


MARIAN UNIVERSITY®

2024 Commencement CEREMONY

The seal of Marian University, featuring a shield with a central 'M', the text 'SEDES MARIANAE' above, '1851' on the sides, and 'MARIAN UNIVERSITY' and 'INDIANAPOLIS • INDIANA' around the perimeter.

The 87th Annual Commencement of Marian University

May 3, 2024

5 p.m.

Ancilla Domini Chapel

Plymouth, Indiana



Marian University grew out of the dedication and vision of Sister Theresa Hackelmeier and the Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, Indiana, who established a school in Oldenburg, Indiana, in 1851.

UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP

Daniel J. Elsener, *President*

Kenith C. Britt, *Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer*

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

Tia Bell, DNP, RN-BC, CNE, *Dean of the Al and Sue Leighton School of Nursing*

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

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

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

David Rusbasan, Ph.D., *Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences*

Binh Tran, Ph.D., *Chief Academic Officer and Dean of the E. S. Witchger School of Engineering*

Natalie Tucker Ph.D., *Dean and Vice President of Marian University's Ancilla College*

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

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

REGISTRAR

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

2024 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY



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

PROCESSIONAL

WELCOME

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

INVOCATION

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

NATIONAL ANTHEM

OPENING REMARKS

Natalie Tucker, Ph.D., *Dean and Vice President*

STUDENT SPEAKER

Peter Jeffrey Kenney '24

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Mark Senter

CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREES

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

Natalie Tucker, Ph.D., *Dean and Vice President*

Mark Senter

Doctor of Public Service

Sister Shirley Bell, PHJC

Doctor of Education

David and Virginia Gibson

Doctors of Philanthropy

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

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

Natalie Tucker, Ph.D., *Dean and Vice President*

Names of graduates read by

Christopher Fardulis, MSP, *Assistant Professor of Psychology, PTK Faculty Advisor*

CLOSING REMARKS

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

BLESSING AND COMMISSIONING OF SENIORS

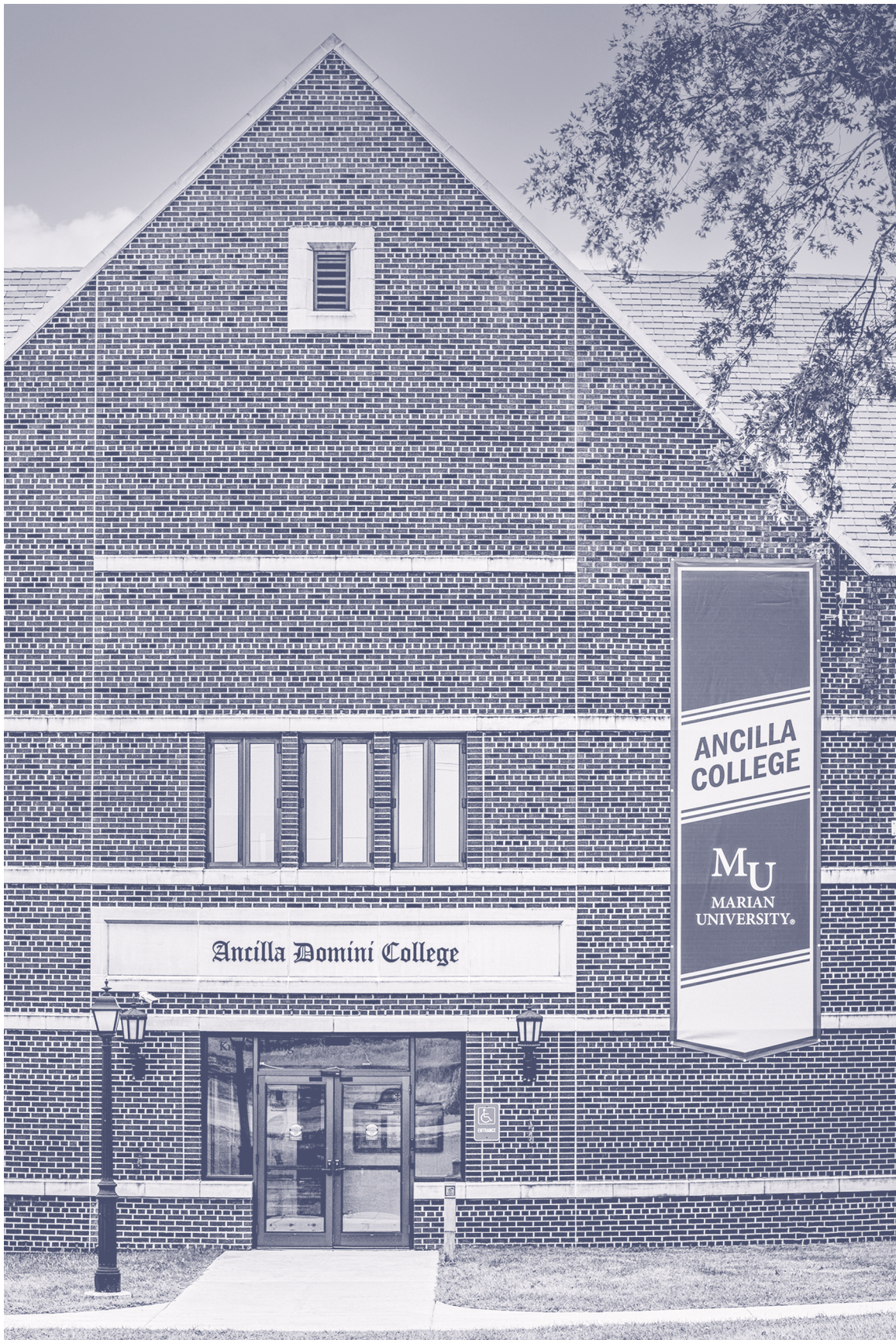
Sister Mary Beth Gianoli, OSF '78, *Vice President for Mission Integration*

