

April 14, 2022`

Dear Mariner Community,

It saddens me to share with you that after 15 months of moving forward with the Saint Leo University merger, our two schools have reached an impasse. After thoughtful consideration and taking into account various changes in economic and regulatory conditions in recent months, MCU and Saint Leo University have decided not to move forward with the planned merger.

While a number of factors informed this decision, most significant was the determination by Saint Leo's accreditor, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, that it would require 18 months to evaluate the proposed merger, coupled with its subsequent decision last December, to decline the parties' initial merger application. Together these actions stretched the timeline for completion of the merger from the anticipated six months to nearly two years. Despite our best efforts over the last several months to make it work, the extended merger timeframe has proven to be simply unfeasible.

Our Board of Trustees, along with our senior leadership team, are exploring options to determine next steps. We remain hopeful and will keep you apprised of our progress.

In the interim, as we head into the final weeks of the semester, we encourage you to join us in the celebratory events that recognize the accomplishments of our seniors. We deeply appreciate your hard work and commitment to Marymount.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Marcotte", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Brian Marcotte
President, Marymount California University