Dear Alumnus and Friends,

At the Mount, we know the true worth of a liberal arts education. We recognize exceptional quality. We understand authentic value. We know that a life of accomplishment and success is built on the foundation of a student-centered, study and guided, creatively, discern the values that are at stake in our actions, and accept responsibility for what we do. We do it for blenders. We do it for blenders.

The ingredients of an excellent liberal arts education are not complicated: high quality programs; superb, committed, engaging faculty members; and talented, ambitious, hardworking students. The Mount has these in abundance, so how do we answer those increasingly familiar and probing questions? As a University, how do we demonstrate authentic value? We know that a life of authenticity and excellence requires a true measure of value. We do it for blenders.

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In the pages that follow, you will meet a sampling of individuals whose stories illuminate the achievements, excellence, commitment, and brilliance of the College. Most of them are not known among colleges and universities nationwide. By focusing on their stories, revealing their human qualities as well as their achievements, we offer our evidence. How do they prove that the Mount does not need a rating system devised by the federal government and does not need to make national headlines to prove that its quality is exceptional and its value is authentic.

In late summer, the College was awarded a prestigious, highly competitive Title V grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Totaling $2.3 million over five years, the grant will help the College to integrate and expand its broad-based, highly impressive, innovative, cross-disciplinary, interactive, and engaging educational programs; superb, committed, engaging faculty members; and talented, ambitious, hardworking students. The Mount holds students to high expectations, but it isn’t “do or die.” Mount Pathways programs assist in the transition to College, provide counsel and assistance to students who hit bumps along the way, and through the Mount Career Education Program, engage students from the moment they enter college with the identification of and preparation for their careers after graduation. On page 8 you will read about one student who has thrived as a beneficiary of this support and is giving back in many ways.

At last spring’s Student Research and Service Symposium, more than 80 students presented an astonishing array of their discoveries on topics in the sciences, humanities, and social sciences. These original research and service projects, conducted entirely by the students and guided by our dedicated faculty, demonstrate extraordinary academic excellence and commitment to service as well as their students’ peak performance on field and court. The newly completed Fitness Center in the Peter Jay Sharp Athletic Center has been humming with activity, and the beautifully-appointed Athletic Field, which opened at the start of the academic year, has inspired players and student “fans” alike. On page 9 you’ll find stories of two students who exemplify the “complete package,” excelling academically, while participating in athletics, and still finding time to contribute their share of volunteer service.

Each of the features in this report is ultimately about a beautiful soul. Maybe that is an odd conclusion for anyone writing this report. But it is a story that has been in my heart for some time. We have a profound respect and appreciation for all people and all things. And it is a story about the Mount community and its capacity to make a difference, not just on the local and national stage, but on the world stage.

Many thanks to everyone celebrated here. Much of this work is possible because of the generosity and good will, all things are possible. Our goals may exceed our grasp. But by engaging our best selves with our best thinking. Without all of us placing our treasure is, there will your heart be also.” Of course, our greatest treasure is found in ourselves and in each other. Our treasure is our involvement, our commitment, our hard work, and our best thinking. Without all of us placing our treasure where our hearts are, we may find that our progress is not as swift or sure. Our goals may exceed our grasp. But by engaging our best selves with generosity and good will, all things are possible.

We seek to convey what makes the College exceptional, and to challenge other institutions to develop a similar summary. The result: a collectively curated constellation of measures that matter—benchmarked results and examples of impressive student achievement. We call our summary National Measures of Quality. At the Mount, we know the true worth of a liberal arts education. We recognize exceptional quality. We understand authentic value. We know that a life of accomplishment and success is built on the foundation of a student-centered, study and guided, creatively, discern the values that are at stake in our actions, and accept responsibility for what we do. We do it for blenders. We do it for blenders.

Top Ten

Best Colleges ranks the Mount among the top 10 Catholic colleges and universities in the U.S. and 13th most diverse among colleges and universities nationwide.

Charles L. Flynn, Jr.
President
College of Mount Saint Vincent

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

President
Charles L. Flynn, Jr.