



MISERICORDIA
UNIVERSITY.

Winter
Commencement

December 16, 2018



Class of 2018

The eighth annual Misericordia University Winter Commencement Ceremony recognizes the accomplishments of 280 graduates who hail from 11 states, including Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Georgia, Maryland, South Dakota, Massachusetts, Ohio, Texas, and South Carolina.

Among the academic programs with the most graduates, the College of Health Sciences and Education has 47 students graduating from the entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy program. In addition, 28 students will receive their Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees. The College of Business is awarding 37 Bachelor of Science degrees in business administration.

The University has a rich 94-year tradition of preparing graduates to succeed in life and in their chosen field of study by providing them with individualized attention, challenging academics, and superb career preparation, while also imbuing in each student a passion to serve others. Misericordia University is proud of the Winter Commencement Class of 2018 as the graduates prepare to enter the next important phase of their lives.

Misericordia'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!



Academic Processional

Ceol Mor, *Pipe and Drum Band*

Invocation

Mary Ellen Fuhrman '73 RSM, *Trustee*

National Anthem

Dominic Augustine, *MU Student*

Ryan Weber, Ph.D., *Piano*

Welcome

Thomas J. Botzman, Ph.D., *President of Misericordia University*

Remarks

Hannah Larkin '18, *Student Speaker*

Conferring of Honorary Degree

Ruth Connolly, Ed.D., *Trustee*

Doctor of Humane Letters

Mary Dana Hinton, Ph.D.

Address to Candidates

Mary Dana Hinton, Ph.D.

Presentation of Candidates for Degrees

David B. Rehm, Ph.D., *Vice President of Academic Affairs*

Induction of Graduates into the Alumni Association

Mark Oberstaedt '89 Esq., *President, Alumni Association*

Alma Mater

Dominic Augustine, *MU Student*

Ryan Weber, Ph.D., *Piano*

Benediction

Monsignor John Bendik, *Trustee*

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.



Mary Dana Hinton, Ph.D.

Misericordia University is honored to welcome Mary Dana Hinton, Ph.D., president of the College of Saint Benedict (CSB) in St. Joseph, Minnesota, as commencement speaker. Dr. Hinton is the former associate vice president of academic affairs (AVPAA) at Misericordia, having served the institution from 2006-11.

Dr. Hinton joined the Misericordia family as an assistant professor of religious studies and as the coordinator of multicultural student affairs during the 2006-07 academic year. She taught undergraduate courses, while also providing mentoring and support to students of color. Dr. Hinton also served as the university's Diversity Club faculty advisor and facilitated workshops and training to student affairs offices. She was appointed AVPAA in 2009 with primary responsibilities to oversee diversity, planning, and assessment efforts, including implementation of the strategic plan.

Dr. Hinton served as vice president of academic affairs at Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh, New York, prior to being appointed president of CSB in 2014. Under her leadership, the college for women has developed a collaborative strategic plan to guide the institution through 2020 and is leading a \$100 million campaign. U.S. News and World Report has recognized CSB for its operating efficiency among Liberal Arts colleges.

In addition, Dr. Hinton serves as chair of the Minnesota Private College Council Board of Presidents and is a member of the Women's College Coalition Board of Directors. She is a member of a number of national and regional boards, including the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, the Council of Independent Colleges, the Association of American Colleges and Universities, and the Minnesota Campus Compact.

The author of "The Commercial Church: Black Churches and the New Religious Marketplace in America" (Lexington Books 2011), her scholarly focus is on African-American religious history, religious education, and leadership, strategic planning, assessment, and diversity in academics.

Dr. Hinton earned a Ph.D. in religion and religious education from Fordham University, a Master of Arts degree in clinical child psychology from the University of Kansas, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from Williams College.

Misericordia University will present Dr. Hinton with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree during the commencement ceremony.

