The end of the academic year is a time of transitions for students and faculty. This May we celebrated with our 600+ students who graduated and joined the more than 57,000 alumni of Mercy College. This is a time of opportunity for Health and Science careers and we wish our new graduates much success! We look forward to seeing them at future Mercy alumni events and hearing about their activities and careers.

This Spring 2017 newsletter highlights just some of the activities within our School. Spring was a busy term filled with lots of excitement. In January we opened up the new Health Professions Clinical Simulation and Learning Labs. We have the latest technologies such as computerized mannequins on which students practice listening to heart and lung sounds, inserting catheters or practicing medical emergencies like cardiac arrest or even delivering babies. Our generic Nursing students as well as the Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Occupational Therapy Assistant students are all excited to learn in these real life environments that simulate their future work settings. It was great to see so many alumni and clinical educators in March at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new space. Many alumni commented on how they would have loved learning in spaces like these.

Students continued to learn outside the classroom with trips to commercial science labs, veterinary hospitals, zoos, aquariums and Broadway theaters. Interprofessional education continues to be a theme embraced by our students and faculty. This spring, over 300 students across the school came together to discuss a common book read by all. The day offered an opportunity to learn from and about each other. We also coordinated our first global interprofessional medical mission to the Dominican Republic with representatives from our physician assistant, physical therapy and communication disorders programs. Hopefully we’ll expand the programs involved in next year’s mission.

As always, thank you for your continued support of our faculty and students. We wish you a safe and fun filled summer.

Joan Toglia Ph.D., OTR, FAOTA
Dean, School of Health and Natural Sciences
Clinical Laboratory Science Visits Spectra Laboratories

During the Spring 2017 semester, faculty and students had the opportunity to visit a local site of the bi-coastal Spectra Laboratories in Rockleigh, New Jersey. Spectra Laboratories, as a division of Fresenius Medical Care, is a leading provider of laboratory testing services in the renal and clinical laboratory industries.

Assistant Professor Dr. E. Sabrinah Dorce and students: Ashmanie Khalian, Vanessa Lafortune, Shakeira Morris-Bradford and Natalie Pagan were very impressed by the laboratory operations and the state-of-the-art analytical equipment and technology employed at Spectra. Dr. Patricia Romano, Sr. Medical Officer at Spectra-East, provided in-depth technical information regarding the various areas of laboratory testing performed at the site. The information also served as a real-life review of the course material that the students are being taught at Mercy.

Spring 2017 STEM Day

The biology program co-sponsored STEM day on March 3, along with the psychology, computer sciences and mathematics programs. The event was funded by a recent Department of Education HSI-STEM grant. STEM Day featured two keynote speakers: Jennifer Mangels, PhD, Baruch College who presented Mindsets, Motivations and Rebounding from Academic Failures and Keith Micoli, PhD, NYU, Beyond the End of the Road: Career Advice from the Wilderness. Students attended professional and graduate school networking sessions. Students also participated in the following faculty lead STEM workshops:

- Davida Smyth, PhD: DNA, the code that makes you, you!
- Anthony Canger, PhD: Deciphering Brain Function
- Geetha Surendran, PhD and Madi Naraynan, PhD: Lights, Chemistry, Reaction!
- Irina Ellison, PhD: Art in the Lab and Strawberry DNA extraction

Exercise Science Program Fully Accredited!

The Exercise Science Program was awarded initial accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) upon recommendation of Committee on Accreditation for Exercise Sciences (CoAES) on March 17, 2017. We are very proud and excited to be the first College in the Westchester/New York Metropolitan area and second in New York State to receive full accreditation for our Exercise Science Program. We are also the only Exercise Science Program in New York State accredited by CAAHEP and recognized by the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) as an Education Recognition Program (ERP). These prestigious distinctions recognize the high quality of our Exercise Science Program and its faculty.

Student Spotlight - Danielle Pacura

Danielle Pacura, a senior at Mercy College studying Veterinary Technology, is currently working at North Shore Animal League of America (NSALA) in Port Washington, NY. Danielle assists with taking care of the animals on a regular basis and she also administers medication.

Throughout her experience thus far, Danielle has been exposed to many hospital areas of NSALA. One of her largest accomplishments involved saving a kitten in the emergency ward from infection. Danielle believes her experience has taught her to be constantly vigilant in order to make time sensitive decisions. Additionally, she strongly believes Mercy’s Vet Tech program directly translates to what she does on a day to day basis at NSALA. Danielle’s experience at NSALA confirmed her passion to one day pursue a full-time career as a veterinarian.
New Health Professions Clinical Simulation and Learning Labs

When it comes to training the best future health care professionals who are prepared to handle anything they might face in their profession – Mercy College now has an invaluable tool – the new Health Professions Clinical Simulation and Learning Labs. The 12,000 square-foot space consists of several specialized labs designed to simulate different disciplines' workspaces within a health care facility. The labs also include control rooms, debriefing space and several large classrooms.

