

# MISERICORDIA UNIVERSITY

# COLLEGE OF

# Health Sciences

# Education

Annual Newsletter  
May 2017

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**MISERICORDIA**  
**UNIVERSITY**

## DEAN'S MESSAGE

CHSE upholds Misericordia University's Charisms through educational experiences in the classroom, service to the community and international activities. The college continues to grow in educational offerings, research and service to the community. During 2016-2017 academic year we added 2 new clinics/services to the community, and increased student/faculty research. Likewise, students continue to achieve high passing rates. The integration of community service and student clinical education has fostered the development of a handwriting clinic, expansion of the sensory social camp for autism, and a physical therapy pediatric clinic. In addition to the new services, the college is adding 4 completion programs and an Adult/Geriatric Acute Care program for Nurse Practitioners.

We are also examining the potential for a 3-year education bachelor degree. These programs are unique in scope and practice and offer additional opportunities for individuals seeking a career in health care or education. The addition of four departments, Education, Health Care Informatics,

Physician Assistant, and Social Work expanded the depth of collegial interactions and community participation. We will augment the social work offerings to include an expressway (adult education hybrid option) with direct entry from the local community college for degree completion and direct entry into Marywood University's masters program for our students. Physician Assistant studies is slated to begin July 2018 with a new program and new class of students, and we plan to expand Health Care Informatics with a Quality Improvement component for professionals.



The CHSE students and faculty continue to excel and impress upon the community excellence in research and service through educational opportunities. Please peruse the pages of the newsletter to read about our programs, students and faculty accomplishments. For continued updates during the year, please follow us on Facebook or Twitter for up to date information.

**Leamor Kahanov EdD, ATC**  
*Dean College of  
Health Science & Education*

## Education Expansion

Misericordia University has partnered with Luzerne County Community College to create 4 new completion and dual enrollment programs beginning fall 2017.

- Respiratory Therapy
- Surgical Technician
- Exercise Science
- Social Work

## Misericordia Leads 3 universities in treatment for Opioid Addiction

Misericordia University received grant funding to provide treatments to women and children affected by Opioid Addiction. Wilkes University Pharmacy and Marywood University Art Therapy along with Misericordia Social Work, in interprofessional student teams, administers services in conjunction with the Domestic Violence Service Center and Children Youth Services.

**Dr. Dudrick**  
named one of the 50 most influential physicians in history by Medscape



## College Highlights at a Glance

**7** new completion programs starting Fall 2017

Board passing rates between  
**93-100%**

**50%** increase in Faculty/Student presentations from 2014-2015

**22** Study Aboard and International faculty/student presentations

**116** Publications/Presentations

**900** Community members receiving health care services

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

**Stanley J. Dudrick**, M.D., F.A.C.S., medical director of the physician assistant program, recipient of the first endowed chair position at Misericordia University, and professor of surgery at Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine, Scranton, has been named one of the 50 most influential physicians in history by Medscape.

Published in four languages, the article ranks Dr. Dudrick 42nd among his historical peers in medicine. The Nanticoke native's pioneer research led to the development of the central venous feeding technique known as intravenous hyperalimentation or total parenteral nutrition. The technique enabled doctors to feed patients whose gastrointestinal tracts were impaired. The technique is widely used to this day to prevent malnutrition in patients of all ages "who are unable to obtain nutrients by oral or enteral routes," according to the article that was published in February.

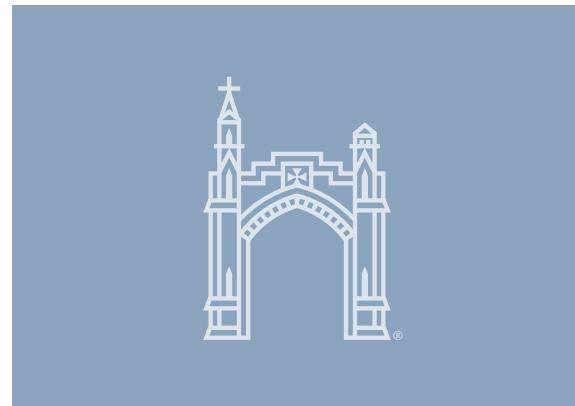
During his illustrious career, Dr. Dudrick has received more than 120 honors and awards. Most recently, he was named a "Living Legend" by the International Society of Small Bowel Transplantation and was among those featured in a series of biographical videos entitled, "*Heroes in Surgery: Our Legacy*," by the American College of Surgeons.

## Misericordia Interprofessional Education Connection Fall Spring 2017

The MIPEC committee held several activities in the Fall/Spring semesters that reinforced teamwork and communication and allowed Health Science and Education students to share knowledge and perceptions of each other's roles and responsibilities.

Students from physical and occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, medical imaging, sonography, nursing, social work, physician assistant and education participated in an interactive team building activity with a common goal of building a paper chain with focus on task challenges and workload balance. Students also collaborated in a Grand Rounds interprofessional table discussion involving the best practice of patient centered care supporting a complex patient. A presentation by **Kiel Eigen**, a young man who was paralyzed due to a football injury at a young age, brought over 200 students together to learn the value of teamwork to support positive physical and psychological outcomes.

