

Susan M. Donovan, Ph.D.

## **Education**

Ph.D. Higher Education, Saint Louis University, 1985  
M.S. Higher Education, Florida State University, 1981  
B.A. Communications, Buena Vista University, 1980

## **Experience**

**Loyola University Maryland**, Baltimore, Maryland, a comprehensive liberal arts university in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition with an undergraduate enrollment of 4,000 undergraduate students, 2,000 graduate students, and a 200 million dollar endowment.

Executive Vice President, 2011 - present

Acting President, July 2015 - January 2016

Interim Vice President for Advancement, November 2009 - July, 2010

Vice President for Student Development, 1991 - 2011

Dean of Students, 1988 - 1991

Dean of Residence Life, 1985 - 1988

### **Executive Vice President**

Second to the president and leader of the university in the absence of the president, oversee weekly agenda of the president's cabinet and planning for annual cabinet retreats. Oversee institutional advancement, enrollment management, marketing and communications, student development, intercollegiate athletics (Division I), campus ministry, community service and justice, mission and identity, the Career

## **Executive Vice President** (continued)

Center, external affairs, accreditation, strategic planning, and diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives.

Strategic partner in the design of Loyola's signature Messina living and learning program incorporating an academic seminar and accompanying co-curricular class for all first year students.

Oversee alumni leadership network of 30 years of Green and Grey Society alumni/ae members. Led efforts to move Loyola University Maryland to the Patriot League Athletic Conference. Team successes include: secured national championship in men's lacrosse in 2012 and final four appearance in 2016, and student-athlete graduation success rate of 98%.

Strategic leader during transformation to liberal arts university, ranked third in the Northeast region. Diversified and expanded undergraduate enrollment base to 14,000 applications for a class of 1,100.

Cultivation and solicitation of major gifts for 100 million dollar Bright Minds Bold Hearts Campaign and previous campaign.

## **Acting President**

Served as acting president during a six-month sabbatical for the current president. Reported to the Chair of the Board of Trustees, supervised five vice presidents, and maintained most responsibilities of the executive vice president position.

Presided over university during student protests, managed crises during Paris bombings with 17 students in Paris, and engaged Loyola in Light City Baltimore, the City's inaugural international light festival.

Eliminated a significant budget gap and implemented a "soft freeze" of filling vacant positions due to decline in undergraduate enrollment. Led the University to balance the budget and increase margin to ten million, advised co-chairs of strategic planning process, engaged trustees in the institutional strategic planning effort, and improved retention of upper class students by two percent from fall to spring semester.

Inspired senior administrators, academic department chairs, faculty, staff, administrators and student leaders in review of campus climate and unified a commitment to training for all members of the community.

Announced elimination of vice president position and reassignment of responsibilities to aid in strategic reallocations. Secured a million dollar gift and several other gifts.

### **Interim Vice President for Advancement**

For nine months, supervised fundraising, alumni relations, annual giving, donor stewardship, advancement events and planned giving. Secured four million dollar gifts, increased fund raising by 57%, staffed trustee advancement committee, and prepared case statement and wealth screening for comprehensive campaign.

### **Vice President of Student Development**

Created a comprehensive and professional student support system for rapidly growing and demographically changing undergraduate student body and graduate student enrollment. Oversaw dramatic changes and new construction in residential, student activity and recreational facilities.

Recruited and retained diverse and talented professional personnel who developed award winning national programs supporting the education of the whole student. Improved student retention, student leadership and engagement. Created first rate student orientation programs, family weekend and engaged professional staff.

President of national association of Jesuit student personnel administrators, served annually on regional accreditation teams, and provided consultation services for several student affairs divisions including Georgetown, College of the Holy Cross and Wheeling College. Proactive leader on various governance bodies.

### **Dean of Students**

Selected from national search to reunite division of student development. Served on Deans' Council, Academic Senate, Loyola Planning/Budgeting and President's cabinet. Conceived and implemented student centered developmental services in residential life, counseling, career development, recreational sports, orientation leadership, student activities, disability support services, minority student services health services and alcohol and drug education and support services.

Developed summer and fall orientation programs, Best of Baltimore program, and student honor code. Staffed trustee student development committee.

## **Dean of Residence Life**

Oversaw rapid residential growth during strategic plan initiative to expand regional recruitment. Managed extremely challenging circumstances to ensure the College's ability to house students and grow enrollment.

**Saint Louis University**, Saint Louis, Missouri, a research university in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition, with an undergraduate enrollment of 6,000 students and 6,000 graduate students during the early 1980s.

Director of Scholars House, 1984 - 85

Assistant Director of Operations, 1983 - 84

Interim Director of Housing, February, 1982 - July 1982

Assistant Director of Housing, 1981 - 83

## **Professional Development and Board Service**

Ignatian Colleagues Program, Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities, Cohort 1.

Ignatian Pilgrimage, June 2016.

Board Member, Buena Vista University, Board of Trustees, 2016 - present. Member of Academic Affairs Committee and Marketing Committee.

Board Member, Wheeling Jesuit University Board of Trustees, 2013 - 2016. Chair of Student Development Committee, member of Executive Committee and Admissions.

Board Member, Stella Maris Advisory Board, 2014 - present. Member of Community Relations Committee.

Board Member, Keswick Multi-Care Center, 2011 - 2016. Member of Governance Committee.

President's Advisory Board, Buena Vista University, 2004 - 2011.

President, Jesuit Association of Student Affairs Administrators, 2004 - 2006.  
Board member of JASPA Board for eight years.

Board Member, Chesapeake Life Board, American Red Cross, 2002 - 2013

Team Member, Middle States Annual Accreditation Teams, 1999 - present.

Board Member, Changing Directions, 1994 - 1998.

Institute for Educational Management, Harvard University, 1991.

## **Honors and Awards**

**Recognition of Excellence, Outstanding Advocate**, Black Student Association, Loyola University Maryland, 2016.

**The John Fisher Award**, Buena Vista University, 2014.

**The Reverend Victor R. Yanitelli, S.J. Award**, JASPA, 2010.

**ALANA Services Award**, Loyola College in Maryland, 2008.

**Educator for Life Award**, Loyola College in Maryland, 2005.