GENERAL INFORMATION

MARIST COLLEGE MISSION
Marist is dedicated to helping students develop the intellect and character required for enlightened, ethical, and productive lives in the global community of the 21st century.

VISION STATEMENT
The College fulfills its mission by pursuing three ideals: excellence in education, the importance of community, and the principle of service. These ideals were handed down to us by the Marist Brothers who founded the College. Although Marist is now an independent institution governed by a lay board of trustees, the three ideals remain an integral part of the College mission.

The Marist ideal of excellence in education is achieved through an emphasis on quality teaching and distinctive learning opportunities. At the undergraduate level, this begins with a firm foundation in the liberal arts and sciences. Through core courses and their major field of study, students are educated to think logically and creatively, be able to synthesize and integrate methods and insights from a variety of disciplines, and effectively express their opinions both orally and in writing. Students are encouraged to consider the ethical dimensions of the subjects they study, and to become more aware of their own values and the value implications of the choices they make in their public and private lives. They are also exposed to cultures other than their own through on-campus programs and study abroad.

In addition to offering undergraduate programs to traditional-age students, Marist has a long history of serving the needs of adult learners for graduate, degree completion, and continuing education programs. The College offers these students an educational experience that meets the same high standards as our traditional undergraduate programs. Marist allows these students to balance their education with work and family responsibilities by offering flexible scheduling, alternative methods of program delivery, and satellite campuses.
Marist seeks to distinguish itself by the manner in which it uses information technology to support teaching, learning, and scholarship. The College believes that by familiarizing our students with these advanced technologies, it better prepares them to be productive members of society and lifelong learners.

The Marist ideal of community is based on the belief that we become a better institution through the active involvement of faculty, staff, students, and alumni in the life of the College. At a time when social bonds in our society are tenuous, we seek to develop a relationship between our community members and the College that will last a lifetime. We do this by nurturing the development and well-being of all our community members. Of particular importance is assuring that the life of students outside the classroom is supportive of the educational goals pursued inside the classroom. We strive to be a diverse community but also one united by a shared commitment to the free exchange of ideas, consideration of the opinions of others, and civility in all our interactions.

Finally, Marist believes in the dignity of every human being and is committed to the principle of service. The College conducts programs for the disadvantaged, a wide variety of programs that meet community needs, and programs that broaden access to education. We encourage students, faculty, staff, and alumni to make service an important part of their lives. Students are encouraged to become involved in campus activities, programs that assist the less fortunate in our society, and service projects throughout the Hudson River Valley and around the world. By sharing their time and talents, students help make Marist a better place to live and learn while developing a sense of personal and civic responsibility.

INTRODUCTION TO MARIST

What started as a school for training future Marist Brothers has developed into one of the leading colleges of the arts and sciences in the Northeast. Marist College’s 150-acre campus overlooks the Hudson River in the heart of the historic Hudson Valley, midway between New York City and Albany, N.Y.

Recognized for academic excellence by U.S. News & World Report, TIME/The Princeton Review, and Barron’s Best Buys in College Education, the College is also noted for its leadership in the use of technology to enhance the teaching and learning process.

Marist is home to approximately 4,000 traditional undergraduate men and women, 1,100 adult continuing education students, and more than 1,000 full- and part-time graduate students. Its first graduating class in 1947 consisted of four Marist Brothers. Today, more than 22,000 alumni and alumnae call Marist alma mater.

Marist offers 29 programs leading to bachelor’s degrees, 7 toward master’s degrees, and numerous professional certificate programs. The College has a longstanding commitment to providing adults with educational opportunities that accommodate their working schedules, and extension centers have been established in Fishkill, Goshen, and Kingston, N.Y. Marist has seen tremendous growth in its graduate programs due in large part to its successful on-line MBA and MPA programs, the first to be accredited by New York State. Marist also offers study abroad programs in 32 countries.

Marist has received national attention and a number of awards for its technology backbone, with an IBM Z Series Enterprise Server and a Cisco Campus Network for voice, video, and data. Marist is one of only 200 institutions in the country to be connected to Internet II, and the College’s James A. Cannavino Library offers more “ports per student” than any academic library in the country. A 14-year joint study agreement with the IBM Corporation has allowed both partners to develop innovative uses for technology both in and out of the classroom.

