

Laurie M. Joyner, Ph.D., began her service as the 20th president of Saint Xavier University in January 2017, having previously served as president of Wittenberg University in Ohio. Prior to this, she held the rank of professor while serving in multiple senior-level academic (dean of faculty and interim provost) and student life (chief student affairs officer) leadership roles at Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida.

Prior to Rollins, President Joyner served on the faculty and held administrative positions of increasing responsibility at Loyola University New Orleans, where she also earned her bachelor's degree in sociology, graduating magna cum laude. From there, she went on to receive her master's and doctoral degrees in sociology from Tulane University.

Known as a "mission-driven, student-centered and accomplished administrator passionately committed to institutional success," President Joyner has championed mission integration efforts, inclusive excellence initiatives and the alignment of organizational structure and resources to drive educational quality and improve institutional performance. Under her leadership, SXU has shifted its enrollment management strategy, expanded academic and athletic offerings, initiated multiple revenue-generating efforts and launched an award-winning rebranding campaign -- all culminating in dramatically improved institutional performance.

During her presidency, SXU has achieved several milestones: enrolling four of its largest and most diverse first-year classes in its 175-year history; increasing first-to-second year retention for four consecutive years; and securing nearly \$16M in federal grants to support student engagement, learning and success. Since 2017, SXU has reduced long-term debt by nearly half and more than tripled its endowment. Efforts under President Joyner's leadership have resulted in SXU posting consistently positive operating results and the strongest financial ratios in more than a decade, allowing the institution to invest in its dedicated faculty and staff with across-the-board salary increases as well as equity and merit monetary awards.

President Joyner is passionate about improving diversity, equity and inclusion on campus and is a 2019 National Inclusive Excellence Leadership Academy (NIXLA) Fellow. During her tenure, SXU became one of 28 colleges across the state to form the Illinois Equity in Attainment (ILEA) initiative, a partnership geared toward eliminating racial and socioeconomic achievement gaps across student groups while increasing graduation rates by 2025. Institutional support has also expanded to advance equity-minded practices across the University, including the current national search to hire SXU's inaugural Chief Diversity Officer (CDO).

Nationally, President Joyner collaborates with the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities (ACCU) as co-chair of the planning team for the Institute for New Catholic Presidents, and serves on the Conference for Mercy Higher Education (CMHE) President's Council. President Joyner is a member of the Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic School Board as lead of the Academic Excellence Committee and member of the Executive Committee. She is also a Director on the St. Laurence High School Board, where she leads the Mission Effectiveness and Academic Committee of the Board and is on the President's Council of the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference (CCAC).