Dr. John H. Warford became Dean of the Gary Tharaldson School of Business at the University of Mary on July 1, 2014. For the previous 12 years, he served as the Mayor of Bismarck, earning the city national acclaim for economic growth and safety. Warford was awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award, City of Bismarck. He received his BA, BS and DDS from the University of Minnesota, and an MS from Northwestern University where he completed his residency in orthodontics. He founded Warford Orthodontics and JW Cattle Company, and remains devoted to both part time. Warford has been married to his wife Jennifer for over 40 years, and they have four children and eight grandchildren.

**The Dean’s Message**

I AM HONORED TO JOIN the University of Mary team and serve as the Dean of the Gary Tharaldson School of Business (GTSB). Under my leadership, we will work to make the university’s new strategic growth plan, “Vision 2030: Education for Life,” a reality by focusing on three goals: distinction, service to others and relationships.

At the apex of GTSB programs will always be the Benedictine values of community, hospitality, moderation, prayer, respect for persons and service. With the faculty, staff and students, I commit to a laser focus on living and implementing these values.

Also, I believe that business involves both generating profits and functioning as a powerful force for good in society, as exemplified by the university’s focus on servant leadership. Accordingly, our faculty, students and alumni will seek to make serving society’s best interests the business of the business school and our students’ business careers.

I envision GTSB playing a much larger role in the business community by creating collaborative and innovative partnerships with local, regional and international companies.

The fall semester will see the launch of a monthly series of “Lunch & Learn” events, featuring prominent speakers, discussing crucial business issues such as business ethics, servant leadership and geopolitics.

The business school will also host an Accounting Day (continuing education for accountancy accreditation) and an Internship Day. In November, we have the privilege of hosting a day of oil-sector seminars for deans of business schools in the Upper Midwest.

Elevating academic excellence and rigor will be at the core of our mission going forward. I believe in a holistic approach to curriculum by providing students with courses rich in both analytic and leadership skills. Our goal is to graduate highly competent, moral problem-solvers, who are fully equipped to become contributing members to their businesses and communities.

It is going to be a great year, and I will work hard to re-engage the University of Mary business alumni with their alma mater.

Go Marauders!

**Benedictine Commitment**

At the apex of GTSB programs will always be the Benedictine values of community, hospitality, moderation, prayer, respect for persons and service.
Higher Vector: From Business and Government to the University of Mary

DR. JOHN WARFORD promises to bring the same business approach that made him successful as Bismarck’s mayor (2002-14) to his new job as dean of the business school at the University of Mary. Bismarck enjoyed 12 years of unprecedented economic prosperity with Warford in charge, avoiding the 2008 recession entirely. Forbes Magazine ranked the city in the nation’s top five for business and careers. Over 16,000 new jobs were created, and the city is among the safest small metros in the U.S.

The keys to good fortune, he said, are vision, preparation, team building and leadership, a strong work ethic and customer service. “Some people say Bismarck has just been lucky,” Warford said. “But I heed Seneca’s saying: ‘Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity.’ It was my job as mayor to prepare.”

Remarkably, years before the oil boom, Warford envisioned economic growth and prepared for it by doubling the water supply, building a rail-served industrial park and constructing a new main airport terminal.

“It’s essential to build a team of competent, passionate faculty,” the dean said. “Fortunately, we already have that. It’s my job at GTSB to set policy and guidelines, then unleash people to soar. No micro-managing.”

In 1973, Warford founded Warford Orthodontics, which—16,000 patients later—is now run by his son, John. “It’s a customer service business and every patient involves an individual journey,” the dean related, detailing how he brought this principle to city government and likewise is instilling it as a top priority at GTSB.

Warford founded JW Cattle Company on a 3,000-acre ranch with 250 beef cattle, 20 miles from Bismarck. “I bring entrepreneurship and the agrarian work ethic to the business school. My four children grew up working on the farm and learned to stay on task until the job got done and done well.”

Perhaps Warford grew into academic deanship naturally. His father was the business dean at Bemidji State University, where John was raised.

