

SMWC, Marian University unveil pact to help students earn degrees

TRIBUNE-STAR STAFF REPORT

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College on Thursday announced a new articulation agreement with Marian University in Indianapolis that will offer students the opportunity to pursue a combined dual-degree program in engineering.

This partnership with Marian's E. S. Witchger School of Engineering allows SMWC students to earn both a bachelor of science degree in mathematics from SMWC and a bachelor of science degree in engineering from Marian University.

Articulation agreements outline the process by which credits earned at one institution are transferred to another, enabling students to expand their collegiate goals and establish a career pathway.

The 3+2 dual-degree engineering program allows students to begin their studies at SMWC, and after three years, qualified students will be granted admission to Marian University for two years, where they can enroll in civil engineering, mechanical engineering, biomedical



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During the five years, students will earn two baccalaureate degrees: a degree in mathematics from SMWC and a degree in engineering from Marian University.

During a news conference at The Woods, SMWC President Brennan J. Randolph expressed enthusiasm for the seamless transition this agreement offers students

"As the landscape of higher education continues to evolve, agreements like this

enable smaller institutions to expand learning opportunities for their students," Randolph said. "We believe that this will be a natural fit for SMWC and Marian University. We are excited to work with President (Daniel) Elsener and Marian University."

Dual-degree programs in engineering are gaining popularity, offering students a comprehensive education and a competitive edge in the job market.

Additionally, SMWC

announced a second articulation agreement with Marian University's Tom and Julie Wood College of Osteopathic Medicine.

This agreement offers SMWC graduates with a baccalaureate degree in biology-preprofessional a Fast-Track Interview track and an Early Decision track. Up to five students per track who meet the requirements will be guaranteed an interview and a fast-track admission decision.

"In the past, students who wanted to pursue a medical degree after earning their pre-professional degree at The Woods had to search for their next destination for medical school, said Janet Clark, SMWC provost and executive vice president for academic affairs.

"With this agreement, students who want to pursue a medical degree will work with both institutions' advisors for a competitive application to continue their education at a top-ranked osteopathic medical school right here in Indiana," she said.