made significant investments to enhance the Marian experience. We introduced six new majors for our traditional undergraduate students and four new online undergraduate majors, along with six new graduate certificates. These new academic programs, coupled with the completion of our state-of-the-art Radiologic Technology renovation, ensure we provide a cutting-edge education. We have also brought new life to our campus by reopening the Sabre Café and unveiling a new exercise room in Naber Hall.



Beyond our physical spaces, we are strengthening the heart of our community. We began a new strategic planning process and made history by becoming the first four-year institution in Wisconsin to add Women's Flag Football. We also enacted the Marian Promise — a two-year tuition freeze — to support our students.

Thank you for being an essential part of the Marian University family. We are building a stronger, more dynamic future for our students and for the world.

Sincerely,

Aaron A. Sadoff
President, Marian University

Learning In and Out of the Classroom

At Marian University, we believe to be the best for the world, you need to get out into the world. Marian's commitment to the Core Value of Learning means we are continually expanding academic offerings and creating unique, hands-on experiences that prepare students to be leaders in their fields.

Student FEATURE

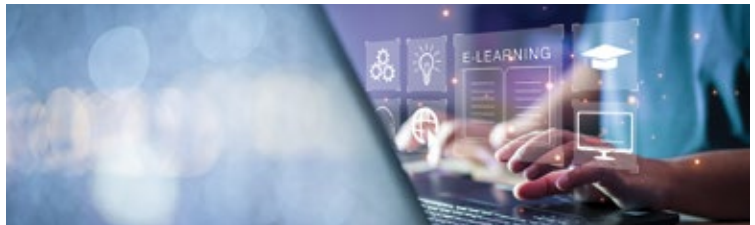
Lucas Roltgen

Working at Marian University as a high school student during the COVID pandemic gave **Lucas Roltgen** a firsthand look at the campus community. Although he initially pursued his degree elsewhere, the experience inspired him to transfer to Marian. He enrolled full-time, pursuing a B.S. in Middle and Secondary Education with a Broad Field Social Studies emphasis, all while continuing his work in Operations. Roltgen graduated in May 2025, and is teaching Social Studies to seventh and eighth graders at St. Mary's Springs Academy.

"Marian's small class sizes allow students to really connect with professors and peers. The staff is extremely friendly, and there are so many opportunities to get involved and feel a true sense of belonging."



New Academic Programs: Marian introduced several new undergraduate majors in the last year, including **Business Analytics, Cybersecurity, Supply Chain Management, and Nutrition**, giving students more options for specialized learning. And based on demand and excitement for the Master's in Thanatology program, Marian introduced a Bachelor's in Thanatology degree.



New Graduate Certificates: To foster a culture of continuous improvement, four new, 100% online graduate certificates were added: Compensation Analyst, Organizational Data Analytics, Organizational Development, and Training and Development. These are part of Marian's popular Master's in Industrial Organizational Psychology program.



Moraine Park Transfer Agreement: A new partnership with Moraine Park Technical College allows students to seamlessly transfer with junior status, creating a clear and affordable path to a bachelor's degree.



Top Radiologic Technology Program: Marian recently renovated a space on campus for the Radiologic Technology program and installed new, state-of-the-art equipment. Marian's senior Rad Tech students attended the Wisconsin Society of Radiologic Technologists Conference, and took first place in the Quiz Bowl, outperforming 23 schools from four states.



Veterans Helping Veterans: Marian's Student Veterans Organization honored those who served by regularly preparing meals at the [American Legion](#) and donating non-perishable food to local veterans.



Future Nurses Teaching Wellness: Nursing students and faculty visited [Bessie Allen Middle School](#) in North Fond du Lac to teach children about healthy living and hygiene, using fun, hands-on activities like listening to heartbeats with stethoscopes.



A Hand to the Homeless: Marian's Campus Ministry organized a group of students and staff to cook and serve a meal for the residents of the Saint Katharine Drexel Shelter. Students from the **Juvenile Law** class organized a **"Cans and Cards for Kidz"** drive for the shelter, collecting canned goods and hygiene products.



Orientation Service Day: Freshmen get a hands-on introduction to Marian's mission and Core Value of Service during Orientation. Spreading out across Fond du Lac, students volunteered at various locations, including [St. Mary's Springs Academy](#), the [Fondy Food Pantry](#), [The Arc of Fond du Lac](#), [Eden Brook Rehabilitation Center](#), [St. Vincent de Paul](#), and the [Solutions Center Shelter & Support Services](#).

Inspired by our Core Value of **Service**,

Marian University students, faculty and staff are making a positive impact by actively living out our mission to serve others. Here are a few examples of their outreach and how they are becoming leaders who are truly the **best for the world**.

Student FEATURE

Gabriella Adelhardt

Gabriella Adelhardt, a U.S. Navy veteran from Milwaukee, graduated with her B.S. in Criminal Justice in 2024 while actively serving her country.

