



Catholic
Memorial
HIGH SCHOOL



March 3, 2010
St. Katherine Drexel, religious

Dr. H. Richard Friman
Chair, Marquette Arts & Sciences Dean Search
Wehr Physics Building, 454
P.O. 1881
Milwaukee, WI 53201-1881

Professor Friman:

I write today wearing many hats – alum of MU, Catholic priest, judicial vicar of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, president of one of Marquette University's largest feeder high schools, and an adjunct faculty member of the Marquette Law School. The occasion of my letter is to offer some input as you, and a capable committee, search for a new dean for the College of Arts & Sciences. For each hat I wear, and role I play, there is an intersection with your most important work.

While I appreciate that the scale of our endeavors differs somewhat, I must believe that our goal – the development of the whole person into the fullness of the image in which God created them – is central to all things done in the name of Catholic education. With that in mind, I am struck by the presentations made by the three finalists for the deanship. In their cover materials, two do not seem inclined to attend to Marquette's mission (and obligation) as a Catholic university. As the largest college within the university, such an omission is a troubling portent for the College of Arts and Sciences.

But the third candidate, coming from another Jesuit institution, while referring to a notion of Jesuit mission, may actually create greater difficulties. To his credit, one of the aforementioned candidates wrote of efforts at interdisciplinary collaboration, but the latter candidate wrote instead of dichotomies in academia, and pursues subject matter that seems destined to actually create dichotomies and cause tensions (if not contradictions) with Marquette's Catholic mission and identity.

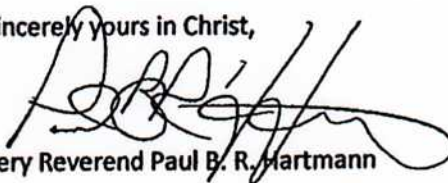
It was in 1088 a.d. that the University at Bologna first institutionalized the goal of higher education, that faith and reason would be the Holy Spirit's wings lifting up a needy world through well-educated members of society. As we approach the millennia of this noble endeavor, I hope that Marquette University, in its appointment of a dean for the College of Arts and Sciences, will not make a decision which draws it itself into the modern dichotomy where secularism overwhelms faith and marginalizes Church.

It need not be the case that a dean of the college is a theologian, but it does need to be a scholar, administrator and leader who appreciably integrates faith and reason as a sign of Marquette University's collaboration with the Church. My greatest fear, as a priest, alum and as president of a high school

which sends dozens of new students to MU each fall, is that the important decision to be made in this moment will instead dichotomize university from Church, and reason from faith.

Thank you for taking time to consider these observations. I trust that they will be included in the deliberations of the search committee in an appropriate manner. Together we seek only the best for Marquette University as it serves its students, this community, and the Catholic Church, *ad maiorem Dei gloriam*.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. B. R. Martmann', written over a horizontal line.

Very Reverend Paul B. R. Martmann

C: Reverend Robert Wild, President, Marquette University
Joseph Kearney, Dean, Marquette University Law School