

MARIAN UNIVERSITY

Indianapolis®

MAGAZINE | WINTER 2020-21

GENERATION:

LEAD



Coming Soon.

Caito-Wagner Hall is a 57,000 square-foot facility that will house 210 students in 112 rooms when it opens in August 2021. It will include a bell tower dedicated to the Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, Indiana—Marian's founder and sponsor—that will be the highest point of elevation on campus.



MARIAN UNIVERSITY
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MAGAZINE | WINTER 2020-21

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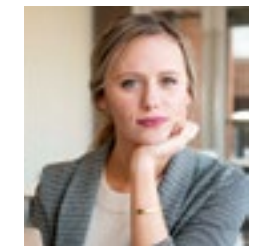
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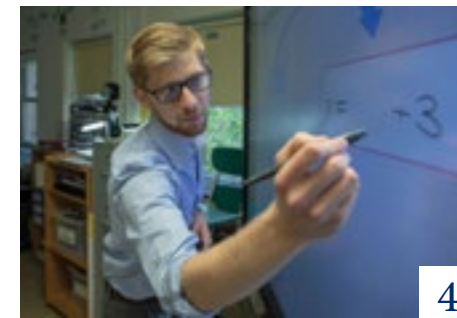
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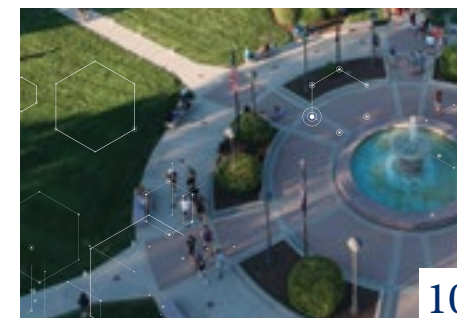
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as of September 30, 2020

Dear Marian University Community,

In our modern, fast-paced world, where a click of a button or a command to Alexa controls anything from what you're streaming on television to the grocery delivery headed right to your front door, trustworthy and innovative leaders are needed more than ever. In this issue of the *Marian University Magazine*, I am proud to share how our students, graduates, faculty, and staff are not only keeping up, but are paving the way. They are Generation: Lead.

Our Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD alumni) are making their mark in dramatic ways. Richard El '10, Michael Barton '13, Amber Ferrari '15, and Ethan Hoffman '18 are four of these GOLD alumni you'll read about on pages 4-7, whose achievements through exceptional leadership and determination to make a difference with their lives by serving others are examples we should all strive to follow.

Marian University is a laboratory of leadership development. Our transformational leadership vision is palpable in every corner of Marian's campus through our aggressive efforts to invest in faculty, staff, programs, and spaces that exemplify and foster leadership and teamwork for our diverse student body. Because of these efforts, Marian students are able to engage with their local and global communities through internships and "real-world" experiences that bring their leadership skills alive in profound ways. I am inspired and edified by the success of new programs and leaders advancing this vision, as highlighted on pages 10-11.

Through our faculty's research, you will get a glimpse at the incredible minds teaching our students. From one professor's observation turned history-making discovery about Michelangelo's *David* to another professor's work to start the university's first doctoral program in the social sciences, on pages 18-21, I am thrilled to share how our faculty are enriching students' lives through their own commitment to a lifetime of learning.

For an update on our Forging Leaders: The Legacy We're Made For initiative and what we're doing now to better serve our students, go to pages 14-15. Thank you for your generous donation of time, talent, treasure, ties, testimony, and trust to Marian University.

As we enter 2021, I challenge you to lead. How can you make a difference? God bless you, your family and friends, and the many endeavors to which you are dedicated, always!

Go, Knights!



Daniel J. Elsener
President



SOCIAL CONNECTION

One of the characteristics that makes Marian University distinctive is the dedication and support students receive from faculty and staff. On Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn, we asked the Marian community which faculty or staff member played a big role in their success. Here are some of the shared stories of how faculty and staff have impacted our students' lives.

Becky Kuhlman Hiatt '16: Dr. George LaMaster and Dr. Bessie Rigakos played such instrumental roles in my college career. I was academically challenged and had their faculty support and guidance to achieve more than I ever thought possible for myself. Their support has continued beyond graduation and those lasting connections are truly something I cherish as an alumna.

Madison McKinney '16: Dr. Kim Vogt! She went above and beyond in helping me to achieve my dream of becoming a veterinarian. She was with me every step of the way during the admissions process, guiding me and pushing me to do my best. I truly don't think I'd be here attending Purdue's School of Veterinary Medicine without her!

Sierra Siebenlist '10: Dean Peterson! I wouldn't be anywhere I am now without him. Middle to end of my freshman year, I made a plan to quit, both academics and the cycling team. Beyond that I didn't really have a plan besides moving back home, two states away. Over the summer, he became the new cycling coach at Marian. We connected on a level that I really needed in my life at that time, and he convinced me to stay. He helped me find my way and build my career in teaching, which is exactly where I'm meant to be. I also developed as a cyclist. With his guidance, I went from overweight and ready to hang up the bike forever to national champion in both individual and team events. Now, I'm in my tenth year of teaching, mostly in Indianapolis Public Schools, after I got my start at the Jackson Center for Conductive Education, a small non-profit center for children and adults with motor disabilities in Mooresville. I still race bikes. I went on to compete in several elite-level races even after I ended my collegiate career. Many years, podiums, tough conversations, tears, laughs, and hugs later, I'm forever grateful to continue to call Dean not just a mentor, but also a friend. Proud to be a #KnightsonBikes and School of Ed alumna!

Robert Geile '05: Dr. William Mirola believed in me when I had doubt. I loved sociology because of the way he taught with passion and theory.

Theresa Beam Roberts '15: Andy Hohman encouraged me from the moment I stepped foot on Marian's campus. He believed in me when I didn't. Patiently advised me for 20 years while I started, stopped and started again (I had six kids and a full time job) as I pursued my degree in Pastoral Leadership. I learned a lot from Andy and Donna Proctor and use much of it today. I am grateful that I can still seek advice from Donna and Andy and enjoy seeing their continued ministry of teaching at Marian.

Bill Sanford '13: Sr. Monica Zore. She challenged me to push myself to understand the "why" in mathematics. Then as I came to decide to become a math teacher, she taught me how to show grace in the classroom when mathematics got more difficult. She was always positive even when I wanted to give up and walk away. The way she taught her lessons academically and the way she taught grace in the classroom are mirrored in my math classroom today.

Lauren McClaskey '20: Professor Caskey, Professor Tucker, Professor Owens, Professor Sprague—I cannot say enough positive words about these amazing women. Not only did they teach me so much about the nursing profession, but they have encouraged me and pushed me to be a better person and future nurse. The nursing school is lucky to have them!

Kayla Bledsoe '20: Kaly Miller the director of 21st Century Scholars and Davyd Hall the Director of the Unity Center have provided me so many opportunities to grow/learn about myself and social justice issues! They constantly inspire me to be a better student and to advocate for myself and others. Dr. Rigakos has literally changed my life (by helping me change my major) and is consistently always there to support me academically or emotionally! I even got to meet some of her family while I was studying abroad and it helped me feel like I was at home, even for just a couple days. If she could be my professor forever, I would go to school for that long.

Hadley Hawkins '22: Dr. Kyle & Drew Stewart are not only great professors, but great coaches and mentors, too! Their understanding and support this semester and last year has been appreciated more than they could ever know. Dr. Kyle even sat with me in the ER once for an entire day because my parents couldn't get there until 4 hours later - now that is respect and Dignity of the Individual!

Elizabeth Thoman '08: Professor Tim Akin and Kevin Huston. Professor Akin was amazing and extremely helpful and helped me develop a love for accounting from his enthusiasm and love for it! Professor Huston helped get me all of my internships and ultimately helped land me a job at a Big Four CPA firm. At that time EY and other big four firms didn't really interview at Marian or consider us worth their time for interviewing because we were so small, but they still had some position openings for the following winter after Scott Bruns (now the Indianapolis office managing partner, but at the time was a Senior Manager) reached out to him about it. Professor Huston chose me and one other student to interview for one of their openings and I got an offer (even while interning at a different firm at the time). EY was more than I could ever imagine coming from my small hometown, and has been a blessing to my family for everything they did for us and to help land me at my current position. I will forever be grateful to Marian University and my education and Professor Akin and Professor Huston for their mentorship and guidance, as well as EY for providing me with a bright future! Soon after I joined EY, Scott got promoted to partner and made it a priority to recruit at our alma matter and since then, EY consistently hires students from Marian every year! I was the first person hired from EY after Scott 12 years later I was told :)

Catherine Schmidt Sartino '19: Dr. Kim Vogt and Dr. Bessie Rigakos, both were my academic advisors for biology and sociology. They were both one of the reasons I transferred to MU, which was the best decision I had ever made. Dr. Rigakos and Dr. Vogt pushed me to be the best and even helped me get acceptance into my current master's degree program at IU. I am so thankful for their mentorship and friendship and I cannot thank them enough for all they have done for me!

Frances Samarripa '18: Mark Latta really supported my writing and made me feel empowered in both our class discussions and in his critiques of my written work. Mark also connected me to the Holy Family Shelter where I went on to volunteer art services for a year prior to opening my community art studio. Without that volunteer experience I'm not sure my business would be here today. I will always be grateful to him for opening that door for me.

GENERATION: LEAD

READIED WITH THE LEADERSHIP SKILLS NECESSARY TO SUCCEED AND PROPELLED BY AN EAGERNESS TO DRIVE CHANGE, OUR GRADUATES OF THE LAST DECADE ARE ALREADY FORGING AN EXTRAORDINARY IMPACT ON THE WORLD. TAKE A GLIMPSE INTO THE LIVES OF JUST A FEW OF OUR TALENTED ALUMNI WHO ARE MAKING THEIR MARK.

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ETHAN HOFFMAN '18
Master of Arts in Teaching
Mathematics Teacher at Indianapolis
Public Schools' Newcomer Program

Ethan Hoffman '18 cracks a joke during his algebra class, getting five laughs in the back of the room. Proud, Hoffman knows this means his students are not only enjoying the lesson, but they are gaining a deeper understanding of the English language.

The first languages of the students in Hoffman's algebra and pre-algebra classrooms range from Spanish, to Swahili, to French, and more. Hoffman is an instructor in Indianapolis Public Schools' (IPS) Newcomer Program, which was initiated in 2016 to better serve immigrant and refugee students in the community.

"There are a lot of ESL (English as a Second Language) students in the district and serving those students who are newest to the country can be difficult, especially in a traditional setting, so starting a new program for them to gain academic skills and English proficiency is the plan," Hoffman said.

From Green Bay, Wisconsin, Hoffman first chose the financial reputation and actuarial studies route with his math degree, but he quickly realized what he enjoyed even more than studying was helping others understand it. He decided to search for a graduate path that would allow him to transition to teaching, ultimately choosing the Master of Arts in Teaching program at Marian University.

