Greetings from the School of Health and Natural Sciences (SHNS) ! This issue includes our SHNS fall 2014 activities and events as well as our recent news. We are proud to announce the New York State approval of our new Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program. This exciting new program will complement the already existing programs in Nursing and the Health Professions and will launch in September 2015. The Nursing Faculty are very busy preparing for their new students.

Our Natural Sciences Department hosted a successful STEM Career day this past November, filled with hands-on activities. We are currently working on planning exciting new state-of-the-art renovations to our science labs that will take place this summer. Finally, our undergraduate student research activities and experiences continue to grow and expand. Read about science research experiences from the student’s perspective on page 3.

In this newsletter, you will see that the SHNS has been filled with activities that span from basic science to promotion of health in both local and global communities. Please remember to check out our new web pages to learn more about our ongoing activities and programs.

I hope you enjoy reading our newsletter !

Joan Toglia
Ph.D., OTR, FAOTA
Mercy College announced a new Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree, which has been approved by New York State Education Department, Office of the Professions, beginning September 2015.

Mercy College Director of Nursing Programs Dr. Peggy C. Tallier (pictured) said: “Mercy’s new Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree program will be a wonderful addition to our college and our existing nursing programs. Mercy College will now be contributing to the predicted shortage of highly qualified nurses in the United States.”

The BSN program is designed to provide education in preparation for licensure and professional nursing practice. Mercy College’s new BSN program will offer cohort traditional face-to-face classes. Clinical learning experiences will be conducted via a state-of-the-art simulation laboratory as well as traditional, hands-on, instructor-supervised training in Westchester County and New York City health care facilities.

This education experience will provide the preparation needed for the challenging and diverse health care needs of our community and throughout the United States. Upon successful completion, students will earn a baccalaureate degree, be eligible to take the NCLEX-RN licensure examination and be qualified for admission to graduate nursing programs.

Mercy College will be at the forefront of nursing education through innovative teaching, research methods and service to the community.

Exercise Science Partners with Columbia University

Dr. Patrick Davitt and Dr. Astrid Mel from the Exercise Science program, partnered with Dr. Karen Reznik Dolins, EdD, RD, CSSD, CDN, a Board Certified Specialist in Sports Dietetics Faculty, Nutrition and Exercise Physiology Program from Teachers College Columbia University on a single case research study involving an elite ultra-endurance runner. These runners are the “best of the best” completing distance races greater than a 26.2 mile marathon (e.g., 50 mi, 100 mi race) and typically have superior cardiorespiratory fitness levels (e.g., VO2max > 65 mL O2/kg/min). These runners are often times professionals of the sport and many are sponsored by companies.

Using testing the Exercise Science lab at Mercy, the study participant completed a run on the treadmill while undergoing VO2 max testing. This partnership is an important step in building a research component to the Exercise Science program because it allows us to not only engage in scientific research as faculty, but provides us with an opportunity to expose students to more research and real-world experience. Doing so with another institution will contribute to the collaborative possibilities in the future.

The newest addition to our EXSC laboratory is the BodPod which measures body composition, an important component of both health and physical performance. This device will provide students with the opportunity to further enhance their classroom and research engagement, which will better prepare them for the workforce.

SHNS Sponsored Free Seminar on Digital Health

On December 3rd The School of Health and Natural Sciences sponsored a free seminar titled Digital Health and Telemedicine: New Frontiers in Patient Assessment and Rehabilitation. There were over 50 students and professionals in attendance to hear David Putrino, PhD, PT. David is a Physical Therapist with a PhD in Neuroscience. He is an Assistant Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Weill Cornell Medical College, and the Director Telemedicine and Virtual Rehabilitation at Burke Medical Research Institute, where he works to develop low-cost and accessible patient monitoring, assessment and treatment systems that are designed to decrease health-care costs whilst improving the standard of patient care. The seminar was a huge success with one attendee stating “Fantastic! Thank you so much for hosting this seminar. Keep up the great research and humanitarianism!”
Benefits of Undergraduate Research: The Student Perspective

