

A photograph of a Marist College campus in autumn. The scene features a large, multi-story stone building with a prominent tower, partially obscured by trees with vibrant yellow and orange foliage. In the foreground, there is a well-maintained green lawn with several black lampposts, each topped with a white globe. A paved walkway curves through the grass. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The overall atmosphere is serene and picturesque, capturing the beauty of the fall season.

**MARIST**

**FALL  
2022  
UPDATE**

*from* **THE OFFICE of PRESIDENT WEINMAN**



# FALL 2022 UPDATE

## *from the Office of President Weinman*

As the leaves begin to change color and I near my first anniversary here at Marist in early October, I'd like to offer a few reflections. I've been incredibly impressed by everyone in the Marist community—students, faculty, staff, and alumni alike—and I'm very excited for the future of this institution. In this newsletter, I'd like to celebrate some of our community's achievements and preview some of the strategic directions we'll be taking as we chart a course for the future. I'm particularly proud of our perfect blend of a liberal arts education and pre-professional training that has proven to be life-changing for our students and alumni. I hope you enjoy reading about our community's accomplishments and share my enthusiasm for what lies ahead. Marist is a very special place, and it's an immense pleasure to be here and work hard on your behalf. Best wishes to all for a great fall semester!



## STRATEGIC PLANNING

This year will be exciting in so many ways—a presidential inauguration, Middle States re-accreditation, search for the next Vice President for Academic Affairs, our largest cohort of new faculty members. One of the things I'm most excited about is our strategic planning process. This process comes at a pivotal time in Marist's history, as we emerge from a pandemic, respond to external pressures, and face public scrutiny about the value of private higher education. We also have the exciting opportunity to build upon the College's historic strengths and accomplishments to propel us forward as we approach our centennial year in 2029 and enter an exciting second century. This will be an opportunity to reflect on, determine, and articulate Marist's unique and valuable position

in the landscape of higher education. The resulting plan – which will be presented to the Board of Trustees in May 2023—will articulate a clear and compelling vision for the future.

The strategic planning process is being led by Vice President of Strategic Initiatives and Chief of Staff Emily Saland and Dean for Academic Engagement James Snyder, who have assembled a talented and broadly representative Strategic Plan Steering Committee. The Steering Committee will play an important role in assessing the impact of the previous strategic plan and in shaping the new plan's goals and initiatives. Most importantly, the Committee will be responsible for ensuring a transparent, inclusive, and meaningful process. I strongly believe that the best strategic plans are bold,

distinctive, and incorporate the views of the entire campus community, and I sincerely hope that everyone in our community will choose to answer this call to action. Marist's strategic vision will be better for your involvement and eagerness to participate. The course of our future depends on how you choose to shape it.

### STRATEGIC PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS



■ Emily Saland



■ James Snyder

## A WARM WELCOME TO THE CLASS OF 2026!



Despite an extremely competitive admissions environment, Marist continues to succeed in attracting talented and diverse students. At the end of August, we were delighted to welcome 1,369 new freshmen to the Marist community. This includes 1,240 resident students, 76 commuters, 30 students in the Freshman Florence Experience, and 23 in

the Freshman Dublin Experience. Overall, about 58 percent of the Class of 2026 are from outside New York State. There are 31 states represented in the class (plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico).

On the international front, the freshman class has 26 foreign countries represented (compared to 17 last year). These 33 international students come from Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ethiopia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Rwanda, Singapore, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, and the United Kingdom. Twenty-six percent of the freshman class self-identify as students of color (Black/African American, Asian, Latino/Hispanic, American Indian, or Multiracial). We also welcomed 142 new transfer students (93 residents and 49 commuters) for the fall 2022 semester, representing a 27 percent increase compared to last fall. These students are from 14 different states and three countries (Canada, China, and Colombia), and just over 25 percent are students of color.

## MARIST WELCOMES LARGEST-EVER COHORT OF NEW FULL-TIME FACULTY MEMBERS

In addition to welcoming an outstanding new freshman class, we were also pleased to welcome a diverse and dynamic group of 23 new full-time faculty members. The new faculty cohort is the largest in the College's history and represents our strong institutional commitment to academics and to recruiting outstanding faculty who are leaders or rising stars in their field. This significant step will enhance the first-class education we provide to our students and enrich academic life on campus. Please join me in welcoming these new colleagues to the Marist community:

- ***From the School of Communication and the Arts:*** Jeffrey Basinger, Assistant Professor of Communication; Patrick Boylan, Professional of Lecturer of Fashion; Steven Dana, Associate Professor of Art and Digital Media; Malcolm Jones, Professional Lecturer of Music and Director of Bands; and Chris Riviezzo, Interim Director of the Center for Sports Communication
- ***From the School of Computer Science and Mathematics:*** Dominick Foti, Professional Lecturer of Computing Technology; Malick Ndiaye, Assistant Professor of Mathematics; and Reza Sadeghi, Assistant Professor of Computer Science

