



† MOUNT MERCY UNIVERSITY
1330 Elmhurst Drive NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
MTMERCY.EDU

Installation of

Dr. Todd A. Olson
President of Mount Mercy University

April 29, 2022

“WE MUST
STRIVE TO DO
ORDINARY THINGS
EXTRAORDINARILY
WELL.”

—*Catherine McAuley*



TODD A. OLSON, PHD

Dr. Todd A. Olson was named Mount Mercy University’s president in 2021. Prior to Mount Mercy, he served as the Vice President for Student Affairs at Georgetown University in Washington D.C., providing leadership for 15 departments and 140 student affairs staff for more than 18 years.

Throughout his 35-year career in higher education, Dr. Olson has been an adjunct faculty member and most recently taught in Georgetown’s higher education administration program and the School of Nursing and Health Studies.

Dr. Olson led the creation of Georgetown’s Healey Family Student Center and played a major role in their new residential facilities. He was active in campus planning efforts; policy revisions related to alcohol, sexual assault, and bias reporting; and developing new programs linking academic and co-curricular life. Prior to Georgetown, Dr. Olson served in a variety of roles at the University of Denver for 16 years.

Dr. Olson has co-authored articles on entrepreneurial leadership and curriculum infusion, and recently authored a book chapter on dealing with controversial speakers and events in a Catholic context. He served for 10 years as a member of the Policy Committee for the Patriot League athletic conference, and recently served a two-year term as chair of the James E. Scott Academy within NASPA, a leading national student affairs association. Dr. Olson was the President of JASPA, the national Jesuit student affairs association, from 2018-2020.

A Minnesota native, Dr. Olson earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Minnesota-Morris and went on to receive his master’s degree in counseling psychology at the University of Kansas. He earned his PhD in higher education from the University of Denver, where he also worked in a variety of positions and was one of the founders of the Pioneer Leadership Program, a signature academic and residential learning program.

Dr. Olson and his wife, Regina, are the parents of three children.

INSTALLATION CEREMONY

MUSICAL PRELUDE.....Performed by the University Band & Choir

Dr. Gerald Kreitzer
Director of Music Activities & University Choir

Steve Stickney
Director of Bands

Dr. Melinda Westphalen
Accompanist

Flourish for Wind Band by Ralph Vaughn Williams
Sing Praise to God..... arr. Brent Wells
Crest of Honor by David R. Gillingham
Jubilate Deoby Peter Anglea
America the Beautiful..... by Carmen Dragon, arr. Jay Dawson

Board of Trustees, administration, and special guests will be escorted to their reserved seating. Please remain seated during the processional.

Gathering Pealing of Bells Carolyn Sternowski and members of the Mount Mercy community

PROCESSIONAL

Fanfare and Processional by Sir Edward Elgar, arr. James Ployhar
Dr. Joe Nguyen..... Faculty Marshal
International Student Representatives | Faculty | Emeritus Faculty | Delegates of Higher Learning | Platform Guests
Dr. Joy Ochs..... Installation Marshal
Dr. Todd A. Olson President

POSTING OF THE COLORS

Hawkeye Area Council Troop 100
Louis Dew, Star Scout; Owen Dew, Tenderfoot Scout; Lucas Millsap, Star Scout

NATIONAL ANTHEM (Please stand and join in singing.) Led by the University Band & Choir
The Star Spangled Banner by Key/Smith, arr. Clarence Barber

WELCOME & INTRODUCTORY REMARKS **Charles A. Rohde**
Chair, Mount Mercy Board of Trustees

INVOCATION **Reverend John Flaherty**
Sacramental Priest, Mount Mercy University

MUSICAL INTERLUDE.....Performed by the University Choir
The Suscipe of Catherine McAuleyarr. Thomas McNichols
Text by Catherine McAuley | Music by Sister Dolores Nieratka, RSM

CALLS TO SERVICE.....