The MIPEC team continues to support and encourage faculty to develop and implement active learning activities that support a model of collaborative learning with 2 or more distinct disciplines. Interprofessional awareness has continued to grow with more clinically driven scenarios planned for upcoming semesters. For more information visit: <http://www.misericordia.edu/page.cfm?p=1728>



## Speaker Series: National Speakers

CHSE hosted several



Distinguished speakers including **Dr. Ted Epperly** at the 7th annual Health Care Symposium, "Patient-Centered Care: Leadership and Innovation."

Epperly is a clinical professor of family medicine at the University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, Washington, past president and past chairman of the board of the American Academy of Family Physicians.



**John Donvan** and **Carin Zuker** at the Autism Distinguished Speaker Series. The Autism Center at Misericordia University, in collaboration with Geisinger Health System, hosted journalists Jon Donvan and Carin Zucker, two of the most recognized experts on autism in the country. Together they co-wrote the critically acclaimed and New York Times bestselling book, "*In a Different Key: The Story of Autism*."

**Keil Eigen**, who shared his inspirational story of life after injury and **Senator Lisa Baker** spoke regarding the Social Welfare Policy & Services class in February about Opioid crisis & ACA repeal, completed our speaker series for the year.



# OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

## New Chair Named in OT

**Lori Charney**, OTD, OTR/L was recently appointed Chair of the Misericordia University Occupational Therapy Department. Dr. Charney is a 1993 graduate of College Misericordia where she received her BS in Occupational Therapy. She has worked as an OT in various practice areas including home health care and adult inpatient rehabilitation with a focus on stroke, spinal cord, oncology and orthopedic specialty areas. She also has extensive experience in the public school system where she developed a district wide sensory program, an assistive technology program,

and an outdoor sensory playground. Dr. Charney returned to Misericordia University to obtain a post professional master's degree in OT in 2011 and a clinical doctorate in 2014. Her doctoral capstone was the development of a sensory/social summer camp for students with autism which included a research component to determine the effectiveness of pairing sensory activities and social skills instruction to improve social participation. She has continued in this line of research and has presented at the national and international level with the most recent presentation at NUI Galway, Ireland at the COTEC-ENOTHE international conference in 2016.

Dr. Charney, who is an assistant professor, teaches introduction to OT, geriatric intervention, occupations in autism, school based therapy in the post professional program, program development in the doctoral program, doctoral capstone mentor, Level I fieldwork in Fall Prevention clinic, and is a research chair in the weekday program.



OUT OF DARKNESS



OT SERVICE LEARNING TOWER



OT PARACHUTE



OT SENSORY GROUP

## 100% Pass Rate

Misericordia University Occupational Therapy New Graduates recently earned a 100-percent pass rate on the National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) for the testing period of Jan. 1, 2016 through Dec. 31, 2016. Fifty new graduates passed the NBCOT licensure examination during the period. Since 2011, the five-year, entry-level Master of Science degree program in occupational therapy has achieved an average pass rate of 98 percent over the six testing periods.

## PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES

### Physician Assistant Student Olympics

The Department is pleased to announce that the Class of 2016 received a 100% board certification pass rate that is significantly higher than the national average of 93%. Congratulations on this great accomplishment! The Class of 2016 and 2017 participated as a team in the Local Annual Physician Assistant Student Olympics held at Marywood University. They had a great time

interacting with the other local PA students and also won first place!! Way to go!

The Class of 2017 attended the Annual Pennsylvania Society of Physician Assistants Conference held in Pittsburgh, PA this past October. They were able to participate in many educational sessions, network with other students, PAs, and potential future



employers, and engage in some legal and legislative aspects of the Physician Assistant Profession. They also participated in the Student Medical Challenge Bowl.

# SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

## Distinguished Speaker Series

**Robert E. Owens, Jr.** Ph.D., a New York State Distinguished Teaching Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders at The College of St. Rose where he teaches courses in language development and language disorders, is the honored speaker at this year's Distinguished Speaker Series. Dr. Owens is the author of "Language Development: An Introduction," "Language Disorders: A Functional Approach," "Early Communication Intervention," "Help Your Baby Talk: Introducing the New Shared Communication Method," and "Queer Kids: The Challenge & Promise for Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Youth." Scheduled for May 12th, Dr. Owens will explore functional, innovative means to assess the communication of children with language disorders.

## National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA)

- Sold Operation Smile shirts, putting all proceeds, \$1,500, towards our Operation Smile total.
- Held a benefit concert for Operation Smile, raising \$3,600 which funded 15 cleft palate surgeries in developing countries all over the world.
- MU NSSLHA Relay team generated \$770 for the American Cancer Society through MU's Relay for Life event.
- NSSLHA raised more than \$4,000 for "Wheels for Juliann" at a benefit concert held on May 6. The funds were used to purchase an adaptive tricycle for Juliann Tompkins, a seven-year-old girl with a rare and fatal genetic disorder.
- Donated \$1,000 to the ASHFoundation.