Her military service, which took her to 19 different countries, was a life-changing experience that prepared her for her next chapter. She is now pursuing her M.S. in Health Care Administration from Marian University.

She plans to pivot into law school to pursue a career in health care law.

"Marian is inclusive, they are welcoming, and the professors are there to help guide you every step of the way. I absolutely love being a part of the Sabre community."



At Marian, we put our Core Value of **Social Justice**

into action through hands-on service, advocacy, and community engagement — from supporting local shelters and mental health centers to participating in state-level policy discussions. Through coursework, internships, and events honoring Dr. King’s legacy, students gain real-world experience while advancing equity and dignity for all.

Faculty FEATURE

Brenda Stueber

Professor Brenda Stueber is transforming Social Work education at Marian University through innovative, experiential learning, including courses like **Understanding Poverty**. She pioneered the popular **Bridge Program** to help related degree-holders qualify for the National Social Work licensing exam. Thanks to her advocacy, students now benefit from paid internships, and 92% secure employment or pursue graduate studies post-graduation, ensuring they’re prepared to lead change.

“I want the students to remember me as connecting, relating, and helping. Every day is a gift. My motto is: Meet people where they are at and teach together — they learn, I learn.”

Marian’s Social Work Program in Action!



Poverty Simulation: Students in the **Understanding Poverty** class participated in a **poverty simulation** with CESA 6. This exercise provided them with a powerful, immersive understanding of the daily struggles faced by low-income families.



Taking Action: Marian’s **Understanding Poverty** course brings students to agencies like **Saint Katharine Drexel Shelter, Holy Family Warming Shelter, and ADVOCAP**, which offers services to combat poverty. Students collected and delivered more than 600 items — plus gift cards and cash — to support local veterans. Another group prepared and provided 40 bag lunches for residents of the Holy Family Warming Shelter.



Real-World Experience: Brenda Stueber’s **Generalist Group** Social Work class partners with **Berry House Drop-in Center**, which assists individuals with mental health and substance use disorders. Students co-lead sessions on budgeting, boundaries, and mental health. Juniors **Dana Pollom** and **Misty Rutherford** organized a hygiene drive and collected essential items like toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, and soap.



Spiritual Ceremonies: Marian brought back the **Blessing of the Hands** in Dorcas Chapel, a beloved tradition for helping professions, and held beautiful candle-lighting ceremonies for each Education Commissioning, where students are reminded they will be a light to the world like Jesus. Nursing pins are blessed at each Nursing Pinning Ceremony, as graduates prepare to serve others.



Campus Ministry Activities: The Campus Ministry group travelled on a **Summer Mission Trip to Appalachia** to repair homes. They also raised money to fund an inspirational spiritual trip to the SEEK 2025 Conference in Salt Lake City, where they connected with thousands of Catholic college students from across the country.



Trip to Holy Hill: While visiting **Holy Hill and the Basilica and National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians** in Hubertus, Wisconsin, members of Campus Ministry did some hiking on the beautiful grounds and climbed the steps of a tower for breathtaking views.

Our Core Value of Spiritual Traditions

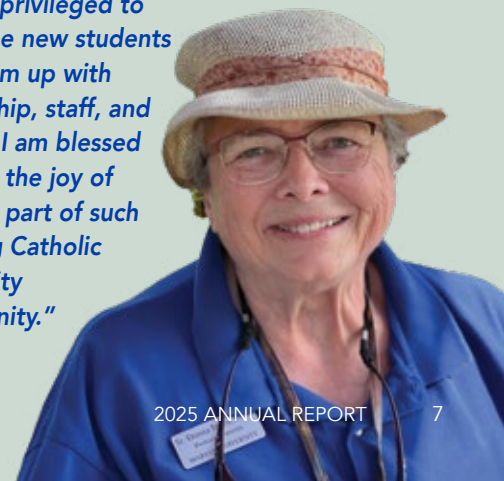
is deeply rooted in the values of our founding order, the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes. This Core Value is expressed through campus ministry, sacred traditions, and events that help our community grow in faith, but also in our worldview of caring for others and the earth.

CSA Sister FEATURE

Sister Donna Innes

Sister Donna Innes is a constant and cherished presence on campus, and example of the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes (CSA) founding legacy. She welcomes new students with treats and inspirational presentations on Marian's Mission and Core Values. Sister Donna also serves on the Board of Trustees, Strategic Planning Committee, and at the Academic Symposium. Before finals, she distributes treats, telling students the Sisters are praying for them.

"The thrill of living out CSA's mission at Marian never diminishes for me as I am privileged to welcome new students and team up with leadership, staff, and faculty. I am blessed to have the joy of being a part of such a caring Catholic university community."



