

ANTHONY CAMPILII
Marist College
Poughkeepsie, NY
For the Marist College Archives and Special Collections
Index – Anthony Campilii

Project Name: Marist Heritage Project

Transcript: Yes

Summary: Yes

Photograph(s): Yes

CD#: 012

Name of Interviewee: Anthony Campilii

Main Topics: In this interview Mr. Campilii comments on his position as Chief Financial Officer and his 40 plus years at Marist. This includes: his unique experiences in developing a staff and the Business Office, his thoughts on the presidencies of Dr. Linus Richard Foy and Dr. Dennis J. Murray and how Marist has changed over the past forty years.

Others present?: No

Interviewed by: Gus Nolan

Interview Date: 30 November 2001

Location of Interview: Fontaine Building

Recorder model and type: Marantz PMD 690

Length of interview: 51 minutes and 22 seconds

Number of disks: 1

Recording medium/format: Microdrive

Brand of disks: IBM 1GB Microdrive

Archival copy made: Burned to a gold alloy CD (MAM) and is held in the Marist College Archives and Special Collections. Saved as a .wav file at the highest resolution possible. CD copy is available for researchers.

Quality of original recording: Good

Restrictions on interview access or use: None

Transcribed or summarized by: Nancy Decker

Brief summary of interview context and recording contents: The interview was held in the James Cannavino Library on the Marist College campus.

TAPE INDEX:

<u>Time (00:00.00 ~ in hrs./mins./seconds)</u>	<u>Summary</u>
00:00.01 – 00:10.03	Anthony Campilii, Vice President for Business Affairs and the Chief Financial Officer for Marist College begins his interview by discussing his background. He was born in Poughkeepsie and grew up in the village of Wappinger's Falls, which he loved. He had one sister who died. His mother was an accomplished seamstress and his father was also able to be very successful despite never having mastered the English language and being an American citizen. He attended a Catholic Grammar School for eight years, Wappinger's High School, and then Dutchess Community College. He has three children with his wife of thirty-nine years who was also his grammar school and high school sweetheart. He is very active in the Wappinger's Falls community, which he thoroughly enjoys.
00:10.04 – 00:26.35	After graduating from Dutchess Anthony ended up at Marist because no other college would accept the credits from DCC, and he graduated from Marist after two years in 1962. He began working at Marist because while attending he realized that there was nobody taking care of the books and the finances, etc., and he contacted the President about a job. When Brother Linus Foy returned from Rome he contacted Anthony and gave him a job running Marist finances. It was a very intensive job because he was one man handling all the finances of the college, including payroll, billing, personnel and hiring, etc., and he had to learn it all as he went along, but Linus Foy mentored him throughout the entire process. After two years of working he finally got Marion Strickland as his own secretary, which was one of the best things that happened for his career, and she remained his secretary for 25 years. He went to many different seminars and workshops to learn additional tricks of the trade; it was very much a learn-as-you-go process.
00:26.36 – 00:28.48	Anthony reflects on when he knew that Marist was going to become the institution that it is today. He feels that the first time was when Champagnat was under construction, which would fit 400 students, and Marist, at the time, didn't have 400 students to fill Sheehan and Leo. He knew then that the administration had plans for Marist to grow. Also when women came to Marist he felt that was also a positive step forward for the college and a reflection of the times Marist was entering.

- 00:28.49 – 00:39.44 Anthony moved on to discussing some of the individuals that he had hired that really played a significant role in keeping Marist afloat and moving the institution forward. One was Tony Dangelo, a former cop, who began to run the bookstore, and the second was Andy Pavelko who was in charge of the physical plant, maintenance, janitorial and custodial services, etc. Anthony also reflects on switching their food service industry and the steps that it involved, in order to become a better residential college. At this point the college was growing so much that they realized that Anthony could not be responsible for the hiring and firing of all the departments, he had too much to do, so they started a human resources department. He also spends some time talking about the position of Dean of Students, and some of the great men who served in that position, including Brother Paul Stokes and Brother John O’Shea.
- 00:39.45 – 00:43.40 Anthony describes the building of the McCann Center and moving from the Marion Gym to the new McCann Center. It was a huge undertaking to build the McCann Center, and they had to take out a very large loan, but when it was done they had the best facility around out of all of the colleges they competed with.
- 00:43.41 – 00:51.22 Anthony compares the presidencies of Linus Foy and Dennis Murray. He thinks that they have both been great presidents, but they are very different presidents. He calls Linus an internal president and Dennis an external president. Anthony considers one of the strengths of Marist to be the quality education that students are receiving for what he considers a reasonable price. He believes Marist has a good range of programs, a great faculty and administration, and that Marist is on the cutting edge of technology. The one thing that he thinks Marist should work on is increasing the diversity of the student body.