- ***From the School of Liberal Arts:*** Magdala Desgranges, Assistant Professor of English; Shanaaz Mohammed, Assistant Professor of French; Fungisai Musoni, Assistant Professor of History and Director of the African Diaspora Program; and Laura Quijano, Lecturer of Spanish
- ***From the School of Management:*** Michael Bell, Professional Lecturer of Business Law; Mohammadali Koorank Beheshti, Assistant Professor of Marketing; Patrick Gosselin, Assistant Professor of Finance; and Tracey Niemotko, Associate Professor of Accounting
- ***From the School of Science:*** Michel Becuwe, Assistant Professor of Biology; Katherine Donivan, Lecturer of Medical Technology; Padmavati Garvey, Clinical Assistant Professor of PA Studies; and Michael LaCroix-Fralish, Clinical Assistant Professor of PA Studies
- ***From the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences:*** Meghan Caulfield, Assistant Professor of Psychology; Adar Eisenbruch, Assistant Professor of Psychology; and Joelle Fingerhut, Assistant Professor of Education



## NEW ADDITIONS TO THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET

I'd like to welcome three new members of the President's Cabinet, all talented professionals who will help us strengthen Marist as an institution and enhance the educational experience we provide to our students.



■ Dr. Will Lamb

After a national search, we welcomed Dean of the School of Management **Dr. Will Lamb** to the College on July 1. Will brings a wide variety of experience to Marist, most recently serving as Dean of Graduate and Adult Learner Recruitment at EAB Global, where he helped colleges and universities improve the strength of their academic programs and grow their enrollments. He previously served as Dean of the LaPenta School of Business at Iona College, the Murata Dean of the F.W. Olin Graduate School of Business at Babson College, and Associate Dean for Graduate Programs at Ohio University. A warm welcome to Will and special thanks to Dean for Academic Engagement James Snyder and Dean for the School of Computer Science and Mathematics Roger Norton, who stepped in to lead the School of Management as Interim Deans over the last two years.



■ Dr. Edward Antonio

This month, we are delighted to welcome **Dr. Edward Antonio** to the newly created position of Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). Edward brings nearly 20 years of advanced DEI experience to Marist, having served most recently as Chief Diversity Officer at Concordia College in Minnesota. He also has 25 years of experience teaching undergraduate and graduate students at universities in Europe, Africa, and the United States. At Marist, Edward will lead the inaugural Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, partnering with stakeholders across the campus to develop a strategic direction for DEI initiatives, build community, establish a system of accountability, and develop resources to support diversity initiatives. Special thanks to Associate Professor of Criminal Justice Adrain Conyers and the VP DEI search committee for their terrific work during the search process.



■ Daryl Richard '97

On October 24, Marist will welcome **Daryl Richard '97** as our first Vice President of Communications and Marketing. Daryl brings extensive experience in both higher education and the private sector, most recently serving as Vice President of Marketing and Communications at Quinnipiac University. While at Quinnipiac, he launched the university's first-ever message platform and brand campaign, as well as a semi-annual equity & inclusion report. He also helped deploy a digital news and content marketing platform that has now become a top driver of traffic to the university website and put greater emphasis on data analytics to help guide the university's digital marketing and public relations strategies. In this new leadership role, Daryl will help drive Marist's marketing and communications strategy and lead a team focused on highlighting distinctive stories and building our national reputation.

# MARIST RECEIVES SEVERAL PRESTIGIOUS INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AWARDS

With more than half of our study body studying abroad during their time here, Marist has long had a reputation for excellence in international education and for preparing our students to be truly global citizens. We're proud of the fact that the College is ranked second in the nation among master's-granting institutions for semester and academic-year abroad, as well as for total number of students studying abroad, in the most recent Institute of International Education's Open Doors Report. In the last several months, we've cemented this reputation by receiving a number of prestigious awards.



Our congratulations go out to Shivani Patel '22, who was selected as a 2022–23 Fulbright U.S. student grant recipient. Shivani, a biomedical sciences major/chemistry minor from Danbury, Connecticut, is a first-generation college student who was mentored at Marist by Associate Professor of Chemistry Jocelyn Nadeau. She is spending her Fulbright year in India studying youth volunteerism within the palliative care sector. Shivani's study is in Kerala, on India's southern coast, where she will identify key components of the Indian palliative care system, conduct empirical research at a nongovernmental organization in Kerala while working with youth, and observe palliative care models in India that deviate from the Kerala model. As a Marist student, Shivani was very involved in volunteerism, working with

the Upward Bound program and serving as Executive Director of one of Marist's largest student fundraising endeavors, "Up 'Til Dawn" for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. Her ultimate career goal is to become a pediatrician.

