



The Marianists
PROVINCE OF THE UNITED STATES

July 5, 2018

Dr. Eric Spina, President
University of Dayton
300 College Park
Dayton, Ohio 45469

Dear Eric,

As representatives of the Society of Mary, we want to express the Marianists' support for the administration's decision to withdraw University involvement in the spring trip known as Dayton to Daytona.

The Marianist definition of community emphasizes treating yourself and others with respect because such respect is the foundation of true community. Fellowship, friendliness and hospitality are genuine expressions of Marianist community, but genuine respect and caring for yourself and for others is also required.

As the Dayton to Daytona trip occurs outside the University's sphere of control many miles away from campus, we have been concerned that some trip activities have been and can be detrimental to the students and graduates who attend and have not led to genuine respect and care for others. The University's association with the trip could be perceived as support for those activities.

In our Marianist tradition, sharing joy is an important part of a community and we heartily endorse plans to develop a campus tradition to celebrate and affirm the community's joy and pride in our graduating seniors. Such an event could kindle joy in community life, inspire love and esteem for each other, deepen faith, and strengthen our commitment to the common good.

In Christ's peace,

Rev. Martin Solma, S.M.

Provincial, Marianist Province of the United States

Rev. Oscar Vasquez, S.M.

Provincial-designate, Marianist Province of the United States

Rev. James Fitz, S.M.

Vice President for Mission and Rector