Marian University's Core Value of Community

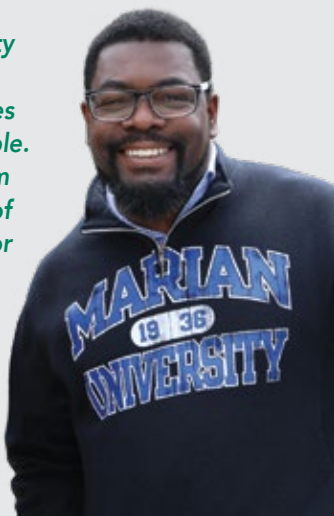
means we actively invite our neighbors, partners, and alumni to campus, enriching our academic and social life, while strengthening our ties to the greater Fond du Lac area. At Marian, we believe that a strong sense of community is essential for a vibrant campus experience.

Staff FEATURE

Garry Moïse

Garry Moïse, Director of Upward Bound Math and Science (UBMS) and a two-time Marian alumnus, is passionate about guiding first-generation students. With an 18-year career in TRIO programs, including 13 years with UBMS, he is dedicated to student success. Moïse also serves as an adjunct **International Business** faculty member, raising global awareness. The native of Haiti speaks four languages and is working on three more.

"I feel privileged to have the opportunity to connect students to valuable resources and important people. I want to teach them to take advantage of the opportunities for them to advance toward their career aspiration."



Campus Events: Marian's Forensic Science Association hosted a **Crime Scene Lab Open House**, attracting more than 100 curious community members. Additionally, our campus was a bustling hub for the **Envision Greater Fond du Lac Business Connection**, where area leaders, innovators, and entrepreneurs gathered to network.



Sabre Café is Open for Business: Our friends from Envision Greater Fond du Lac held a Ribbon Cutting at the new **Sabre Café** and it seemed like all of Fond du Lac was there! Members of the community are encouraged to have their coffee meetings in this beautiful space...or just stop in for a great cup of coffee!



Professional Development: The university was a proud host to more than 150 high school and tech college students for the **Women in Construction 2025** event, bringing together students and professionals to share wisdom and experience. We also hosted the **C.A.R.E. Conference**, a gathering of helping professionals from the community, to focus on self-care, ethics, and boundaries.



Fiscal Year Review July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

(Dollars in thousands)

Summary of Revenues and Expenses*

| | 2024-25 | 2023-24 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Revenues | | |
| Net tuition and fees | \$ 15,358 | \$ 16,304 |
| Auxiliary enterprises | 3,579 | 3,375 |
| Gifts, grants, and bequests | 3,811 | 3,592 |
| Investment return and other | 3,222 | 2,717 |
| Total Revenues | \$25,970 | \$25,988 |
| Expenses | | |
| Instruction | \$ 6,078 | \$ 6,054 |
| Academic support | 2,578 | 2,470 |
| Student services | 6,279 | 5,938 |
| Institutional support | 5,232 | 5,204 |
| Plant operations | 3,050 | 4,001 |
| Auxiliary enterprises | 2,079 | 1,607 |
| Total Expenses | \$25,296 | \$25,274 |
| Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets | \$ 674 | \$ 714 |

Summary of Financial Position*

| | 2024-25 | 2023-24 |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Total Assets | \$ 57,904 | \$ 57,217 |
| Total Liabilities | 5,748 | 5,735 |
| Total Net Assets | \$52,156 | \$51,482 |

*As of June 30 for the year noted. 2024-25 results are unaudited. Financial information is subject to approval of the Marian University Board of Trustees.

Donor Listing July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

If we have inadvertently omitted or incorrectly listed your name, please accept our sincerest apologies and contact us at 920.923.8604 so we may correct our records.



In loving memory of Larry Heller, whose warmth and friendship touched many. Pictured here with President Sadoff at the Alumni & Friends Golf Outing.

Holy Family Congregation
Knights of Columbus
Council 664 Charities
Michels Corporation
National Exchange Bank & Trust
Pillar and Vine
R.W.E. Goldsmith LTD., Inc.
RBC Wealth Management/
Korb Family
Sadoff Iron & Metal
Salchert's Meat Market
Spies Painting Inc.
STUSQU PLLC
The American Gift Fund
We Energies Foundation

Founders' Club \$500-\$999

Individuals

Colleen Brickle
Dorothy Ford '71
Mark Quistorf '24
Douglas and M. Dianne '66 Zande
Amber Yahr '20
Benjamin '01/'15 and
Noel '03 Soman
Callista Gould
Carol Smart '60
Catherine Reil '77
George E. Koonce and
Gina '21 Koonce
John Hammond
Joseph Koch '19
Kerry Strupp '04
Patrick Egan
Rees Candee
Richard Slate '90
Rose Marie Vickery '82
Sharon Hilbert '72