"One thing about the program at Marian is that it allowed you to get into the classroom on day one, so you may not be fully prepared in the sense that you are not going to walk in the door and be a veteran teacher on day one, but you certainly start to gain experience teaching on the first day. It was the quickest way to develop those teaching skills," Hoffman said.

Since graduating, Hoffman has taught at the Newcomer Program and very quickly earned high honors for his tremendous work. In 2019, Hoffman was named IPS Teacher of the Year.

"It was meaningful because the people who see your work recognize you. It was very encouraging. Since then, I've tried to grow and represent well what IPS strives to do for their students," Hoffman said.

Hoffman devotes much of his time outside of the classroom preparing for lessons and providing additional support for his students.

"One interesting thing about our school is that you can have all of the preparation that you would in a traditional setting, but you want to also create a lot of visuals and additional support

on top of that," Hoffman said. "Ensuring that my students are going to have predictable structure in their lessons is important. It really helps them feel successful and comfortable because of the changes they are experiencing."

Hoffman was one of the inaugural hires for the Newcomer Program. Over the course of four years, he's challenged himself to grow in the areas that feel least natural to him.

"Initially as a teacher, you pick out the things that align to your strengths or personality best. That's great, but over time you are able to critique your performance even more," Hoffman said. "For a while it was thinking of what a teacher would do, but now it's morphed from not just what a teacher would do, but what do my students need," Hoffman said.

Only in his classroom for one year before transitioning to traditional schools in IPS, Hoffman's greatest hope for his students is that they become advocates for themselves.

"My hope is that they take advantage of opportunities that are before them. I hope they choose to serve their communities—whether that be their families, friends, or whatever group is around them," Hoffman said. "There's a lot of joy in seeing kids' confidence and excitement about learning grow. I think I find purpose creating growth in their lives, and then they begin to push themselves further. That keeps me going."

AMBER FERRARI '15
Bachelor of Arts Degree in
Communication
Manager of Communications
and Sales Support at Jobvite

Last fall, TechPoint, a company dedicated to bringing together the Indianapolis tech community, announced its prestigious Tech 25 Class of 2019. The 25 winners had been nominated for their incredible impact and commitment to propelling their fast-paced businesses forward. Marian University Graduate of the Last Decade, Amber Ferrari '15, was among those recognized.

Although Ferrari walked across Marian's stage at graduation just five years ago, her tech industry chops and mastery of the competitive field is nothing short of extensive. Currently, Ferrari is manager of communications and sales support for Jobvite, a full-scale, global talent acquisition suite. While her work brings her to Monument Circle each day, St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic School, then located on the west side of Indianapolis, is where her roots began.

"I'd say I was a very precocious child, very interested in reading, and language, and leading," Ferrari said. "I'd be like 'Hey, do this, here are the rules.'"

Ferrari found herself filling her schedule with extracurriculars like choir, student government, softball, and theater—commanding a room came naturally. At Marian University she was a 21st Century Scholar, held work-study positions and internships, and competed on the university's speech team while completing her degree in communication.

Upon graduating, Ferrari became Marian University's first-ever Orr Fellow. The two-year Orr Fellowship sets out to provide fellows with full-time, salaried positions, opportunities to hone leadership and business skills, and an unmatched professional network.

"On finalist day for the fellowship, I interviewed with five different companies," Ferrari said. "The night I got the call that I had a job and was in the fellowship, I was getting ready for winter formal at Marian."

For the next two years, Ferrari worked at the start-up company, PactSafe, a clickwrap agreement management and esignature platform—her first steps in the Indy tech scene.

"I am a profit of all my experience there," Ferrari said. "I had to learn how to do every



aspect of digital marketing, from search engine optimization, to building website pages, to building landing pages, building campaigns, building automated messaging, email campaigns, building lists, and sales development."

Next, Ferrari moved to Canvas, the world's first text-based interviewing platform. Another startup, she was team member number five and hired just before its launch.

"I pulled my first all-nighter the night we launched. I think you have to try so much in startups and see what didn't work and what really did. It's cool to look back and say look what we've built," Ferrari said.

In just 18 months, Canvas was acquired by Jobvite, and the five-member team grew to nearly 400. In her present role on Jobvite's communications, brand, and strategy team within marketing, Ferrari is responsible for partner marketing, PR efforts, social strategy, employment branding, and supporting speaking engagements.

"I knew the tech industry existed, but I didn't know it was the place for me. There's a little bit to all of this where I've MacGyver-ed my way in," Ferrari said. "Wit, emotional intelligence, and communication skills got me a long way."

Ferrari credits learning to be agile, adaptable, and open to feedback to her quick success, and she advised current students to find a mentor who can be honest with them.

"Go straight to The Exchange or your advisor. It's important to have self-awareness to see how you best operate," Ferrari said.

Currently, Ferrari serves on Marian University's 21st Century Scholar Board of Visitors and the Forging Leaders Committee.



RICHARD EI '10
Bachelor of Science in Sport Management
Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Officer

people don't understand. Things like that are just within the everyday scope of our employment."

In a Facebook post from the IMPD Southeast District, they recognized EI's relaxing demeanor, ability to act in an unknown situation, and compassion.

Being trained in crisis intervention, as most IMPD officers are, he knew the importance of having a calming presence, being patient, positive, and coming to the child's eye level. This helped the child to calm down while waiting for his father to get there.

“ *Officers must be ready to respond to any situation because you never know what is going to happen. It could be anything from a sudden fight with a wanted violent felon during a traffic stop to helping in a situation where you're calming a frightened autistic child.* **”**

As a role model for children and young adults, EI believes that police officers need to set a positive example by interacting and supporting the community.

"We have young kids that look up to us and aspire to be like us, so we have to lead by example," EI said. "We have to lead by positive example for not only the young kids, but the young adults who are trying to find their way. We have to get out into the community and make sure we're being good stewards and represent our departments and families in a good way; lead by example."

The documented act of service and kindness that EI showed in the viral photo pointed out that responding to crime is not the only side of the job. Officers are also building relationships and responding to all needs of communities.

EI believes some of the important skills he carries with him each day he gained while at Marian.

"I've taken a lot from what I've learned from Marian, and I'm applying that now to my everyday life as a law enforcement officer, a father, and a servant to the community," EI said.

While serving the community, a picture of EI went viral after a photo was snapped of him calming an autistic child, which EI pointed out was an important part of the job that often gets overlooked.

"I was doing my everyday job and another officer had located a parent who stated that their child had runaway and he has autism," EI said. "The officer requested another officer in the area to come help look for the child. I was in the area, so I diverted off the run I was on to help look for the child, and I located him at Garfield Park on the south side of Indianapolis. I just sat with him, talked with him, and comforted him until we were able to reunite him with his parents. That's similar to what all police officers would have done. In our job that's what we do. A lot of times, our job is overshadowed by so many things that a lot of

In 2007, Richard EI '10 was recruited by Marian University to play football. During his time with the football program, he became a student assistant, graduate assistant, and later a coach. While becoming a football coach was what he initially pursued, growing up, EI always had an interest in law enforcement.

"Being a part of the football program, and under the leadership of Coach Ted Karras, I was able to develop and continue to develop leadership qualities that helped me to become the person I am today," EI said.

After being involved in coaching, EI encountered an opportunity to join the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD), where he now currently serves the Southeast District.

Michael Barton '14 is audit manager at Petrow Kane Leemhuis, PC, a local certified public accounting firm on the north side of Indianapolis, where he provides audit and attestation services to non-profits and privately held businesses. He's also the chair of the Indiana Board of Accountancy—the youngest chair in the world.

Just three years after graduating, Barton was appointed to the Indiana Board of Accountancy by Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb. Quickly after, he earned his seat as chair.

"It's a great honor for me, but more importantly for my firm," Barton said. "I also knew it would be good for Marian University and the Byrum School of Business. We have so many CPAs and other accountants in the great state of Indiana, so to have this opportunity to represent them is truly a humbling honor."

In 2019, Barton received the Indiana CPA Society (INCPAS) Advocacy Award. Each year, the award is presented to an Indiana CPA who has demonstrated excellence in serving the profession, public interest, company, and community.

As a student at Marian University, Barton's path to following accounting began with his advisor and mentor Kevin Huston, professor emeritus of accounting and finance, who along with Tim Akin, professor emeritus of accounting and finance, fueled his love for accounting.

"Kevin Huston was a really good advisor and mentor," Barton said. "He's the one that got me into accounting, and I don't know what I'd be doing today without him talking me into it. I'd probably be a salesman somewhere. Kevin Huston and Tim Akin helped me fall in love with the accounting profession."

Barton believes being an athlete on Marian's men's basketball team and a student in the Byrum School of Business encouraged him to establish connections and create a dialogue with new people, no matter the challenge.

"For me, it started on the athletic side of things," Barton said. "As a freshman, you're put

in a new environment with new people, and that challenged me to connect with 15 people that I've never met before. I think Marian does a great job of teaching you how to learn quickly on your feet."

On the court and in the classroom, Barton was able to translate his experience working, engaging, and collaborating in teams to the workforce.

"I think that Marian has you work as a team and figure it out. That's the real world. These successful companies are one true team, and Marian emphasizes that in the classroom and in athletics," Barton said.

As Indianapolis and Marian continue to grow, Barton sees many alumni making an impact and settling into leadership positions in the city.

“ *You look around Indianapolis, especially the last 10 years, and you are seeing more and more Marian alum in leadership positions,” Barton said. “One of the biggest accounting firms in the world is EY, and the managing partner, Scott Bruns '96, running the Indianapolis office is a Marian alum. He's not the only one. You look around at various companies, and you're seeing executives that are Marian alum.”* **”**



MICHAEL BARTON '14
Bachelor of Science Degrees in Accounting and Finance
Audit Manager, Petrow Kane Leemhuis, PC

Our 2019-20 seniors have recently made the same transition from students to young professionals and become our newest Graduates of the Last Decade. Their strength in overcoming challenges has already proven them to be innovative leaders.

Max Ismoilov '20 is no stranger to picking up and starting anew. His Marian University experience began as a transfer student in 2017 when he started his career as a collegiate tennis player and double major in accounting and finance.

"Playing tennis in college was a dream come true. I love to play tennis. I loved going out and representing Marian," Ismoilov said.

Transferring into Marian was by far an easier adjustment than the one he had gone through two years prior. Ismoilov is a native of Uzbekistan.

"The adjustment of coming to America was huge," Ismoilov said.

Outside of tennis, Ismoilov found a home at Marian through the Byrum School of Business.

"My favorite part of being at Marian was the faculty and staff. They care about you so much. It feels like family here, you don't have to look for help, the help looks for you," Ismoilov said.

