

# Vital Signs



MERCY COLLEGE  
OF HEALTH SCIENCES

FALL 2005

*A partner with Mercy Medical Center – Des Moines*



>> RECORD  
NUMBERS  
PROPEL CAMPUS  
GROWTH >>

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Friends:

Work on the Patricia Clare Sullivan Center is nearly finished. Landscaping and other exterior work is well underway and interior work is progressing as well. In a few short weeks, we'll gather for two special events.

On September 22, our Bishop—the Most Reverend Joseph L. Charron, C.P.P.S.—will bless and dedicate the new building to the ministry of health care education. On the same day, we will publicly honor Patricia Clare Sullivan for her work and show our enduring respect at a reception in her honor.

Then on October 27, we'll take a second opportunity to "cut the ribbon" with the help of The Greater Des Moines Partnership and host a Business After Hours reception for the Des Moines community at large.

At the risk of sounding like a broken record, Mercy College expects to report next month another record enrollment which will be for the ninth year in a row.

As the only college of Catholic Health Initiatives—a Catholic health care corporation owning 69 acute care hospitals in 19 states, we have begun to explore ways that we can help each of these facilities to meet their health care worker staffing needs through distance education opportunities that start right here on our campus. This effort is a direct result of our board's vision for the College, which states our desire "to be nationally recognized for excellence in the delivery and innovation of health sciences education as demonstrated by distinguished graduates who serve and lead in their communities."

As always, I am eager to hear your thoughts on these topics and any of the other issues facing health care education. You can reach me at (515) 643-6601 or by email at dremer@mercydesmoines.org.

Best wishes,

Dr. Deanne M. Remer  
President

## DIVISION OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

# CARING AND DIVERSITY PROFESSOR IS "HERE TO SERVE"

"Fairness, integrity, openness, those are the traits of a good reasoner," says Dr. Joe Moravec, liberal arts professor at Mercy College. That's the focus of his class in critical thinking—a requirement for those seeking a bachelor's degree in nursing.

"We all live in a world routinely, without thinking. We think only when we have a purpose, to answer a question, solve a problem or make a decision. Critical thinking is "thinking about thinking, while thinking to improve your thinking," he explains.

So, how does all this relate to health care? Perfectly, he says. "When a health care person is asked to accurately diagnose, and to put all the signs and symptoms together to determine how they are going to treat that person, they have to be good critical thinkers."

A native of Downers Grove, Illinois, Joe came to Mercy College as an adjunct professor after a distinguished career in Christian leadership, business and management. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Indiana's Taylor University and a Master of Divinity from Northern Baptist Theological Seminary in Lombard, Illinois. His Master of Arts and his Doctor of Ministry degrees are both from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Illinois. All of his degrees were received summa cum laude.

Joe lives in Urbandale with his wife, Joy, and two of his three children. "I have a calling from God in my life," he says. "My passion is people-building, with a purpose and view of being a blessing to other people."

This spirituality carries through all of the courses he teaches: Critical Thinking, Small Group Communication, Caring and Diversity, Christian Theological Traditions, Religions of the World, and New Testament Studies. Typically, his classes include personal visits from people of other cultures and traditions, or trips to experience other religions and cultures.

**COVER PHOTO:** FR. GREG LEACH, PASTOR OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH IN STUART, IOWA, USES OIL TO MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS ON THE PALMS OF JEAN HANSON DURING THE COMMISSIONING RITE AT THE SPRING 2005 BACCALAUREATE SERVICE ON MAY 6, 2005.



DR. MORAVEC DISPLAYS AN OIL LAMP FROM ANTIQUITY TO STUDENTS, SHANNON MCKERN AND CHRIS SPEARS.

"I try to motivate the students as much as I can to want to learn. Someday a patient will come into their hospital room or clinic with a different look or a different way of dress and they will already have experienced that person's culture. It will help their understanding."

The traditions of the Sisters of Mercy are crucial to the learning experience at Mercy College, he says. "I'm here to help cultivate the reverent side of the Mercy core values."

The caregiver really hasn't cared for the patient until the patient feels cared for, says Joe, and that's why the core values are so important. It's the same with learning, he says. "The teacher really hasn't taught until the learner has learned. It's all about serving, and I want to help them [the students] become the best they can be, for the people they have been called to serve."

He feels honored to be at Mercy College. "I feel a calling to be here. I'm standing on the shoulders of giants — of those who faithfully served through the ages."+

# MERCY SCHOLARS OFFERS SIGNIFICANT TUITION SUPPORT TO EMPLOYEES, SPOUSES AND CHILDREN

Since 2001, a remarkable and rapidly growing initiative called Mercy Scholars has helped Mercy employees, their spouses and children attend college at little or no cost to them.

Initially, in the fall of 2001, 34 Mercy College students took advantage of the program. By the fall of 2003, 74 students had received all or part of their tuition from the program, and, in the spring of 2005, some 98 students were Mercy Scholars participants.

Hugely successful and increasingly well received, the Mercy Scholars program is a win-win to both students and the hospital. Those who receive tuition support for their years spent studying for nursing or allied health degrees then work within the Mercy system for a guaranteed number of years.

## HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

- The sponsoring Mercy employee (parent, spouse or child) must work a minimum of 48 hours per pay period and remain at that level throughout the education of the student;
- Students must be accepted to Mercy College of Health Sciences with a declared program of study in nursing or allied health disciplines (books, uniforms, equipment and penalties excluded);
- Students receiving the tuition must commit to work at Mercy after graduation in a full-time, full-time 80 or weekend package premium plus status for one year for each two semesters of tuition received;
- Students who withdraw or experience academic failure must reimburse Mercy 100% of tuition paid;
- Tuition is based on the employee's hire date and on the degree of academic

commitment, and there are no limits to the number of eligible students per family. For Mercy employees like Jeff Kreyling, the Mercy Scholars program has created a lifeline. "I'd done just about every type of job from fork lifts to kitchens," he says, "but I always knew I wanted to be an x-ray tech."

After six months of studying radiologic technology at Mercy College, Jeff became eligible to accept the Mercy Scholars tuition. He worked 25-30 hours per week at Mercy while going to school full time, and supplementing his income at a local restaurant. Within three years he had completed his degree.

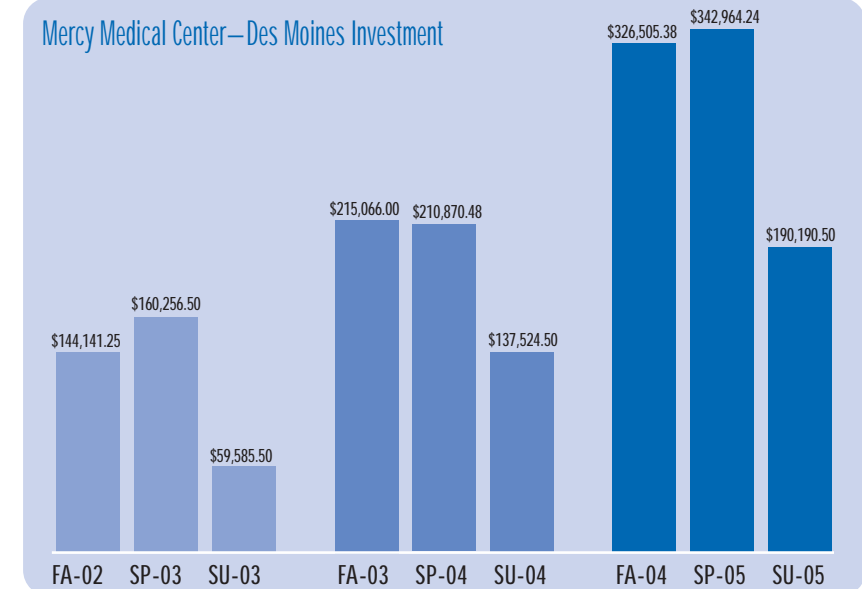
Jeff now works full time in the Mercy Radiology Department. "It was awesome for me," he says, "I love my job. To me [Mercy Scholars] is a no-brainer. It's a little difficult to work and go to school, but many students are like me and they have to earn an income while they're going to school. There's no better way to get your tuition paid for, go to school and become familiar with the hospital at the same time."

