

MARQUETTE PARENT

MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY PARENTS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER FALL 2008

85 percent of 2008 seniors would choose Marquette again



YOU'VE RAISED THEM. You've provided for them, cared for them, guided them and probably spent a few dollars on them. You sent them off to Marquette University. Then, within a few short years, they reach their goal of graduating. **Was it worth it?**

Each year, Marquette University's Office of Institutional Research and Assessment and Office of Student Development conduct a survey of graduating seniors, given a month before graduation. The survey seeks to measure achievement of learning outcomes and students' levels of satisfaction, and to learn of post-graduate plans. The 2008 Senior Survey results indicated that the vast majority of the Class of 2008 is happy with their college choice; 85 percent said that they would likely choose to attend Marquette again if starting over, and 97 percent of graduating seniors said that their Marquette education met their overall educational goals.

"Students reporting this level of satisfaction is very exciting," Dr. Peggy Bloom, vice provost for undergraduate programs and teaching, says. "Nearly the entire class said Marquette met their education goals. I'd put that figure up against any other university."

One reason for their satisfaction may be the high level of engagement Marquette students report: 86 percent said they were involved in one or more of the university's 250 student organizations, and 53 percent said they held leadership roles in the organizations. Eighty-five percent reported community service involvement.

"Our interactions with students help shape their values," says Dr. Jon Dooley, associate dean of student development. "We help motivate them to participate in a caring university community, encourage them to reflect on the implications of their actions, and facilitate their engagement in issues that matter within the university."

Another key measure from the Senior Survey is what the students will do after graduation. Among the 777 seniors who completed the survey, 72 percent had already secured post-graduation plans:

- 42 percent had been offered a full-time job,
- 26 percent had been accepted to a graduate/professional program, and
- 4 percent had accepted a full-time service position.

Laura Kestner, director of the Career Services Center at Marquette, says these figures were impressive. "When you consider that these plans were reported by students one month before they graduated, and that many graduates postpone their job search in order to travel or prepare in other ways, this percentage of students with full-time jobs, graduate school or service programs already in place is quite good."

"These are probably some of the most important measures as far as parents are concerned," notes Bloom.

"Nearly the entire class said Marquette met their education goals. I'd put that figure up against any other university."

— Dr. Peggy Bloom

The Senior Survey is just one component of the overall student learning assessment system at Marquette. The university measures student learning at the course level, within majors and programs, and institution-wide. Assessment measures are conducted every year and provide a baseline for student learning over the course of the four undergraduate years.

"We strive to continuously improve our academic and student support programs. The results from learning assessments help inform and direct us to what students have actually learned versus what was expected. We annually review this information, program by program, identifying areas where we can take specific actions to improve student learning," Bloom says. "By doing so, we are accountable for doing what we say we do, and we can continue learning new ways to make the Marquette education even better."

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Marquette University
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FROM THE PARENTS ASSOCIATION

As the new national co-chairs, we invite you to become involved in the Marquette University Parents Association.

As Marquette alumni and now parents of a sophomore student, we feel fortunate to have this connection to the Parents Association. The association is a great source of information, as well as a wonderful means of involvement with the university during our time as Marquette parents.

All parents are members of the Parents Association. The association provides a monthly e-mail newsletter during the school year, invitations to special parent events and access to the Parents Association Web site. One of the main purposes of the Parents Association is to establish communication and form a partnership between parents and the greater Marquette community.

Marquette University is a place where our sons and daughters can excel academically, grow personally and professionally, and experience what it means to serve others. The Jesuit education our children receive sends them out into the world not simply better educated, but better people.

We look forward to partnering with you to provide your student with a successful Marquette experience. We extend an invitation to all parents to become involved with the Parents Association as a volunteer or a board member. Numerous volunteer opportunities exist over the course of the school year, including Preview over the summer, Orientation and Family Weekend in the fall, and admissions fairs and welcome calls in the spring. For more information about these events and how you can get involved, please visit www.marquette.edu/parents or call Molly Dinolfo at (800) 344-7544.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who make the Marquette University Parents Association a success!

