

SPRING
COMMENCEMENT

MAY 11, 2019



MISERICORDIA
UNIVERSITY.

Graduate and Undergraduate Classes of 2019

The Misericordia University Spring Commencement ceremonies feature 119 graduate and 298 undergraduate students from 17 states, including Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

Among the academic programs with the most graduates, the College of Health Sciences and Education will award 83 Bachelor of Science in health science degrees and 52 Bachelor of Science in nursing degrees. In addition, the college is awarding 42 Master of Science degrees from the five-year, entry-level occupational therapy program and 32 Master of Science degrees from the five-year speech-language pathology program. The College of Business is presenting 32 Bachelor of Science degrees in business administration. The College of Arts and Sciences will award 11 Bachelor of Arts degrees in English and 10 in government, law, and national security.

Misericordia University is a Catholic, liberal arts institution established in the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy. Luzerne County's first four-year college fosters intellectual curiosity, critical thinking and respect for people in an environment where all are welcome.

The University has a rich 95-year tradition of preparing students 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 Spring Commencement Class of 2019 as the graduates prepare to enter the next important phases 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
Angela Alaimo O'Donnell, Ph.D.

National Anthem
Students, Faculty, and Staff Ryan Weber, Ph.D., *Pianist*

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

Conferring of Honorary Degrees
Christopher L. Borton, *Chair, Board of Trustees*

Doctor of Humane Letters
Angela Alaimo O'Donnell, Ph.D. Brennan O'Donnell, Ph.D.

Address to Candidates
Brennan O'Donnell, Ph.D.

Presentation of Candidates for Degrees
David B. Rehm, Ph.D., *Vice President of Academic Affairs*

Presentation of Honorary Alumni Award
Mark Oberstaedt '89, Esq., *Alumni Board President*
Adam Grzech '13, '17

Recipients of the Honorary Alumni Award
Dr. Michael and Tina MacDowell

Induction of Graduates into the Alumni Association
Mark Oberstaedt '89, Esq., *Alumni Board President*

Alma Mater
Students, Faculty, and Staff Ryan Weber, Ph.D., *Pianist*

Benediction
Monsignor John Bendik, *Trustee*

Academic Recessional
Ceol Mor, *Pipe and Drum Band*

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

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

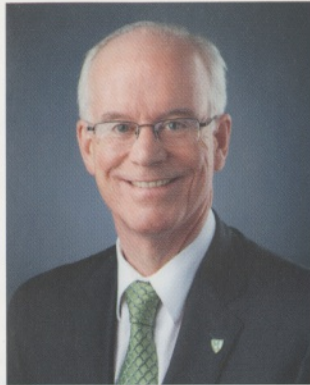
Marshals

Colleen Newhart '75, '09
Matt Hinton '13
Melissa Alunni
Jennifer Luksa
Tabitha Bolinsky

Heather Fritz '97
Helene Flower Reed '66
Danielle Prafke '13, '17
Tom Sweetz '01, Grand Marshal
Adam Grzech '13, '17



**Brennan O'Donnell, Ph.D., and
Angela Alaimo O'Donnell, Ph.D.**



Brennan O'Donnell, Ph.D., and his wife, Angela Alaimo O'Donnell, Ph.D., return to their native Wyoming Valley to share the talent and knowledge they have accumulated after serving in higher education.

Dr. Brennan O'Donnell is the president of Manhattan College, a liberal arts college based in the Catholic tradition in Bronx, N.Y. He has served as the 19th president of the private institution since 2009 after being the dean of Fordham College at Rose Hill for five years. President O'Donnell also spent 17 years at Loyola University Maryland as a professor of English and director of the university-wide honors program. An active scholar, his teaching and research interests focus mainly on poetry, especially of the British Romantic period, and on religion and literature, particularly contemporary American Catholic writers.



President O'Donnell has authored two books on the poetry of William Wordsworth and co-edited *The Work of*

Andre Dubus, a collection of essays published as a double issue of *Religion and the Arts*. In addition, he has published articles, essays, and reviews in some of the leading journals in his field. In 2014, President O'Donnell won the prestigious Robert Fitzgerald Prosody Award, which recognizes scholars whose work has "made a lasting contribution to the art and science of versification."

A frequent contributor to national and international conversations about the current state and future prospects of Catholic higher education, President O'Donnell served as editor of the national magazine, *Conversations on Jesuit Higher Education*, from 1994-00, and as a member of the National Seminar on Jesuit Higher Education from 1993-00. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees of Lewis University and the Board of Directors of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, and chairs the Lasallian Association of Colleges and Universities.



President O'Donnell and Dr. Alaimo O'Donnell earned their Bachelor of Arts degrees with highest distinction and honors in English at The Pennsylvania State University. They earned their Master of Arts degrees and Ph.Ds in English and American literature and language at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The couple has a special affinity for Misericordia University and Northeastern Pennsylvania. A native of Kingston, Pa., President O'Donnell's late mother, Mary Patricia (Brennan) O'Donnell, was a member of the Class of 1939, and his late aunt, Sister Miriam R. Brennan, RSM, was a member of the Class of 1950. Dr. O'Donnell is a native of West Wyoming, Pa.

Dr. O'Donnell is an award-winning writer, a professor at Fordham University in New York City, and the associate director of Fordham's Curran Center for American Catholic Studies. She has published seven collections of poetry, a memoir, and a biography of fiction writer Flannery O'Connor. Dr. O'Donnell also writes scholarly studies of contemporary and Catholic literature and is a former columnist and a regular contributor to *America* magazine. She will read a poem written for the Class of 2019 during the ceremony.

Misericordia University will present President O'Donnell and Dr. Alaimo O'Donnell with honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees during the graduate commencement ceremony.



