

JEPHTHA LANNING
Marist College
Poughkeepsie, NY
For the Marist College Archives and Special Collections
Index – Jeptha Lanning

Project Name: Marist Heritage Project

Transcript: Yes

Summary: Yes

Photograph(s): Yes

CD#: 037

Name of Interviewee: Jeptha Lanning

Main Topics: The following interview occurs with Dr. Jeptha Lanning, former communications professor at Marist College. Dr. Jeptha speaks of his years as a professor as well as his administrative roles and participation with the Marist Abroad program within the interview. At the end of the interview, Dr. Jeptha Lanning speaks of his fellow colleagues who have played a significant role in the formation of the college as it is today as well as where he hopes the college will be in the future.

Others present?: No

Interviewed by: Gus Nolan

Interview Date: 25 September 2002

Location of Interview: Archives and Special Collections Reading Room at Marist College

Recorder model and type: Marantz PMD 690

Length of interview: 56 minutes, 20 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: Erin Kelly

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

TAPE INDEX:

<u>Time (00:00.00 ~ in hrs./mins./seconds)</u>	<u>Summary</u>
00:00.08 – 00:06.25	Dr. Jeptha Lanning discusses his personal history. He reveals the origin of his name, where he was born and raised, the names and occupations of his siblings and parents, what his education consisted of from grammar school to his Ph.D, how his love for theater began, and what some of his very first teaching assignments were.
00:06.26 – 00:09.35	Jeptha reminisces about when he first began teaching at Marist. He thinks back to the English courses he taught, the drama courses he taught, and his participation in the Teacher Education Program. He discusses in detail his work in the Marist theater program over the years.
00:09.36 – 00:21.33	Jeptha talks more about the department, and when he began taking an administrative role in it. He describes in detail the transition the department made when they created a communications major and the large role he played in it. He also jumps back to his personal history for a moment to reveal how he met his wife and when and where they were married. Jeptha then continues to talk about the evolution of the department, when he stepped down as chair, who replaced him and why, and his eventual return as the Chairman of the Division of Arts and Letters.
00:21.34 – 00:28.40	Jeptha discusses the various committees that he served on over the years and the various roles he played in them. He also discusses the creation of the Core Program, why it was necessary, and students' reaction to it. He moves on to compare the extreme differences in the physical campus from when he first set foot on Marist to today.
00:28.41 – 00:34.28	Jeptha describes some of the strengths and weaknesses of Marist College. He also compares the student body that he taught when he first came to Marist to the student body that he taught when he retired.
00:34.29 – 00:42.45	Jeptha discusses the administrations of Linus Foy and Dennis Murray, and the contributions that each president made to the college over the years. He believes Dr. Foy really developed the faculty of the college, and he

believes Dr. Murray took the college outside of the institution and broadened it. Jeptha remarks on the academic deans that he has served under as well and their contributions to the college.

00:42.46 – 00:49.02 Jeptha reflects on what he feels are his major contributions to the college, and also on some of his disappointments. For example he wished that the abroad program was a year long, rather than a semester, but he was unable to make that happen. He also reflects on why he never considered working at anyplace other than Marist College.

00:49.03 – 00:56.28 Jeptha reveals his predictions of what the future of Marist College will be. He ends his interview by remembering just a handful of the fantastic people that he worked with over the years and the wonderful contributions that they made to the college.