Companies and Foundations

Advanced Tooling, Inc.
Bank First
Brian and Jennifer Baker Family
Charitable Fund
Goal-Line Golf & Hockey Shop
Integrity Saw & Tool, Inc.
Kwik Trip, Inc.
Nickols Roofing and Gutters, LLC
PPC Foundation
Society Insurance Charitable Fund
The Printing Express, Inc.
Zehren Electric

Investor Level \$25,000 and more

Individuals

James and Kathleen '64 Simon
Lori Rieth '77 and Wendy Kotulla

Companies and Foundations

Barbara and Peter Stone Family
Foundation, Inc.
Congregation of Sisters of
St. Agnes
Drexel Building Supply
Green Bay Packers Foundation
J.F. Ahern Co.
Kohler Company
Michael and Leanne Haddad
Family Foundation, Inc.
Mike Shannon Automotive
Foundation, Inc.
SSM Health
The Boldt Family Fund
The Catholic Foundation for
the Diocese of Green Bay
WAICU

Advancement Level \$10,000-\$24,999

Individuals

Elizabeth Cline '43
Larry and Debra Heller '01
Richard Poirier
Stephen Victor

Companies and Foundations

Festival Foods
Forest County Potawatomi
Foundation

Builder Level \$5,000-\$9,999

Individuals

John Candela
Richard Redman

Companies and Foundations

Fond du Lac Area Foundation
National Exchange Bank
Foundation, Inc.
Ted and Grace Bachhuber
Foundation, Inc.

Trustees' Associates \$2,500-\$4,999

Individuals

Tripp and Colleen Ahern
Donald & Marilyn '64 Cayen
David Hornung
Susan Mischler
Michael Moos
Kevin Voelker '84

Companies and Foundations

C.D. Smith Construction, Inc.
Dr. R.G. and Sarah Raymond
Foundation
Fond du Lac Rotary Club
Charities, Inc.
Francis R. and
Ruth E. Oberreich Foundation
Glenn and Pat Teske Foundation
Horicon Bank
J & V Roberts Investments, Inc.
Mercury Marine
Quest Interiors

Service League of Fond du Lac
St. Louis Community Foundation
Zizzo Group Marketing

President's Club \$1,000-\$2,499

Individuals

Mickie Anderson
Anonymous
Mary Ann Austin
Richard and Karen Baker
Josefina Baltodano
Cody Cardinal '15
Kathleen Candee
Richard Candee
Henry Chang
Mary Cody '68
Kathryn Cristan '74
Jane Gaffney '72
Margaret Goeden-Chapman
Robert and Lori Hornung
David Klumpyan
Mark Lasky
Richard and Leslie Ridenour
Stephanie Schipper
Joan Schilke '65
Matthew Shinners
John and Sally St. Peter
James Wegmann '00
Joseph and Ann '65 Wenzler
Rosalie Koenen '69

Companies and Foundations

Altrusa International Foundation
of Fond du Lac, Inc.
Baker Family Foundation
Fond du Lac Morning Rotary
Holiday Automotive

Naber Society

\$250–\$499

Individuals

Aaron Sadoff '01
Amy Bourne
Barbara Pollei
Bobbi Jo Merten '06
Christopher Joch '96
Elizabeth Feldmann, SASN '65
Emilie Gillanders
Faithe Colas
Helen Englebert
James and Kim Chatterton
Jeffrey Reed
Joshua and Stephanie Clary
Larry Karlin
Lorette Wambach, SASN '47
Marjorie Shea '89
Mark Walecka '94
Mary Candee
Mary Lou Soffa
Michael Sergi
Pauline Kussart '81
Rhonda Maas
Robert Duley '90
Tom Herre

Companies and Foundations

Adashun Jones Inc.
Bristol Morgan Bank
Culligan Water Conditioning
Edward Jones-Jeff Wills
Envision Greater Fond du Lac, Inc.
Fox Valley Savings Bank
Geiger
Hopper's Custom Silk Screening
Klumpyan Consulting, LLC
Lamers Bus Lines
Lapham-Hickey Steel
M3 Insurance
Mauthe & Associates, DDS, SC
Quality Control Services, Inc.
Sargento Foods Inc
Schumacher Construction
Signature Homes
by Adashun Jones
St. Mary's Springs Academy
The Arc of Fond du Lac
Trier-Puddy Post #75
The American Legion
Ziegler Winery, LLC

Sabre Society

\$100–\$249

Individuals

Irene Alderman '60
Debra Barrett
Jason Bartelt '18
Michael Boedeker '06
Josh Bohnert
Bryan Buchholz
Todd Buss
Cody Candee
Katie Candee
Mac Candee

