



**Public Statement in Support of Collaboration of  
St. Ambrose University and Mount Mercy University**

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May 1, 2024

We are aware that St. Ambrose University (SAU) and Mount Mercy University (MMU) are announcing their commitment to deep and broad collaboration which has the potential to open new opportunities for students. We know that SAU and MMU are exploring whether, ultimately, to undertake a strategic combination of the two Catholic universities.

In our roles as Archbishop of Dubuque and Diocesan Administrator of Davenport, we express our full support of the innovative spirit of cooperation of SAU and MMU. We wholeheartedly welcome this desire and effort to strengthen Catholic higher education in Eastern Iowa.

We are appreciative of the way in which this exploration is focused both on formation of students in a distinctively Catholic manner and on equipping students with workplace skills and knowledge. May the Holy Spirit inspire and guide this collaborative endeavor.

Most Rev. Thomas R. Zinkula  
Archbishop of Davenport

Very Rev. Kenneth E. Kuntz  
Diocesan Administrator of Davenport