



COLLEGE OF
Saint Benedict

Inspired Learning. Inspiring Lives.

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As a college president I've been asked to sign several pledges on behalf of my institution. My decision to sign is always predicated on the match between the pledge and the mission of my institution. This is my first and perhaps only *personal* pledge of this sort.

At an institutional level, when there is a concordance between mission and the expectation of the pledge, the pledge can work as an impetus, or a beacon to keep one's eyes on the mission. The Presidents Pledge Against Global Poverty does the same for me personally. I became to better grasp extreme poverty on two extended trips to Ethiopia. I vowed at the time that I would "go back" literally and figuratively. I promised myself then that I would give to causes where I could most make a difference, at home and abroad. The Presidents Pledge makes my contributions more mindful, considered, and focused. I am pleased and proud to have made this personal commitment to make my own contributions sustainable.

MaryAnn Baehninger
President
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