## Student-faculty Research

A student-faculty research team in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology at Misericordia University presented two scientific research studies at the Society for Functional Near Infrared Spectroscopy Biennial Meeting in Paris, France, during the fall semester. Faculty and student participants included, from left, **Cari Tellis**, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, professor; **Danielle Spagnuolo**, Wyoming, Pa.; **Cara Imbalzano**, Roaring Brook Township, Pa.; **Glen Tellis**, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, professor and chair, and **D'manda Price**, Paterson, N.J.

## Mindware

The SLP department recently procured a new technology called Mindware Technologies. Mindware is a system that records autonomic nervous system responses through electrodes that measure heart rate, respiratory cycles and skin conductance. **Dr. Glen Tellis** and his research team are using this technology to measure the sympathetic and parasympathetic responses of participants when they are exposed to stuttered speech. Mindware will be married with Functional Near-Infrared Spectroscopy, a technology that measures cortical changes, to better understand perceptual and physical responses of participants during speech, non-speech and observational tasks.

**Dr. Nina Santus** - Nina Santus Ph.D., CCC-SLP, was welcomed into the SLP department as a postdoctoral fellow. Dr. Santus earned her Bachelor of Science in Speech-Language Pathology and Education as well as her Master of Science degree in Speech-Language Pathology at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and completed her doctoral work at The University of Georgia. During her time at Misericordia, she has been teaching classes, supervising clinical sessions, and involved in research of fluency disorders.

**Dr. Carly Jo Hosbach-Cannon** - The SLP department would like to commend 2009 graduate, Carly Jo Hosbach-Cannon, for receiving her Ph.D. from Syracuse University in 2016. She is currently working as an assistant professor at Ithaca College.

## Paris Society for Functional Near Infrared Spectroscopy Biennial Meeting

A student-faculty research team presented at the Paris Society for Functional Near Infrared Spectroscopy (fNIRS) Biennial Meeting in Paris, France in October 2016. **Dr. Glen Tellis** and **Dr. Cari Tellis** traveled with SLP students **Cara Imbalzano**, **D'manda Price** and **Danielle Spagnuolo** to present research on hemoglobin concentration levels in the brain of persons-who-stutter vs. typically-fluent-speakers when performing a variety of speech-related tasks.

## Von Drach Memorial Scholarship

On March 31, the Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association (PSHA) awarded the Von Drach Memorial Scholarship to fifth year Misericordia University SLP student **Abriel McCann**. This is the second consecutive year a Misericordia SLP student earned the scholarship and the ninth time an MU student has received the award since 2008.



## MU Chapter of NSSLHA

The National Student Speech Language and Hearing Association (NSSLHA) Chapter at Misericordia University held the 'Put a Smile on Your Face' benefit concert on Sunday April 10, 2016 in support of Operation Smile. NSSLHA officers who organized the benefit, seated from left, are **Shea Williams**,

Milton, Pa., president, and **Lisa Stumpf**, New Cumberland, Pa., vice president; standing, **Hope Spangler**, Mechanicsburg, Pa., secretary, and **Emily Gurtzen**, West Chester, Pa., treasurer.



## NEPA National Stuttering Association

The Northeast Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Stuttering Association at Misericordia University hosted its 3rd annual 5K run/walk, 'Don't Tell Me to Slow Down,' on April 2, 2016. Misericordia University speech-language pathology majors organizing the event, include from left, **Kelsey O'Donnell**, Clark Summit, Pa.; **Lindsey Jorden**, Scranton, Pa.; **Terrence Murgallis**, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; **Kyle Pelkey**, Watertown, Conn.; **Abbey McCann**, Swoyersville, Pa.; **Alexandra Irr**, Bethlehem, Pa., and **Alexis Stoffel**, Mullica Hill, N.J.



## SONOGRAPHY

### Fall Education Symposium

In October, the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Department partnered with the Northeastern Pennsylvania Society of Ultrasound (NEPASU) to hold a Fall Education Symposium. On a beautiful fall Saturday, all in attendance celebrated NEPASU's 25th anniversary. To commemorate the special occasion, the keynote speaker was **Dr. Frederick Kremkau**, Professor and Program Director for Medical Ultrasound at Wake Forest University School of Medicine, North Carolina. Alumnus **Amanda George**, BSDMS, RDMS, RVT presented interesting pediatric cases. Four students of the class of 2017,

LEFT TO RIGHT: DANIELLE FERECK,  
KAITLYN PROPER, ALLISON BELTZ,  
JACQUELINE REIMER



**Danielle Fereck**, **Kaitlyn Proper**, **Allison Beltz**, and **Jacqueline Reimer** presented interesting case studies on Breast Clip Migration, Appendicitis, Morton's Neuroma, and Ebstein Anomaly respectively. The symposium was a huge success, offering current education to community sonographers and Misericordia University students.

