



**SIEMENS**  
Ingenuity for life

# Madonna University

Creating the perfect place to learn and make a difference in the world

[usa.siemens.com/highered](http://usa.siemens.com/highered)

More than 80 years ago in Livonia, Michigan, the Felician Sisters established Madonna University, which has grown over the decades to become one of the nation's largest Franciscan universities. The student body of more than 3,000 students, who can earn both undergraduate and graduate degrees, is inspired by the values of St. Francis of Assisi.

According to Vice President of Student Affairs and Mission Integration Connie Tingson-Gatuz, "We are looking to model a lifestyle for students to live beyond college. We want them to know what it means to be a good steward of resources. We want them to understand that they are in relation to other people. And so, understanding efficiency is all about what we value."

President Michael A. Grandillo explains the University's vision: "We want to be the premier, mid-sized catholic institution in the Midwest. We achieve that by having fantastic faculty members, academic programs that really challenge students, and an environment that makes sure that each person's human dignity and their personal attention are at the forefront."

Creating that ideal environment is where the school's partnership with Siemens has proven to be essential. Cam Cruickshank, Madonna's executive vice president and chief operating officer, says, "We want students to maximize their learning, and to do that in a comfortable, safe, and quiet atmosphere is important. We had some major challenges, both with classroom spaces our students occupy and the offices our employees utilize on a daily basis. Students were complaining about being too hot or too cold, and we had difficulty in regulating the temperature."

## A phased approach to campus transformation

Madonna, like many campuses, had aging infrastructure that resulted in the maintenance staff focusing on reactive maintenance and left the administration struggling with which needs to address first. Siemens worked with Madonna to first understand the infrastructure needs of the campus and then to help the administration identify those priorities that would have the most profound impact on the student experience.





A phased plan to transform the campus was designed through a comprehensive and collaborative process, and the organizations ultimately established a comprehensive energy savings performance contract. The structure of this plan improves the HVAC, electrical, building controls, and building automation systems, as well as upgrades both the lighting and mechanical systems.

Importantly, according to Grandillo, “We were able to fund this program through energy savings. Siemens guaranteed that we would have these savings, and that gave us an economic pathway to get the work done.” All told, Siemens energy savings performance contract is expected to generate more than \$129,000 in annual savings for Madonna.

As the work evolved on campus, David Boyd, vice president of finance and operations, notes that the Siemens team was engaged throughout the process, looking for new ways to add value to the campus and make for a more perfect learning environment. “We’re doing all of these things, and then the Siemens project manager says, ‘Have you thought about going from chalkboards to whiteboards? We’ve been talking with the painter, and we think that would be a better approach.’ That’s the kind of thinking we saw many times. You can tell when you talk with Siemens

people that you’re dealing with the highest professional people.”

Today, the improved HVAC controls are having a profound effect on the classroom environment. Sustainability Program Coordinator Laura Haldane explains that maintaining comfortable classroom temperatures has been a challenge, even when she was a student at Madonna. But, she says, “Having the ability now to control each classroom individually has been really important in providing the instructors and students a comfortable teaching and learning environment.”

#### **Launching a sustainability minor and certificate program with a grant from Siemens**

According to Tingson-Gatuz, the partnership with Siemens has been one of alignment with the University’s mission, and Sustainability Education has played a key role. In fact, through this project, Madonna has been awarded a \$25,000 Siemens Sustainability Education Grant, which will support the launch of a sustainability minor and certificate program. Says Haldane, “These programs can add value to students’ degrees, drawing on these different disciplines and different fields, so they have a more robust understanding of sustainability. The Siemens project and the grant that we received from them took this idea that had been brewing and brought it to fruition,

making sustainability more integrated on campus.”

Haldane goes on to say that the faculty, staff, and administration have been enormously supportive of the sustainability education initiative, and that, as a result, “students are more versed in sustainability knowledge and its practices and how to implement them around the school.”

Grandillo concurs and concludes: “Every day, we see America changing because of our students. We have 30,000 alumni making a difference in the world because they came to Madonna. And Siemens helps make that possible.”

Siemens Industry, Inc.  
Building Technologies Division  
1000 Deerfield Parkway  
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089-4513  
Tel. 847-215-1000

© 2019 Siemens Industry, Inc.  
(2/2019, Part # 153-SBT-1035)