Undergraduate research at Mercy College can benefit students by allowing them to uncover a passion for research, a means to gain skills in collaborative and individual work, and an opportunity to explore career fields. Undergraduate research permits one-on-one student-faculty mentoring that is not otherwise possible in the classroom. Research students are able to apply information gained through coursework to the process of uncovering new information through controlled experimentation. Undergraduate research can inform students about their interest level towards a career in science and increase the likelihood of becoming a successful researcher in the future. A quality research experience will also help students gain admission to medical and graduate school. Three students below, who are current biology majors or recent graduates, provide insight into the benefits of undergraduate research from the student’s perspective

Bethany Ordonez (B.S. Biology, ’14) discussed her research experience with Dr. Anthony Canger in terms of her coursework: “I have always excelled in my classes, but I found that solely relying on class work provides a somewhat one-sided view of biology. While participating in lab work does help, it does not provide much opportunity for independent thinking and discovery. Participating in research opened up my eyes to more career opportunities in the field of science. Another positive aspect of having participated in research was that it provided me with more marketability when applying for my Master’s degree. My new college was thoroughly impressed with the fact I had participated in research and presented a poster at the 2014 Mercy College Research Symposium. I was even offered an opportunity to participate in a 6 month research study in the Patagonia region of Chile. I gained a great appreciation for scientific literature and found it a lot easier to understand the procedures involved in many experiments.”

Josephine Paniagua (B.S., biology, ’14) is working with Dr. Renee Haskew-Layton and emphasizes the value of the mentor-mentee relationship that has developed: “Undergraduate research? Go for it! It is an amazing opportunity that will broaden your horizons. Research complements all the coursework you have learned and applies it, hands on! It helps you think and analyze information critically. Conducting research was one of the greatest opportunities that could have happened to me. Conducting research not only makes a great contribution to the scientific community, but it also helped deepen my academic experience and it also helped me establish a meaningful relationship with my mentor, Dr. Layton. She is simply amazing!”

LaTai Williamson (senior, biology major) and McNair Scholar relates how undergraduate research has influenced her career goals: “Learning with my hands has always been my go to, I am a tactile learner.... I was introduced to my current McNair research project through Dr. Layton during our first developmental biology class in fall 2014. Since starting in Dr. Layton’s lab, I see research in a different perspective.... I’ve always known that I wanted to become an Obstetrician since I entered Mercy College, however, I now realize that I can expand my career aspirations to also include developmental research. Research has showed me a different light of something that I was already passionate about. Overall, this has been one of the highlights of my academic career and it is something that I will cherish for the rest of my life.”

In the Department of Natural Sciences efforts to expand research opportunities will help more students gain valuable skills and perspectives and easier access to rewarding careers in science and medicine.

*Dr. Haskew-Layton, Dr. Canger, Dr. Bruses, Dr. LeMieux inside the Natural Sciences Research Lab
*If you are interested in participating in research at Mercy College please contact Dr. Anthony Canger at Acanger@mercy.edu
Communication Disorders Speech Team Returns to Peru

Dr. Helen Buhler, Dr. Shari Berkowitz and Mercy alum, Lindsay Naylor ‘13 traveled for the fourth time on a medical mission to Lima, Peru from November 1-8, 2014. The purpose of their trip was to provide speech and language therapy to children born with cleft lip/palate and to educate parents, teachers, and medical students in strategies to promote better speech production.

The surgery team was responsible for repairing and closing the cleft palates/lips which are an important half of the work necessary. The SLPs provided the next step in trying to improve the children’s overall speech intelligibility and communication skills.

What distinguished this trip from previous ones is that they also trained two SLPs from Denver Children’s Hospital in the methods they use for global therapy, which are quite distinct from general practice in the U.S. Global SLPs need to be ready to rely on their training pre-digital age and generate lo-tech solutions for hi-tech problems encountered on every global mission.

