MOMENTS

MISERICORDIA UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2023



MISERICORDIA UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

Welcome to Misericordia University's magazine, Moments. We've missed you. Enjoy.



A welcoming message from President Dan Myers!

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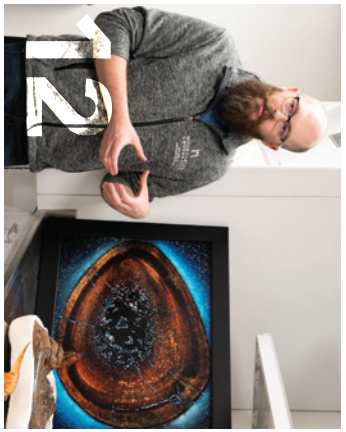
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YOU FEEL ACCEPTED HERE

Dr. Alicia Nordstrom's The Voices Project: Immigration

Back in 2009, Alicia Nordstrom, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Psychology Department, created *The Voices Project*, which is still being expanded upon today. Intended for her Intro to Psychology class, the project allows students to examine the question: what is it like to be different? Students interview a person from a "group of difference" and gather information about their interviewee's life. *The Voices Project* has addressed the topics of Disability, Diversity, Mental Health, and most recently, Immigration.

In the documentary, Misericordia's Art Gallery Director, Lalaine Little, Ph.D., shares her family's immigration story and Filipino heritage. Lalaine shared her story onstage as part of the *80 Minutes Around the World* storytelling show that appears in the documentary.

A very moving story was expressed by Misericordia Government, Law, and National Security student Kevin Amaya '25 from Scranton, PA about the sacrifices made by his family to escape violence from their home country of El Salvador.

The Voices Project: Immigration was a year-long visual and storytelling project conducted at Misericordia by Dr. Nordstrom and her students. Over 60 students interviewed first and second-generation immigrants, refugees, and DACA recipients. The documentary captures the actual stories of the immigrants that were interviewed.





Dr. Little

"We need to send our students out into the world to be prepared not just as encountering this exotic 'other', but in really getting engaged with global politics. Not service tourism. Not mission tourism. It needs to be a very knowledgeable, engaged, lived experience. Not the cruise ship experience where you go build a home and never come back. It needs to be sustained engagement."



Dr. Nordstrom

"This is so Misericordia that this classroom assignment ripples out into society and is actually changing people's attitudes because psychology needs to be real … you need to touch it, feel it, feel that emotion and that connection with people."



Kevin Amaya '25

"When I got that letter that I was accepted at Misericordia, something just felt right. You feel accepted here. Whatever was taught to me here when I arrived, it made me feel free to say what I needed to say. I want to pass that on to as many people as I can. That's how this world will change. We can change the world, just one person at a time."



THE VOICES PROJECT

Scan QR code to see
THE **VOICES PROJECT**
Immigration on WVIA

This video includes themes of trauma and is for mature audiences only.

COLLEGE MISERICORDIA BEGAN IN 1924 WITH ONE BUILDING —

1920 — Architects designed College Misericordia's Administration Building



1921 — June 3, 1921 ground broken for project



1924 — College Misericordia opened



1930 — Additions to Administration Building began



THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

Philadelphia architects F. Ferdinand Durang and Isaac Hathaway Francis designed the building in the collegiate-Gothic style popular in the 1920s. The Administration Building housed the chapel, library, dining halls, the art gallery, classrooms and labs, art and music studios, an auditorium, dormitories for the students, living quarters for the Sisters, and a solarium.

Ground was broken on June 3, 1921, at a ceremony presided over by Bishop Michael John Hoban (1853-1926). A second, more public groundbreaking ceremony was held on July 18, 1922, when the building's cornerstone was laid. A lockbox was placed in the cornerstone to be opened on the school's centenary in 2024.

The Sisters knew early on that the original footprint of the Administration Building would not be enough space and began another fundraising effort. Durang was once again contracted in 1930 to design additions to the Administration Building, which were constructed between 1930 and 1931 and opened in 1932. The chapel was moved from the second floor to the west wing, which is where it resides to this day. The "south entrance gateway," affectionately known as the Arch, was also included in this contract. Durang designed the Arch and the enclosure wall at the lower end of Lake Street to match the College's original entrance, part of which still exists at the top of the street.

Over the course of the last century, Misericordia has expanded outward from its center and heart. The



100 YEARS OF MERCY
MERCY THRIVES

AGE IS JUST A NUMBER FOR SOME, BUT IT IS A LEGACY FOR OTHERS!

Misericordia University, founded by the Sisters of Mercy, has provided students with an education instilled with Mercy since 1924, almost 100 years young.

Catherine McAuley once said, "Each is given a time, and a place which belongs to no one else." Misericordia is precisely that. Misericordia University is a 100-year-old institution that is extraordinary and brimming with history. As we approach celebrating the centennial, what is even more remarkable is when you realize that no one could have predicted this milestone would happen. As history changes and moves on, so has Misericordia. As the campus community prepares for the 100th Anniversary Celebration, stories of how it all started and a schedule of events will be forthcoming.

Stay tuned to our website, Misericordia University's Facebook page, and emails in the coming months for more information.