Congratulations also go out to John Peters, Dean of International Programs, who has been selected as a 2022-2023 Fulbright U.S. International Educator Award (IEA) recipient. This highly competitive award gives international education professionals and senior higher education officials the chance to create empowering connections with their counterparts and higher education systems of other countries. In October, John will spend two weeks in Paris and Nantes, France meeting with government and education officials from French universities and other educational institutions to help build closer connections between the US and France. With this award, John hopes to further develop programs for our students and establish new exchange relationships with French universities, thereby helping Marist enroll more French students at our main campus in New York.

John was also instrumental in Marist being selected as one of five institutions nationwide to receive the 2022 Senator Paul Simon Spotlight Award for Campus Internationalization from NAFSA:



Association for International Educators. Marist was honored for our innovative Freshman Year Abroad programs in Florence and Dublin. Marist's Freshman Year Abroad programs have been a resounding success and a distinctive way for Marist students to experience the world. The Senator Paul Simon Award is one of the most prestigious awards an institution can receive in recognition of excellence in international programs.



Franciluz Lizardo '22 and Gianna Nicosia '24 were each awarded nationally competitive Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships to study abroad this fall. Administered by the U.S. Department of State, these scholarships focus on student populations who are underrepresented in college study abroad programs and are recipients of U.S. Federal Pell grants. Franciluz is a biology/human biology major and psychology minor from Sleepy Hollow, New York. She is studying abroad in Madrid this fall and will graduate from Marist in December. Her original plan was to study abroad during her junior year, but the pandemic made that impossible, so she is finally getting to Spain for her final semester at Marist! Gianna, from Haledon, New Jersey, is a philosophy and psychology major with a cognitive science minor. She is studying at Marist's Florence campus this semester, taking Italian, psychology, philosophy, as well as an art course. Gianna reports being delighted for the opportunity to spend the semester in her ancestors' homeland!

## MARIST STUDENTS PURSUE HIGH-IMPACT LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Marist is known for providing students with meaningful experiential learning opportunities that supplement classroom instruction. Spring attachment trips are a powerful example of the high-impact educational experiences our faculty create. In May, seven Marist students traveled throughout the American South for the annual spring attachment course “The Struggle for Racial Justice in the South,” led by Professor of History Robyn Rosen and Associate Professor of History Steven Garabedian. The course is intended to help students enhance their understanding of race, inequality, and social struggle. The group explored sites such as the National Museum of Civil Rights at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee, where Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated; the Greyhound Station in Jackson, Mississippi, where many Freedom Riders were arrested; and the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama, where thousands of victims of lynchings are remembered. It’s one thing to read about events in a history book and quite another to visit the places where history was made, and the students reported



■ Marist students at Edmund Pettus Bridge, Selma, Alabama

being moved by walking in the footsteps of those who struggled for civil rights.

Another spring attachment trip brought eight Marist students to Ghana as part of “Music, Healing, and Spirituality in Ghana.” In it, students study how religious expressions in Africa and the diaspora integrate music and dance, herbalism, altered states of consciousness, and ritual to address various physiological or psychological afflictions. Led by Gavin Webb,

Director of International Programs and Lecturer in Music, the group began with orientation at the University of Ghana in Accra and then traveled to sites on the Cape Coast, where enslaved people were held for transport to the Americas. Students also visited Kakum National Park, then headed to Ghana’s Volta Region to visit the Apetorku Shrine and witness a ceremony. The trip culminated in a week-long experience in a community near the Togo border, where students carried out ethnographic fieldwork. Although the course resides in the Music Department, the approach is interdisciplinary, as the dispersion of African religions, both internally as well as across the Caribbean and Americas, requires some understanding of history and contemporary issues.



■ Marist students at the University of Ghana

**“Marist is known for providing students with meaningful experiential learning opportunities that supplement classroom instruction.”**

# NEWS FROM THE ACADEMIC SCHOOLS

## SCHOOL OF SCIENCE

It was a busy summer for Assistant Professor of Environmental Science Zion Klos and the Department of Environmental Science and Policy. Fifteen Marist students traveled to coastal Alaska for two weeks to learn about how social-ecological systems are functioning now and into the future under a changing climate. They compared ways of living in the more urban northeastern United States to remote, rural Alaska, and learned about sustainable local and indigenous practices for growing food, harvesting timber, and wild fish and game. Students spent their days exploring beaches and forest, hiking peaks, and traveling to the many islands of Southeast Alaska via boat and kayak.

