On February 24, 2012, Mount Mary College’s Board of Trustees unanimously voted to change the institution’s name to Mount Mary University.

Below are answers to questions that have been raised about the change.

**Why is Mount Mary College changing its name to University?**

The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education™ has long placed Mount Mary in the “Master’s Colleges and Universities (Small Programs)” classification. The Carnegie Classification has been the leading authority for accurate classification of colleges and universities for over four decades.

Mount Mary currently offers seven graduate programs and one doctorate program. With the growing scale and complexity of the institution, the new name more accurately reflects who we are today.

**How long has the name change been in the works?**

Exploration of changing the College’s name began well over a year ago. With approval from the Board of Trustees, a 16-member task force was appointed to formally study the issue and secure feedback from all key internal and external constituencies. Discussions with the School Sisters of Notre Dame who sponsor the College, alumnae, students, faculty, employees, and friends of the College took place over the course of several months. An outside research firm also conducted surveys and focus groups. Information gathered from the task force and research firm revealed name change support from all constituencies.

**When will it take place?**

The new name will officially be implemented in the fall of 2013 in conjunction with Mount Mary’s 100th Anniversary. Until that time the institution will operate as Mount Mary College.

**Will Mount Mary College remain a women’s institution?**

Mount Mary will continue its commitment to its roots as a four-year Catholic college for women. The undergraduate programs at Mount Mary University will remain women-only with the exception of the co-ed Nursing program which is offered jointly with Columbia College of Nursing. The master and doctorate programs will continue to be open to both men and women.

**How will the name change affect Mount Mary?**

In anticipation of the upcoming 100th Anniversary, and in conjunction with the College’s Strategic Plan, Mount Mary is poised for growth. The implementation of new programs and faculty additions will
continue to support the University identity. Capital improvements that have recently included a new Barnes and Noble Bookstore and an integrated Student Success Center.

What will not change is Mount Mary’s mission and commitment to affordable access, small class size and individual attention.

**How will the name change affect students?**
As Mount Mary continues to grow, students will have access to increased laddering opportunities for smooth progression from undergraduate to graduate programs. Time to degree completion is expected to improve for these students.

Since internationally, the term “college” is associated with high school education, graduates wishing to pursue international careers will be equipped with the credential that other countries recognize under the University name.

**How will the name change affect Mount Mary’s faculty?**
The name change is affording Mount Mary another opportunity to re-evaluate the current academic structure’s effectiveness. Since decisions about the academic structure are not under the auspices of Board of Trustees, any modifications to the structure will be made by the College’s academic leadership.

**How will the name change affect Mount Mary Alumnae/i?**
Alumnae/i will have the option to obtain revised diplomas if they choose to do so.

**How will the name change affect the community?**
Mount Mary College has been dedicated to social justice for nearly 100 years. As the College looks to its second century, it will continue its commitment to service and providing resources to address the needs of the community, including those of the Milwaukee region. Indeed, our alumnae, overwhelmingly, choose to stay in the area and make their careers—and lives—here. We are part of making a difference in the community.

**How much will the name change cost?**
A careful evaluation of costs associated with a name change was conducted. Many of the costs are recurring expenses and won’t affect the operating budget. The College is in a strong financial position to invest additional resources to the name change. In fact, in 2010 *The Chronicle of Higher Education* reported on the financial strength of 150 nonprofit colleges. According to the report, “A score greater than or equal to 1.5 indicates the institution is financially responsible.” In the report Mount Mary earned a score of 2.8 (out of 3.0).

**Will tuition increase?**
The name change will not affect Mount Mary’s commitment to keeping tuition affordable for all students.

**Will graduation requirements change?**
There are no foreseen changes to graduation requirements.