

## SECTION I - OVERVIEW OF THE INSTITUTION AND THE UNIT

### Overview of Marietta College

#### Background

Marietta College is located in Marietta, Ohio, a community of 15,000 residents and the county seat of Washington County. Marietta is part of a much larger Mid-Ohio Valley metropolitan area that includes Parkersburg, West Virginia 15 miles to the south. The area sustains a total population of approximately 150,000. Marietta is located 90 miles northwest of Charleston, West Virginia, 120 miles southeast of Columbus, Ohio, 140 miles southwest of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and 170 miles south of Cleveland, Ohio.

Since its chartering in 1835, Marietta College remains steadfast in its commitment to liberal education while preparing its students for graduate school and the world of work. As the only private liberal arts college in Southeast Ohio, Marietta College is uniquely positioned to serve the region as a cultural and intellectual center, while at the same time continuing its long tradition of educating students from throughout the United States.

The 21<sup>st</sup> century opened with the appointment of Dr. Jean Scott, a Harvard-trained historian, as the College's seventeenth president. Under Scott, a plan for Marietta College, "To Thrive in the Floodplain," was put forth in February, 2001. This five-year Strategic Plan called for an increase in enrollment to at least 1250 by 2005-2006 to, in part, ensure financial stability. The goals of the plan were linked to a highly successful multiyear capital campaign which came to a close in the spring of 2003 with more than 65 million dollars raised and several new buildings in service. Then, with 142 of the 158 objectives in the Strategic Plan addressed fully or partially by the spring of 2004, an extension to 2010, "Higher Ground," was crafted, calling for strengthening the institution by building quality and continued growth, but through enhanced retention.

In 1913, Marietta College was one of the charter members awarded certification by the newly organized North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, and has been accredited since that time without interruption. The Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association granted re-accreditation following the 1995 comprehensive visit. The next comprehensive visit is set for the 2005-06 academic year.

#### Mission of the Institution

Marietta College offers students a contemporary liberal arts education. The institution's mission is to provide students with an integrated, multidisciplinary approach to critical analysis, problem solving, and the leadership skills required to translate what is learned into effective action. This education is the responsibility of all members of the campus community, including the students, the faculty, the administration, and the staff. It is accomplished in many ways: through classroom instruction, student life, co-curricular activities, and a variety of employment and leadership experiences.

In order to provide the students with the tools needed to function effectively in a rapidly changing world, the College offers programs and activities to foster an environment in which students can

- address global and multicultural issues,
- develop a basic understanding of science and technology,
- investigate different models of social and personal behavior,
- sharpen the aesthetic sense,
- enhance their own social and personal development.

Marietta College faculty members from all disciplines contribute to this environment by integrating the following into their teaching:

- critical thinking and problem solving,
- oral and written communication,
- locating, evaluating, and using information,
- historical and philosophical perspectives,
- ethical issues,
- leadership,
- relationships with other disciplines,
- preparation for life-long learning and professional growth.

Through teaching and advising, as well as close personal interaction with students, faculty provide educational leadership for the campus.

Other campus groups, ranging from Student Life to service organizations, contribute to the richness of a Marietta education by offering experiences to help students grow as individuals and develop effective leadership skills. Leadership as a theme is an essential component of the contemporary liberal arts education offered at Marietta College, providing a bridge between the world of thought and the world of action.

From the mission, the Core Values of Marietta College, representing both timeless principles and new emphasis, were crystallized during the 1999-2001 strategic planning process. The College's Core Values are as follows:

1. Liberal Arts Foundation - As a contemporary liberal arts college, Marietta reaffirms a liberal arts foundation as essential preparation for any career. Students will take a breadth of general education courses in the major areas of knowledge within the ever-changing liberal arts. This approach to teaching and learning stresses the development of critical thinking, problem solving, and effective communication.
2. In-Depth Programs of Study - Marietta College is committed to offering programs of in-depth study that prepare students for both challenging careers and admission to well-respected graduate and professional schools. Marietta College offers majors, minors and other academic programs in those select areas that are consistent with the mission of the College and where it has the expertise and resources to meet or exceed baselines of excellence.
3. Residential College - A residential college creates a strong sense of belonging to the institution and to the students' matriculating class. As a residential community Marietta College affirms a dedication to the whole student and the interdependence between life inside and outside the classroom.