Ismoilov was the vice president of the Alpha Delta Gamma national fraternity on campus and was the presidential ambassador for the Byrum School of Business. The leadership skills he's honed through these experiences earned him an internship at the worldwide accounting firm EY.

"I am very proud to say that I am a graduate of Marian University and have been given the opportunity to intern at EY," Ismoilov said.

MAX ISMOILOV '20



Htoo Thu '20 was born in Burma and moved to Indianapolis eight years ago. Thu's family moved to the United States as she was beginning the eighth grade at St. Mark's Catholic School. Thu continued her Catholic education at Roncalli High School.

"In 2016, I was given the Spirit of Service Youth Award from Catholic Charities Indianapolis," Thu said. "I knew that I wanted to continue to do service in college, and staying close to home at Marian made sense for me."

As a Marian student, Thu was able to travel the world while studying in the biology program in preparation for medical school.

"In 2018, I was able to study abroad in Chile. This was a great opportunity for me because I was able to use both my major and minor while on the trip," Thu said. "I shadowed many different doctors, nurses, and physical therapists while being able to immerse myself in the Spanish language."

In 2019, Thu was able to travel abroad for a second time. Thu was the first person in her family to return to Burma since moving to the United States.

"I had the opportunity to see family and friends that I haven't seen in eight years. During that time, I was able to learn the healthcare services in Burma. I hope this experience helps me in my future because I want to work with Burmese refugees and Hispanic communities," Thu said.

After her two trips abroad, Thu became a citizen of the United States and is planning on pursuing higher education in the medical field.

HTOO THU '20



MARESA KELLY '19



"The communication program at Marian and the speech and debate team have really become my family and made Marian my home away from home."

— Maresa Kelly '19

Maresa Kelly, a December 2019 graduate of Marian University, grew up in New Albany, Indiana, where she was born and raised Catholic. Her faith led her to apply to Catholic schools near and far, ultimately choosing Marian.

"During my second year at Marian, I found Marian University Speech and Debate here on campus," Kelly said. "The communication program at Marian and the speech and debate team became my family and made Marian my home away from home."

With a global studies minor, Kelly embarked on two study abroad trips. The first was to Guatemala for a mission trip. The second trip was to Brazil, where she and four other Marian students studied the media's impact on beauty and how that relates to the standard of beauty in Brazilian culture.

After completing the competitive application and interview process, Kelly was selected as an Orr Fellow.

Kelly now works for TMap, an Indianapolis-based talent acquisition company geared towards bringing qualified talent into Indianapolis area organizations.

JOSH CHRISTIAN '20



Josh Christian '20 began college at Saint Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Indiana. After the school suspended operations, Christian was one of 80 students who transferred to Marian in 2017. Like those 80 students, Christian was eager to finish his college career at Marian.

Christian grew up in the foster care system, living in 18 different foster care homes in 18 years. Despite those challenges, he has been able to use his experience as a tool to advocate for foster youth.

One of his largest accomplishments has been his work that helped create the Foster Parent Bill of Rights and pass legislation which extends foster care services until the age of 23 in Indiana. For his work, Christian received the Adoption Excellence Award in Washington, D.C., in November 2018.

Christian has continued his work with foster youth upon graduation.

"I loved my time at Saint Joseph's College and with Marian bringing Saint Joe Indy to campus, I have been able to work as an intern to help foster youth enrolled at Saint Joe Indy."

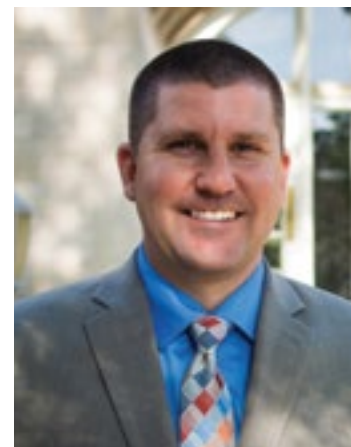
— Josh Christian '20

a Laboratory for Leadership

An overview of key initiatives Marian University has in place to generate leaders for service to the world and a look at the new faces on campus paving the way.

Byrum School of Business

Goal: To succeed in today's competitive and dynamic environment, top employers want talented college graduates with broad knowledge and experience coupled with key skills in critical thinking, collaboration, and communication. The Byrum School of Business' goal is for students to build those skills and more from day one.



Meet the Lead

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

Greg Rawski, Ph.D., is responsible for enhancing the quality of, and advocating for, the Byrum School of Business, including growing enrollment; building new academic programs; ensuring strong management and oversight of existing academic programs; effectively managing budgets; and strengthening external partnerships.

“It goes beyond teaching excellence here, it's about changing our students' lives. I think our faculty have big hearts. They are having conversations with students inside and outside of the classroom, mentoring them, advising them. It's like an academic family. That is a distinctive marker of our school.”

— Greg Rawski, Ph.D.

To learn more, visit marian.edu/bsob.

Latin@ Leadership

Goal: The Latin@ Leadership Initiative seeks to raise educational achievement among Latinos by infusing schools with transformational mentors; building a network of support; creating a center of faith, life, and culture; providing radical access to, and comprehensive support during, higher education; and expanding the resources necessary to accomplishing these ambitious goals.



Meet the Lead

Manuela Higgins
Executive Director
Latin@ Leadership

In her role as executive director of Latin@ leadership, Manuela Higgins is responsible for systematically forming strategic community partnerships, creating intercultural engagement, recruiting students, and promoting Latin@ student success.

“We want to position Marian University as a Hispanic-serving institution locally and nationally and guide students through the entire process. My goal is for every Latino student enrolled at Marian to feel welcome and at home, no matter the difference of culture. I want them to be able to find the help they need.”

— Manuela Higgins

To learn more, visit marian.edu/latin@.

Walker Center for Applied Ethics

Goal: The mission of the Walker Center for Applied Ethics is to advance a more ethical world by improving and evolving the interdisciplinary teaching of ethics and by bridging the gap between research and organizational best practices. Areas of focus include research, certificate programs for ethics professionals, and a nationally recognized speaker series. The initiative was made possible by a lead

gift from Frank D. Walker, chairman emeritus of Walker Information, and the Walker Family Foundation.



Meet the Lead

Liz Coit
Executive Director
Walker Center for Applied Ethics

Liz Coit oversees and directs all of the Walker Center's operations while collaborating with the Walker Center Board of Visitors, Marian faculty, Indiana business leaders, and other stakeholders to design and implement a long-term strategy to advance the Walker Center's mission.

“We want to change the way leaders are behaving. We have a real opportunity to make a difference in the business community and to expand Marian's brand regionally and nationally.”

—Liz Coit

To learn more, visit marian.edu/walkercenter.

MARIAN UNIVERSITY IN THE NEWS

READ THE FULL STORIES:
marian.edu/inthenews

STAY CONNECTED TO MARIAN UNIVERSITY



The people, programs, and potential of Marian University have been making news in Indianapolis and beyond. Here's a look at the headlines.

How a Marian University Doctor Found a Medical Mystery in Michelangelo's 'David'

The Indianapolis Star | January 15, 2020

While art historians have studied Michelangelo's "David" for centuries, it took the eye of a Marian University cardiologist to see something no one else appears to have recorded about the iconic marble sculpture.

Dr. Daniel Gelfman himself had never recognized this feature in photos he saw of the "David," but when he viewed the artwork in person during a visit to Florence in 2018, he noticed a bulging vein on the right side of the biblical hero's neck. If a person showed up in his exam room with such a vein, Gelfman would immediately think the patient had significant heart disease.

This observation was so striking that Gelfman wrote an article, which appeared online last month in *JAMA Cardiology*.

Step into This State-of-the-Art Indiana Classroom — and Pretend the Students Are Real

Chalkbeat | February 11, 2020

The Marian students are getting an early start on learning how to run a classroom, rather than waiting until their junior or senior year to student teach real-life children. The university's new and unusual approach is part of a retooled program for training teachers, one that focuses on constant practice and immediate feedback.

The mixed-reality program is run using both computer programming and a simulation specialist, who is watching and can turn up or dial back the avatars' classroom behavior.

Twin Sisters Talk About Working as ER Nurses in the COVID-19 Fight

WTHR | April 24, 2020

"We're so similar," said Kelli Lyon, speaking about her identical twin sister Kerri Stone.

Their looks are just the beginning of what these sisters [and Marian University graduates] share.

It's at work where the 31-year-old sisters are sharing one of the biggest challenges of their careers, working on the front lines of helping COVID-19 patients.

Both work the same shift as ER nurses at Community Hospital North and have seen their share of sick people.

Marian University to Launch New Tech Designed to Help Fight Coronavirus

WISH-TV | July 30, 2020

Marian University is preparing to launch new technology designed to help control the spread of the coronavirus on campus.

The technology is a new feature on the CampusShield app. It's a COVID-19 self-assessment where users answer a couple quick questions about exposure and symptoms. It takes just seconds to finish. If someone answers "no" to the COVID questions, a green badge will pop up with a 24-hour timer. Users can think of it like an on-campus key.

Marian, Ancilla Announce Partnership

Inside INdiana Business | August 28, 2020

Marian University in Indianapolis and Ancilla College in Marshall County have formed a partnership they say will strengthen Catholic higher education and lead to more course offerings. The boards of trustees from both schools have approved the agreement, which creates a new entity known as Ancilla College of Marian University beginning in July 2021.

"This strategic approach includes a long-range goal: to secure more opportunities for Ancilla alumni, current students and those in our local surrounding counties who seek further education in the region," said Ancilla College President Michele Dvorak. "Education rooted in values will be a beacon of light and hope for the future. We believe Marian University commits to not only the mission, but also to fulfilling the mutual goal of advanced academic opportunities."

After Beating Cancer, 19-Year-Old Enrolls in Nursing School to Help Kids Battling Illness

The Indianapolis Star | October 22, 2020

The lump in the side of Jade's neck was soon diagnosed as metastatic papillary thyroid cancer. The cancer had spread from the 9-year-old's thyroid to her lymph nodes and into her lungs, scattering between 50 and 100 tiny tumors throughout her upper body.

But that was almost 10 years ago.

Jade, now 19 years old, has since gone through surgery and radioactive iodine treatment, and successfully sent the cancer into remission within a few months of her diagnosis. Now, she is a freshman at Marian University, where she studies nursing in hopes of one day working as an operating nurse at Peyton Manning Children's Hospital at Ascension St. Vincent, where she spent so much time as a fourth grader.

2020 Women of Influence: LaTonya Turner

Indianapolis Business Journal | October 28, 2020



Turner is the first African American woman to serve as a dean at Marian University. During Marian's last academic year, she co-chaired its provost search committee and worked with the Klipsch College faculty and staff to transform its recruitment and development of students.