Michael A. and Tina MacDowell

The legacy of Misericordia's 12th presidency is omnipresent in many forms. From John J. Passan Hall and Tambur Field in the Anderson Outdoor Athletic Complex to the addition of innovative academic and athletic programs, the accomplishments of Michael A. and Tina MacDowell remain a vivid reminder on the impact they had on Luzerne County's first four-year college.

Together, the MacDowells embraced their adopted home in the Back Mountain and set about making an impact on this

institution of higher education, the communities surrounding it, and the region it serves in Northeastern Pennsylvania. For a president with a 24-7 reputation, he had a very practical approach to growing the prestige of Misericordia: increase fundraising, admissions, and visibility of the college.

Fifteen years later, that approach proved to be a winning formula. It enabled Misericordia to grow from a regional, Catholic college to a regionally acclaimed and nationally recognized university based in the liberal arts. During his presidency, the endowment grew from \$4 million to more than \$23 million, and, overall, the institution raised more than \$60 million from private and government sources. From 1998-2013, enrollment nearly tripled from 1,050 to an all-time record of 3,012 students.

The campus community acknowledged the couple's significant leadership and accomplishments in 2012 by dedicating Michael and Tina MacDowell Hall, a 37,000-square-foot building, in their honor. It was made possible by a \$1 million pledge from the Board of Trustees. That steadfast commitment to Misericordia continues in retirement, as the MacDowells remain engaged with this academic community.

The Alumni Association will present them with the Honorary Alumni Award during the graduate ceremony. The award honors individuals who are not graduates yet have made significant contributions toward its welfare and prestige, and have shown lifelong devotion and demonstrative loyalty. The alumni association gives the award only when it wishes to honor an exceptional person or couple.

"Our 15 years at Misericordia were the most memorable of our lives," said Michael A. MacDowell, Ed.D., who retired in 2013 as president emeritus. "They were made more so by an alumni body that cared deeply about their alma mater and the role it played in their lives. Just to be considered honorary members of that dedicated and caring group makes us very proud."

DOCTOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Kaylin Elizabeth Miley, Clarksville, TN
 Nicole Schwartz, Toms River, NJ
 Joanna Szeliga, Toms River, NJ
 Pasqualina Eleandra Tirro, Staten Island, NY
 Deanne Maree Vasely, Virginia Beach, VA
 Noelle Welch, Charlotte Hall, MD

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Nina Ann Williams, Larksville, PA

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Kelly Alwilda Blackhurst, North River, NY
 Dannah Marie Hayward, Wilkes-Barre, PA
 Michael Hunter Kaysa, Elmira, NY
 Zachary L. LaNunziata, Exeter, PA
 Kyle Lindsay, Sewell, NJ
 Kyle A. Melahn, Succasunna, NJ
 Andrew Michael Nelson, Olyphant, PA
 Nicholas G. Smith, Lodi, NJ
 Rebecca Lee Sweetra, Shavertown, PA

**MASTER OF SCIENCE
EDUCATION**

Holly Ann Johnson, Laceyville, PA
 Rebecca Ann Krasson, Plymouth, PA
 Patrick J. Smith, Fogelsville, PA
 Erica Yenchick, Nuremberg, PA

ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT

Lauren Apetz, Glenwood, FL
 Emani Byrd, Baltimore, MD
 Margaret Corley, Kingston, PA



Stephanie Donahue, Pittston Twp., PA
 Donya Katharine Forst, West Fargo, ND
 Kyle Hayes, New Hyde Park, NY
 Matthew Klassner, Scranton, PA
 Lisa M. Miller, Mountain Top, PA
 Randi A. Nichols, Tunkhannock, PA
 Joseph Portland, Sinking Spring, PA
 Cynthia Ruch, Hunlock Creek, PA
 Julie Spracklin, Eastampton, NJ
 Kayla Tiley, Hegins, PA
 Eric Helmut Usbeck, II, Old Forge, PA
 Brandon M. Winslow, Turnersville, NJ

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Alexis Monaco Andriani, Cedar Run, NJ
 Kacy Marie Carroll, Sanatoga, PA
 Anna Mihaylovna Chinikaylo, Shavertown, PA
 Nicole Crinella, Archbald, PA
 Rebecca Cristino, Mountainside, NJ
 Jason J. Curtis, Cape May Court House, NJ
 Emily DiGirolamo, Ottsville, PA
 Colby Theresa Eldridge, Maple Glen, PA
 Siobhan Ferrara, Hellertown, PA
 Katrina Elizabeth Giacumbo, Holmdel, NJ
 Emily Quinn Gurtizen, West Chester, PA
 Amberlynn Leigh Habich, Downingtown, PA
 Ashley Hobbs, Freehold, NJ
 Olivia Rae Lanza, Falls, PA
 Murphy Lynch, Northampton, PA
 Kali Ann McCornac, Bethlehem, PA
 Riley M. McKee, Southampton, PA
 Jenna Lee Mills, Sewell, NJ
 Rachel C. Moon, Weatherly, PA
 Jacqueline Grace Moore, Sewell, NJ
 Paige Nicole Nowacoski, Columbia Cross Roads, PA
 Karli A. O'Brien, Dallas, PA
 Maggie Marie O'Day, Honesdale, PA

Jessica Pachuski, Kulpmont, PA
 Linsey Ellis Parks, Pine Beach, NJ
 Shayne Michelle Postiglione, Washingtonville, NY
 D'manda Camille Price, Paterson, NJ
 Danielle Spagnuolo, Wyoming, PA
 Hope Alexa Spangler, Mechanicsburg, PA
 Lisa Elizabeth Stump, New Cumberland, PA
 Shea Nicole Williams, Milton, PA
 Megan J. Yeager, Mifflintown, PA