Jan (Dent Hy '73) and Carl (Bus Ad '73, Grad '74) Gargula



Carl and Jan Gargula
Parents Association National Co-chairs



Chief academic officer offers advice to parents

Dr. John Pauly, most recently dean of the J. William and Mary Diederich College of Communication, took the helm as Marquette's provost in July 2008. As the leader of Marquette's eleven colleges and schools, the libraries, and all academic support functions, Provost Pauly has broad responsibility for ensuring that Marquette delivers on its promise of an education that prepares students for excellence and leadership after graduation. He took a moment to offer his thoughts for Marquette parents.

What advice would you give to parents of incoming freshmen?

Encourage your son or daughter to take a chance. Take a challenging course. Participate in a club or service activity that puts you in touch with the community. Make friends with a different group of folks. Take time to talk with faculty and staff.

To parents of a graduating senior?

Urge your child to work as hard at finding a job or career direction as they did with their schoolwork. But be patient — many of our graduates choose to travel or challenge themselves through full-time service programs after graduation. In many cases, it can take graduates

months to find something more permanent and satisfying. Marquette's Career Services Center can be a great resource for your student.

What is the role of the provost in the lives of students?

The work of the provost is nearly invisible to the vast majority of students. That's why I attend student events as often as my schedule allows so that I can keep in touch with their interests. When the provost's office does its job well, it supports wonderful opportunities for faculty-student collaboration in all the colleges. We do that through opportunities for undergraduate research, the development and

approval of new majors and minors or the addition and expansion of student support programs.

What initiatives are you working on that will impact students?

We want to continue to recruit and retain outstanding faculty; support student opportunities for service learning and field experiences; expand study abroad, especially outside of Europe; and promote global and cultural awareness in our curriculum. We are also looking to raise more money for financial aid, particularly for first-generation students and those from lower-income families.

What makes a Marquette education different?

Marquette faculty want students to put what they know to work in the service of the world's needs, and in their time here our students find ample opportunities to do just that. In their chosen professions, Marquette alumni constantly demonstrate not only their deep knowledge of their fields, but their commitment to ethics and social responsibility. We have game, but we also have heart.

Campus Building Update

Parents visiting campus will see a number of exciting building projects underway. Visit the University Architect's Web site at www.marquette.edu/architect for updates and a Web cam tracking progress on the new Law School building.

New Law School building

Eckstein Hall will be a signature building on a prominent site. The glass facade will be visible to the thousands who pass daily through the Marquette Interchange, the major highway interchange in Wisconsin. The 200,000 square foot building will include the four-story Zilber Forum atrium, two courtrooms, classrooms, faculty office suites, a "library without borders," a conference center and a cafe. Law students can expect to begin the fall 2010 school year in the new building.



Eckstein Hall



Zilber Hall

New student services building

A new student services and administration building, Zilber Hall, is under construction on the north side of Wisconsin Avenue between 12th and 13th Streets. Convenience for students, parents and visitors is the goal of the 130,000 square foot, four-story building, which will bring together the Offices of the Bursar, Registrar, Financial Aid and Admissions in a common service center. The offices of senior leadership, University Advancement and other administrative units will also be located in Zilber Hall, expected to open in early 2010.

Varsity Theatre renovations

As part of a multi-year renovation project, the lower level of the Varsity Theatre now has new music practice rooms, offices and storage space for the Band, Chorus and Gospel Choir, and the first ever "Green Room" for performers on campus. Next summer the project will conclude with new seating and updates to the theatre's lobby area.

Parents pivotal to student success

New Student Affairs VP emphasizes parent-student communication

by Andy Brodzeller

From the development of leadership skills to the care of physical and mental health, Dr. L. Christopher Miller, vice president of student affairs since July 2008, takes seriously his responsibility to support and challenge students as individuals and members of the Marquette community. Overseeing Residence Life, Student Health Service,



Dr. L. Christopher Miller
Vice President of Student Affairs

the Counseling Center, Recreational Sports and Student Development, Miller plays an important role in the lives of all Marquette students. He also recognizes the pivotal role parents have in the success of students.

"From my own perspective, as a father and university administrator, all students are in need of constant mentorship from their parents," says Miller. "I want to encourage students and parents to have a strong line of communication with each other."