Michael Candee
David and Patricia '66 Casetta
Sally Cole
Judith Dahnke '92
Logan Demaa
Ann Egan
Brian Fryman
Steven Gabrish '19
Sarah Garvey
Zachary Gilgenbach
Patrick Goebel
Kimberly Goelz
Kathryn Groeschl '77
Glenn Grothman
Zachary Gutzman '17
Morgan Hernandez
Linda Hoffmann
Alan Johnson
Kathryn Kadar '05
Karen Karbowski '64
Nickolas Kawleski '03
Jim Keenan
Judith Kent '58
Aaron Kramer
John and Barbara Lent
Mary Lodes
Jane Losee
Octavia Manuel-Wright '16
Michael Marsala '01
Linda Marske '21
Mary Massey
Tyler McLaughlin
Daniel Mercer
Michael Messer
Christy Mills
Garry Moise '05/'08
Alice Negratti
Faith Opsteen '93
Karen Patoka
Nicole Paulus '17
Dian Polly '78
Jeffrey and Eileen '71 Posluszny
Bobbie Radocha '71
Madelyn Rambo
Catherine Rapp
Kurt Reising '01
Rosa Richards
Lucas Roltgen '25
Michelle Ryan '11
Bernadette Schmitz '68
Louise Seroogy '81
John Shanahan
Janet Stephany
Sheamus Stoye '21
Connie Taylor-Foltz '83
Rozanne Vandeurzen
Jean Werner
Carolyn Winkel '66
Linda Winter '71
Ann Yockey '68
Ian Zahn

Companies and Foundations

Promo Suite, LLC
Fond du Lac Firefighters
Local 400
Moraine Park Technical College

Fond du Lac County
Government Center
Oshkosh Area Community
Foundation

Friends of Marian

\$99 and under

Individuals

Arlene Ablor
Craig Anderson
Jane Barlin
Louann Biddick '83
Andrew Brault '07
Mary Brinker '95
Carl Bruss
Antoinette Buechel '59
Gisele Burnett
Brian Burns
Donald Cayen
Nathaniel DeBolt
Mary De Bruin '70
Maythia Dietzen Johnson SASN '56
Dayana Duarte
Sharon Fialkowski '66
Greg and Laura Giles
Deanna Grimm '70
Peter Grimm
Sandra Harn '07
Sheila Harper
Tiffany Howard '03
Margaret Hutchison '61
Sharon Hsu '75
Terri Jacobson '85
Russ Jordan
Ann Kaglowski
Paul Kasten '93
Brooke Keenan
Kathleen Klegin '67
Susan Kohlman '93
Lynda Krellwitz
Steven Levsen
Mary Long
Barbara Mabie
Therese Massey
Benjamin Mercer
Gary Meyer '90
Mary Miller '70
Joan Murray '58
Nicole Nelson '06
Eleanor Nett
Marvin Oleske
Kathryn Omernik '72
Dawn Ortiz
Teri Passow
Jane Plamann '91
Mary Ann Salter
Nikki Schmidt
Joshua School '04/'12
Kelli Schrauth
Barbara Senn '98
Mary Serwe '55
Marian Sheridan
Mary Skinkis '84
Irma Smet '76
Joseph Stachon
Eileen Steffen

Aaron Tessaro '01
Marie Trebec
Kathy Vogel '87
Sharon Vollendorf '89
Katrina Walker
Gloria Ybarra
Diane Zancanaro '86
Rhonda Zeller

Companies and Foundations

Ahern-Gross, Inc.
Baird Foundation, Inc.
American Online Giving Foundation

Gifts-in-Kind

3 Sheeps Brewing
Altoona Supper Club
Backyard Bar & Grill
Badger Liquor
Badger Sports Park
Benvenuto's
Best Place Milwaukee
CC's Chocolates
Chicago Cubs
Club Carwash
Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurant
Debbie Macomber
Destination Kohler
Festival Foods
Fond du Lac Dock Spiders
Fond du Lac Family YMCA
Freddy's
George and Gina Koonce
Green Bay Packers Give Back
Sierra Strobe
Harbor Shores Lake Geneva
Heidel House
Holiday Automotive
Jack George
Johnsonville
Kathleen Candee and
Janet Koester '08
Kendra Scott
Kim Sorensen Family
Knuth Brewing Company
Kwik Trip
LaClare Farms
Marian Bowling
Marian Golf
Marian Hockey
Travis Diener
Michels Corporation
Mid Vallee Golf Course
Milwaukee Admirals
Milwaukee Brewers
Milwaukee Bucks
Milwaukee Food Tours
Milwaukee Milkmen Baseball
Milwaukee Public Museum
Minnesota Twins
Old Hickory Golf Course
Paine Art Center
Parker John's
PDQ Car Wash
Portillo's
Radiant DJ Service

