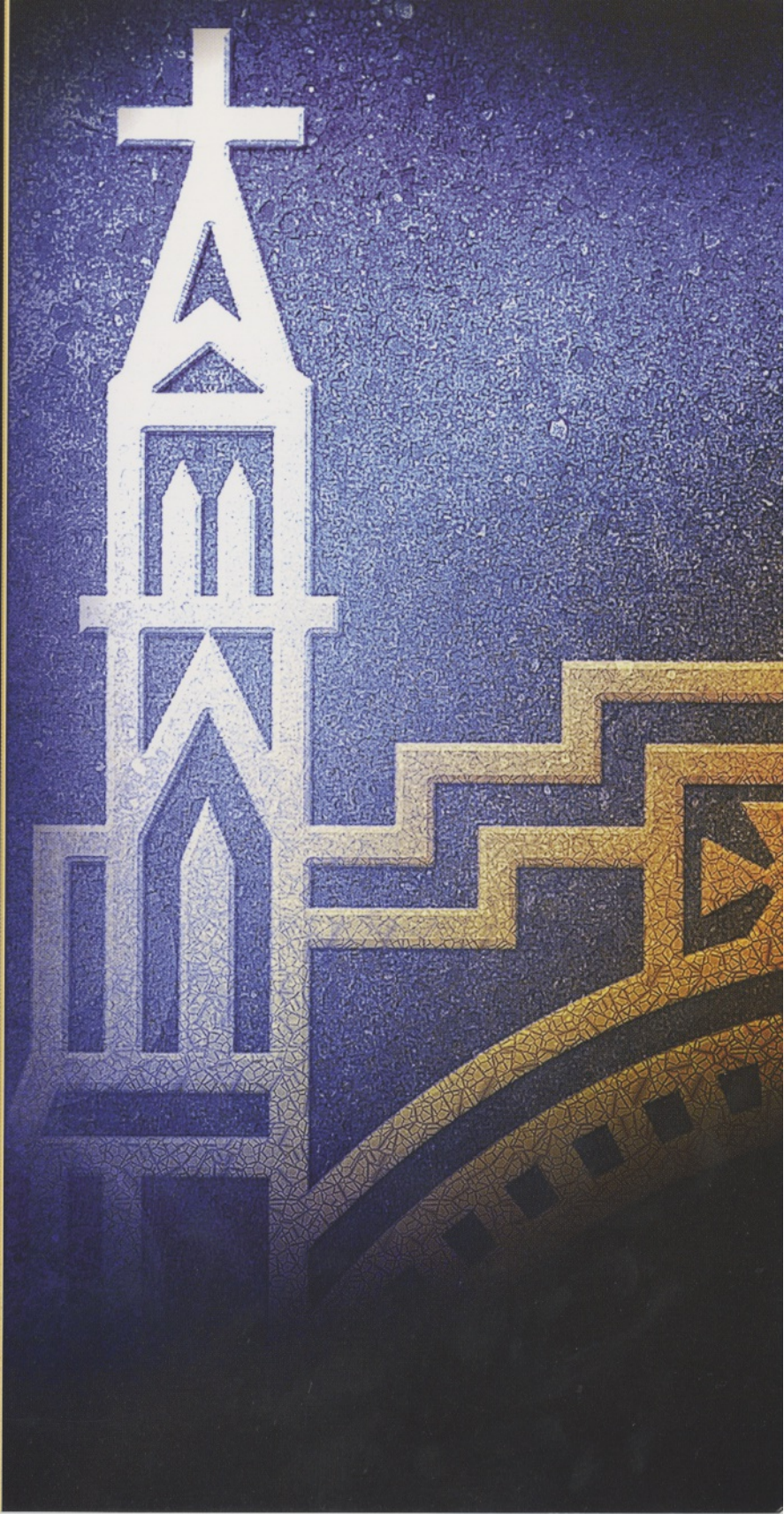




Misericordia  
University

Eighty Third  
Commencement  
Convocation  
Class of 2009



## Class of 2009

The 83rd annual Commencement ceremony features 479 graduates, the fourth largest graduating class in the institution's rich 85-year history.

The 479 graduates hail from 14 states, including California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Virginia.

The 92 Nursing students represent the largest number of graduates from a single field in this year's class. Combined with Physical Therapy, Speech-Language Pathology, Occupational Therapy, Medical Imaging, Pre-Medicine, Pre-Dentistry, Pre-Optometry and Pre-Veterinary, a new collection of Misericordia graduates are going on to rewarding careers in the health sciences.

Several of our graduates will continue their education at prestigious graduate schools. One student is pursuing her lifelong dream of becoming an optometrist at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University. A chemistry major aspires to develop pharmaceutical drugs that work without adverse side effects after earning her doctorate in physical chemistry and biochemistry at Temple University. A biology major hopes to work in the areas of trauma or sport medicine after completing the physician assistant program at Salus University.

Among the Communications Department's 12 graduates are two journalists who are applying their talents and academic lessons in the fields of public relations and broadcast media.

Misericordia University is proud of the Class of 2009 as the students prepare to enter the next important phase of their lives. MU's newest alumni understand and embrace the Religious Sisters of Mercy's charisms of Mercy, Service, Justice and Hospitality, and will always be Misericordia Proud.



# MISERICORDIA UNIVERSITY

**Eighty Third  
Commencement Convocation**

**Class of 2009**

**Anderson Sports and Health Center**

**Saturday, May 16, 2009**

**Academic Processional**

Ceol Mor, *Pipe and Drum Band*

**Opening Comments**

Sr. Jean Messaros, RSM, *Vice President of Student Affairs*

**Invocation**

Monsignor John J. Bendik, *Pastor, St. John the Evangelist and member of the Board of Trustees*

**National Anthem**

Graduating members of Misericordia University Choirs

Danielle Adams	Elizabeth Guarnieri
Steven Beecher	Nicole Hemingway
Melissa Butler	Ashley Wolanski
Joshua Chaudoin	Sr. Robert Marie Lockman, RSM '65
Nicholas DeStefano	Betty Prozuczek, MA, <i>Pianist</i>

**Welcome**

Michael A. MacDowell, EdD, *President of Misericordia University*

**Presentation of the Catherine McAuley Medal**

Michael A. MacDowell and Sr. Catherine McGroarty, RSM '74, *Sisters of Mercy, Leadership Team Member – Mid-Atlantic Region and member of the Board of Trustees*

**Recipient of the Catherine McAuley Medal**

Sr. Cecilia Meighan, RSM '58, EdD, JD

**Conferring of Honorary Degree**

Murray Ufberg, Esq., *Board of Trustees*

**Doctor of Humane Letters**

Robert M. D'Alessandri, M.D., *President and Dean of The Commonwealth Medical College*

**Address to Candidates**

Robert M. D'Alessandri, M.D.

**Presentation of Candidates for Degrees**

Joseph Curran, PhD, *Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences*  
 Fred J. Croop, MBA, CPA, EdD, *Dean, College of Professional Studies and Social Sciences*  
 Jean A. Dyer, PhD, *Dean, College of Health Sciences*

**Remarks**

Michelle Swiatek '09, *Class Valedictorian*

**Presentation of Senior Class Gift**

Steve Peet '10, *Senior Class President*  
 Marybeth Betts '09, *Senior Class Vice President*

**Induction of Graduates into the Alumni Association**

Mary Ellen Gulotti '87, *President, Alumni Association Board of Directors*

**Presentation of the Faculty Awards**

**Judge Max and Tillie Rosenn Excellence in Teaching Award**  
**Louis and Barbara Alesi Excellence in Scholarship Award**  
**Pauly and Sidney Friedman Excellence in Service Award**  
 Michael A. MacDowell

**Alma Mater**

Graduating members of Misericordia University Choirs

Danielle Adams	Elizabeth Guarnieri
Steven Beecher	Nicole Hemingway
Melissa Butler	Ashley Wolanski
Joshua Chaudoin	Sr. Robert Marie Lockman, RSM '65
Nicholas DeStefano	Betty Prozuczek, MA, <i>Pianist</i>

**Benediction**

Sr. Martha Hanlon, RSM '60, EdD, *Member of the Board of Trustees*

**Academic Recessional**

Ceol Mor, *Pipe and Drum Band*

American Sign Language (ASL) by Cherish Francik  
*Certified Interpreter for the Deaf*

The audience will please remain seated until the graduates have filed out.