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Arianna Catherine Anglovich, Shavertown, PA
 Cory Daniel Balko, Falls, PA
 Sarah Ann Brown, Shavertown, PA
 Heather Dolly Gavin, Plains, PA
 Rachel Dawn Matteucci, Kingston, PA
 Katharine Allison Niezgoda, Shavertown, PA
 Grace Johna Olshefski, Shickshinny, PA
 Priyanka Patel, Plains, PA
 Amanda Rose Turoni, Scranton, PA
 Christina Wood, Damascus, PA

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Miranda Rose Amey, Waxhaw, NC
 Mariah Lynn Bostwick, Stroudsburg, PA
 Megan Breen, Wantagh, NY
 Megan Brownmiller, Hamburg, PA
 Rebecca Jane Burgess, Jarrettsville, MD
 Kathryn Marie Canavan, Athens, PA
 Julianne Victoria Cariola, Yardley, PA
 Michael Bernard Castaldi, Scranton, PA
 Natasha Chandra, Hillsborough, NJ
 Ashley Elizabeth Coleman, Kunkletown, PA
 Hannah Corbacio, Pottsville, PA
 Taylor Lynn Daton, Jackson, NJ
 Haley DiMassimo, Sugar Run, PA
 Jamie Demorest Fechnay, Hatboro, PA



Brianne A. Font, Washington Crossing, PA
 Samantha Anne Gregorowicz, South Abington Twp., PA
 Alisa Janet Guzman, Old Bridge, NJ
 Bailee Morgan Hymers, East Meredith, NY
 Abigail Rose Kayes, Shenandoah, PA
 Brianna Nicole Kubishin, Drums, PA
 Kaitlynn Rose Kuchta, Avoca, PA
 Meghan Elizabeth Maccarone, Sweet Valley, PA
 Austin John Martinelli, Scranton, PA
 Nicole Mayerski, Plains, PA
 Brianna Membrino, Manalapan, NJ
 Emily Mesaris, Lansdale, PA
 Olivia Katherine Natale, Staten Island, NY
 Molly Noon, Ashland, PA
 Sarah Jane Novalsky, Woodbury, NJ
 Leanne Para, Pittston, PA
 Alyssa Nicole Parker, Lyon Station, PA
 Allison May Parkes, Cranston, RI
 Alexa Paige Plitt, Mullica Hill, NJ
 Jessica Marie Pluta, Dauphin, PA
 Olivia R. Powers, Towanda, PA
 Rebecca Morgan Price, Mountain Top, PA
 Micaela Renee Rhone, Starrucca, PA
 Sarah Hope Roettger, Finksburg, MD
 Brianna Nicole Rowe, Halifax, PA
 Jessica Rae Thomson, Byram Twp., NJ
 Emily Walsh, Scranton, PA
 Kaitlin Patricia Wilson, Dorothy, NJ

Academic Processional
 Ceol Mor, *Pipe and Drum Band*

Invocation
 Sr. Catherine McGroarty '74, RSM, *Trustee*

National Anthem
 Students, Faculty, and Staff Ryan Weber, Ph.D., *Pianist*

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

Remarks
 Brianna Spilsbury '19, *Student Speaker*

Conferring of Honorary Degree
 Christopher L. Borton, *Chair, Board of Trustees*

Doctor of Humane Letters
 Tanya M. Trippett, M.D.

Address to Candidates
 Tanya M. Trippett, M.D.

Presentation of Candidates for Degrees
 David B. Rehm, Ph.D., *Vice President of Academic Affairs*

Presentation of 2019 Senior Class Gift
 Kevin Brown '19, Gina Neyhart '19, and Clare Schoen '19

Induction of Graduates into the Alumni Association
 Mark Oberstaedt '89, Esq., *Alumni Board President*

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

Alma Mater
 Students, Faculty, and Staff Ryan Weber, Ph.D., *Pianist*

Benediction
 Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D. J.L.C., *Bishop of Scranton*

Academic Recessional
 Ceol Mor, *Pipe and Drum Band*

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

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

Marshals

Colleen Newhart '75, '09
 Matt Hinton '13
 Matt Malcolm '02, '04
 Amy Caruso '05, '12
 Jennifer Luksa

Tabitha Bolinsky '17
 Trish Burgess '12, '15
 Adam Grzech '13, '17
 Tom Sweetz '01, Grand Marshal



Tanya M. Trippett, M.D.

Tanya M. Trippett, M.D., a pediatric hematologic oncologist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, has spent her distinguished medical career battling cancer, especially lymphomas in young patients.



That treatment is not limited in scope as she focuses intently on clinical research to design and assess investigational therapies for children with all types of cancers. Dr. Trippett is the co-founder of the Pediatric Oncology Experimental Therapeutics Investigator Consortium (POETIC), a collaboration between multiple centers across the country whose mission is the development of biologically targeted therapies for cancers that have recurred in children. Together, the centers work to increase patients' access to promising new agents in clinical trials.

Dr. Trippett served as the director of the POETIC Coordinating Center at Memorial Sloan Kettering until recently, when she transitioned her efforts to building an international children's cancer research center in Ghana. She is currently building the capacity of two charities focused on the health of children, which she leads as president – the POETIC Foundation and the Eugene Gasana Jr. Foundation.

Dr. Trippett, whose background includes molecular pharmacology and therapeutics laboratory research, also served the national Children's Oncology Group as chairperson of the Hodgkin's Biology Committee and vice chairperson of the Hodgkin's Disease Committee for 12 years.

Her transcendent research and dedication to the care of children with cancer has resulted in numerous awards and accolades from her peers. Dr. Trippett was named a Diamond Member of the International Association of Pediatricians in 2010 and has been recognized with The Leading Physicians of the World honor every year since 2010. She received the title of Castle Connolly Top Doctor in Pediatric Hematology-Oncology in 2013 and, in 2015, received the UBS Women Leaving a Legacy Award. In 2018, she received the Great African Shine Award.