HISTORY

Marist can trace its roots to 1905, when the Marist Brothers purchased property and a house from Thomas McPherson in Poughkeepsie. In 1929, college-level courses were first offered. In 1946, the State of New York granted an official, four-year charter to Marian College under the leadership of founding president Brother Paul Ambrose Fontaine, FMS.

Dr. Linus Richard Foy was named president in 1958 and became, at age 28, the youngest college president in the United States. Marian College became Marist College in 1960. In that same year, the mission of the College was broadened to include the wider community; lay male students were admitted to pursue undergraduate studies. An evening division was also introduced to serve the educational needs of the surrounding communities. Women were admitted into the evening division in 1966. In 1968, women entered the day division, making the College fully coeducational. Ownership of the College was transferred in 1969 to the Marist College Educational Corporation with an independent board of trustees.

With the naming of Dr. Dennis J. Murray in 1979 to the presidency of Marist College, another period of significant growth and development began. The main campus now consists of 49 buildings and 29 student housing facilities, with a total estimated value of $300 million. During the past quarter-century, Marist has broadened its course offerings, become significantly more selective in its admissions, and nearly doubled its enrollment.

THE IBM/MARIST JOINT STUDY

Marist seeks to distinguish itself by the manner in which it uses information technology to support teaching, learning, and scholarship. The College has had a longstanding partnership with the IBM Corporation that has helped place Marist among the most technologically advanced liberal arts colleges in the country. A key component of the Marist/IBM partnership has been a 16-year Joint Study arrangement that has benefited both the College and IBM in many ways. Through the Study, IBM has been able to test concepts and technology applications that the company believes can be of value in the 21st century in education, business, digital media, communications, and other fields. The Study has also provided Marist with the capacity to acquire and use cutting-edge technology to support instruction, faculty, and study research and administrative initiatives.

The introduction of computers and computer science courses at Marist began in the mid 1960s, a time when few colleges the size of Marist had moved into this field. From the start, computers have been viewed as a functional tool for everyone at Marist as well as a scientific discipline to be mastered by those in the School of Computer Science.

The IBM/Marist Joint Study began in 1988 with the installation of a $10 million IBM 3090 mainframe computer in Donnelly Hall. Over the past decade, Marist has worked with IBM to carry out five major upgrades of its mainframe computer. In the Fall 2002 semester, the College installed a new z-Series mainframe that provides a level of computing power ordinarily associated with large research universities and Fortune 500 companies. The College collaborated with IBM to plan and equip the new $20 million James A. Cannavino Library with state-of-the-art technology. The partnership has also developed and implemented a comprehensive Ethernet network that reaches into every student room on campus and supports
every faculty and administrative office and every academic building. Campus-wide connectivity means 24/7 access to the Internet, e-mail, voice-mail, the mainframe computer, and numerous database services. This year Marist worked with IBM and the Open Source Development Lab to establish a laboratory for testing open source projects at Marist College based on IBM's latest mainframe technology.

Marist’s participation in the Joint Study has enabled the College to involve faculty, students, and staff in emerging technology initiatives such as rich media content management, the Linux operating system, virtual server hosting, multimedia streaming, grid computing, on-demand computing, advanced networking technology, on-line gaming, and e-learning. Marist’s work with IBM has created the infrastructure that is necessary for faculty, students, and staff to engage in leading-edge teaching and research using tomorrow’s technology.

MEMBERSHIP AND APPROVAL
Marist College is registered by the New York State Education Department, Office of Higher Education and the Professions, Cultural Education Center, Room 5B28, Albany, NY 12230, (518) 474-5851. Marist College is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104, 215-662-5606. The Commission on Higher Education is an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation. The College is also accredited by the United States Department of Justice for the training of foreign students. It is approved by the New York State Education Department for the training of veterans. The College is also approved for holders of New York State Scholarships, including Regents Scholarships, State War Service Scholarships, and Scholar Incentive Awards. The College holds membership in the New York State unit of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.

