



ASSOCIATION OF MARIANIST UNIVERSITIES

AMU LINKS

Spring Newsletter

April, 2014

Thomas F. Giardino, S.M.
Executive Director
Association of Marianist
Universities

Minita E. Santizo, MEA
Associate Director
Association of Marianist
Universities

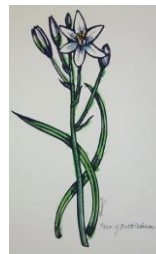
Dear Friends,

During one of his last Easter messages to the world, Pope John Paul, who will be canonized as saint on April 27, pushed for civilization to work hard to achieve peace by rediscovering "with joy and wonder that the world is no longer a slave to the inevitable. This world of ours can change. Peace is possible even where for too long there has been fighting ..."

Similarly, during Pope Francis' first Easter message in 2013, he pointed out that Easter is an exodus, during which human beings journey from sin and evil to the freedom of goodness and love. So as we continue our journey of reflection, and personal and spiritual renewal during this Holy Week, let us accept Pope Francis' invitation to become channels of justice and peace by becoming agents of mercy through whom "God can water the earth, protect all creation and make justice and peace flourish."

May the beauty of the season and the joy and peace of Easter fill yours and your loved one's hearts!!!

Minita E. Santizo, Associate Director of AMU and Editor, AMU Links at: msantizo@stmarytx.edu.



Star of Bethlehem by Joe Barrish, SM

Why Nursing at a Marianist Institution?

By Stephanie Genz, R.N., Ed.D. Dean of Nursing,
Chaminade University of Honolulu



There is something exciting happening at Chaminade University of Honolulu and that is the graduation of the first class of nursing majors on May 12, 2014. Some questions may come to mind upon hearing this. Why did the Marianists decide to start a nursing program in one of their institutions? Why would students choose this nursing program over other programs in Hawaii or on the mainland?

There is no better place for a nursing program than at a Marianist institution. Marianist values and nursing values align perfectly. For example, the Marianist value of *wholeness*, focuses on the whole student and aligns with holistic nursing practice, which is caring for the whole patient in mind, body, and spirit. The Marianist value of *caring* resonates with the nursing value of compassion, which is believed to be the "art" of nursing. The Marianists focus on *community* and being respectful of each individual within the community; nursing has a focus on community as well. The care of patients is not restricted to the acute care setting i.e. hospitals but much nursing care happens in the community where patients live, work and play so a respect for, and understanding of, communities is essential to nursing practice.

The Marianists also believe in respect for the *diversity* of humankind and being respectful of the authentic being; nursing also believes in respect for those who are different than us and understanding that culture impacts nursing care. Nurses must be culturally competent to provide quality individual care; they must be objective and able to honor a patient's personal values, beliefs and healing practices. Finally, *service to others* is foundational to Marianist education; nursing is also about service. Many nurses come to nursing believing that they have "been called" to nurse, to serve, and to care for others.

Marianist values and nursing values also align with Native Hawaiian values. Chaminade University is designated as a federally-certified Native Hawaiian serving institution and Hawaii is the context in which we live, teach, and learn. Important values for the Native Hawaiian population include *ohana* (family/community); *kuleana* (responsibility); *pono* (doing good work); caring for the land, water, and each other; and respect for the *kupuna* (elders).

All of these values have been integrated into an innovative curriculum, which results in a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing (BSN) at Chaminade. State-of-the-art facilities including two 8-bed skills laboratories and a comprehensive simulation suite provide students with the opportunity to learn through the use of high fidelity simulators, including adult, child, newborn, and birthing simulators. Patient scenarios come to life through the use of simulation, providing a safe and consistent environment for student learning.

We believe that the "Chaminade Nurse" will be a unique and special nurse because of the alignment of Marianist, nursing, and Native Hawaiian values. An innovative curriculum meant to transform nursing education and state-of-the-art facilities provide for an excellent learning environment and an opportunity for students to excel.



So, in closing, the better question would be: Why not nursing at a Marianist university?

The mission of the School of Nursing is to educate students to be competent and caring nursing professionals who will promote health and high standards of practice, decrease health-related disparities in society, and enhance quality of life for their patients in a dynamic health care environment.