Colleagues describe Turner as selfless and say she treats others with respect. Those are qualities Turner has tried to demonstrate in her life and career. "People who met me 20 years ago, I believe, would attest that I am consistently the person I was then...My objective is that all who know

me will find that I have compassion and empathy for everyone. My major accomplishment is being a consistently good human."

FORGING LEADERS

TOGETHER WE THRIVE



Marlene Dotson
President and Chief Executive Officer, Indiana Latino Institute

In recent years, Marian University has embarked on several initiatives to help close the opportunity gap that exists in our society. Community leaders agree that Marian is helping students, businesses, and the community thrive.

DID YOU KNOW?

 **HEALTH PROFESSIONS MARIAN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE AND LEIGHTON SCHOOL OF NURSING**

Of the 400+ graduates from the Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine, one-third are completing residencies in Indiana and more than **60 percent** have chosen a primary specialty.

 **SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE OF MARIAN UNIVERSITY INDIANAPOLIS (SAINT JOE INDY)**

Students of color comprise **80 percent** of Saint Joe Indy's inaugural class. They will receive automatic admittance into Marian University after successfully earning their associate degrees.

 **FRED S. KLIPSCH EDUCATORS COLLEGE**

Since 2016, the Fred S. Klipsch Educators College has nearly tripled freshman enrollment, and students of color have increased from **7.5 percent to 34 percent.**

 **LATIN@ INITIATIVE**

Latinos comprise **11 percent** of Marian University's 2019 freshman class.

Since 2008, Latino representation among all Marian programs has increased **381 percent.**

Our young Latinos are hungry for success and for opportunities to be great members of our community, contributing and giving back. Marian University is playing a big role in giving those opportunities to our young Latinos."

— Marlene Dotson
President and Chief Executive Officer
Indiana Latino Institute



Marian University recognized the need to broaden types of education opportunities they were providing for students based on the ever-increasing expanding field of healthcare careers and professions."

— Jonathan Nalli, senior vice president, Ascension; ministry market executive, Ascension St. Vincent



When I look at students who are attending Saint Joseph's College of Marian University - Indianapolis, I see that they reflect the Indianapolis community. We would like our workforce to reflect our community."

— Fio Gambetta-Gibson
Director of Diversity and Inclusion
Allison Transmission



The Fred S. Klipsch Educators College students will be able to go into a school district and save that district at least two years' worth of prep and training, of time and money, and be ready to start educating students from day one.

They will be at the top of everybody's list as far as candidates to employ."

— Pat Mapes
Perry Township Superintendent

marian.edu/forgingleaders



MARIAN UNIVERSITY FORGING LEADERS

Together We Thrive

Your gift creates opportunities for us to respond to society's critical need for transformational leaders.

TOTAL: \$176.1 million

2021 GOAL: \$150 MILLION

Progress as of October 31, 2020

Forging Leaders initiatives include:

**SCHOLARSHIPS AND GROWING THE ENDOWMENT
SISTERS' LEGACY FUND
ENHANCE FACILITIES
FRED S. KLIPSCH EDUCATORS COLLEGE
LATIN@ INITIATIVE
STEHM**

Learn more at marian.edu/forgingleaders.

We've Exceeded Our Goal!

Because of your generous efforts this fall, we beat our Forging Leaders campaign goal of raising \$150 million by 2021, providing programs, facilities and scholarships to our growing student body.

Our new goal is to raise \$250 million by 2025!

For more information, contact John Finke, vice president for institutional advancement, at jfinke@marian.edu or 317.955.6202.



WORK HARD PLAY HARD

FOUR KNIGHTS TEAMS COMPETE FOR NATIONAL TITLES

Marian University athletics rose to new heights last fall, shattering records and making history along the way. Volleyball, cycling, women's soccer, and football all competed for national titles, with volleyball and cycling taking home the top honor. While talent brought these athletes to campus, a determined spirit and willingness to work hard made them champions.

“ Our team worked so hard in the gym, weightroom, and classroom, and it was a direct correlation to what we were able to accomplish on the national stage. Winning a national championship does not happen in just one year. ”

**— Ashlee Pritchard,
Head Volleyball Coach**

Volleyball won the NAIA national championship for the first time in program history, as the Knights swept Westmont University 3-0 in the final match. Marian finished the 2019 national tournament with a perfect 7-0 record to finish the season at 38-2, another program record.

“Bringing a national volleyball title to Marian is something we are extremely proud of,” Pritchard said. “We had a solid group of leaders that kept our team focused and dedicated to not being comfortable where they were and kept pushing and striving for more. It truly takes a family and a culture of team work.”

Individual honors were plentiful: Pritchard was named National Tournament Coach of the Year and American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Coach of the Year. Pritchard and her staff of Riley Anderson and Sarah Dowers were honored as NAIA-AVCA Coaching Staff of the Year.

With 21 national track titles already under their belt, cycling wasn't about to take a break either. It was time to add another.

Keeping with the winning tradition, Marian cycling earned first place in the team omnium classification for USA Cycling's 2019 Collegiate Track National Championships. The men's track team won every men's event during championship weekend, for the first time in program history.

Head women's soccer coach Gary Yohe said



Women's Volleyball celebrates after winning the 2019 NAIA Women's Volleyball National Championship in Sioux City, Iowa, for the first time in program history.

his team decided to take their commitment to the next level.

“Led by senior captain Alex Samons '19, they wanted to put in time in the weightroom, they wanted to put in more time studying film. To see that effort pay off for this team is incredibly rewarding,” Yohe said.

Marian women's soccer reached the NAIA National Championship match, falling 2-0 to Keiser University. The Knights reached the championship after a thrilling run through the tournament, capped by an overtime victory over top-ranked William Carey University in the semifinal.

The squad finished the season 20-3-3, a program best. The Knights were also 2019 Crossroads League Tournament Champions.

The football team's commitment led to one of the most thrilling games of the 2019 season—the NAIA National Championship at Eddie G. Robinson Stadium in Grambling, Louisiana, against Morningside University.

Though the team fell short of the final win, they ended the season with a 12-1 overall record and were named the Mid-States Football Association Midwest Champions. Charles Salary '19 was also named the 2019 NAIA National Player of the Year. Salary is the first Knight to receive the honor.

Steamrolling their competition throughout their respective seasons, volleyball, cycling, women's soccer, and football all found success.

This fall, the COVID-19 pandemic forced many Marian University athletic teams' full seasons or

national title opportunities to be postponed to the spring; however, women's soccer and volleyball both made it to their conference tournaments, women's soccer being named Crossroads League Champions for the second year in a row. Both teams' successes secured their automatic qualifying positions into their respective NAIA National Tournaments, which begin in April 2021.

To keep up to date with the latest news from Marian University athletics, visit muknights.com.



Cyclists compete for the first place finish at the 2019 Collegiate Track National Championship.

FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

Our faculty are forging the next generation of leaders. Outside of their dedication to educating our students, faculty are also busy doing their own research from responsible vascular access, to anatomical variations, or starting new programs, like the Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership. Here is just a glimpse at what our faculty are up to beyond the classroom.

Leadership Through a New Lens

Kurt Nelson, Ph.D., director of Catholic school programs and director of the leadership academy in the Fred S. Klipsch Educators College, launches the university's newest doctorate program.

“The new and exciting thing is in July, we kicked off a new doctorate program, which is Marian University's first non-health related doctorate program,” Kurt Nelson, Ph.D., said. “It's the first doctorate program in the social sciences, and we're really excited about that. It gives us a window to start working with the state to now be able to look at how we offer the superintendent license as well. That's been the biggest project with getting applications, preparing courses, course descriptions, and getting ready to go in July.”

The new Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Organizational Leadership program is designed to help students build the emotional and psychological capacity for the burden of leadership, advance and enhance leadership skills, prepare them to employ research to diagnose organizational needs, and investigate the range and effectiveness of possible interventions. Shaped after the Adaptive Leadership Model, the program provides a different set of lenses and tools for students to better engage with other people in their organization and how to approach new problems and situations that organizations haven't faced before.

After receiving feedback and seeing a demand for leaders not only in healthcare and education, but in other fields, the Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership program has been structured to meet the needs of different disciplines.



Kurt Nelson, Ph.D.

“There's always been an interest in pursuing a doctorate program with students who are getting their master's [degree],” Nelson said.

“We were getting feedback not only from our education people, but also from other people around who saw a need for leadership broadly, not just school leadership. We've done a lot of work with the Marian University College of

Osteopathic Medicine and the Leighton School of Nursing and heard that there is a great need for healthcare leaders and administrators. With our foot in the door in the medical world, we thought we could design a program that would produce healthcare administrators. We also discovered that Indianapolis is a big area for information technology and that's a growing field, but no one is really offering for information technology leaders, non-profit leaders, or government leaders. What we designed is a program that is flexible to meet all of those needs, so it's the E.D. and organizational leadership, but it will also allow specializations within that,” Nelson said.

With over 20 years of experience in education, especially the Catholic school world, Nelson's goal is for students to have access to a flexible degree that will give them the opportunity to obtain important leadership skills that will be beneficial in difficult situations in the workplace.

“We can create a specialized track for our school leaders that will get them their superintendent licensure, and we can prepare a specialized track for people who want to go into healthcare administration,” Nelson said. “They're getting general, broad leadership concepts, but also looking at what plays out in those fields and what are some of the issues that leaders need to be aware of in those areas. We can tailor this to different types of leadership roles, which is exciting. It's a very flexible degree.”

Creating Better Outcomes for Patients

Andrea Owens', MSNEd, RN, CRNI, VA-BC, assistant professor and course coordinator in the Leighton School of Nursing, experience in critical care and dedication to her patients led her to grow a passion for vascular access, infusion therapy, and clinical education. In 2008, Owens got involved with the Association for Vascular Access (AVA) and went to her first conference in 2010 in Washington, D.C. While attending the conference, Owens knew this is where she wanted to be. In 2018, she served as the president of the AVA and presidential advisor in 2019.

Owens and her colleagues sent out a survey to nursing schools and healthcare facilities asking questions about vascular access, specifically peripheral vascular access in their patient populations and how they taught it to their students. In 2018, they published their first research article in the *Journal for the Association of Vascular Access*.

“It talks about the need for peripheral intravenous education in North America,” Owens said. “We used all of our data to present what's going on in the world of hospitals and how they're teaching their staff about IV education and their patients. We received a lot of good responses that have helped us move some initiatives in other areas. My colleagues and I worked together to write a second part of the survey which included nursing schools and all the data we got back from them about how you teach this in your curriculum and programs. This data led us to have an understanding and recommendation about how to change that paradigm in our curriculum

and how we need to teach it.”

Currently, Owens is working on an initiative to help write Vascular Access Guidelines and show students that handling an IV can significantly affect a patient.