Nursing student Loni Toiga had completed her undergraduate degree and was

working in the Mercy Social Services Department when she decided to become a nurse. "Mercy Scholars seemed like a really good opportunity," she says. "College is very expensive, and I won't have any student loans to pay off when I'm done." A 29-year-old mother of two, Loni will be required to work for three years at Mercy after she receives her degree this fall, but she's planning to stay indefinitely. "This is a really good organization to work for," she says. During her studies she has worked 24 hours a week in social services to assure all of her tuition would be covered.

Loni encourages others to take advantage of the Mercy Scholars program. "I was able to go to school for free while I worked," she says, "but, if their parents work at Mercy, all tuition is covered and they don't have to work while they're in school."

For more information about the Mercy Scholars program, contact compensation and benefits analyst Brenda Clouse, in the Mercy Medical Center Human Resources Department. +



## THREE DISTINGUISHED NURSING ALUMNI RECOGNIZED AT JUNE BANQUET



**SANDRA DETRICK CALIGIURI**

Sandra is a 1963 graduate of the Mercy School of Nursing. Throughout her 42-year nursing career, nursing education has been a predominant focus for Sandy, regardless of the title or work duties her jobs have entailed.

From 1963 through 1999, Sandy worked for Mercy Medical Center in a number of capacities, including Staff Nurse, Team Leader and Head Nurse on a Medical/Surgical Unit, PRN Staff Nurse for the Intensive Care, Oncology and Home Health Services departments, Consultant and Program Director for the School of Perfusion Technology, and Professional Development Director for the Surgical Services department.

From 1970 through 1989, Sandy was a Nursing Instructor at the Mercy School of Nursing. Following her teaching term at the School of Nursing, Sandy worked at Drake in a number of capacities. She has also been a part-time nursing instructor at Grand View College in Des Moines and at the University of Iowa's College of Nursing. She returned to Mercy Medical Center in 2001 to work as a Pain Clinician, where she is still employed today.

Sandy received her B.A. in Psychology from Drake University and M.S.N. degree from the University of Minnesota. She is a certified trainer for the End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium Curriculum, American Association of Colleges of Nursing/City of Hope Medical Center, a member of the American Society of Pain Management Nursing, and Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society, the Zeta Chi Chapter. She was recognized as Zeta Chi's 2002 Outstanding Chapter Member. Sandy is also a member of the American Nurses Association/Iowa Nurses Association where she has served as a delegate to the state convention, and has served as a member of several committees for the Association. She is a past member of the Mercy College Nursing Alumni Association Board of Directors and is a Lifetime member of the Association.

Sandy served as a member of Senator Tom Harkin's "Medicine Cabinet," was a member of the Nutrition/Physical Activity and the Clinical Preventive Services/Community committees for Healthy Polk 2000 from 1995 to 2001, and a volunteer at the House of Mercy Free Diabetes Clinic. She was one of the recipients for the Volunteer of the Year Award from Mercy Medical Center in 2001 for her work at the Diabetes Clinic.

Sandy currently lives in Des Moines with her husband Chuck. Their daughter, Christine, and son-in-law, Will, live in St. Paul, Minnesota, with their 20-month old son, John, who brings great joy to all of their lives.



**JOANNE FORRET SASSATELLI**

Joanne Sassatelli was honored posthumously with the Catherine McAuley Distinguished Alumni Award. Joanne graduated from the Mercy School of Nursing in 1951 and died in 1979 at her beloved Mercy Hospital.

Other than a two-year break, Joanne worked at Mercy Hospital in Des Moines from 1951 until 1979 as a Staff Nurse on the Medical/Surgical and Urology floors and was the Charge Nurse and Head Nurse on the Urology floor. Joanne was also a Patient Care Coordinator and House Supervisor at Mercy Hospital. She was pursuing her B.S.N. degree at Drake University at the time of her death.

Joanne was known for her professional appearance with clean and crisp uniforms and shoes that were always polished and white. The Sisters of Mercy recall how freely Joanne gave of her talent and time in caring for the gravely ill Sister Gervase, while a former Mercy Hospital CEO, Patricia Clare Sullivan remembers she never worried when Joanne was on as the Patient Care Coordinator, stating that not only did she know the patients would be well cared for, but that Joanne brought that sense of "Mercy" to the patients.

During Joanne's limited life, her service revolved around that which she held close to heart...her devoted husband, her children, family and friends, her faith and her beloved nursing profession. Although she was exceptionally busy with raising her nine children and with her full-time career as a nurse, Joanne offered her talents and gifts to the greater community, including: involvement with the Little League Association, Girl Scouts, Cub and Boy Scouts, the church, the American Heart Association, first aid nurse at the Iowa Girls Basketball Tournament, and unofficial on-call nurse for extended family, neighbors and friends.

Joanne's professional accomplishments were also evident in the incredible impression and influence she had on the lives of those she touched. Her youngest sister, Patti Forret, at Joanne's encouragement, reconsidered her intended career path (dental hygienist) and instead decided to follow her sister to Mercy in Des Moines and the nursing profession. Patti not only became a nurse but also entered the Sisters of Mercy religious order and today is the President of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Omaha Regional Community. Joanne's personal and professional commitment to help those in need also influenced her children and today, seven of her nine children have chosen professions within health or human services, including three who are registered nurses.



**JOAN CRAWFORD MCMARTIN**

Joan graduated from the Mercy School of Nursing in 1961.

Following graduation, Joan worked at Mercy Hospital in Des Moines as an Operating Room Nurse until 1966. After a short period of employment as a private scrub nurse, Joan moved to Denver, Colorado and worked as a Staff Nurse in the operating room at St. Joseph's Hospital and began her career special interest in cardio-thoracic and vascular

surgery. Joan returned to St. Joseph's after a two-year period as a private scrub nurse and was the Cardio-vascular Team Leader from 1970 through 1978.

Joan returned to her career as a nurse in 1986 after the birth of her two children, and from 1986 to the present, she has served as Service Specialist – Transplant and Vascular at the University of Colorado Hospital in Denver. As a member of the Liver Transplant Team, she scrubbed in on liver, kidney and kidney/pancreas transplants. She later became specialist for the vascular team, being the primary liaison between the specialist surgeons and the nursing staff. Joan's current title at the hospital is Service Specialist Peri-operative Nursing, Liver, Kidney and Pancreas Transplant, Vascular Surgery.

In addition to her work of 34 years in the operating room, Joan has presented numerous nursing inservices and has been on many committees primarily related to transplant issues. One such committee was formed to design protocol for the Operating Room and Intensive Care areas dealing with non-heart beating organ donors (for many years the criteria for organ donation had been brain death). The National Institute of Health mandated the study and establishment of the non-heart beating criteria in view of the shortage of much needed organs. Joan has also served on a committee for the establishment of "redundant" documentation of tissue matching for organ donors/recipients. She has provided a strong practical and theoretical foundation in creating and improving nursing care plans for the peri-operative patient.

Joan is a member of the Mercy College Nursing Alumni Association.

Joan's twin sister, Judith Crawford Roberts, attended nursing school with her and also graduated in 1961. Kathleen Crawford Knox, an older sister, graduated from Mercy in 1948.

Joan married Jack McMartin in 1970 and they have two daughters, Judy and Jennifer. Joan and her husband live in Littleton, Colorado.+



CATHERINE MCAULEY

### THE CATHERINE MCAULEY AWARD FOR NURSING EXCELLENCE PAST RECIPIENTS

SISTER MARY ZITA BRENNAN

SR. MARY SEBASTIAN GENESER

LEONA SWEENEY

GLADYS BLACK '30

MILDRED WALKER '34

LOUISE BRADY '43

BARBARA PAUL '51

ANNE ROUSH '51

MARILYN RUSSELL '52

INIE JOHNSON '54

RON CAULK '59

JOYCE HUTCHISON '61

PATRICIA JABLOWSKI '64

SUZANNE MAINS '64

JEAN KING '65

LINDA CAREY '66

ROSE CUNION '66

KATHY ALLER '70

MARY ANN ADAMS '75

JILL COUGHLAN '76

JUDY FRIZZELL '77

JOAN BEARD '81

## ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP EFFORTS CONTINUE TO GROW BALANCES AND HELP MORE STUDENTS

Many alumni of Mercy College have given generously in recent years to several of the endowed scholarships at the College. An endowed scholarship is one in which a principal amount is contributed and held in perpetuity to support the purposes of the

scholarship. Only a portion of the interest and earnings are spent each year for scholarship assistance.

