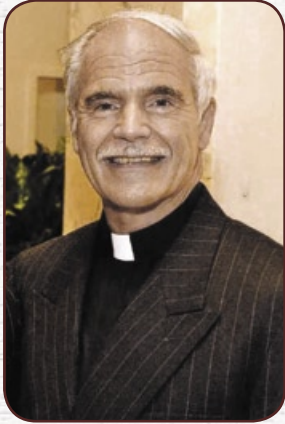


# WHEELING JESUIT UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

*Dear Friends,*



With 32 years of service in higher education in the United States and abroad, it is with great joy and some humility that I assumed the presidency of Wheeling Jesuit University, the youngest of our American Jesuit colleges and universities. It is with confidence in the future that I embarked on this new beginning, relying on my professional and personal experiences, past partnerships, and God's grace as the foundation for Wheeling Jesuit University's trust in me.

Rev. Clifford M. Lewis, S.J., dreamed of a Jesuit school ... that would provide "independent enlightenment to tomorrow's problems," which would be located in West Virginia. More than a half century ago, the Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, and five dozen co-founders created Wheeling College, and Fr. Lewis' dream was off and running. We must acknowledge the vision and courage of our founders and take our place among those in whom the future and continuing growth of the University are vested.

Now with my first academic year more than half complete, I take this opportunity to reflect upon the past few months. I've experienced a genuine sense of community at Wheeling Jesuit University. We are all united by our care and commitment for this flowering institution of higher learning. Our faculty, staff, administrators and students recommit themselves daily to the core values that make Wheeling Jesuit University an extraordinary experience. We try to guide gently the development of our students – minds and hearts and challenge their intellect and encourage their commitment of service. University graduates go into God's world as living forces for good.

I have had the pleasure of visiting with many alumni and friends over the last few months, and I have found our alumni to be distinguished by their spiritual energy, their intellectual competency and compassion for their neighbors and the citizens of our global community. Our alumni demonstrate their commitment to the virtues and values they learned while students at Wheeling Jesuit University in the communities in which they live.

While we who know best are proud of our accomplishments, we are most pleased to announce that for the 11<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, *U.S. News & World Report* reports Wheeling Jesuit University as the highest ranked college or university in the state of West Virginia and, this year, WJU is 18<sup>th</sup> in the Best Universities-Master's Category in the South. This national distinction is quite an accomplishment, and positions us among very credible peers. We are preparing our students well for success in a changing world.

I invite your partnership in developing the academic competence of our students and in fostering a sense of community and service in all our employees. We can be confident that our students and employees will make the world better for us all.

All the best,

Julio Giuliatti, S.J.  
President

