



MISERICORDIA UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF

Health Sciences Education

Annual Newsletter
May 2018

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MISERICORDIA
UNIVERSITY

THIS IS WHO WE ARE

Michelle Mellody, a senior early childhood special education major. Michelle proudly represented the Teacher Education Department as the valedictorian at the Fall 2018 commencement ceremony.



Julianna Stella - "I am a Senior studying Social Work currently serving as President of the Social Work Association and assisting Refugee families in resettlement within the United States and greater Scranton/Wilkes-Barre area's through my internship with Catholic Social Services."



The Sonography **Wave** Award was awarded to **Jennifer Carey**, RDMS, a Bachelor of Science Diagnostic Medical Sonography student. This award represented her **Willingness** to go above and beyond, **Altruism**, **Volunteerism** to Misericordia University and the community and **Excellence** in clinical education. Jennifer also received the Bachelor of Science Academic Excellence Award and was inducted into Lambda Nu, the National Honor Society for Radiologic and Imaging Sciences.



Kyle Pelkey is a current 5th year Speech-Language Pathology student who has excelled academically and clinically. He served as Co-Chapter Leader of the Northeast Pennsylvania Stuttering Support Group, coordinating weekly meetings and spearheading an annual 5K race to benefit the National Stuttering Association. In addition to several other volunteer experiences, Kyle was selected to work at Camp Shout Out, a camp for children who stutter in Holton, Michigan. Kyle was also a student research student under **Dr. Glen Tellis** presenting at several state and national conferences.



THIS IS WHO WE ARE

Patricia Rodriguez-Hudson who graduated with the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree in December 2017 will be presenting her Capstone Project at the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers in Nashville, TN. Patty also lives the values of mercy, service, justice, and hospitality as an animalarian who founded Country Heart Farm in 2016, a 501c3 nonprofit therapeutic animal sanctuary.



Maria Baldino, a graduate of Misericordia's weekend college occupational therapy program, and current second year occupational therapy doctoral student was the first OT accepted into the year long AOTA Fellowship Program at Nationwide Children's Hospital in conjunction with Ohio State University. As she develops clinical expertise in advanced areas of practice such as pediatric

feeding and neonatal interventions, she is also teaching as a graduate assistant in Ohio State's entry level OTD program and participating in research projects with therapists and physicians. In addition she is completing the LEND Program (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities), an advanced graduate interdisciplinary training program of The Ohio State University and will be presenting on pediatric feeding at the 2018 AOTA Conference and on autism spectrum disorders at the Jane-Case Smith School Based Practice Symposium.



John Giangrieco is a first year nursing student with a passion for service. This summer will be his fourth trip to Haiti, where he tends to the health of Haitian families, taking medical supplies into the villages and clinics. John is living the charisms of the Sisters of Mercy!



Jaclyn Hajec is this year's academic award winner, with the highest overall gpa of the graduating class. She is an athlete as well as a strong academic student. She has served as President of the Medical Imaging Club, received a Lambda Nu national honor society scholarship and most recently was on the team that won the PSRT state championship knowledge bowl. Jackie has served as a mentor to underclassmen, represented her class on the Advisory board, and has dedicated numerous hours to service activities. She will be attending the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill Radiation Therapy Program after graduation.



In October 2017, DPT student, **Dayna Ehlers**, was awarded a 2017 Student Leadership Award by the Pennsylvania Physical Therapy Association at its Annual Conference in Seven Springs, PA.



COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS AT A GLANCE



NEW BUILDING AND HEALTH SCIENCE PROGRAM

The newly provisionally accredited Physician Assistant Program begins July 2018 in the renovated Trocaire Building.

Board Pass Rates **93%-100%**

140 scholarly publications and presentations

More than **\$550,000** in grant funding to support programming

\$900,000 in pro bono health care delivered to community

90% of students participate in interprofessional education/practice



FALL 2018 SPEAKER SERIES

Join us for the 9th Annual healthcare Symposium, September 21, 2018. We have 3 distinguished speakers: **David Leonhardt**, New York Times writer, and internationally noted author and speaker will present on the economics of healthcare in the United States. **Dr. Lorelei Lingard** will address the salient aspects of communication and collaboration on healthcare teams, **Ted Meyer** is an artist, curator, and patient advocate who will speak to his own experience as a patient over the course of many years. He will offer a keen insight into living with pain, illness, and disfigurement. We will also have an art opening to display his collection "Scarred for Life" the night prior to the symposium in the McGowan room



OTD Student Receives Mini Grant

Congratulations to **Marianne Infante**, OTR/L, M.Ed., who received a mini-grant for her Occupational Therapy Early Intervention Library Program from the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit 23. Marianne is a student in the Misericordia post-professional OT doctoral program.



Pediatric Assessment Class

Gianna, age 3, visited the Misericordia University Occupational Therapy department on February 26, 2018. Gianna helped students in **Dr. Shah's** Pediatric Assessment class learn how to evaluate children in a pediatric setting. Students also learned how to interview parents in a pediatric practice.

Winter Olympics

As many as 46 Misericordia occupational therapy juniors and Assistant Professor **Jennifer Dessoie**, OTD, OTR/L took part in the 8th Annual Hazleton Area School District Winter Olympics, held at the Eagle Rock Resort on Friday, February 9, 2018. The program involved organizing and conducting a day of fun for special needs students, including those with autism, multiple disabilities and from life skills classrooms.

Whimsy & Wonder Event Benefits local Art Studio

The Pauly Friedman Art Gallery at Misericordia University, the Verve Vertu Art Studio, the Misericordia Student Occupational Therapy Association (MSOTA) and the university's Department of Occupational Therapy hosted, "Whimsy & Wonder," an evening of art, film and music to benefit the Verve Vertu Art Studio on Friday, April 6.