1932 — Construction complete. Administration Building reopened

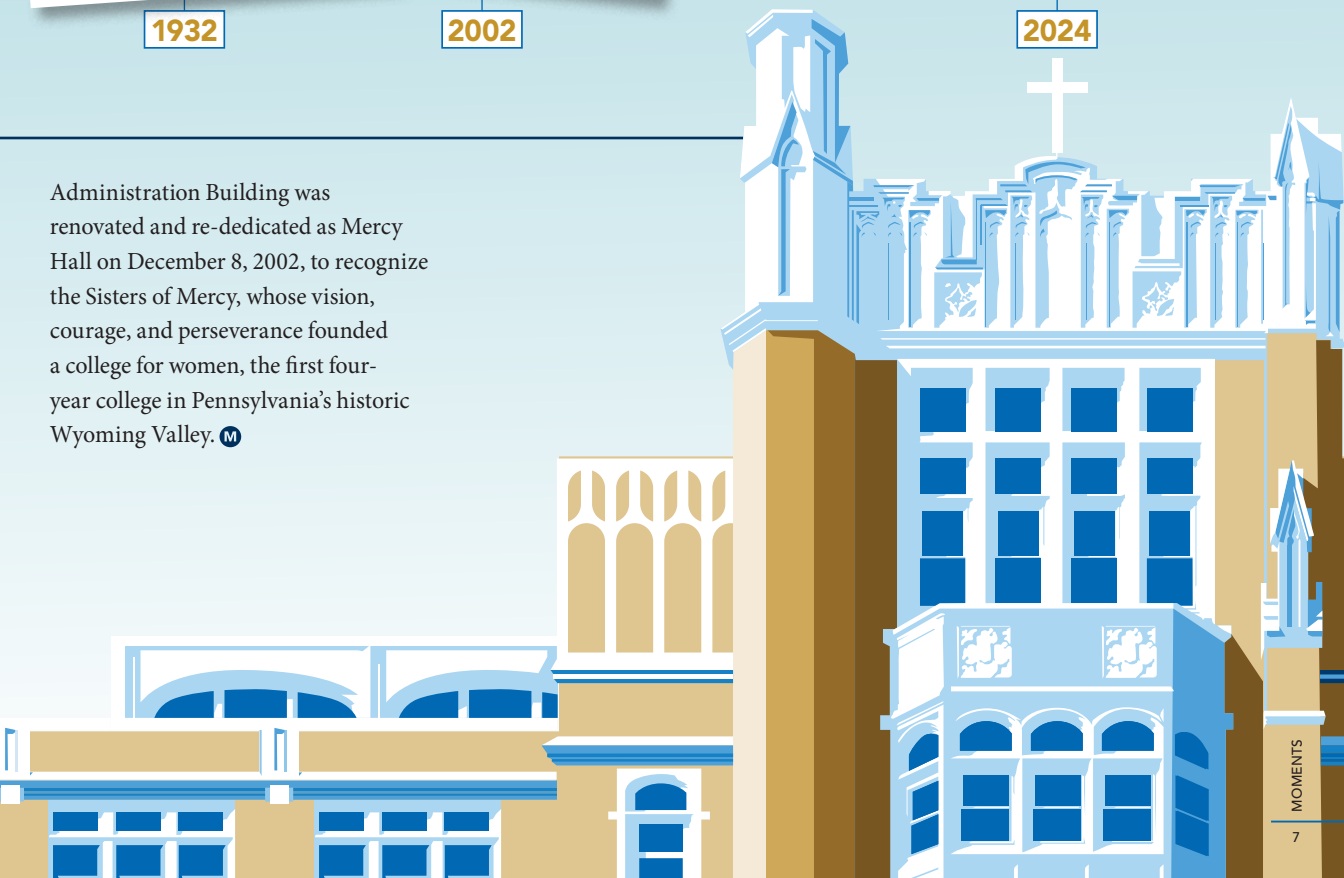


2002 — Renovations to building and re-dedicated as Mercy Hall



2024 — Open 100 year old lockbox

Administration Building was renovated and re-dedicated as Mercy Hall on December 8, 2002, to recognize the Sisters of Mercy, whose vision, courage, and perseverance founded a college for women, the first four-year college in Pennsylvania's historic Wyoming Valley. M



COLORING THE CAMPUS WITH DAVID'S LOVE



IF PEOPLE COULD TAKE TIME TO COLOR THE WORLD WITH THE SAME SMIRK DAVID HAD... WE MIGHT JUST HAVE A MORE BEAUTIFUL PLACE TO LIVE.

During a fun-filled Family Weekend at Misericordia, the Annual 5K Color Run/Walk returned to campus on Sunday, November 6th, after a break due to COVID. The campus was colored with love as over 100 people came out to run and walk in memory of David A. Evans. The event honors David A. Evans, Jr., who died by suicide in April 2014. David was the son of Misericordia's Dr. Dawn Evans, assistant professor of Occupational Therapy, and her husband, Dave Evans. His parents and sister, Morgan, established the fund in honor of David, which has raised over $21,000.