Radio Plus
 Road America
 Rocky Rococo Pizza
 Rolling Meadows Golf Course
 Sevenwinds Casino
 South Hills Golf & Country Club
 The Goldsmith
 Thelma Sadoff Center for the Arts
 Timber Rattlers
 TJ's Harbor Restaurant
 Tony and Trish Draves
 Whispering Springs Golf Club
 Wild Rock Golf Club
 Wisco Hotels
 Wisconsin Distributors
 Wisconsin Herd
 Ziegler Winery

Event Sponsorships

Adashun Jones
 Advanced Tooling
 Atlas Roofing
 Baker Family Foundation
 Brakebush Family
 Bristol Morgan Bank
 C.D. Smith Construction, Inc.
 Cody Cardinal and Family
 Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes
 Culligan of North Fond du Lac
 Dr. Josh Clary
 Drexel Building Supply
 Edward Jones — Jeff Wills
 Fedco Batteries
 Fond du Lac Morning Rotary
 Fond du Lac Noon Rotary
 Fox Valley Savings Bank
 Geiger

Goal-Line Golf & Hockey Shop
 Graphic Design Marketing, Inc.
 Green Bay Packers Give Back
 Holiday Automotive
 Hopper's Screen Printing & Embroidery
 Horicon Bank
 J.F. Ahern Company
 Jane Gaffney
 Kate Candee and Janet Koester '08
 Lamers Bus Lines, Inc.
 Lapham-Hickey Steel
 Ledgeview Lanes
 M3 Insurance
 Mauthe & Associates, DDS, SC
 Mercury Marine
 Michels Corporation
 MU Finance
 National Exchange Bank & Trust
 Nickols Roofing and Gutters
 OSMS

Quality Control Services
 Quest Interiors
 RBC Wealth Management/
 Korb Family
 Rick's Plumbing
 RJ Concrete
 Roberts Homes
 Sadoff Iron & Metal
 Salchert Meats
 Sargento
 Schumacher Construction
 Signature Homes by
 Adashun Jones
 Society Insurance
 SSM Health
 Stephen Victor
 The Printing Express, Inc.
 Zehren Electric LLC
 Zizzo Group

Remembering those we lost...



Mary Ellen Mercer

Mary Ellen Mercer, who passed away on January 24, 2025, served for many years as the Director of Counseling at Marian. Her kindness and unwavering faith touched countless lives. Her commitment to students was immeasurable, offering support, wisdom, and encouragement to

all who sought her guidance. Beyond her professional role, Ellen was a devoted family woman, a passionate artist, and will be deeply missed by her Marian family.



Michael Ketterhagen

Michael Ketterhagen, who died on December 12, 2024, was a revered Professor of Theology at Marian University. His life was a testament to his love of teaching and learning, from the classroom to his founding of the Fond du Lac Center for Spirituality and Healing,

where he was also a yoga teacher. An inspiration to many, Michael was known for his kindness, profound wisdom, and a voracious love for philosophy and the meaning of life.



In Memoriam

Sr. Angie Behen, CSA '64, d. 11/7/24
 Joseph Bird '87, d. 4/3/25
 Heather Mary Hickey Brenner, d. 8/20/24
 Sr. Grace Imelda Buckreis, CSA '61, d. 4/25/25
 Joann M. Huelsbeck Cossella, SASN, d. 9/10/24
 Charmaine Diehl '61, d. 10/26/24
 Ronald C. Dukes '03, d. 7/3/25
 Mary L. Dusick '59, d. 8/29/24
 Elizabeth "Liz" Allen Edgerton, d. 4/8/25
 Sara E. Kukla Prellwitz Freund, SASN '64, d. 3/7/25
 Angeline Jakovec Fritz, SASN '45, d. 12/28/24
 Maxine A. Theil Geiger, d. 12/8/25
 Steven J. Gibson, 10/21/24
 Mary St. Peter Gilmore, SASN '60, 1/10/25
 Sr. Mary Catherine Grief, CSA '57, d. 5/19/25
 Marlene M. Reilly Hatch, d. 11/12/24
 Kenneth Arthur Horn, d. 4/4/25
 Anthony John "Jack" Hytrek, d. 5/24/25
 Jeannine Frances Jungwirth '70, d. 5/7/25

Mary Karius '99, d. 12/1/24
 Sr. Stella Marie Karls, CSA '62, d. 12/9/24
 Mary Jo Schoeneman Karnath '74, d. 1/29/25
 Sr. Marie Kees CSA '66, d. 7/6/25
 Janice M. King, d. 12/24/24
 Jane Frances Ditter Kraus '62, d. 12/27/24
 Mark L. Krist '92, d. 9/29/24
 Lucille Lakin '76, d. 2/1/25
 Lois Mabie, SASN '48, d. 12/12/24
 Jane A. Martinez '91, '05, d. 2/9/25
 Lois L. Masche '88, d. 1/13/25
 Mary Jeannie McDonald '74, d. 2/11/25
 Sr. Mary Rose Meis, CSA '62, d. 2/11/25
 Kathy Louise Mentink '08, d. 3/10/25
 Sr. Laverne Miller, CSA, d. 5/7/25
 Marian A. Miller, d. 2/22/25
 Helen Moll, d. 6/23/25
 Laura Morris '16 2016, d. 11/13/24
 Carolyn J. Muentner, d. 12/10/24