The event began with the screening of the film, "I'm An Artist," in Lemmond Theater on campus. "I'm An Artist" is a film about students with learning disabilities at special needs schools who achieve confidence, positive reinforcement and hope through their schools' art programs. The documentary provides a glimpse into the challenges children with learning disabilities face. The unwavering enthusiasm of one school's art teacher shows that students with learning and emotional disabilities can achieve more growth than most people believe possible.

Following the film, there was an opening reception for the "Whimsy & Wonder" exhibit that is on display April 6 through June 2 in the Friedman Art Gallery. The exhibit features works by the students of Verve Vertu Art Studio, 24 Main St., Dallas Borough. Verve Vertu is a community art center of the Deutsch Institute, and provides recreational and leisurely activities to people with special needs, as well as art classes for members of the community. MSOTA hosted the event as a benefit in support of Verve Vertu. Beyond Harmony, the Misericordia University a capella group, performed during the reception.



Front row from left, Dawn Evans, O.T.D., O.T.R./L., assistant professor of occupational therapy, Misericordia University; Barbara Roberts, owner, Ranch Wagon Restaurant, Dallas, Pa.; Olivia Natale, Staten Island, N.Y., president, MSOTA and student volunteer; Gwen Harleman, art director, Verve Vertu Art Studio; Grace Fisher, professor, Department of Occupational Therapy, Misericordia University, and Lalaine Little, director, Pauly Friedman Art Gallery, Misericordia University; second row, Molly Betz, Tamaqua, Pa., MSOTA student volunteer, and Lauren Apgar, Milford, N.J., MSOTA student volunteer



Misericordia University OT junior class at the Winter Olympics on February 9, 2018 at Eagle Rock Resort.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

New Misericordia University Physician Assistant Program Will Begin July 9, 2018

(ARC-PA has granted Accreditation – Provisional status to Misericordia University)
The Misericordia University Physician Assistant Program is proud to announce that, during its March 2018 meeting, the Accreditation Review Commission on Education of the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) granted Accreditation – Provisional status to the new PA program. With provisional accreditation status, Misericordia University will matriculate its initial cohort of PA students on July 9, 2018.



Accreditation - Provisional is an accreditation status granted when the plans and resource allocation, if fully implemented as planned, of a proposed program that has not yet enrolled students appear to demonstrate the program's ability to meet the ARC-PA standards or when a program holding accreditation-provisional status appears to demonstrate continued progress in complying with the standards as it prepares for the graduation of the first class (cohort) of students.

Misericordia University PA Program's mission is to attract intellectually talented and caring students who will be educationally transformed and mentored to become competent and compassionate Physician Assistants. The PA Program faculty and staff are committed to implementing the program's mission and to fulfilling its stated commitments of educating and mentoring our future colleagues.

We have developed a new graduate medical education program that is 25 months in duration, ultimately leading to a Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies. The curriculum has been designed and will be implemented in a manner to deliver high-tech, high-touch Physician Assistants for northeastern Pennsylvania,... and beyond.

Amy Wierbowski, MFA, MSPAS, PA-C is a principal faculty member of the Physician Assistant Studies program. She has been working for the PA Program



since August 2017. She spent four days in March at the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) in Johns Creek, GA as a subject matter expert for the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE) Standard Setting Meeting. She was selected from a pool of PAs across the country to participate in this meeting.

Certified PAs change lives. They expand access to care, serve as primary care providers, provide care in remote and underserved areas that don't have doctors, manage complex medical conditions, and perform intricate procedures. Most importantly, certified PAs are entrusted by doctors and employers to care for the most important person in their practice – you.



DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY

Transducer Manufacturing Educational Tour

On March 28, eleven sonography students along with faculty members **Sheryl Goss** and **Karen Klimas**, visited the Philips ultrasound transducer design and manufacturing plant in Reedsville, PA. The students were educated in the design and composition of transducers and toured the plant to learn the multiple steps in the process. After the tour, the students were introduced to the latest

technology offered on Philips ultrasound systems and enjoyed the opportunity to use the equipment to explore the newer technology and devices.



Diagnostic Medical Sonography Class of 2018

Sonography Recognition Ceremony

On March 11, fifteen students were recognized for their success in the sonography programs. Thirteen students received their Certificate of Completion by successfully completing 48 credits of coursework. Two students received their Bachelor of Science Degree during Commencement on May 12, 2018. These two students are the first to graduate from the full-time entry level degree program. All fifteen students earned the Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonography Credential (RDMS) by successfully completing the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography Sonography Physics and Instrumentation examination and the Abdominal specialty examination. Eleven of the students also possess Obstetrics and Gynecology specialty.

Pediatric Sonography

Amanda George Montgomery, MS, BSDMS, RDMS, RVT alumnus of 2014, is a co-author of the *Pediatric Sonography Registry Review* book published by the Society for Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Plano, TX. **Sheryl Goss**, MS, RT, RDMS, RDCS, RVS, RVT, FSDMS is the editor of the book which was released in fall 2017.

Registered Vascular Technologist Credential

The Advanced Vascular Sonography course offered in the fall semester educates sonographers in advanced level vascular sonography. All seven sonographers enrolled in the fall 2017 course who sat for the ARDMS Vascular Technology exam were successful in earning the RVT credential. The Sonography Department offers professional development education to promote performance of high quality and accurate sonographic exams to serve the patients in their communities.

Northeastern Pennsylvania Society of Ultrasound (NEPASU)

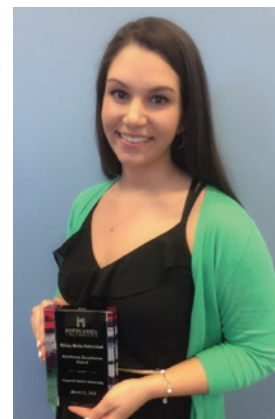
Bachelor of Science degree students, **Jennifer Carey** and **Jessica Giuliano** presented at the May NEPASU meeting held at Geisinger Wyoming Valley. Jennifer spoke on Quality Assurance in Obstetrical Scanning while Jessica presentation complimented by presenting Quality Assurance for Measurements of Abdominal Organs

Academic Excellence Awards

The 2018 Academic Excellence Award was presented to **Hailey Hoherchak**, BS, RDMS. This award recognizes the student in the certificate program who achieved the highest GPA in the diagnostic medical sonography courses. Hailey graduated with her BS in Medical Imaging in May 2017 and continued to pursue sonography.

