

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

CONVERSATION 1: EDUCATE FOR FORMATION IN FAITH

Characteristic of Marianist Universities:

1) Educate for Formation in Faith

Catholic Intellectual Tradition Principles:

Sacramental Vision, Faith and Reason, Integral Relationship with the Catholic Church

1. Catholic Universities are preoccupied deeply and constantly with mission and identity. As you enter the St. Mary's community, what perceptions do you have about this university's mission and identity beyond the general categories of Catholic and Marianist? What have you perceived or seen thus far in the community's day-to-day rhetoric or actions that speak to mission and/or identity?
2. What about Marianist origins speaks to the order's commitment to service, justice and peace as a characteristic of its educational mission? To what extent have you so far heard and/or seen commitment to service, justice and peace in action at St. Mary's University?
3. Catholic Universities foster a healthy tension and collaboration between faith and reason as part of our ongoing institutional dialogue. How do you understand this interplay between faith and reason? What insights did you gain from the ACCU document?
4. The Marianist tradition started with Blessed Chaminade's emphasis on the Incarnation of Christ and is presented as the ultimate model of 'being present,' or making ourselves available to the persons we work with to keep transforming society. How do you envision this aspiration to translate in the daily life of the University?

CONVERSATION 2: PROVIDE AN INTEGRAL, QUALITY EDUCATION

Characteristic of Marianist Universities:

2) Provide an Integral, Quality Education

Catholic Intellectual Tradition Principles:

Commitment to Universal Truth, Faith and Reason, Integral Relationship with the Catholic Church

1. How has your own academic training become an integrated part of your wholeness (personal, professional, intellectual, spiritual)?
2. When you read about "formation in faith" within the Catholic Intellectual Tradition, which emphasizes connections between faith and culture or faith and reason, what resonates with you and what challenges you? What principles or values in your discipline align with Marianist Educational Characteristics and how?
3. What would it look like on a very practical level for you to integrate Marianist values into your approach to teaching and learning? The Catholic view of higher education focuses on the whole person: how would educating the whole person transform your classroom, advising, mentoring and community practices?

CONVERSATION 3: EDUCATE IN FAMILY SPIRIT

Characteristic of Marianist Universities:

3) Educate in Family Spirit

1. Do you acknowledge others when they exemplify aspects of our Catholic Marianist institutional identity?
2. How do you communicate your appreciation of our Catholic Marianist mission and identity? In your interactions with others? In your scholarly work? In your teaching?
3. What opportunities has St. Mary's offered you for your spiritual journey and/or to build relationships with the Marianists?

Catholic Intellectual Tradition Principles:

Hospitality and Tradition, Dignity of the Human Person

CONVERSATION 4: EDUCATE IN FAMILY SPIRIT

Characteristic of Marianist Universities:

4) Educate for Service, Justice and Peace, and Integrity of Creation

1. What are ways that we, as a community and an institution demonstrate our "family spirit" and welcoming and inclusive community?
2. What do you consider "mission-related" service, scholarly work and/or teaching?
3. What exists for students to encourage and engage in robust and intellectually informed conversations that reflect upon Catholic Marianist ideals within the context of contemporary issues? Can connections be made to your courses?

Catholic Intellectual Tradition Principles:

Power of Beauty, Appreciation of Creation, Dignity of the Human Person, Innovation for the Common Good

CONVERSATION 5: EDUCATE FOR ADAPTATION AND CHANGE

Characteristic of Marianist Universities:

5) Educate for Adaptation and Change

1. Have you taken advantage of available resources to you to learn about, integrate and/or reflect upon the Catholic and Marianist mission of St. Mary's in a more intentional way?
2. How does your school or College demonstrate the value of the Catholic intellectual life and traditions within scholarship, service and teaching?
3. What training, incentives and ongoing support is there (that you know of) to provide you with the ability to integrate mission-related principles, values and characteristics into your teaching and scholarship?

Catholic Intellectual Tradition Principles:

Innovation for the Common Good



ST. MARY'S
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CATHOLIC STUDIES