“We're trying to change how we access and care for our patients so that they don't die from a PIV or an IV, which patients have,” Owens said. “They've gotten infections from their IVs and that should never happen. We're trying to preserve vasculature in patients so that we're not poking them so many times to get an IV in. It does a lot of damage. My biggest focus is how do I take my students and help them understand the importance of this skill and the bigger picture of your patient's life. They're all excited to stick an IV in somebody, but they don't see the consequences of how that one action could impact their patient.”

Preparing students with the right tools so they can provide their patients with the best quality treatment is one of the most important factors for Owens. She hopes to bring recognition to responsible vascular access and apply best practice to programs at Marian University.

“For me it's helping bring that awareness to Marian University,” Owens said. “If we can bring it to the programs and teach nurses the right way, they can go out into the hospitals and know what best practice is. Our patients will have better outcomes. It's exciting to me because that's my passion.”



Andrea Owens, MSNEd, RN, CRNI, VA-BC



From Lab Finding to Publication: Guiding Students Through Research

For more than a decade, the research of Sumathilatha Sakthi Velavan, MBBS, DGO, MS, assistant professor of anatomy in the Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine, has focused on anatomical variations. Since beginning her role in the medical school, she has been able to help guide students through their own research of the same focus.

Sakthi Velavan says anatomical variations are deviations from the usual human anatomy. One of her most recent studies, “A Unilateral Pelvic Kidney with Variant Vasculature: Clinical Significance,” was published in the *Journal of Surgical Case Reports* and stemmed from a rare variation observed in the anatomy laboratory right on Marian’s campus. The report describes a case of a unilateral pelvic kidney with multiple vascular variations, extrarenal calyces, and malrotation.

“I chose to pursue this project since the noted anatomical variation was unique and associated with significant clinical application. The incidence of ectopic pelvic kidney accounts for ~1 of 2500 live births. Although pelvic kidneys are most often asymptomatic, they may be associated with several pathologies including hypertension,” Sakthi Velavan said. “As pelvic kidney results from a developmental defect, it is frequently accompanied by an atypical and variable blood supply. I felt that it was essential to report the noted abnormality since the clinicians should be aware of the variant vasculature in patients with pelvic kidney and exercise caution to avoid inadvertent damage and possible surgical complications.”

To complete this study, Sakthi Velavan supervised and guided four medical students through the research process: Ralitsa Gencheva, Bryce Gibson, Shruthi Garugu, and Anthony Forrest.



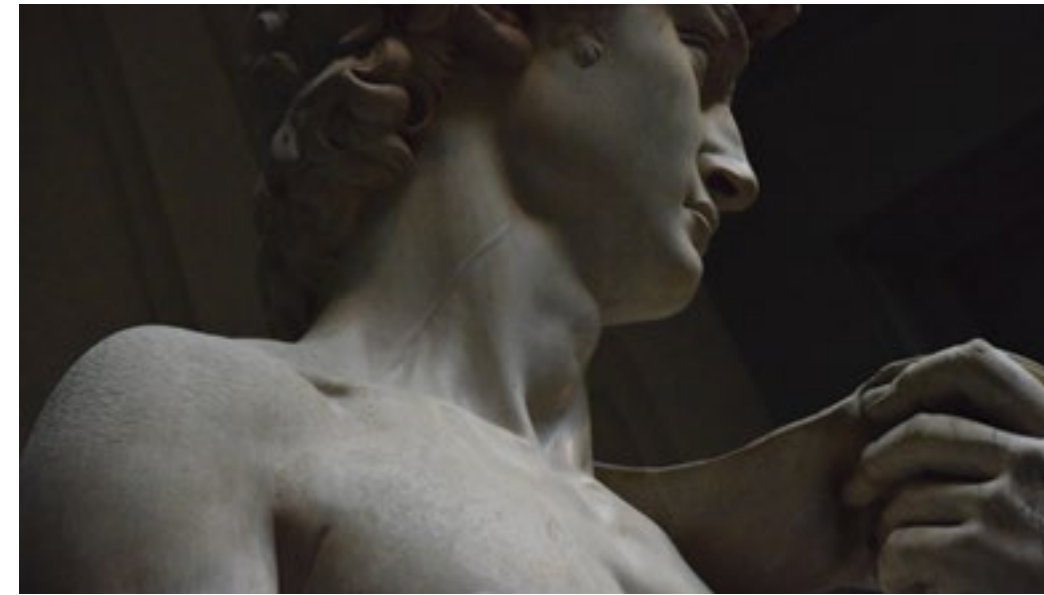
Sumathilatha Sakthi Velavan, MBBS, DGO, MS

“Being a physician, I strongly believe that anatomical knowledge is a critical element required to understand any disease process. As future physicians, it is crucial that medical students are aware of anatomical variations as normal occurrences in the human body. When I noticed a rare variant of the pelvic kidney during one of our regular laboratory sessions, I utilized that opportunity to throw some light on its clinical significance,” Sakthi Velavan said.

The goal for this study, with one of the students as the lead author, was for clinicians to reference the research when dealing with patients presenting with a similar anatomical variation.

“This is a wonderful experience where an academic activity is transitioned into a scholarly outcome. In the future, I aim at promoting more anatomical variation-based research among our medical students as I believe that this training would facilitate their medical education and also strengthen their clinical acumen.”

Diagnosing David: When Medicine Meets the Humanities



Michelangelo's David by Taylor Smith on Unsplash

Starting at Michelangelo’s *David* sculpture during a vacation to Italy, Daniel Gelfman, M.D., clinical professor emeritus of medicine, made an unexpected observation. *David* had jugular venous distention.

Jugular venous distention (JVD), noticeable in the neck, is caused when there is pressure in the right atrium of the heart. Normal individuals may demonstrate intermittent JVD in certain circumstances, but when sustained, it is usually a sign of heart disease. Persistent external JVD when upright, as depicted in the *David* sculpture, should not be visible. Gelfman knew there had to be significance behind why Michelangelo decided to include this in his work.

“It truly was a shock. I’m sitting there and looking at this thing and thinking how has nobody else noticed that?” Gelfman said. “What Michelangelo must have been demonstrating was normal intermittent JVD related to excitement or exertion but could only show one moment in time, and thus the sculpture reveals sustained JVD.”

When Gelfman returned to Indianapolis, he got to work studying and researching why Michelangelo might have included this in his famous sculpture.

“He [Michelangelo] noticed intermittent jugular venous distention in people who were being very physical, but he also must have

noticed that in people who were very excited. That’s why this goes a step further because *David* isn’t actually doing anything. That makes it even much more complex, that he put together that fact,” Gelfman said.

Gelfman’s article “The David Sign” was published in *JAMA Cardiology* and quickly made global waves. *US News & World Report*, *The Indianapolis Star* and its USA Today affiliates, and *The Daily Mail* (UK) all reported on his significant finding.

“Observing a patient with sustained JVD while standing, as depicted in *David*, would have suggested several possible diagnoses to me. I don’t know why it took 515 years for this paradoxical finding to be recognized. I suspect most observers didn’t see it and those that did, didn’t understand its significance,” Gelfman said.

Gelfman shared the importance of teaching medical students how to make this type of observation in patients when doing a physical exam.

“We emphasize the following in our teaching as quoted from the article in *JAMA Cardiology*, ‘Knowing the fundamentals, careful observation, and always asking why are key in understanding medicine and making accurate diagnoses.’” Gelfman said. “It is important that our physicians are able to do a proper physical exam.”

“Observing a patient with sustained JVD while standing, as depicted in *David*, would have suggested several possible diagnoses to me. I don’t know why it took 515 years for this paradoxical finding to be recognized. I suspect most observers didn’t see it and those that did, didn’t understand its significance”



Daniel Gelfman, M.D.



On June 22, 2020, Marian University lost to this world a true Marian Knight and an exemplar of the Marian spirit.

For over 50 years, Sister Norma Rocklage, OSF, Ph.D., '60 blessed the community with her courageous heart, selflessness in service, and magnanimous spirit.

"In John 21, Jesus clearly instructs St. Peter to, 'Feed my lambs, tend my sheep, and feed my sheep.' In Jesus' commissioning of Peter, it is clear that he instructs a minister to be about feeding, caring for, and leading people to the word of God, holiness, and service to humanity. This call of Jesus to serve in this manner was lived most vividly in the life of Sister Norma Rocklage and the years of service she gave to the Marian University community. Sister Norma's care and love for the Marian community is most remarkable and will never be forgotten," President Daniel J. Elsener said.

Born Mary Ann on July 18, 1933, in St. Louis, Missouri, she is the second oldest of eight children born to Henry and Catherine (née: Lohmann) Rocklage.

Mary Ann grew up with her close-knit family in St. Louis, attending Holy Cross School where she first became acquainted with the Franciscan Sisters, and by the eighth grade, she began thinking about becoming a Sister. She attended high school at the Immaculate Conception Academy in Oldenburg, and although quite shy and homesick, she soon made friends and enjoyed her participation in student council and school publications. It was in witnessing the Sisters' joy in their dedicated service that drew Mary Ann to the Community, and she professed her final vows on August 12, 1957, as Sister Norma.

Sister Norma continued her education at Marian College, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree. She earned a Master of Arts and Doctor of Arts degree at St. Louis University. She began teaching primary grades at St. Mary School in North Vernon, Indiana, in 1953, followed by middle school students at St. Francis of Assisi School in Portage des Sioux, Missouri, before dedicating much of her life to students at Marian University, beginning in 1965.



Sister Norma 1965

Her positions at Marian included: **1965-74** Assistant Professor, Classical Languages // **1970-74** Dean for Academic Affairs // **1974-82** Served as Councilor at Oldenburg // **1974-82** Marian College Board of Trustees // **1989-2004** Director/Vice President for Mission Effectiveness // **2005-19** Executive Director for Formation and Outreach.

When Sister Norma returned to Marian in 1989, she was approached by five diocesan superintendents of Indiana to initiate a program for beginning principals on developing lay spirituality since almost all principals were lay men and women with very few religious. With a grant from the Lilly Endowment, Sister Norma helped to develop an 18-month program for beginning principals, and eventually for veteran principals and parish teams, and directed it from 1989-2019 as the Indiana Catholic Principals Institute.

In reflecting upon her years at Marian, Sister Norma commented, "I learned a great

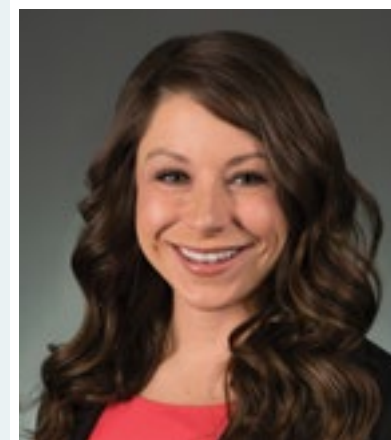
deal about global affairs, was afforded many opportunities for being involved in interfaith and intercultural affairs, was able to establish at Marian a Latino/Hispanic Advisory Board composed of Marian faculty and staff and Indianapolis community members to advocate for Hispanic students to receive a higher education degree and learn of their rights, though undocumented, and also established a Service Learning Board to foster efforts in combining service learning with the academic goals and not merely volunteer work. The faculty, staff, and students challenged me so often by their energy, vision, and willingness to have the courage to venture, so much like our Mother Theresa Hackelmeier, without knowing they were doing so. I had loved teaching elementary school children who still have a special place in my heart, and I actually cried when I realized I was being prepared for college teaching, for I thought I would never like that ministry. How wrong I was. I am very grateful for the 40+ years of being involved with the Marian community, for I was graced with many blessings."