4. Technology - Marietta students are prepared to succeed in an increasingly technological society. Students are technologically proficient, comfortable and capable with methods of communication and ways to gather information intelligently. Equally important, students understand the importance of technology to culture, ways of learning, and our sense of being human.
5. World of Work - As a contemporary liberal arts college, Marietta today remains true to the founders' emphasis on an education "in the various branches of useful knowledge." We are steadfast in our commitment to liberal education, yet our curriculum also reflects today's realities of economic expansion, worldwide market orientation, and our recognition that, ultimately, Marietta College prepares its students for the world or work.
6. Financial Planning - Marietta College reaffirms the importance of following sound financial planning as a means to ensure that the institution achieves its operational and strategic goals.
7. Service to the Region - Marietta College is a source of pride for the Mid-Ohio Valley, having brought regional and national attention to the area for nearly two centuries. As the only private liberal arts college in Southeast Ohio, Marietta is positioned to serve as a cultural and intellectual center for area residents.
8. Leadership - A successful society demands familiarity with the principles of responsible citizenship and knowledge of leadership behaviors and skills. Marietta College believes that the role of citizen-leaders must become a way of life if we are to create a livable, sustainable, ethical future.
9. Globalization - Marietta College students will be prepared to thrive in a diverse, global society.

The College's blending of the traditional liberal arts with a recognition of the evolving needs and preferences of today's students is represented in the phrase "a contemporary liberal arts education." Such an education is based on providing academic programs that represent the best of the past and have a high relevance for today. The traditional liberal arts continue to form the core of the College's educational experience. The 21st Century General Education Curriculum requires study in the areas of the first year program, historical perspectives, scientific inquiry, social analysis, quantitative reasoning, fine arts, literature, global issues and diversity, leadership and ethics, and intensive writing. The Western concept of a liberal arts education being a balance of fine arts, humanities, and the natural and social sciences is clearly affirmed. Programs in petroleum engineering, sports medicine, and teacher education exemplify offerings that combine the liberal arts with the world of work. In short, the College believes that the liberal arts are the best preparation for any career with an equal commitment to practical experience as a necessary prerequisite for the world of work.

### Characteristics of Marietta College

Marietta College offers undergraduate degrees leading to the bachelor of arts, bachelor of fine arts, bachelor of science, and bachelor of petroleum engineering. A total of 43 academic majors are offered across 19 departments. The divisions of arts and humanities, science, and social science, business and leadership studies oversee these departments and majors. The Education Department is an autonomous department outside of these divisions. The College employs 91 full-time academic faculty members, 70 of whom have terminal degrees in their fields.

The Marietta College student body numbered 1312 undergraduates in the spring, 2004 semester. Approximately 52 percent were women and 48 percent men. The college is truly residential, with the majority of all students living on campus. Undergraduate student demographics for the are presented in Table 45 (p. 76).

Marietta College offers the following advanced degrees: Master of Arts In Corporate Media, Master of Arts in Liberal Learning, Master of Arts in Education, Master of Arts in Psychology, and Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies. In the spring of 2004, 121 students were enrolled in the College's graduate programs, with 45% in the Master of Arts in Education. Table 46 (p. 76) indicates the demographics of students in each graduate program.

## **Overview of the Education Department**

### Mission of the Unit

The mission of the Education Department is to prepare "Educators as Leaders for Twenty-first Century Schools". This mission is achieved through the design, delivery, and continuing assessment of initial teacher licensure programs at the undergraduate level and through the provision of a Master of Arts in Education program for educators in area schools.

Candidates who complete teacher licensure programs at Marietta College serve schools in southeastern Ohio as well as other areas of the country. The Marietta College Education Department takes very seriously its responsibility to ensure that these teacher candidates know the content they are preparing to teach, know about and use a variety of methods and materials for teaching content to all students, understand and appreciate diversity among students and families while demonstrating efficacy for student learning, act as change agents who utilize technology and employ best practices in educational settings, establish productive professional relationships, and value lifelong learning.

At the graduate level, Marietta College is committed to providing area educators with professional development opportunities that will expand each individual's knowledge base and contribute to enhanced performance in their professional lives. Master of Arts in Education candidates represent a variety of backgrounds that include K-12 classroom teachers, coaches, community college instructors, vocational educators, and international students interested in furthering their knowledge of the American education system. This mix of candidates provides for lively and engaging class discussions as a variety of perspectives are shared.

There are no programs for other professional school personnel. In January of 2003, the Education Department made the decision to discontinue its program in School Guidance Counseling. This decision was made due to Department consensus that limited resources could be better used by focusing on the undergraduate initial licensure programs and the development and delivery of graduate level courses to meet the professional development needs of area classroom teachers. At that point, candidates who had been admitted to the School Guidance Counseling program were given until June of 2005 to finish program requirements and pass Praxis II. The Ohio Department of Education was informed of this decision and concurred with

this timeline for candidates already admitted to the program. As of summer 2004, most courses in this program have been discontinued and a final cohort of candidates is scheduled to finish program requirements prior to the spring 2005 semester.

### Program Information

Information about the undergraduate and graduate programs offered by the Education Department is communicated in Tables 1 and 2 on the following pages.