Campus Report April 24, 2008

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The rector's office has announced the newest Marianist Educational Associates — a campus community of lay people dedicated to strengthening and developing UD's Catholic and Marianist character and mission.

The new members, who declared their commitment to the program in a service Tuesday, April 22, are Joyce Carter of human resources, John Courtney in advancement, Kevin Hallinan in the School of Engineering, Bill Hunt from advancement, Margaret Lisjak of the School of Business Administration, Jack O'Gorman of University libraries, Crystal Sullivan of campus ministry, Paul Vanderburgh of the School of Education and Allied Professions and Mary Buchwalder of the health center.

The MEA concept, developed by the Association of Marianist Universities, is a strategy for ensuring that the three Marianist universities will sustain and strengthen the Catholic and Marianist traditions of education on each of the campuses. By building, educating and spiritually nourishing a community of lay people who value these traditions of education, UD is not only sustaining its Catholic and Marianist character and mission, but making sure it has resources to adapt to future challenges, said Joan McGuinness Wagner, director of Marianist strategies.

MEA's become stewards of the Marianist charism by incorporating the charism in their work and personal life and communicating the message to others through their words and actions, Wagner said.

The new members will attend a May formation program facilitated by Brother Raymond L. Fitz, S.M., and Brother Tom Giardino, S.M. Throughout the academic year, MEA's meet on a regular schedule for discussion, education and continued formation.