Mercy College has established three endowed scholarships in recent years: the Sr. Zita, Sr. Sebastian and the Leona Sweeney Endowed Scholarships. These three women hold a special place in the

hearts of many of our graduates, and they individually and collectively have established a memorable legacy for the College. As a way to honor them, endowed scholarships were begun in each of their names, and we appreciate your continued support of these funds. Many students are able to follow in the footsteps of these great women because of your willingness to give.

The balances in each of the scholarship funds are as follows:

<b>SR. ZITA ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUND</b>	\$33,840
<b>SR. SEBASTIAN ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUND</b>	\$57,636
<b>LEONA SWEENEY ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUND</b>	\$28,810

Efforts to increase the principal balance of each of these three endowed scholarships will continue. A goal to achieve a \$100,000 balance in all three will continue for the next few years.

Following the unexpected death of his wife and alumni, Bernice Ortale '63, David Ortale established an endowed scholarship in her honor in spring 2003. In the spring of 2006, the first Bernice Ortale Endowed Scholarship will be awarded to a deserving nursing student eager to carry on where Bernice left off—caring for those in need. The Bernice Ortale Endowed Scholarship recently achieved a \$25,000 gift balance thanks to the generosity of David Ortale and several friends of Bernice. +

## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS FOR 2005-06 ANNOUNCED

### NURSING ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS

#### GENERAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Ashley Hoff	\$500
Amanda Larson	\$750
Laura McBride	\$750

#### SR. MARY SEBASTIAN GENESER SCHOLARSHIPS

Amanda Larson	\$500
Lacy Little	\$500
Kristin Pantzloff	\$500

#### SR. ZITA BRENNAN NURSING ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

Ellen Mann	\$500
Connie Thompson	\$500

### MERCY AUXILIARY NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS

#### SR. MARY GERVASE NORTHUP SCHOLARSHIP

Malinda Malcolm	\$1,400
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#### MORRIS AND LENORE

#### MANDELBAUM SCHOLARSHIP

Elizabeth Dobbie	\$2,000
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#### MARY NORTHUP SCHOLARSHIP

Jerri Collins	\$1,500
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#### GENERAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Christina Adkisson	\$1,500
Callie Barnard	\$500
Lindsay Barrett	\$700
Jennifer Beukema	\$1,100
Travis Bircham	\$200
Dallas Blaylock	\$200
Meagan Boetel	\$200
Ashley Bregar	\$1,100
Andrea Brobst	\$1,100
Amy Buckingham	\$800
Ashley Borgan	\$600
Raymond Burns	\$600
Hallie Carlson	\$1,100
Lee Carlson	\$800

Sarah Clark	\$200
Cortney Cuthrell	\$200
Rebecca Curry	\$1,100
Amy Dassie	\$900
Lauren Dawson	\$900
Jillana DeGoey	\$500
Steven Earl	\$1,000
Deidra Earl	\$1,000
Lacey Enga	\$400
Holly Ethell	\$700
Katharyn Friedman	\$500
Holly Frederick	\$200
Maureen Fuller	\$200
Rachel Fuller	\$500
Sandra Gehlbach	\$200
Alicia Graber	\$1,100
Toni Griffin	\$1,000
Shannon Haller	\$1,000
Ashley Handy	\$200
Lindsey Hart	\$400
Ashley Hoff	\$700
Shannon Howe	\$600
Nancy Jackman	\$1,000
Shelby Johnson	\$700
Katie Jones	\$500
Telithia Kinar	\$1,100
Jenny Knorr	\$1,100
Sawyer Kragel	\$800
Morgan Kuhn	\$900
Amber Kurimski	\$1,100
Amanda Larson	\$900
Sara Lawson	\$800
Lacy Little	\$700
Emily Maass	\$800
Ellen Mann	\$200
Laura McBride	\$900
Dana McDonald	\$200
Shannon McKern	\$200
Christine Muemenberger	\$1,100
Erin Montgomery	\$800
Megan Mosier	\$1,100
Katie Myers	\$1,100
Jillana Nees	\$1,100
Greta Nelsen	\$1,100
Amanda Parker	\$200
Angela Reyes	\$800

Sara Robinson	\$1,100
Larissa Ronald	\$1,100
Jessica Rood	\$800
Patti Rotert	\$800
Mindy Royster	\$900
Sara Schoning	\$800
Stacy Seeman	\$700
Shipman Renae	\$200
Stephanie Sims	\$500
Bradley Sinclair	\$1,100
Amy Summy	\$1,100
Tracey Thompson	\$700
Sara Thomsen	\$700
Christy Trautmann	\$1,100
Lisa Vanderwert	\$1,100
Anna Volz	\$200
Kelli Welker	\$200
Brach West	\$200
Lacey Wetzel	\$600
Christina White	\$1,100

### DIVISION OF ALLIED HEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS

#### ALLIED HEALTH FIRST YEAR SCHOLARSHIP

Andrea Martinek	\$1,000
Kathryn Raisch	\$1,000
Dawn VanFleet	\$1,000

#### BOHL RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP

Abbey Dorsett	\$400
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#### IOWA HEART CENTER PC SCHOLARSHIP

Marcie Crim	\$1,053
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#### IOWA ORTHOPAEDIC RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Leah McMullin	\$800
Angela Metzger	\$800

#### MARJORIE MAE MCMULLIN SCHOLARSHIP

Lisa Cook	\$1,000
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#### MERCY MEDICAL STAFF - DES MOINES ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Katie Pick	\$475
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July 9, 2005

Mercy College Division of Nursing Scholarship Committee  
c/o Brian P. Tingleff  
Vice President of Institutional Advancement  
Mercy College of Health Sciences  
928 6th Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50309

Dear Nursing Scholarship Committee Members:

Thank you for your contribution to Mercy College of Health Sciences. I am the 2005-2006 recipient of the Lois B. MacDonald Memorial Scholarship.

I am originally from Rochester, Minnesota. I came to Iowa to attend Iowa State University in the Fall of 1998 and graduated from ISU in May 2002 with a Bachelor's of Science in Psychology. I was employed as a caseworker for at risk youth before returning to school to pursue my nursing career. I recently became employed by Mercy Medical Center as a Flex PCT, working about one shift weekly.

I will be a third semester nursing student this fall. I feel that nursing is my calling and I cannot wait to begin my career after I graduate in Summer 2006. I chose to attend Mercy College because of their superior education of nursing students which is evidenced by the high pass rate of their students at the state board exams. I am confident in, and thankful for, the education that I am receiving at Mercy. I believe that nursing school is my full-time job and I will not waiver in receiving the education that I need to be a caring, compassionate, and successful nurse.

I want to thank you for the generous scholarship. I agree the scholarship in memory of Lois B. MacDonald is an excellent way to honor her and her niece, Katie Gamble. The scholarship will allow me to worry less about finances and more on becoming a nurse which is my ultimate goal. I look forward to the day that I am a successful nurse that can give back to the community as the family of Ms. MacDonald has done for me.

Thank you again from the bottom of my heart. The investment that you have made in me will definitely be repaid to my patients when I care for them soon.

Sincerely,

*Katie Jones*

Katie Jones

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS FOR 2005-06 ANNOUNCED/ CONTINUED

**WILLIAM AND MARCIA YOUNG SCHOLARSHIP FOR FIRST-YEAR RT STUDENT**  
Jacqueline Sorensen.....\$2,000

**WILLIAM AND MARCIA YOUNG SCHOLARSHIP FOR SECOND-YEAR RT STUDENT**  
Patricia Wiederien .....\$2,000

**DIVISION OF NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS**

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS**  
Jenny Knorr .....\$1,000  
Angela Reyes.....\$500  
Emily Thompson.....\$1,000

**BEATRICE BENDER ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS**  
Ashley Hoff.....\$1,000  
Amanda Larson.....\$1,000  
Darcie Oelberg.....\$262  
Carrie Park.....\$1,000

**CARL AND MARY CACCIATORE MEMORIAL ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP**  
Sarah Wille .....\$1,022

**CLAUDE E. NIEMIER PERPETUAL TRUST NURSING SCHOLARSHIP**  
Christina Adkisson.....\$1,199

**FRANK HARKIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS**  
Amanda Hooper.....\$2,500  
Malinda Malcolm.....\$2,500

**HELEN ANN MALONEY SCHOLARSHIP**  
Amy Summy .....\$500

**JOANN COPPOLA RANDA MEMORIAL ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP**  
Ellen Mann .....\$1,000

**KNOWLES FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP**  
Lacy Little .....\$750

**MERCY MEDICAL STAFF ENDOWMENT FUND SCHOLARSHIPS**  
Kristin Pantzlaff .....\$500  
Malori Spaid .....\$500  
Penny Zaugg.....\$1,000

**SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY OF LOIS B. MACDONALD**  
Katie Jones .....\$2,000

**SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY OF MEGAN LEU**  
Lacy Little .....\$650

**STUDENT LEADERSHIP/COMMUNITY SERVICE SCHOLARSHIPS**  
Emily Sinnwell .....\$1,000  
Connie Thompson.....\$1,000

**DIVISION OF ALLIED HEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS—CERTIFICATE (NON-DEGREE) PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIPS**

**MEDICAL AND BILLING CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**  
Deana Cason .....\$600  
Linda Cole .....\$600  
Pamela Johnson.....\$600  
Alyssa Minor .....\$600

**PHARMACY TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**  
Tracie Van Wyngarden.....\$550

**CONNIE FRENCH ENDOWED TRANSFER ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP**  
Amy Johansen .....\$1,500

**DIVISION OF ALLIED HEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS— ACADEMIC SCHOLARS**

**TRANSFER ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS**  
Jamie Westphal .....\$1,750  
Alicia Zylstra .....\$2,000

**VERONICA A. LALOR ENDOWED TRANSFER ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS**  
Audrey Allen .....\$2,000  
Amanda Gehling .....\$2,000  
Angela Pitts.....\$1,750  
Lindsey VanderWert .....\$2,000  
Anne Wahl.....\$1,750

**DIVISION OF NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS— ACADEMIC SCHOLARS**

**FRESHMAN ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS**  
Stacy Seeman .....\$2,500  
Stephanie Sims .....\$2,000  
Anna Volz.....\$1,500  
Stacie Walther .....\$2,000  
Hannah Weis .....\$2,000

**TRANSFER ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS**  
Amber Kurimski.....\$2,000  
Greta Nelson.....\$2,000  
Katherine Rike .....\$1,500  
Jessica Rood .....\$1,500  
Patricia Rotert .....\$2,750  
Jody Schroeder .....\$1,500  
Kersti Siebert.....\$1,500  
Brandi Smith .....\$2,000  
Emily Thompson.....\$2,250

Sara Thomsen .....\$2,250  
Christy Trautmann.....\$2,000  
Monica Wescott .....\$2,250

**VERONICA A. LALOR ENDOWED FRESHMAN ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS**  
Amanda Baker .....\$1,500  
Meagan Boetel .....\$2,000  
Andrea Brobst.....\$2,750  
Amy Buckingham .....\$3,000

Raymond Burns.....\$3,000  
Hallie Carlson .....\$2,000  
Sarah Clark .....\$2,500  
Rebecca Curry .....\$3,000

Lacey Enga.....\$2,250  
Shannon Haller .....\$2,250  
Martha Hooper.....\$2,000  
Heather Hope .....\$1,500  
Jenny Knorr .....\$1,500  
Ross Kotula .....\$2,250

Morgan Kuhn.....\$1,750  
Sara Lawson.....\$2,500  
Megan Mosier.....\$1,500

**AWARD TOTALS**

Division of Allied Health.....\$29,228  
Division of Nursing.....\$161,034  
Total Awards.....\$190,262

**CREATING FOOTPRINTS WITH YOUR ESTATE**

By Sandi Tuttle, CFRE  
Vice President and Director of Planned Gifts, Mercy Foundation



Everyone leaves footprints on the sands of time. Our prints are made by the imprints of our lives

on others. A person is remembered for the weight of his or her character. For marks of accomplishment. For shapes of kindness.

For length of compassion. For width of personal warmth. For generosity. For values.

When we leave positive impressions behind, we enhance the lives of our friends and loved ones. We give them footprints to follow.

Thoughtful estate planning is one means we have to make a print in the sand, to help others recall our priorities.

For example, consider the effect of a plan that not only includes provision for family members, but resources for charitable organizations like Mercy College of Health Sciences.

**AN ESTATE GIFT MAKES A POSITIVE STATEMENT**

When you include Mercy College of Health Sciences in the final disposition of your estate, you declare to your family and friends that you believe in and care about the mission of the College. Your parting gift becomes a clear declaration of your values.

**AN ESTATE GIFT PROVIDES NEEDED FUNDING**

Estate gifts are especially valuable, not only because they tend to be larger than annual gifts, but because they often come at critical times. They provide that extra boost to the budget that can make the difference between program advancement and program downsizing.

Estate gifts can be designated for a specific purpose or they can be unrestricted for use where needed most. They can fund endowments that perpetually provide an ongoing witness to your friends and loved ones that you believe in the work of Mercy College.

**AN ESTATE GIFT ENCOURAGES IMITATION**

There's something about a well-planned estate gift that influences others to "go and do likewise." As friends and family members plan their own estates, they may recall your generosity and thoughtfulness. Your gift may unlock resources for Mercy College from other estates.

Sandi Tuttle, Mercy's Vice President and Director of Planned Gifts, is available to provide you, confidentially, with the information and materials you need to include charitable giving in your overall estate plan.

To arrange for a personal visit, or to simply request complimentary printed material, please call Sandi at 515/643-8033 or contact her by email at [stuttle@mercydesmoines.org](mailto:stuttle@mercydesmoines.org).

# >> SULLIVAN CENTER PROGRESS >>

SULLIVAN CENTER DEDICATION  
SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 22

## THREE YEAR'S EFFORT CULMINATES IN OPENING OF NEW ACADEMIC BUILDING

After more than three years of planning, preparation and construction, Mercy College will officially dedicate its newest building—the Patricia Clare Sullivan Center—on Thursday, September 22, 2005. Bishop Joseph L. Charron, C.P.P.S., Bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines will bless the new structure and dedicate it to the ministry of health care education at 10:30 a.m.

Patricia Clare Sullivan will be honored in a ceremony immediately following the blessing. A luncheon and tours of the new structure will follow the ceremonies and last until 1:30 p.m. that afternoon. The public is invited to participate in the day's events.

It is anticipated that the College will take possession of the building the following week, near the end of September. The dedication date was chosen, in part, to coincide with the annual celebration—Mercy Day—that recognizes the founding of the Religious Sisters of Mercy (RSM) in 1831 in Dublin, Ireland. Mercy Day is traditionally celebrated on September 25.

**ABOVE:** THIS BIRD'S EYE PHOTO IS LOOKING SOUTH-EAST WITH SEVENTH STREET ON THE RIGHT AND SIXTH AVENUE ON THE LEFT. SCHOOL STREET IS ALONG THE BOTTOM OF THE PHOTO. **LEFT:** THIS AERIAL PHOTO LOOKS NORTHEAST AND INCLUDES A VIEW OF THE NEW COURTYARD. **RIGHT:** PATRICIA CLARE SULLIVAN, MARY ANN BURKHARDT AND SERAPHIA MCMAHON STAND IN THE LOBBY OF THE NEW BUILDING TALKING TO BRIAN TINGLEFF, VICE PRESIDENT OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT. **FAR RIGHT:** BURKHARDT, MCMAHON AND SULLIVAN PEER OUT NEW WINDOWS THAT HAVE A DRAMATIC VIEW WEST OF CAMPUS.





**ABOVE:** SERAPHIA MCMAHON, PATRICIA CLARE SULLIVAN AND MARY ANN BURKHARDT POSE WITH MERCY MEDICAL CENTER IN THE BACKGROUND. CONSTRUCTION CRANES APPEAR ON THE MAIN HOSPITAL CAMPUS TO REFLECT CONSTRUCTION OF THE 6-STORY EAST ADDITION DUE TO OPEN IN 2006. **BELOW:** MERCY COLLEGE APPEARS IN THE FOREGROUND OF THIS DOWNTOWN SKYLINE. TO THE RIGHT IS THE NEW STUDENT PARKING LOT, TO THE LEFT IS MERCY COURT (PARTIALLY OBSCURED). **RIGHT:** PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION, THE NEW COURTYARD WAS THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO CAMPUS AND A PRIMARY PARKING LOT AS SEEN IN THIS EARLY SUMMER PHOTOGRAPH.

The new structure, which has 38,216 square feet of space on two floors, is directly adjacent to Building 1. Financing for the project has been provided through a construction grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration in the amount of \$4,428,364. U.S. Senator Tom Harkin ensured that project funding was made available through three federal grant allocations from 2002 through 2004.