**Marshals**

Donna Ashbridge '93	Amy Lahart '95
The Honorable Karen Passarella Boback '73	Tyler J. Moore '08
Larree Elston Brown '96	Joseph A. O'Leary '07
Amy Kelly Caruso '05	Helene Flower Reed '66
Diane Swetz Curry '87	Thomas Sweetz '01
Catherine A. Guarnieri '07	Irene Calaide Wisnieski '59
	Lorraine D. Zelna '95

## Sister Cecilia Meighan '58, RSM

Sister Cecilia Meighan '58, RSM, Ed.D., J.D., the recipient of the esteemed Mother Catherine McAuley Medal, embodies the spirit and ideals of Misericordia University and the founders and sponsors of the institution, the Religious Sisters of Mercy, through her service and commitment to others.



Sister Cecilia personifies the tenets that guide Misericordia and the entire campus community. The McAuley Medal is periodically bestowed upon an individual in recognition of their significant service to Misericordia University and the values it upholds and represents as an institution of higher education.

"I am honored to accept the Catherine McAuley Medal in the name of all the Sisters of Mercy who have served at Misericordia before me," said Sister Cecilia. "It is the highlight of my ministry as an educator to receive an award that is named for the foundress of the religious community of which I have been a member for over 57 years. For these many years, it has been my privilege to serve in many capacities and to be part of the continuation of our Catholic tradition and legacy of the Sisters of Mercy here at Misericordia University."

Sister Cecilia began her religious life as a Sister of Mercy and her collegiate career in 1951 at Misericordia. She holds a bachelor's degree in music and English with a minor in German from Misericordia, a master's degree in English from the University of Scranton, a doctorate in administration of higher education from Columbia University and a Juris Doctor from the Georgetown University Law Center. Sister Cecilia was admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States in 2005.

Sister Cecilia is a member of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Community of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, and is of counsel to the Kingston law firm of Gallagher, Brennan and Gill. She was president of Mount Aloysius College, Cresson, Pa., and later returned to Misericordia to serve 17 years as a valued member of the Board of Trustees and as a faculty member, teaching law courses in the organizational management master's degree program.

The former director of Planned Giving in University Advancement, and director and foundress of the renowned Institute of Law and Religious Life at Misericordia, the institution honored her service last year when the Board of Trustees announced in June that the University renamed the annual workshop she founded to the Cecilia Meighan, RSM Institute of Law and Religious Life. The 16th annual Cecilia Meighan, RSM Institute of Law and Religious Life will be held June 4-10 at Misericordia.

"Sister Cecilia Meighan's dedication to her alma mater, Misericordia University, is exemplary," said Michael A. MacDowell, president of Misericordia University. "As a Sister of Mercy, she has dedicated her life to the charisms of Mercy, Service, Justice and Hospitality, and helped Misericordia as it applies these charisms to all it undertakes. In various roles as professor, Board member, member of the Bar, Director and Foundress of the Institute of Law and Religious Life, she has inspired all of us to work diligently in support of our mission."

I am honored to accept the Catherine McAuley Medal in the name of all the Sisters of Mercy who have served at Misericordia before me.

## Robert M. D'Alessandri

As the founding Dean and President of Pennsylvania's newest medical college, Robert M. D'Alessandri, M.D., knows the valuable role colleges and universities play in the lives of their students and host communities.



Seven years after the Northeastern Pennsylvania Medical Education Development Consortium was formed to study the feasibility of a medical college in the region, The Commonwealth Medical College (TCMC) in Scranton is ready to welcome 60 medical students and 30 Master of Biomedical Sciences students to campus in the fall. TCMC embodies the good that comes from regional leaders working together. While the feasibility study acknowledged the shortage of physicians in Northeastern Pennsylvania, it took the vision, dedication and philanthropy of many to make it become a reality.

Dr. D'Alessandri began his tenure in 2007. He was charged by TCMC's Board of Directors to build a state-of-the-art campus, develop a rigorous curriculum and choose top-notch faculty to serve 16 counties and three regional campuses in Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and Williamsport.

"With over 40 percent of Misericordia students studying in the health science fields and in pre-med, there is a symbiotic relationship between TCMC and MU," said Michael A. MacDowell, President of Misericordia University. "We are both in the business of educating the next generation of health care professionals who will serve NEPA and beyond. Dr. D'Alessandri's remarks will certainly be well received by our graduates who all have a vested interest in the economic vitality of our region."

The College of Health Sciences at Misericordia University, along with nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, medical imaging and pre-med majors, will work closely and collaboratively with TCMC's Wilkes-Barre branch campus. The working relationship seems natural since both institutions share some of the same philosophies of challenging academics, personal attention and service to others.

Overall, TCMC's goal is to increase the number of physicians in NEPA by creating a unique medical education experience that fosters collaboration among interdisciplinary team members, patient-centered care and improving the health of the regional population. During the next 20 years, the new medical school is expected to add 425 qualified, diverse practicing physicians to the region, according to TCMC.

Prior to his appointment, Dr. D'Alessandri was the vice president for health sciences at West Virginia University and president of the Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute. A specialist in infectious diseases and general medicine, he is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and a diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine.

Dr. D'Alessandri has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Fordham University and his Doctor of Medicine degree from New York Medical College. He completed postgraduate training at Metropolitan Hospital in New York and the University of Florida. He joined the West Virginia University faculty in 1977 and served as Dean of the School of Medicine from 1989 to 2004.

Dr. D'Alessandri has long been active in health policy issues nationally and in West Virginia. He is a frequent speaker on the subjects of health policy, workforce issues, rural health, Alzheimer's disease research and the future of health care. Dr. D'Alessandri works closely with elected officials and policymakers to improve access to health care in the United States. He was the recipient of the West Virginian of the Year Award.

In the 1990s, together with U.S. Sen. Jay Rockefeller, he developed the concept of an independent national research center with the mission of developing new means of diagnosing and treating Alzheimer's disease. His tireless work toward the goal energized West Virginia University leaders, private-sector researchers and donors, and political officials, which led to the creation of the Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute.

During the commencement ceremony, Misericordia will present Dr. D'Alessandri with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree.

## BACHELOR OF ARTS

## COMMUNICATIONS

Ernest Ashbridge, Berwick, PA  
 Antonio Chavez, Kingston, PA  
 Dana Gehling-Healey, Scranton, PA  
 Elizabeth Guarnieri, Pittston, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Cody Hack, Bloomsburg, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Deborah Higgins, Dallas, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Amanda Janiga, Pittston, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Jason Robert Jolley, Dallas, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Mary Lauren Semcheski, Larksville, PA  
 Hunter Sumner, Dingmans Ferry, PA  
 Caitlin C. Thomas, Plymouth, PA *GPP*

## ENGLISH

Michael W. Caprio, Pittston, PA  
 Jedidiah Alexander Carr, Middleburg, PA  
 Rachel Hasay, Shickshinny, PA  
 Amber Ellen Konek, Lehigh, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Marissa Miller, Tunkhannock, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

## HISTORY

Abigail Bosler, Rome, PA *Cum Laude*  
 William F. desRosiers, Highland Falls, NY *Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Danielle Evans, Shavertown, PA  
 Elena Pellegrini, Exeter, PA, *Cum Laude*  
 Stephanie Pellegrino, Middletown, NY *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Rebecka Puza, Kingston, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Jared Smith, Willow Grove, PA  
 Steven C. Wieser, Long Island, NY *Cum Laude*

## PHILOSOPHY

Jedidiah Alexander Carr, Middleburg, PA  
 Julianne Oliver, Dallas, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Jonathan William Taylor, Wyoming, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

## BIOLOGY

Brittany Brainard, Kingsley, PA  
 Sallyann Cusma, Dallas, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Laura Leighow, Muncy, PA  
 Linda Mullen, Dallas, PA  
 Lindsay Smith, Plains, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Ashley Wolanski, Shavertown, PA  
 Megan S. Yetter, Saylorsburg, PA *Magna Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Ashlee Zeigler, Weatherly, PA

## CHEMISTRY

Jennifer Mary Elward, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Brian Patrick Melvin, Dupont, PA

## INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Robert E. Brown, Jr., Schnecksville, PA  
 Nicholas Anthony DeStefano, Chesapeake Beach, MD

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

## ACCOUNTING

Jeffrey G. Balara, Shavertown, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Timothy James Bojanowski, Lancaster, NY  
 Timothy Crawn, Rome, PA  
 Kerri L. Lewis, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Lynn Lombardo, Kingston, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Annette Moses-Schaal, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 James O'Connell, Edwardsville, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Anthony Sromovski, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Phyllis Leigh Walter, Harveys Lake, PA

## BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Marie Antonacci, Dupont, PA  
 Joy Arcia, East Stroudsburg, PA  
 Michael Bauder, Hazleton, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Lauren Brigham, West Wyoming, PA  
 Lauren Brostoski, Moscow, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Robin Bulzoni, Clarks Summit, PA  
 Jennifer A. Calarco, Newark, DE  
 Dorothy Cannon, Taylor, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 John Ciabattari, New Hampton, NY  
 Bruce Coolbaugh, Dallas, PA  
 Julie Ann Davis, Hunlock Creek, PA  
 Megan Delaney, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Ryan Fitzgerald, Hillsborough, NJ  
 Alexander Joseph Frekey, Dickson City, PA  
 Nicole Lynne Geiger, Perkasie, PA  
 Deborah Ann Gennaro, Hazleton, PA  
 Jason Steven Gomez, Lake Ariel, PA  
 Donald Haninchick, Hazleton, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Edward Joseph Hennigan, III, Wyoming, PA  
 Robert Hernandez, Mt. Bethel, PA  
 Jeffrey Thomas Kettel, Scranton, PA  
 Adam Kiliszek, Saylorsburg, PA

John Michael Kozel, Roaring Brook Twp., PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Joann Kresge, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Tara Manarski, Swoyersville, PA  
 Ronda Manganiello, West Wyoming, PA  
 Kathleen Matthews, Kingston, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Shane McCabe, West Pittston, PA  
 Colleen McGrady, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Philip Morris, Jr., Moscow, PA  
 Kyle Mulrain, Scranton, PA  
 Joseph O'Hearn, Throop, PA  
 Linda Rivera, Plains, PA  
 Madelyn C. Roote, Trucksville, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Rachel Rosenbaum, Meshoppen, PA  
 Mark Rossick, Shavertown, PA  
 Madelyn Salaman, Scranton, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Michele Shaffer, West Pittston, PA  
 Jessica Shelley, West Pittston, PA  
 Melie Solomon, Freeland, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Diana Svetlovics, Scranton, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Lindsey Dianna Sykes, Avalon, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Carissa Valinski, Saylorsburg, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Michael Willard, Jr., Goshen, NY  
 Sharon Williams, Courtdale, PA  
 Adam Yasiejko, LaGrangeville, NY *Cum Laude*  
 Arla Yerashunas, Plymouth, PA

## ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Nicole Alba, Nanticoke, PA  
 Marybeth Betts, Milton, DE *Magna Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Christine Carlsson, Swoyersville, PA  
 Mackenzie Cassidy, Newton, NJ *Magna Cum Laude, University Honors, GPP*  
 Kelly Marie Dougherty, Shavertown, PA  
 Megan Dreabit, Plains, PA *Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Krista Dymond, Tunkhannock, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Amanda Finella, Moscow, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Nichole Garinger, Hunlock Creek, PA *Magna Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Wendy Joy Gosnell, Dickson City, PA *Cum Laude*

Samantha Hubert, Tunkhannock, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Amy L. Hughes, Scranton, PA  
 Shelby Hyder, Hanover Twp., PA  
 Jonathan Juka, Drums, PA  
 Rachel Kahn, Shavertown, PA  
 Elizabeth Susan Kane, Kingston, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Megan Leonard, Roaring Brook, PA  
 Elizabeth Ann Lipovsky, Leesburg, VA  
 Heather McAndrew, Duryea, PA  
 Shannon Kathleen McCann, Hanover Twp., PA *Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Brian Thomas Meyer, Forty Fort, PA  
 Jemila Najjar-Keith, Wharton, NJ *Cum Laude*  
 Tammy Lynne Nudo, Tunkhannock, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Marisa Plant, Pittsfield, MA *Cum Laude*  
 Lindsey Sacoman, Mechanicsburg, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Jessica Schwenk, Owega, NY  
 Tracey Scialpi, West Pittston, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Samantha Sheets, Livingston, NJ  
 Michele Stuart, Larksville, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Melissa Sutliff, Mechanicsburg, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Tashara Teart, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Justin Temperine, Hanover Twp., PA *Cum Laude*  
 Shari Terran, West Pittston, PA  
 Lesley Warren, Forty Fort, PA *Magna Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Leandra Yost, Wapwallopen, PA *Cum Laude*

### HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT

Andrea Burmeister, Luzerne, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Charles J. Chairge, Exeter, PA  
 Bonita Jane Kauffman, Sunbury, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Jennifer Lawrence, Scranton, PA  
 Julie Ochse-Drachler, Montrose, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 David Peters, Mountaintop, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Rebecca Walsh, Kingston, PA

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Peter Achey, Hanover Twp., PA  
 Rocco Amentler, III, Freeland, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Jacqueline Brocious, Dallas, PA  
 Matthew Hopkins, Scranton, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Susan Lazur, Dallas, PA  
 Andrew O'Donnell, Leesburg, VA  
 Michael Scherer, Milford, PA  
 Christy E. Seaman, Avoca, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Kimberly Seward, Harveys Lake, PA  
 Holly Ann Swartz, Dallas, PA  
 Connie Toporcer, Mountaintop, PA

### MANAGEMENT

Jay Baron, Middletown, DE  
 Steven James Beecher, Deptford, NJ  
 Raleigh Brown, Mount Pocono, PA  
 William F. desRosiers, Highlands Falls, NY *Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Frank DiBuo, Luzerne, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Marla Doddo, White Haven, PA  
 Richard M. Gilmore, West Hazleton, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Margaret O'Malia, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Emilie Pearson, Willamsport, PA

### MARKETING

Gregory M. Allan, Archbald, PA  
 Steven James Beecher, Deptford, NJ  
 Timothy R. Fay, Brooklyn, NY  
 Keri Getz, Kunkletown, PA *Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Sarah Ann Iacona, Pittston, PA  
 Ronald D. Kasisky, Wyoming, PA  
 Tyler Mensch, Muncy, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Emilie Pearson, Williamsport, PA



## PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Nicole Dante, Laurel Run, PA  
 Sean Fleming, Shavertown, PA  
 Dan H. Griffiths, III, Old Forge, PA  
 Earl Harris, Jr., Scranton, PA  
 James Holminski, Nanticoke, PA  
 Joseph D. Homanko, Sr., Beaver Meadows, PA  
 Kristine Deanna Jackson, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Daniel Brendon Johnson, Shavertown, PA  
 Emily Kopiak, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Joseph Luzzi, Port Jervis, NY  
 Joanne Louisa Maloney, Tunkhannock, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Brittney Marie O'Handley, Bloomsburg, PA  
 Jo Orcutt, Pittston, PA  
 Kevin O'Hara Osborne, Camp Hill, PA  
 Amanda Poole, Dallas, PA  
 Vito Ruggiero, Dunmore, PA  
 Desiree Lynn Saraka, Forty Fort, PA  
 Brendan Shelly, Harleysville, PA  
 Ronald Strothers, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Linda Wufsus, Mahoney City, PA

## PSYCHOLOGY

Cosima Alampi, West Pittston, PA  
 Melissa Marie Baldoni, Jessup, PA  
 Cheri Balmer, Dallas, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Lisa Calabro, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Amanda Canavan, Girardville, PA  
 Katie Coolbaugh, Moosic, PA  
 Matthew DeBiase, Dallas, PA  
 Tanya Earley, Mahanoy City, PA  
 Lauren Greenwood, Scranton, PA  
 Hillary Gross, West Pittston, PA *Magna Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Megan Hannon, Plains, PA  
 Melissa Janosov, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Tonya LaVade Kellerman, Weatherly, PA  
 Ann-Marie Lawes, Clarks Summit, PA

Holly MacBain, Tunkhannock, PA  
 Marjorie Miller, Mountaintop, PA  
 Andrea Moon, Dupont, PA *GPP*  
 Jenna Neff, Elizabethtown, PA  
 Amanda Nitowski, Duryea, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Kelli Ann Prokop, Towaco, NJ *Magna Cum Laude, University Honors*  
 Ashley Rogers, Mahanoy City, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Dawn Roth, Pringle, PA  
 Tanya Seiwel, Sugar Notch, PA  
 Elizabeth Sysko, Forty Fort, PA *Cum Laude, University Honors*  
 Gary Thiede, Belmar, NJ

