



## **DISTINGUISHED LASALLIAN AWARD 2022-23**

**Kelly Marin, Ph.D., Professor, Psychology  
Distinguished Lasallian Educator**

**It is my distinct pleasure to give this citation for Kelly Marin, my colleague and dear friend. During her tenure at the College, Kelly has served as a faculty member, colleague, and inspirational leader for the Manhattan College community. Throughout all of these roles, she has embodied a true Lasallian educator, leading with empathy, wisdom, honesty, and humility.**

**Kelly is an outstanding teacher, colleague, and mentor. As a colleague, she is always volunteering - to teach challenging methodology and statistics courses to alleviate pressures on her colleagues; to serve as interim Chair of Psychology in support of her department; to lead the Middle States Self-Study team (more on that in a minute) and to reorganize processes around transition to College with the FYE. She does all of these things with a collegial and respectful style that demonstrates her concern for the well-being of others, and is an example of how this type of leadership can be highly effective.**

**Kelly is among the most trustworthy, kind, and generous members of the Manhattan College faculty. Faculty colleagues describe Kelly as a fantastic professor and truly dedicated to her students. Kelly actively engages and takes significant time to work with students who may be struggling academically or in life. While she goes out of her way for all of her students, Kelly is especially sensitive to aiding those who are in challenging financial and social situations.**

**Kelly is a fighter for social justice. Her qualitative research on adolescent development is informed by her deep concern for and desire to understand developmental struggles. Her research agenda is directly reflective of her character - she never fails to reliably assist those who are in need.**

**When Kelly and I attended the Self-Study Institute together at the beginning of the MSCHE process, we were both anxious about the process - noting that to meet each standard, we were**

**required to have evidence - using their terms - by substantial measure. She worked tirelessly for the next two years to organize the Middle States self-study and evaluation visit and motivated various subcommittees to produce excellent work, leading to a successful reaccreditation.**

**One of the chairs who helped lead our chapter on Mission and Goals writes, in working with Kelly during the middle states process, one thing that stood out to me was not only her ability to look at details but also her willingness to stop and consider the wider picture, including perspectives of others. This demonstrated the best of the idea of sibling-hood / fraternity in the Lasallian tradition.**

**Our third MSCHE co-chair writes, I was always deeply impressed by her poise, dignity, and courage in dealing with the different constituencies. Not every group was happy to hear what we had to say and, as you well know, there was sometimes pushback. I think back to the meeting with the VPs, in particular. Kelly was never rattled, never acquiesced, never retracted, and never retreated from presenting what we believed was an honest representation of the facts. The pressure was immense. Afterwards, she would always ask us if she had done well. And the answer was always the same: absolutely! She was my hero. She served our College by speaking truth to power and in the end was fully vindicated and acknowledged for doing so. Throughout it all she never lost her humanity, humility, or humor.**

**All I can remember thinking of was how lucky we were to have Kelly leading these efforts. Her impact on the College cannot be measured.**

**Kelly stands up for her students, her colleagues, and truly everyone at the College. Whenever there are disagreements, Kelly is often the one to help find balance and peace between different perspectives, and everyone looks to her as a trustworthy and ethical colleague. Kelly exhibits Lasallian principles of morality, faith, and kindness in all of her actions. I can think of no one more deserving of the Distinguished Lasallian Educator award than Kelly Marin.**