In addition, charitable contributions have been made by more than 150 individuals, organizations, foundations and corporations totaling more than \$1,230,000 that are intended to purchase equipment needed throughout the building. Mercy Medical Center – Des Moines provided \$400,000 in additional financial assistance to ensure the success of the project in light of unexpected cost increases due to sharp increases in steel and other construction-related materials.

A second event to celebrate the opening of the new structure will occur on October 27, 2005 when the College plays host to “Business After Hours” a Greater Des Moines Partnership event that will serve as the “ribbon cutting ceremony” for the new building.

The Sullivan Center will house the College’s library, three health science laboratories, three distance education class-



rooms, a lecture hall, a computer classroom and a nursing skills laboratory/media center.

In related news, planning is underway to coordinate the relocation of the Mercy College Library from Brennan Hall to its new home in the Sullivan Center on Friday, October 14. The move will involve transporting more than 9,000 bound items in addition to periodicals, videos, CD-ROMs and other education materials. It is anticipated that the library will become the first operational area in the new building by the middle of October. +



## SULLIVAN CENTER CONSTRUCTION TEAM

Nearly 30 companies and more than 200 construction workers have participated in the construction of the Patricia Clare Sullivan Center since work began in early October 2004.

**ARCHITECT**  
Brooks Borg Skiles  
Architecture Engineering

**CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT**  
Ball Construction Services, LLC

**ELECTRICAL**  
ABC Electric

**MECHANICAL**  
Stroh Corporation

**SITE DEMOLITION, EARTHWORK & GRADING**  
Corell Contractor, Inc.

**DEEP FOUNDATIONS**  
Blackhawk Foundation Co.

**SITE UTILITIES**  
Elder Corporation

**CONCRETE & PAVING**  
Concrete Technologies, Inc.

**PARKING LOT STRIPING**  
Dennis Parking Lot Maintenance

**MASONRY**  
Ross Masonry

**STRUCTURAL STEEL MATERIAL**  
Mid States Steel

**STRUCTURAL STEEL ERECTION**  
Ace Steel Erection

**FINISH CARPENTRY**  
BGS Enterprise, LLC

**FINISH CARPENTRY INSTALLATION**  
Viking Construction

**CAULKING/WATERPROOFING**  
CK Fairko (Kenoyer) Caulking

**ROOFING**  
Wood Roofing & Sheet Metal

**ROOF PARAPET**  
Exterior Sheet Metal

**HOLLOW METAL & WOOD DOORS, FRAMES, HARDWARE**  
Doors Inc.

**WINDOWS, GLAZING & ARCHITECTURAL METAL**  
Clark Glass, Inc.

**METAL STUDS, DRYWALL, & ACOUSTICAL CEILINGS**  
1st Interiors, Inc.

**CERAMIC TILE**  
Des Moines Marble and Mantle

**CARPET, VCT, SHEET VINYL FLOORING**  
Ideal Floors, Inc.

**PAINTING AND WALL COVERINGS**  
Wes Jarnagin Painting

**BUILDING SPECIALTIES**  
J. Lorenzo Specialty Products

**SIGNAGE**  
ASI Modulex Sign

**WINDOW TREATMENTS**  
Prairie’s Edge Window Coverings

**ELEVATORS**  
Schlinder Elevator Co.

**SPRINKLER SYSTEMS**  
Blackhawk Automatic Fire Sprinkler

**LANDSCAPING**  
Bob Lenc Landscaping, Inc.

**IRRIGATION**  
T & T Sprinkler Service Inc.

## You’re Invited

Sullivan Center Dedication Ceremony  
and Building Blessing

Thursday, September 22, 2005

10:30-11:30 a.m. . . . . Ceremonies  
11:30-1:30 p.m. . . . . Luncheon and  
Building Tours

The Most Reverend Joseph L. Charron, C.P.P.S.,  
Bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines and Patricia  
Clare Sullivan will be honored guests.

Sullivan Center Ribbon Cutting Ceremony  
and Business After Hours Reception

Thursday, October 27, 2005

5:30-7:00 p.m.



**ABOVE:** DR. DEANNE REMER, PRESIDENT OF MERCY COLLEGE (BACK TO CAMERA) DISCUSSES BUILDING FEATURES WITH DAVE VELLINGA, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF MERCY MEDICAL CENTER – DES MOINES; JOE LEVALLEY, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF MERCY MEDICAL CENTER – DES MOINES AND DARRELL BALL, PRESIDENT OF BALL CONSTRUCTION SERVICES LLC. **LEFT:** IN EARLY JANUARY 2005, STEEL WORKERS ASSEMBLED THE STEEL SUPER STRUCTURE. THE 7TH STREET BRIDGE OVER INTERSTATE 235 WAS ALSO UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN THE BACKGROUND. **BELOW LEFT:** PATRICIA CLARE SULLIVAN GIVES DIRECTIONS TO BRIAN TINGLEFF, VICE PRESIDENT OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT, WHILE STANDING IN ONE OF THE DISTANCE EDUCATION CLASSROOMS. **BELOW RIGHT:** TINGLEFF POINTS OUT A FEATURE OF THE NEW 16-BED NURSING SKILLS LABORATORY TO SULLIVAN.



## STUDENT SPEAKER CAPTURES SPIRIT OF A MERCY EDUCATION



**EDITOR'S NOTE:** CURT OLSON WAS NOMINATED BY HIS PEERS TO PROVIDE THE STUDENT ADDRESS AT THE SPRING 2005 COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES AT HOYT SHERMAN AUDITORIUM ON MAY 6, 2005.

*I would like to divide my remarks this afternoon into two parts—and direct them to two different groups of people assembled here. First, to those of you who aren't graduating today, then to those of us who are. Let me speak first to those of you assembled here who aren't graduating. I would like to introduce us to you. There are 146 of us here today ready to receive our degrees. By and large, we began our training in August of 2003. Thirteen of us are receiving our degrees in medical sonography. Ten of us are receiving associate's degrees in radiologic technology. Thirty-four of us are receiving bachelor's degrees in nursing or health care management. And there are 88 of us receiving the associate of science degree in nursing.*

*We come from many walks of life. Some of us are "traditional" students—we entered Mercy College right out of high school, and we look forward to many years ahead in our chosen fields. Some of us went to college first, and dropped out because we felt called to enter the health care profession. Some of us have degrees from other colleges and universities and have decided to make a mid-career about-face. Some have been laid off from jobs and have come to Mercy. Still others have raised our children and now are turning our attention to continuing our learning and to helping others.*

*What does this mean for you? The next time you need to take your small child to the clinic, we will be there to assess your child and to*

*ease your fears. The next time you need a broken bone x-rayed, we will be there to run those tests. If during your life you, or your son or daughter decide to go into the medical profession, we will be there to teach you.*

*There are those of us who will become nurse practitioners and physicians' assistants to diagnose your medical conditions and prescribe medications for you. When you are pregnant and you need to track the growth and health of your unborn child, we will run those tests. And, when your child is born, we will be there at the start of your new family.*

*When you need to determine the extent of your heart disease, we are trained to perform those tests. When you need flu shots in the fall, we will give them to you. And when you reach the end of your life, those of us who become hospice nurses will care for you. We will laugh with you, play checkers with you to pass the time, and listen to you as you recount the events of your marvelous lives. We will share tears with you and with your families. And we will mourn your passing alongside those whom you have left behind.*

*This is what our class of 2005 means to you.*

*Now I would like to turn the focus of my remarks to those of us who are receiving degrees today from Mercy College. We have reached quite a milestone in our lives—both personally and professionally. We have all completed the requisite components the Mercy College curriculum dictates. We have all studied hard to get to this point—for Mercy College is highly regarded and its programs are not easy.*

*But I want to go beyond that and take us to the next level. I am going to mention two words that have been used time and again throughout our semesters of study here and yet, for me at least, kind of ignored —*



LARRY SCHUMACHER, FORMER COO OF MERCY MEDICAL CENTER – DES MOINES, PAST CHAIR OF THE COLLEGE BOARD AND A FORMER ADJUNCT FACULTY MEMBER, WAS HONORED WITH THE FIRST HONORARY DOCTORATE FROM MERCY COLLEGE DURING THE SPRING 2005 COMMENCEMENT. DR. JOHN NIES, PROVOST AND DR. CINDY GREEN, DEAN OF ALLIED HEALTH & ACADEMIC AFFAIRS ROBES SCHUMACHER.



ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN NURSING GRADUATES

core values. You know what they are: reverence, integrity, compassion, and excellence (RICE).