The College holds memberships in the Association of Colleges and Universities of the State of New York, the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities, the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, and the Association of American Colleges. Marist is a charter member of the Visiting Student Program sponsored by the Associated Colleges and Universities of the State of New York. Marist is also a member of the American Association of University Women, the Middle Atlantic Association of Colleges of Business Administration, the Middle States Association of Collegiate Registrars and Officers of Admission, the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, and the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business. The School of Management has achieved the prestigious program accreditation of its undergraduate and graduate degree programs in business by AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

Marist is also affiliated with the National Catholic Educational Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges, the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, the National Association of College and University Business Officers, the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, the National Association of College and University Attorneys, and the American Association of Fundraising Council.

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)
The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. They are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student’s education records.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy or other rights.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.
4. The right to file with the U.S. Department of Education a complaint concerning alleged failures by Marist College to comply with the requirements of FERPA.
5. The right to obtain a copy of Marist College’s education records policy. Copies of this policy are available upon request at the Office of the Registrar.

Additionally, Section 99.7 of FERPA requires that schools annually notify students currently in attendance of their rights under FERPA. Students currently in attendance will be provided a statement of their FERPA rights in their registration materials.

Marist will release the following information at various times unless requested in writing not to do so by the student: student name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous educational institution attended by the student. Students must notify the Registrar in writing should they not want information made available by filling out a form at the Office of the Registrar.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
Marist College fully complies with all federal, state, and local laws and executive orders, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The College does not discriminate in its admissions, employment, or in the administration of any of its programs or activities on the basis of race, religion, gender, age, color, disability, national origin, veteran status, marital status, or sexual orientation. In addition, the College aggressively seeks and encourages applicants for admission and employment from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds.

It is the expressed policy of Marist College to operate all of its educational programs and activities and to administer all employee programs including compensation and promotional opportunities in such a way as to insure that they do not discriminate against any individual on the basis of the characteristics stated above.

Marist College does not tolerate harassment in any form based upon race, religion, gender, age, color, disability, national origin, veteran status, marital status, or sexual orientation, nor does it tolerate any type of sexual harassment. Members of the College community who believe that they have been subjected to such treatment are encouraged to call the College’s Office of Human Resources or the Dean of Student Affairs.

All inquiries concerning the application of this statement should be directed to the Affirmative Action Office, Marist College, 3399 North Road, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601, (845) 575-3349.
ACADEMIC FACILITIES

JAMES A. CANNAVINO LIBRARY

The James A. Cannavino Library strives to support the teaching and learning environment by meeting the information needs of students and faculty on- and off-campus. The Library offers access to extensive collections and services located in the newly constructed library building and available electronically over the campus network.

The new, state-of-the-art library opened in the fall of 1999, overlooking the campus green and the Hudson River. It is constructed of fieldstone, a style with strong historical roots in the surrounding Hudson Valley. Architecturally, the Library unifies the College’s historic district of Greystone, St. Peter’s, and the Kieran Gatehouse, three 1860s-era buildings that are listed on the New York State and National Register of Historic Places, and which are also made of fieldstone.

The first floor of the 83,000-square-foot structure holds the Library’s circulating collection, print periodicals, and archives, which include special collections of distinctive resources. The second level features the main reading room, as well as circulation, reserve and reference desks, the reference collection, and a selection of current print periodicals. The third floor houses electronic classrooms, a multimedia language lab, and centers for multimedia content development. It is also home to a suite of collaborative student services including International Programs, the Academic Learning Center, the Writing Center, the Higher Education Opportunity Program, and the Center for Career Services, reflecting the emerging role of libraries in higher education as collaborative learning centers.

Throughout, the library provides a number of spacious study areas and attractive, quiet rooms for research, conferences, and collaborative work. In all, the library provides more than 800 seats, most with network connections, for quiet study, group study, and use of library materials. The library is open an average of 100 hours a week during the semester. During exam periods, it remains open for extended hours. The library collection includes more than 181,000 book and periodical volumes. Current periodical subscriptions exceed 17,500 titles. More than 5,200 videocassettes and videodisks on a variety of topics are available in the library as components of assigned coursework. A vigorous collection development program keeps print, non-print, and on-line resources updated to serve the research, teaching, and learning needs of students and faculty. The library also maintains a digital library component that provides access to scholarly resources on the Web.