BENEDICTION

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

FANFARE AND RECESSIONAL

Organ music by Andrew Jennings



Ancilla Domini College

ANCILLA
COLLEGE

MU
MARIAN
UNIVERSITY



Marian University's Ancilla College Board of Visitors

William Davis
Stan Blenke
Sr. Nkechi Iwuoha, Ph.D.
Brad Serf, CPCU, ARM, MBA
Regina Emberton, CEcD, SIOR, CCIM
Gary Neidig
Greg Hildebrand
Bill McDonough

Board of Trustees

MARIAN UNIVERSITY • 2023-24
— Indianapolis —®

Denise B. Feser '77, Chair
Sister Christa Franzer, OSF '70, Vice-Chair

Daniel J. Elsener
Michael Becher, *Chairman Emeritus*
Fernanda Beraldi
Edward Bonach
Scott Bruns '96
Philip Carson '81
Sister Jean Marie Cleveland, OSF '64
William P. Eckman '74,
Chairman Emeritus
Fritz French
Anne M. Frye
Adairius J. Gardner '02
Theaodis Gary Jr.
Sister Annette Grisley, OSF '74
Stephen J. Hackman
David Haire '71
Jeffrey A. Harrison
John J. Hart '86
Linda M. Hicks
Sister Margaret Horney, OSF '75
Sister Joetta Huelsmann, PHJC

Sister Maureen Irvin, OSF '70
Jerry Jones
Fred S. Klipsch
Rebecca Kubacki
Alan E. Leighton '62
Tobin McClamroch
Chair Elect
James M. Meer '92
Sister Joan Miller, OSF '73
Michael F. Petrie
Marianne Price
John F. Ramsey Sr.
Eddie L. Rivers, Jr.
Rachel Shockley, DO
Kevin P. Speer
Michele Steele '91
Sister Bernice Stenger, OSF '77
Robyn R. Werner
Fr. Tim Wyciskalla '10
Ramaroo Yeleti, M.D.
Richard Andrew Young
Scott Young '98

Trustees Emeriti:
John T. Cardis '63
William V. Drew '65
Joseph Doyle
Bain J. Farris '72
John H. Grogan
Eugene Henn
S. Michael Hudson
William Kelsey '61
Joseph Kuzmitz '75
James F. Matthews
Robert H. McKinney
Charles O'Drobinak
Monsignor Joseph F. Schaedel,
M.S., M.Div. '70
Joseph L. Smith Sr. '71
D. Anthony Watt '69,
Chairman Emeritus
Mary L. Welch '68
Raul E. Zavaleta
Gerald S. Zore '63

2024 Faculty Emeritus

Thomas Buchanan, Ph.D.

Honorary Degrees

Mark W. Senter – Speaker

Former Mayor of Plymouth, Indiana

Doctor of Public Service



Mark Senter served as mayor of Plymouth, Indiana, the Crossroads of Northern Indiana, and the County Seat of Marshall County, for 16 years. He was first elected in November of 2007 and retired in December 2023.

Plymouth is a city of more than 11,000 citizens in north central Indiana on the banks of the Mighty Yellow River.

Prior to his time as mayor, Mayor Senter grew up on the northwest side of Indianapolis. After college, he was hired as an Indiana state police trooper. He patrolled the road and highways until being promoted to detective in 1987. He served 28 years working out of the South Bend and Bremen, Indiana, posts. His detective career was dotted with numerous high-profile homicide cases in Marshall, St. Joseph, Elkhart, and Kosciusko counties.