Dr. Joy Ochs
Professor of English

Frankline B. Tshombe '20, '22 MA-MFT
On behalf of graduate students

Tiffany O'Donnell
Mayor, City of Cedar Rapids

Tiara Muñoz '23
President, Student Government Association

Nick Timm '14
President, Mount Mercy Alumni Board

Dr. Julia Cavallo
Executive Director, Conference for
Mercy Higher Education

MISSIONING OF THE PRESIDENT **Sister Patricia Flynn**
Vice President, Sisters of Mercy of the Americas | Liaison, Conference for Mercy Higher Education

PRESIDENTIAL INVESTITURE **Charles A. Rohde**
Chair, Mount Mercy Board of Trustees

SPECIAL BLESSING..... **Most Reverend Michael O. Jackels**
Archbishop of Dubuque

INTRODUCTION OF PRESIDENT OLSON **Dr. John J. DeGioia**
President, Georgetown University

INAUGURAL ADDRESS **Dr. Todd A. Olson**

MUSICAL INTERLUDEPerformed by the University Band & Choir
Amazing Grace..... by Frank Ticheli
Alma Mater (Please stand and join in singing.)by Linda Williams

BENEDICTION **Sister Linda Bechen '74**
Vice President for Mission & Ministry

RECESSIONAL (Please stand and join in singing.)Performed by the University Band & Choir
Stand for Mercy..... by Dan Terrell, arr. Kent Keating

Please mute your cell phone prior to the ceremony. **THANK YOU.**

MUSIC LYRICS

ALMA MATER

All hail our Alma Mater
With spirit strong and true;
All honor to Mount Mercy,
Her banner gold and blue.
Though someday we must leave her
And wander far away,
We'll honor and remember her
Forever.

*Alma Mater was written by Linda Williams in
commemoration of Mount Mercy's 50th anniversary
and dedicated to Sister Mary Eleanor Cashman.*

STAND FOR MERCY

Go Stangs!
Raise up your proud Mount Mercy voice.
Sing along and make some noise.
Hail to the Mustang, all rejoice
And lead us on to victory!
Let them all see Mount Mercy pride.
We all know who's on our side.
Never will Mustangs be denied,
So lead us on to victory now!

MMU
MMU

Go Stangs!
This is our Mustang fighting song.
Everyone now sing along.
Join in the cheer you can't be wrong;
You help us on to victory!
So sing it strong and sing it loud.
Tell the world that we are proud.
Raise up the shout, you Mustang crowd
And lead us on to victory now!

ENDURING TRADITION. ENGAGING EXCELLENCE.

Think of Mount Mercy University's history, and thoughts of endurance, perseverance, and progress come to mind.

Recall the humble beginnings of the seven Sisters who answered the call for teachers and worked together to transform an unfinished building into St. Joseph's School in Cedar Rapids in 1875.

Remember the momentum when the Sisters quickly outgrew St. Joseph's and purchased the Greene mansion on a plot of land overlooking the city, converting it into a girl's boarding school, Sacred Heart Academy, later to be known as Mount Mercy Academy.

Follow the forward vision that led to the founding of a two-year college for women in 1928, the accreditation as a baccalaureate institution in 1960, the admission of men in 1969, and the designation as a university in 2010.

To endure is to persist—always moving forward.

Today, we continue the remarkable work of the Sisters of Mercy—imbued with their energy, emboldened by their mission, and enlightened by the Spirit. From the cupola atop Warde Hall and the court at Hennessey Recreation Center to the classrooms in our CRST International Graduate Center and the fields at the Robert W. Plaster Athletic Complex, our history has been marked by progress.

The values that guide us are longstanding but as relevant as ever in today's world. Through the spirit of the Catholic Intellectual Tradition, we lead the way, lighting the path for those who come after. With our focus on engagement and inclusion, we remain inextricably connected to the city and region we call home.

We find strength in our diverse community of students, staff, professors, alumni, and Board members who continue to drive us forward and upward. Much like the original seven Sisters, we realize we are stronger when we work together toward our goals.

Our location atop the Hill ensures we always look ahead—toward new possibilities. Our connection to the past means we don't forget who led us here. Our commitment to our community keeps our eyes on the future. We cannot wait to see what comes next.

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Graduate Student Representative