The 2018 Academic Excellence Award for the student earning the highest GPA across the four year BS DMS degree was presented to **Jennifer Carey**, RDMS.

Hailey Hoherchak 2018 Academic Excellence Award



UNDERGRADUATE NURSING

White Coat Ceremony

The Undergraduate Nursing at Misericordia University held its third annual Arnold P. Gold Foundation and American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) White Coat Ceremony for Nursing by cloaking 45 sophomore and 15 part-time evening nursing students who began the professional portion of the nursing program in the spring 2018 semester.

The White Coat Ceremony is a way to welcome new students into the profession of nursing and to underscore the importance of humanistic and patient-centered health care. At the Misericordia University White Coat Ceremony, family and friends, as well as faculty and administration watched as sophomore nursing students took an oath that acknowledges their essential role as caregivers, with an emphasis on the Religious Sisters of Mercy's charisms of Mercy, Service, Justice and Hospitality. Students also received white coats and lapel pins that feature the Gold Foundation's logo, a stethoscope in the shape of a heart surrounded by the words, "humanism in medicine," to remind them that compassion and empathy must be the hallmark of their clinical practice.



NCLEX-RN Pass Rate exceeds State and National Averages

Misericordia University nursing students who recently graduated from the Bachelor of Science degree program achieved a pass rate that was more than 5 percentage points higher than the national average on the National Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) for baccalaureate degree students. Misericordia Bachelor of Science in nursing graduates achieved a 92.45-percent pass rate for first-time test takers between Oct. 1, 2016 and Sept. 30, 2017.

Misericordia graduates exceeded the average national pass rate of 86.94 percent and the average pass rate in Pennsylvania of 91.10 for baccalaureate degree programs. Misericordia NCLEX-RN test-takers also had the highest pass rates of baccalaureate-degree programs in Luzerne County, according to NCSBN data.

Nursing Students and Faculty in the News

Professor **Patricia Maloney** and sophomore nursing students, **Kalia Quinlivan, Maggie Shray, Faith Sinclair, Robin Erb, Isabela Camayad, John Giangrieco, Maddy Reeric, Emilee Heinz, and Carrie Kinney**, volunteered at the Geisinger Santa Party on Saturday, December 2, 2017. This party brought the Christmas spirit to over 200 underprivileged children in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Faculty and students living the Religious Sisters of Mercy's charisms of Mercy, Service, Justice and Hospitality in the community!



The Part Time Evening Nursing Class of 2019, donated to the community by selecting names off of the giving tree at Sam's Club, Wilkes-Barre. Students were able to bring Christmas joy to several local children through their generous donations.



Misericordia Nursing Students, accompanied by Professor **Vanessa Mayorowski** and Professor **Christina Tomkins**, attended the Student Nurses' Association of Pennsylvania (SNAP) 65th Annual Convention November 15–18, 2017. Held at Kalahari Resort in the Poconos, this year's theme was Building on the Best: Making Today's Vision Tomorrow's Reality. Along with enjoying the waterpark, students participated in the SCORE! NCLEX® Challenge Bowl,

a variety of workshops and honored the rich past and focused on a brighter future of SNAP!



Professor **Audrey Cunfer** and **Dr. Annette Weiss**,

Chairwoman of the Undergraduate Nursing Department, were invited to speak to students at Lake-Lehman High School on November 30, 2017. Lake-Lehman Mission Academy students attended the session to learn about nursing as a career, and the opportunities available at Misericordia University. Students were able to have real life, hands on experience with various equipment and simulators used by students and Registered Nurses alike.

Our Lives Matter Quilt Displayed at Misericordia University

The academic Departments of Social Work and Medical and Health Humanities and the Student Activities Center at Misericordia University collaborated with the Pennsylvania Recovery Organization (PRO-A) on Feb. 1 to display the Our Lives Matter Quilt in memory of those who have died from addiction. Students, faculty and guests participating in the

program are, first row from left, are **Christine Ward**, Sayville, N.Y.; **Jacqueline Tadeo**, Frederick Md.; **Susan McDonald, Ph.D., L.S.W.**, assistant professor and chair of the Department of Social Work; **Stephanie Hastings**, PRO-A; **Lucia Walkowiak**, Wilkes-Barre; **Grace Pollock**, Mountain Top; and **Allison Butow**, Point Pleasant Beach, N.J. Second row, **Betty Ann Duffy**, administrative assistant, Departments of Social Work and Teacher Education; **David Hage**, M.S.W., L.S.W., assistant professor and social work field director; **Marshall Witmer**, Lebanon; **Japriya Carroll**, York; and **Ashli Steblinski**, Wilkes-Barre.



Bachelor of Social Work Accelerated Degree

The Social Work Program is launching an Accelerated BSW beginning fall 2018. The new Bachelor of Social Work Accelerated Degree prepares students for professional practice with a curriculum that integrates theory with practical experience in a social welfare agency. This program is designed for students who have work and family obligations and will provide a hybrid/online format, allowing students to complete their degree in as little as two years. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the job outlook for social workers for 2016–2026 is much faster than average.



Social Work Present in Atlanta, Georgia

Susan McDonald, Ph.D., L.S.W. presented at the Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors, Inc. in Atlanta, Georgia in March. The educational workshop was entitled, “The Impact of Political Challenges on our Social Work Identity.”

The Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors, Inc. (BPD) is dedicated to the promotion of excellence in Baccalaureate Social Work Education.

The BPD Annual Conference is designed to provide top quality education and opportunities for social work program directors, field educators, and students to engage in dialogue with one another. The conference is divided into peer reviewed educational workshops, papers, electronic posters, roundtable sessions, and salons.

Each year, the conference brings together more than 600 members and individuals as well as 150–200 students from regional schools.