The James A. Cannavino Library has been an active innovator in developing and implementing computerized information resources. Our Digital Library consists of full-text databases (e.g., Lexis-Nexis), on-line indexes and abstracts, electronic journals, and subject-specific collections of links and scholarly documents that support the curriculum. The MERIT electronic reserve system, developed in conjunction with IBM, provides students with on-line access to reserve materials in any format—print, audio, and video—both on and off campus. On-line access to full-text journal literature has been expanded and upgraded, and the reference staff provides a full complement of services to meet student needs, including on-site instruction and assistance, telephone help for off-campus users, and a web-based “Ask-a-Librarian” request form. An integrated on-line library system supports a web catalog of all library holdings and an on-line circulation module that indicates location and availability of all library materials.

Information literacy programs have been expanded to include a three-credit course, a one-credit course, subject-specific bibliographic instruction, and library orientation sessions. Librarians are also available at faculty request to deliver information literacy instruction designed to assist students with the completion of specific assignments or to provide an overview of library services. The Library’s Desktop Research Center provides informal space for faculty and students to schedule individual appointments with Librarians to become more familiar with the research materials available through the James A. Cannavino Library.

Students are encouraged to contact a librarian in person, by phone, or e-mail with any questions or concerns regarding the use of library materials.

THE LOWELL THOMAS COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

The Lowell Thomas Communications Center houses the School of Communication and the Arts and the School of Computer Science and Mathematics. Recognizing the profound impact of computer technology on the communications industry, Marist designed the center to provide students with an environment that offers both state-of the-art computing technologies and communications labs and studios.

The center is named in memory of the legendary broadcast pioneer who received an honorary degree from Marist in 1981. Lowell Thomas lived 20 miles from the campus, in Pawling, N.Y., for more than 50 years. A public gallery within the center holds a permanent exhibition of memorabilia from his remarkable career as a communicator and explorer. Lowell Thomas and his ideals are commemorated through the Marist College Lowell Thomas Award, instituted in 1983 and awarded to the top broadcast journalists in the country.

THE MARGARET M. AND CHARLES H. DYSON CENTER

The Margaret M. and Charles H. Dyson Center houses the School of Management, the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, and the School of Graduate and Continuing Education. Used for undergraduate and graduate instruction in all academic disciplines, the center is named in honor of business leader Charles H. Dyson, who received an honorary degree from Marist in 1986, and his wife, Margaret, who together improved the quality of life throughout the Hudson Valley through their philanthropy.

DONELLY HALL

Donnelly Hall houses the School of Science, including a two-story greenhouse and lab for the study of medical technology; the Computer Center; classrooms; lecture halls; a Fashion Program complex; and a variety of student services and administrative offices. The building is named for Brother Nilus Donnelly, FMS, who supervised construction of a number of buildings on the campus by Marist Brothers during the institution’s early years. In proximity to Donnelly Hall are the Steel Plant Studios and Gallery, an expansive space for studio art courses and a digital media laboratory as well as a gallery regularly hosting exhibits of work by Hudson Valley artists.

FONTAINE HALL

Fontaine Hall, the home of the School of Liberal Arts, contains smart classrooms, seminar rooms, and a black box theatre for instruction and performances. The building also serves as headquarters for the nationally recognized Marist Institute for Public Opinion, with professional facilities where students conduct opinion surveys, and the Hudson River Valley Institute, a national center for interdisciplinary study of the Hudson River. 

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMPUTER LABS
Marist maintains computer labs located at all three of our sites—Poughkeepsie, Fishkill, and Goshen. These include instructional computer labs, multimedia classrooms with podiums, and open labs available throughout campus. In all, Marist provides more than 700 computers available for academic use throughout its campus extension sites, and all personal computers are configured with a base software configuration that allows them access to the Internet, office automation tools, digital library access, and emulation to our host systems.

Marist is replacing all computers on a three-year cycle.

STUDENT CENTER
The Student Center is a focal point for student events and activities. The monumental three-level structure features a student café and performance space known as the Cabaret as well as the student dining hall, the campus bookstore, and a health-services center. A music education and chorale complex accommodates a wide range of musical activities including a band, choir, string orchestra, and numerous performing ensembles. The Nelly Goletti Theatre is named in memory of accomplished composer, pianist, and singer Nelly Goletti, a longtime Hudson Valley resident. The Student Center opens onto a campus green with an outdoor performing arts area overlooking the Hudson River.