In April 2015, they will return to Ica, Peru to follow up with their clinical patients. In addition, Dr. Berkowitz will be training Peruvian SLPs and Laryngologists in voice therapy evaluation and treatment.

^Dr. Berkowitz and Dr. Buhler with two patients and their mothers

Physician Assistant Program Hosts Ebola Panel

On November 14th, the Mercy College Physician Assistant (PA) program hosted a discussion panel on Ebola held at the Bronx campus. Over 100 students attended the panel which was organized and moderated by Lorraine Cashin, Program Director of the PA program.

The panel consisted of Dr. Rossi Hassad, Epidemiologist & Professor at Mercy College as well as Dr. Kristen Schmmirch, Emergency Medicine, Montefiore Hospital. The panel touched on how the virus spreads as well as how to deal with a patient who presents with signs of the virus. Professor Cashin noted that “the panel discussion served as an in-service to our students and provided them with important and timely information about an urgent healthcare issue they face in their clinical rotations. The students were engaged with the panel and their feedback was extremely positive.”

SHNS Starts a Pre-Med/Pre-Dental Club!

An exciting new student-run club emerged on the Mercy College campus this fall, with approximately 20 members, all of whom share career aspirations of becoming a physician or a dentist. The Association of Future Physicians and Dentists (AFPD) came together in October of 2014, and has had an incredibly strong presence on campus in the few short months since its inception. The club meets every other week to plan events on and off campus focusing on community service and student support.

The club is busy making plans for spring events that include an MCAT game night and inviting speakers to campus with expertise in the fields of medicine and dentistry. The AFPD club is looking forward to using its momentum from the fall semester to have an energetic and exciting spring semester. Look for the AFPD around campus!

If you would like to learn more information about the club, please contact the faculty advisor: Dr. Julianna LeMieux at jlemieux@mercy.edu.
MERCY COLLEGE SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND NATURAL SCIENCES | 5

MERCY COLLEGE SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND NATURAL SCIENCES

SHNS Celebrates the 20th Reunion of the OT and PT Programs

Mercy College was honored to welcome back Occupational Therapy (OT) and Physical Therapy (PT) alumni for their 20 year reunion. The School of Health and Natural Sciences, along with Alumni Relations, hosted a wonderful reception for all the alumni in the Mercy Hall Rotunda.

Alumni from all years of the Occupational and Physical Therapy Programs were welcome at the event which included dinner, drinks and sharing lots of memories. Mercy College President Dr. Timothy Hall kicked off the event with a welcome (picture right) and school Dean Dr. Joan Toglia shared stories and pictures from the beginning years. The alumni were joined by faculty from both the OT and PT programs many of whom have been with the College since the beginning days of both programs.

Dr. Nannette Hyland, Program Director of the Physical Therapy Program, was excited to see so many alumni saying “It was really nice to connect with alumni and hear what they are all doing 20 years later.” There was a good mix of alumni from both programs with over 100 in attendance, some alumni brought family. The alumni that attended the event have successful and fulfilling careers in their fields; many are working for private practices, hospitals and the Department of Education. “It was an enjoyable evening. It was wonderful to hear all the alumni stories and to know that they all have satisfying careers. It is one of the joys of being a professor.” Stated Dr. Laurie Olson (OT faculty).

Donna Roberto, OT ‘03, was one of the many alumni to share her favorite memories of Mercy stating “My best memories are all the great friends that I had then that I still have now and also the great faculty that taught me so much about the field of Occupational Therapy.”

Alumni had the chance to participate in the filming of an alumni testimonial video that is currently on the SHNS website. Everyone was excited to share their memories, and give advice to current and future Mercy College OT and PT students.

“If you are looking into Physical Therapy, Mercy College is great! It allows you flexibility. You can still work full-time (which I did) and go to school on the weekends and still have fun. even if there is hard work” Karen Gomez Bacolod, PT ‘97.