## SPECIAL EDUCATION

Marybeth Betts, Milton, DE *Magna Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Mackenzie Cassidy, Newton, NJ *Magna Cum Laude, University Honors, GPP*  
 Kelly Marie Dougherty, Shavertown, PA  
 Nichole Garinger, Hunlock Creek, PA *Magna Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Wendy Joy Gosnell, Dickson City, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Amy L. Hughes, Scranton, PA  
 Jonathan Juka, Drums, PA  
 Rachel Kahn, Shavertown, PA  
 Elizabeth Susan Kane, Kingston, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Megan Leonard, Roaring Brook, PA  
 Heather McAndrew, Duryea, PA  
 Shannon Kathleen McCann, Hanover Twp., PA *Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Brian Thomas Meyer, Forty Fort, PA  
 Jemila Najjar-Keith, Wharton, NJ *Cum Laude*  
 Tammy Lynne Nudo, Tunkhannock, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Marisa Plant, Pittsfield, MA *Cum Laude*  
 Lindsey Sacoman, Mechanicsburg, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Jessica Schwenk, Owega, NY  
 Tracey Scialpi, West Pittston, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Melissa Sutliff, Mechanicsburg, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Tashara Teart, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Shari Terran, West Pittston, PA  
 Lesley Warren, Forty Fort, PA *Magna Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Leandra Yost, Wapwallopen, PA *Cum Laude*

**SPORT MANAGEMENT**

Vincent Baumunk, Dushore, PA  
 Christopher Brown, Schenevus, NY  
 Joshua M. Buskirk, Nazareth, PA  
 Brandon Calafut, Carbondale, PA  
 William Challacombe, New Windsor, NY  
 Danielle DeFazio, Pittston, PA  
 Nicholas DeLong, North Catasauqua, PA  
 Kyle Gensel, Shickshinny, PA  
 Michael Green, Pleasant Mount, PA *Magna Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Ellen Howanitz, Shickshinny, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Marqus Hunter, Patterson, NJ  
 JoAnna Mae Mast, Lewisburg, PA *Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Brian R. Matthews, Red Lion, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Tyler Mensch, Muncy, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Darren Morgan, Levittown, PA  
 Michael F. Murphy, East Moriches, NY  
 Craig Needles, Newtown, PA  
 John Nober, Lake Huntington, NY  
 Bailey Gayle Sells, Gouldsboro, PA  
 Andrew M. Smith, Sayre, PA

**BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK**

Amanda C. Bombar, Scranton, PA  
 Michele M. Hughes, Allentown, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Alissa Krull, Luzerne, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Lori Ann Miller, Dallas, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Kristen L. Mitchell, South Williamsport, PA *Magna Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Emily Monczewski, Clarks Summit, PA  
 Alyson Neely, Plymouth, PA *Cum Laude, University Honors, GPP*  
 Christine Porzucek, Pittston, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Pamela Roberts, Shavertown, PA  
 Amy Elizabeth Thomas, Forty Fort, PA  
 Kerri Walsh, Pittston, PA

**MASTER OF SCIENCE****EDUCATION**

Michael Brand, Shreveport, LA  
 Gina Marie Capitano, Old Forge, PA  
 Leslie Lynn Evans, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Jill Guyette, Harveys Lake, PA  
 Kelly Lenahan, Dallas, PA  
 Kaaron Swanson, Dallas, PA

**ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT**

Susan Barry, Dallas, PA  
 Kathryn Biesecker, Gettysburg, PA  
 Therese Marie Bubeck, Sugarloaf, PA  
 Kelli Costa, Mountaintop, PA  
 Rachael Cunningham, Archbald, PA  
 Cynthia Durnin, Bath, PA  
 Kristin Engel, Plainview, NY  
 Kimberly Evans-Zikowski, Harveys Lake, PA  
 Nicole Hemingway, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Thea M. Kahn, Shavertown, PA  
 Mary Lou Kotch, Plymouth, PA  
 Beverly Kramer, Mountaintop, PA  
 Brian Massie, Stroudsburg, PA  
 Joseph Thomas McCulloch, Pittston Twp., PA  
 William McIntosh, Dallas, PA  
 Joseph Nester, Hazleton, PA  
 Colleen Newhart, Plains, PA  
 Chad Oldt, Dallas, PA  
 Matthew O'Neill, Philadelphia, PA  
 Helen Reedy, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Danielle Sabestinas, Mountaintop, PA  
 Tracy Salio, Sugarloaf, PA  
 Mark Stiles, Kingston, PA  
 Shannon Stillarty, Hanover Twp., PA  
 Brett Vallet, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Christopher Yengel, Wind Gap, PA  
 Megan Zaremba, Nanticoke, PA

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

## HEALTH SCIENCE

Danielle Adams, Paxinos, PA *Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Dale Ambosie, Wapwallopen, PA  
 Kristina Bach, Shickshinny, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Jonathan Baldwin, Dix Hills, NY  
 Andra Barnes, Bloomsburg, PA  
 Courtney Begani, Millersburg, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Marc Berneski, Kingston, PA  
 Rachael Blass, Berwick, PA  
 Brittany Bradburn, Pittsburgh, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Lisa Bressler, Wyoming, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Lauren Burgio, Greenfield Twp., PA  
 Justine D. Burrell, Browndale, PA  
 Melissa Butler, Harrisburg, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Joseph Cabral, Harrisonburg, VA *Cum Laude*  
 Cara Callanan, Southampton, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Kristin Doolittle, Blauvelt, NY *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Kristina Ebbecke, Commack, NY  
 Katrina Emerick, Dingmans Ferry, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Allison Everett, Shickshinny, PA  
 Leann Everett, Florence, KY *Cum Laude*  
 William Michael Gagliardi, Jr., Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Christopher George Garavito, Myrtle Beach, SC  
 Shannon Gleason, Chambersburg, PA *Magna Cum Laude, GPP*  
 LisaMarie Hamann, Brooklyn, NY  
 Kaylee Hassick, Coopersburg, PA  
 Stephanie Huber, Farifeld, CT  
 Amy Jayne, Milford, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Elisa Kennedy, Bensalem, PA *Cum Laude, University Honors*  
 Timothy J. Kerestes, Dallas, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Candice Kilmer, Nicholson, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Wayne Kogoy, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Gabrielle Kowalski, Andover, NJ  
 Alyssa Krebs, Jim Thorpe, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Alyson Kristofik, Laurens, NY  
 BethAnne Lahr, Elysburg, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

Cassandra Lettich, Sacramento, PA  
 Penny Levens, Hellertown, PA  
 Rebecca Lizonitz, Hughestown, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Hannah Martin, Clarks Summit, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Kevin Mellinger, Womelsdorf, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Tiara Mitchell, Beavertown, PA *Summa Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Ericka Morrison, Avon Lake, OH *Summa Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Wendy Narcum, West Pittston, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Kristina Oliveira, Medford, NY  
 Jessica Parosky, Hazleton, PA  
 Allison Patt, Wellsboro, PA  
 Anila Pirtskhalaichvili, Forest Hills, NY  
 Alissa Popalis, East Petersburg, PA  
 Chavonne Potts, Wyalusing, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Carrie Powers, Springfield, NJ  
 Marcus Redline, Walnutport, PA  
 Jeffery Reeves, Scranton, PA  
 Tiffany Rehrig, Lehighton, PA *GPP*  
 Heather Reightler, Bethlehem, PA  
 Zivana Sabljic, Chambersburg, PA  
 Michelle Swiatek, Nanticoke, PA *Summa Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Ashley Tassone, Jim Thorpe, PA *Summa Cum Laude, GPP*  
 Jaime Thomas, Milford, DE *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Laura Tylutki, Factoryville, PA  
 Telisa Wardlaw, Jamica, NY  
 Adam Webb, Northampton, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Tova Marie Westlake, Fresno, CA  
 Elizabeth Yaracz, Drums, PA *Cum Laude*

## MEDICAL IMAGING

Stephanie Burke, Archbald, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Amanda Check, Stroudsburg, PA  
 James Clark, Woodstock, CT  
 Lacey DeGraw, Tyler Hill, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Patricia DeLisi, Lake Hopatcong, NJ  
 Kevin Daniel DellaRosa, Laflin, PA  
 Thomas Joseph Glowatski, II, Lafayette, NJ  
 Kimberly Green, Palmerton, PA *Magna Cum Laude,*

Steven Hannis, Mountaintop, PA *Magna Cum Laude, University Honors*  
 Erin Huppman, Brookhaven, PA *GPP*  
 Kaitlyn Jones, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 David Leibig, Ashland, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Ann London, Yorktown Heights, NY  
 Anne Lynch, Plains, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Michelle Macking, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Tiffany G. Mathews, Waymart, PA  
 Matthew McDade, Pittston Twp., PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Kelli O'Leary, Clifton Heights, PA  
 Gina Philbin, Lansdale, PA  
 Ashley Rosenbaum, Forty Fort, PA *Cum Laude, University Honors*  
 Marissa Schimelfenig, Scranton, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Toby L. Soward, Scranton, PA *Summa Cum Laude, University Honors*  
 Leslie Stein, New Windsor, NY  
 Ashley Wood, Equinunk, PA