While Miller relies on the expertise and passion of his staff on a day-to-day basis, he understands parents often have the knowledge, insight and intuition to know how their children are doing and what they need. The biggest challenge for parents, he says, is accepting that their children have rights and responsibilities as adults.

"This is why communication between parents and students is so vital," stresses Miller. "The university has a responsibility to protect our students' privacy, and that includes cases involving health and safety. If communication is open, parents can take steps before their concerns become serious." Miller suggests that parents encourage

serious conversation with their children. "As you keep in touch with your son or daughter, find out what is going on, how they're feeling and how things are progressing. You can only know if you ask," he says.

Miller believes that the education students receive at Marquette should be transformational, so that students graduate ready to lead in their careers and in their communities. The services provided through the Office of Student Affairs help to facilitate that process.

"If a student doesn't feel like part of the community, or is struggling mentally or physically, it is difficult if not impossible for that student to thrive and grow," says Miller. "As a Catholic, Jesuit institution, Marquette is in a unique position to help students develop in all aspects of their life. From the opportunities afforded by our nearly 250 student organizations to the community built through Residence Life and Rec Sports or the support provided in our Counseling Center and Student Health Service, I believe the range of services offered through Student Affairs allows students from a variety of backgrounds to succeed at Marquette."



IMPORTANT FINANCIAL AID REMINDER

Plan ahead! All continuing students applying for 2009-10 financial aid must file the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA) by **Feb. 15** to make the Marquette March 1 priority deadline. Apply at www.fafsa.ed.gov as early as Jan. 1, 2009, to complete the '09 - '10 FAFSA.

Remember your electronic signature(s) — parent and student personal identification numbers (PIN) — before submitting your FAFSA or FAFSA Corrections.

KEEP IN TOUCH WITH MARQUETTE!

Sign up for the parent e-newsletter, sent monthly during the school year, by visiting marquette.edu/parents and clicking on "Sign up for the parents newsletter."

Guiding your freshman along the educational pathway

New guidebook helps incoming students connect to Marquette mission

by Chris Stolarski

The college years are a period of profound transformation as students move from childhood to adulthood. One of the unique characteristics of Catholic, Jesuit education is the emphasis on reflection and critical thinking about how to use one's talents and abilities to make an impact in the world.

This fall, Marquette University introduced *Pathways to a Life that Counts: A Guidebook to the Marquette Mission*, a resource for incoming students that provides them with the guidance to consider their educational experience in a deeper way as they journey towards graduation and their vocations.

The 150-page guidebook all freshmen received as part of Marquette's project "Who Counts? Math Across the Curriculum for Global Learning," funded by a three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education. The purpose is to introduce students to multidisciplinary approaches to fulfill the Marquette mission through readings, reflections, mathematical reasoning problems and journals on four mission themes.

The four themes are governance and inclusion; peace and justice; solidarity with others; and stewardship of the human and natural environments. The grant will fund publication of the guidebook for the first three years of

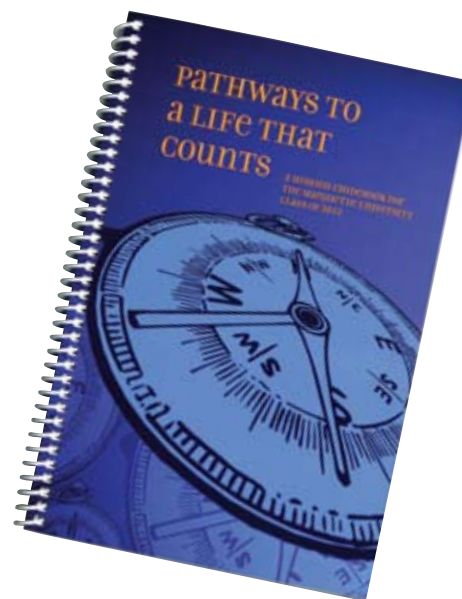
a four-year cycle of mission themes drawn from Catholic and Jesuit social teaching for freshmen.

"*Pathways* helps students map the connections among academics, faith, service and leadership experiences at Marquette — and in their lives," says Dr. Christine Krueger, associate professor of English and director of the University Core of Common Studies. "It even gives students math problems related to questions of justice to show that every skill in the Jesuit core is there to educate the whole person for service to others."