David was a football and guitar player who had just received his driver's license. With a heart of gold that touched all he met, David was a friend to many. He made sure everyone counted and always treated others with kindness. You could be a friend at school, a family member, or a waitress at Pizza Hut; David made sure he treated you kindly. He was a beautiful soul that made people's lives better with the love that he gave them. The "David Evans Smirk marked the world," and the Misericordia community as he and his sister were often found helping his mom during many volunteer projects with the students on campus.

Proceeds of the race benefit the David A. Evans Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund at Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre, PA. The scholarship is dedicated to students at the Catholic high school who plan to continue their education at Misericordia University.

Additional activities at the color run included informational tables on suicide, drug and alcohol addiction, and other resources, along with a basket raffle. Wyoming Valley Drug and Alcohol Services (WVDAS), National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), and American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) took part.



First row: TJ Lavelle, Dawn Evans, Morgan Serpico, Ava Serpico and Heather Lavelle. Second row: Tim Lavelle, Sandro Serpico, Dave Evans, and Judith Loftus



When arriving at Misericordia University as a student, now Officer Paul Henn ’15 was not exactly sure what he wanted to do with his life. He would become a Government, Law and National Security (GLNS) major during the program's infancy, which changed everything for him.

“Before Misericordia, I was clueless about anything government or law,” said Officer Henn. “What I took out of GLNS was Constitutional Law, learning about laws that I now need, and case law with how it pertains to law enforcement.”

Since graduating in 2015, he has become a Police Officer for Dallas Twp. Police Department. He also takes on interns from local universities, including his alma mater, Misericordia University. Officer Henn loves to do ride-alongs for citizens and interns, as it is a way to teach and show people the real side of being a police officer. He explains, "It is not as glamorous as people see on TV, and you are not going call-to-call with super bad guys. I get to show the real side of what it is like to be an officer.”

Misericordia senior GLNS student Sonialys Badillo ’23, interned at Dallas Twp. Police Department and worked with Officer Henn. Being an intern at a police department means more listening than anything. It is an observational internship where they ask questions, listen to what they are told, and are

ALUMNI FEATURE: OFFICER PAUL HENN '15



given insights about being an officer.

When talking to Sonialys, she made it clear how much Officer Henn has meant to her during her internship, "Officer Henn has made me feel welcomed from the very moment I started my internship. He goes the extra mile to make sure that I am constantly learning or experiencing something new during my time at the station. Because Officer Henn is a Misericordia alumnus, I can relate to his prior experiences and understand how he was able to create the path that I will be following soon."

Looking back at his time at Misericordia, Officer Henn said Christopher Stevens, Ph.D. associate professor, department chair, and director of GLNS made the most significant impact, "He was so down to earth. When I am out in my profession, people see me as a police officer, but I am also a human being. I can be on any call and talk to you about my cat, my wife, and what I love. That is how Dr. Stevens was. Yes, he taught, but at the same time, he would talk about his life. No matter your profession, you can still be a human to students, interns, suspects, and victims. That was my takeaway from Misericordia." M



"NO MATTER YOUR PROFESSION, YOU CAN STILL BE A HUMAN TO STUDENTS, INTERNS, SUSPECTS, AND VICTIMS. THAT WAS MY TAKEAWAY FROM MISERICORDIA."

GOING BACK IN TIME:
THE NEW PALEONTOLOGY LAB

Deep in the Frank M. and Dorothea Henry Science Center, Misericordia University now has a new paleontology lab that is **ready for research!** The lab is divided into two rooms, a wet and dry lab, equipped with all the tools students need to study dinosaur bones, including saws and microscopes. By combining chemistry, physics, and biology, Mateusz Wosik, Ph.D., assistant professor of Biology and program director of Clinical Laboratory Science, will conduct research opportunities for students wanting to learn more about extinct species.

The paleontology lab is unique at Misericordia as it allows students to study from an anatomical perspective. Dr. Wosik explains how studying dinosaurs is vastly different from other specimens because they display the most extreme biology of any animals



that have ever lived on this planet. His students can compare their findings to research done by others to explore this extreme biology.

Senior healthcare management student, Justin Kramer '23, has been working on his research with Dr. Wosik since he is applying for medical school. Justin expressed how he is building a relationship with Dr. Wosik that will continue after he graduates. "This opportunity is one of the most groundbreaking things for me in moving forward in my chosen career because I want to go to medical school. It is something I am so grateful for and something that I don't think I would have had unless I had come here," says Justin.

The lab will also offer opportunities for the local community to gain exposure to paleontology and other sciences to which they would not have otherwise been exposed. Displaying different career options to younger generations is key to expanding their knowledge of future possibilities, and Misericordia will be doing just that with the installation of the lab.

As far as the future, Dr. Wosik hopes to expand his research opportunities and have students be involved in the paleontology process either through a field course or by physically having them at an on-site dig. These students would take specimens straight from the field to research them. Dr. Wosik dreams of having a fossil preparation lab on campus that the public would be able to come view…only time will tell.





a photo of Kaitl
'19 '22 and head
Zander Taylor r
Team USA in th
mpics

Team USA has a HOME at the Misericordia POOL



It's not every day

a DIII university gets to say that they have an Olympian on campus, let alone that their coach also represented Team USA. Misericordia, on the other hand, can say just that. Kaitlyn Weatherby '19 '22 and head swim coach Zander Taylor represented Team USA in the 2022 Deaflympics held in Caxias do Sul, Brazil.