When asked to reflect upon her life, Sister Norma shared, "As our Community becomes older, more poor, more vulnerable, fewer in number, and perhaps less sure of the future, I find my love for and hope in the Community growing. As we move ahead into the uncertain future, I sense we are moving together more dependent on the Lord and more able to share our journey and lives with others. My favorite line in our mutual and personal ministry and mission is, 'Where there is one, there is the Community, there is the church, there is Jesus.'"

A Partial Listing of Sister Norma's Awards

- 1996** Marian College Distinguished Alumna Award
- 2005** Brebeuf Preparatory School – Honorary Diploma
- 2008** Marian College Athletic Hall of Fame
- 2014** Archdiocesan Council for Educational Excellence
- 2015** Marian College Intercultural Person of the Year
- 2015** Archdiocesan Spirit of Service Award
- 2016** Bertha Torres Hispanic Award
- 2016** Marian College Franciscan Values Award
- 2016** Indiana Council for Latino Affairs Distinguished Service Award
- 2017** Center for Interfaith Cooperation's Interfaith Ambassador of the Year
- 2017** Franciscan Federation's Intercultural Award
- 2018** Oldenburg Academy's Distinguished Alumna Award

LETTER FROM THE MUAA



Leadership

As Marian University alumni, we are forever united by our liberal arts, values-based education and calling to lead. We can proudly boast many leaders: in business, education, healthcare, the church, our communities, and here on campus as well.

Our graduates continue to hone their leadership

skills as they move on to full-time employment, advanced education, medical residencies, volunteer positions, raising families, or other pursuits. Marian University provides students the opportunity to practice leadership in many ways, including:

- Fielding 27 athletic teams that compete at championship levels.
- Advising—and in many cases requiring—students to complete an internship prior to commencement.
- Encouraging students to create, participate in, and lead various student groups.
- Offering non-athletic arenas for them to compete, such as the Ethics Bowl, business plan competitions, and speech and debate competitions, among many others.
- Employing students to help one another, like in the Writing Center and Speaking Studio, where students may work with a peer to improve, or the Peer Tutoring Center where students come to receive academic assistance.
- Offering students the opportunity to learn alongside others in complementary programs, such as simulations pairing nursing and medical students together or nursing students with social work students.

Of course, Marian University is also committed to being a leader itself. In 2013, after recognizing the critical shortage of primary care health providers in the Midwest, we opened the first college of osteopathic medicine in Indiana and the first medical school in Indiana in 110 years. Since that time, the Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine has graduated nearly 500 new physicians. Our Fred S. Klipsch Educators College is a model for best-in-class education of teachers and recruitment of education students from diverse backgrounds.

All in all, we as alumni have so much to be proud of—we are all part of the Marian legacy. We have benefitted from a Marian education, and we share in the pride of all the accomplishments of Marian University and all its graduates. How are you using what you learned at Marian?

Let us know—we would love to hear your story at alumni@marian.edu.

Also, our Marian University Alumni Association (MUAA) is looking to expand the number of leaders serving on our board of directors. It's been an honor to get to know so many of you during my time on the board and to serve each of you in this capacity. Our connection with Marian doesn't have to end at graduation when there are so many opportunities to stay connected and engaged. Being a member of the MUAA board of directors is just one of those opportunities, but one that can be rewarding in many ways. The connections I've made and the relationships I've developed now reach far beyond my classmates and former teammates to include all the backgrounds of degrees, graduation classes, and personalities. It's amazing to hear the stories, ideas, and perspectives that our amazing alumni bring to the table.

While the COVID-19 pandemic has been a difficult challenge, the time away has given the MUAA, along with the Alumni Engagement Task Force (AETF), an opportunity to put more focus on keeping the alumni community engaged and connected in new ways. This led to the recent launch of our new alumni platform, or as we like to call it, ReuKNIGHTed (alumni.marian.edu)!

I've enjoyed spending time exploring the capabilities of the website, like the section for news and updates specific to alumni and using the directory map to find my former soccer teammates. I also started a group page for women's soccer where alumni can join and reminisce over our days on the field. You can join or create a group, too, to reconnect with theater friends, alternative break buddies, and more. It's my favorite feature and it will be really cool if alumni create and join all their favorite groups!

I hope you take a moment to sign up and join me on this platform at alumni.marian.edu. The more alumni signed up, the more opportunities to connect with each and every one of you!

Go Knights!

Holly Hammond Pels '09

*Marian University Alumni Association, President
Casted, Director of Marketing*

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

1962

The town of Culver, Indiana, declared Saturday, July 27, 2019, as Dr. Michael F. Deery Day in recognition of **Michael Deery**.

1965

Tom Egold has received the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award.

1967

Max Henschen found that a firefly species recently discovered in Mississippi and Tennessee by a firefly researcher also occurs in Twin Swamps Nature Preserve in Posey Co., Indiana. This represents the northern record for the species. **Sally Meyers Sizemore** has moved back to Indianapolis from Florida. **Sr. Olga Wittekind, OSF**, is the director of the Oldenburg Franciscan Retreat Center. She would love to see alumni come for a retreat!

1968

Donna Albert Wilberding and husband Larry celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 9, 2019. Donna was recently inducted to the Newton Local Schools Hall of Fame in recognition of her hard work as a Spanish and English teacher.

1969

Joe White and wife, Cathy, are celebrating the anniversary of the business they owned in Hong Kong for 13 years.

1970

Frank Della-Penna met with Governor Denny Tamaki of Okinawa during a celebration of the governor's birthday in the D.C. area in October, 2019.

1972

Paul and Suzanne Lassuy '72 Whalen celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in June 2020.

1973

Paul Norman was named to the Insurance Business America Hall of Fame.

1976

Denise Evans Ware has retired after 34 years teaching in Catholic schools.

1978

Gary Asher is assistant principal at Little Flower Catholic School.

1980

Jeanita Guenther Schulten's family is a true Marian legacy. Her son and daughter-in-law, **Greg '89** and **Lora Thompson '88 Schulten** both graduated from Marian, as did her daughter **Marlene Schulten McIntyre '98** and husband **Phil McIntyre '94**. Now Jeanita's granddaughter is a sophomore at Marian, and her grandson Matt has married another Marian graduate, **Anna Bittner Schulten '14**. **James Brothers** retired after teaching 40 years at North Putnam Community Schools.

1981

Kim Neeley Edomwonyi is a consumer associate at Anthem, Inc.

1984

Mary Clouse had two paintings accepted into the juried show at Minnetrista, Open Space - Art About the Land Exhibit. It was at Minnetrista Center for six weeks and is now on display at the Anderson Museum of Art. **John Kendall** is retired from Tecumseh High School where he has served as band director

1985

Denise Barc is retired.

1988

Stanley Lay is director of retail operations - US North America for Club Marketing Services. **Brian Nichols** is vice president for Legacy Funeral Group.

1990

Julie Herbstrith is associate professor and director of the Doctoral Program in Psychology at Texas Women's University in Denton, Texas.

1991

David Disbro is varsity basketball coach and teacher for Sunman Dearborn School Corporation. **Ed Ertel** was inducted to the Jennings Community High School Hall of Fame.

1993

Dan Dattilo was re-elected to a second term on the Madison (IN) City Council on November 5.

1995

Ann Kuntz Vincent is senior manager at Somerset CPAs and Advisors.

1997

Dawn Meyer Denny and husband, Daran, have purchased a home in Las Vegas after living there four years. Dawn is mental health coordinator for Choices Group, Inc. **Jason Seaver** is interim assistant principal at Valley Mills Elementary School. **Neil Clayton** has been promoted to the new position of director of U.S. operations.

1998

Nicole Jackson-Haag is a registered nurse for Cincinnati Children's Hospital. **Nikki Perryman** is director of strategic operation at Northwestern Mutual. **Ryan Rokicki** is the executive director of the Working Men's Institute Museum and Library in New Harmony, Indiana. Kitley Intermediate School in Franklin Township is led by Marian alumni. **Amy Holmes Miller** serves as principal, and **Lisa Ahaus Guthrie** and **Matt Nysewander '03** are assistant principals.

2000

Angela Hatem welcomed son, Wyatt Issa Hatem, in April 2019 (photo). **Maria Lutgen Kussy** was named Hamilton Southeastern Teacher of the Year and is a finalist for the Indiana Teacher of the Year.



2002

Jeremy Powers is principal at Morrystown High School. **Brett Wiscons's** song "Late Bloomer" is featured on the new "NASCAR Heat" video game. He was featured on WishTV.com for his singer/songwriter achievements.

2003

Jodie Mojzik Baldwin and husband, Kevin, welcomed son, Ryan, in December 2017. Jodie teaches math for Perry Township Schools. **Curt Reder** is a microbiologist for the Indiana State Department of Health. **Jim Merlie** received the PGC Transformation Coach Award for his leadership. **Rachel Yockey** was featured in the *Indianapolis Business Journal* for her notable work at Realync's client services.

2004

Lennie Amores is assistant professor of Spanish at Albright College. **Brent Bangel** has been named director of Plainfield Parks and Recreation. **Tim Hesler** was featured in an article highlighting his work educating students around the world by working online.

2005

Robby Geile is cross country coach for Eastwood Middle School in Indianapolis. **Brittany Connolly Innes** married Daniel Innes on July 2019 at the Dunnottar Castle Aberdeen, Scotland. She also has been accepted into the University of North Dakota Ph.D. program. **Sarah Hayden** welcomed son, Carson Louis, in September 2020.

2006

Jenifer Hotka Young married **Jason Young '11** in June 2019 and welcomed a child in Spring 2020. She is a fifth/sixth grade music teacher at Hamilton Southeastern Schools.

2007

Joey Newton is choral director at Roncalli High School. **Beth Craig** and husband, Tim, welcomed daughter, Mackenzie, in February 2020.

2008

Somer Case-Eads, husband, Mark, and son, Harlan James, welcomed Waylan Beau in June 2019. **Austin and Kundai Marimira '10, DO '19 Crites** welcomed son, Tatenda Koen, in December 2019. Austin Crites is the chief investment officer by Aurora Financial Strategies and has been named president of the Indianapolis CFA Society. He is also an adjunct faculty member at Marian University. **Edwin Ngaiza** is an accountant for Kovert Hawkins Architects, Inc. **Troy Sipes** is director of IT at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School.