In addition, six Marist students, under the direction of Associate Professor of Biology Megan Dennis, collaborated on a research project selected for presentation at the Lysosomes and Endocytosis Gordon Conference, one of the premier gatherings of intracellular trafficking researchers from around the world. The poster garnered attention from editors of several journals, including *Molecular Biology of the Cell* and *The Journal of Cell Biology*.



■ Marist students in Alaska

## SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

Students in the School of Computer Science and Mathematics develop high-level professional skills and work on cutting-edge research projects with Marist faculty and industry professionals. Summer interns in the Marist IBM Joint Study Program—Samuel Clemente, Elizabeth Herrera, Fauziah Ibrahim, Ahmed Sallam, Mehul Shetty, and Harrison Zhang—worked on research projects under the direction of Marist IBM Joint Study Program Director Christy Schroeder, and also supported the 14th annual ECC Conference, held on the Marist campus June 12-14. The students will present their projects and compete against IBM technologists at the IBM TechConnect 2022 technology project competition this October.

Through the generous donations of Trustee Suresh Kothapalli and his brothers Rajesh Kothapalli and Vinod Kottapalli, Roger and Cheryl Norton, and Trustee Ross Mauri and his wife Barbara, four students from the School of Computer Science and Mathematics received fellowship awards to engage in innovative summer research projects with Marist faculty. The fellows were: Angelina Chirichella '23, who is pursuing a double major in applied mathematics and data science and analytics; Sriram Ramachandran '23M, who is pursuing a master's degree in information systems with a concentration

in business analytics; Divya Aavula '23M, who is pursuing a master's degree in information systems; and Bashir Dahir '23, who is majoring in computer science with a concentration in software development and minors in data science & analytics and mathematics. Congratulations to all!



■ Bashir Dahir, Divya Aavula, Angelina Chirichella, and Sriram Ramachandran

## SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT



The School of Management achieved accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) for five additional years, until the 2026–2027 academic year. The peer review team noted the School exhibited several best practices and high-quality continuous improvement in management education: a dedicated leadership team and faculty, a highly engaged advisory board, the offering of unique programs by the IBM Skills Academy, and the fact that Marist is among the nation's leading colleges and universities offering international education. Congratulations to the School's faculty and to James Snyder, who oversaw the reaccreditation process in his capacity as Interim Dean of the School of Management.

In other news, Marist's MPA program has received an extension of its accreditation by the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA), the gold standard in public service education. The accreditation extension will be for a period of seven years and will be included on the annual Roster of Accredited Programs.

In addition, the MBA program is celebrating 50 years of offering classes. Jay Pantaleo, Professional Lecturer of Decision Sciences and Director of the MBA program, is currently working with the MBA committee to revise and strengthen the program. Jay is also planning a number of special events during the 2022-23 academic year to commemorate the program's development and achievements, including being the first to offer a completely online degree in New York State. Congratulations on a half-century!

## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Three professors from the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences received prestigious Spencer Education Grants to enhance their research focused on social justice and equity. Professor of Education Carol Rinke and Assistant Professor of Education Christina Wright-Fields were awarded a research grant to conduct a three-year study that will work with teachers of color from across the professional lifespan to construct counternarratives of schooling. Carol and Christina are partnering with researchers from Rutgers University - Newark. Carol is building on the work done for her co-authored book *There Has to be a Better Way: Lessons from Former Urban Teachers*, published in 2019. In addition, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice Vanessa Lynn is the co-investigator on

another Spencer Grant that will fund research examining how the educational experiences of faculty who teach in criminology and criminal justice programs shape their pedagogical practices related to race.

The Social Work Department has been training its students to provide a new service on campus: peer education. Supervised by Associate Professor of Social Work Daria Hanssen and Assistant Professor of Social Work Katharine Dill, the department has set up offices in the Student Center and is providing education and information to Marist students about how to adapt to college life and have a healthy college experience. Serving on their advisory board are faculty from Social Work and representatives from the Counseling Center and Student Affairs.



■ Carol Rinke



■ Christina Wright-Fields



■ Vanessa Lynn

## SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION AND THE ARTS

Faculty in the School of Communication and the Arts have been extremely active in their disciplines. Congratulations to Zachary Arth, Assistant Professor of Sports Communication, for contributing to an award-winning paper; “From Media to Minutes: Time on Camera for Men and Women during the 2020 Tokyo Olympics on NBC” was named the top paper in Sports Communication at the 2022 International Communication Association Convention in Paris. Philip Scepanski, Associate Professor of Film, TV, Games, and Interactive Media was quoted in several prominent publications on popular culture; specifically, in *The Christian Science Monitor* regarding the TV show *Ted Lasso* and in *Politico* on television, politics, and the show *Abbott Elementary*. Karen “Kat” Schrier, Associate Professor of Games and Emerging Media, published six articles and two book chapters. John Bartlett, Director of Marist’s Fashion Program, has joined the Board of Directors of Material Innovation Initiative, a nonprofit that accelerates the development of sustainable, animal-free next-gen materials for the fashion, home, and automotive industries. Finally, Art Himmelberger of the Music Program received the Distinguished Service to Music Medal Award from the National Council of Kappa Kappa Psi, the National Honorary Fraternity for College Bandmembers.