Social Work Department at Misericordia University hosted state Sen. Lisa Baker

The Department of Social Work at Misericordia University recently hosted state **Sen. Lisa Baker**, R-20, Lehman Twp., for a classroom presentation about the bipartisan bill the local legislator introduced to combat the opioid epidemic. **David Hage**, M.S.W., L.S.W., A.C.S.W., C.-A.S.W.C.M., assistant professor of social work at Misericordia University, had Sen. Baker address students and field questions in his Social Welfare Policy and Services class. The lawmaker outlined the importance of Senate Bill No. 978, “Hospice and Home Health Prescription Medication Disposal Act,” that addresses the disposal of hospice or home health care patient medication.

Sen. Baker is the prime sponsor of the bill, which was introduced by her and 14 other fellow legislators in December 2017. The legislation seeks to allow hospice nurses to dispose of narcotics and medications properly upon the discharge or death of the patient. Professor Hage’s class followed the progress of the bill through the remainder of the course and took them to the state capital on April 23rd for the PA National Association of Social Worker’s Legislative Advocacy Day along with hundreds of other social workers and students from around the state.

Susan McDonald, Ph.D., L.S.W., Social Work Department Chair; **Amy Bogdon**, Art Therapy Professor, Marywood University; **Ron Simon**, L.C.S.W., Chief Operating Officer, Children’s Service Center; **Deb Telatovick**, Art Therapy Graduate. The ACE-IT Pilot Project’s Art Therapists from Marywood University created mural at Children’s Service Center in room where children receive treatment. Many of these families are impacted by the opioid epidemic and the mural will enhance the atmosphere providing a calming and inspirational influence.





KDP Officers distribute toys from the Play It Forward Toy Drive at the playroom in Luzerne County Family Court. From left to Right Megan Ostrum, Sierra Macierowski, Emily Betterly, and Melissa Smith

Play it Forward Toy Drive

During the fall semester, **Kappa Delta Pi** conducted a toy drive for the playroom at Luzerne County Family Court. The students collected a variety of toys, stuffed animals, and snacks to stock the playroom. The students also helped to clean and reorganize the playroom. These efforts were done to support a trauma informed court initiative to make family court a less stressful place for children and their families. The toy drive was a huge success.

Education Club

The Education Club held a number of events to support children and schools in the community. In November, Education Club students purchased and packed boxes of supplies to be shipped to needy students as part of Operation Christmas Child. In March, they ran a craft booth to make paper plate bunny faces to support the Misericordia Bunny Brunch. **Dr. Steve Broskoske**, Education Club Advisor, and club members held a hands-on art and music experience for middle school students in a Hanover Area school to support students who are not receiving any art or music experiences in school.

American Education Week

In the fall semester, the Teacher Education Department celebrated American Education Week! This year's theme was "every student needs an advocate." During the week, events were held highlighting how teachers can inspire and advocate for students in the classroom.

American Education Week programming began with poster presentations and a keynote speaker. Students presented posters on ways that teachers can advocate for students.

Michael Graybill, a 6th grade Social Studies teacher at Good Hope Middle School, Cumberland Valley SD, presented an inspiring and interactive presentation entitled "Loud Weaknesses," focused on how teachers can inspire growth for all students, and follow the path from understanding to advocacy. Mr. Graybill has been a public school teacher and basketball coach for 23 years.



Mr. Graybill presenting at American Education Week



The MU TED honored educators for excellence in education during an American Education Week reception on campus. Participating in the program, first row from left, are Susan Tomascik, Ph.D., associate professor, MU; student, Katelynn Taylor, Clifford Twp., Pa.; student, Emma Ripka, Shavertown, Pa., and Anne Papalia, Ph.D., associate professor and chairperson, MU; second row, Leamor Kahanov, Ed.D., A.T.C., L.A.T., dean, College of Health Sciences and Education, MU; Patricia Dietrich, Mountain View High School; Tracy Morgan, Dallas Middle School; Cathy Donner, Dallas School District; Betty Ann Duffy, MU; Colleen Duffy, Ed.D., visiting assistant professor, MU, and Steve Broskoske, Ed.D., associate professor, MU.

As part of American Education Week, every year TED recognizes several outstanding local teachers. Teacher Education students nominated a teacher who has inspired them, assisted them in their preparation to become a teacher, or otherwise made a difference in their life. This year's event honored 4 teachers and educational professionals: **Tracy Morgan**, Dallas Middle School; **Patricia Dietrich**, Mountain View High School; **Jill Fuller**, Parkland High School, and **Donna Andrewsavage**, Wyoming Area School District. The Teacher Education Department also presented Angel Awards to **Cathy Donner**, administrative confidential secretary, Dallas School District, and **Betty Ann Duffy**, administrative assistant, Misericordia University.

American Education Week concluded with panel discussion followed by a screening of the "Freedom Writers" movie. A panel of educators discussed how school officials and faculty advocate for students. Panel members included **Frank Mariano** (MU Autism Lifelong Learning Program), **Dr. Brian Costello** (superintendent of Wilkes-Barre Area School District), **Dr. Thomas Duffy** (superintendent of Dallas School Districts), and **Mr. James Martin** (Northwest Area School District). The movie "Freedom Writers" is about a dedicated teacher in a racially divided Los Angeles school who inspires a class of at-risk teenagers who have been deemed incapable of learning.

Panel members Dr. Brian Costello, Frank Mariano, Dr. Thomas Duffy, and James Martin make a panel presentation at American Education Week.



Faculty Scholarly Activities

Teacher Education faculty and students conducted multiple presentations at the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Teacher Educators Conference in Harrisburg in Oct, 2017. **Dr. Michele Brague**, and **Dr. Jodi Loughlin** collaborated with 3 early childhood special education students, **Thea Arico**, **Sierra Macierowski**, and **Melissa Smith**, to conduct a presentation entitled “Learning Centers: Meaningful Math and Literacy Collaboration for Preservice Teachers.” **Dr. Susan Tomascik** presented a poster, “A Middle School Mentoring Partnership as a Service Learning Experience,” outlining mentoring program/service learning between 8th grade middle school students and university freshmen

as their mentors. **Dr. Stephen Broskoske** presented “Techniques and Tools to Promote an Active K-12 Classroom”, highlighting high-tech, low-tech, and no-tech approaches to creating an active K-12 classroom.