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Victoria Ashman, Freeland, PA  
 Christa Baker, Benton, PA  
 Anita Baldoni, Plains, PA  
 Julia Bebry, Farmingdale, NY  
 Ryan Blevins, Middletown, DE  
 Danelle Bressi, Plains, PA  
 Tiffany Carty, Brooklyn, NY  
 Michelle Casale, Montoursville, PA  
 Linda Casey, Kingston, PA  
 Erin Colby, Forty Fort, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Danielle Conklin, Hanover Twp., PA *Cum Laude*  
 Christopher Davis, Scranton, PA  
 Deanna Deaton, Pittston, PA *Cum Laude*  
 William Dougherty, Wapwallopen, PA  
 Genevieve Falzone, West Wyoming, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Julie Fenner, Larksville, PA  
 Heather Foersch, Plains, PA  
 Kelcey Fredrickson, Cedar Run, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Gretchen Frye, Catawissa, PA  
 Denise Gaiteri, Plains, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

Maura Gibbons, Scranton, PA  
 Mary Gildea, West Pittston, PA  
 Gretchen Greco, Old Forge, PA  
 Brian Gunster, Port Crane, NY  
 Mary Hanczyc, Pittston, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Kathleen Hergan, Exeter, PA  
 Memory Hurst, Dallas, PA  
 Krista Jones, Mountaintop, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Melissa Kapsick, Shavertown, PA  
 Marianne Karalunas, Wyoming, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Angela Kasa, Pittston Twp., PA  
 Alicia Kelley, Harveys Lake, PA  
 Joanna Kelley, Crystal River, FL  
 Alexis Kohler, Jersey Shore, PA  
 Kimberly Ann Kotulski, Wyoming, PA  
 Frank L. Kratz, III, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Corinne Langman, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Joshua Lessard-Chaudoin, Elizabethtown, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Laura Lewin, Tunkhannock, PA  
 Morgan Brittney Maglioli, Scranton, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Nicole M. Martin, Larksville, PA  
 Maime Maxwell, East Stroudsburg, PA  
 Donna Menig, Dallas, PA  
 Amy L. Mertz, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Jennifer Metcalfe, Ewing, NJ *GPP*  
 Charlien Miller, Trout Run, PA  
 Clarissa Miller, Springville, PA  
 Jennifer Anne Mioduski, Edwardsville, PA  
 Deborah Morris, Bloomsburg, PA  
 Kimberley Motts, Plains, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Lauren Naher, Scranton, PA  
 Kenneth Nardi, Dallas, PA  
 Mary Nicastro, Dunmore, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 MaryAnn O'Brien, Exeter, PA  
 Sarah O'Donnell, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Kirsten Peters, Slatington, PA  
 Amanda Pineda, North Plainsfield, NJ *GPP*  
 Casey Piston, Jamison, PA

TJ Poluka, McAdoo, PA  
 Andrea Rack, Bridgewater, NJ  
 Shawna Ramlall, Long Island City, NY  
 Katie Ripple, Huntingtown, MD *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Verona Roberts, Bloomsburg, PA  
 Kerri Ryan, Beach Lake, PA  
 Amanda Sagan, Dallas, PA  
 Cari Sakosky, Mayfield, PA  
 Margot Shipman, Plymouth, PA  
 Frances Shuman, Mechanicsburg, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Whitney Smith, Lehigh, PA  
 Lisa Stein, Harveys Lake, PA  
 Allison Strickler, Williamsport, PA  
 Isaiah Sunanday, Allenwood, PA  
 Amy L. Thompson, Scranton, PA  
 Lisa Tinari, Exeter, PA  
 Alice Turner, Scranton, PA  
 Angelo C. Venditti, Bloomsburg, PA  
 Jessica Vozzella, Patterson, NY  
 Jennifer Wahy, Clarks Summit, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Renee Waligun, Shavertown, PA  
 Sally Wesoloski, Hunlock Creek, PA  
 Erica Wilbur, Falls, PA  
 Lindsey Ann Williams, Kingston, PA  
 Erin Michele Wixted, Philadelphia, PA  
 Hope Woodcock, Binghamton, NY  
 Jillian Yacovelli, Pittston, PA  
 Lindsay Yannotta, Etters, PA  
 Molly Yaple, Stillwater, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Jacqueline Zabresky, Dallas, PA  
 Elizabeth Zeh, Schenevus, NY *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Nadia Zukosky, Shavertown, PA

## MASTER OF SCIENCE

### SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Courtney Begani, Millersburg, PA  
 Monica Bregman, Midlothian, VA  
 Lisa Bressler, Wyoming, PA  
 Dena Butler, Moscow, PA  
 Cara Callanan, Southampton, PA  
 Andrea Cappucci, Sweet Valley, PA  
 Brittany Cochrane, Stony Brook, NY  
 Lisa Cope, Bethlehem, PA  
 Basil Davis, West Decatur, PA  
 Jonelle Dickson, Dallas, PA  
 Katrina Emerick, Dingmans Ferry, PA  
 Christine Evans, Tunkhannock, PA  
 Christine Michelle Henn, Dover, NJ  
 Katelyn Hopkins, Avoca, PA  
 Carly Jo Hosbach, Pittsburgh, PA  
 Stephanie Huber, Fairfield, CT  
 Gabrielle Kowalski, Andover, NJ  
 Alyssa Krebs, Jim Thorpe, PA  
 Rebecca Lizonitz, Hughesstown, PA  
 Jessica Maxwell, Coatesville, PA  
 Wendy Narcum, West Pittston, PA  
 Chavonne Potts, Wyalusing, PA  
 Erik X. Raj, Jackson, NJ  
 Jaime Thomas, Milford, DE

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Christa Baker, Benton, PA  
 Valerie Bell, Bethany, PA  
 Dana Draina, Mountaintop, PA  
 Mary Wilkinson, West Pittston, PA

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Andra Barnes, Bloomsburg, PA  
 Lauren Burgio, Greenfield Twp., PA

Joseph Cabral, Harrisonburg, VA  
 Katie Coolbaugh, Moosic, PA  
 Kristin Doolittle, Blauvelt, NY  
 Kristina Ebbecke, Commack, NY  
 Shannon Gleason, Chambersburg, PA  
 Hillary Gross, West Pittston, PA  
 Kaylee Hassick, Coopersburg, PA  
 Amy Jayne, Milford, PA  
 Tina Kelly, Telford, PA  
 BethAnne Lahr, Elysburg, PA  
 Cassandra Lettich, Sacramento, PA  
 Penny Levens, Hellertown, PA  
 Andrea Moon, Dupont, PA  
 Jenna Neff, Elizabethtown, PA  
 Bethann Oddo, Colonia, NJ  
 Kristina Oliveira, Medford, NY  
 Anila Pirtskhalaichvili, Forest Hill, NY  
 Alissa Popalis, East Petersburg, PA  
 Carrie Powers, Springfield, NJ  
 James Prince, Flemington, NJ  
 Heather Reightler, Bethlehem, PA  
 Bianca Saucedo, Dallas, PA  
 Rebecca Smith, Binghamton, NY  
 Elizabeth Sysko, Forty Fort, PA  
 Ashley Tassone, Jim Thorpe, PA  
 Telisa Wardlaw, Jamaica, NY

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHYSICAL THERAPY

Danielle Adams, Paxinos, PA  
 Dale Ambosie, Wapwallopen, PA  
 Kristina Bach, Shickshinny, PA  
 Jonathan Baldwin, Dix Hills, NY  
 Marc Berneski, Kingston, PA  
 Rachael Blass, Berwick, PA  
 Brittany Bradburn, Pittsburgh, PA  
 Justine D. Burrell, Browndale, PA  
 Melissa Butler, Harrisburg, PA  
 Allison Everett, Shickshinny, PA