Sr. Dennis O'Connor, CSA, d. 1/27/25
 Terry A. Parks '92, 12/26/24
 Eileen Ellickson Posluszny '72, d. 1/22/25
 Helen A. Hoffmann Reinkober, SASN '58, d. 10/1/24
 Janet Richardson '89, d. 6/25/25
 Sr. Kathleen Ries, CSA '65, d. 5/4/25
 Sr. Barbara Jean Rosswurm CSA, '69, d. 6/5/25
 Mary J. Schmitt, SASN '62, d. 2/3/25
 Sr. Emily Schug, CSA '64, d. 3/5/25
 Lucy A. Hassli Schwartz '68, d. 9/27/24
 Sandra Schwefel, d. 11/3/24
 Pauline M. Van Kempen Smith '68, d. 1/2/25
 Charlotte M. Snow '94, d. 8/21/24
 Kris Lynn Ulik, d. 2/12/25
 Kathleen A. Wegner, d. 10/23/24
 Mylea Jo Wirkus Wright '13, 2/10/25
 Lois R. Stettbacher Zinniel, SASN '54, d. 10/14/24

Commencement Speakers



Valerie Daniels-Carter

President and CEO of V&J Holding Companies, Inc.

May 2025 Commencement Speaker

In an inspiring address at the May 2025 Commencement, entrepreneur Valerie Daniels-Carter, President and CEO of V&J Holding Companies, urged graduates to first say “thank you”

to their Creator and have “insight into who you are, and whose you are.”

Daniels-Carter, known for visionary leadership, cautioned against letting unfulfilled desires stop the graduates from dreaming. Though she was drafted by a professional basketball team, she realized she was a better businesswoman. She said, **“Just because a desire doesn’t become a reality, that doesn’t stop you from dreaming. Today, I don’t have to just bounce the ball, because the last time I checked, I own the ball.”**

Unfulfilled dreams often lead to unparalleled success, she explained, encouraging them to readjust as needed and “Never allow anyone to kill your dreams.” She also stressed the importance of sitting at a table with “great performers,” because “average performers stifle creativity and destiny.”

Ted Neitzke

Chief Executive Officer, CESA6

December 2024 Commencement Speaker

Ted Neitzke IV, CEO of CESA6, took his lively speech to the edge of the stage, at the Marian University Winter Commencement, challenging graduates to face life’s storms head-on. He asserted the class was the “single, greatest group of human beings,” having already faced multiple economic storms, unrest, and a pandemic in a short period. Neitzke praised their empathy, acceptance, and diversity, declaring, “You are smarter, you are funnier, you are faster than all of us.”

To illustrate, Neitzke shared a story from the Lakota and Crow tribes about the instinctive behavior of the American buffalo. When a storm approaches, a buffalo runs into the storm — the fastest way through. This, in contrast to cows, who run away and prolong their time in bad weather. He urged graduates to charge into challenges they face, demonstrating resilience and optimism.

“There’s no better definition of you and your generation,” said Neitzke. He urged students to run through life’s storms, because “everything on the other side of that storm is what you need — sunshine and starry nights.”



Two Professors Granted Emeritus



Dr. Carl Kalwaitis, a Marian faculty member since 1993, holds a Ph.D. and Master’s of Philosophy from Drew University and a B.A. from the University of Bridgeport. Known for his innovative Socratic style, he was instrumental in developing innovative and engaging philosophical courses and programs and collaborated across disciplines.



Dr. John Morris holds a Ph.D. from the University of Washington and a B.S. from the University of Minnesota, where he also completed a post-doc at the Bioprocess Technology Institute. He spent a decade in the medical device industry. At Marian, he focused on Environmental Science, Physics, and Biochemistry, earning patents and publications.

Honors and Awards



Pictured (L to R): Sister Vicki Wuolle, CSA, Josie Dowling, and Dr. George Koonce

The Koonce Scholars Program

This program successfully **matched a \$250,000 grant from the Green Bay Packers Foundation**, raising a total of \$500,000 to remove educational barriers for students from underserved communities.



Pictured (L to R): Craig Peltonen, Sara Jesuit, Milford Parker, and Erin Schultz-Wege

Hall of Fame Inductees

Sara Jesuit '02, Women's Soccer, remains one of the top goalkeepers in the history of Marian's women's soccer program. She earned all-conference recognition all four years of her career.

Milford Parker '91, Men's Basketball, was one of the top scorers for the Marian men's basketball program and was one of the winningest student-athletes in program history.