Students and recent alumni in the School of Communication and the Arts have also distinguished themselves in their respective fields.

- The *Marist Circle* was among the winners for “college hybrid news,” and the Fashion Program’s *Measure* magazine was a winner in general magazine category at the 2022 Columbia Scholastic Press Association Awards.
- *Pseudea*, a student film by Class of 2022 graduates Chelsea Columbus, Ethelle O’Mara, Samantha Doria, Tyler McGuigan, and Ani Stein has won multiple national student film awards and is making the rounds on the short film festival circuit. To date, it has won 12 awards, two honorable mentions, and two nominations at festivals, including Best Student Film, Best Original Story, Best Drama Screenplay, Best Visual FX, and Honorable Mention for Best Director.



■ Pseudea poster



■ (L-R) Samantha Doria '22, Tyler McGuigan '22, Ani Stein '22, Chelsea Columbus '22, and Ethelle O'Mara '22

Marist’s fashion design and merchandising students continue to be lauded for their work by nationally recognized fashion organizations.

Rebecca Kuzmicz '22 and Catherine Gambeski '23 were national semifinalists for National Retail Federation’s Next Generation Case Study.

Aldine Raso '22, Megan Schwenker '22 and Jennifer Hamilton '22 were among the top 10 national semifinalist teams for the National Retail Federation Student Challenge.

Dylan Broder '22 and Alexa Gillert '22 were national finalists for the Council of Fashion Designers of America Scholarship competitions.

Several students were recognized by the Fashion Scholarship Fund (FSF) National Case Study Competition and awarded \$7,500 each; congratulations go out to fashion merchandising major Madison Breemen '23, and to fashion design majors Mark Bissell '22, Shannon Wines '23, and Madeline McCarthy '22.

Fashion design majors Ashley Catalano '22, Camille McHenry '22, and Taliyah Coles '22 all won the Virgil Abloh Post Modern Scholarship FSF Competition, garnering \$7,500 each.

Finally, we’re grateful to Ralph Lauren for donating \$10,000 to support to our summer pre-college program in fashion design, providing full funding for four students from the High School of Art and Design in New York City.

## SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

Over the summer, 19 Marist students completed high-impact, public service internships through the Rupert and Marie Tarver Internship Program and the Albany Summer Internship Program. These students gained valuable professional experience and contributed to the social good by interning for state legislators, advocacy groups, and nonprofit organizations.

The Tarver Summer Internship allows Marist students to work full time at an approved nonprofit organization in the Hudson River Valley each summer. In partnership with their community mentors and faculty advisors, interns develop projects that result in a tangible product for their organizations. The program is administered by the Center for Civic Engagement and Leadership, led by Melissa Gaeke.

This year's Tarver interns were: Britney Carino '22, a political science major placed at Literacy Connections; Adrien D'Aprile '23, a double major in economics and philosophy, with minors in cognitive science and data science, who worked with the United Way; Christina Georgiou '24, a media studies, film & TV video production major who interned at The Art Effect; Santaluz Guale-Hilario '23, a double major in psychology and social work who worked at the Mental Health Association's Casa Program; Julianna Lindquist '23, a biomedical sciences major and Spanish minor whose internship was with Upward Bound; John Mesaros '23, an environmental science/policy major pursuing a paralegal certificate, who worked with Clearwater; Samantha Morales '23, a psychology major and social work minor who worked with Hudson River Housing; and Emily Stanzione '23, a psychology major and theatre minor pursuing her paralegal certificate who was placed with Upward Bound.

The six-week Albany Summer Internship Program (ASIP) enables students to gain an insider's perspective on political communications, politics, and public policy in New York's capital city by working with state legislators, lobbying firms,



and advocacy organizations. The students live as a cohort in an Albany townhouse complex and participate in a course, directed by ASIP Director Krista Applebee, that includes professional development workshops and guest speakers from the Albany political community.