“I have a passion for the young and facilitating their aspirations,” he said, “by giving them the most comprehensive, world-class educational experience.”
Three Professors to Present in Philippines

**FREE-MARKET CAPITALISM** provides the best economic system since it is based on human freedom and supports human dignity, write three University of Mary professors (including two from GTSB) in a paper to be presented at the Prosperity, Poverty and Purpose of Business Conference in the Philippines in February 2015. Only free markets can facilitate continuous individual and social improvement, which constitutes Aquinas’ definition of virtue as seeking “the perfection of all things.”

The challenge for educational institutions is to create programs to instill virtue, along with academics and leadership skills, in future leaders. GTSB requires ethics courses and Warford will increasingly oversee embedding “business as a force for good” in all courses and events, such as the Lunch & Learn Series.

New Offerings & Scholar Practioner Model

**GTB OFFERS A NEW GRADUATE DEGREE**, a Master of Science in Business, with the same concentrations as the traditional MBA: Executive, Human Resources, Energy Management and Health Care. Also, GTSB offers a new concentration in Project Management for MBA and MS students.

These additions were made in response to the changing needs of regional businesses, especially training and retaining quality employees. “Many students need leadership and other soft skills more than exhaustive expertise in MBA fundamentals: economics, accounting and finance,” said Dr. Jim Long, GTSB’s Chair of Graduate and Distance Education.

In MBA and MS programs, the emphasis is on students becoming “scholar practitioners.” Long said, GTSB enables students to apply their passions directly to each course. “We offer a flipped curriculum, starting with what students want to achieve and bringing it to life, as we take them rigorously through every academic stage.”

From the first class, students develop a thesis statement according to career aspirations—in energy management, for example—and the six Benedictine values. Students write a thesis chapter for every course, completing their degree with a valuable deliverable with direct impact on their current and future business endeavors.

Courses are taught, “not by disengaged researchers but academically qualified practitioners who believe in our mission and love teaching,” Long said. The energy management course is taught by Brian P. Kalk, North Dakota’s Public Service Commissioner. Roger Dartt, president of the DeLorean Motor Company, teaches the online Introduction to Management course.
GTSB Building Business Partnerships

IN KEEPING WITH THE university’s Benedictine value of servant leadership, Amy Tschider, GTSB’s new Director of Corporate Relations, will seek to fulfill the needs of businesses in the Bismarck area, western North and South Dakota, and in Montana and Wyoming.

For example, Tschider will support the university’s most recent outreach effort, a satellite campus in Watford City, ND, scheduled to open later this fall. Businesses and civic officials have requested post-secondary education for the personal and professional benefit of their employees, as the economy and population grow rapidly in the heart of the Bakken.

Lindsie Schoenack performs essentially the same functions for the university in the Fargo area, Western Minnesota, and the eastern halves of North and South Dakota. She also directs the university’s continuing education programs.

Oil pumps in western North Dakota

U-Mary Experiences Dramatic Growth in Military Students

THE NUMBER OF CURRENT and former military students at the University of Mary has increased almost eightfold in recent years. In 2009, there were only 33 students accessing veterans’ educational benefits to attend the university. By fall 2013, 255 such students were registered and for this academic year, the number of military students is expected to grow slightly.

The majority of military students study at the business school, and most are enrolled in GTSB graduate programs. These tallies don’t include military students who exhausted their educational benefits or transferred them to family members.

In the same period, the number of military students increased by one-third at the University of North Dakota and 54 percent statewide.
Focus on Students

THIS SUMMER, TWO GTSB SENIORS participated in the prestigious Global Village for Future Leaders in Business and Industry at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, PA. Jenna Botner ’16 and Robert Zweber ’15 joined more than 89 peers from 43 countries for the intensive five-week program focusing on ethical and entrepreneurial leadership development in an ethnically diverse global business environment. Only four American students were selected nationwide.

Zweber was deeply inspired by meeting and listening to senior executives, such as Kostas Kologeropoulos, Executive Vice-President of Meyer Jabara Hotels and co-founder of Dream Come True. “They expanded my view of opportunity,” Zweber said. “People like me start huge corporations with very little. I learned first-hand how they became successful and that I can do it too if I really want to.” Zweber is also minoring in Catholic Studies, which is becoming more popular at GTSB.