Krueger points to some examples of what students can expect from the guidebook:

- A math across the curriculum assignment designed with Dr. John Moyer, professor of mathematics, statistics and computer science, asks students to create trend lines using historic, international economic statistics as they consider the issue of English as a global language;
- A profile of Michael Ziegler, class of '10, who works with homeless people in Milwaukee; and
- Suggestions about courses, study abroad, service learning opportunities, and student volunteer projects.

"Whether a student attends a Manresa Project 'destination dinner' to reflect on



vocation, is looking for volunteer opportunities, or wants some knowledge about the world's needs and guidance on how best to respond, your child will see how all these activities are interconnected to help him or her to move along the educational pathway," Krueger adds.

Pathways also encourages students to reflect on their journeys and contains pages asking them to record what they learn about each theme over each of their four years at Marquette. Krueger suggests talking to your student and asking what he or she is learning about the guidebook's four themes.

HELPFUL ONLINE RESOURCES

Athletics
gomarquette.com

At Marquette (student handbook)
marquette.edu/osd/policies/atmarquette.html

Career Services
marquette.edu/csc

Core of Common Studies
marquette.edu/programs/core

Counseling Center
marquette.edu/counseling

Late Night Marquette
latenight.marquette.edu

Majors & programs
marquette.edu/programs

Office of Financial Aid
marquette.edu/financialaid

Office of the Bursar
marquette.edu/bursar

Parents
marquette.edu/parents

Public Safety
marquette.edu/dps

Raynor Memorial Libraries
marquette.edu/library

Student Affairs
marquette.edu/dsa

Campus Ministry
marquette.edu/um

University News Center
marquette.edu/omc/newscenter

PARENTS FUND UPDATE

The Parents Association supports the work of the university by encouraging participation in the Parents Fund, which supports student programming and activities, faculty retention and recruitment, service opportunities, spiritual retreats, scholarships and so much more. Your gifts can be designated to a specific academic college or student scholarships through the Scholars Fund, the athletics program through the Blue and Gold Fund, or to Marquette Today, for the university to use where it will make the most impact.

Join current and past parents who have already made gifts to Marquette this year. You can help cover the gap between the cost of tuition and the actual cost of educating a Marquette student. **Your participation — at any level — does make a difference.**

Make a gift to the Parents Fund online at marquette.edu/giving or by using the enclosed envelope.



IMPORTANT DATES

Nov. 26-30: Thanksgiving break

Dec. 8-13: Finals week

Dec. 13: Residence halls close at noon

Dec. 14: Mid-year Commencement

Jan. 1: FASFA available for 2000-10 academic year; Step-by-Step Guide to Applying for Student Financial Aid Online mailed to parent/guardian homes

Jan. 10: Residence halls open at 10 a.m.

Jan. 12-17: Winter Flurry

Jan. 19: Martin Luther King Day-No classes

Feb. 15: Deadline to file FASFA so that it is processed by March 1

Feb. 1-6: Mission Week

Feb. 19: Spring Work Force Career Fair for all students seeking internships and full-time positions

Feb. 20: Start of spring on-campus interviews in the Career Services Center

March 1: Priority deadline for processed 2009-10 FAFSA to be received by Marquette

March 8-15: Spring break; residence halls close at 6 p.m. on March 7 and open at 10 a.m. on March 15

March 28: Job Search Boot Camp, sponsored by Career Services Center for graduating seniors

March 30-April 3: Career Week featuring daily panels, workshops and a speed networking event with alumni; for all students

April 9-13: Easter Holiday

April 5 & 18: Open House for high school sophomores and juniors interested in Marquette

April 17-19: Lil' Sibs Weekend

May 4-8: Finals week

May 9: Residence halls close at noon

May 10-15: Senior Week

May 16: Baccalaureate Mass

May 17: Commencement

Protecting students' physical and mental health

Counseling Center and Student Health Service are a resource for students, parents

by Brigid O'Brien Miller

For parents watching a child move away from home for the first time, keeping that student healthy is a top concern. Many parents wonder how to recognize if their child is struggling, and what to do about it if they are.