BACHELOR OF ARTS**BIOLOGY**

Alicia Marie Chopyak, Pittston, PA
 Paisha Marie Glisson, Columbia Cross Roads, PA *Cum Laude*
 Taylor Elizabeth Harnish, Lancaster, PA
 Meredith Hartz, Fleetwood, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Derek Joseph Hendershot, Hamburg, NJ *Cum Laude*
 Nathan Alan MacDonald, New Ringgold, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Courtney Rose Portaro, Massapequa, NY
 Anamarie Rogers, Duryea, PA *Cum Laude*
 Katherine Anne Tota, Clinton, NJ *Summa Cum Laude*

COMMUNICATIONS

Samantha Marie Allen, New Milford, PA
 Samantha Midkiff, Albrightsville, PA
 Amanda Lynn Montigney, Larksville, PA
 Michael Logan Murphy, Shavertown, PA

ENGLISH

Samantha Marie Allen, New Milford, PA
 Jason M. Hauze, Wapwallopen, PA

GOVERNMENT, LAW AND NATIONAL SECURITY

Ashley Apel, Nanticoke, PA
 Scott Michael Carton, Morris Plains, NJ *Cum Laude*
 Krista Lynn Purvis, Carbondale, PA
 Jacob William Ragni, Mechanicsburg, PA
 Caroline Hannah Thomas, Dallas, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Alexis Nicole Tinna, Tunkhannock, PA

HISTORY

Christopher Gerlin, Shavertown, PA *Cum Laude*

MATHEMATICS

Alexa Tatiana Alchevsky, Jackson, NJ *Cum Laude*
 Joseph Michael Maceyko, III, Dunmore, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

PHILOSOPHY

Casey Colleen Hodakowski, Dallas, PA



BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

ACCOUNTING

Kelly Marie Djuric, Henryville, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Katelyn Kafafian, Hackettstown, NJ
 Philip Michael Lasinski, Plymouth, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Manuel Daniel Liriano, Allentown, PA
 Tammy E. Love, East Stroudsburg, PA
 Emmanuel Osiris Suarez, Easton, PA

APPLIED BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

Dominique Lea Giuli, Dallas, PA
 Brittany Lasoski, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Cum Laude*
 Allison Schuster, Glen Lyon, PA *Cum Laude*
 Stephen Miles Schwartz, Hawley, PA

BIOLOGY

Blyssalyn Violet Bieber, Turbotville, PA *Summa Cum Laude*

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Jonathan Tyler Boruta, Gouldsboro, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Evan James Brown, Easton, PA *Cum Laude*
 Bailey William Brugler, Nazareth, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Rachel Ann Carmody, Waymart, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Stephen W. Cushing, Goshen, NY *Cum Laude*
 Jennifer A. DeRea, Bangor, PA *Cum Laude*
 Sabrina Marie DiTucci, Newfoundland, PA *Cum Laude*
 Timothy Ravi Dorner, Whitehall, PA *Cum Laude*
 Kerinne Elizabeth Dorris, Mountain Top, PA
 Ryan Edson, West Chester, PA
 Leanne Forsyth, Staten Island, NY *Magna Cum Laude*
 Nicholas Stephen Gasper, Jessup, PA *Cum Laude*
 Joseph Patrick Grasso, Goshen, NY *Cum Laude*
 Haley Gruber, Sinking Spring, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Deana DiCindio Haikes, Dunmore, PA
 Emily Elizabeth Hammond, Binghamton, NY *Summa Cum Laude*
 Erin A. Happel, Allentown, PA
 Wendy A. Hilenski, Mountain Top, PA
 Hailey Samantha Inge, Ledgewood, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*
 Donovan J. Klem, Hillsgrove, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Jordan Kevon Lawson, Scranton, PA
 Zachary Michael Mason, Manahawkin, NJ

Thomas Joseph May, Roaring Brook Twp., PA
 Lori Jean Menighan, Drums, PA
 Samantha A. Miller, Coplay, PA *Cum Laude*
 Emile Mirzoevs, Forty Fort, PA
 Kiley Morrison, Newport, PA *Cum Laude*
 Mark Palma, Old Forge, PA
 William Howard Peet, IV, Monroe, CT *Cum Laude*
 William Joshua Price, Robesonia, PA
 Michael J. Richardson, Berwick, PA
 Edward Robert Rittenhouse, Allentown, NJ
 Christian Lawrence SanPedro, Maywood, NJ *Cum Laude*
 Christine Seidita, Avoca, PA
 Krista Marie Williams, Pringle, PA
 Zackery Wroniuk-Evans, Bridgeton, NJ *Cum Laude*
 Kaitlyn Elizabeth Yurenda, Binghamton, NY *Magna Cum Laude*

CHEMISTRY

David Mark Schnable, Jr., Dallas, PA *Summa Cum Laude*

CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE

Rhiannon L. Judge, Sweet Valley, PA *Cum Laude*

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Sarah M. Roberts, Kingston, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY

Christopher Martin Bosnick, Windsor, PA
 Misha J'ate Copeland, Woodland, GA
 Teela Marie Durfee, Silver Spring, MD
 Clarissa Marcelle Stauffer, Bloomsburg, PA

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

Lori Ann Brennan, Howell, NJ
 Alexia Evans, Kingston, PA *Cum Laude*
 Alyssa Mattioli, West Wyoming, PA *Cum Laude*

HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT

Abigail Lynn Applegate, Palmerton, PA
 Noah David Bard, Kunkletown, PA
 Jonathan Paul Buck, Sussex, NJ
 Emma Nicole Caldwell, Warren, CT *Magna Cum Laude*



Patrick T. DeMichele, Bridgewater, NJ
 Laverne Florencia Zaria Donovan, Sunbury, PA
 Steven Orlando Hernandez, Stroudsburg, PA *Cum Laude*
 Jenna M. Hiryak, Gilbertsville, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Jason Matthew Hoggarth, Hanover Twp., PA
 Hannah Larkin, Sinking Spring, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Evelyn S. Logie, Scotch Plains, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*
 Megan Beth Post, Nescopeck, PA
 Kristen Marie Southard, Scranton, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Kailey Anne Vogl, Wexford, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Kelly Lynn Ward, Hazleton, PA
 Johnathan Warg, Hughesville, PA
 Hayley Nicole Witmer, Reinholds, PA *Cum Laude*
 Tristan Lamonte Wright, Bloomsburg, PA *Cum Laude*

HEALTH SCIENCE

Melanie Leigh Abda, Olyphant, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Tianna Falcone, Pittston, PA *Cum Laude*
 Alexander T. Fitch, Bethlehem, PA *Cum Laude*
 Irene Marie Florek, Mountain Top, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Lauren L. Fontaine, Quakertown, PA
 Maisa J. Hussein, Shavertown, PA
 Naomi Rose Kroll, Center Valley, PA
 Caroline E. Norelli, Reinholds, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Elizabeth Soule Perfetti, Bangor, PA
 Kelsey M. Petroski, Mountain Top, PA
 Alissa Jenna Steier, Scott Twp., PA *Cum Laude*
 Brenden Lee Walker, Waverly, NY
 Dana Morgan Warfel, Lancaster, PA

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Jai Pandya, Mountain Top, PA

MEDICAL IMAGING

Naejana Tan Carredo, Cebu City, Philippines
 Jessica Conner, Long Valley, NJ
 Melissa Renee Evans, Scranton, PA *Cum Laude*
 Megan Hrebik, Allentown, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Devin R. Marriott, Montoursville, PA
 Brianna Marie McGraw, Lake Como, PA
 Megan Mary Meckling, Rapid City, SD
 Jennifer Marie O'Neill, Saylorsburg, PA
 Irina Pavlova, Drums, PA

Kristen Schmale, Honesdale, PA
 Courtney Trisha Whitmire, Shickshinny, PA

MIDDLE LEVEL EDUCATION

Mariah Marin Mattioli, Shavertown, PA

PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Rebecca Lynn Brenner, Nanticoke, PA
 Ryan Kaprowski, Plymouth, PA
 Patricia Lammari Kobela, Mountain Top, PA
 Jameson M. Landgraf-Kimball, Morris Plains, NJ
 Danielle Elizabeth Laubach, Berwick, PA
 Joseph R. Mattioli, IV, Pocono Pines, PA
 Lindsay Jean McKim, Newton, NJ
 Samantha Missal, Dallas, PA
 Ashley Ridilla, Swoyersville, PA
 Rodney Smith, Wilkes-Barre, PA

PSYCHOLOGY

Gabrielle Belles, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Jennifer Marie Freeman, Hatboro, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Hannah Mae Humphrey, Lancaster, PA
 Breann Hunsinger, Kelayres, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Olivia Jo Meyer, Beach Lake, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Angela Marie Stella, Whitehall, PA
 Jacqueline Victoria Stevens, Silverdale, PA

SPORT MANAGEMENT

Kaitlyn Taylor Marie Burr ridge, Barton, NY
 Brian Andrew Collazo, Towaco, NJ
 Issam Samuel Hatahet, Bloomfield, NJ