The CD program hosted another semiannual workshop on Sunday October 19, 2014 to raise money for the CD Graduate Scholarship Fund. Martin L. Kutscher, M.D, a board certified Pediatric Neurologist presented a very informative, educational and entertaining workshop on Kids in the Syndrome Mix of ADHD, LD, Autism Spectrum, Anxiety, Tourette’s, and More: The one stop guide for parents, teachers, and other professionals (2nd Ed). Dr. Kutscher is also author of the website www.SyndromeMix.com.

The more than 90 participants who attended the conference were primarily Speech Language Pathologists from the surrounding community along with several Mercy CD alumni, PTs, OTs, psychologists and special education teachers, resulting in a true inter-professional workshop. The Communication Disorders fundraising workshop raised over $5,000 so more students can benefit from scholarships this year!

Mercy Mobile Health Vehicle

The Mercy College Mobile Health Vehicle has been making its way around the Bronx and is continuing to provide free health screenings to those in need.

Over the fall semester the Vehicle along with the SHNS Physician Assistant Program (PA) has made visits to numerous locations. Mercy’s relationship with Head start remains strong as PA students provide the necessary screenings to help educate families in the community on healthy lifestyle choices.

Communication Disorders Program Raises Over $5,000 Towards Scholarship Fund

The CD program hosted another semiannual workshop on Sunday October 19, 2014 to raise money for the CD Graduate Scholarship Fund.

Martin L. Kutscher, M.D, a board certified Pediatric Neurologist presented a very informative, educational and entertaining workshop on Kids in the Syndrome Mix of ADHD, LD, Autism Spectrum, Anxiety, Tourette’s, and More: The one stop guide for parents, teachers, and other professionals (2nd Ed). Dr. Kutscher is also author of the website www.SyndromeMix.com.

The more than 90 participants who attended the conference were primarily Speech Language Pathologists from the surrounding community along with several Mercy CD alumni, PTs, OTs, psychologists and special education teachers, resulting in a true inter-professional workshop. The Communication Disorders fundraising workshop raised over $5,000 so more students can benefit from scholarships this year!
Dr. Toglia to Hold March Workshop on Cognitive Rehabilitation

Dr. Joan Toglia, Dean of the School of Health and Natural Sciences, will be holding a workshop on Cognitive Rehabilitation.

The workshop is open to all and will be held on the Mercy College campus over two days. Dr. Toglia has 30 years of experience in Occupational Therapy, working in acute rehabilitation and outpatient settings with persons with stroke, acquired brain injury and other neurological disorders.

*To request information on this workshop please email SHNS@mercy.edu or call Stephanie Loving at 914-674-7103

Mercy Holds First Annual STEM Career Day!

The first annual STEM Career Day, cosponsored by the Title V STEM grant and the McNair Scholar’s program, was held on November 12, 2014. The event which invited participation from students at Mercy College, as well as area institutions, had two main goals: to ignite interest in science, technology, and math and to provide information on career pathways in STEM.

Students and faculty attended a number of STEM career related talks as well as workshops. Dana March, PhD, MPH, assistant professor in the department of Epidemiology at Columbia University, gave an inspiring keynote lecture regarding the obstacles she overcame to attain a rewarding career in healthcare disparities research. Students also attended break-out sessions held by Mercy College faculty and graduate students centered on exercise science, science education, behavioral science and the biological sciences.

During the breakout session entitled Neuroscience Research in the Department of Natural Sciences, faculty members Anthony Canger, Juan Bruses and Renée Haskew-Layton engaged students in various aspects of their ongoing neuroscience research at Mercy College involving regeneration, brain protection and synapse formation. In addition to learning about these ongoing research projects, students observed living neural cells and viewed fluorescent microscopic images of perineuronal nets in the chick brain.