Mayor Senter's civic engagements include involvement in Washington Elementary PTO, 12 times on stage with Culver's Maxinkuckee Players Civic Theatre with four lead roles, service on the Marshall County Blueberry Festival Board for six years, and many years of service as Boy Scouts of America Cubmaster and Scoutmaster and on the Eagle Scout Crossroads of America.

Mayor Senter's work has been recognized by Governor Eric Holcomb with The Sagamore of the Wabash Award in December 2023. Since then, the City of Plymouth renamed the bandshell at River Park Square to Senter Stage, a nod to the popularity of Mayor's Month of Music, which began in 2015. Finally, Mayor Senter will be honored with the Boy Scouts of America Soaring Eagle Award later this month.

Mayor Senter is proud to have earned an Associate of Science in Criminal Justice from Vincennes University in May 1976.

Marian University recognizes Mark W. Senter by bestowing upon him the Doctor of Public Service.

Mayor Senter celebrates this distinction today with his wife, Leanne Senter.

Sister Shirley Bell

PHJC Congregational Leader

Doctor of Education



Sister Shirley Bell is currently the Provincial of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ here at Ancilla Domini Convent and the Center at Donaldson. Prior to her time as Provincial, Sister Shirley served 6 years on

the General Leadership team for the international congregation of Poor Handmaids at their founding location in Germany. Trained as a nurse, she served in hospitals owned by the Poor Handmaids ministering in emergency nursing and staff education. For six years she directed the Studies in Spirituality program for men and woman in formation for religious life and served as the Poor Handmaid novice director. She has also been the manager of the Maria Center apartments for senior living located here in this building.

Sister Shirley's civic engagements includes involvement with Rotary International, the Red Cross, Catholic Relief Services and Matthew 25 Clinic in Ft. Wayne.

She is proud to have earned her Associate's Degree from Ancilla College, followed by her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from DePaul University and Masters in Pastoral Studies from Loyola University.

Marian University recognizes Sister Shirley Bell by bestowing upon her the Doctor of Education.

Sister Shirley celebrates this distinction today with family, friends and community members.

David D. Gibson

*Chairman — Gibson Insurance Group
Doctor of Philanthropy*



David Gibson serves as chairman emeritus of the Gibson Insurance Group, one of the top 100 insurance brokers in the nation. He attained the Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriter, Chartered

Life Underwriter, Chartered Financial Consultant, Associate in Risk Management, and Accredited Advisor in Insurance professional designations. Retired from Gibson since 2008, he continues to be a leader in civic and community affairs, actively serving on the Investment Committees of Marshall County Community Foundation and The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ. He has been a board member of the East Shore Sewer District, the Culver Club of Culver, and oversees the Gibson Foundation which has provided more than \$1 million in scholarships and support to area organizations since its inception.

Prior to his time at Gibson Insurance Group, Gibson completed four years as an officer in the United States Army Medical Service Corps.

Gibson's civic engagements are wide and varied. He has held leadership positions in the Plymouth Area Chamber of Commerce, Plymouth Industrial Development Corporation, Plymouth Jaycees, Plymouth Optimist Club, United Way, Boy Scouts of America, Leadership Marshall County, Holy Cross (St. Joseph) Hospital Marshall County, Memorial Hospital of South Bend, and Ancilla College, among others.

Gibson has been recognized for his work by being named Outstanding Insurance Agent by the Independent Insurance Agents of Indiana, an organization for which he served on the Board of Directors and was later elected president of the Indiana Association. He served as state and national representative on numerous insurance company Agents Advisory Groups, was a member of the Insurance and Risk Managements Roundtable, and in 1998, was appointed by the lieutenant governor to a 21-member Insurance Industry Task Force.

Gibson is proud to have earned his bachelor's degree from Indiana University in 1964 and his master's degree in business administration in 1965.

Marian University recognizes David D. Gibson by bestowing upon him the Doctor of Philanthropy.

Dave shares this distinction today in celebration with his wife, Ginny.

Virginia L. Gibson

*Ancilla College Board
Doctor of Philanthropy*

Virginia Gibson has served as a teacher and philanthropist. Active in fundraising, she joined the Marshall County Community Foundation Board serving in officer roles, and in 1995, she served two terms as a member of the Ancilla College Board.

Gibson's early career began in the Indiana University School of Education as a faculty assistant. Upon graduation, she was selected as the first teacher to be employed at the University Laboratory School without prior teaching experience. Upon moving to Plymouth, Indiana, in 1965, Gibson taught elementary education, though her career was brief as Dave Gibson was called to military service in Louisiana. There, Gibson was assigned a first-grade class during the first year of integration in Louisiana schools. She met the challenge head-on. As Dave Gibson's time with the United States Army Medical Service Corps advanced, the couple then spent three years overseas in which she taught grade school and English as a Second Language in the military school, as well as English to Japanese executives. Returning to the states in June 1970, the couple settled back in Plymouth, Indiana, where she resumed her teaching career and Dave Gibson joined Gibson Insurance.