2009

Stacey Alexander is a registered nurse. **Holly Hammond Pels** and husband, Rob, welcomed daughter, Lucille Victoria, in August 2019. **Adam and Monica Tobolski Spiegl** welcomed son, Brooks Griffey Spiegl, in April 2019. **Jessie Keltz '09** and husband, Michael, welcomed daughter, Emelia Grey, in February 2020.

2010

Matt and Megan Molleran '11 Abbott, and daughter, Teresa Clare, welcomed baby boy, J.J., to the family in August 2019. **Celestine Bowens-Martin** is the owner of Rose's Group Outings LLC travel company. She takes groups on bus trips and is the driver. **Cassie Craft** and **Tom Quaglia** were married September 28, 2019.

Jessica Davis was named a Hoosier Resilience Hero by the IU Environmental Resilience Institute. The award recognizes the top 10 sustainability and resilience professionals in the state of Indiana. She is proud to be advancing sustainability at IUPUI, in Indy, and across the state.

Richard El, an Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Officer, was featured in a photo that went viral in which he calmed an autistic child by sitting with him.



Meghan Karnes is provider data analyst at Oscar Health. **Bryanna Nance** works for DCS in Greenfield. **Doneisha Posey** is Ivy Tech Community College's first-ever executive director of employee diversity, equity and belonging. **Lindsay Williams** married Zack Jobe on May 17, 2019. **Lacy Wooden** is human resources generalist at Citizens Energy Group. **Colleen O'Connor** earned her master's in public health from the University of Cincinnati in May 2020.

2011

Cathy Baker-Zlatic is executive assistant at

KPMG. **Kerri Hackler Stone** and husband, Greg, welcomed daughter, Kaylee Kat Stone, in September 2019. Kaylee is named for Kerri's twin sister, Kelli Hackler Lyon, who with husband, Zach, welcomed daughter, Scarlet Kay Lyon, in October, 2019 (photo).



Austin Thomen and wife, Alaina, welcomed a baby in June 2019. **Corrine Purvis Youngs** and husband, Graham, welcomed twin daughters in August, 2019.

Carrie Sherman and Dan '12 Brunke welcomed son, Braxton, in November 2019. **Anjellica Peck Rospond** and husband, Jim, welcomed daughter, Ella Josephine, in May 2020. **Todd Ungru** and wife, Kristen, welcomed daughter, Mia Drew, in June 2020. **Catherine White Rothenberger** and husband, Dean, welcomed son, Colsten, in April 2020.

2012

Holly Carter is director of nursing at Community Hospital East. **Ryan Day** is operations coach at Lowe's. **Isaac Jean** married Tyler Pitts on June 1, 2019.

Katie Randolph Lubs and husband, Daniel, welcomed son, John Maxwell, in January 2020. **Sinead Miller** has developed a device which can diagnose and treat sepsis and other bacterial infections of the blood. **Tyler Kleinschmidt** has been promoted to audit supervisor at Alerding CPA Group. **Chase Brackinand** and his wife welcomed their third child, Ava, in early 2020. They have two other daughters, Elena and Cora. **John and Sheila Elsener '15 Hasty** welcomed daughter, Beatrice Anne, in March 2020. **Nicole Svorinic** married **Mike Stevens** in August 2020. **Amy Garner** and husband, Ian, welcomed son, Jonathan Joseph, in June 2020. **Joshua Carpenter** and wife, **Nicole**, welcomed daughter, Camilla River, in September 2020.

2013

Jackie Kurth and Samuel Stone '15 were married on October 5, 2019. **Steve Seculoff**, wife, Lauren, and two-year-old, Thomas Steven, welcomed Nora Grace in December 2019. **Anna Wolf** welcomed son, Connor Robert Crowell, in August 2020.

2014

Jordan Ahmay married Mitch Mowrer on June 7, 2019. **Charles Ayres** is marketing and communications coordinator for JDRF. **Michael Barton** was elected chair of the board of accountancy in June 2019. He is the youngest chair in the country. **Rachael Brown** married Sam Byam on December 28, 2019. **Zach Cecil** was ordained in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati on May 18, 2019. **Tim DeCrane** was ordained to the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis on June 1, 2019. **Becky Gramer** and **Bristin Dunigan '16** were married on October 5, 2019. **Andrew Hess** was ordained to the priesthood by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati on May 18, 2019. **Drew Kelley** is account executive at MetaCX. **Marlon Llewellyn** is proud to announce that Charles A. Tindley Accelerated School, where he served as principal from 2016-18, was recognized by the the Indiana Department of Education as one of two 4 Star and A (97.55) rated high schools from 2017-18. **Keith Pavlish** serves in the United States Air Force as air battle manager. **Olivia Pursell** married **Jason Denton '16** on September 21, 2019. **Jeffrey Stegbauer** was ordained by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati on May 18, 2019. **Beau Freeland** has been promoted to senior crew scheduler for United Airlines in Chicago, Illinois. **Jordan Ahmay-Mowrer** and husband, Mitch, welcomed son, Andrew Thomas. **Olivia Salzman** and husband, Adam, welcomed son, Beauden Michael, in June 2020. **Katie Groves Hibner** and **August Hibner** welcomed daughter, Nora Jane, in June 2020.

2015

Brock Bolden is doing his dream job as a firefighter in Fishers, Indiana. **Sara Carlton** is a nurse intern at St. Vincent Health. **Emily Chaniga** and **Luke Scifres** were married on July 13, 2019. **Sharelle Cross** is HR shared services coordinator at Ascension (LinkedIn). **Griffin, DO '19,** and **Alexa West '18 Elbert** welcomed daughter, Willow Leeann, in April 2020. **Emily Escue** is a paraprofessional at Wacousta Elementary School. **Kaitlin Krudop Frecker** and husband, Vincent, welcomed daughter, Magdalena Rose, in January 2020. **Sr. Maria Consuela (Rachel) Garzon** is a second grade teacher at St. Michael Elementary School. **Claire Holba** is community organizer at The Dwelling Place. **Kevin Junk** is global purchasing manager at Deflecto LLC. **Kelly McCain Smith** is an office manager/paralegal for Lewis and Wilkins LLP. **Jessica McQuillen** and Zach Schoen were married on March 12, 2019. **Tyler Stinn** married **Bri Bartlett** on June 1, 2019. **Emily**

Escue welcomed daughter, Persephone, in July 2020. **Katelyn Brooks** welcomed son, Mason, in April 2020. **Shannan Kelley Stanley** has been promoted to account executive - retail and consumer goods at Salesforce. **Sarah Potter** married Andrew Dougan in July 2020. **Jessica McQuillin Schoen** and husband, Zachary, welcomed son, Owen, in May 2020.

2016

T.J. Abney-Einhaus is store manager at Save-A-Lot. **Justin Ahaus** is operations supervisor at Venture Logistics. **Emily Deitch** is a nurse case manager for St. Vincent Hospital at Ascension Health. She bought a house last year where her boyfriend and she are making a home. **Emily Neu** married Cole Goodman on July 20, 2019. **Alex McCool** is head boys' basketball coach at Union County High School. **Michael Meinhart** was ordained to the transitional diaconate by the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois on April 26, 2019. **Elizabeth Olivas** married Pablo Valdes January 5, 2019. **Adam Schertzer** is assistant branch manager at GTE Financial. **Michael Trummer** was ordained a transitional deacon in the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois on April 26, 2019. **Dominic Vahling** was ordained a transitional deacon by the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois in April 2019. **Corey Bruns** was ordained a transitional deacon for the Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky, in June 2020. **Erin Boyce** married **Patrick Gordon '17** in August 2020. **Alex Wetmore** is head strength and conditioning coach at Westminster College. **Taylor Helvie** married Joseph Huntington in July 2020. Taylor is a CPA and an auditor for Lemler Group, LLC.

2017

Josh Coston married Alex Spitznagle on September 14, 2019. Josh is an account manager at Spot Freight. **James Crowley** is junior digital strategist at FlyteVu. **Jake Dulhanty** and **Kaitlyn Williamson** were married on April 26, 2019. **Tommy Guilfooy** is theatrical designer at Guilfooy Theatrical Design. **Dominic Henn** and **Monica Tatarek '18** were married on September 14, 2019. **Dean Kennison** married Samantha Dauby on July 6, 2019. **Rose McGrath** is organist and choirmaster for St. Peter Catholic Church. **Justin Posey** is a BMX pro working with Mongoose to grow BMX racing and in-school programs with USA BMX Foundation. **Zach Sneiderwine** is a sales engineer for Keyence. **Chris Trummer** is studying for the priesthood in Rome. **Sergio Valdes, Jr.,** is a master's student at Purdue University Northwest. **Emily**

James Bohm is a registered nurse with Aya Healthcare and married Cory Bohm in August 2020. **Brittani Corbisiero Specht** married **Gregory Specht** in September 2020. **Eliot Forrest** completed his master's in health leadership. His capstone is now getting the help of the Accountable Care Collaborative Learning Foundation. **Jeremy Shupperd** ran a barefoot half-marathon in June 2020 to raise funds for his baby cousin's rare disease, Pearson's Syndrome. He is a coach at Orangetheory Fitness in West Carmel/Zionsville. **Kristen Hauser** graduated from Boston College in May 2020 with a master's in divinity. Kristin works at St. Thomas More Catholic Church as the director of youth ministry. **Emily McNulty** has completed her doctorate in physical therapy and passed the National Physical Therapy Examination. **James and Amelia Carney '18 Abbett** married in September 2018. **Amelia Siler** married **Wade Knotts** in August 2020. **Patrick Gordon** married **Erin Boyce '16** in August 2020. **Gabrielle Fales** married **Zack St. Pierre** in June 2020. Many Marian classmates were part of day, including groomsmen **Jordan Saal '18** and **Matt Burleton '19** and photographer **Madeline Sciarra '17**. Gabrielle is marketing coordinator for Maryville University. **Mark and Catherine Bell '18 Berghoff** welcomed daughter, Gemma June, in June 2020.