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Emily Kay Beaver, Muncy, PA
 Carissa Marie Becker, Mountain Top, PA
 Theodore J. Chernyl, Larksville, PA
 Beth Ann Dibble, Montoursville, PA
 Nicholas Drago, Wilkes-Barre, PA
 Diana L. Freyberger, Seabrook, TX
 Maria B. Kayrish, Swoyersville, PA
 Michael T. Keats, Wilkes-Barre, PA
 Jessica Lynn Kenger, Plains, PA



Kelly Lynn Korea, Duryea, PA
 Rebecca Sue Kytte, Dallas, PA
 Heather Anne McHenry, Bloomsburg, PA
 Christine Sue Minet, Edwardsville, PA
 Rosemary Moran, Sugarloaf, PA
 Jessica Marie Moss, Hunlock Creek, PA
 Dianna Murphy, Archbald, PA
 Theresa M. Myers, Mountain Top, PA
 Amanda L. Ryan, Noxen, PA
 Yadhira Santana, Wilkes-Barre, PA
 Tiffany Sewatsky, Dupont, PA
 Kimberly Grace Shaffer, Lake Ariel, PA
 Mary Elizabeth Strowsky, East Waterford, PA
 Shantel Melisa Thomas, Pittston, PA
 Taylor Laken Trautwein, Harrisburg, PA
 Kelsey Pazanski Wargo, Eynon, PA
 Stephanie Marie Wiedlich, Nanticoke, PA
 Jacob Wysocki, Harding, PA
 Tanya Lee Yutko, Freeland, PA
 Susan Elaine Zanoline, Nescopek, PA

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Elizabeth Rose Brown, Mountain Top, PA
 Robin Custodio, Stewartsville, NJ
 Peter W. Doggett, Staten Island, NY
 Steven Dommies, Avoca, PA
 Amanda Lynn Faux, Waverly, PA
 Bridget Noel Guarnieri, Pittston, PA
 Michael J. Kisenwether, Dallas, PA
 Elizabeth Maria Lipski, Shavertown, PA
 Robert C. Meyers, Jr., Pleasant Valley, NY
 John Peter Olenik, Dallas, PA
 Stacey Marie Perrins, West Abington Twp., PA
 Evelyn Helena Rowles, Dallas, PA
 William James Ruddy, Dunmore, PA
 Brianna Rose Yonushka, Pittston, PA

MASTER OF SCIENCE

EDUCATION

Robert W. Kotansky, III, Drums, PA

HEALTH CARE INFORMATICS

Jennifer Marie Brown, Sweet Valley, PA
 Jasmine Mae Basa Busi, Saylorsburg, PA
 Austin I. Emenyonu, Hanover Twp., PA
 Jason Brian Heller, Nanticoke, PA
 Ahmed Kamara, Jr., Lansdowne, PA
 Susan Mary Oliver, Emmaus, PA

ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT

Deirdre Currie, Scranton, PA
 Jonathan T. DeMent, Warrington, PA
 Kelli-Ann Gargone, Wyoming, PA
 Lori Holdredge, Trucksville, PA
 Daniel Thomas Hynes, Dallas, PA
 Louise A. Keller, Scranton, PA
 Molly-Elizabeth Lorenzen, Shavertown, PA
 Timothy Ridgley, Clover, SC
 Larissa A. Warholc, Lake Ariel, PA

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Melanie Leigh Abda, Olyphant, PA
 Tianna Falcone, Pittston, PA
 Caroline E. Norelli, Reinholds, PA
 Alissa Jenna Steier, Scott Twp., PA

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Steven James Beecher, Deptford, NJ
 Kristin Cantwell, Billerica, MA
 Amanda Kate Darling, Lancaster, PA
 Samantha Elizabeth Fuss DeLuca, Pocono Lake, PA
 Melody J. Henderson, Avis, PA
 Megan Dawson Hunt, Rising Sun, MD
 Jennifer N. Koons, Dover, PA
 Lindsay Sue Kreusel, Elmer, NJ



Naomi Rose Kroll, Center Valley, PA
 Rebecca Ashley McMahon, Hunlock Creek, PA
 Joseph Nabholz, Felton, PA
 Elise Marie Rizzo, Somerset, PA
 Lauren Elizabeth Schlegel, Lancaster, PA
 Kayla Stolins, Glen Arm, MD
 Brenden Lee Walker, Waverly, NY