Teacher Education faculty and students also presented at the Global Landscapes Conference at Kings College in April, 2018. Dr. Steve Broskoske conducted a presentation called Preparing Preservice Teachers to Promote an Active K-12 Classroom. **Scott Bargisen**, an English secondary education student, presented a poster entitled Importance of Training for Parents of Students with Autism. **Ashley Johnson**, an Early Childhood and Special Education student displayed a poster on supporting pupils with

speech and language impairments in the K-12 Classroom.

Dr. Anne Papalia presented at two national conferences. She conducted a presentation entitled “Service Dogs in Schools: Legal, Access, and Educational Implications” at the Teacher Education Division of Council for Exceptional Children in Savannah, GA in November, 2017. Dr. Papalia also conducted two presentations at The Association for Individuals with Severe Disabilities in December, 2017 in Atlanta, GA. One presentation, entitled “Service Dogs for 100 Please” explored the various types of service dogs. A second presentation focused on the issue of suicide among individuals with disabilities.

Kappa Delta Pi Induction Ceremony

The TED inducted 17 students into the **Kappa Delta Pi** (KDP), International Honor Society in Education, during an induction ceremony in Mercy Hall in May, 2017. This year’s KDP induction ceremony will be held on May 2, 2018.



Service Learning Activities

Students in **Dr. Papalia’s** SPE 365 (Methods for Students with Emotional Behavior Disorders) and ECE 460 (Collaborating with Families) lead arts and crafts activities in the playroom at the Luzerne County Family Court. Students visited in pairs and spent approximately 90 minutes with children and their families. This activity was developed collaboratively with Family Court Judge Jennifer Rogers to help make court appearances less stressful for children. The project developed as a result of Dr. Papalia’s volunteer work at Luzerne County Family Court. Dr. Papalia and her

therapy dog, Moses, visit family court weekly to provide comfort to children, families, and caseworkers as they wait for the court appearance.

Students in **Dr. Susan Tomascik’s** TED 131 Cultural Awareness course provided tutoring at two local schools. Students helped children at Dan Flood Elementary by providing homework help focusing on literacy. Students also helped 8th graders at Wyoming Valley West Middle School by providing homework assistance, and serving as a positive role model by discussing topics such as attending school, going to college, and making good choices.

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Dave Hammer was the honored speaker at this year’s Gabriel Bernabeo Distinguished Speaker Series held on May 11, 2018. Mr. Hammer is the Vice President of Programs for the Childhood Apraxia of Speech Association of North America (CASANA). Prior to joining the CASANA staff in 2014, Mr. Hammer had 35 years of pediatric clinical experience at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh, PA. His specialty interests have included pediatric stuttering, childhood apraxia of speech, and speech sound disorders. In his presentation, “Childhood Apraxia of Speech: A Multi-Sensory Approach to Achieving Speech Outcomes Therapy-Rich and Video Enhanced,” he will explore strategies for therapists that facilitate verbal communication for children with apraxia of speech.



Dave Hammer

A student faculty research team in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology at Misericordia University presented five scientific research studies at the 11th Oxford Dysfluency Conference at Saint Catherine’s College Oxford, United Kingdom during the fall semester. Faculty and student participants included, seated from left, **Danielle Spagnuolo**, Wyoming, PA, and **Cara Imbalzano**, Roaring Brook Twp., PA; standing, **Noah Schweiger**, Barton, NY; **Glen Tellis**, Ph.D., professor and chair, Department of Speech-Language Pathology, Misericordia University, and **D'manda Price**, Paterson, NJ.



Oxford team



Dr. Rickson Mesquita, along with his research team from São Paulo, Brazil, have partnered with **Dr. Glen Tellis'** and **Dr. Cari Tellis'** research teams in the Speech Language Pathology Department to create novel methods for functional Near-Infrared Spectroscopy (fNIRS) data analysis. Dr. Mesquita is currently an assistant professor at the University of Campinas located in São Paulo, Brazil and a researcher at the Brazilian Institute for Neuroscience and Neurotechnology (BRAINN). His extensive background in physics provides a unique perspective to the field of speech-language pathology.

Kathleen Scaler Scott, PhD, CCC-SLP, BCS-F, Associate Professor of Speech-Language Pathology at Misericordia University, is publishing her third

book titled *Fluency Plus: Managing Fluency Disorders in Individuals with Multiple Diagnoses*. Geared to practicing speech-language pathologists, students, and professors teaching about fluency disorders in the field of speech-language pathology, Dr. Scaler Scott found inspiration to write *Fluency Plus* in her 24 years of experience as a clinician, professor and researcher. More information about Dr. Scaler Scott's book can be found on the publisher's website, healio.com/books.



Kathy Scaler Scott

National Stuttering Association

The Northeast Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Stuttering Association at Misericordia University welcomed its new Co-Chapter leaders, **Ashley Johnson**, Carlisle, PA and **Cara Imbalzano**, Roaring Brook Twp, PA, this fall. The Support Group meets every other month (time and location announced prior to each meeting). For more information about the Support Group or to be added to their mailing list, please email: stutteringsupport@misericordia.edu.

Misericordia University's Operation Smile Club is officially up and running! In the fall 2017 semester, the Club elected officers and developed a board of dedicated student leaders. The Club kicked off the fall semester with a clothing sale followed by additional fundraisers in the spring 2018 semester including a bake sale and carnation sale. Through combined fundraising efforts, the Club fully funded a corrective surgery through Operation Smile. While a majority of the club's fundraising efforts focus on providing life-changing surgeries, members also participate in a number of service opportunities to help those in need in and around the Northeast PA region.