Kaitlyn was a doctoral student in Misericordia's Physical Therapy program. At age five, she was diagnosed with bilateral

sensorineural hearing loss. Her left ear is profoundly deaf, and the right has severe hearing loss. When she is not in the pool, Kaitlyn uses hearing aids to assist her hearing deficit. She served as Team USA's women's swimming team captain and was also a member of the flag-bearing team during the opening ceremonies.

After finishing her collegiate swimming career in 2020, Kaitlyn was not looking to continue swimming. Not until her friends urged her to swim in the Deaflympics. The entire experience was surreal as she met athletes, made friends, and caught up with old friends from around the world. "One thing I will never forget was being able to walk in the opening ceremony and walking out through the curtain to see hundreds of people and fans cheering for Team USA. It was so indescribable," said Kaitlyn.

yn Weatherby
d swim coach
epresented
he 2022 Deafly.

> **"It was so much more than anything I ever expected."**

What is shocking when talking to Kaitlyn is that she had no expectations. She went in with an open mind and let herself be in the moment and soak in all the experiences that she could. Naturally, competing at Deaflympics, she had some jitters, but once she got on that block, she knew this was all about enjoying the experience. Her mindset paid off as she talked about her experience with medals draped around her neck. She said that "my medals were just my bonus!"

What makes this experience special is that Misericordia's head swim coach Zander Taylor also represented Team USA as its coach. Kaitlyn came to him and asked if he would coach after the original swim coach could not attend.

"It was a unique experience, and I got a small taste of what it's like to be deaf daily and to deal with all the communication and the challenges of communication," said Coach Taylor. For him, it was an experience that allowed him to see the challenges that deaf people overcome daily. Kaitlyn helped him learn basic sign language, and to this day, he still uses it, "By habit I still use the numbers when I call times out at practice, and the team does not know what I am doing, but I got so used to doing it with Kaitlyn."

Coach Taylor had many challenges and adaptations to face being a coach. He took everything he knew as a collegiate coach and put his all into Team USA, "The last couple years taught us how to adapt and overcome to train for an event of this nature." Different pool dimensions, being in a foreign country, and learning to communicate were just some hurdles. However, Team USA showed great success in the pool at the Deaflympics with 35 medals over eight days of competition, the most for Team USA in the history of the Deaflympics.

The Misericordia community's support was beyond what either could have imagined, making the entire experience much better. "It was so much more than anything I ever expected," Kaitlyn said with a huge smile.

"The day before we left, my professor emailed to come to meet them somewhere," said Kaitlyn. "I walked into a huge surprise party for me, the news and everything, and I was so not expecting that!"

Even Coach Taylor expressed how supported he felt along the way, "The administration was really on board with it and having the opportunity to showcase Misericordia to the world. Certainly, this type of event is something they had a personal investment in with a student on campus and a coach on campus. It was just a win across the board."

The Misericordia pool will never entirely be the same with the success of Kaitlyn and Coach Taylor attending the Deaflympics. It will be a lifelong memory for them, and forever highlights how Misericordia supports our students.

Kaitlyn was part of three winning relay teams, setting two deaf American records.

4x100 freestyle team: gold; set deaf American records.
4x200 freestyle teams: gold; set deaf American records.
4x100 mixed relay team: gold
4x100 Women's Medley Relay: gold

Individually:

200 breaststroke: bronze
100 breaststroke: 4th place
400 IM: 4th place
100 butterfly: 5th place
50 free: 7th place
50 butterfly: 6th place

A Mother and Daughter's



Photos of the D
featuring Sidne
Anne's family

Nestled between Passan Hall and the President's House sits Anne's House, the fourth location of Misericordia University's Ruth Matthews Bourger Women with Children Program. The expansion was possible because of Rob Friedman and his family.

The naming of Anne's House honored Rob Friedman's late sister, Anne Friedman Glauber. Rob and Sidney Friedman, Anne's family, and friends of the university took part in a moving dedication ceremony on September 27, 2022.

The addition of Anne's House will allow the program to expand its capacity from 16 to 20 women who can live on campus with up to three children each while receiving an education. The dedication was made even more special because Anne's House is located in the same block as the Pauly House, dedicated in memory of Pauly Friedman, the family's matriarch.

"What we are witnessing today is a prime example of the power of private and public partnerships coming together to provide life-changing opportunities for students and their families. Numerous individuals in our community, alongside government agencies, have made this happen. On behalf of our Board of Trustees, I thank all of our guests here today for your generosity and commitment to the Women with Children program," said R. Gregory Collins '82, vice chair of the Board of Trustees at Misericordia University.

Katherine Pohlidal, director of the Ruth Matthews Bourger Women with Children Program, added, "We celebrate the two generations of Friedman women – Pauly and her daughter, Anne – and the impact their two houses will have on students for years to come. We can't thank Sidney and Rob enough for their continued support and for making our students' dreams come true."

Love





The actual impact showed as current student Amirah Muhammed-Coney ’24 was moved to tears as the founder of the program, Sr. Jean Messaros RSM ’73, held and comforted her as she spoke on why the program is so important. “Having homes and housing supported by the Friedmans is so pivotal to my success not only as a student mother but as a young woman. Having a home became the most crucial factor in my life journey because I was now able to see light at the end of the tunnel,” said Amirah.