Dr. Trippett earned her Bachelor of Arts and Science degrees, summa cum laude, from Spelman College in Georgia, where she was also the class valedictorian. She received her Doctor of Medicine degree from Duke University School of Medicine.

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

BACHELOR OF ARTS**BIOLOGY**

Alyssa Rose Pratti, Port Jervis, NY *Cum Laude*
Alyson Wilbur, Tunkhannock, PA *Cum Laude*

ENGLISH

Daniella Amendola, Scranton, PA *Cum Laude*
Scott Marius Bargisen, Jr., Northvale, NJ
Sarah Beecham, Hanover Twp., PA
Mary Patricia Blaskiewicz, West Pittston, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
Kristen Ann Capitano, Pittston, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
Madison Cardinale, Dupont, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
Adam David Ercolani, Bear Creek, PA *Cum Laude*
Kimberly Marie Kowalski, Scranton, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
Karen Ann Reilly, Edwardsville, PA
Briana Scorey, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
Bailey Waltman, Berwick, PA *Cum Laude*

GOVERNMENT, LAW AND NATIONAL SECURITY

Brian Beauchemin, Lake Winola, PA *Cum Laude*
Gaetano Buonsante, Exeter, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
Jourdaine Brooke Newhart, Hop Bottom, PA
Anthony Michael Scher, Franklin Lakes, NJ
Michael Shott, Tresckow, PA *Cum Laude*
Conor Edward Smith, Easton, PA
Christina Solomon, Noxen, PA
Brett Martin Stage, Dalton, PA
Frank Wojtash, Plains, PA
Alexander D. Zelna, Falls, PA

HISTORY

Stefany A Krasson, Plymouth, PA *Cum Laude*
Briana Scorey, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Summa Cum Laude*



MASS COMMUNICATIONS AND DESIGN

Parker A. Abate, St. Charles, IL *Magna Cum Laude*
Justin Connolly, Boonton, NJ

MATHEMATICS

Wesley Hill, Picture Rocks, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
Christopher David Larson, Pleasant Mount, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
Charles Lawrence Richter, Mehoopany, PA
Alec James William Rodway, III, Peckville, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
Catherine Ann Ru Silveri, Plains, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

MEDICAL AND HEALTH HUMANITIES

Ariel M. McPeck, Larksville, PA *Cum Laude*

PHILOSOPHY

Ariel M. McPeck, Larksville, PA *Cum Laude*

STATISTICS

Wesley Hill, Picture Rocks, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
Christopher David Larson, Pleasant Mount, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**ACCOUNTING**

Angelica Balitsos, Wantagh, NY
Olivia D. Cottle, Manheim, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
Alexa Rose Doggett, Hanover, PA
Drake William Koch, Reading, PA
Melissa A. McHugh, Hopewell Junction, NY *Summa Cum Laude*
Annalese Julia Olivieri, Norristown, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
Sherry Lynn Pearson, Sweet Valley, PA
Trisha Lynn Pfeiffer, Bloomsburg, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
Gabriel Pompette, Brookfield, CT
Michael Joseph Quinn, Madison Twp., PA *Cum Laude*
Clayton D. Vleck, New Windsor, MD
Tara Nicole Welliver, Towanda, PA *Summa Cum Laude*

BIOCHEMISTRY

Shelby Lynn Burke, Shickshinny, PA
Abrielle Elizabeth Garber, Dallas, PA *Cum Laude*

BIOLOGY

Michelle Kaitlin Ash, Sweet Valley, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
Madison Eileen Glinski, Laporte, PA *Cum Laude*
David Michael Kunkel, Tamaqua, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Corey Bond, Pompton Plains, NJ
Erica Leigh Bond, Breinigsville, PA
Jason Michael Burke, Throop, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
Luke D. Coleman, Dunmore, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
Paula Eddy, Shickshinny, PA
Adam David Ercolani, Bear Creek, PA *Cum Laude*
RuthAnn R. Getten, Weatherly, PA
Santo Guinta, Ridgefield, NJ
David Michael Havard, Mountain Top, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
Barry D. Kabinoff, Jr., Barto, PA
Jason R. Kenny, Dickson City, PA
Jacob Knoble, Alpha, NJ
Mistie Marie Laubach, West Wyoming, PA *Cum Laude*
Rachel A. Lauck, Bloomsburg, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
Jordan Lawson, Scranton, PA
Brendan Michael Leonard, Staten Island, NY
John Ryan McCarthy, Dallas, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
Nicholas Richard Muldoon, Dallas, PA
Cain Elijahwon Neal, Woodbridge, VA
Ryan Joseph Norton, Tobyhanna, PA
Edward O. Okeke, New City, NY
Olutobi F. Olugbenga, Hopatcong, NJ
Ashlee M. Parlante, Hanover Twp., PA *Cum Laude*
Kyle Anthony Rogalski, Plymouth Meeting, PA
Richard James Salerno, Hazlet, NJ
William K. Shields, Mechanicsburg, PA *Cum Laude*
Matthew John Smith, Bethlehem, PA



Isiah Solomon, Bridgewater, NJ
 Tyler Joseph Stephan, Westminster, MD *Cum Laude*
 Corey William Storm, Nanticoke, PA
 Elizabeth Anne Waleski, Avoca, PA
 James Wood, Shoreham, NY

CHEMISTRY

Elizabeth Evelyn Torres, Hazleton, PA
 Leonard Watson, Jr., Paoli, PA

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Kevin Torres, Hazleton, PA *Cum Laude*

DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY

Rebecca Jean Flick, Allentown, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Kristine Holdorf, Freehold, NJ
 Danielle Marie Owens, Central Square, NY *Magna Cum Laude*
 Kristin Petruzzelli, Howell, NJ
 Cara Spector, West Deptford, NJ