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Ashley Alexandra Katherine Allen, Milford, PA
 Autumn Lee Hillegas, Sugarloaf, PA
 Laurie J. Kerschner, Benton, PA
 Andrea Carolyn Martin, Philadelphia, PA
 Tammy Lee Merrifield, Mountain Top, PA
 Kelly J. Sabaluski, Lehman, PA
 Monica Stroz, Swoyersville, PA

DOCTOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Maria Rose Baldino, Columbus, OH
 Julianne S. Caputo, Hazleton, PA
 Marci Carovillano, New Providence, NJ
 Jennifer Marianne Fucci Creagh, Clinton, NJ
 Tricia Margaret LaCour, Bangor, PA
 Katherine Marie Landsiedel, Harveys Lake, PA
 Deidre Louise Limongelli, Morristown, NJ

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Ross Scott Bayer, Bernville, PA
 Shelley Black, Hanover Twp., PA
 Julie Rebecca Bogaert, Bangor, PA
 Christopher Ryan Borocho, Milford, PA
 Christina Renee Chirico, Sandyston, NJ
 Maureen Ciccocanti, Middletown, NJ
 Rachel Rose Cordasco, East Brunswick, NJ
 Anthony DeGrazia, Carbondale, PA
 Eric Dittmeier, New Hyde Park, NY
 Garrett Glenn Drumheller, Elverson, PA
 Kelsey Ann Frasier, Clementon, NJ
 Rufus Zachary Hay, Whiting, NJ

Kayla Marie Hope, Tamaqua, PA
 Kelly Marie Keener, Pittston, PA
 Samantha Rose Keifer, Pottsville, PA
 Amy Elizabeth Koch, Reading, PA
 Tara Marie Kolativa, Wilkes-Barre, PA
 Danica H. Kuti, Landing, NJ
 Moira Kelcey Langan, Scranton, PA
 Matthew Christian Maguire, Glenmoore, PA
 Lauren Marie Malick, Ringtown, PA
 Julia Giuseppina Marceca, Kinnelon, NJ
 Timothy Martin, Trout Run, PA
 Kevin James Matlon, Whippany, NJ
 Alexandria Miller, Scott Township, PA
 Todd R. Mitchell, Hughestown, PA
 Erica Marie Moore, Staten Island, NY
 Benjamin Muschlitz, Northampton, PA
 Mariah Jane Osgood, Middleburg, PA
 Katherine F. Paisley, Hazleton, PA
 Samantha Jo Partington, Fogelsville, PA
 Kara Lynn Pawloski, Plains, PA
 Megan Faye Phillips, Hallstead, PA
 Trever Calvin Reed, Gaithersburg, MD
 Lauren Marie Reinert, Bath, PA
 Nicole Kristen Rhody, Schuylkill Haven, PA
 Kristina Mary Ruby, Duryea, PA
 Colin John Snyder, Bloomsburg, PA
 Meghan Jane Stack, Douglassville, PA
 Annie Grace Stewart, Sunbury, PA
 Lindsey Stitzer, Nazareth, PA
 Gabrielle Alexis Van Mater, Wrightstown, NJ
 Adam Wasiaowski, Mountain Top, PA
 Jordan D. Weber, Summit Hill, PA
 Sarah Elizabeth Wigg, Montgomery, PA
 Kelsey Fay Williams, Taylor, PA



Undergraduate 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. Honors listed are accurate as of the print date of the program. Actual honors for August graduates will be announced at the ceremony. Estimation of honors appears in the program for students who are completing their course work in December.

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

The class valedictorian is the full-time matriculated student with the highest cumulative undergraduate average who has completed all course work at Misericordia University with the exception of the 12 credits allowed through off-campus requests or advanced placement credits. The Winter 2018 Valedictorian will be announced after final grades are submitted.

The student speaker for the 2018 Winter Commencement is the student with the highest grade point average based on grades earned at the start of the fall 2018 semester.