Marquette's Student Health Service and Counseling Center together have the resources to make sure your son or daughter is well cared for should the need arise while they are away at school.

Dana Mills, MPH, director of Marquette's Student Health Service, and Mike Zebrowski, PsyD, director of the Counseling Center, offer tips for parents about the type of care their children can receive and what parents can do if their child is sick at school.

A growing national trend

Zebrowski says the college years tend to be the time that mental health issues may surface, and the most common concerns addressed in the Counseling Center are anxiety, depression and relationship issues. In 2005, the American Psychiatric Association reported that more students enter college already taking psychiatric medications and that more colleges are reporting increases in mental health needs of students. The Marquette experience follows that national trend, reporting more students seeking help for mental health issues and that those issues are more complex than ever before. Some experts believe this may, in part, be due to more students recognizing their need for help and their greater willingness to seek it.

The same is true with physical health concerns, according to Mills. More students are reporting chronic conditions that require ongoing attention. Last year, more than 60 percent of Marquette's study body accessed Student Health Service, accounting for 11,313 clinical visits.

Zebrowski says that students are helping to destigmatize mental health care by forming a chapter of the "Active Minds" mental health awareness group on campus. "More and more, students are realizing that taking care of your mental health is just as important as your physical health. If you had a broken arm, you would see a doctor. We hope that more students understand it doesn't mean you are weak if you seek the help you need."

Getting help

For parents wondering whether their child is going through a typical "hard time" or if they are really struggling, Zebrowski says the delineation is when their feelings become debilitating in some way. "If they are impaired enough that they are not going to class, social habits change, or other areas are adversely affected, it's time to get help," he cautions.

Parents can help most by recognizing warning signs and knowing where to refer their child for help. Zebrowski encourages an open line of communication between parents and students. "The first thing I tell a parent is to explain to your child what behaviors you are noticing and why it concerns you. Then ask them to call the Counseling Center for an appointment. More than half the students we see have come here completely on their own referral, so this works in many cases," he says. "If your student is not responding, you should try an RA, hall director, Campus Ministry or another area of campus that could also intervene and urge your student to come to the Counseling Center. Parents are always welcome to call us for advice."

According to Mills, Student Health Service functions similar to the family practice or urgent care clinic back home where diagnoses are made, prescriptions written and treatments provided for many health issues short of a true emergency. He adds, "In addition to treating seasonal issues like allergies, colds and flu, we can also provide suturing, casting, IV therapy and nebulizer treatments."

Mills encourages parents to let Student Health Service know if a student is at school with a chronic illness, so that the health professionals on staff can help monitor or be prepared if the student needs assistance. "We routinely work with family physicians to make sure a student's treatment plan is followed at school, and we can store and administer medications, such as allergy shots, as needed," he notes.

Prevention and education

Both Student Health Service and the Counseling Center emphasize preventive care and education. Mills cited the SHS Travel Clinic as a popular service. "Students are traveling to all parts of the world these days, and we can work with them to provide the immunizations they need for the specific country or region they will be visiting," he says. "We strongly encourage students to see us as they prepare for a trip."

As a parent, whom do I call for help?

Student Health Service, 414-288-7184

Counseling Center, 414-288-7172

SIGNS OF DEPRESSION

- persistently sad, anxious, irritable, empty mood
- loss of interest in activities that were once enjoyed
- trouble sleeping or sleeping too much
- significant appetite and/or weight changes
- difficulty thinking, concentrating, remembering, making decisions
- feeling tired, rundown, loss of energy
- persistent physical symptoms such as a headaches, digestive problems, chronic pain that do not respond to routine treatment

Source: American Psychiatric Association

The Center for Health Education and Promotion, part of Student Health Service, offers numerous educational programs focused on health and wellness, addressing topics such as smoking cessation, managing stress, positive body image and safe relationships. The center's programs had enrollment in excess of 14,000 in 2007-08.

Marquette's Counseling Center has been recognized for its use of the "QPR" — Question, Persuade, Refer — a suicide prevention program in which faculty, staff and administrators from across campus are trained to recognize signs of potential suicide and understand how to refer the individual to seek care.