Ginny Gibson's civic engagements have included leadership roles in her local Tri Kappa Chapter and service as president of the Webster School PTA. Active interest in the arts led her to the Plymouth Arts Commission where she served as board member and president for several years. She was also president of the Plymouth Day Care Center Board. Today, Gibson continues her volunteer work serving on the board of the Culver Antiquarian and Historical Society and in various service roles at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, where she is a member.

Gibson's teaching was recognized in the September 1989 issues of Newsweek Magazine when she was nominated by a former student as one of the Top 100 Most Influential Teachers in America.

Gibson is proud to have earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees in education from Indiana University.

Marian University recognizes Virginia L. Gibson by bestowing upon her the Doctor of Philanthropy.

Ginny Gibson shares this distinction today in celebration with her husband, Dave Gibson.

Candidates for Degrees

May 3, 2024

Phi Theta Kappa recognizes the academic achievement of students. Students who earn a 3.5 cumulative grade point average are invited to join Phi Theta Kappa. Members must maintain a 3.3 cumulative grade point average to remain active members. Candidates in the associate program are recognized as a member of Phi Theta Kappa by the golden stoles worn during commencement.

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

Associate in Applied Science

Veterinary Nursing

Harmony Gadacz
Mariana Hajicek Cortes
Ashley Michelle Kelly
Sarah Elizabeth Kim
Christina Nelson
Karsen Emerald Pych
Hailey Margaret Schott
Lillian Jo Zeidler

Associate in Arts

Education – Elementary Education

Bryan Chavero Ortega
Katelyn Elizabeth Schlotter

Education – Secondary Education, History

Andrea Michelle Alvarado
Kyla Christine Armstrong
Samantha Kay Benninghoff
Christian James Conder

Liberal Arts – Biology

Samaria Freeman
Regan Watkins

Liberal Arts – Organizations and Society

Abbigail Leigh Cutler
Maximilian Kolbe Kendzicky
Willie Reece
Erin M. Stacy

Liberal Arts – Social Sciences

Aaron Lamont Clark
Gabriella Lyric Norwood
Erica Lorraine Roberts

Associate in Science

AgriBusiness

Conner Jaycob Boone
Myah Celeste Donovan
Julia Kinney
Haylee Lynn Lesperance
Saulo Luna
MacKenzie Raeh Matthews
Jacob Pongolani

Animal Science

Izabell R. Freeman
Harmony Gadacz
Hannah Woods

Business Information Technology

Clayton Scott Bubash
Jonaveth A. Gonzalez
Peter Jeffrey Kenney

Business – General Business

Antonio Alexander
Tyler M. Bumbalough
Grace Olivia K. Louise Cygan
Nolan Charles Green
Matteo Lindia
James Leonard Riddle III
Audrey Deanne Schmidt
Hunter James Smith
Bryce Allen Taberski
Olivia Ann Williams

Business – Sports Management

De'Andre Coleman Jr.
Roxie Jo Foerg
Kennon L. Kemp
Dylan Joseph Pohl

Exercise Science

Cade Matthew Riley

Exercise Science – Nutrition, Fitness, & Wellness

Austin Hear
Benjamin James Jones IV
Nathan Marshman
Noah Reed Risner

Exercise Science – Sports Performance

Camryn Ann Buchert
Lincoln Parrish
Lauryn Nicole Swain
Derriauna Miracle Woodson

Associate in Science in Nursing

Katelynn Renee Vance



THE BLESSING OF SAINT CLARE

May almighty God Bless you

May he look upon you with the eyes of great mercy and give you much peace

May God pour forth all graces on you abundantly

And in Heaven may God place you among the Saints

THE MARIAN UNIVERSITY PROMISE

Marian University students will be exceptionally well prepared for a good life and professional pursuits through:

- ① An education illumined by the light of faith and grounded in values and ethics;
 - ② Challenging academic programs supported by a vibrant and caring community that guides students in achieving excellence;
 - ③ Innovative, active, and engaged approach to learning on campus and beyond; and,
 - ④ Leadership education that prepares a Trustworthy, Healthy, Inquisitive, and Skilled leader.
-

VISION

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

MISSION

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

VALUES

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

MARIAN UNIVERSITY[®]

Ancilla College

20097 9B Road
Plymouth, IN 46563-9416

marian.edu/ancilla



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