National Student Speech Language Hearing Association

- Donated \$1,000 to ASHFoundation
- Donated 22 backpacks to children in need during the "Backpacks for Kids Drive"
- Volunteered at Brighter Journey's 2nd Annual Kickoff Fundraiser, St. Joseph's Center Trinity Day Care, Wells Fargo Community Day, Tim Tebow Foundation NEPA Night to Shine and Community Options Cupid's Chase 5k
- NSSLHA's 4th Annual Benefit Concert in support of St. Joseph's Center held on April 8, 2018

Speech-Language and Hearing Center

The use of modern technology in the Misericordia University Speech-Language and Hearing Center has allowed our students and faculty to reach individuals with communication disorders beyond the typical clinical setting. Since spring 2017, our Center has been providing speech therapy to clients via teletherapy (via Skype and FaceTime) in 6 different states. Clients range in age from 10–60. Four of the clients exhibit fluency disorders, one has a diagnosis of cluttering, and one has an articulation disorder. All sessions are conducted by our graduate students and supervised by one of our clinical supervisors who is licensed to treat in the states in which we are providing services. A typical Friday evening in our Center consists of simultaneously treating three fluency clients via Skype, in three different states, in addition to treating those clients who receive direct services in our own clinic.

Clinicians send their clients materials via email and then split the screen so that they can both view and review these materials during treatment sessions. Students and supervisors talk with the caregivers/clients as well, at the start and/or end of each session, just as we would if they were in the clinic.

The introduction of teletherapy into our university clinic has truly made a difference in the lives of these individuals. Currently, all our clients are meeting their goals and showing carryover through their session outcomes, journaling, and caregiver reports.



Faculty Briefs:

Paula Pate-Schloder was named Department Chair.

Lynn Blazaskie transitioned to Clinical Coordinator.

Elaine Halsey coauthored an article in the Journal of Nursing and Patient Care titled Patient Navigators as Essential Members of the Healthcare Team: A Review of the Literature.

Lorie Zelna had an article published in Radiologic Technology titled Transitioning from faculty to program director.

Gina Capitano enrolled in the Doctor of Education in Leadership and Professional Practice Program at Trevecca Nazarene University.

Mari King was elected as a Life Member of the Association of Educators in Imaging and Radiologic Sciences. She also presented a poster at the Campus Compact National Conference in Indianapolis on March 26 highlighting the results of survey research on service-learning in health sciences education in the United States.



Naejana Carredo, Paula Pate-Schloder and Megan Meckling. Students selected for ASRT Student Leadership Program



Student Accomplishments:

Congratulations to the seven December 2017 graduates who achieved a 100% pass rate on the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists exam. Our newest RT's are **Shelby Aruscavage, Doreen Hossage, Stephanie Kachelries, Ashley Klein, Breanna Mosier, Blair Muelhauser** and **Brielle Shuster**.

Four students received Lambda Nu National Honor Society Scholarships. Congratulations to junior **Brittany Cory** and seniors **Brooke Butler, Jaclyn Hajec, and Molly Harris**.

Misericordia University medical imaging students **Jaclyn Hajec** and **Molly Harris** captured first place in the annual Pennsylvania Society of Radiologic Technologists' (PSRT) Techni-bowl competition during the annual PSRT 2018 Annual State Conference and Business Meeting in Pittsburgh. This marks the fourth year in a row that MU took home the title.



Paula Pate-Schloder, Jaclyn Hajec, Molly Harris and Lorie Zelna after winning 1st place at the state conference.



Professors Zelna and Pate-Schloder with students at the state conference.

The Pennsylvania Society of Radiologic Technologists (PSRT) has selected Misericordia University medical imaging majors **Naejana Carredo** and **Megan Mary Meckling** to represent the Keystone state at the 2018 American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) Student Leadership Development Program in Las Vegas in June 2018.

The Pennsylvania Society of Radiologic Technologist (PSRT) Student Intern Committee chose **Kaylyn Kleinschmidt** and **Maria Mejia Cortes** to serve as a student interns with the state organization during the 2018–19 school year. Kleinschmidt and Cortes worked with PSRT board members during March's annual board meeting in Pittsburgh and gained firsthand knowledge about running a professional society, and the duties and responsibilities of state officers.



PSRT student Interns Maria Mejia Cortes, and Kaylyn Kleinschmidt with Paula Pate-Schloder.

Medical Imaging Club news:

The club was once again very active. Some of the service projects this past year included: Dorothy Day Catholic Worker Farm, Adopt A Family for Thanksgiving, Cougars Connect for Cancer donating all proceeds to Candy's Place, donations from selling donuts to the Ronald McDonald House in Scranton and volunteering at the Commission on Economic Opportunity.



Junior students Melissa Evans and Rachel Naylor volunteer at the Food Bank.

GRADUATE NURSING

BSN to DNP/MSN to DNP



From left to right: Standing Catherine Zurawski; Patricia Rodriguez-Hudson; Jennifer Zimmerman; Amy Austin; Alyssa Mocion; Kaci Birosik. Sitting: Victoria Romano; Gabriella Cesare; Linda Borenstein; Jennifer Divirgilio

From left to right: Standing; Ryan Seltzer; Alexa Kerecman; Amanda McNeil; LeeAnn Kayal; Jacqueline Zabresky; Patricia Slusser; Lindsey Kokindo; Jamie Lee Mead; Jamie Novitski; Kristopher Mead; Sitting: Candace Plociniak; Angela Murphy; Rebecca Bicking Chelsea Wilson; and Nicole Falbo

