

# MUAA NATIONAL BOARD NEW DIRECTORS 2019-20

**April Ariola**, Comm '92, Grad '93, Chandler, AZ  
Speech Language Pathologist



I accepted the invitation to help all members of our club and other alumni in the west keep apprised of all things Marquette and to represent the alumni from the Phoenix area.

I hope to gain insight on the direction Marquette is headed in order to share with our local club. I also hope to increase the level of connection with the University to all our club members.

I have volunteered in our local church and at various functions through my children's school.

One area of expertise I have is balancing the needs of others with limited resources. I have spent my entire career working with children with special needs in public schools and through a not-for profit agency and have had to do learn how to meet their needs without much funding. Another area of expertise is in organizing events and functions. I have planned and organized many successful events while volunteering at my children's school and with our local club.

**Marilynn Gardner**, Jour '88, Chicago  
President and CEO, Navy Pier



Just as I have had the privilege to serve as a mentor for MU's Mentor Program the past four years, participating on the National Board of Directors will provide me the opportunity to give back to the school that provided me so much. It also positions me to help further advance the mission and vision of the school within the alumni community.

I hope to further strengthen my relationship with Marquette and its leadership. It will also be beneficial to expand my Marquette network outside of my core group and outside of Chicago. I hope to gain a better understanding of the direction and vision; and help drive the university forward.

I serve as Chairman of the Jesuit Catholic Identity Committee of the Board for my alma mater St. Ignatius College Prep in Chicago. I also serve on the boards of Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy (CURE); Choose Chicago; the Chicago Sports Commission; and the Regional Board of the American Ireland Fund.

Leadership and Operations; Change Management; Mission and Vision; Redevelopment including Design and Construction; Event Management, Sales and Services. I led the transition of Navy Pier from the government agency (MPEA) to an independent, mission-driven nonprofit. I oversaw the creation of Navy Pier's Centennial Vision; launched a world-wide design competition; and drove the \$380 million redevelopment completed since 2014.

In my role as CEO, I continue to transform the Pier, not only physically and programmatically, but organizationally as well. Since, 2012, we have grown our revenues from \$42 million to \$60 million in 2019, all while transforming Navy Pier into a world-class cultural district. Much has been accomplished, but there is much to come.

## Darren "DJ" Jefferson, II, arts and sciences student, Marquette



I want to be able to give back to Marquette for everything they have done for me in my time here at the college and also it is a great networking opportunity.

I hope to gain teamwork and leadership skills from this experience along with building relationships with fellow board members and the Marquette community.

Teaching computer science to local high school students. I am on the Education Opportunity Program Student Advisory Board and assist with various student activities.

Computer Science, software development/programming is area of expertise.

## Paul Manghera, Business Ad '82, Tinley Park, IL Financial Adviosr, Morgan Stanley



Several years ago , I decided I'd like to get more involved at Marquette. I was looking for a dynamic opportunity to which I could contribute, and I began to feel it important to "pay it forward" for the efforts that so many extended to me to help me lead a rewarding life. (Turning 50 is a catalyst!) I was fortunate enough to become involved in the MU Club of Chicago, and served as co president of the club for several years. In that role, I was consistently rewarded by the energy, passion and drive to serve of my fellow Marquette alums; when extended the invitation to join the National Board, I was thrilled for the opportunity to continue to experience our special shared bond.

Continue to serve our community, and continue to be amazed by our Alumni community!

I was a 20+ year member of the Finance Committee of Brother Rice High School in Chicago (my HS alma mater). I was also a multiple year volunteer in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program in Chicago. We prepared Federal and Illinois income tax returns for the working poor.

My primary area of expertise is individual wealth management. I am a partner on a team at Morgan Stanley. Our team focuses on holistic wealth management.

**Patricia "Pat" McGowan**, Arts '84, Law '89  
Assistant District Attorney, Milwaukee County Office of the District Attorney  
Milwaukee



I was honored to receive the invitation to serve. Being a part of the Marquette family has enriched my life. Any opportunity I have to serve my alma mater is an opportunity to give back.

I have not been on an organizational board in many years. I hope to reacquaint myself with the workings of non-profit boards. I also hope to become more familiar with the role of the alumni board. I look forward to promoting Marquette as well as networking with alumni student and the community as an ambassador for Marquette.

Most of my volunteer work outside of Marquette has been through my church, Christ the King. There I have served in many capacities within the youth department. Currently I teach Sunday School and coordinate leaders to serve in youth church. In the past, I have taught our new members classes for children and teens. For many years, I helped facilitate a group (Precious Jewels) for teen girls. During my field education, I was an assistant to our youth minister.

I am an attorney, having practiced law for the last 30 years. I have spent my career as a prosecutor with the Milwaukee County Office of the District Attorney. There I have been assigned to the following areas of practice: Family Division, Misdemeanor Division, Intake Court, Delinquency Unit, First Time Juvenile Offender Program, General Crimes Unit, Community Prosecution Unit, Felony Division, CHIPS (Children in need of Protection and Services). My current placement is in CHIPS where I have been for the last 10 years.