



Distinguished Lasallian Staff 2023-2024 Deborah Pitula

Deb Pitula has spent a lifetime of commitment to Catholic education and the latest part of her career advancing the Lasallian Catholic mission in the School and now the Department of Education. Her commitment includes a dedication to helping our graduate education students achieve success through academic quality and excellence. Her former professional background as a successful school principal is so evident in her work with us and with our students. Not only does she talk the talk about the results of academic excellence, she has also walked the walk in the professional world of education. She communicates a depth of knowledge and commitment to the students that sets her above the standards. This knowledge and commitment to excellence is a shining example to the rest of the community.

She is a colleague who cares about everyone in the MC community and about the quality of her interactions with our students. She exhibits a generous spirit of service in everything she does and to everyone with whom she interacts. This sense of inclusion for all people has been influential in the lives of many of our graduate students. Such spirit is also evident in her appreciation of the Lasallian traditions and their liveliness in the Education Department.

She would, if needed, clearly defend the rights of others, for example, if a student is struggling, they often start their search for help with Deb. They know that she will listen, reflect, and help. This respect for all people, no matter their current situation, makes her a regular stop for students in need.

Deb is a familiar face at liturgies around campus and is often called upon to be a lector at Masses or the Lessons and Carols. She is quietly faithful, but anyone who knows her understands the depth of her commitment to her faith, to our Lasallian charism, and to our students.

Congratulations, Deborah Pitula, your colleagues have named you the Distinguished Lasallian Educator for this year. Thank you for your constant witness of our shared community values, for your challenges when we don't live up to the values, and for your solidarity when we need help.