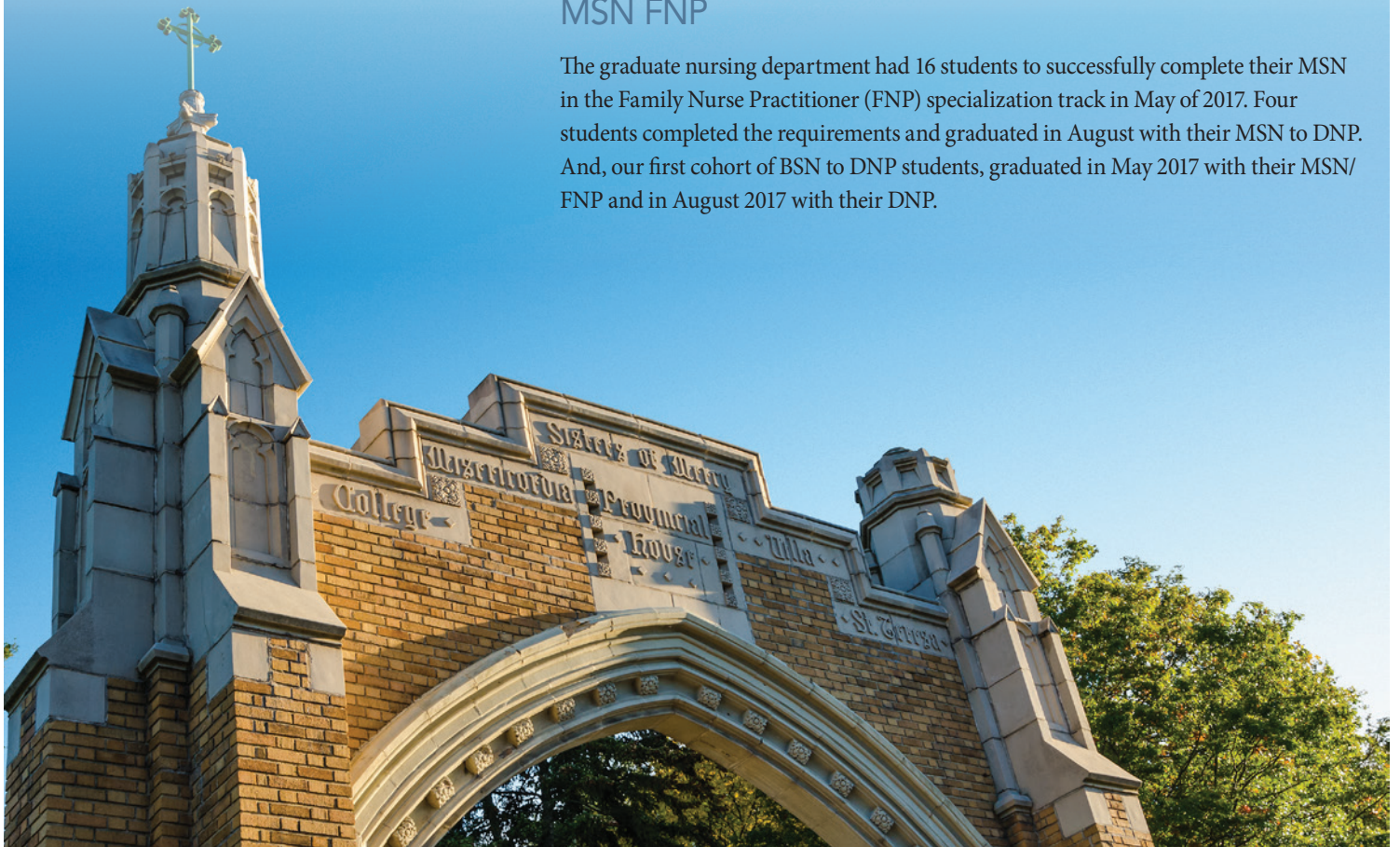
Student Successes:

The certifying body American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Board (AANPCB) for our FNP graduate nursing program officially reported in February 2018 a first-time pass rate of 100% for all MSN and BSN to DNP Misericordia University students who applied and took the exam. It was also reported that this group of students scored above the national mean with an average score of 580 (national average = 560).



MSN FNP

The graduate nursing department had 16 students to successfully complete their MSN in the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) specialization track in May of 2017. Four students completed the requirements and graduated in August with their MSN to DNP. And, our first cohort of BSN to DNP students, graduated in May 2017 with their MSN/ FNP and in August 2017 with their DNP.



AUTISM FOR LIFELONG LEARNING



AUTISM FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

The Autism for Lifelong Learning (ALL) Program at Misericordia University is part of the University's

Autism Center that resides in the College of Health Sciences and Education. In conjunction with providing fieldwork experience and volunteer opportunities to our students in CHSE, the program is dedicated to providing successful transition and supported employment services. ALL services are delivered in the context of community integration and self-determination to persons 18 years of age and older with a diagnosis of Autism or dually diagnosed with Autism and Intellectual disabilities. The All Program is currently conducting pre-employment transition groups with Misericordia's Student Success Center and several school districts. Many departments throughout the MU campus have been very supportive by providing our participants supported assessment opportunities.

ALL Program - Open House

On Tuesday, February 27, 2018, the ALL Program hosted its Open House. It

was an evening to thank those at Misericordia University and in the Community that have been supportive of the ALL Program. We would like to thank all who attended. Pictured to the right are: **Jean Simonton**, executive assistant, AllOne Foundation; **Mary Carroll Donahoe**, program officer, AllOne Foundation; **John W. Cosgrove**, executive director, AllOne Foundation; **Thomas J. Yoniski, Jr.** field representative, office of state **Sen. Lisa Baker**; President **Thomas J. Botzman**, Ph.D., Misericordia University; **Leamur Kahanov**, Ed.D., A.T.C., L.A.T., Dean of the College of Health Sciences and Education, Misericordia University; **Joan Roth Kleinman**, director, ALL Program; **Katy J. Kranson**, coordinator, ALL Program, and **Frank Mariano**, ALL Program consultant.



ALL Program - Autism Awareness Month

April is Autism Awareness Month. On Sunday, April 29, 2018, the ALL Program will have an information booth at the Autism Awareness Fair located at the Forty Fort Recreation Complex. The ALL Program offered a volunteer opportunity to Misericordia University students during this event.



