

MEMORANDUM OF AFFILIATION AGREEMENT

Between

Mount St. Mary's University and

Carroll Community College

For Honors Program Admission

For CCC Students transferring to the Mount

January, 2025

I. SUMMARY

The University Honors Program of Mount St. Mary's University (MSMU) and the Pappalardo and Carroll Lynx Scholars Honors Programs of Carroll Community College (CCC) are entering into an affiliation agreement, by which students in either of these to CCC Honors Programs who transfer to MSMU will be automatically admitted to Mount St. Mary's University Honors Program.

OVERVIEW

Carroll Community College has three honors programs, two of which are deemed to be equivalent to experiences encountered in Mount St. Mary's University Honors Program. According to CCC's website, "The Pappalardo Honors Program, formerly the Hill Scholars Program, is a selective admission, honors cohort program for entering first-year college students." Students in the Pappalardo Honors Program take honors sections of core curriculum courses, similar to honors sections of Core courses at MSMU. CCC describes the Carroll Lynx Scholars program as, "a selective admission, independent study honors program for all the students at Carroll, but specifically designed with part-time students in mind." Students in this program work with course instructors to design additional independent studies to enrich their courses.

The University Honors Program of Mount St. Mary's University has honors sections of most of the university Core Curriculum that feature a lower student-to-faculty ratio and additional enrichment opportunities. The program culminates in a Senior Honors Project, an independent research project mentored by a faculty member and presented in a public presentation as part of our annual SPARC festival (Scholarship, Performance, Art, Research, and Creativity), which showcases undergraduate academic achievements.

II. OVERALL REQUIREMENTS

Students who are in good standing as members of either the Pappalardo Honors Program or Carroll Lynx Scholars Program, who are admitted to Mount St. Mary's University, will be

automatically accepted to the University Honors Program. The MSMU Honors Director will be informed by Admissions of students who meet these criteria.

Students with an Associate's Degree from CCC will take honors sections of the A.A. transfer Core: one Philosophy course, two Theology courses, and America in the World.

Students without an Associate's Degree will take honors sections of their required Core courses, which will vary depending on the transfer credits they are bringing in.

All students admitted to Mount St. Mary's University Honors Program will be required to complete the Senior Honors Project in order to be graduated with honors, as is the case with all MSMU honors students.

III. PROGRAM DIRECTORS

The Director of the University Honors Program of Mount St. Mary's will be the party from MSMU involved in this affiliation agreement.

The Pappalardo Honors Program Director and the Carroll Lynx Scholars Honors Program Director will be the parties from CCC involved in this affiliation agreement.

IV. ADMISSIONS AND ELIGIBILITY

CCC students in good standing in either of the two aforementioned honors programs are eligible for automatic admission to MSMU's honors program. Once in the program, students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.4 in order to remain in the program. Students falling below this threshold are ordinarily given one semester on probation in order to improve their GPA. After probation, students are removed from the honors program, though they are still enrolled as students in the general population of Mount St. Mary's University.

V. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

A. Recruitment and Marketing

1. Mount St. Mary's and Carroll Community College's designated points of contact (program directors) shall engage in periodic updates regarding the progress of interested students.
2. Mount St. Mary's University and Carroll Community College shall feature the collaborative degree program options in their respective catalogues, admission activities, and web site, as appropriate.
3. Mount St. Mary's may refer to the program in their career counseling of students interested in transferring to Mount St. Mary's.

B. Amendment of Requirements

1. Mount St. Mary's and Carroll Community College may amend admission and/or continuation requirements for their respective honors programs, as applicable.

2. Amendments to admission and/or continuation requirements will be communicated to all parties involved.

3. Any amendments that, in the judgment of the respective program directors, make MSMU and CCC's respective honors programs non-equivalent may trigger a reconsideration of this Affiliation Agreement, beginning on the date at which the amendment becomes active.

C. Discrimination

Each party represents and warrants that it is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate with regard to race, color, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, national origin, disability, or other lawfully prohibited reasons. MSMU shall not discriminate with respect to acceptance of qualified transfer students from CCC.

VI. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A. Liability

1. Subject to the limitations of the Local Government Tort Claims Act, Mount St. Mary's shall save, defend, indemnify, and hold Carroll Community College, its officers, trustees, employees, and agents harmless for claims, actions and suits for bodily injury, death or property damage arising under this Agreement or any extension thereof by reasons of the actions of Carroll Community College or its employees or agents.

2. Carroll Community College shall save, defend, indemnify, and hold Mount St. Mary's, its officers, trustees, employees, and agents harmless for claims, actions and suits for bodily injury, death or property damage arising under this Agreement or any extension thereof by reasons of the actions of Mount St. Mary's or its employees or agents.

B. Term And Renewal

This Affiliation Agreement shall have an initial term of five (5) years beginning on the date signed below by both college/university officials. Unless terminated, pursuant to the terms outlined below, this Agreement is self-renewing and the collaborative degree program option will continue.

C. Termination Clause

Either party may terminate this Agreement at the end of the initial term or at the end of a renewed term by giving the other party at least six months' prior written notice. Such termination, however, will not apply to students already accepted to Mount St. Mary's University's Honors Program.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

A. This Agreement is not assignable but shall bind the corporate successors of MSMU and CCC.

B. This Agreement shall not create an employment or partnership relationship between MSMU and CCC.

C. No amendment to this Agreement shall be valid and binding unless in writing signed by authorized representatives of both parties.

D. Notice of any action taken by either party and required to be reported to the other party under this Agreement shall be mailed, certified delivery, or electronic mail with confirmation receipt to the other party at the addresses stated below:

VIII. REVIEW/MODIFICATION OF THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

A. The Pappalardo Honors Program Director and the Carroll Lynx Scholars Honors Program Director at Carroll Community College and the Director of the Honors Program of Mount St. Mary's University shall review this Agreement bi-annually starting in 2025.

B. This Agreement may be modified only by written agreement signed by the authorized representatives of both parties.


We, the undersigned, approve this Agreement on behalf of our respective institutions.

Mount St. Mary's University

16300 Old Emmitsburg Road
Emmitsburg, MD 21727

Carroll Community College

1601 Washington Road
Westminster, MD 21157

By:  _____

Sean Lewis, Ph.D.
Director of the University Honors Program

Date: 12/30/24

By: Amanda DeRose _____

Amanda DeRose, M.A.
Director of Honors

Date: 1/13/25

By:  _____

Boyd Creasman, Ph.D.
Provost

Mount St. Mary's University

Date: 1/8/25

By: Kristie Crumley _____

Kristie Crumley, Ph.D.
VP of Academic and Student Affairs and
Dean of Faculty

Carroll Community College

Date: 1/10/2025