> “I could now thank God for having a secure place for my daughter and me. But most importantly, I could now get a glimpse of my life’s purpose beyond the measures of basic necessities.”

Learn More about the Ruth Matthews Bourger Women with Children Program

Anne's House Tour and Dedication TikTok Video

Love OF TEACHING INSPIRES MORAN PHYSICAL THERAPY SCHOLARSHIP

NOT MANY PROFESSORS CAN SAY they are known for their affinity for Snickers candy bars, but such is the case for Professor Emeritus Michael L. Moran '07 PT, DPT, ScD. Hired as the first professor to develop a physical therapy program at then College Misericordia in 1992, Dr. Michael, with his wife Jeanne Moran, are credited with helping build the program into an entry-level master's degree program and subsequently into the highly regarded six-and-a-half-year entry-level Doctorate of Physical Therapy it is today.

A prolific educator and renowned researcher, Dr. Michael says he often shared Snickers bars to treat, calm, and motivate students throughout his 22 years in the classroom, building a confectionery bond that inevitably comes up in alumni conversations.

"The late Sister Mary Glennon hired me as acting director to start the PT program," Dr. Michael explains. "My wife, Jeanne, joined as adjunct faculty shortly thereafter to teach the pediatric PT courses. Initially, the program was designed for traditional-aged college students, but since both Jeanne and I were non-traditional students after we earned our undergraduate degrees in PT, we felt a need to provide a path for non-traditional students who might already be in, or interested in, the profession."

Dr. Michael's work earned him numerous awards, including a College Misericordia Teaching Excellence Award and Misericordia's 2004 Louis and Barbara Alesi Excellence in Scholarship Award. He also received the Joan M. Mills Award from the American Physical Therapy Association for his work as the founding editor of the specialty publication "The Journal of Geriatric Physical Therapy."

Although they retired in 2014 and 2015, respectively, Dr. Michael and Jeanne continue to work with and inspire non-traditional students to enter the PT field. In July 2022, they established the Moran Physical Therapy Scholarship at Misericordia, awarded to a graduate DPT student in good academic standing with financial need, with a preference given to students facing difficult life challenges. Dr. Michael adds, "The decision can be life-changing. We are happy to help make that happen."

Despite their decidedly unromantic meeting as lab partners in the cadaver lab while students at Stony Brook University, Michael and Jeanne celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary in October 2022. They relocated to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in 2015 to be closer to their daughter, Katie Barnett '04, an education alumna; her husband, Kyle Barnett '05, DPT, and their three children. Michael and Jeanne's son, Michael, works in information technology and lives in Arizona.

"JEANNE AND I HAVE DONE WELL FOR OURSELVES THANKS TO MISERICORDIA. WE WANT TO GIVE BACK AND ENCOURAGE NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS TO GO INTO THE DPT PROGRAM."

Dr. Michael and Jeanne Moran can be reached at mlmoran@misericordia.edu.

Donations honoring Dr. Michael and Jeanne Moran in support of the Moran Physical Therapy Scholarship are welcome and will help increase the amount that is awarded to a student(s) each year. For information about the Moran Scholarship, or if you would like to make a gift, please contact Mark DiPippa, scholarship, planned and leadership giving officer, 570-674-8194, mdipippa@misericordia.edu.



Dr. Michael and Jeanne Moran, today



Dr. Michael and Jeanne Moran in 1993

THE LANDS AT HILLSIDE FARMS

MU COUGAR CRUNCH



Cookies & cream ice cream
Caramel & chocolate sauces
Cookie dough bites
Brownie bites
Yellow & blue sprinkles

Created by

MISERICORDIA UNIVERSITY

Student
Emily Baranowski '25

AROUND THE TOWN



Misericordia partnered with Hillside Farms to create a delicious sundae honoring Misericordia University. Emily Baranowski '25, a Misericordia student, was the winner of our Sundae Contest who created the Cougar Crunch! Make sure you stop by Hillside Farms and grab a Misericordia-themed sundae. Not only is it student-approved, but also by our very own President Dan Myers and Chief of Staff Jim Roberts! **Let's go, Cougars!**



MISERICORDIA SPOTLIGHT
STAFF AND FACULTY

Linda Auker, Ph.D.



ASSISTANT PROFESSOR BIOLOGY AND PROGRAM DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES • 4 YEARS

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT WORKING AT MISERICORDIA?

"Hands down, the students. I have taught at many higher education institutions, and the Misericordia students are truly genuine and wonderful people. Even if I am having a less-than-awesome day for other reasons, I almost always feel better after teaching a class. Students, even if they are not in my class, are kind. It means a lot to be part of a community like that."

CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT A PROJECT/ STORY THAT YOU WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER BEING A PART OF?

"I think during the recent iteration of Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program (SURF), I mentored a wonderful group of three students who did independent projects on terrestrial and aquatic invasive species, using tools ranging from 3-D printing, gene sequencing, and GIS. I probably learned as much as they did since we collaborated across disciplines."

FAVORITE PLACE ON CAMPUS AND WHY?