ATHLETIC FACILITIES
The Marist campus offers a variety of athletic facilities to support an extensive intramural program and intercollegiate athletic competition. On the north end of campus, bordering the Hudson River, are ten acres that have been developed for athletic and recreational use through the generosity of the James J. McCann Foundation. Included are an intramural softball diamond and a women’s softball diamond. The campus also offers two boathouses and waterfront facilities for crew activities and sailing. Leonidoff Field is a lighted facility used for varsity soccer, lacrosse, and football games.

At the south end of the campus is the James J. McCann Recreation Center, which received major funding support from the James J. McCann Foundation. By design, the Center is one of the most versatile facilities of its kind in the Mid-Hudson region. Special features include a pool capable of simultaneously handling 25-yard or 25-meter races and swimming and diving events, with spectator space for 500. The fieldhouse area can provide three basketball courts and is surrounded by a four-lane running track. The main court for NCAA Division I play features a handsome wooden floor; seating capacity for games is 3,000.

In addition, the facility includes a weight room, dance studio, and two handball/racquetball courts. Other areas of the complex contain locker rooms for men and women, a press box, classrooms, faculty/staff offices, and a lobby/exhibit area.

The McCann Center was renovated in 1996, and an addition containing a new gymnasium, weight room, cardiovascular fitness center, and electronic athletics Hall of Fame opened in 1997.

A Widely recognized as one of the most state-of-the-art facilities in the East, the McCann Annex is a 22-thousand-square-foot addition to the McCann Center, which was again made possible through the generosity of the McCann Foundation. Solely for use by Marist College students, the McCann addition houses a multipurpose recreational gymnasium, a dual-level strength and conditioning fitness center with a cardiovascular center and aerobics area, as well as additional men’s and women’s locker-room facilities. A spacious student lounge graces the entrance of the new facility while the Athletic Digital Hall of Fame provides some of the most technologically advanced computer networking systems on the market today.

Also at the south end of the campus is the McCann Baseball Field, developed in 1992 with financial support from the James J. McCann Foundation. The field, regarded as one of the finest baseball facilities in the Northeast, is used for Division I intercollegiate competition.

ACADEMIC GRANTS
The Office of Academic Grants provides assistance to full-time faculty interested in securing grant awards for research, curriculum development, and other creative activities relevant to the College’s academic mission. Office staff assist faculty in locating funding sources, obtaining and interpreting application forms, developing proposal narratives and budgets, and securing institutional support and approvals.

ALUMNI
Since 1946, more than 24,000 students have graduated from Marist College. They reside in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and countries throughout the world.

The Marist College Alumni Association includes all undergraduate and graduate degree recipients of Marist. Its goals are to further the welfare of Marist and its alumni, to keep alumni informed about the College, to offer programs and activities that connect alumni to Marist, to assist in admissions, job development, and career advisement, and to encourage and facilitate alumni support for Marist.

The Alumni Executive Board, comprised of representatives from all eras of Marist graduates, works closely with the Office of Alumni Relations in strengthening the bond between the College and its graduates. Homecoming and Reunion Weekend is held each year, and chapters throughout the country provide opportunities for alumni to network professionally and socially.

In addition to participating in association governance, alumni provide career networking support to Marist undergraduates through the College’s Center for Career Services, promote attendance at athletic events, and participate in organizing class reunions. The president of the Alumni Executive Board is a representative to the College’s Board of Trustees.

Philanthropic support is essential to the College’s future and graduates participate in various ways. Graduates are asked annually to contribute to the Marist Fund and to make special gifts to the College commemorating milestone anniversaries such as their 25th or 30th year since graduation. Alumni provided generous support for the construction of the College’s James A. Cannavino Library and continue to remember Marist through the establishment of endowed scholarships and through their estate plans.

Graduates keep informed about College developments, alumni services and programs, and activities of fellow graduates through a website, www.marist.edu/alumni, and a variety of college publications.