Erin Schultz-Wege '05, Softball, was one of the fiercest hitters in the Sabre lineup from 2002–05 and helped lead Marian to two NCAA Tournaments, along with an LMC Championship.

Craig Peltonen, Men's/Women's Soccer Coach, Men's Tennis Coach, built a men's soccer dynasty in his 35 seasons with the men's soccer program, guiding the Sabres to six LMC Championships and three consecutive NCAA Tournaments.

Sports



2024–25 Men's ACHA D2 Hockey Team

Marian's **ACHA D2 Hockey Team** claimed its fifth NCHL Hap Cup Championship, defeating Roosevelt 10–0, No. 16 Marquette 5–1, and No. 17 Purdue Northwest 5–4.



2024–25 Marian Women's Bowling Team

Marian's **Women's Bowling Team** earned its second consecutive trip to the NCAA Tournament. The team won its fifth straight CCIW Championship after going 10–2 during the regular season.

Alumni Awards

Sr. Judith Schmidt
Core Values Award:

Rhonda Hill '02, is a seasoned professional with over a decade of experience addressing race and poverty. Her career reflects a strong commitment to justice, equity, and community empowerment. She has championed efforts to raise awareness of racism and foster positive change.



Rhonda Hill '02



Allen G. Brisack III '91

Distinguished Alumni Awards:

Allen G. Brisack III '91, is the Associate VP for Athletics Development and Head Baseball Coach at Edgewood College, where he has been Head Coach for 25 years, and the winningest coach in the school's history. He was also a successful high school administrator.



Dr. Octavia Manuel-Wright '16

Dr. Octavia Manuel-Wright '16, has 22 years of nursing experience and 17 years of entrepreneurial expertise. She earned her Master's degree in Nursing from Marian University in 2016, specializing as an Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner.

Faculty/Staff Awards



Dr. Michael Garvey

James Underkofler Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award:

Dr. Michael Garvey has left an impression on just about everyone who has stepped into his indoor or outdoor classroom. That is just one of the reasons he was selected as this year's winner of the James Underkofler Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award by the Alliant Energy Foundation.

Dr. Garvey, who joined Marian in 2016, regularly teaches courses in **General Physics** and **Physical Chemistry** and is known for his ability to break down complex material. He's recognized for his patience, compassion, and commitment to student success — often holding extra office hours and even working one-on-one with alumni preparing for graduate exams.

Dr. Garvey earned his Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and his B.S. in Chemistry and Physics at the UW-Oshkosh.

Marian University's Board of Trustees elevated three professors in the past year:

Brenda Stueber: Tenure and Promotion to Professor, Social Work

Linda Krueger: Promotion to Associate Professor, Mathematics

Melissa Zar: Promotion to Associate Professor, Nursing



Pictured (L to R): Dr. Korie Leigh, Stephanie Carpenter, and Severa Krueger

Graduate Excellence in Teaching Award: **Dr. Korie Leigh, Associate Professor of Thanatology**

Adjunct Teacher of the Year Award: **Thomas Varebrook, Professor of Criminal Justice**

Sr. Marie Scott Award: **Stephanie Carpenter**

Staff of the Year Award: **Severa Krueger**

TRIO Excellence Awards: Alumna **Krissy Vang '19** was honored at the TRIO Excellence Awards. TRIO is a federal program that supports students from disadvantaged backgrounds in their pursuit of higher education.

Student Awards



Sydney Schipper '25

Student of the Year:

Sydney Schipper '25

Exercise and Sport Science major from Stoughton, Women's Ice Hockey Team, a Student Senate member, and an advocate within the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), she has positively impacted both campus life and the community.

Student-Athletes of the Year:



Logan Rademann '24
Business Administration major
Baseball



Nicole Stachon '24
Psychology major
Women's Lacrosse

Erroll B. Davis, Jr. Achievement Award: **Brandon Moore '25**

Spirit of Marian Award: **Maria Miller '25**

Program of the Year & President's Cup Award: **Ping Pong Club**

Up and Coming Club of the Year:

Ultimate Frisbee Club

MARIAN UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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STUDENTS START YOUR CALENDARS!



**AT MARIAN UNIVERSITY,
WE BELIEVE A VIBRANT
CAMPUS LIFE IS KEY
TO STUDENT SUCCESS.**



Student retention improved this past year, reflecting our commitment to an engaging and supportive campus environment. We opened a fully-equipped exercise room in Naber Hall for student well-being. Under the leadership of our new Director of Student Involvement, Stephanie Carpenter, our campus atmosphere is revitalized with a ramped-up event calendar. Offerings include Bingo with big giveaways, petting zoos, outdoor movies, cookouts, and pizza with President Sadoff. These initiatives foster a connected community where every student feels at home, supported, and ultimately more likely to thrive and continue their education.