Congratulations to these 11 ASIP interns: Zachary Acre '24, a political science major placed with New York Public Interest Group/NYPIRG; Hannah Belleville '24, a communications/public relations major and fashion merchandising minor placed with the Adirondack Council; Alex DiVincentis '23, a political science major working with Vandervort Group; William Dougherty '24, a double major in political science and history interning with New York State Senator Elijah Reichlin-Melnick; Rebecca Dowling '25, a double major in political science and communications/journalism who was placed with New York State Assemblymember Didi Barrett; Katherine McMahon '23, a political science major and social work minor who interned for New York State Senator Andrew Gounardes; Erin Petrosino '23, a psychology major with minors in philosophy and cognitive science, who worked for Mental Health Association of New York State; Ayana Roman '23, a psychology major with a minor in sociology who was placed with Mental Health Association of New York State; Emily Stellakis '24, a double major in political science and communications/journalism who worked for New York State Senator Cordell Cleare; Michael Spotts '24, a criminal justice major with minors in political science and pursuing a paralegal certificate, who was placed with Families Together of New York State; and Brittany Walsh '22, a psychology and criminal justice double major who interned for the National Alliance for Mental Illness.



# ATHLETICS UPDATE



The spring 2022 athletic season saw a return to normalcy for Marist's Red Foxes after the previous two seasons were severely impacted

by the pandemic. The men's baseball team boasted a record of 17-5 in Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) play, good enough for a second-place finish. Men's lacrosse finished with a share of the MAAC regular-season title before losing a heartbreaking overtime game in the MAAC semifinals. Women's softball and water polo qualified for the MAAC championships.



■ League of Legends championship team



■ Overwatch championship team

Marist student-athletes made us proud in the academic arena as well. I'm pleased to note that 336 student-athletes were named to the MAAC Academic Honor Roll, which Marist has led for 21 years. In addition, 68 football players were named to the Pioneer Football League (PFL) Academic Honor Roll, and 10 student-athletes were selected for the CoSIDA Academic All-District team, which recognizes the nation's top student-athletes for their combined performances in athletic competition and in the classroom.

Eleven student-athletes were honored at the College's Honors Program medal ceremony in May, while four student-athletes won awards at Baccalaureate:

- Volleyball player Skylar Harrison, Award for Academic Excellence in Business Administration
- Football player Luke Hatch, The CH Energy Group, Inc. Award for Excellence in Environmental Science & Policy
- Women's swimming & diving team member Emma Butzler, Boehringer Ingelheim Award for Excellence in Scientific Research
- Men's cross country/track & field team member Patrick Kutch, Hermitage Community Service Award

Under the guidance of Julie Byron, Assistant Athletic Director for Intramural Sports/Club Sports/Camps, Marist has built a formidable Esports program. Our students' talent was on full display at the 2022 MAAC Esports Championship Tournament in Atlantic City from March 10-12. Marist won two of the tournament's four championships (for Overwatch and League of Legends). Matthew Ong '25 was named the 2022 MAAC Esports Overwatch Championship MVP, while Anthony Giaimo '22 was named MVP for League of Legends. Most impressive of all, Marist was named the 2022 MAAC Esports Program of the Year, and 14 of our student-athletes were named to the MAAC All-Academic Team. Congratulations to all on this outstanding performance!

**“The spring 2022 athletic season saw a return to normalcy for Marist's Red Foxes after the previous two seasons were severely impacted by the pandemic.”**



■ (L-R) Athletic Director Tim Murray, Luke Hatch '22, Emma Butzler '22, Patrick Kutch '22, Skylar Harrison '22, President Kevin Weinman



■ Student-athletes at Honors medal ceremony

## COLLEGE ADVANCEMENT UPDATE

I am pleased to announce two recent pledge commitments in support of the exciting renovation and expansion of the Dyson Center presently underway on campus. A dedicated donor who wishes to remain anonymous recently pledged \$250,000 to name the café in the Collaborative Study Center on the first floor of the new facility. The centrally located café will be dedicated in the name of the School of Management Advisory Board, providing a visible symbol of the Board's ongoing support and advocacy for Marist students, faculty, and staff. In



■ Wayne Schmidt '80

addition, Wayne Schmidt '80 and his wife Marisa recently made a generous pledge towards the Dyson Center project to name two spaces that directly impact students

and faculty. The Schmidts will name a premier classroom in the new building in memory of Wayne's father, Wayne Schmidt Sr., as well as a collaborative study room in honor of Wayne's uncle and legendary former Marist crew coach Bill Austin. We are grateful to Wayne and Marisa for their generous support of this important project and appreciate their thoughtfulness as they remember Wayne's father and honor Bill Austin.

To learn more about the wide range of naming opportunities associated with this landmark project, please contact Chris DelGiorno, Vice President for College Advancement, at [chris.delgiorno@marist.edu](mailto:chris.delgiorno@marist.edu).