## Fetal through Adolescent Interprofessional Education Activity



**Sheryl Goss**, Chair of Diagnostic Medical Sonography along with CHSE faculty representatives from each department worked together to create a round table interactive case scenario beginning with a young couple learning during their routine anatomy sonogram that their baby (Alisha) has spina bifida and hydrocephalus. Students from Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Sonography, and Social Work discussed their professional roles with the young couple and followed the neonate from the neonatal intensive care unit through her school years. The students were challenged to create the ending to the scenario in regards to the Alisha's independence and academic abilities. The sonography students shared in their reflections the value of learning about other professions as well as being able to share the role of sonography through Alisha's lifespan, from the unborn to adulthood.

## DMS Class of 2017

Fifteen students celebrated their success as they received their certificate of completion in March. All 15 students have earned the national RDMS credential by passing the physics exam and the abdominal specialty exam. Thirteen students were successful in the obstetrics and gynecology specialty examination. Ten graduates are employed and three graduates continued their education through externships in specialty areas.



# SOCIAL WORK

## Social Work Students Travel to Harrisburg

As part of the social work program's participation in the National Association of Social Workers PA Chapter *Legislative Education Advocacy Day*, a Social Welfare Policy class will travel to Harrisburg on April 18th. There they will meet with their legislators to join over 1,000 other social work students and professionals to advocate passing HB 445 (previously HB 1415). HB 445 of

the 2017-2018 legislative session amends the Social Workers, Marriage & Family Therapists, and Professional Counselors Act, and would create practice protection and revise the scope of practice for clinical social workers. The Act will add diagnosis to the scope of practice for clinical social workers and ensure Pennsylvania joins every other state in the nation, other than Montana,

in establishing a method of protection for Pennsylvania citizens in the receipt of mental health services. In preparation for this visit, Senator Lisa Baker visited the class to discuss current legislation she is promoting to address the regional opioid epidemic and gave the class tips on how to effectively communicate with legislators. Dr. McDonald's Social Work 101 class was also able to join in the presentation as well.

## Yoga and Mental Health

The 2nd National Conference: Integrating Yoga into Mental Health Care was held on June 30 – July 2, 2017; sponsored by the Misericordia University Social Work Program and the Wellfleet Collective. This groundbreaking event features the first major conference in the U.S. focusing on the topic of yoga and mental health care. It is designed for mental health and rehabilitative health professionals as well as yoga teachers and therapists.

## Faculty Notes

**David Hage**, MSW, LSW, C-ASWCM recently had an article published in Today's Geriatric Medicine entitled, *Self-Care: An Ethical Imperative in Geriatric Medicine*. The article contextualizes the severity of burnout currently experienced by health care professionals working in geriatric care environments and identifies increased risk of burnout and adverse patient outcomes related to demographic changes in a graying society. Burnout detection is discussed as an ethical imperative, and options to address the problem of burnout are also reviewed.

**Susan McDonald**, Ph.D., L.S.W. presented the workshop, "A Community Partnership with A Social Work Program to Address Childhood Hunger," at the 2017 Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors Annual Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, in March.

## Dinner for Kids Benefit

The social work program also hosted its 2nd Annual Dinners for Kids Benefit on March 26th at a Touch of Class in Wilkes-Barre. The event was part of a service learning project for the Methods & Processes II class, where students learned about working with groups in professional practice. Luzerne County's population is estimated at 320,392. The food insecurity rate in the county is 13.6%. The estimated number of regional individuals facing food insecurity is 43,640. Out of the 43,640 people, 10,500 are food insecure children living in Luzerne County. Dinners for Kids is a local nonprofit initiative that

delivers six dinners a week to children living in food-insecure homes within Luzerne County. Eligible children are referred to the Dinners for Kids program by Luzerne County Children and Youth Services, and administrators in the Wyoming Valley West and Dallas Districts. The Dinners for Kids menus are planned to meet USDA nutritional recommendations. Children who lack a nutritionally balanced diet are more likely to exhibit behavior problems, poor school performance, and impaired cognitive development. The students who organized the event obtained media coverage that brought



regional attention to this issue and raised funds as part of the task group to help reduce childhood food insecurity in Luzerne County.

# NURSING

## Nursing Students in the News

Misericordia University nursing students in the Student Nurse Association of Pennsylvania (SNAP) recently donated a camera and printer to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit of Geisinger Wyoming Valley

Medical Center in Plains Township. The student nurses organized various fundraisers to raise money for the purchase of the camera and printer, including selling nursing apparel, gift baskets and a bake sale. Students

also participated in the first Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center's Tambur Family NICU reunion party, where they assisted with registration, preparations, and activities with the children.

