



About St. Mary's

St. Mary's is a private, Catholic Marianist University in San Antonio, Texas, offering both undergraduate and graduate programs.



Knowledge Base Search by Swiftype

Increase case-deflection and decrease your support burden with better search.



Search for

St. Mary's needed a customizable search solution that could handle their numerous websites across multiple domains.



Why Swiftype?

Cross-domain search capabilities, easy customization, affordable pricing.

Visit <https://www.stmarytx.edu/>



St. Mary's



ST. MARY'S
UNIVERSITY

CROSS-DOMAIN SEARCH LACKING

While St. Mary's University had been growing and adding many new websites in recent years – both internal and public-facing — they realized they had to address the problem of how to search across all these sites. They needed a single search solution that could span numerous websites across multiple domains, was easily customizable, and was capable of returning relevant results.

EASY OPTIMIZATION TO DELIVER PERTINENT RESULTS

The ability to easily customize results to improve search efficiency led St. Mary's to choose Swiftype. "After implementing Swiftype, users no longer need to sift through thousands of pages and documents indexed across multiple sites, they just need the top handful of results," according to Elaine Shannon, Web Developer & User Interface Specialist at St. Mary's.

Another important factor for St. Mary's was the desire to gain better control over search results. Elaine explains, "We can't always change our content to match searchers' intentions — for example, we don't call our residence halls "dorms" — so being able to set up synonyms and custom result sets, at an affordable price, sold us on Swiftype."

Before Swiftype, the school's programs page consisted of a long, overwhelming list of programs that was difficult to navigate, and visitors quickly left the page. To assist students with choosing different program options, St. Mary's used Swiftype to build a dedicated search tool linking interests to related programs. Now the school's program page offers a variety of search options — by interest, program, degree, or school. According to Elaine, 34% of visitors are now using the Search by Interest tool and are immediately finding what they're looking for.

SUPPORTING PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS, FROM INTEREST TO APPLICATION

Prospective students will visit the schools' websites multiple times before they decide to apply for admission. "We know that registering for a campus visit is a high indicator of a user's likelihood to apply," says Elaine, "and we can track those metrics and how Site Search has impacted them to date.

CONTINUOUS OVERSIGHT AND FINE TUNING

Elaine uses the Swiftype dashboard to regularly monitor search activity and rapidly update and customize results for the most popular queries to help maintain a positive visitor experience. She also builds out content, as needed, for empty search results. Search is now one of the most popular ways to navigate the St. Mary's website and Elaine regularly receives positive feedback on the search tools.