

February 10, 2011

Rev. Doug Leonhardt, S.J.
Associate Vice President of Mission and Ministry
Zilber Hall, 423

Members of the Simmons Religious Commitment Fund Selection Committee:

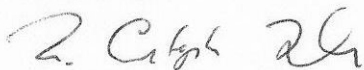
I write in support of the attached joint proposal from Dr. Jon Dooley, Senior Associate Dean of Student Development, and Dr. Jody Jessup-Anger, Assistant Professor of Education. My support of their proposed project has several dimensions:

- First, I believe the research and assessment they propose to conduct will be very valuable for our staff and students as we seek to know more about Marquette students' experiences with spirituality and how they compare to their peers at other Catholic institutions and universities nationwide. This information will help us as administrators and educators as we seek to deepen Marquette's religious commitment and create opportunities and environments that assist students in their spiritual and faith journeys.
- Second, this project presents a unique collaboration between academic affairs and student affairs. These types of partnerships are tremendously valuable as we work together to support the mission of the institution and enhance students' spiritual, cognitive and moral growth through all aspects of their Marquette experience.

The Division of Student Affairs funded the initial project that serves as one of the data-sources for the project, the Multi-Institutional Study of Leadership, and we will continue to support this survey financially on a regular cycle. We have also devoted human and financial resources to assessment, which will assist in advancing the work that this project will initiate. Finally, we will continue to financially support conference attendance for Dr. Dooley, particularly for any national conference presentations that could result from this project.

I enthusiastically support the project proposal from Dr. Dooley and Dr. Jessup-Anger and encourage the selection committee to fully fund their request.

Sincerely,



L. Christopher Miller, J.D., Ph.D.
Vice President for Student Affairs