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A QUICK LOOK

Meister Eckhart Center to Open at Albertus Magnus College

Connie Gallaher is Ready to Shake Up Higher Education

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As part of its 95th Anniversary Celebration, Albertus Magnus College in New Haven, CT, will open the Meister Eckhart Center for Catholic and Dominican Life in September 2021. Albertus Magnus was founded by the Dominican Sisters of Peace in 1925.

The mission of the Center will be to engage both the college

community and the city of New Haven in dialogue, integrating the Dominican values of contemplation and action with the call to promote a more just and peaceful world.

The Eckhart Center is named in honor of the 13-14th century Dominican Friar, German theologian, and mystic, Meister Eckhart (1260 –1328).

“Some of the many goals of the Eckhart Center will be to reflect on our Catholic Identity and Dominican tradition and promote the preaching of truth and justice. It is important for us to partner with neighboring institutions and organizations, in pursuit of the common good,” said chief mission officer, Assistant to the President for Dominican Mission, Sr. Anne Kilbride, OP.

“The Dominican Sisters of Peace are pleased to support the Eckhart Center for Catholic and Dominican Life at Albertus, where outreach to the local and global community will continue and deepen. The Center will create a hub for ongoing reflection on the human condition, social issues, environmental care, and much, much more,” stated Sr. Patricia Twohill, OP, Prioress of the Dominican Sisters of Peace and Albertus Board of Trustee member.

The Meister Eckhart Center will be dedicated during the College’s Annual Founders’ Day Celebration, on Friday, September 24, 2021. To learn more about the Meister Eckhart Center, [click here](#).

Connie Gallaher is Ready to Shake Up Higher Education

After serving in leadership roles for all three adult healthcare systems in Central Ohio, the new Ohio Dominican University president said there are many striking parallels between the sectors.

“Not only are we here to prepare and educate tomorrow’s leaders, but you’ve got to run it like a business,” said Gallaher. *“Higher education is an industry that is going to be disrupted, and Ohio Dominican will have to make changes to be sustainable in the future.”*

“It’s no different than what we saw in healthcare,” Gallaher said. *“The vast majority of those independent, smaller, private hospitals had... to innovate (and) find partners.”*

“And that’s what I think you’ll see in a fair amount of universities and colleges across this country.”

Gallaher said one of Ohio Dominican’s challenges is that it has not adequately told its story about its impact in the greater community.

“We’re a secret gem that this city has...and we’re going to learn to tell our story,” Gallaher said. For example, she said, ODU has an “outstanding” physician assistant program, which educates professionals in an area that is going to be “direly needed” in the economy as needs in the healthcare industry continue to grow.

“We’ve got to share the story about how we believe in helping the underserved,” Gallaher said. *“We’ve got to share the story of what we do with the Charles School.”*

The Charles School at ODU is a five-year, tuition-free early college high school where students can graduate with a high school diploma and an associate’s degree.

Ohio Dominican University was founded by the Dominican Sisters of Peace in 1911. Dominican Sister of Peace Gemma Doll, OP, a member of the Ohio Dominican Board of Trustees, said *“Connie is a transformational leader bringing a new day to the continued mission of Ohio Dominican University.”*

Gallaher said Ohio Dominican’s mission has never been more relevant: *“To help people prepare intellectually, spiritually, as a whole person.”*



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