**Reverence**—a profound spirit of awe and respect for all creation, acknowledging that we hold in trust all that has been given to us by God.

**Integrity**—moral wholeness, uprightness, honesty, sincerity and being able to be trusted. We are who we say we are and our word is absolute and true.

**Compassion**—feeling with others, being one with others in their sorrows and joys, and rooted in the fact that we are all members of the human community.

**Excellence**—outstanding achievement, merit and value. Always surpassing standards to achieve and maintain quality.

So, what does that mean for us? Why should we care? Reverence means that we see the wonder of God's creation in everyone for whom we provide care. We continually marvel at the human body and how it is put together. And we are humbled by the fact that we have been entrusted with its care. So, the mother with the sick child—or the guy with the broken leg—each is not just another appointment. They are not just more tests to be performed. They are God's creations and we should be humbled at the thought that the healing hands of God are actually our hands—for He has no other hands but ours. If we treat them as just another appointment, then we have missed the mark.

Do we always tell the truth? That is what integrity is all about. In everything we do, in every situation with which we are faced, we tell the truth. Our word is gold, and our actions are gold—even in sticky situations.

We tell the truth. It means that those of us who go on to become nurse practitioners tell the truth to our clients even when that truth is brutal and cold. It means that we as hospice nurses tell the truth to our clients and families when they are longing for a bit of reassurance. It means that when we chart, we chart what we have observed. We tell the truth. Always and in all ways. If we do less than that, then we have missed the mark.

Compassion means putting ourselves in our patient's place. We feel their anguish; we feel their pain. We treat the whole person regardless of their history, regardless of their social standing, regardless of their material wealth or lack thereof. What does this mean for us? It means that we roll up our sleeves and do the best we can, realizing that it is not a perfect world, but that we can work toward making it more perfect. And, if we do less than that, then we have missed the mark.

Excellence. Always striving to make it better. Never accepting the status quo. You have all heard the saying: "Good enough never is." It means using our critical thinking skills to assess situations and it means asking how improvements could be made.

It means giving each patient our very best. It means taking the skills we have learned here at Mercy and building on them. Taking the book knowledge we have and putting our own special signature on it. It means treating each day as if it were a blank canvas, and on this canvas we take our very own paints and create a beautiful work of art—just for that day. And, at the end of that day we look at our beautiful painting and say: "Well done—it's beautiful." We have excelled. If we do less than that, then we have missed the mark.

*This does not mean that we will always hit the mark. We are human. We will fail. We will get tired. We will get grumpy. We will miss the mark. But don't be discouraged. That is the beauty of this value—we strive for excellence. Remember a question we had in our final for Nursing 125? How do we avoid burnout? We strive for excellence—and not perfection.*

*Why do I speak so much of these values? Because they work. I have lived my whole life by these very values. Believe me when I say that if we take these values to heart, and live these values, then the skills that we have learned in our semesters here at Mercy can only be*

*enhanced. Our skills will have life breathed into them if we live these values. We owe this to our friends and families assembled here. We owe this to ourselves.*

*So, to our friends and families assembled here today I say to you: look for us. We will be there, ready to help you and ready to excel.*

*It was a great honor to be able to speak to you this afternoon. I am humbled by it. Thank you. Good luck to each and every one of us in the class of 2005.+*



ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY GRADUATES



BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT GRADUATES



ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY GRADUATES



BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING GRADUATES

## “AMAZING” MOM-BABY FOLLOW-THROUGH: VITAL AFTER 30 YEARS



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“One student told me ‘every person in the world should have a chance to be there when a mother goes through childbirth because it’s such an amazing experience.’” Dale Brown, BSN, MSN, an Assistant Professor at Mercy College for 13 years, was speaking about the follow-through portion of the mother-baby rotation, which pairs a nursing student with a woman about to give birth.

As part of the Nursing Care of Women curriculum, Dale co-teaches the mother-baby rotation with Kim Bruett, RNC, BSN, MSN. In the five-semester associate degree in nursing program, the fourth

semester consists of three separate rotations—Nursing Care of Women (mother-baby, obstetrics), Child and Family Nursing (pediatrics) and Mental Health Nursing. Each rotation is five weeks long.

The mom-baby follow through brings the students into direct contact with pregnant women about to give birth. The student stays with the mother through her labor and delivery, then continues to check on her progress after the baby is born. Often the two develop close bonds; always it is unforgettable.

Sometimes those bonds take unique turns. Take current nursing student Katina

Beitz for example. When her son Kaleb was born January 21, 1995, a Mercy student nurse named Jennifer was assigned to follow her through her labor and delivery. Jennifer lives in Colorado now, but the two have stayed in touch for the past 10 years. In fact, says Katina, “I’m a non-traditional student, and Jennifer was one of the reasons I decided to go into nursing.” Katina’s recent follow-through rotation as a student was also a wonderful experience. “We really bonded,” she recalls, speaking of her assigned new mom. “She told me that if it hadn’t been for me she couldn’t have gone through the experience. I provided her care, comforted her and helped

her with breathing from seven in the morning until eight o’clock that night.”

“The follow-through program has been going on for at least 30 years,” says Assistant Professor Bruett, “and it’s not unusual for the bonds to continue long after the child’s birth.” She recalls one former student who even attended the child’s high school graduation. Because of the way the course is structured, explains Dale, they are learning at the same time they work with the mother. “They go to prenatal visits with her, keep in contact every two or three days, and help with any questions the mother may have. The student can provide resources and keep notes. Then when the mother goes into labor she calls the stu-

dent, they meet at the hospital and go through labor and delivery together.”

By the time the students work with the mothers they have been well prepared by classroom work. Most of the lecture content for Nursing Care of Women is delivered first, starting with menstruation and carrying on through menopause. “For the first week, class is held pretty much every day,” says Kim, “We give four hours of lecture followed by an hour of lab,” for a total of 35 lecture hours for each five-week session.

“Early on,” she says, “the student attends a childbirth education class near where he or she lives. They learn relaxation, massage, breathing. Many of them meet the mother they’ll be working with in these classes.”

Then, the second week, in addition to lectures, the students spend two days in the hospital—they attend tours, breastfeeding classes, etc. The third, fourth and fifth weeks they spend one day in class plus two to three days in a clinical experience. All in all, there are six clinical days in the hospital—three with mom and baby, two in labor and delivery and one in the intensive care nursery.

According to her instructors, Katina’s reaction to her experience is typical of most students. “I’m a mother myself,” Katina says, “but it’s different being on the other side. This has stuck with me and will stay with me for the rest of my life. It was just the most amazing process!” +

## STUDENTS VOLUNTEER AT DES MOINES ARTS FESTIVAL



PENNY ZAUGG (ABOVE PHOTO) AND MALORI SPAID (RIGHT PHOTO) PERFORMING VITALS ON CHILDREN AT THE DES MOINES ARTS FESTIVAL.

ALUMNI PROGRAMMING

ALUMNI EVENTS FOR 2005-06

Alumni Golf Tournament . . . . .	Tuesday, September 6 8 a.m. Shotgun Start Briarwood Golf Course, Ankeny	Florida Alumni Gathering . . . . .	Tuesday, March 28, 2006 (Sarasota)
Sullivan Center Dedication . . . . .	Thursday, September 22 10:30 a.m. Ceremony & Building Blessing 11:30 a.m. Luncheon/Tours	Colorado Alumni Gathering . . . . .	Tuesday, April 4, 2006 (Denver)
Sullivan Center Business After Hours . . . . .	Thursday, October 27 5:30-7 p.m.	California Alumni Gathering . . . . .	Tuesday, April 11, 2006 (San Diego)
Alumni Holiday Christmas Party . . . . .	Thursday, December 8 11:30 a.m. Sullivan Center, Mercy College	Washington, DC Alumni Gathering . . . . .	Tuesday, April 18, 2006
Arizona Alumni Gathering . . . . .	Tuesday, March 7, 2006 (Scottsdale)	Golden Years Alumni Luncheon . . . . .	Friday, May 12, 2006 11:30 a.m. Sullivan Center, Mercy College
Texas Alumni Gathering . . . . .	Tuesday, March 14, 2006 (Galveston)	107th Nursing Alumni Association . . . . .	Saturday, June 3, 2006 Banquet & Annual Meeting 6 p.m. Reception 7 p.m. Dinner

GRANT FUNDS NA CLASSES FOR REFUGEES



LEFT TO RIGHT: PRINCE W SOE (LIBERIA-MONROVIA), NERMINA MEHIC (BOSNIA), MELIHA HUSEJNOVIC (BOSNIA), HAWA TOTAYE (LIBERIA-MONROVIA), AYOUBALI (\*SUDAN\*), ZLEH TOTAYE (LIBERIA-MONROVIA), JOHN COOPER (LIBERIA-MONROVIA), AND IRENEO LONYUME (SUDAN) WERE AMONG THE FIRST OF SIX CLASSES OF BUREAU OF REFUGEE STUDENTS TO COMPLETE THEIR NURSING ASSISTANT PROGRAM AT MERCY COLLEGE. THE THREE-YEAR CONTRACT IS FUNDED BY THE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

ALUMNI UPDATES

NEWS AND NOTES

NURSING

BECKYE TUCKER TOLER '96 and her husband Justin live in Altoona, IA with their daughter Alison Rhea who was born March 11, 2003. Beckye received her BSN degree from Grandview College in April 2000 and is currently working as a nurse in CCU at Mercy Medical Center—Des Moines.