ALL Program - King's College

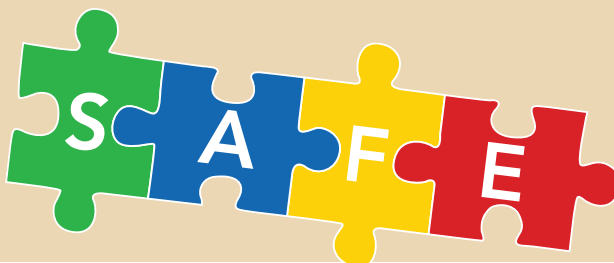
On April 30, 2018, the ALL program had an information booth at King's College in support of their Transition to Adulthood Day.

ALL Program - 3rd Annual Autism Speaker Series

On April 4, 2018, The ALL Program participated in the 3rd Annual Autism Speaker Series. Four expert panelists will present and then hold a question and answer session for all who attend. The consultant for the ALL program, **Frank Mariano** will be one of the panelists.

ALL Program - S.A.F.E.

On March 5, 2018, The ALL Program held an informational evening for parents through the Supporting Autism and Families Everywhere (S.A.F.E.) organization. S.A.F.E. provides families with support, information and a variety of programs designed to meet the unique needs of individuals with autism and their families. During the evening, we discussed the ALL program and the services we provide. Eight families attended.



Student Pro-Bono Clinic

A formal dedication ceremony was held on November 18, 2017 to recognize the **Amanda Roth** fund for its sponsorship of the student-run pro bono clinic. The fund was established in memory of Amanda Roth, a Physical Therapy student.



DPT student and faculty publications and presentations:

- Presented at APTA Next Conference & Exposition (June 2017) and published in the Journal of Women's Health Physical Therapy:
 - Topic: The Efficacy of Kinesiology Taping in the Treatment of Women with Post-Mastectomy Lymphedema: A Systematic Review
 - Student Researchers: **Rachael Harding, Kathryn Heffner, Aryn Zimmerman** (All DPT Class of 2017 – graduated December 2017)
 - Faculty Advisor: **Amy Tremback-Ball**, PT, PhD
- Published in Indian Journal of Physical Therapy
 - Topic: Therapeutic Effects of CIMT vs. BIT in Children with CP: A Systematic Review
 - Student Researchers: **Victoria Adeyinka, Melinda Russell, Alexa Plevyak** (All DPT Class of 2017 – graduated December 2017)
 - Faculty Advisor: **Maureen Rinehimer**, PT, MS, MHS, PhD
- Presented at Combined Sections Meeting, American Physical Therapy Association (February 2018):
 - Title: The Effectiveness of Wii™-Based Therapy with Improving Balance and ADL Function in Patients Post-CVA: A Systematic Review
 - Student Researchers: **Jeffrey Dittmer, Sarah Hurley, Kaileen Metzger, Corinne Walker** (All DPT Class of 2017 – graduated December 2017)
 - Faculty Advisor: **Susan Barker**, PT, PhD
 - Title: Dance With Me? The Impact of Different Forms of Dance Therapy on Functional Mobility, Cognition and Quality of Life in Individuals with Parkinson's Disease
 - Student Researchers: **Alexa Croley, Alyssa Lieberman, Mia Mancuso, Giuliana Mucaro** (All DPT Class of 2017 – graduated December 2017)
 - Faculty Advisor: **Heather Fritz**, PT, DPT
 - Title: The Effectiveness of Dry Needling Compared to Myofascial Release and Ischemic Pressure in the Treatment of Myofascial Trigger Points Resulting in Cervicogenic Pain: a Systematic Review
 - Student Researchers: **Danika Watto, Andrew Reynolds, John Chillo, Benjamin Torres, Ryan Cannon** (All DPT Class of 2017 – graduated December 2017)
 - Faculty Advisor: **Richard Haydt** PT, DPT, OCS, MTC, FAAOMPT
 - Title: The Effectiveness of Kinesio Tape to Decrease Pain in the Cervical Region: A Systematic Review
 - Student Researchers: **Kyle Bradley, Mara Danoski, Cael Evans, Anthony Goodall, Jessica Raab** (All DPT Class of 2017 – graduated December 2017)
 - Faculty Advisor: **Kelley A. Moran**, PT, EdD, DPT, ATC, CSCS
- Title: The Effectiveness of Multifactorial Fall Prevention Program Interventions in the Frail Community-Dwelling Population: A Systematic Review
 - Student Researchers: **Kelsey Heller, Jacqueline Pearson, Jessica Petz, Alexa Yoder** (All DPT Class of 2017 – graduated December 2017)
 - Faculty Advisors: **Laurie Brogan**, PT, DPT, CEEAA, GCS; **Kristin Karnish**, PT, DED, MPH, GCS
- Title: The Effect of Posture on Hip Abduction Strength
 - Student Researchers: **Robin O'Dell, Juls Munda, Brad Thomas, Tom Machi, Chris Tiffany** (All DPT Class of 2017 – graduated December 2017)
 - Faculty Advisor: **Dr. Steven Pheasant**, PT, PhD, Cert MDT; **Dr. Richard Haydt**, PT, DPT, OCS, MTC, FAAOMPT
- Presented at Pennsylvania Physical Therapy Association Annual Conference (October 2017):
 - Title: Effectiveness of Hip Strengthening Exercises on the Treatment of Patellofemoral Pain Syndrome.
 - Student Researchers: **Aaron Blank, Luke Atkins, Rebekah Evangelista, Jessica Anderson, Alex Bair** (All DPT Class of 2017 – graduated December 2017)
 - Faculty Advisor: **Kelley A. Moran**, PT, EdD, DPT, ATC, CSCS
- Accepted for presentation at APTA NEXT Conference & Exposition (June 2018):
 - Topic: Effects of Exercise on Cancer Related Fatigue: A Systematic Review
 - Student Researchers: **Kara Pawloski, Kristina Ruby, Shannon Morgano, Kelsey Williams** (All DPT Class of 2018 – will graduate December 2018)



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