Leann Everett, Florence, KY  
 William Michael Gagliardi, Jr., Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Christopher George Garavito, Myrtle Beach, SC  
 LisaMarie Hamann, Brooklyn, NY  
 Elisa Kennedy, Bensalem, PA  
 Timothy J. Kerestes, Dallas, PA  
 Candice Kilmer, Nicholson, PA  
 Wayne Kogoy, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Alyson Kristofik, Laurens, NY  
 Hannah Martin, Clarks Summit, PA  
 Kevin Mellinger, Womelsdorf, PA  
 Tiara Mitchell, Beavertown, PA  
 Ericka Morrison, Avon Lake, OH  
 Jessica Parosky, Hazleton, PA  
 Allison Patt, Wellsboro, PA  
 Marcus Redline, Walnutport, PA  
 Jeffery Reeves, Scranton, PA  
 Tiffany Rehrig, Leighton, PA  
 Zivana Sabljic, Chambersburg, PA  
 Michelle Swiatek, Nanticoke, PA  
 Laura Tylutki, Factoryville, PA  
 Adam Webb, Northampton, PA  
 Tova Marie Westlake, Fresno, CA  
 Elizabeth Yaracz, Drums, PA

### DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Brittany Catherine Bennett, Philadelphia, PA  
 Laurie Brogan, Pittston Twp., PA  
 Erin Confrey, Bel Air, MD  
 Emily Cupples, Northampton, PA  
 Tiffany Lynn Gaun, Warrington, PA  
 Megan Gilbert, Allentown, PA  
 Shannon Mastin, Ardmore, PA  
 Patricia Ann O'Shea, Long Valley, NJ  
 Julieann Stackhouse, DuBois, PA  
 Vanessa A. Stivala, Old Forge, PA  
 Thomas Zeiser, Slatington, PA

Students are awarded baccalaureate degrees with distinction for exceptional academic achievement. A student must have completed at least 60 credits at Misericordia University to qualify for academic honors. Because these honors are calculated before final grades are submitted, estimation of them appears in the Commencement program. Students who have completed the University Honors curriculum while achieving a grade point average of 3.4 or better are awarded an Honors Degree.

Distinction	Grade Point Average at Graduation
<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	3.90 and above
<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	3.70–3.89
<i>Cum Laude</i>	3.50–3.69

Students awarded *University Honors* include:

Mackenzie Cassidy  
 Steven Hannis  
 Elisa Kennedy  
 Alyson Neely  
 Kelli Ann Prokop  
 Ashley Rosenbaum  
 Toby L. Soward  
 Elizabeth Sysko

The *Act 101 Award* for outstanding academic achievement is presented to:

Marjorie Miller  
 Pamela Roberts

The *Grace Andrews Award*, given to the outstanding nontraditional student demonstrating enthusiasm for lifelong learning, is awarded to:

Marla Doddo

The *Outstanding Adult Learner Award*, given to a nontraditional student for outstanding academic achievement and involvement in both University and community activities, is presented to:

Deborah Higgins

The *Service Learning Leadership Award*, given to a student who is nominated by a faculty member for community-based work initiated in a service learning course and who shows evidence of active community service and the potential for continued service in a leadership role, is presented to:

Alyson Neely

The *Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accounting Award* for excellence in Accounting Studies is awarded to:

Timothy James Bojanowski

The *Business Administration Faculty Award* for academic excellence, given to a graduating traditional student majoring in Business Administration who has demonstrated excellence in academic studies while at Misericordia University, is presented to:

Michael Green

The *Mary Ann Thompson Memorial Student Achievement Award*, presented to a graduating Business Administration, Accounting, Marketing, Management, Health Care Management, Information Technology, or Sport Management major for outstanding community service and academic accomplishment as selected by the Business Administration Department faculty, is presented to:

Steven James Beecher

The *Dr. Louis Maganzin Award* for excellence in Secondary Education is presented to:

Amber Ellen Konek

The *Sister M. Noreen Mulherin, RSM Award* for excellence in student teaching in Elementary Education/Early Childhood is presented to:

Michele Stuart

The *Sister Chrysostom Dougherty, RSM Award* for excellence in student teaching in Special Education is awarded to:

Jessica Marie Schwenk

The *Joan Krause Award*, presented to a student with outstanding academic achievement and excellence in Pre-Service Teaching, is awarded to:

Marybeth Betts

The *K. Monica Kruger Award*, presented to an outstanding adult learner in the Teacher Education Department, is awarded to:

Tracey Scialpi

The *English Department Award* for Creative Literary Achievement is presented to:

Amber Ellen Konek

The *Psychology Student Achievement Award*, given for outstanding academic performance, is presented to:

Cheri Balmer

The *Outstanding Contribution to Psychology Award*, given for exemplary service and leadership, is presented to:

Amanda Nitowski

The *Alpha Delta Mu Award* for the highest achievement in Social Work is awarded to:

Lori Ann Miller

Christine Porzucek

The *Dr. Patricia Lewis Award*, given to a graduating social work student who best exemplifies the Sisters of Mercy values of mercy, service, justice and hospitality and whose ethical conduct and comportment as a beginning social work practitioner merits recognition beyond the awarding of the BSW degree, is presented to:

Kristen Mitchell

The *Mallinckrodt Award* for Academic Excellence in Medical Imaging is awarded to:

Traditional Student: Toby L. Soward

Non-traditional Student: Steven Hannis

The *Robert C. Fisher Clinical Excellence in the study of Medical Imaging Award* is presented to:

Amanda Check

The *John Glawe Award for Caring and Compassion in Nursing*, conferred to a BSN student who exemplifies caring and compassion with clients in a clinical unit, is presented to:

Maura Gibbons

The *Army Nurse Corps Spirit of Nursing Award*, given to a senior Nursing student who exemplifies exceptional leadership qualities in local, University, community and professional activities, is presented to:

Elizabeth Zeh

The *Sister Mary Kateri Dowart Award* for excellence and leadership in Nursing is awarded to:

Elizabeth Zeh

The *M. Bernadette Hogan Nursing Award*, given to a graduating student who exemplifies outstanding service and leadership to the profession of Nursing and to community, is awarded to:

Mary Gildea

The *Clinical Excellence Award*, given to a student whose GPA is greater than 3.0 and who is judged by the faculty to administer superior nursing skills in clinical practice, is presented to:

Danielle Conklin

The *Dr. Marcie Jones Graduate Nursing Award*, given to a graduate Nursing student in good academic standing who demonstrates living the mission of the University (mercy, service, justice, and hospitality), is awarded to:

Valerie Bell

The *Occupational Therapy Curricular Award*, presented to a graduating Occupational Therapy student who has demonstrated exemplary academic performance and leadership potential in the profession, is presented to:

Hillary Gross

Ashley Tassone

The *Excellence in Field Work Award*, presented to an Occupational Therapy student who consistently has above average performance in fieldwork, displays outstanding interpersonal skills and contributes to fieldwork sites by applying and integrating classroom learning, is presented to:

Kristin Doolittle

Bethanne Lahr



The *Dr. Stephen L. Heater Leadership Award*, given to a graduating Occupational Therapy student who exemplifies the qualities of leadership modeled by Dr. Stephen Heater, including creativity, dynamic vision and exceptional conceptual skills, is presented to:

Shannon Gleason

The *Catherine Perry Wilkinson Leadership Award*, given to a graduating student who demonstrates exemplary potential for leadership in the profession of Physical Therapy, is presented to:

Ericka Morrison

The *Outstanding Physical Therapy Student Award*, given to a graduating student who has demonstrated excellence in academic achievement, clinical performance, leadership skills and service to the University, community and profession, is presented to:

Zivana Sabljic

The *Physical Therapy Student Achievement Award*, given to a graduating student who has demonstrated outstanding abilities to successfully complete the Physical Therapy curriculum in the face of unique life experiences, is presented to:

Zivana Sabljic

The *Speech-Language Pathology Academic Excellence Award*, granted to the graduating Speech-Language Pathology student who has demonstrated academic excellence superior to that of those in the graduating class, is presented to:

Chavonne Potts

The *Speech-Language Pathology Clinical Excellence Award*, granted to the graduating Speech-Language Pathology student who has demonstrated exemplary skills in clinical practicum, is presented to:

Lisa Bressler

The *Speech-Language Pathology Outstanding Service Award*, granted to the student who participates and provides volunteer service to the department above and beyond academic and clinical responsibilities, is presented to:

Katrina Emerick

The *Speech-Language Pathology Outstanding Achievement Award*, given to the student who is an exemplary leader in the field of Speech-Language Pathology, is presented to:

Erik X. Raj

The *Master's Thesis Honor Award*, given to the student who has successfully completed all of the requirements for a master's thesis in Speech-Language Pathology, is presented to:

Carly Jo Hosbach

Erik X. Raj

Jamie Thomas

The *Communications Department Award for Excellence*, given to a graduating Communications major for outstanding professional development, academic achievement, and contribution to the University community, is presented to:

Elizabeth Guarnieri

Cody Hack

Amanda Janiga

The *Communications Department Academic Achievement Award* for outstanding scholarship is presented to:

Amanda Janiga

The *Fine Arts Award*, chosen by the Fine Arts faculty, given to a graduating senior who excels in any of the non-literary Fine Arts and has demonstrated a high level of academic achievement, is presented to:

Joshua Lessard-Chaudoin

The *Bishop Hafey 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Award for Outstanding Achievement in History*, is awarded to:

Stephanie Pellegrino

The *History Department Award for High Achievement* is awarded to:

Rebecka Puza

The *History Department Award for Excellence in History* is presented to:

Abigail Bosler

Elena Pellegrini

The *Mother Teresa Walsh Award* founded by the Walsh Family for proficiency in Religious Studies is awarded to:

Jonathan William Taylor

The *Professor Kenneth J. Rockensies Award*, presented to a mathematical or natural sciences graduate in recognition of outstanding achievement in Physics, is awarded to:

Sallyann Cusma

Lindsay Smith

The *Dr. Tatjana Petrychenko Award*, founded by the Misericordia University Biological Society in recognition of outstanding achievement in Biology, is awarded to:

Lindsay Smith

The *Robert Anderson Award in Pre-medicine*, given to the outstanding graduate in the pre-medicine curriculum for academic excellence, and service and leadership to the University, is awarded to:

Sallyann Cusma

The *Stan Knapich Award*, given to a graduating student who has demonstrated outstanding academic performance in the Biology/Secondary Education curriculum, is awarded to:

Linda Mullen

The *American Chemical Society Outstanding Graduating Chemistry Major Award*, given by the Susquehanna Valley Section of the American Chemical Society and awarded to the graduating student, selected by the Chemistry faculty, who has shown excellence in scholarship and academics, is presented to:

Jennifer M. Elward

The *Theresa and Frank J. Mehm Prize*, awarded annually to the student who, by vote of the chief academic and student services officers of the University, most nearly represents the ideal Misericordia man or woman with respect to moral courage, intellectual vigor and participation, on and off campus, contributing to the advancement of the University, is presented to:

Nicholas Anthony DeStefano

The *Alumni Outstanding Graduate Award*, established by the Alumni Association to recognize a graduating student who exemplifies the Misericordia spirit of mercy, justice, service and hospitality, is awarded to:

Marybeth Betts

The annual award contributed by the Misericordia University Board of Trustees to the student exemplifying the University's academic, leadership and service ideals is presented to:

Kristen Mitchell

Students inducted into the Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Delta Mu, Honor Society in Social Work:

James Crossan	Melissa Ann McCracken	Stephanie Shepperson
Tracy L. Dzoh	Lori Ann Miller	Kerri Walsh
Stephanie Lynn Fischer	Emily Monczewski	Cheryl Wilson
Kimberly Ann Hess	Christine Porzucek	Donna Yentz
Lisa Levitsky	Jessica Lin Rosencrans	

Students admitted to the Beta Chi Chapter, Alpha Sigma Lambda, National Honor Society for Continuing Education students:

Cheri Balmer	Frank DiBuo	Madelyn Salaman
Robin Bulzoni	Krista Dymond	Tracey Scialpi
Andrea Burmeister	Christine Porzucek	Margot Shipman
Dorothy Cannon	Rebecka Puza	
Christopher Davis	Madelyn Roote	

Students admitted to the Chi Alpha Epsilon, Honor Society for outstanding academic achievements and who are members of the Act 101 Program:

Amanda C. Bombar	Linda Mullen	Toby L. Soward
Megan Dreabit	Tammy Lynne Nudo	Lesley Warren
Laura Lewin	Ashley Rosenbaum	
Morgan Brittney Maglioli	Whitney Smith	

Students admitted to the Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education:

Marybeth Betts	Rachel Kahn	Tammy Lynne Nudo
Mackenzie Cassidy	Amber Ellen Konek	Marisa Plant
Megan Dreabit	Elizabeth Ann Lipovsky	Jessica Marie Schwenk
Krista Dymond	Shannon Kathleen McCann	Tracey Scialpi
Amanda Finella	Linda Mullen	Tashara Teart
Nichole Garinger	Jemila Najjar-Keith	Lesley Warren

Students admitted to Kappa Gamma Pi, National Catholic College Graduate Honor Society:

*Baccalaureate Membership:*

Marybeth Betts	Alyssa Krebs	Madelyn Roote
Frank Dibuo	Kristen Mitchell	Toby L. Soward
Hillary Gross	Tiara Mitchell	Diane L. Svetlovics
Amanda Janiga	Wendy Narcum	Michelle Swiatek
Amber Ellen Konek	Stephanie Pellegrino	Ashley Tassone

*Post Graduate Membership:*

Gina Marie Capitano	Mark Stiles
Jill Guyette	Mary Wilkinson

Students admitted to the Psi Chi Honor Society for the recognition of scholarship and achievement in Psychology:

Cheri Balmer	Kristell Janusz	Julianne Oliver
Amanda C. Bombar	Marianne Karalunas	Amanda Nitowski
Melissa Butler	Elisa Kennedy	Kelli Ann Prokop
Shannon Gleason	Jennifer Metcalfe	Ashley Rogers
Hillary Gross	Andrea Moon	David Spears
LisaMarie Hamann	Linda Mullen	Elizabeth Sysko
Melissa Janosov	Deborah Morris	

Students admitted to the Psi Chapter of Pi Theta Epsilon, The National Occupational Therapy Honor Society:

Kristin Doolittle	Amy Jayne	James Alexander Prince
Shannon Gleason	Tina Kelly	Elizabeth Sysko
Hillary Gross	Bethanne Lahr	Ashley Tassone

Students admitted to Lambda Iota Tau, Beta Epsilon Chapter, International Literature Honor Society:

Jedidiah Alexander Carr	Amber Ellen Konek	Marissa Miller
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Students admitted to the Theta Phi Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society for Nursing:

*Baccalaureate Membership:*

Julia Bebry	Maura Gibbons	Sarah O'Donnell
Michelle Casale	Mary Gildea	Thomas Poluka
Linda Casey	Memory Hurst	Shawna Ramlall
Joshua Lessard-Chaudoin	Krista Jones	Katie Ripple
Erin Colby	Melissa Kapsick	Margot Shipman
Danielle Conklin	Marianne Karalunas	Frances Shuman
Christopher Davis	Angela Kasa	Lindsey Williams
Deanna Deaton	Morgan Brittney Maglioli	Molly Yaple
Kelcey Fredrickson	Kimberley Motts	Jacqueline Zabresky
Gretchen Frye	Mary Nicastro	Elizabeth Zeh

*Post-Graduate Membership:*

Christa Baker	Dana Draina
Valerie Bell	Mary Wilkinson

Students admitted to the Lambda Nu Radiologic and Imaging Sciences Honor Society, the Pennsylvania Alpha Chapter:

Stephanie Burke	Steven Hannis	Kelli O'Leary
Amanda Check	Ann London	Ashley Rosenbaum
Lacey De Graw	Anne Lynch	Marissa Schimelfenig
Kevin Daniel DellaRosa	Michelle Macking	Toby L. Soward
Thomas Joseph Glowatski II	Tiffany G. Mathews	

Physical Therapy students admitted to Alpha Chi National Society, whose purpose is to promote academic excellence and exemplary character among college and university students:

Amanda Carling	Samuel Joseph Orlando	Molly Marie Sullivan
Stevie Dorbad	Kristina Marie Paddock	Gina Marie Urbon
Danielle Marie Hogan	Megan Rose Rychlewski	Paige Van Dien
Danielle Leonzi	Richard J. Smith	Heather Witkowski

Students admitted to Phi Alpha Theta, National Historical Honor Society:

Abigail Bosler	Elena Pellegrini	Rebecka Puza
William desRosiers	Stephanie Pellegrino	Steven C. Wieser

Students admitted to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges:

Michael Bauder	Linda Mullen	Christina Santhouse
Caitlin Ann Bryson	Alyson Neely	Jessica Marie Schwenk
Tiffany Carty	Julianne Oliver	Frances Shuman
William desRosiers	Kelli Ann Prokop	Toby L. Soward
Nicholas Anthony DeStefano	Jill Rafferty	Lesley Warren
Candice Kilmer	Rebecca Rayias	Megan S. Yetter
Kristen Mitchell	Ashley Rosenbaum	

## ACADEMIC COSTUME IN AMERICA

### Colors Indicating Fields of Learning

Worn as a border on the hood

#### ACCOUNTING

Drab

#### BIOCHEMISTRY

Golden Yellow

#### BIOLOGY

Golden Yellow

#### BUSINESS

#### ADMINISTRATION

Drab

#### CHEMISTRY

Golden Yellow

#### CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE

Golden Yellow

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Crimson

#### COMPUTER SCIENCE

Golden Yellow

#### EDUCATION

Light Blue

#### ENGLISH

White

#### HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT

Golden Yellow

#### HISTORY

White

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Drab

American academic dress has its origins in the garments worn at medieval British universities, particularly at Oxford, which was founded in the 12th century. At the time, academic institutions were similar to guilds or associations, called universitates. The academic organization was a guild of Masters of Arts, with the bachelor an apprentice.