I am also pleased to share news of generous scholarship support from



■ George '71 and Carol Majestic

Marist alumni and friends. Recently, George Majestic '71 and his wife Carol established the *George W. Majestic '71 and Carol Lahey Majestic Scholarship*,

which will be awarded to full-time undergraduate students with

demonstrated financial need in good academic standing; preference will be given to students from Ulster County, New York, with secondary preference to students from Orange County and the greater Mid-Hudson region. I would also like to recognize Nick Citera '87 and his wife Rossana for their recent pledge to



■ Nick '87 and Rossana Citera

establish the *Nick '87 and Rossana Citera Endowed Scholarship*. The Citeras' scholarship will support first-year undergraduate students in the School of

Management with considerable academic promise and demonstrated financial need. First preference will be given to residents of the Hudson Valley. A longtime Hudson Valley resident, Nick is a partner in Cosimo's Restaurant Group and a dedicated member of the School of Management Advisory Board. In addition, I am delighted to announce that Heritage



■ Louis and Barbara Zuccarello

Professor Louis Zuccarello and his wife Barbara have established the *Dr. Louis and Barbara Zuccarello Family Scholarship* to support academically

talented students with financial need, with preference given to students from the Bronx.

Members of the Advisory Board of the Hudson River Valley Institute (HRVI) and key stakeholders of HRVI have generously pledged more than \$60,000 to help establish the endowed *Dr. James M. and Lois S. Johnson Student Research Fund of the Hudson River Valley Institute* in honor of founding Executive Director Col. (Ret.) Jim Johnson and his wife Lois. Jim, who also served as the Dr. Frank T. Bumpus Chair in Hudson River Valley History, retired from Marist in August. *The Johnson Student Research Fund* will provide enrichment opportunities for students from a variety of economic

backgrounds, ensuring equal access to the experiences available to HRVI interns and allowing them to undertake more impactful and in-depth projects. This special endowed fund is a fitting tribute to Jim and Lois, both lifetime educators and strong advocates of experiential learning.

As many of you know, Marist lost one of its most dedicated volunteer leaders and supporters last spring with the passing of Ellen Hancock, Immediate Past Chair of the Board of Trustees. Ellen, a highly accomplished technology executive and business leader, served on the Marist Board for 34 years, including seven as Chair. Ellen's husband Jason recently made a \$50,000 gift to support the *Ellen Hancock Endowed Scholarship*, originally established by the Board of Trustees in her honor; the *Dennis and Marilyn Murray Endowed Scholarship*; and the Music Program at Marist. We appreciate Jason's continued dedication to the College and his generous and thoughtful support.

Finally, Executive Vice President Dr. Geoffrey L. Brackett and his wife Michelle Rider, CPA, Esq. have recently pledged \$50,000 to establish a new endowed fund to support Marist's LGBTQ+ community. The *Rainbow Fox Fund* will strengthen and enhance programming, resources, and opportunities for our students. We appreciate Geoff's and Michelle's generosity and thoughtfulness in creating this special fund and are grateful for their support of the College's diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts.



## MARIST POLL UPDATE

The Marist Poll continues to set the national standard for scientific survey research, while giving our students the opportunity to learn by doing. Each semester, more than 400 students from all academic disciplines participate in polling, workshops, courses and seminars, field trips, and internships.

With Election Day approaching, it's Midterm Madness at the Marist Poll! This fall, the team will track public opinion in some of the most hotly contested Senate and gubernatorial races across the country. While all eyes will be focused on the horse race, the Marist Poll's foray into these battleground states will serve an additional purpose: to implement new, scientific polling methodologies aimed at addressing the broader challenges confronting the polling community. Always innovators in the field of survey research and academia, the Marist Poll has been rigorously

testing these methodologies over the past few months and looks forward to sharing the lessons learned with the hundreds of student workers who are at the fore of the Marist Poll Survey Center each semester.

The Marist Poll also plans to track the 2022 midterm elections on the national level with its polling partners, NPR and the *PBS NewsHour*. With inflation and consumer spending top of mind for many Americans, the latest NPR/*PBS NewsHour*/Marist Poll will examine the role of the economy within the national political discourse. In June, the NPR/*PBS NewsHour*/Marist Poll went into the field immediately following the Supreme Court's decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. National polling topics this spring and summer also included Americans' opinions about gun rights in the United States, the January 6th Congressional committee hearings, and President Joe Biden's job performance.

## MaristPoll™

Students in Marist Institute for Public Opinion Director Lee Miringoff's spring "Public Opinion and Politics" course were treated to an insider's view of politics through a terrific series of guest lecturers. Speakers included NBC and MSNBC's Steve Kornacki; CNN's Harry Enten; and Berkeley School of Law professor Amanda Tyler, who clerked for Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. This semester, Lee is set to welcome yet another cadre of distinguished speakers, including U.S. Congressman Jamie Raskin, author of *Unthinkable: Trauma, Truth, and the Trials of American Democracy* and lead impeachment manager in the second impeachment trial of President Donald Trump.