Students who attended the breakout session entitled Discover Exercise Science at Mercy College, led by faculty member Astrid Mel to the newly created exercise science lab, giving the students the chance to use, first-hand, the newly acquired state-of-the-art exercise science equipment. At the end of the day, students attended a career panel in which experts in pharmaceutical research, computer science, chemistry, and other disciplines gave the students firsthand accounts of their various paths to success and an inside glimpse into their professions. In all, many students were excited to learn about the research opportunities available in the Department of Natural Sciences and the exciting potential career paths that lay ahead!
Veterinary Technology Visits Belize

Dr. Sabrina Timperman and Dr. Lisa Schenkel took ten Mercy College Veterinary Technology Program students, and two alumni, to Belize in Central America during January 7-18, 2015 to volunteer at the Belize Wildlife and Referral Clinic. Students assisted in the treatment and rehabilitation of wildlife in Belize working with everything from boa constrictors to coatimundis. They also investigated broader issues concerning the anthropogenic impacts to the environment such as climate change, habitat conversion, forest fragmentation and human-wildlife conflict; and how these impacts affect wildlife and humans.

Through the use of digital storytelling, the students will provide a glimpse into the lives of both the animals and people of this northern Meso-American Bio-Geographic region as well as how issues such as these anthropogenic impacts are affecting individuals in the larger community.

Come Visit the Speech and Hearing Clinic

The Mercy College Speech and Hearing Center is administered by the Communication Disorders Department at Mercy College. The center is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. It has served the community for more than 25 years with comprehensive diagnostic evaluations and therapy for preschoolers, school-aged children, adolescents and adults.

Services offered by the Center include:
- Comprehensive speech, language and audiological evaluation and treatment services
- Year-round services with convenient evening and Saturday hours
- Clinical supervision by NYS licensed, ASHA certified professionals
- Visual and auditory monitoring systems in therapy rooms
- Reimbursement through a variety of insurance carriers
- Early Intervention services for speech, language and hearing issues
- Special programs for children

Fees for services are available upon request. The Speech and Hearing Center accepts various health insurance plans. Please contact the Center for more information by calling (914) 674-7742 or emailing mshc@mercy.edu. Learn more about the center at: www.mercy.edu
SHNS Faculty Named Langston Grant Fellows

Two School of Health and Natural Sciences faculty were awarded research fellowships from the Langston University Institutional Research Capacity Building and Infrastructure Model (IRCBIM) Selection Committee. Dr. Kathleen Kenney-Riley (Nursing), and Dr. Shari Berkowitz (Communication Disorders), along with Dr. Kimberly Rapoza (Psychology) from the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, will participate in an 18-month long Peer-to-Peer Mentor Research Team Academy to prepare a grant application for submission to the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) agency.

Associate Dean Dr. Kathleen Golisz, who spearheaded this grant submission stated, “NIDRR’s focus is on fostering research that contributes to the independence, inclusion, employment, health and function of individuals of all ages with all types and degrees of disability. This aim aligns well with the interest and mission of our school.” The grant will also support the College’s Research Infrastructure Strategic Planning.

Mercy was one of six institutions selected to receive the grant (i.e., two historically Black colleges/universities, two Hispanic serving-institutions, and two American Indian tribal colleges/universities). Dr. Joan Toglia, Dean of the School of Health and Natural Sciences stated, “This is a wonderful opportunity for our selected research fellow faculty to be mentored by experienced grant writers on the preparation of a grant application that will support their research agendas.”

Exercise Science Honors Student Presents at Conference

Exercise Science Honors student Abigail Foti, presented a poster at the Greater New York American College of Sports Medicine (GNY ACSM) conference in November. Her presentation was entitled: “Attention and Dual Task Performance: Serving Performance of College Volleyball Players while Simultaneously Counting.” She was accompanied by Program Head Dr. Astrid Mel and Dr. Patrick Davitt who also presented at the conference.