Gowns and hoods were common clothing in medieval times, with quality and design decreed according to the wearer's social status and wealth. While general fashions changed, academic attire remained the same, both as a tradition and as a means of identifying members of the university. Hoods evolved from a simple head covering or cowl into a symbolic garment with a strictly assigned system of colors and patterns which identified each graduate's institution, rank, and discipline.

The Oxford or "mortar board" cap came into use during the 16th century, but authorities differ on its origin. Some say the cap is square like a scholar's books; others that it was derived from the master workman's mortar board; still others suggest it was patterned after the quadrangular shape of the Oxford campus. A more plausible explanation is that the scholars wore skull caps while they worked indoors and square caps called birettas when they went outdoors; if they simply donned the biretta over their skull cap, the look would be very much like the mortarboard.

Although caps and gowns had been worn in many American schools since Colonial times, in 1885 there was a widespread student movement for their use at commencement ceremonies. The faculties adopted the use of gowns for themselves to wear at academic ceremonies. Each college developed its own arbitrary design and standards, as the British universities had, until the Intercollegiate Commission met to develop a code for academic costume in 1895. The new code regulated design of gowns, hoods, and colors in a way that would signify each scholar's achievements and institution. It was approved by 95 percent of American universities and colleges, and is still in use today.

The official code provides for three types of gowns. Those worn by the bachelors are black and have long, pointed sleeves. Masters may wear either black silk or woolen gowns, made with a long closed sleeve with an arc appearing near the bottom and a slit for the arm. The doctors' gowns are usually of black silk with full, round, open sleeves. The color of the velvet trim may be black or the same color as the velvet which edges the hood. Although the color is normally black, some institutions have authorized doctoral gowns in their school colors.

The hood is worn at the back, suspended near the shoulders. The length of the hood and the width of its velvet border indicate the level of the degree held. Bachelors wear a hood which is three feet long, with a two-inch velvet border. The hood for the master's degree is three and one-half feet long, with a three-inch border. The doctor's hood is four feet long and the border is five inches wide.

The inner lining of the hood is in the official color or colors of the institution conferring the degree; therefore, Misericordia University's hood is lined with blue and golden yellow. The color of the velvet border indicates the field of learning in which the degree was earned. Tassels are traditionally black for the bachelor's and master's degrees, and gold for doctor's degrees and the governing officers of educational institutions.

Additional ornaments have been added in some institutions to indicate honors or memberships in honor societies. At Misericordia, a gold stole is worn by graduates receiving University honors; colored cords draped over the robe indicate membership in an honor society; distinctive pins worn on the gown also indicate particular honors.



#### INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Golden Yellow

#### MANAGEMENT

Drab

#### MARKETING

Drab

#### MATHEMATICS

White

#### MEDICAL IMAGING

Golden Yellow

#### NURSING

Apricot

#### OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Golden Yellow

#### ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT

Golden Yellow

#### PHILOSOPHY

White

#### PHYSICAL THERAPY

Peacock Blue

#### PHYSICAL THERAPY (DPT)

Teal

#### PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Golden Yellow

#### PSYCHOLOGY

Golden Yellow

#### SOCIAL WORK

Citron

#### SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Silver

#### SPORT MANAGEMENT

Sage Green

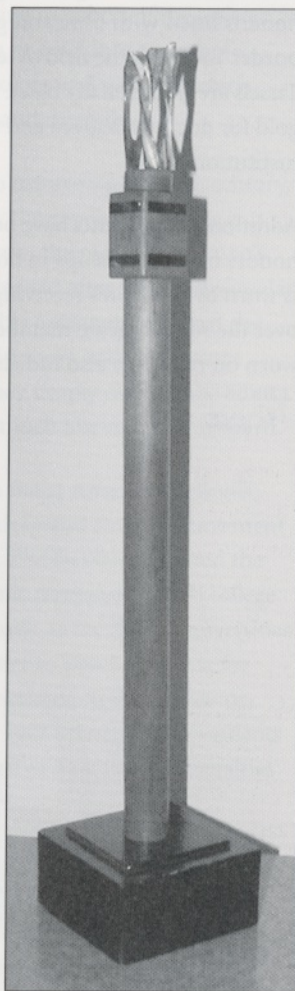
The mace is made of black walnut and bronze. The dark, rich wood symbolizes the woodlands surrounding the University campus referred to in the Alma Mater.

The unusual shaft works its way from rough cast, difficult beginnings into the textured, polished finish of a double base—angled, yet harmoniously fitted. The form represents the structured ideals of the Sisters of Mercy liberal arts education and the individual struggles for acquisition of knowledge.

Open, free forms of brass represent the open, free spirit, which is the basis of Compassionate Service, while the rich beauty and strength of walnut depict the fullness, value, and strength of Judeo-Christian education.

Highlighting the head of the mace is gleaming, textured bronze in the shape of an open flame. The fire represents two events in the history of the University: the burning of St. Mary's Convent in Wilkes-Barre, which necessitated the Sisters' move to Dallas, and the first night on campus when fires almost prevented the University from ever opening its doors. A flame open to searching for truth, and open to new ideas is symbolic of the light of learning: always striving for, never reaching, the fullness of finish.

The University Mace was designed and executed by Regina Keil, RSM, goldsmith and silversmith. It is a gift of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Dallas Regional Community.



Misericordia University is founded by the Sisters of Mercy.

The flags on the Commencement stage today represent the countries where the Sisters of Mercy, faculty and students from Misericordia University have ministered. Also included are the flags of our graduates who are from foreign countries. The United Nations flag represents the Sisters of Mercy's NGO (Non-Governmental Organization) status.

- |                |                      |
|----------------|----------------------|
| Azerbaijan     | Nigeria              |
| China          | Palestine            |
| Czech Republic | Peru                 |
| Guyana         | Philippines          |
| Liberia        | United Arab Emeritus |
| Mexico         | United Nations       |

Ushers

- |                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Megan Baker        | Marysa Krause   |
| Stephanie Beatini  | Meghan Laube    |
| Sarah Bonn         | Carol Llewellyn |
| Kim Caffrey        | Ryan Mallis     |
| Siobhan Cassidy    | Alexandra March |
| Jamie Clemson      | Nicole Moore    |
| Meghan Cogley      | Katie Parzanese |
| Ashley Cory        | Aubrie Pfirman  |
| John Danchak       | Kristen Ricardo |
| Mark DeStefano     | Jaclyn Rickus   |
| Kate Farrigan      | Sarah Terry     |
| Doreen Fronzoni    | Courtney Thomas |
| Julia Glenn        | Theresa Thomas  |
| Brian Glowatski    | Emily VonHarten |
| Marianne Guarnieri | Kate Wallace    |
| Rachel Hullinger   | Georgia Young   |
| Katie Kilmer       | Stephanie Yunko |
| Dane Kozlevcar     |                 |



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## MISERICORDIA ALMA MATER

Woodland home on Dallas heights,  
Majestic, grand in view  
Your loyal students far and near,  
Proclaim their love for you.  
Your banner bright of truth and light  
Shall proudly o'er us wave  
Its shining gold and azure blue  
Denote your spirit brave.

### *Refrain*

Misericordia! We're proud of you.  
We love your murm'ring pine trees,  
Your groves and grotto, too.  
You are our Alma Mater,  
And to you we will e'er be true  
Misericordia we hail! Dear Misericordia!

When from you we must depart  
Our spirit shall remain  
We'll ne'er forget your rolling hills  
Whose beauty all acclaim.  
Your classic halls are our delight, Your campus is our pride;  
Your shield of honor, strength and might  
Shall ever be our guide.

### *Refrain*

Misericordia! We're proud of you.  
We love your murm'ring pine trees,  
Your groves and grotto, too.  
You are our Alma Mater,  
And to you we will e'er be true  
Misericordia we hail! Dear Misericordia!

—Sister Teresa Mary Moyles, RSM



MISERICORDIA  
UNIVERSITY

*Founded by the Sisters of Mercy*