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

Cassidy Leigh Boston, Berwick, PA
 Laura Emily Gilbody, Clarks Summit, PA
 Cordell Austin Gresh, Pittston Twp., PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Ashley BreAnn Johnson, Mechanicsburg, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Rachel Leigh Jones, Hazleton, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Tara Malara, Whitehouse Station, NJ
 Shea Kathryn Matta, Green Village, NJ *Cum Laude*
 Sarah May Olsen, Williston Park, NY
 Kayla Marie Radle, Exeter, PA
 Tammy G. Schnable, Dallas, PA
 Emily Seaberg, Tunkhannock, PA *Cum Laude*
 Alexandra Brooke Stefanides, Forty Fort, PA *Cum Laude*
 Katelynn Rose Taylor, Clifford Twp., PA *Magna Cum Laude*

HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT

Ethan Matthew Aigeldinger, Perkasio, PA
 John Richard Chinchar, Paramus, NJ
 Rachael Ann Crills, Benton, PA *Cum Laude*
 Juliana DeNardi, Harding, PA *Cum Laude*
 Christopher M. Hale, Basking Ridge, NJ
 Caitlin Jacqueline Kennedy, Fairplay, MD
 Vincente Maldonado, Lancaster, PA
 Steven Michael Pabon, Levittown, NY
 Stephanie Anne Schultz, Harding, PA
 Tara Nicole Welliver, Towanda, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Nicholas Yeager, Muncy, PA

HEALTH SCIENCE

Jennifer Rose Antoniazzi, Old Bridge, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*
 Nicolette Paige Bagoly, Reading, PA
 Lyndsey Ann Balzer, Camden, SC
 Matthew Edward Beck, Massapequa Park, NY
 Katie Marie Bowman, Hegins, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Megan Breen, Wantagh, NY
 Cara Flynn Brown, Solon, OH *Cum Laude*
 Kevin William Brown, Staten Island, NY
 Kristen Byrne, Hazlet, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*
 Danielle Krista Cawley, Dingmans Ferry, PA *Cum Laude*
 Megan Benita Cremins, Fishkill, NY
 Brenna L. Curran, Northampton, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Emily A. Dacko, Lebanon, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Katarina Dee Darmofal, West Chester, PA
 Kiersten Marie Davis, Lebanon, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Megan Davis, Gap, PA
 Jordyn Ann Donnelly, Newville, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Charlotte Amber Durr, New Milford, CT *Magna Cum Laude*
 Madison Nicole Eberlin, Wyalusing, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Jacqueline Brooke Gallik, Honesdale, PA
 Jessica Patricia Grab, Sellersville, PA
 Emily Rebecca Gralinski, Topton, PA *Summa Cum Laude*



Victoria M. Guseva-Micklon, Oakhurst, NJ *Summa Cum Laude*
 Julianna Ellen Haar, Norwood, NJ *Summa Cum Laude*
 Jessica Ann Hanly, Coram, NY *Magna Cum Laude*
 Bailey Marie Hartung, Andreas, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Madison Dianna Hayes, Dublin, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Taylor Mackenzie Header, Ashland, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Elizabeth Heinmiller, Downingtown, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Taylor Nicole Hirneisen, Reading, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Cara Anne Imbalzano, Roaring Brook Twp., PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Rebecca Irwin, Honesdale, PA *Cum Laude*
 Monica Jarog, Kresgeville, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Olivia Catherine Johnson, Jamison, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Kierra Ashlyn Kimble, Port Matilda, PA
 Zachary Adam Koharski, Coal Twp., PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Brianna Marie Kominiak, Newton, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*
 Jeremy Michael Kuba, Hellertown, PA
 Kristin Elizabeth Kuntzman, Northampton, PA
 Samantha Lynn Liddle, Dubois, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Meghan Long, Saylorsburg, PA
 Carolyn Maguire, Wallingford, PA
 Alexa Rae Malloy, West Wyoming, PA
 Austin John Martinelli, Scranton, PA
 Michaela McQuaig, Mechanicsburg, PA
 Stephanie Josephine Monforte, Staten Island, NY
 Ashley Jean Morgan, Dalton, PA
 Kristen Ann Murphy, Jamison, PA
 James Joseph Nesler, Jr., Hazle Twp., PA
 Gina Lynn Neyhart, West Long Branch, NJ *Cum Laude*
 Erica Nicoletti, Bangor, PA *Cum Laude*
 Julianna Norris, Edison, NJ
 Haley Novitski, Sweet Valley, PA
 Cassandra Elisabeth Oliver, Hollywood, MD
 Erin Alexis Onoshko, West Long Branch, NJ
 Paige M. Pachuillo, Sinking Spring, PA
 Megan A. Peace, Old Saybrook, CT
 Emily A. Perry, Bath, PA *Cum Laude*
 Leah Persing, Monroe Twp., NJ *Summa Cum Laude*