"My research space in the renovated wing of the Henry Science Center! My SURF students from Summer 2022 have made it feel like a special place. With three students and a faculty member working in that space, there's so much light coming through the windows and quite a bit of science."

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU TO BE PART OF THE MISERICORDIA COMMUNITY?

"My passion for upholding the charisms, which attracted me to Misericordia in the first place. I think Mercy, Service, Justice, and Hospitality are central to what we do and should consistently be in our vision. I try to live the charisms in my teaching, research, and service. I believe strongly in creating a welcoming space for my students and strengthening a culture that places Misericordia in a competitive space among our peers in the sciences."

Lindsay Riddell '06



ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR MISSION, MINISTRY, AND SERVICE • 8 YEARS
AJUNCT PSYCHOLOGY PROFESSOR • 11 YEARS

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT WORKING AT MISERICORDIA?

"I love seeing students grow in their understanding around the importance of service to their community. I adore the relationships I've made with students over the years and am so proud of the servant leaders they've become!"

CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT A PROJECT/ STORY THAT YOU WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER BEING A PART OF?

"The idea for McAuley Market, our on-campus food bank, came from a student who mentioned the idea to me, and I value being a part of a project that fights stigma around food insecurity and helps students and Misericordia employees. I'm proud that we now have an online order form to make access easier. Taking students to New Orleans during Mardi Gras for a Spring Break Service Trip is also very memorable, but for different reasons."

FAVORITE PLACE ON CAMPUS AND WHY?

"The Mission, Ministry, & Service Office! I love the welcoming vibe our office has. Come and join us for some lovely conversation on our comfortable couches with some coffee and fresh muffins or cookies!"

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU TO BE PART OF THE MISERICORDIA COMMUNITY?

"Continuing the mission of Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy."

DNA

OF A MISERICORDIA ALUMNA

Jillian Conte ’08, Ph.D., has made a name for herself as a forensic biologist, with a resume that includes discussing the use of DNA in mass disaster recovery on National Geographic Explorer and providing forensic evidence for criminal trials around the world. The Misericordia alumna recently took her DNA testing expertise to Belize as a Fulbright specialist to help the Caribbean country build a nationwide DNA database to combat crime. Dr. Conte has also provided an integral piece of genetic extracting equipment for Misericordia students to use in biology testing.

As a field specialist needing a remote laboratory for research, Dr. Conte connected with her former Misericordia biology professor, Anthony Serino, Ph.D. With his help and the support of Biology Department Chair Cosima Wiese, Ph.D., they established a unique industry-education partnership that provided Dr. Conte space in the Frank M. and Dorothea Henry Science Center, where she engaged students in her work in forensic biology.

She expanded her efforts on campus as a mentor in Misericordia’s Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program in 2022, working with biology major Emily Sugrue ’23 to determine if a soil microbiome – its bacteria and genetic makeup – is affected when subjected to an invasive plant species. During the research, she saw a need for equipment allowing students to process DNA samples on campus, eliminating the cost and wait times associated with shipping samples out for analysis.

In August, she offered a solution, donating $2,500 to the university to purchase a handheld DNA/RNA sequencer.