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## White Coat Ceremony

The Undergraduate Nursing at Misericordia University recently held its Second annual Arnold P. Gold Foundation and American Association of Colleges of Nursing White Coat Ceremony for Nursing by cloaking 40 sophomore students and seven part-time evening students who began the professional portion of the nursing program in the spring semester.

After receiving financial support from the Gold Foundation and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing to establish the White Coat Ceremony in 2016, Misericordia University Undergraduate Nursing is proud to carry on this tradition. An international nonprofit, the Gold Foundation established the ceremony in 1993 as a way to welcome new students into the professions of medicine and to underscore the importance of humanistic and patient-centered health care.

At the ceremony family and friends, as well as faculty and administration, watched as the 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 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 compassion and empathy must be the hallmark of their clinical practice.

**John W. Mullen**, R.N., A.N.D., P.H.R.N., C.F.R.N., a registered nurse in a cardiac intensive care unit, delivered an emotional keynote address in which he outlined the compassionate care he received in the hospital by his health care team. Mullen began his career in health care as an orderly, as he continued his education in nursing. Through the years, he has worked in various roles in the nursing profession, including 15 years as a flight nurse with the Geisinger Medical Center's Life Flight program.

## 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 10 percentage points higher than the national average on the National Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) for baccalaureate degree students. The NCLEX-RN was developed by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) to ensure the public's protection. In order to receive a license to practice, a nursing

candidate must pass an examination that measures the competencies newly licensed, entry-level nurses have to perform safely and effectively, according to NCSBN.

Misericordia University BSN graduates achieved a 95.59-percent pass rate for first-time test takers between Oct. 1, 2015 and Sept. 30, 2016. Misericordia graduates exceeded the average national pass rate of 85.26 percent and the average pass rate in Pennsylvania of 87.54 for baccalaureate



degree programs. Misericordia University NCLEX-RN test-takers also had the highest pass rates of baccalaureate-degree programs in Luzerne and Lackawanna counties, according to NCSBN data.

## Nursing Faculty in the News

**Darlene Kuchinski-Donnelly**, Ph.D. (candidate), C.R.N.P., R.N.C., assistant professor of nursing at Misericordia University, was selected by the National League of Nursing as a Jonas Scholar for the 2016-2017 academic year. The National League of Nursing Jonas Scholars Program was established in 2010 by the Jonas Center for Nursing Excellence to advance the science of nursing education through evidence-based research. The program

provides financial support to select Ph.D. candidates as they work to complete their doctoral dissertations.

Professor Donnelly and six other recipients were acknowledged by National League of Nursing executive leaders and Jonas family members during a luncheon at the National League of Nursing 2016 Education Beyond Boundaries Summit that was held in Orlando, Florida, in September. Professor Donnelly is working toward her doctorate degree at Widener University, Chester.

At the summit, cohort members presented their dissertation research proposals in nursing education.

Professor Donnelly's dissertation, "Emotional Engagement: The Relationships Among Autonomy, Competence, Relatedness, and Emotional Engagement in the Online Learning Environment," focuses on emotional engagement in the online learning environment.



# EDUCATION

## Education Club

The Education Club used their artistic skills as they decorated the walls of Adventures in Learning, located in the Mercy Center in April, 2016. The club donated the paint, the brushes, the supplies, and the labor.

The Education Club participated in MU's "Adopt a Family" fundraising project for Thanksgiving in November, 2016.

During American Education Week in November, 2016, the Education Club held a food drive on campus to combat poverty and food insecurity. Club members delivered several boxes of nonperishable food items collected during the week's public events and delivered them to St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen in Wilkes-Barre.



## Service Learning

**Dr. Susan Tomascik's** TED 131 Cultural Awareness course participated in service learning. In both the fall and spring semesters, Early Childhood/Special Education majors participated in after school tutoring at Dan Flood Elementary in the Wilkes-Barre Area School District, while Middle Level/Secondary majors participated in a mentoring program at the Wyoming Valley West Middle School.

Students enrolled in ECE 110 Introduction to Early Childhood and ECE 383 Math Methods II completed their service learning requirement at St. Jude Elementary School in Mountain Top on Friday, March 24, 2017. **Dr. Steve Tedford** and **Dr. Michele Brague** collaborated on the theme, Magical Mathematics, where students designed and implemented activities/lessons based on the theme. Students from the Math Methods course led the pupils in demonstrations and hands-on activities, while students from the intro course acted as assistants in the classroom.

## American Education Week

The TED held several educational programs on campus for American Education Week in November, 2016 that addressed the impact of poverty in the classroom and what can be done to mitigate its effects on children's education.

American Education Week programming began on November 16 from 5-6 p.m. with presentations by ten TED students that outline free and/or low-cost technology that can be used for educational tools by students in elementary and secondary education. The various tools discussed are beneficial in areas of literacy, mathematics, special education and more for teachers, future teachers, parents and students.