2018

Shaquille Ash is Tax Associate at MCM CPAs & Advisors. **Elizabeth Barkley, MAT,** is educational specialist at Archdiocese of Indianapolis. **Emil Belmontes** is a licensed insurance agent with American Income Life - Henderson-LaRose Office. **James Catanzarite** has passed the CPA Exam. James is corporate controller at Palmer Trucks. **Stephanie Dunbar** is a special education teacher with the Metropolitan School District of Wayne Township. **Logan Glaze** has been promoted to safety officer at Valve+Meter Performance Marketing. **Ethan Hoffman, MAT,** was named Teacher of the Year 2019 by Indianapolis Public Schools. **Parker Hoffman** is wellness coordinator for Priority Rehab. **Kellie Kirkhoff** has been named Greencastle girls' basketball coach. **Cori Lane** is social media strategist for Fair Oaks Farms. **Dani Payne** is a fifth-eighth grade ELA Teacher at St. Thomas Aquinas School in Indianapolis. **Abby Henderson** and **Joey Radcliffe** were married on May 10, 2019. **Adri Richardson** is a labor and delivery nurse at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. **Jonathan Sherfick** is district executive at Hoosier Trails Council, Boy Scouts

of America. **Felicia Stancil** posted back-to-back podium finishes in BMX Supercross for career-best season. **Travis Sterrett** has been promoted to employee relations specialist at CNO Financial Group. **Elise Betscher** married Jonathan Watkins on June 1, 2019. **Taryn Welch** works for Royal Title Services. **Sabrina Brown** is a business intelligence consultant at Cogito Corporation. **Andrew Boyle** married **Morgan Hayse Boyle '19.** **Drake Fleck** and his wife, Jessica, welcomed a daughter to their family in October 2020. **Josie Brown** married Josh Foster in October 2020. **Mackenzie Acton** married Vincent Denton in September 2020.

2019

Jennifer Miller Johnson has been named associate judge in McHenry County (IL) Court. **Cody Bauer** is revenue cycle services intern at Indiana University Health. **Cody Bledsoe** is a project engineer at The Garrett Company. **Rachel Carroll** is a social services worker for Butler County Children Services. **Emma Cassani** is resident graphic designer for the Catholic Telegraph in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. **Kellie Cavanaugh** is a tax associate for RSM US LLP. **Mackenzie Dailey** is a tax associate for BKD CPAs and Advisors. **Brandon Dillon** is on the practice squad for the Minnesota Vikings. **Morgan Hayse Boyle** is a physical therapy technician at Team Rehabilitation Physical Therapy. **Skyler McCool** is a staff accountant for Sponsel CPA Group, LLC. **Therese Miller** is human resources assistant at OrthoIndy. **Rachel Moning** was named an Orr Fellow and works at Lev. **Lisamarie Norris, MAT,** is a special education teacher for Arizona Charter Academy. **Kasandra Perez** is staff accountant for Myers & Stauffer. **Elizabeth Poynton** is serving as a missionary in Brazil through Heart's Home USA. **Laurel Rathbun** is assurance staff at Ernst & Young. **Rachel Strattman Roberts, MAT,** teaches fifth grade at St. Lawrence School in Indianapolis. **Jonas Smith** is a data analyst for the Regenstrief Institute. **Wes Stowers** is human resources business associate at Eli Lilly and Company. **Taylor Collins-Cardis** is a child welfare specialist at Adult and Child Health. **Meredith Apple** is the digital sales coordinator at Nexstar Media Group, Inc. **Maddy Riggle** married Caleb Roberts in September 2020.

2020

Katja Barnes is studying at Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science upon graduation from Marian University. **Stephanie Bedel** is a customer service specialist at Weas Engineering. **Melissa Duong** has received a Fulbright Scholarship to teach English in South Korea for the 2020-21 academic year. **Mo Zopff** married Nate Prikkel in September 2020. She now serves as a K-8 campus minister at Central Catholic School.

Alumni Travel

Domoni Chatham Rouse '73, Mary Ehringer Sifferlen '61, and **Helen Dalton '73** recently made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Mary brought Knightro along, but was surprised to find that she and Knightro were not the only Knights on the trip (photo).



Six Marian alumni traveled to India, Nepal, and Dubai in January and February. **Jerry '75** and **Karen Brezina '75 Kretschmann** accompanied **Ricardo '72** and **Susan Knueven '73 Wong** for three weeks in India. They spent time in the Golden Triangle and then the west coast of India before joining up with **Tom '75** and **Sue Stollenwerk '76 Cebulko,** who had visited northern India. Together they traveled to Nepal and Dubai for a culturally enriching journey.

A group of alumni gathered in Newton, Massachusetts, to celebrate the marriage of Bryan Wynne, son of **Louise Daniel Wynne '78** to Olivia Whalen. Pictured are Marian alumni **Elaine Rohe Study '78, Carol Abell Wissel '78, Carol Lukacsek Burgan '78** and proud Mom, **Louise Daniel Wynne '78,** as well as **Herb Wissel '77.** Also in attendance but not pictured was the groom's uncle and godfather, **Tom Daniel '82** (photo).



Philip Ryan IV '15 and **Natalie Butler Ryan '16** recently made a Franciscan pilgrimage to Rome, Greccio, LaVerna and Assisi, where they followed the footsteps of Sts. Francis and Clare. Natalie is secretary and formation coordinator for St. Joseph Camp Springs, and Philip has opened his own chiropractic practice in Ft. Thomas, Kentucky.

Tony '69 and **Carole Kunkel '65 Watt** recently traveled to Europe with **John '63** and Phyllis Cardis. They are pictured here in front of the Abbey Mont St. Michel in Normandy, France (photo).



Mary Rose Turner Buechele '43 - October 19, 2019
Agnes Lang Amrine '44 - July 10, 2019
Mary Louise Toffolo Valchar '44 - January 8, 2019
Ruth Bill Jennewein '47 - April 26, 2019
Eleanor "Nora" Thompson Cardis '47 - July 18, 2019
Rosemary Doyle Becher '48 - June 6, 2019
Dorothy Bersch '48 - November 2, 2019
Suzanne Orth Roll '49 - June 11, 2019
Lois Mendenhall Berghoff '50 - May 16, 2019
Margaret Yirga Hatke '50 - January 5, 2019
Sr. Helen Eckrich, OSF '51 - January 6, 2020
Beatrice Durham Jenkins '51 - March 29, 2019
Billie Eilers Skerrett '51 - August 29, 2019
Barbara Brunson Hawkins '52 - May 20, 2019
Sr. Virginia Ann Streit, OSF '52 - July 28, 2019
Edda Fiorino Camardo '53 - November 19, 2019
Francis Joan Clements, OSF '54 - October 6, 2019
Sr. Ruth Breig, OSF '58 - November 7, 2019
Nancy Reiber Hall '58 - August 24, 2019
Sr. Mary Ann Miles, OSF '58 - August 5, 2019
Judith Miller Thompson '58 - July 19, 2019
Sr. Rita Vukovic, OSF '58 - October 5, 2019
Patrick Henn '59 - July 19, 2019
Gerald Obergfell '59 - December 23, 2018
Elizabeth "Betty" Burnett Boenne '60 - Nov. 12, 2019
Sr. Francis Ann Lewis, OSF '60 - August 11, 2019

Vera Ramstetter Nash '60 - August 26, 2018
Sr. Norma Rocklage, OSF, Ph.D., '60 - June 22, 2020
Sr. Justin Louise Stiker, OSF '60 - July 23, 2019
Normalie Richards Strickland '60 - May 7, 2019
Robert Harmening '61 - December 28, 2019
Kathleen O'Connor Greene '62 - January 7, 2019
Judy Hardin Hall '62 - March 29, 2019
Tom Tarpey '62 - May 15, 2019
Marilyn Wiwi Bardon '64 - December 31, 2019
Joseph Keers '64 - June 3, 2019
Martha Wechsler Corrie '65 - September 9, 2019
Anna Marie Kiefer '67 - January 3, 2020
Dennis Pyritz '69 - July 1, 2019
Anne Marty Haire '72 - October 9, 2019
Donald Sartino '72 - November 13, 2019
Sr. Sharon Marie Blank, OSF '74 - July 5, 2019
Sharon Orr Fisko '77 - March 16, 2019
Susan Close Kern '79 - December 19, 2019
Frances Joan Long '79 - December 2, 2019
Mark Daniel '80 - September 29, 2020
Anna Enders Myers '85 - October 23, 2018
Barbara Mauch '88 - November 17, 2018
James Faulstich '93 - November 13, 2019
John Keesling '06 - July 19, 2019
Charles Frazee, former faculty member - May 14, 2019

Denise Brennan Feser '77

Denise Brennan Feser '77 is current chair of Marian University's Board of Trustees. Feser spent most of her career in higher education, holding roles as admission counselor and director of alumni relations at Marian University before moving to USA Funds. Feser retired as senior vice president at the company, which provides financial support to students seeking post-secondary education.

As a leader throughout her career and in her current role as chair, Feser knows what it takes to innovate, guide, and make change. Here's what she has to say about leadership:



Q&A

What does it take to be a successful leader?

Successful leaders are empathetic, possess good listening skills, and can step back to see the bigger picture. Empathy for staff, colleagues, and others we serve is essential for building trust. Listening and paying attention to all communication, verbal and nonverbal, can provide insights that may be missed otherwise. A successful leader takes the long view and can see the interconnectivity of seemingly disparate pieces. Also, successful leaders recognize, appreciate, and help develop talents in others that complement their own skillset and bring diverse perspectives to the table.

What's a lesson in leadership you've learned?

Some lessons learned include: leaders don't have to shout to be heard, leading by example is evidence of my commitment to the endeavor, and don't read my own press releases. The last one translates into be humble.

There are many styles of leadership, but I gravitate toward servant leadership. Hire the best people, give them the resources and support to be successful, and get out of their way.

What do you think is the biggest challenge for a leader?

Technology has contributed to an avalanche of information coming at leaders. Sifting through it to separate the wheat from the chaff is a significant challenge. Leaders are well served by intentionally setting aside time to digest, reflect, meditate, and process.

What advice do you have for our students?

Leverage the leadership skills you've developed as a Marian student. No matter what position you hold—whether it's as a member of an organization, team, or club—find ways to contribute and don't wait for a project to be assigned to you.

“There are many styles of leadership, but I gravitate toward servant leadership. Hire the best people, give them the resources and support to be successful, and get out of their way.”

— Denise Brennan Feser '77

Heritage of St. Francis Society

Remember Marian University in a deferred gift and truly leave a legacy. Consider the following options:

- Make a bequest through your will.
- Name Marian University as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy.
- Name Marian University as a beneficiary of your 401k, 403b, or IRA.
- A charitable gift annuity.

Deferred gifts can be used to endow scholarships or benefit a program that is meaningful to you, and donors who make a deferred gift become members of the Heritage of St. Francis Society.

To talk further about a deferred gift, or to request more information, please contact:

John Finke
 Vice President
 Office of Institutional Advancement
 jfinke@marian.edu
 317.955.6202





E. S. Witchger School of Engineering

In October, Marian University announced the E. S. Witchger School of Engineering, offering undergraduate degrees in various engineering disciplines. Through generous contributions, Marian University will expand in its vision as a Catholic university to offer bachelor of engineering degrees that are rooted in the liberal arts tradition with the goal of graduating a diverse pipeline of talented leaders.

The inaugural class for the E. S. Witchger School of Engineering will enter Marian in Fall 2022. **To learn more, visit marian.edu/wsoe.**