2018 Winter Commencement Student Speaker
Hannah Larkin

Students who have completed the *University Honors* curriculum while achieving a grade point average of 3.25 or better are awarded University Honors. Students awarded include:

Breann Hunsinger
Anamarie Rogers
Christian Lawrence SanPedro
David Mark Schnable, Jr.
Katherine Anne Tota

College of Arts and Sciences

The *Winter 2018 Outstanding Biology Student Award*, presented to a graduating senior student who has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement in Biology by earning the highest cumulative GPA in the major, was awarded to:

Blyssalyn Violet Bieber Katherine Anne Tota

College of Health Sciences and Education

The *Academic Excellence Award in Nursing*, conferred annually to a PTENP student who has attained the highest academic standing overall, was presented to:

Amanda L. Ryan

The *Clinical Excellence Award*, presented 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, was awarded to:

Stephanie Marie Wiedlich

The *Kaplan Secure Predictor*, presented to the student who has attained the highest score on the comprehensive NCLEX review examination, was awarded to:

Kelsey Pazanski Wargo

The *Daisy in Training Award*, presented to the student who meets the criteria of the Daisy Foundation for providing compassionate care to patients, was awarded to:

Kimberly Grace Shaffer

The *Excellence in Policy, Activism, and Advocacy DNP Award*, conferred annually to a graduating DNP student in good academic standing who best exemplifies a commitment to health policy change, patient advocacy, and community activism, was presented to:

Andrea Carolyn Martin

The *DNP Award for Excellence in Evidence Based Practice Change*, given annually to a graduating DNP student in good academic standing who demonstrates excellence in evidence based practice change, was awarded to:

Kelly J. Sabaluski

The *Occupational Therapy Curricular Award*, presented to an Occupational Therapy student who has demonstrated exemplary academic performance and leadership potential in the profession, was awarded to:

Lindsay Sue Kreusel



The *Excellence in Fieldwork 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, was awarded to:

Elise Marie Rizzo Kayla Stolins

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

Kelly Marie Keener

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, was presented to:

Rachel Rose Cordasco

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, was presented to:

Christopher Ryan Boroch

Students admitted to the Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society, an honor and professional society for students of the biological sciences:

Blyssalyn Violet Bieber	Meredith Hartz	Anamarie Rogers
Madison Eileen Glinski	Derek Joseph Hendershot	Katherine Anne Tota
Paisha Marie Glisson	Nathan Alan MacDonald	
Taylor Elizabeth Harnish	Courtney Rose Portaro	

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

Alexia Evans Alyssa Mattioli

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

Naejana Tan Carredo Melissa Renee Evans Courtney Trisha Whitmire

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

Lindsay Sue Kreusel

Students admitted to Sigma Beta Delta, International Business Honor Society:

Evan James Brown	Emily Elizabeth	Evelyn S. Logie
Bailey William Brugler	Hammond	Molly-Elizabeth Lorenzen
Emma Nicole Caldwell	Steven Orlando	Samantha A. Miller
Rachel Ann Carmody	Hernandez	Kristen Marie Southard
Deirdre Currie	Jenna M. Hiryak	Kailey Anne Vogl
Sabrina Marie DiTucci	Hailey Samantha Inge	Hayley Nicole Witmer
Leanne Forsyth	Louise A. Keller	Kaitlyn Elizabeth Yurenda
Kelli-Ann Gargone	Donovan J. Klem	
Haley Gruber	Hannah Larkin	

Students admitted to the Theta Phi Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau, International Honor Society for Nursing:

Giovanna Allen

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

Christopher Gerlin

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

Gabrielle Belles



ACADEMIC COSTUME IN AMERICA

Colors Indicating Fields of Learning

Worn as a border on the hood

ACCOUNTING
Drab

APPLIED BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE
Gold

BIOCHEMISTRY
Golden Yellow

BIOLOGY
Golden Yellow

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Drab

CHEMISTRY
Golden Yellow

CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE
Golden Yellow

COMMUNICATIONS
Crimson

COMPUTER SCIENCE
Golden Yellow

DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY
Golden Yellow

EDUCATION
Light Blue

ENGLISH
White

GOVERNMENT, LAW AND NATIONAL SECURITY
White

HEALTH CARE INFORMATICS
Gold

HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT
Golden Yellow

HEALTH SCIENCE
Golden Yellow

HISTORY
White

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 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.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Golden Yellow