**Jim Calderone**, M.S.S.W., M.Div., Ed.D., delivered the keynote presentation, "Bed, Breakfast, and Education: Poverty and the Teaching-Learning Process," on November 16 from 6-7 p.m. Dr. Calderone discussed how poverty impacts what is taught in the

classroom, along with how educators teach and how their pupils learn the subject matter from the viewpoints of teachers, students and family members.

As part of American Education Week, every year TED recognizes several outstanding local teachers, as nominated by our students. Students nominate 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 five teachers and educational professionals.

On November 17, TED screened the award-winning movie, "Beyond the Blackboard." The 2011 movie is about an inspirational teacher who makes a difference in the lives of the homeless children she teaches in a shelter's makeshift classroom. The movie was followed by a panel discussion about poverty and its effect on education. MU faculty members **Molly Vitale**, D.Ed., associate professor, and **Susan McDonald**, Ph.D., L.S.W, assistant professor, were joined on the panel by an alumnus and a regional educator.

## Faculty Scholarly Activities

### Publications

Two faculty members had articles published in the Fall 2016 volume of *The Pennsylvania Teacher Educator*.

**Dr. Anne Papalia** penned an article on entitled *Readiness, Response, and Reaction: Addressing School Emergencies with Students with Disabilities* Dr.

**Jodi Loughlin** wrote about the use of graphic organizers in teacher education courses entitled *Making Connections: Using Graphic Organizers as Effective Instructional Tools*.

### *Presentations*

Five TED faculty made presentations at the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Teacher Educators (PAC-TE) in October, 2016. **Dr. Steve Broskoske** presented on using **Charlotte Danielson's** framework to guide technology selection in the classroom, **Dr. Anne Papalia** presented on school emergency preparation for students with disabilities, **Dr. Jodi Loughlin** wrote about use of graphic organizers in teacher education courses, and **Drs. Brague, Vitale**, and Loughlin presented on designing instructional units across education courses.

Two students and two TED faculty presented at the National Student Teaching and Supervision Conference held at West Chester University in April, 2016. **Kara Kiska** and Nicole Hunsinger did a poster presentation, entitled *How Implementation of PA's ACT 82 Affects Inclusion in Middle School*. **Dr. Michele Brague** and **Dr. Molly Vitale** presented a session on inter-rater reliability of a teacher work sample evaluation rubric.

## Kappa Delta Pi Induction Ceremony

The TED inducted 14 students and one faculty member into the Kappa Delta Pi (KDP) International Honor Society in Education during an induction ceremony in Mercy Hall on April 26, 2016. This year's KDP induction ceremony was held on May 3, 2017.

# MEDICAL IMAGING

## Student News

**Junior/Senior Field Trip** - On April 21, 2017 the junior and senior students of the Medical Imaging Program attended a lecture entitled "Bone Detectives" and explored The College of Physician's Mutter Museum in Philadelphia. This educational field trip provides the students with the opportunity to see medical oddities first hand.

**Annual PSRT Conference 2017** - Two teams of 2 students/team competed in Technibowl competition against students from other educational institutions or colleges across the state. MU MI teams won both 1st and 2nd place at this year's conference. **Emily Donovan** and **Alyssa Machey** placed first. **Donya Forst** and **Alison Machey** placed second.

**December 2016 Graduates** - On December 13, 2017, December graduates of the Medical Imaging Program were recognized at a department luncheon held at Leggio's Restaurant in Dallas. At that time the following graduates were presented with their Lambda Nu National Honor Society certificates, honor cords and pins. Congratulations to **Brianna Boyle**, **Stephanie Jugus**, **Kristen Kabacinski**, **Samantha Rock**, **Leigha Sahagian**, **Kara Wild** and **Schyler Yatsko**.

**Mentoring Program** - 15 juniors (mentors) 11 sophomores (mentees) volunteered to participate.

The mentoring program is voluntary and pairs junior students with sophomore students to serve as the mentors throughout the academic year. The upperclassmen are prepared to avail themselves to the underclassmen when questions pertaining to the major arise. Students meet early in the fall semester, coordinate meeting schedules and exchange contact information for purposes of major & some university inquiries.

- The mentoring program presented a clinic panel on January 17th for the sophomore class; at least one junior mentor was present from each clinical site. Juniors offered clinic advice, suggestions and fielded questions. Participants: 40 students overall- 28 sophomores and 12 juniors.

## Faculty News

**Lynn Blazaskie**- Lynn recently transitioned from staff to Clinical Faculty. She leads the Medical Imaging Department mentoring program and serves as co-advisor of the Medical imaging Club. The Medical Imaging Club won the "Academic Club Award" in May of 2016 due to the outstanding Service provided to the community.

**Gina Capitano** has been very involved in Interdisciplinary activities. She involved students in Introduction to Medical Imaging in a Paper Chain Teamwork and Communication Activity; involved students in Clinical Experience III to a Grand Rounds Case Study Activity that involved discussion of a stroke patient; and included Medical Imaging students in a patient simulation activity involving MI, PT& Nursing students working together in the nursing lab with a simulated patient. In February 2017 Gina also assisted in organizing a public presentation by Kiel Eigen, who discussed a patient's perspective on Inter- professional Practice.