Kristen Nicole Pilchik, Freehold, NJ *Cum Laude*
 Kaitlyn Patricia Raab, Mohnton, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Isabella Reader, Middleburg, PA
 Annette Ritzko, Coaldale, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Kristin L. Robinson, Harleysville, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Emily Catherine Rothschild, Poughkeepsie, NY *Cum Laude*
 Lia Gabrielle Ruggerio, Dallas, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Katherine Emma Schmitter, Chatham, NJ
 Clare Elizabeth Schoen, Scranton, PA
 Jordan Lea Seprosky, Archbald, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Martina Marie Sledziewski, White Haven, PA
 Brianna Caroline Spilsbury, Pittsburgh, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Danielle Jean Stillarty, Wyoming, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Jacqueline Elizabeth Strausser, Gouldsboro, PA *Cum Laude*
 Deanna Michelle Thomas, Nanticoke, PA *Cum Laude*
 Kelby Ann Truchon, Shickshinny, PA
 Lauren Patricia Vermeulen, Montrose, PA
 Taylor Marie Webb, Clark, NJ
 Marleesa Werteen, Orefield, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Kaitlin M. Wheeler, Chesapeake, VA
 Morgan Mary Wheeler, Kingston, PA *Cum Laude*
 Chantal Whiteduck, Dickson City, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Kelci Yesnowski, Old Forge, PA *Cum Laude*
 Theresa Zeares, Bloomsburg, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Owen KeAndre Clark, Islip Terrace, NY *Magna Cum Laude*
 Breanna Michelle Gorski, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Cum Laude*
 Michael David Terninko, Harveys Lake, PA

MANAGEMENT

Megan Kennedy, Hunlock Creek, PA *Summa Cum Laude*



MEDICAL IMAGING

Jade Pearl Broody, Shavertown, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Emily L. Bush, Moosic, PA
 Brittany Rose Cory, Minersville, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Allia Kathryn Dolan, Drums, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Ashley Hunter Edgell, Seaville, NJ *Cum Laude*
 Morgan E. Gable, Taylor, PA
 Chelsea Hess, North Versailles, PA
 Kara Leigh Hockenberry, Dallas, PA
 Kaylyn Rose Kleinschmidt, Waterbury, CT *Cum Laude*
 Stephanie Marie Lacey, Jordan, NY
 Maria D. Mejia Cortes, Indianapolis, IN
 Rachel Lauryn Naylor, Duryea, PA *Cum Laude*
 Cassie N. Roadcap, Douglassville, PA
 Rachel Elizabeth Smith, Magnolia, DE
 Benjamin Anthony Steve, Wyoming, PA

MEDICAL SCIENCE

Christina Ann Moore, Staten Island, NY *Magna Cum Laude*

MIDDLE LEVEL EDUCATION

Owen G. Davis, Harrisburg, PA
 Rachel Polacheck, Exeter, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Jill Marie Gower, New Triploi, PA
 Lisa M. Malcolm, Shavertown, PA *Summa Cum Laude*
 Andrea Lynn Pirtskhalava, Wilkes-Barre, PA
 Justine Sagan, Sweet Valley, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Marshall Witmer, Newmanstown, PA

PSYCHOLOGY

Spencer Dieffenbach, Dallas, PA *Cum Laude*
 Olivia Ann Katulka, West Wyoming, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Margherita Ellen Kingsbury, Doylestown, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Alexis Marie Kramarz, Allentown, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*

Austin John Martinelli, Scranton, PA
 Sean McSwiggan, Massapequa, NY
 Marissa K. Miscavage, Dallas, PA
 Jonathan Andrew Stuffick, Harveys Lake, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Taylor Marie Webb, Clark, NJ
 Adriana E. Wesolowski, Shavertown, PA
 Mackenzie Ann Wise, Montoursville, PA

SPORT MANAGEMENT

Vincenzo Diliberti, Commack, NY
 Justin Jay Gerber, Schuylkill Haven, PA *Cum Laude*
 Tyler Jakes, Scranton, PA
 Kenneth Michael Jarema, Downingtown, PA
 Johnathon Plouffe, Endwell, NY
 Connor Sheridan, Sparta, NJ
 Christopher Somerville, Flanders, NJ
 Steven Weisensee, Clark, NJ
 Jonathan H. Yanko, Hopatcong, NJ

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Amanda Alba, Wilkes-Barre, PA
 Erin C. Burgess, Damascus, PA
 Emily Samantha Caulfield, Massapequa Park, NY
 Cassandra M. Cebula, Bear Creek, PA
 Paige M. Clancy, Boiling Springs, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Taylor Marie Deaton, Westampton, NJ
 Nicole Domzalski, Hanover Twp., PA
 Jennifer Dwyer, East Stroudsburg, PA
 Kobe R. Galentine, Montgomery, PA
 Joseph Michael Genett, Jr., Hockessin, DE
 Holly Marie Green, Swoyersville, PA
 Jessica N. Haggerty, Mt. Bethel, PA *Cum Laude*
 Vanessa Marie Hannagan, Wilkes-Barre, PA
 Jaime Lynn Hannis, Dallas, PA
 Donna Jean Harding, Palmyra, PA *Magna Cum Laude*



Phyllis Hibbard, Springville, PA
 Kyleigh Brooke Hoover, Shickshinny, PA
 Jessyca Horst, Forty Fort, PA
 Connor Wayne Houseknecht, Elysburg, PA
 Zoe Angela Klunk, Hanover, PA
 Brianna Leigh Ladner, Tabernacle, NJ *Cum Laude*
 Perry Jon Langbein, Milford, PA
 April Marie Long, Sunbury, PA
 Kady Ann Luchetti, Plains, PA
 Kelsey Jean Lyter, Lebanon, PA
 David J. Mallarkey, Jr., West Pittston, PA
 Abigail Marzzacco, Harrisburg, PA
 Megan Marie Matthews, Nanticoke, PA
 Alyssa Moules, Courtdale, PA
 Emma A. Niznik, Wyoming, PA
 Rebecca Ann Osborne, Perkiomenville, PA
 Hydie Marie Pompey, Roaring Brook Twp., PA
 Meghan Marie Pontz, Danville, PA
 Rebecca Lynn Robins, Lebanon, PA *Cum Laude*
 Connor Ruhl, Stroudsburg, PA
 Kristin Ann Rushton, Nanticoke, PA
 Michael Anthony Sedlack, Thompsonville, NY *Cum Laude*
 Erin Kay Seldomridge, Lebanon, PA
 Kayla Marie Kathleen Shotto, Tunkhannock, PA
 Mary Catherine Stephens, Camp Hill, PA
 Allison Marie Stine, Pottsville, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Julie Ann Stine, Lake Ariel, PA
 Emily Ann Szefflinski, Raritan, NJ
 Sereya Korin Tereska, Mountain Top, PA
 Taylor Ann Urbanski, Swoyersville, PA
 Taylor Lynn Verna, West Chester, PA *Cum Laude*
 Reilly Jane Wagner, Crofton, MD *Magna Cum Laude*
 Arlene B. Williams, Harding, PA
 Nicole Williams, Mountain Top, PA
 Jillian Williamson, Thornton, CO
 Alexis Marie Viola Wilson, Marlton, NJ
 Victoria Lynn Yodice, Franklin, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