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES
Golden Yellow

MANAGEMENT
Drab

MARKETING
Drab

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Drab

MATHEMATICS
White

MEDICAL IMAGING
Golden Yellow

MEDICAL SCIENCE
Golden Yellow

MEDICAL AND HEALTH HUMANITIES
White

NURSING
Apricot

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
Golden Yellow

ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT
Golden Yellow

PHILOSOPHY
White

PHYSICAL THERAPY (DPT)
Teal

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
Kelly Green

PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
Golden Yellow

PSYCHOLOGY
Golden Yellow

SOCIAL WORK
Citron

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
Silver

SPORT MANAGEMENT
Sage Green

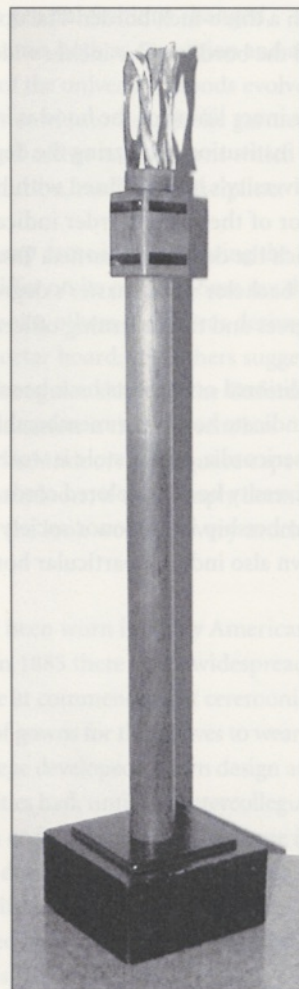
The mace is made of black walnut and bronze. The dark, rich wood symbolizes the woodlands surrounding the University campus referred to in the Alma Mater.

The unusual shaft works its way from rough cast, signifying 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 Kiel, RSM, goldsmith and silversmith. It is a gift of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Dallas Regional Community.



Misericordia University was founded by the Sisters of Mercy.

The flags on display 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.

Brazil	Peru
China	Rwanda
Guyana	Saudi Arabia
Jamaica	Turkey
Kenya	United Arab Emirates
Liberia	United Nations
Palestine	

Marshals

Tabitha Bolinsky '17	Matthew Hinton '10
Amelia Caruso '05, '12	Matthew Malcolm '02, '04
Jennifer Corey '16	Colleen Newhart '75, '09
Marilyn DeHaven '06	Maureen Rinehimer
Carol Fahnstock '08, '14	Thomas Sweetz '01, <i>Grand Marshal</i>
Heather Fritz '97	

Ushers

Ashley Casem	Sydney Kotch
Kassandra Cebula	Annmarie Narcum
Bartholomew Chupka	Edward Okeke
Breanna Gorski	Callie Rimpfel
Jessica Hanly	Cassie Silveri



Christopher Borton, *Chair*
 Dr. Deborah Smith-Mileski '75, *Vice Chair*

Michael Amory '85
 Monsignor John J. Bendik
 Thomas J. Botzman, Ph.D.
 Jonathan Brassington '95
 Rev. Michael Bryant
 Alfred Casale, M.D.
 Cornelio Catena
 R. Gregory Collins '82
 Dr. Ruth A. Connolly
 Jody Cordaro
 Harris Cutler
 Mary Erwine '90
 Patricia Finan-Castellano '73
 Harold E. Flack, II
 Mary Ellen Fuhrman '73, RSM
 Sister Carol Gallagher '66, RSM
 The Honorable Tina Polachek Gartley '88
 Roger Howell
 Philip Johnson
 Kristopher Jones
 Marjorie Marquart '85
 Sister Catherine McGroarty '74, RSM
 Daniel Meuser
 Maureen Metz
 Dr. Mary Helen Nugent, RSM
 Dr. Carol Rittner '67, RSM
 Paul Siegel
 Sister Mayon Sylvain '84, RSM
 Mark Van Loon, Esq.
 Paul Woelkers '81
 Thomas Zesk

Trustees Emeriti

Dr. Mary Ann Dillon '68, RSM
 Dr. Martha Hanlon '60, RSM
 Sandy Insalaco, Sr.
 Sherry A. Manetta '72
 John C. Metz
 Harold Rosenn, Esq.
 Rosemary Sigmond
 Mary Beth McNamara Sullivan '71
 Murray Ufberg, Esq.

Alumni Board President

Mark Oberstaedt '89, Esq.

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





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Share your well wishes and best commencement photos of your favorite graduates on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter by tagging them #MUGrads and/or with @MisericordiaU in your postings. They may be shared on MU social media sites.



MISERICORDIA
UNIVERSITY.

Founded by the Sisters of Mercy