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Holistic Marianist Education

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Jan 3rd, 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

## Marianist Holistic Education: Bridging Divides for the Common Good

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Kelly, Katrina, "Marianist Holistic Education: Bridging Divides for the Common Good" (2024). *Learning Teaching Forum*. 29.

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Presenter: Katrina Kelly

Title: Marianist Holistic Education: Bridging Divides for the Common Good

Topic: Rediscovering and redefining the meaning of holistic education in the Marianist spirit as we continue to bridge divides and cross boundaries for the common good.

Abstract: This interactive session seeks to rediscover and redefine the essence of holistic education within the Marianist tradition, with a steadfast commitment to bridging divides and advancing the common good. Key objectives include benchmarking perspectives of both students and staff on the facets of holistic education imbued with the Marianist spirit and integrating pedagogical strategies that incorporate ongoing assessments and dialogues to uphold these principles effectively. The session includes small group discussions, observing and sharing feedback on behaviors indicative of the five core elements defining the Marianist approach to education, synthesizing collective observations, and culminating in creating a comprehensive repository of developmental opportunities. This training session aspires to foster an inclusive educational environment that supports ongoing enhancement in educational delivery and upholds the cherished Marianist values, propelling the institution towards a more deeply integrated and enriching educational experience for all stakeholders.

Keywords: Marianist, holistic education, inclusivity, faith, five elements characterizing the Marianist approach to education

What's Important:

- Benchmark student and staff perspectives on defining a holistic education in the Marianist spirit.
- To integrate and develop pedagogy incorporating continuous assessments and ongoing discussions to support the goal of educating in the Marianist spirit.

How: Utilize breakout group discussions with flip charts/sticky notes or a digital collaborative whiteboard like Google or Zoom.

- 10-minute breakout
- Share feedback on observed behaviors that demonstrate the five elements characterizing the Marianist approach to education:
  - Educate for formation in faith.
  - Provide an integral quality education.
  - Educate in family spirit.
  - Educate for service, justice, and peace.
  - Educate for adaptation and change.
- Conduct large group discussions and capture the collective observations.

Next Steps:

- Establish check-ins throughout the term or complete an end-of-term check-in for progress or changes in observations or experiences.
- Align check-ins/discussions with specific coursework, e.g., Ethics, Leadership, Learning Communities, or Intercultural Proficiency.

- School/Department leadership can use the information to gauge progress toward educating in the Marianist spirit.
- Exploratory surveys can be deployed to students and staff to gain more insight into successes and ways to improve to achieve the goal of Educating in the Marianist spirit.
- Initiatives can be developed from the information learned.

Outcome(s):

- Define Educating in the Marianist spirit.
- Creating an inclusive educational environment that supports continuous improvement in education delivery while upholding the Marianist values.