

## Characteristics of Marianist Education - Provide an Integral, Quality Education

My name is Peggy Friedman. I am Associate Professor, Marketing, in the Business School. When I joined the faculty at Chaminade University, I had taught over 20 years, always in large, public universities.

As I reflect on my experience at a small, Catholic, Marianist school, I am impressed that I feel I am as much (if not more) a learner here as a teacher. I have become much more thoughtful in my teaching, experimenting with new ways to reach our diverse student body and with new ways to instill the Marianist values in my classes. At meetings, in the classroom, in my office advising students, in activities with my colleagues, I find myself consciously (often, but not 100% yet!) trying to live the Marianist values—more patient with “foreign” points of view, more caring in my dealings with students’ issues, and much more attentive to how the content I teach can help students develop their own sense of Marianist values and how those values will influence their behavior as they work and live their lives after Chaminade. Prior to this my major concern was that my students learn the content of my discipline without much regard for how it would serve them after graduation beyond getting into the career of their choice.

Since my primary focus is teaching, it is there that I see the most tangible evidence of how Marianist values are carried out in my work at Chaminade. Service learning has become my primary teaching tool. My students work on the FAFSA project in several capacities related to the marketing content being taught. This instills in both me and my students a sense of higher purpose and tremendous motivation to learn and apply what is learned to help disadvantaged students apply for financial aid for college. I have gained so much from my students as I observe them implement their new found knowledge. I now focus not only on getting the major points about marketing across to my students, but also on helping them think about how their knowledge can help them give back to the community in meaningful ways.

At the MEA commitment ceremony I remember whispering to Bro. Jerry as he placed the lei around my neck that being a part of the Chaminade community has made me a better person. I hope and try to practice “continuous improvement,” as they say in business, to share the transformative power of the Marianist values with my students and colleagues to the best of my ability.

Peggy Friedman  
Chaminade University  
Faculty, Marketing