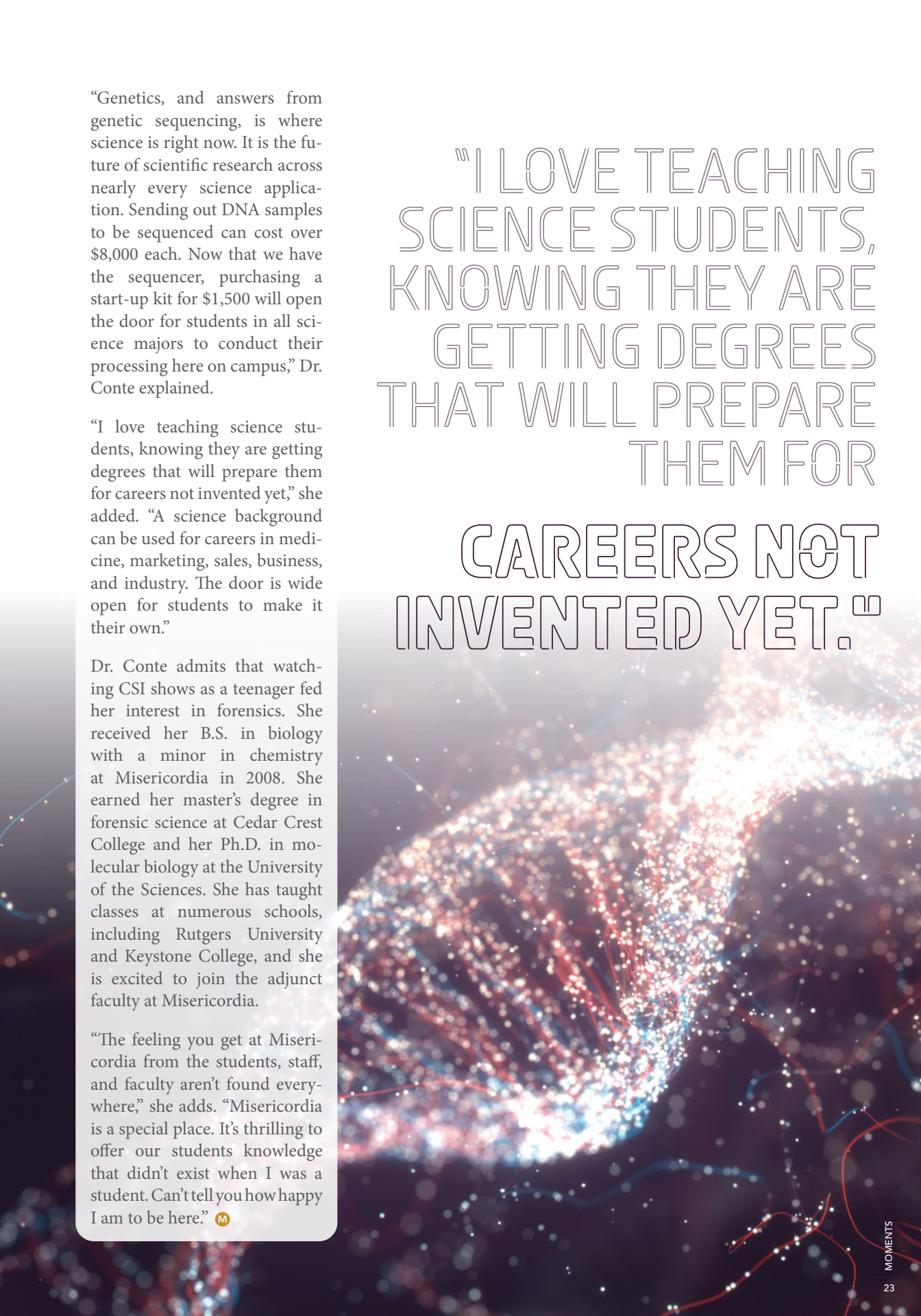
"Genetics, and answers from genetic sequencing, is where science is right now. It is the future of scientific research across nearly every science application. Sending out DNA samples to be sequenced can cost over $8,000 each. Now that we have the sequencer, purchasing a start-up kit for $1,500 will open the door for students in all science majors to conduct their processing here on campus," Dr. Conte explained.

"I love teaching science students, knowing they are getting degrees that will prepare them for careers not invented yet," she added. "A science background can be used for careers in medicine, marketing, sales, business, and industry. The door is wide open for students to make it their own."

Dr. Conte admits that watching CSI shows as a teenager fed her interest in forensics. She received her B.S. in biology with a minor in chemistry at Misericordia in 2008. She earned her master's degree in forensic science at Cedar Crest College and her Ph.D. in molecular biology at the University of the Sciences. She has taught classes at numerous schools, including Rutgers University and Keystone College, and she is excited to join the adjunct faculty at Misericordia.

"The feeling you get at Misericordia from the students, staff, and faculty aren't found everywhere," she adds. "Misericordia is a special place. It's thrilling to offer our students knowledge that didn't exist when I was a student. Can't tell you how happy I am to be here."

"I LOVE TEACHING SCIENCE STUDENTS, KNOWING THEY ARE GETTING DEGREES THAT WILL PREPARE THEM FOR CAREERS NOT INVENTED YET."





MISSION *to serve*

Service trips are an essential part of the Misericordia experience and they reinforce our mission, vision, and values. The program develops great leaders.

Service trips are a long-standing tradition and continue to be a part of the student experience at Misericordia University, transforming the hearts and minds of young people. This concept is rooted in our charisms, which are: Mercy, Service, Justice, and Hospitality.

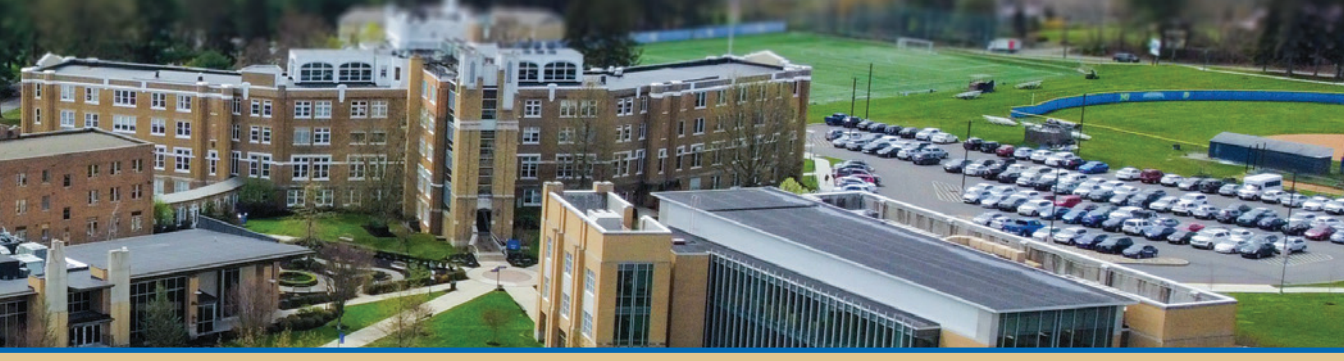
Over 95 percent of our students that participate in service trips have never traveled on their own without the support of their family, which is a challenge to