BEV (PARK) BONTE '80 is an RN with Maternal Child Health Care for McLeod County Public Health in Glencoe, MN. She and her husband Brian live in Hutchinson, Minnesota and have two children.

DEB (NOVOTNY) BREUKLANDER '80 is a Nurse Consultant-Residential Treatment for MECCA Services in Des Moines. She has 3 children, and one grandson.

REBECCA "BECKY" SUE BROSEAU '80 is a surgical nurse at Mercy Terrace Hill Surgery Center in Des Moines. She and her husband live in Des Moines, and have three children.

DEBRA ERVIN '80 is a charge nurse with Alegent Health in Omaha, NE. She and her husband James have four children.

DEB DIEDEN GILL '80 is a school nurse for the Rockford Lutheran School District in Rockford, IL. She and her husband Terry have four children.

MARY JAEGER '80 retired from Bishop Drumm in 2003. She has four children and seven grandchildren.

TERRI (SCHOLTEC) JONES '80 is a Parish Coordinator for the Wayzata Community Church in Wayzata, MN. She has an 18 year-old daughter.

JOAN MCCLEISH '80 is a Professor of Nursing at Mercy College of Health Sciences in Des Moines. She completed her BSN and MSN degrees from Drake University and her Ph.D. from Iowa State University. She and her husband Dale have two sons.

JILL (HENDERSON) NICKELL '80 is a Clinical Director at the South County Heart Center in Venice, FL. She is an avid snow skier and has three children.

LAURA J. RYCHNOVSKY '80 retired in 2004 from the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. She completed her BSN from the University of Iowa in 2002. She and her husband Robert Forbes, live in Iowa City and have two children.

SUE SHANNON-WITT '80 is retired for almost six years from St. Elizabeth hospital in Lincoln, NE. She and her husband, Stephen, live in Columbus, NE, and have three children and one grandson.

KATHY TILTON '80 is a Clinical Educator at the Hennepin Center for Diabetes, Endocrinology and Obesity at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis, MN. Kathy completed her BSN from Bethel College in St. Paul, MN. She and her husband Mark spent 12 years overseas participating in a project that

helps to rescue girls who have been sold or kidnapped into prostitution in South America and Nepal. They now live in Bloomington, MN and have one son.

PAULA KAE (KELLER) WILLIAMS '80 loves being a hospice nurse at Mercy Hospice in Johnston, IA. She and her husband Tim live in Indianola and spend their free time watching their three children participate in activities.

PATTI WRAY-MARNIN '80 is a nurse at the Ambulatory Surgery Center of Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines. She and her husband, Jeff, live in Urbandale, IA and have one son.

BIRTHS

SARA DOTZLER GAUL '00 and her husband Chris, a son, Braxton Michael, on December 25 2004.

STACEY ANDERSON '03 and Aaron Dooley, a son, Ethan James Vulcano, on March 4, 2005.

JENNIFER LUDWICK '01 and her husband Mark, a son, Lucas Dublin Darid, on June 18, 2005.

TRACIE HARRISON '01 and her husband Dr. David Harrison, twins Nicholas Paul and Katherine Olivia on March 17, 2005.

KARA DONLEY '96 and her husband Charles, a daughter, Abigail Jo, on April 6, was welcomed by Grace, 4 and Carter, 2.

SYMPATHY

Your prayers are requested for the family and friends of this graduate who died recently.

TERESA CAPEN RUBIN  
CLASS OF 1973

CONTINUED PAGE 23

## A TRADITION CONTINUES—BRICK BY BRICK



Little did Mary Carroll Brick know when she graduated from Mercy School of Nursing in 1929 that she had started a family tradition. Through three generations, spanning 71 years of Mercy history, the dedication to the profession of nursing would continue.

After Mary Carroll came her daughter Mary Brick Lake (Class of 1956) and her son's wife Janet Triplett Brick (Class of 1962). Later, Janet and Joe's son married Grace Conley (Class of 2000), who had followed in the footsteps of her grandmother, Genevieve Cunningham Conley (Class of 1940).

### MARY CARROLL BRICK

When Mary Carroll (now deceased) went to school in the 1920s things were very different, says her daughter Mary. "The students handled the kitchen, too. They prepared meals, scrubbed the halls and did everything. Back then the hospital was much smaller—maybe a hundred patients. The students lived right in the hospital."

It was the depression years, and even nursing jobs were hard to come by, Mary explains, "so Mom became a private duty nurse for three or four years until she got married. Then, when her husband died in 1958 she took a refresher course and

went back to work. She worked at Des Moines General and later went to the health department and worked in public health until she retired."

### MARY BRICK LAKE



Living in a dorm adjacent to the hospital, Mary and her 32 fellow students developed close bonds. "All were women, all in the same age group, and there was no off-campus housing. Sr. Sebastian [the director] was always making sure we were doing what we were supposed to be doing. It was a really wonderful time."

The group had one supervisor at night, and no intensive care unit, "so you had very sick patients all the time. You'd have, say, 20 rooms and you could have a really, really sick person, and they were on the floor with people who were recovering from surgery."

That kind of intensity assured a good hands-on education, according to Mary, who next year will celebrate her 50th year since graduation. After living in Iowa City for several years, Mary worked at Bergan Mercy in Omaha until 1978 when she took a job with an oncology clinic in the Omaha Methodist Health System. She retired from nursing in 2004.

### JANET TRIPLETT BRICK



It was Mary Brick Lake's brother, Joe Brick, now a Des Moines attorney, whose marriage to Janet Triplett continued the Brick family nursing legacy. Janet headed "right for Mercy" when she graduated from Urbandale High School in 1959.

"My [nursing] class was full-time, 12 months a year," recalls Janet. We did a lot of on-the-job training, with classes at Drake, at the hospital or in the nursing home. We spent a lot of time working on the floors, so we learned a lot very quickly."

Janet developed tremendous bonds during her years at Mercy. "We still have get-togethers every five years or so. You get to know your classmates very well when you work with them and you live with them."

Janet worked at Mercy Hospital for two or three years after graduation, then worked in a pediatrics office for four years.

Although she married and retired from nursing soon after that, she continued to substitute as a nurse from time to time. She continues her involvement with Mercy by recently accepting an appointment to the Mercy Foundation Board of Directors.

### GRACE CONLEY BRICK



When Joe and Janet Brick's son Dave married Grace Conley recently, the tradition was renewed once again. Grace, who was inspired by her grandmother Genevieve Cunningham Conley, had graduated from Mercy College of Health Sciences as a nurse in 2000.

Grace had been attending the University of Iowa when a chronic illness she had developed in high school worsened. Numerous sur-



GENEVIEVE CUNNINGHAM CONLEY

geries and a difficult treatment regimen caused her to return home to Des Moines. Nearly at the breaking point, she was waiting for FDA approval for drug treatment when she decided "if you can't beat 'em, join 'em," and began studying at Mercy College.

After graduation she returned to the University of Iowa to obtain her bachelor's degree in mass

communication studies, then took a job as an operating room nurse at an orthopedics surgery center. Although she is now working as a meeting planner for AmerUs Life Insurance Company in Des Moines, she stays involved in the medical community through her work as a board member for Hospice of Central Iowa. She is keeping her license active and sees herself seeking a nursing job someday— "maybe when I have a house full of children."