Allison Hunt Butow, Point Pleasant Beach, NJ
 Japriya J. Carroll, York, PA
 Grace Ann-Marie Pollock, Mountain Top, PA
 Brianna Kay Smith, Nanticoke, PA *Magna Cum Laude*
 Ashlilyn Steblinski, Monroe Twp., PA
 Lucia Walkowiak, Wilkes-Barre, PA
 Christine Ann Ward, Sayville, NY *Magna Cum Laude*
 Deanna Jean Warren, Nicholson, PA *Magna Cum Laude*



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. Estimation of honors appears in the program for students who are completing their course work in May.

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 Spring 2019 Valedictorian will be announced after final grades are submitted.

The student speaker for the 2019 Spring Commencement is the student with the highest grade point average based on grades earned at the start of the spring 2019 semester.

2019 Spring Commencement Student Speaker
Brianna Caroline Spilsbury

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:

Mary Patricia Blaskiewicz	Olivia Ann Katulka
Gaetano Buonsante	Stefany A Krasson
Danielle Krista Cawley	Melissa A McHugh
Megan Benita Cremins	Christina Ann Moore
Charlotte Amber Durr	Briana Scorey
Adam David Ercolani	Catherine Ann Ru Silveri
Madison Eileen Glinski	Bailey Waltman
Taylor Nicole Hirneisen	

College of Arts and Sciences

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

David Michael Kunkel

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

David Mark Schnable, Jr.

The *Award for Excellence in English* is presented to:

Mary Patricia Blaskiewicz

Kristen Ann Capitano

The *Okla Elliott Award for Creative Literary Achievement* is presented to:

Daniella Amendola

The *Instress Award for Service and Creative Distinction* is awarded to:

Scott Marius Bargisen, Jr.

Kimberly Marie Kowalski

The *Donald and Mary Ann Hopkins Award for Excellence in Theater Arts*, presented to a graduating senior who has balanced academic excellence while exemplifying passion for theater arts both on and off stage, is presented to:

Adam David Ercolani

Cordell Austin Gresh

The *Award for Excellence in Government, Law, and National Security* is presented to:

Gaetano Buonsante

The *Professor Donald Fries Award for Excellence in History* is presented to:

Stefany A Krasson

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

Briana Scorey

The *Award for Excellence in Medical and Health Humanities* is awarded to:

Giana Russo



The *Living Philosophy Aspen Award*, given to a graduating philosophy major who has, like a single aspen tree seedling, grown and reached out to create a forest of living and enduring ideas, changing the landscape forever, and creating footpaths for future generations to walk, is presented to:

Ariel M. McPeck

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

Michelle Kaitlin Ash

The *Psychology Student Achievement Award* for academic excellence is presented to:

Gabrielle Belles

Olivia Ann Katulka

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

Jonathan Andrew Stuffick

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

Mary Patricia Blaskiewicz

Kimberly Marie Kowalski

College of Business

The *Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants Award* for excellence in Accounting Studies, given to a graduating traditional student majoring in Accounting, is awarded to:

Melissa A. McHugh

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

Donovan J. Klem

Tara Nicole Welliver

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

Adam David Ercolani

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

Justin Connolly

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

Parker A. Abate

College of Health Sciences and Education

The *Diagnostic Medical Sonography Academic Excellence Award* is presented to:

Danielle Marie Owens

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

Allia Kathryn Dolan

Megan Hrebik

The *Jane DeMaio Clinical Excellence in the study of Medical Imaging Award* is presented to:

Brittany Rose Cory

Ashley Hunter Edgell

The *Sister Mary Kateri Dorwart Award for Excellence and Leadership in Nursing* is awarded to:

David J. Mallarkey, Jr.

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:

Taylor Lynn Verna

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

Meghan Marie Pontz

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

Paige M. Clancy

The *MSN Clinical Excellence Award*, presented annually to a graduating MSN student in good academic standing who has demonstrated clinical excellence, is awarded to:

Katharine Allison Niezgod



The *MSN Evidence Based Practice Award*, presented to a graduating MSN student in good academic standing who demonstrates excellence in evidence based practice change through the MSN capstone, is awarded to:

Christina Wood

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, is presented to:

Rebecca Morgan Price

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:

Olivia Katherine Natale

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:

Bailee Morgan Hymers

The *Alpha Delta Mu Award* for academic excellence in Social Work is awarded to:

Deanna Jean Warren

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 comportsment as a beginning social work practitioner merit recognition beyond the awarding of the BSW degree, is presented to:

Brianna Kay Smith

The *Dr. James Calderone Award*, presented to a graduating Social Work student who has shown outstanding personal and professional growth, is awarded to:

Ashlilyn Steblinski

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

Shea Nicole Williams

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

Ashley Hobbs

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

Danielle Spagnuolo

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

Hope Alexa Spangler

The *Speech-Language Pathology Research Excellence Award* is granted to the student who takes initiative to participate in all aspects of the research process for multiple research projects, including independent research. The quality of this student's scholarship is exemplary and has led to presentations and/or publications. This award is presented to:

