



ASSOCIATION OF
MARIANIST UNIVERSITIES

AMU Links

Fall Newsletter

September, 2014

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

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

Chaminade University Serves Native Hawaiians

By Dr. RaeDeen Karasuda

Chaminade University of Honolulu is the only Catholic university designated as a Native Hawaiian serving institution. As such, it is uniquely poised to offer rich academic opportunities and be a key partner in Hawaii. The Marianists, who arrived in Hawaii in 1883, have striven to be a community that looks beyond itself. By emphasizing a willingness to adapt to Hawaii's culture and provide quality education to the wider community, the Marianists have provided a key service to underserved populations from Hawaii and abroad. In 2013, I stepped into the position as Director of Native Hawaiian Partnerships, and began building on three priority areas in alignment with Chaminade University's strategic mission:

- Social justice, specifically to address disparities for Native Hawaiians in education, health, and the criminal justice system
- Strategic community partnerships
- Campus formation in terms of our identity as a Native Hawaiian serving institution

The Marianist commitment to provide educational access to underrepresented populations in local communities, combined with Hawaii's socio-political history underpins these three areas. By

committing to a strong social consciousness that expressly permeates its curricula and critically explores both the distinctions and intersections of faith and culture, the university is fulfilling its mission to advance processes of public learning and policy that contribute toward a more just and peaceful society.

In service to the Hawaiian community, the first-ever cohort of Hawaiian-focused charter school administrators graduated with their M.Ed. in the Spring of 2014. Our Nursing curricula is framed around Hawaiian cultural values. Our Business Department is developing an island-focused M.B.A., and our Interior Design Program students served the Women's Community Correctional Center by designing a culturally-relevant environment for incarcerated women and those transitioning out of prison. These few examples speak to the first two priority areas. The third, campus formation, is where the Office of Native Hawaiian Partnerships will focus more deeply in the coming year.



There is no doubt that Hawaii is a special place with a rich history and a resilient people. By engaging in culture- and place-based pedagogy, we offer students a wider lens through which to view learning and life. Students experience their local environment in more meaningful ways, and develop real-world problem solving skills. More importantly, relationships are anchored and community collaborations broaden. These elements, of course, represent traditions held both by Marianists and Native Hawaiians.

As the Office of Native Hawaiian Partnerships brings our Native Hawaiian Serving identity to the fore, faculty, staff, students and the Kalaepohaku community (Kalaepohaku is the Hawaiian place name of the area where CUH is situated) will have a deeper understanding of the ways in which Marianist education and Native Hawaiian culture are complementary to one another.

For additional comments, [click here](#).

A Summary of a Paper on Marianist Education

by Manuel Cortès, SM

Fr. Manuel Cortès, SM (Superior General of the Society of Mary) presented an address called *The Marianist Spirit, a Response to the Educational Challenges of Our Time*. In it, he addresses a question about university education asked by Fr. Rudy Vela: "How has this dynamic spirituality influenced the way Marianists do education?" This article is a summary of Fr. Cortès's paper. You

can access the full paper [here](#).

The paper has three parts:

1. In the first part, I will try to explain the fundamentals of what we call "Marianist Spirituality": what are the characteristics which define it, where they come from, their purpose, and on what they are based.
2. In the second part, I will reflect on how these characteristics affect educational work, leading to what is our own particular style – Marianist education.
3. Thirdly, I will try to show how these characteristics, historical and traditional, are still highly apropos for today, in the here and now, in the world as we know it.

From the outset, and as a sort of synthesis, we can say that Marianist spirituality is a form, a particular style of living the Gospel. Marianist life is, before all else, a Christian life and, therefore, like all Christian life, its fundamental reference point is the person of Jesus. What we live, and what we do, has its source and its end in the life that Jesus lived and in the deeds he performed.

Marianist Spirituality itself contains a certain conception of the human person and it is owing to this conception that there develop certain educational characteristics. This is what I will try to elucidate during this second part of this talk. We begin by recognizing that all education emanates from anthropology.



Illustration by Robert Rigot, from "Le Bien-Père" Chaminade, by Genevieve Virellat. Paris, Editions Ceram, 1951.