For more information, go to <http://www.chaminade.edu/nursing>.

The Context of the Marianist Educational Charism

By David J. Fleming, SM

Sometimes the Marianist educational charism can sound deceptively simple and light-weight. It might be taken to mean being "nice people," pleasant participants in an idealistic and clubby community, little more, without any specific commitment or outlook that really makes a difference.

At the other end of the spectrum, the Marianist charism has also become for a small group of people an object of intellectual research and study, almost another academic "industry," mixing aspects of history, theology, philosophy and social thought, complicated and technical at times, limited to a few specialists. I would like to reflect on one particular point that relates to our identity and the consequences that flow from it: Context: The charism grows out of a history that is still full of implications for us.

The Context of the Marianist Charism: Chaminade viewed education as "mission" and saw it as a challenge special to the modern world.

In the wake of the French Revolution Chaminade viewed education as "mission" and saw it as a challenging response to the needs of people in the new post-revolutionary, post Enlightenment world... to find a new "fulcrum for the levers that move the modern world."

Chaminade understood education as a key cultural arena, dominated by struggles among ideologies. Toward the end of Chaminade's long career (September, 1838), he wrote to the Pope about what he called the "battle for dominance in the schools" in his days. Universal education had arrived on the scene during his lifetime as a new ideal and had become a battleground among divergent ideologies: everyone was looking for the youth, to set the tone of coming generations.

Some months later, in communicating to his disciples the Pope's approbation for the work of his lifetime, Chaminade enthusiastically reiterated his conviction that "we teach in order to educate."

In a day when the Industrial Revolution was just dawning in France, he was concerned about the best way to reach the masses, whom he characterized as "the most numerous and the most neglected," without turning the new schools into what he considered to be "teaching factories."

He recognized the motivations that characterized the educators of his time. For some, it was (as we just noted) a crusade for a doctrine or a philosophy. For many others, the motivation was crassly economic. In his day money was to be made by delivering mass education, in a way similar to the contemporary descriptions of Dickens (cf. *Nicholas Nickleby*). The situation is not so different today, particularly in the mushrooming of all kinds of business schools and technical institutes of dubious standards, especially in the world's poorer countries. Chaminade knew that motivation made a difference. He aimed to found schools open to the poor but focused on something beyond financial success: forming for the good life rather than simply making money.

All this may seem to be merely of antiquarian interest. Yet, under different guises, it seems to me that most of these issues still persist today. [Continue with this article.](#)

AMU News

- **Chaminade Honors Sen. Daniel K. Inouye**
Chaminade University honored the late Senator Daniel K. Inouye on February 24 for his tremendous impact on the university by naming its School of Nursing skills laboratory (Henry Hall 113) the Senator Daniel K. Inouye Nursing Skills Laboratory. [Read More](#)

- **RECongress Meeting**

Representatives of the three Marianist universities and the Association of Marianist Universities (AMU) once again participated in the recent RECongress which took place in Los Angeles March 14-16, 2014. The RECongress begun in 1968 is the largest annual gathering of its kind in the world. The four-day event is based on religious education and it offers workshops, speakers, entertainment, Liturgy in diverse cultural settings, and a large exhibit hall where one can find anything from information about Catholic higher education to religious life and a plethora of religious objects and publications for purchase. This year the RECongress drew nearly 40,000 adults and young adults of different faiths.



- **Marianist Universities Sports News**

Simply **OUTSTANDING** would be the best word to describe the performance by different sports teams at the three Marianist Universities. **Chaminade University's men's basketball team** not only qualified for the NCAA Division II West Regional but also won the Pacific West Conference Tournament championship. **St. Mary's Rattler Softball** team is currently ranked as No. 3 in the nation in the latest National Fast pitch Coaches Association poll. They are the only Heartland Conference team in the poll to top the standings with an undefeated league record. The **Dayton Flyers** became just the sixth team in the NCAA history to advance to the Elite Eight as a No. 11 seed. The Flyers ended the 2013-14 season ranked No. 18 in the final USA Today Coaches Pool.

CONGRATULATIONS to the coaching staff and the players at all three universities. You make us proud!!! [Read More.](#)

Quick Links

[Our Website](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)