Perhaps it's because of her grandmother's inspiration. "When I went to nursing school she was incredibly proud, but she passed away while I was still in school." When Grace graduated, she took her grandmother's pin, and today both graduation photos hang together in the family home. +

### The Division of Liberal Arts and Sciences is pleased to announce the following promotions:

- >> Jennifer Bradley, Ph.D. from Associate Professor to Professor
- >> Jeannine Matz, Ph.D. from Associate Professor to Professor

### The Division of Nursing is pleased to announce the following promotions:

- >> Barbara Braband from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor
- >> Vicky Campbell from Instructor to Assistant Professor
- >> JoAnn Humphreys from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor

### The following individuals are new employees of Mercy College:

- >> Joni Cowden—Student Health Registered Nurse
- >> Patricia Iseminger—Student Services Secretary
- >> Thomas Iverson—College Technology Specialist
- >> Donald Leonard—Radiologic Technology
- >> Pamela Murphy—Faculty Secretary
- >> David Steenoek—Facilities Supervisor
- >> Jennifer Thompson—Library Assistant
- >> Sholeh Varzegar—Health Care Management Chair

### NEWS AND NOTES / CONTINUED

FRANK DITOMASO '04 and his wife, a daughter, Olivia Frances, on April 26, 2005.

EMILY LEGGETT '99, her husband Jeff, and their older son Cole welcomed Even Matthew to their family on June 1, 2005.

VALERIE MARQUARDT '94 and her husband Jason, a son, Dylan John, on July 28, 2005.

MICHELLE NEYENS '91 and husband Brian, a daughter, Hannah Michelle, on August 2, 2005. +

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Associate of Science in Nursing program (ASN) at Mercy College of Health Sciences is hosting a site visit from the National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission (NLNAC) on November 1, 2, and 3, 2005. The ASN program received initial accreditation from NLNAC in 2000 for a period of five years and is seeking continued accreditation with this visit. An extensive self-study has been completed and submitted to NLNAC.

Members of the nursing community and the public at large, as essential elements of the College's constituents, are encouraged to meet with the site visitors on November 2, at 4 p.m., in the Sullivan Center to provide comments regarding the ASN program and its graduates. If unable to attend the meeting, written comments that will be shared with the site visitors are welcome and are to be addressed to the program administrator, Ms. Shirley Beaver at the following address:

**Shirley Beaver**  
**Dean of Nursing**  
**Mercy College of Health Sciences**  
**928 6th Avenue**  
**Des Moines, IA 50309**

*If desired, written comments may be sent directly to NLNAC at the following address:*

**NLNAC**  
**61 Broadway-33rd Floor**  
**New York City, NY 10006**



**LEFT:** PROFESSOR JOAN MCCLEISH, R.N., DEMONSTRATES HOW TO TAKE A BLOOD PRESSURE ON A HARDING MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT DURING A RECENT AFTER SCHOOL WORKSHOP IN CONJUNCTION WITH URBAN DREAMS, A LOCAL INNER CITY SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCY. **BELOW:** RT CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR KELLY KLINE LEADS A DISCUSSION WITH STUDENTS FROM MOULTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ABOUT BONE FRACTURES. EACH ACADEMIC PROGRAM PARTICIPATED IN THE SIX-WEEK, AFTER-SCHOOL HEALTH WORKSHOP. 91 STUDENTS, 25 MERCY STUDENTS AND 28 MERCY COLLEGE FACULTY TOOK PART IN ALL.



## GOLDEN YEARS BANQUET RETURNS TO CAMPUS



**ABOVE:** JENNY STEFANI, AND CLARE LEE ROMANO '54, JOINED BY FRED SASSATELLI, HUSBAND OF 2005 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI JOANNE SASSATELLI '51, ENJOYED THE GOLDEN YEARS BANQUET HELD ON THE COLLEGE CAMPUS ON MAY 13, 2005. **LEFT:** FIRST GRADERS FROM HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL PROVIDED LUNCHEON ENTERTAINMENT DURING THE BANQUET.



## EMPLOYEES CELEBRATE 2004-05 SCHOOL YEAR



THREE COLLEGE ADMINISTRATORS CELEBRATED FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE DURING THE FINAL COLLEGE SENATE OF THE 2004-05 SCHOOL YEAR. WARREN TOWLES, SUSAN RHOADES AND HUGH HANSEN WERE PRESENTED 5-YEAR PINS BY PRESIDENT REMER.



SIX COLLEGE FACULTY WERE APPROVED FOR PROMOTION IN RANK BY THE COLLEGE BOARD IN 2004-05. PICTURED ARE PROFESSOR JEANNINE MATZ, PH.D.; ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JOANN HUMPHREYS, R.N., M.S.N.; PROFESSOR JENNIFER BRADLEY, PH.D.; AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR BARB BRABAND, R.N., M.S.N., N.P., ALONG WITH PRESIDENT REMER.

## NURSING BANQUET HONORS THREE ALUMNI AND ATTRACTS NEARLY 150 PEOPLE

Nearly 150 nursing alumni and friends gathered to celebrate the 106th Annual Banquet of the Mercy College Nursing Alumni Association on Saturday, June 4, 2005 at the Airport Holiday Inn.

Three distinguished alumni were honored during the event—Sandi Caligiuri, '63; Joanne Sassatelli, '51 (posthumously); and Joan McMartin, '61. Honored guest at the event was Sr. Patricia Forret, President of the Omaha Regional Community of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas. Sr. Pat is the younger sister of Joanne Sassatelli.

The 2006 banquet is scheduled for June 3, 2006. A new location will be selected this year because of a prior commitment at the Airport Holiday Inn. +



ABOVE: SANDI CALIGIURI '63, ALONG WITH HER HUSBAND CHUCK AND DAUGHTER CHRISTINE ENJOYED THE RECEPTION BEFORE THE BANQUET.  
 ABOVE RIGHT: JOAN McMARTIN '61, SHARES A MEMORY WITH TRUDY LESTER '61.



## ACCREDITATION ACTIVITIES ABOUND OVER 12-MONTH PERIOD

By Hugh Hansen  
 Dean of Institutional Research, Planning and Assessment

Several of the College's academic programs completed self-studies and hosted visiting teams from specialized accrediting agencies to obtain initial or continuing accreditation, beginning in March 2005.

Four allied health programs completed self-studies or interim reports in efforts to obtain initial or continuing accreditation: Nuclear Medicine; Medical Assisting; Diagnostic Medical Sonography; and Radiologic Technology. Both the Associate of Science in Nursing and the Bachelor of Science in Nursing programs began self-studies this spring to prepare for continuing accreditation.

A team of consultant evaluators from the American Association of Medical Assistants Endowment (AAMAE) was on campus March 31 and April 1 to assess the program. At the end of their visit, the team spoke highly of the program and commended coordinator Janet Roberts-Andersen for her leadership and organization. They also commended the quality of the self-study report. AAMAE consultant evaluators do not recommend a time length for initial accreditation; however, programs receiving a favorable evaluation typically obtain accreditation for a three-year period. The team submitted its findings to the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), which is expected to make its accreditation decision early this fall.

A team from the Joint Review Committee on Education Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology (JRC-NMT) visited the campus on July 25. During the exit interview, both members of the team highly commended Program Coordinator Stacy Lawson for her leadership and the quality of every aspect of the program. The JRC-NMT will act on the visiting team's recommendation in October 2005. The Nuclear Medicine advanced certificate program, which began in fall 2002, is seeking initial accreditation.

A self-study report for continuing accreditation of the Sonography program was submitted to the Joint Review

Committee on Education in Medical Sonography (JRC-DMS) in June 2005. An evaluation team from the JRC-DMS will visit the campus this fall.

Late in the fall, a team from the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) will visit campus to assess the Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) program's readiness for re-accreditation. An evaluation team will meet with students, faculty, professional staff, clinical site leaders, and alumni from November 1-3, 2005.

Then in late February 2006, representatives from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) will evaluate the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Program's readiness for reaccreditation. This team will be on campus February 27-28 and March 1.

The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) notified Dr. Remer on the August 1, 2005 that the Surgical Technology program was granted 10 years of continuing accreditation. A self-study report was submitted during the 2003-04 academic year to CAAHEP.

The Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRC-ERT), in a letter to Dr. Remer dated May 6, 2005, confirmed receipt of an interim report from the Radiologic Technology program. The committee voted to maintain accreditation of the program for a period of eight years. The next JRC-ERT site visit will be conducted in fall 2008. +

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SULLIVAN CENTER PROGRESS 10

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