**Dr. Elaine Halesey** has been re-appointed to serve on the A.S.R.T. Committee on Radiologic Technology Advocacy-Region 8 Subcommittee for 2016-2017 year.

**Dr. Mari King** - Dr. Mari King served as a member of an evaluation team for the Middle States Commission on Higher Education in late March 2017.

**Paula Pate-Schoder** presented two peer reviewed lectures at the Virginia Society of Radiologic Technologists 2016 Annual Meeting: April 7, 2016 -"Imaging Skull and Brain Trauma" and April 8, 2016 -"Leadership Development in Medical Imaging". Paula was also invited to speak again at the VSRT Annual Meeting in 2017 on the topic "Forensic Imaging in Non Accidental Trauma (NAT) in Children". Paula hosted the Research Poster Presentations by Juniors/ December Medical Imaging students in December 2016. Paula developed a new advanced level course in Cardiovascular and Vascular Intervention that was approved by the ARRT to meet ARRT 16 hours of structured education exam requirements.

**Lorie Zelna** has again completed another successful year with her Service Learning course known as "Bone Academy". For those not familiar with the academy, Medical Imaging students use age-appropriate radiographic terminology when communicating with 4-5 year old children from Adventures in Learning and Little Meadows Pre-Schools. The students apply theory of communication to practice and demonstrate an increased self and community-awareness.



PICTURED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT ARE LORIE ZELNA M.S.,R.T.(R)(MR), ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND CHAIRPERSON, MEDICAL IMAGING MISERICORDIA UNIVERSITY, ALISON MACHEY, MCADOO PA, ALYSSA MACHEY, MCADOO PA, EMILY DONOVAN, WHITESBORO NY , DONYA FORST HOPATCONG NJ AND GINA CAPITANO ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MEDICAL IMAGING AT MISERICORDIA UNIVERSITY AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE PSRT.

## Medical Imaging Club Activities

Medical Imaging Club raises funds for Susan G. Komen Foundation Throughout the month of October 2017, the MI club sold "pink ribbons" for \$2.00. The ribbons were connected on October 28th in Banks, then the club members and anyone else interested walked across campus displaying the ribbon chain to show how many lives are affected by breast cancer and to raise breast cancer

awareness  
the chain



was displayed in Banks Center. \$232.00 was donated to the Susan G Komen Foundation.

In addition to raising funds for the Susan G. Komen Foundation, the MI club also took part in several fundraising events to raise money for the club and volunteered at community nonprofit organizations.

# RESEARCH

On December 7, 2016, ten graduating seniors presented their research in the form of poster displays for public view. The event was held in Insalaco Hall. The graduates who presented and their topics were: **Brianna Boyle**- "The Advantages of Cryoablations vs. Radiofrequency Ablations to Treat Cardiac Arrhythmias", **Marissa Conti**- "Pediatric Sedation during Magnetic Resonance Imaging", **Stephanie Jugus**- "Bioresorbable Stents to Treat Coronary Artery Disease (CAD)", **Kristen Kabacinski** - "Use of Embolization in the Treatment of Splenic Trauma", **Christina Ocasio** - "Intraductal Papiloma", **Stephanie Piser** - "Ductal Carcinoma in SITU", **Samantha Rock** - "Digital Breast Tomosynthesis", **Leigha Sahagian** - "Use of low- dose Computed Tomography Scans in Screening for Lung Cancer", **Kara Wild** - "Stereotactic Breast Biopsy 2D vs. 3D", **Schyler Yatsko**- "Diagnostic Value of Computed Tomography Colonography."

## Callahan Awarded National Scholarship from Lambda-NU

Misericordia University student **Rachel Callahan** of Wapwallopen, Pa., left, poses with **Lorie Zelna**, M.S., R.T.(R) (MR), associate professor and chair of the Department of Medical Imaging, after learning she was awarded a Fall 2016 Lambda Nu academic scholarship.

The Lambda Nu National Radiologic and Imaging Sciences Honor Society recently awarded a national scholarship to a junior enrolled in the Misericordia University Bachelor of Science degree program in medical imaging.

Lambda Nu has 184 chapters in 43 states and the District of Columbia. Students in each of the chapters were eligible to apply for the scholarships that were awarded nationally in the fall.

The Misericordia University Alpha Chapter of Lambda Nu was established in 2001.



Membership to the honor society is based on an overall grade point average of 3.0 or better and enrollment as a full-time medical imaging student for at least four semesters. Students must also demonstrate evidence of professional commitment beyond the minimum program requirements; the pursuit or completion of an independent research project; be active members in the Misericordia University Medical Imaging Club, and be involved in university-wide student committees and medical-imaging related activities.