*Photo from left to right : Abigail Foti, Dr. Mel, Dr. Davitt

SHNS OT Students Speak With Older Drivers

Mercy College Occupational Therapy graduate students participated in the National Older Driver Safety Week December 1 – 5, 2014. Dr. Kathleen Golisz and the students partnered with members of the Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services’ Older Driver Coalition to make daily presentations to community groups throughout the county. The presentations offered tools, tips and techniques that older drivers can use to safely be on the road for as long as possible. The programs also explored when it is time to stop driving, and what alternative transportation services are available when seniors decide to relinquish their keys.

The occupational therapy students are also preparing for a CarFit educational event in Ardsley on April 30th, 2015. OT graduate students from Mercy College, under Dr. Golisz’ supervision, have conducted over 200 CarFit safety checks on older drivers in the past 5 years. During a CarFit event, trained technicians lead older drivers through a 12-point checklist with their vehicle, recommend car adjustments and adaptations and offer community specific resources and activities that could make their cars “fit” better or enhance their safety. Drivers age 65 and older interested in attending this CarFit event can contact Dr. Golisz at 914-674-7814 to schedule an appointment for April 30, 2015.
Mercy College Service Awards

On September 20, 2014 Mercy College along with President Timothy Hall honored long term faculty & staff for their service at the College. Please join us in congratulating our amazing faculty and staff members who were honored during the ceremony. Our students are lucky to have such dedicated staff and faculty. Here's to many more years of service!

Five Years of Service
- Dr. Shari Berkowitz (CD)
- Dr. Peggy Tallier (Nursing)
- Cristina Dumitrescu (OTA)
- Marilyn Oxenberg (CD)
- Mindy Donovan (NatSci)
- Lorraine Cashin (PA)

Ten Years of Service
- Dr. Anthony Canger (NatSci)
- Sharon Garrant (PT)

Fifteen Years of Service
- Dr. Laurie Buell (Vet Tech)
- Jenny Ntuk (Nursing)

Twenty Years of Service
- Dr. Joan Toglia (Dean, OT)
- Dr. Kathleen Golisz (Assc. Dean, OT)

In the summer of 2015 Mercy College will conduct three separate summer enrichment programs sponsored by the Title V STEM grant and the MISTI grant (Mercy College Intensive Teaching Initiative). The camps are all aimed at increasing interest in STEM careers and providing high quality instruction through research based activities.

The MISTI camp also has a goal of increasing student interest in STEM education and will be focused on the biology, history and conservation of the Hudson River. The camp, which is based in Dobbs Ferry, features guest speakers, field trips to two research stations along the Hudson River, laboratory work and research projects, discussion groups, and other activities.

The Title V STEM summer programs will focus on two themes: STEM in the city and research. These camps will be held at the Manhattan campus. In the research camp, faculty from both Mercy College and the Borough of Manhattan Community College, will engage students in research projects spanning several disciplines: biology, psychology, mathematics and information technology. Department of Natural Sciences faculty member, Renée Haskew-Layton, will lead a research project aimed at cloning and sequencing the GAPDH gene from several plant species.

Dr. Haskew-Layton’s research project will provide Mercy College students an opportunity to learn advanced molecular biology techniques while applying key aspects of the scientific method. Beginning biology students will be paired with senior students, providing a peer-mentor relationship that will allow students to synthesize key concepts in cellular and molecular biology. The students will conclude the program by giving a research presentation to Mercy College faculty, students and staff.

This research camp ran successfully in 2014 and had students who were highly enthusiastic about their research experiences. Several students went on to participate in independent research projects with Dr. Haskew-Layton during the fall 2014 semester.

*High School and Undergraduate students interested in attending should contact:
- MISTI Camp - Meghan Marrero mmarrero3@mercy.edu
- STEM - Carolina Hernandez - chernandez5@mercy.edu

In the fall of 2014, Dr. Toglia returned to Hong Kong to present a workshop on Cognitive Rehabilitation and Optimizing Function for Older Adults at the Kow-loon Hospital, in Hong Kong.