D'manda Camille Price

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

D'manda Camille Price

Shea Nicole Williams

Danielle Spagnuolo

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

Kimberly Marie Kowalski

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

Shea Kathryn Matta

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

Kayla Marie Radle

The *Sister Pat McCann, Ed.D. Award*, given to a student who exemplifies the charism of service in the spirit of Catherine McAuley, is presented to:

Katelynn Rose Taylor

The *Joan L. Krause Award* for excellence based on cumulative GPA at the time of graduation, and faculty recommendation, is awarded to:

Ashley BreAnn Johnson



The *Dr. Joseph Rogan Award* for excellence in student teaching in Middle-level Education is awarded to:

Rachel Polacheck

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

Christopher Gerlin

University Awards

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

Clare Elizabeth Schoen

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

Jason Michael Burke

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:

Karen Ann Reilly

The *Service-Learning Leadership Award*, given to a student who conducts 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:

Julianna Norris

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:

Kiersten Marie Davis

The *Board of Trustees Award*, established by the Misericordia University Board of Trustees to honor the student exemplifying the University's academic, leadership and service ideals, is presented to:

Annette Ritzko

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

Allison Hunt Butow

Japriya J. Carroll

Kendra Kelly Mattice

Katelyn Marie Campbell

Lindsay Marie Lord

Lucia Walkowiak

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

Jason Michael Burke

RuthAnn R. Getten

Rachel A. Lauck

Beth Dibble

Jill Marie Gower

Lisa M. Malcolm

Rebecca Jean Flick

Pat Kobela

Justine Sagan

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

Michelle Kaitlin Ash

David Michael Kunkel

Madison Eileen Glinski

Alyssa Rose Pratti

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

Mary Patricia Blaskiewicz

Tara Malara

Catherine Ann Ru Silveri

Cassidy Leigh Boston

Shea Kathryn Matta

Alexandra Brooke Stefanides

Ashley BreAnn Johnson

Rachel Polacheck

Katelynn Rose Taylor

Rachel Leigh Jones

Kayla Marie Radle

Kimberly Marie Kowalski

Emily Seaberg

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

Jade Pearl Broody

Allia Kathryn Dolan

Maria D. Mejia Cortes

Emily L. Bush

Chelsea Hess

Rachel Lauryn Naylor

Brittany Rose Cory

Kaylyn Rose Kleinschmidt

Danielle Marie Owens

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

Miranda Rose Amey

Andrea Gibson

Olivia Katherine Natale

Brianna Bogacki

Emily Rebecca Gralinski

Molly Noon

Mariah Lynn Bostwick

Samantha Anne

Micaela Renee Rhone

Cara Flynn Brown

Gregorowicz

Sarah Hope Roettger

Kristen Byrne

Julianna Ellen Haar

Brianna Nicole Rowe

Julianne Victoria Cariola

Monica Jarog

Jennifer Seiz

Danielle Krista Cawley

Olivia Catherine Johnson

Ian Wallace

Brenna L. Curran

Abigail Rose Kayes

Morgan Mary Wheeler

Charlotte Amber Durr

Brianna Marie Kominiak

Kaitlin Patricia Wilson

Madison Nicole Eberlin

Emily Mesaris

Theresa Zeares



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

Khurshid Alam	Adam David Ercolani	Melissa A. McHugh
Kimberly Albert	Joseph Gerald Forgach	Jackie M. Nat
Lauren A. Anderson	Matthew Stephen Foss	Annalese Julia Olivieri
Ashley Arcieri	Justin Jay Gerber	Marissa Nicole Prince
Jenna Arena	Lindsay Nicole Graver	Cynthia Ruch
Kelly Alwilda Blackhurst	David Michael Havard	Kelly Ann Saroka
Renee Florence Blakiewicz	Dannah Marie Hayward	Mackenzie Grace Schanzlin
Jason Michael Burke	Deborah Lee Holmberg	Megan Lee Shaver
Alexandru Paul Chirita	Megan Kennedy	William K. Shields
Sheena Marie Chollak	Karen Laidacker	Kristen Diane Solowiej
Owen KeAndre Clark	Rachel A. Lauck	Rachael Taylor
Danielle Allysa Clifford	Cheryl Lemardy	Tara Nicole Welliver
Olivia D. Cottle	Kyle Lindsay	
Juliana DeNardi	John Ryan McCarthy	

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

Giovanna Allen	Jessica N. Haggerty	Michael Anthony Sedlak
Arianna Catherine Anglovich	Vanessa Marie Hannagan	Allison Marie Stine
Lauren Brace	Brianna Leigh Ladner	Taylor Lynn Verna
Darlene Casey	Katharine Allison Niezgoda	Reilly Jane Wagner
Taylor Marie Deaton	Emma A. Niznik	Christina Wood
Melody Decker	Rebecca Lynn Robins	Victoria Lynn Yodice
	Jillian Schaeffer	

Students admitted to Alpha Sigma Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, International English Honor Society:

Daniella Amendola	Madison Cardinale	Karen Ann Reilly
Mary Patricia Blaskiewicz	Adam David Ercolani	Briana Scorey
Kristen Ann Capitano	Kimberly Marie Kowalski	Bailey Waltman

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

Stefany A Krasson	Briana Scorey
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Students admitted to Kappa Chapter of Phi Sigma Tau, International Philosophy Honor Society:

Kristen Ann Capitano	Breanna Michelle Gorski
Rebecca Jean Flick	Annette Ritzko

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

Olivia Ann Katulka	Margherita Ellen Kingsbury	Jonathan Andrew Stuffick
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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 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.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
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

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
 The Honorable 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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www.facebook.com/misericordiauniversity

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.

301 Lake Street, Dallas, PA 18612-1090