Student Trips & Pro Bono

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program

Each spring, GTSB’s Income Tax II students, who are undergraduate accounting majors, volunteer to provide free federal and state income tax preparation and e-filing for low-income, elderly and student taxpayers. As well, for the past two years, the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) has partnered with United Tribes Technical College (UTTC) in Bismarck to prepare tax returns for students on UTTC’s campus. There were 17 GTSB tax students involved in VITA last year, including 10 students who were qualified to prepare and review tax returns, and seven students who greeted taxpayers and helped them complete IRS questionnaires. On average, VITA students prepare 70 to 100 tax returns yearly.

Investment Club to NYC

FIVE MEMBERS of the University of Mary Investment Club, all GTSB undergraduates, visited New York City’s financial district last May. Trip highlights included touring Goldman Sacks, Morgan Stanley, and pitching stocks to Roberto Mignone, founder of Bridger Management, a top-performing hedge fund. The students visited the New York Stock Exchange and made a pilgrimage to Ground Zero. Holding the flag at the new World Trade Center were Danny Robinson ’14 and Cody Schoonover ’15, who served in Kuwait.
Focus on Alumni

MOLLY SULLIVAN GRADUATED from GTSB’s undergraduate program in 2009 and has worked for six years at Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson (KLJ), an employee-owned, full-service engineering firm in Bismarck. Sullivan is a Government Relations Specialist, helping public (municipal and state governmental) and private (corporate and non-profit) clients in the Upper Midwest with all aspects of economic development, project management, strategic community development, interagency communications, grant seeking and writing, and regulatory compliance.

Sullivan also has a passion for nurturing startups from conception to marketplace as a consultant at the IDEA Center in Bismarck.

Sullivan serves as a facilitator for the Bismarck-Mandan Chamber of Commerce’s Junior Achievement committee, which prepares young North Dakotans for the global economy.

Alumni Connections

Own a Business?

If you own a business, please send us the name, location, contact information and a brief description of your company. Also, please indicate the year you graduated from the University of Mary, your degree, and major/minor or concentration. Also, inform us if you are starting a business.

Study in Rome, Arizona...

Need a refresher course or new skills? Have you developed new interests or seeking fulfillment for old ones? Now you can study at the University of Mary—in Rome! There are also satellite campuses in Arizona, Minnesota, Kansas, Montana and Missouri, as well as several in North Dakota.

Give Back to GTSB

Providing the best education for current and future students requires continual investments at an increasing cost. Please consider becoming a University of Mary donor. To do so, please go to www.umary.edu/giving to contribute by credit or debit card, or to pledge a gift by check.

In the News? Changes?

If you or your business has been in the news recently, please let us know. Also if you have changed your address, telephone number or career, please let us know via the “Keep in Touch” form, available at: www.umary/forms/alumni.

Career Advancement

The only thing better than being a University of Mary alum, is doing it again. GTSB offers MBA and now MS degree programs that might suit your career aspirations at an affordable price point. Accelerated programs also enable the completion of an MBA, for example, in 18 months.

Contact Info

For all alumni-related issues or for more information, please contact Paul Keeney, Director of Alumni, by email (alumni@umary.edu) or by phone: (800) 408-6279 x8370 or (701) 355-8370.
Visionary leaders stir others and inspire them to discover and cultivate their best gifts and talents. They are a blessing to their organizations, their communities and the world beyond.

Through our Lunch & Learn Series, the University of Mary and Bismarck-Mandan Chamber of Commerce invite our community to gather, learn and share with us.

Save the Dates!

- **September 16**
  Monsignor James P. Shea
  President of the University of Mary
  “Vocation of a Business Leader”

- **October 21**
  Governor Jack Dalrymple
  32nd Governor of the great state of North Dakota

- **November 4**
  Mr. Steve Scheel
  CEO of Scheels All Sports, Inc.
  “Thriving in a Competitive World with Servant Leadership”

- **December 16**
  Ms. Kathleen Neset
  Owner/Geologist at Neset Consulting Services

Lunch from 11:20 AM - 12:00 Noon
Speaker begins promptly at Noon

Space is Limited!
*Please RSVP one week before each event.*

www.umary.edu/LunchandLearn