Dr. Toglia Returns to Hong Kong

In the fall of 2014, Dr. Toglia returned to Hong Kong to present a workshop on Cognitive Rehabilitation and Optimizing Function for Older Adults at the Kow-loon Hospital, in Hong Kong.

In the fall of 2014, Dr. Toglia returned to Hong Kong to present a workshop on Cognitive Rehabilitation and Optimizing Function for Older Adults at the Kow-loon Hospital, in Hong Kong.
SHNS Welcomes New Full-Time Faculty

As the SHNS continues to grow and expand, we welcomed five new full time faculty members this year.

Dr. Carole Baraldi is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Nursing. She holds a doctorate in nursing education from Teachers College, Columbia University. Dr. Baraldi has over 30 years of experience as a public health nurse and 20 years as an adult nurse practitioner. She has been a disability rights advocate for 30 years and co-developed a model to increase cancer screening for women with physical disabilities. Currently, she is a member of a United Nations NGO Health Committee promoting global cooperation on health issues.

Ms. Sandra Bertholf is a Visiting Instructor of Veterinary Technology. She graduated with her Bachelors of Science from the Mercy College Veterinary Technology program in 1997 with cum laude honors, and has been in clinical practice for the last 18 years. She has been a guest speaker for Mercy for the last two semesters and has been Mercy’s extern supervisor at Animal Medical of New City for the past five years. Sandra was one of the top 10 finalists of Practice Manager of the year 2014 by DVM360 magazine.

Dr. Juan Bruses is a Professor of Biology, he completed his graduate education at the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he obtained his PhD in neurobiology in 1993. He then moved to the US for post-doctoral training at the University of Connecticut and at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. Bruses has published numerous scientific papers in the fields of cell biology and neural development and has been invited as seminar speaker in various institutions around the country and abroad. He has also been appointed as Invited Professor at the Grenoble Institute of Neuroscience in France, and as Independent Scientists at the National Research Council of Argentina.

Dr. Renee Haskew-Layton is a Visiting Assistant Professor in Natural Sciences. She received her doctoral degree in biomedical sciences from Albany Medical College’s Center for Neuropharmacology and Neuroscience in 2005, where she was awarded the Dean’s Prize for Excellence in Research. She completed her postdoctoral training in molecular neurobiology at Weill Cornell Medical College at the White Plain’s Burke campus in 2011. Renee is also the author of several research publications, review articles, book chapters, and supplemental text materials for health and natural sciences text books.

Mrs. Nancy Vidal is a PhD. Candidate completing her work at The Graduate Center, in Speech Science, Neurolinguistics Department. Her professional interests are in speech perception in Spanish-English pediatric and elderly population using electrophysiology and behavioral measures. Nancy has over 25 years of clinical experience in Speech and Language Pathology with expertise in the areas of dysphagia in the adult and pediatric population, neurologic disorders and bilingual diagnostics and treatment of various disorders. Nancy has contributed to numerous publications in the area of Neurolinguistics in the monolingual and bilingual population.

FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FACULTY GRANTS AWARDED:

Christine Kosky & Christine Sullivan: Communication Style and Barriers: Perspectives of Faculty, Sign Language Interpreter, and Students, with Hearing Loss

Geetha Surendran & Sanju Vaidya (School of Liberal Arts): Applications of Graph Theory to Chemistry

Lisa Schenkel & Sabrina Timperman: Global Veterinary Experiences

Juan Bruses: Regulation of ± 3² Nicotinic Acetylcholine Receptor (nAChR) Expression and Localization by the Actin Cytoskeleton2

Helen Buhler & Shari Berkowitz: Global Speech Language Pathology Services: Widening the Net in Lima, Peru

Claudia Fenderson: Interdisciplinary Collaboration in an International Medical Mission

FACULTY AWARDS:

Peggy Tallier: Peggy Tallier, EdD, RN and Bernadette Amicucci, PhD, RN, were awarded the Zeta Omega Research Award for their research study titled “Effects of Perceived Prolonged Staffing Shortage on Nurses Morale.”
FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PUBLICATIONS:

PRESENTATIONS:
Baraldi, C. A Model for Access to Gynecological Screening Examinations for Women with Physical Disabilities; New Orleans, LA; November 15-19,2014
Baraldi, C. Community Based Rehabilitation: Caring for those with Disabilities ; New Orleans, LA; November 15-19,2014
Davitt, P.M. Nutritional Ketosis: Maximizing Endurance Performance Through Enhanced Fat Utilization; GNYRC-American College of Sports Medicine Annual Conference, at the Hospital For Special Surgery; Manhattan, NY, November 8, 2014
Mastrogiovanni A., Toglia J., O’Dell M. (2014, October 7-11), Relationship Between Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL) and Cognition After Mild Acute Stroke. Poster presented at the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine 91st Annual Conference, Toronto, ON
School of Health and Natural Sciences

Transforming Health Through Science

Dean
Joan Toglia, OTR, PhD, FAOTA
JToglia@mercy.edu

Associate Dean
Kathleen Golisz, OTR, OTD
KGolisz@mercy.edu

Undergraduate Programs

Biology
Bachelor's Degree
Anthony Canger PhD
Chair Natural Science
ACanger@mercy.edu

Clinical Laboratory Science
Bachelor's Degree
Anthony Canger PhD
Chair Natural Science
ACanger@mercy.edu

Communication Disorders
Bachelor's Degree
Helen Buhler, PhD, CCC-SLP
Program Director
HBuhler@mercy.edu

Exercise Science
Bachelor's Degree
Astrid Mel, PhD
Program Head
AMel@mercy.edu

Health Science
Bachelor's Degree
Stephen Fong DPT
Program Head
SFong@mercy.edu

Nursing (RN to BS)
Bachelor's Degree
Peggy C. Tallier, MPA, EdD, RN
Program Director
PTallier@mercy.edu

Nursing (BS)
Bachelor's Degree
Peggy C. Tallier, MPA, EdD, RN
Program Director
PTallier@mercy.edu

Occupational Therapy Assistant
Associate's Degree
Christine Sullivan, OTD, OTR/L
Program Director
CSullivan@mercy.edu

Veterinary Technology
Bachelor's Degree
Laurie Buell, MS, LVT
Program Director
LBuell@mercy.edu

Veterinary Technology: Pre-Vet. Medicine
Bachelor's Degree
Laurie Buell, MS, LVT
Interim Director
LBuell@mercy.edu

Graduate Programs

Communication Disorders
Master's Degree
Helen Buhler, PhD, CCC-SLP
Director
HBuhler@mercy.edu

Physical Therapy
Doctorate
Nannette Hyland, PT, PhD
Director
NHyland@mercy.edu

Nursing Administration
Master's Degree
Peggy C. Tallier, MPA, EdD, RN
Director
PTallier@mercy.edu

Nursing Education
Master's Degree
Peggy C. Tallier, MPA, EdD, RN
Director
PTallier@mercy.edu

Occupational Therapy
Master's Degree
Jeanine Stancanelli OTD, OTR
Interim Director
Jstancanelli@mercy.edu

Physician Assistant Studies
Master's Degree
Lorraine Cashin, MPS, PA-C
Director
LCashin@mercy.edu

For more information on our programs please call 914-674-7467

FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE MERCY COLLEGE SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND NATURAL SCIENCES NEWSLETTER, CONTACT STEPHANIE LOVING AT SLOVING@MERCY.EDU

FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE MERCY COLLEGE SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND NATURAL SCIENCES NEWSLETTER, CONTACT STEPHANIE LOVING AT SLOVING@MERCY.EDU

SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND NATURAL SCIENCES

1-800-MERCY-NY