To educate is to form persons, to develop in them their full potential, inherited at their birth. It is much more than instruction. Certainly, in education, instruction is important, that is to say, the transmission of knowledge and skills permitting a person to navigate the environment in which one lives. Instruction aims to develop intelligence – knowing "what" and "how." But the human person is more than intelligence. One's identity as a person, one's mode of being and living in the world, of interacting with the surroundings, does not only depend on one's knowledge.

Many other factors come into play: one's conception of the meaning of life, values, sensibilities, habits... Education cannot avoid dealing with these. It must integrate these into its work. [Hence the insistence of Chaminade from the beginning of his works that: "The Society of Mary does not teach, but rather educates...in a Christian manner." (cf. Constitutions 1839, art. 256). Or, said another

way, "We Marianists are not merely professors, but educators."

Key Points:

- The supreme dignity of the human being.
- Marianist education flows from the heart and is based on respect and love.
- Marianist education is developed in and for dialogue.
- Marianist education is integral, that is to say, it is aimed at the whole person.
- Marianist education adapts to the persons concrete situation, in accord with that persons circumstances.
- The key role of faith in the development and in the mission of the human person.
- Formation in and for personal relationships.
- Attention to a deep and correct intellectual formation,
- Promote the Christian life in its integrity as a life called to seek fulfillment, entering into and collaborating in God's redemptive plan for humanity.

Two hundred years after the French Revolution, in whose land our Marianist charism germinated, we are living another revolution with as much, or even greater, cultural and social impact. No one is unaware that we are going through a time of profound crisis in the conception of the world, of humanity and our relationship with our surroundings. A new form of civilization is emerging. As in the time of Fr. Chaminade, this new reality has a double impact: on persons and on institutions.

Dear friends, this time in which we live is more of a disappointment than a rebellion. Today's persons, disappointed by so many empty words, so many failed projects, have chosen to close in on themselves. But that is not their real home. As prodigal sons and daughters, they will miss the Father's house. Moreover, there are already symptoms, believe me, that they are beginning to miss their Father's house. But when they freely decide to return, they need to find the true house of the Father waiting for them, and not that of the older son. They need to find a community, a Church, which is regenerative, maternal, and Marian. The Marianists can, and we must, make every effort that it will be that way.

AMU News

St. Mary's MEAs

On Wednesday, August 27, 2014, the St. Mary's University Marianist Educational Associates gathered at the Opening School Liturgy for their Public Commitment Ceremony. The MEAs expressed their readiness to work together to incorporate the Catholic and Marianist charism and mission into the culture of the university.



Front row: Cindy Aisjos, Gloria Montalbo, Celine Jacquemin, Christine Gray, Rosemarie Wahl, Michael Loelewicz, Zaida Martinez, Patricia Garcia, Terri Boggese, Katha Lehman-Meyer, Jim Ball, Back row: David Sommer, Della Van Middles, Michael Leococke, Ryan Dunning, David Ramirez, Paul Uhlrig, Arnold Davalla, Wayne Romo, Liza Sánchez

University of Dayton Welcomes New Engineering Dean

Dr. Eddy M. Rojas is the Dean of the School of Engineering at the University of Dayton. Prior to joining UD, Dr. Rojas was the Director of the Durham School of Architectural Engineering and Construction at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Dr. Rojas holds graduate degrees in civil engineering (M.S. and Ph.D.) and economics (M.A.) from the University of Colorado at Boulder and an undergraduate degree in civil engineering from the University of Costa Rica.



New Dean of the School of Law at St. Mary's University

St. Mary's University is pleased to welcome Stephen M. Sheppard, J.S.D. as Dean of the School of Law. Prior to coming to San Antonio, Dr. Sheppard was Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development at the University of Arkansas School of Law.



In Memorium:

Fr. Paul Marshall, SM, aged 66, died on July 17, 2014 in Ranchi, India. He served on the Provincial Council as Assistant for Temporalities, and was previously Rector of the University of Dayton. Also, Fr. Paul was very active with the MEA program when he was at the University of Dayton. The University of Dayton and the Province Office of Development have initiated a scholarship in honor of Fr. Paul. Contact Allison Hewitt at UD for more information.

May he rest in peace.



Characteristics of Marianist University Reading Guide

St. Mary's University has developed a [condensed reading](#) and [activity guide](#) for the Characteristics of a Marianist University.

[Unsubscribe](#)

You are receiving this email after expressing interest in the Association for Marianist Universities.

Association of Marianist Universities University of Dayton 300 College Park Dayton, OH 45469
USA