## DYSON CENTER UPDATE

Finally, as any visitor to campus can see, the long-awaited Dyson Center addition and renovation is underway! Workers on site have been carefully separating the debris generated during



■ Dyson Center under construction;  
artist's rendering of completed building

the demolition process, and we plan to recycle approximately 76 percent of the building, including brick, concrete, metal ductwork, and steel. Our current schedule calls for the new concrete foundations to be complete in December. The structural steel installation, which will create the visual framework of the new building, will begin in January, while installation of the architectural precast exterior wall panels will begin in early spring. Our goal is to complete construction in late spring 2024.

The new Dyson Center will be a spectacular campus centerpiece. At 110,000 square feet, it will double the size of the former building. The new facility, designed by the internationally recognized firm Ann Beha Architects, will feature state-of-the-art classrooms;

faculty offices; a 150-seat tiered lecture hall; and labs for student-faculty research, especially in the areas of cognitive, developmental, and social psychology. We envision a first-class academic building that is a hub of ideas and intellectual exchange. The new Dyson Center will be home to the Schools of Management and Social and Behavioral Sciences, but all Marist students, regardless of program of study, will benefit from this ambitious project, which represents a bold investment in Marist's future. We believe it will provide Marist students with an outstanding educational experience to prepare them for successful lives and careers. While any major construction project has its share of disruptions and inconveniences, I can assure you that the finished product will be worth the sacrifice!

## ADMISSIONS UPDATE

Our 2023 recruitment campaign is in full swing. Over the next four months, the admission team will be attending college fairs, making high school visits, participating on college panels, and finding many other ways to engage with prospective students, their parents, and school counselors. In addition to an aggressive travel schedule, we are focused on encouraging as many students as possible to visit campus, and will continue to be open seven days a week throughout most of the fall semester. A robust marketing and communication plan designed to attract high-quality and diverse students will support our entire new student enrollment campaign. We look forward to assembling the Class of 2027!

On the graduate side, we're pleased to report that we have 198 new students enrolled this fall, compared to 177 at this time last year. This total will increase slightly as we continue to recruit and enroll new MBA and MPA students for the term starting October 24. Following are some highlights from our various graduate programs:

- International student enrollment in the MS in Computer Science and MS in Information Systems programs

continues to surge, with 90 new students (30 in MSCS and 60 in MSIS) joining us.

- Domestic student enrollment has rebounded compared to last fall, and we have met all of our goals for all programs, including the advanced certificate in business analytics.
- The MA in Museum Studies is on hold this year while the School of Communication and the Arts works to revitalize and rebrand the program in the year to come. The MA in Integrated Marketing Communication, which welcomed 15 new students this fall, is also under review because of declining enrollments over the past few years. We plan to revamp the IMC program to ensure that Marist is delivering an in-demand curriculum that competes well in a crowded marketplace.

In the School of Management, the MS in Professional Accountancy program continues to serve our current Marist accounting undergraduates well. We enrolled a total of 26 students this summer (22 entered through our dual degree program and four through the standalone MS in Professional Accountancy). The MBA program



enrolled 10 new students for the summer semester, and 21 new students have started this fall. The MPA continues to face enrollment challenges in comparison to its strong pre-pandemic enrollment. Nine new students enrolled in the summer, while 29 began on August 29. Both programs continue to recruit and enroll students for the term beginning October 24. In the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, the hybrid MS in Education (formerly MA in Educational Psychology) welcomed 13 new students over the summer, while the MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling enrolled 10 new students, and 13 joined the MA in School Psychology for the fall.

In the School of Science, a talented cohort of 54 new students began the Physician Assistant program in June, while the Doctor of Physical Therapy program starts its next cohort in January 2023. In May, the PA program graduated 47 students, and 98 percent of these graduates successfully passed the PANCE board examination on their first attempt; the program has achieved an admirable 97 percent first-time pass rate for all PA graduates across the first five cohorts. In addition, 100 percent of students from the first two cohorts of DPT graduates (from 2020 and 2021) have earned a passing score on their first attempt at the NPTE national credentialing examination. In addition, six DPT students from the Class of 2021 were inducted into the National Physical Therapy Student Honor Society.



■ DPT Class of 2023, pictured following their White Coat Ceremony

# MARIST

## In conclusion,

I'm extremely proud of everything that's going on at the College. Best wishes to all for a productive and enjoyable fall semester and thanks for everything you do to make Marist such a great place to live, learn, and work! ■



Kevin Weinman  
President



*Comments, Questions, or Concerns: [president@marist.edu](mailto:president@marist.edu)*