JAMAICA SERVICE-LEARNING TRIP IS RETURNING IN JANUARY 2023. Students and chaperones will travel to Jamaica to work with children with special needs and serve people who are destitute and homeless. There will also be three spring break service trips taking place: City Mission Shelter in Schenectady, NY; The Romero Center Ministries in Camden, NJ; and Habitat for Humanity in Winston-Salem, NC.



their experience. Lindsey Riddell, the assistant director for Mission, Ministry, & Service explains, "They are not only going to serve in a community, they are also learning life skills, such as: learning how to navigate an airport, use a metro system, and how to be safe while traveling." Even though chaperones, like Lindsey, accompany students on trips, this is a tremendous responsibility for our students. After returning from their service trips, students are more knowledgeable about how they fit into the world. They have a greater sense of appreciation and empathy for others in and around our community who may not have an abundance of resources.

During Fall Break, eight students traveled to Philadelphia for four days and helped individuals in a shelter setting at St. Francis Inn. The students prepared three meals daily and also assisted with the clothing closet at the shelter, which provides people without housing the clothing they need to stay warm and dry.

Lindsey is passionate about servant leadership, and this is evident in the compassionate way she supports service trip participants. "Students go home with a different perspective and a smile on their face — it's that personal change that we are all looking for. The rest of the world doesn't look like Misericordia, and it's very important for our students to go out and have that experience beyond the arch of our campus."







To learn more about how you can make a service experience possible for Misericordia students, visit **www.misericordia.edu/MUFund**.





WELCOME TO MU

"I AM FORTUNATE

that as interim vice president for university advancement for the past six months I have already witnessed the transformational impact many generous philanthropic partners have had on the institution in the past, and I am honored and privileged to have the opportunity to build on this commitment to Misericordia in the future. We are fortunate and grateful to have supporters and advocates who are so passionate about our mission, Mercy charisms, and our students' success. I look forward to getting to know many of them in the months ahead. As a key focus in my first year, I look forward to ensuring Misericordia is campaign-ready as we consider the next major fundraising initiative for the University and plan for our Centennial celebration in 2024."

Tanya Easton, Ed.D.
Vice President of University Advancement
teaston@misericordia.edu

"HAVING SPENT SEVEN

years at Georgian Court University, a Mercy school, and at Holy Family University, I have a strong understanding and commitment to working in Catholic higher education, and in particular, working under the framework of the charisms of the Sisters of Mercy. It is one of the reasons I took this job. We make a difference in the lives of our students and extend the mission of the Sisters of Mercy. It is busy, gratifying work that we do in the College of Arts and Sciences. The folks who work at Misericordia – the faculty, staff, and administration – are good people, and they are committed to the students and the mission. They have the fortitude and the intellect to go forward in a way that is best for Misericordia and its students. It is amazing to see that strong of a commitment, and it inspires me. I am honored to be a part of the team."

John Woznicki, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
jwoznicki@misericordia.edu

"MY CAREER

has been very eclectic, and it is safe to say I like change and new opportunities. My experience has evolved through my service in the army, from private to captain, next entering the business world through public accounting where I became a CPA. I later earned a law degree while serving in leadership roles in the engineering and construction industry. My interest in education spawned from my father, who was a high school educator and coach, and from all the enriching experiences I enjoyed in pursuing my career. My excitement for Misericordia comes through my interactions with all the students, faculty, and staff, and the positive nature of the community and commitment to the Mercy charisms. Everyone is focused on student success – enhancing academic opportunities and the student experience. The Misericordia community is greatly supportive as we start up our two new business programs in certified financial planning and supply chain management, and expand community outreach. It is a great privilege to lead the College of Business, and I look forward to celebrating Misericordia's 100th Anniversary in 2024."

James J. Pierson, J.D., CPA
Dean, College of Business
jpierson@misericordia.edu





ALUMNI EVENTS

MISERICORDIA MILE TOUR

The Office of Alumni Relations is excited to announce the return of our Misericordia Mile Tour. Alumni are invited to join MU representatives and fellow alumni for some good food and good conversation.

We will be visiting California, Florida, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Lehigh Valley and more throughout the year.

REUNION WEEKEND 2023

Saturday, April 29, 2023

Honoring classes ending in 3s and 8s, and celebrating the Class of 1973 as they are inducted into the Golden Anniversary Club!

**Reunion is open to all alumni, and you are encouraged to join us.*

For more information or to register for events or volunteer opportunities, visit

misericordia.edu/alumnievents

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

CHEERS TO ALUMNI MAY CLASS OF 2023

Thursday, March 23, 2023
6pm – 8pm

Alumni volunteers are invited to share their professional and personal experiences and help prospective graduates practice their networking skills to win great prizes.

ALUMNI PIE

Tuesday, May 2, 2023
7:30pm – 9pm

Alumni volunteers are invited to serve pizza and conversation to students during study week at the Banks Student Life Center.

COMMENCEMENT USHERS

Saturday, May 13, 2023
8:30am – 11am or
12pm – 4:30pm

Alumni volunteers will ensure the success of this special day! They will greet and welcome families and guests of graduates, distribute programs, and assist individuals with seating.



MISERICORDIA UNIVERSITY

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