## Rinaldi Chosen to Represent PSRT at ASRT Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida

The Pennsylvania Society of Radiologic Technologists (PSRT) has selected Misericordia University medical imaging major **Shelby Rinaldi** of Pittston to represent the state at the 2017 American Society of

Radiologic Technologist (ASRT) Student Leadership Development Program. She will participate in the educational symposium, and governance and House of Delegates meeting from June 22-25 in Orlando, Florida.



Misericordia University medical Imaging majors **Jaclyn Hajec** and **Morgan Hanadel** have been chosen as alternates.

PSRT selected the students after reviewing essays from radiologic technology students in the state. In the 500-700 word essays, the students outlined how they expected to grow professionally by participating in the all-expense paid program and trip. Up to 100 students-two per state-were eligible for the program, which also includes educational programs designed for students, professional mentorship meetings and an insider's look into the largest association for medical imaging and radiation therapy professionals.

LEFT TO RIGHT- LORIE ZELNA, M.S.R.T.(R)(MR) ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND MEDICAL IMAGING DEPARTMENT CHAIR, SHELBY RINALDI '17 (ASRT STATE REP) , MORGAN HANADEL, '17 & JACLYN HAJEC, '18 (ALTERNATES).

# PHYSICAL THERAPY

## Student Highlights

### ■ STUDENT RUN PRO BONO CLINIC

OPENS: March 2017 Second and third year DPT students opened the student run pro-bono clinic with the first patient. Students from all 3 years of the program comprise the leadership board for the clinic. Patients will be seen two nights per week.

### ■ March 2017:

Second and third year physical therapy students perform service learning activities with residents of the Meadows independent living facility in Dallas.

### ■ October 2016:

DPT students Julianne Munda and Julia Blaskiewicz attended the APTA National Student Conclave in Miami, FL.

### ■ October 2016:

First year DPT students participated in a community fall prevention program at the Masonic Village in Dallas.

### ■ October, 2016:

The Physical Therapy Club participated in PT Global Day of Service. Students and faculty participated in 5 service activities, providing 255 hours of service.

### ■ October 6, 2016:

Second year DPT students Dayna Ehlers and Jackie Kochmer attended the APTA State Policy and Payment Forum in Pittsburgh, PA. The students are pictured here with PPTA president-elect Colleen Chandler. Dayna and Jackie were awarded a \$500 attendance scholarship through the Northeast District PPTA.

### ■ October 2, 2016:

PT students, faculty, and alumni participated in a “tailgait” to celebrate the 20th reunion of the PT program.

### ■ October 8, 2016:

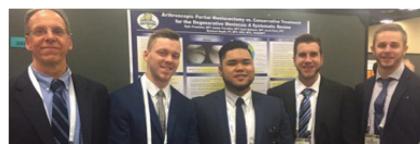
PT Club members volunteered at the Walk to End Alzheimer's at PNC Field.



## Research

■ **March 17, 2017:** PT faculty showcased their research at the Misericordia University College of Health Sciences and Education 2017 Faculty Poster/Podium Presentations.

■ **February 2017:** Physical therapy faculty and alumni presented research at the Combined Sections Meeting of the American Physical Therapy Association in San Antonio, Texas. This is the premier national conference of the association.



**MU Health Buzz** is an initiative of the first year DPT students with a view to inform and educate the Misericordia Community in health matters that impact general public health. It is published bi-weekly during the spring semester. Previous editions are now available on the PT Department's website: [www.misericordia.edu/pt](http://www.misericordia.edu/pt)



December 2016: DPT 2016 graduates were presented with awards at the hooding ceremony:

- The Outstanding Physical Therapy Student Award: **Nicolette Ruffler**
- The Physical Therapy Student Achievement Award: **Mallory Laughman**
- The Catherine Perry Wilkinson Leadership Award: **Julia Blaskiewicz**



STUDENTS PRESENTING THEIR RESEARCH AT THE THIRD ANNUAL STUDENT RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM, HELD ON NOVEMBER 19 AND 20, 2017.

## Interprofessional Education and PT

Misericordia University Physical and Occupational Therapy students conducted an 8-week community falls prevention program. In this photo, PT and OT students are preparing to teach participants how to get up from a fall.

Physical Therapy, Nursing, and Medical Imaging students participated in a patient simulation activity designed to foster interprofessional communication.

## Presentations

■ DPT faculty **Dr. Laurie Brogan** presented to the Education Section: “Experiential Learning: Beyond ‘I Learned a Lot.’”

■ **October 8, 2016:** PT faculty member **Heather Fritz, PT, DPT** presented her research poster at the APTA Educational Leadership Conference in Phoenix, Arizona.

■ **October 8, 2016:** PT faculty member **Kristen Karnish, PT, MPH, EdD, GCS** presented her research at the APTA Educational Leadership Conference in Phoenix, Arizona.



Misericordia alumna **Karen Litzy, DPT** presented at CSM: “Old not Weak: Strengthening in the January 2017: Third year DPT students were paired with first year DPT students as part of a mentoring program. The program was established to provide the first year student with someone the student can ask questions about the first semester of PT school.