The Health Professions Clinical Simulation and Learning Labs were made possible, in part, thanks to a $250,000 donation by the Friends of Nursing Fund. The fund was established by an anonymous donor to help provide state-of-the-art equipment in the clinical simulation labs that mimic a hospital environment. The labs are inter-professional and will be used by many programs in the School of Health and Natural Sciences.

The labs are divided into four different areas, each focused on a specific area of health care and treatment: Clinical Skills and Simulation Lab, Movement Lab, Health Assessment Lab and Home Health Lab.

The labs are filled with state-of-the-art technology that give students real-world experience before they even begin their clinical experiences. Several highly interactive mannequins are housed in the Clinical Skills and Simulation Lab where students are able to treat them using real hospital equipment. The high-fidelity mannequins are the next best thing to actual, human patients. The mannequins are able to respond like a human would—including being able to breathe, cry, sweat and more. Using radio-frequency identification technology, students can simulate administering medicine and treatment to the mannequins, which the mannequins would react to in real-time just like a real patient would. This allows students to gain experience, refine fundamental skills and increase patient safety.

Observation and control rooms adjoin the simulation areas so professors can coach students through simulations, provide feedback or even change the scenarios in real time so students can gain experience adjusting to new conditions. The ability to customize scenarios gives students the chance to experience and treat low-frequency medical events they may not be exposed to otherwise.

The second floor of the Health Professions Clinical Simulation and Learning Labs area is home to the Health Assessment, Movement and Home Health Labs. These labs will be used primarily by occupational therapy, occupational therapy assistant, physical therapy, exercise science and nursing students. The Home Health Lab is an instructional space where students will learn and problem solve, how to assist individuals with illnesses and medical conditions adapt to environmental barriers in the home, and navigate daily challenges that come with sudden life changes. In the accessible kitchen and bathroom space, students will learn how to teach functional mobility skills and simulate daily tasks such as cooking and home maintenance, as well as self-care Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) such as bathing and dressing.

All the labs will provide opportunities to bring together students from various health professions for interdisciplinary hands-on learning experiences in settings that reflect in-patient, clinic and home settings. The students can work as a team while practicing patient assessment, critical thinking, communication and interventions based on specific patient scenarios.
Welcome home to our School of Health and Natural Sciences faculty and students from a successful medical mission to the Dominican Republic. The team visited three sites including an orphanage in Santo Domingo, community centers in Haina, and a rural health center in the villages of the sugar field workers. Eighteen students and four faculty from the Physician Assistant, Communication Disorders and Physical Therapy Programs partnered with Inca Kola and Friends of Lead Free Children. Lenny Caro, Chief Community Relations Officer at the Bronx campus, helped develop the partnerships and arrange the mission.

The team conducted screenings and provided services to over 1500 individuals during their short stay. They primarily saw children and women who have no health services. Haina is listed as the third worst polluted place in the world due to high levels of toxic lead dust. The Mercy College health professional team screened children for some of the issues related to exposure to high levels of lead in their environment such as learning disabilities, neurological issues and behavior problems. Physical therapy students performed gross motor screenings, communication disorder students performed hearing and speech screenings and physician assistant students paired with physicians from Aetna and Affinity healthcare to perform primary care health screenings. The experience was a moving one for both the students and faculty who participated. Ray Hoffman, physical therapy doctoral student stated, “While the experience was humbling as we treated very impoverished communities, it was also exciting to recognize conditions we have learned about in our classes within the Doctorate of Physical Therapy Program. I distinguished some of the musculoskeletal impairments affecting the children and parents we came across and had the chance to practice screenings, conduct brief interviews, administer exercise treatments and provide patient education, all while practicing my Spanish.” Elise Tetelman, physician assistant studies student, stated, “Our volunteer work provided us with meaningful hands-on training and a chance to work directly with professors from our program, Mercy College’s physical and speech therapy professors and students, as well as several private doctors. Having this multidisciplinary team allowed for complete care of each patient.”

This spring, Clinical Laboratory Science students established the CLS club which aims to promote and support CLS activities at the College. In their second event for the semester, they celebrated Medical Laboratory Professionals Week (April 23-29) by holding a blood typing and urinalysis event on April 26 at the Dobbs Ferry campus. There was a fantastic turnout of faculty, staff and students, with over 50 people attending. Participants were given information about the CLS program at Mercy College and had the opportunity to learn their blood type and see what a routine urinalysis would look like. The CLS students were happy to share their knowledge of the profession and to encourage others to consider Clinical Laboratory Science as an option for them.
The Role of Collaborative Practice – Book Reading Across SHNS

The School of Health and Natural Sciences and the Interprofessional Education Committee hosted an interprofessional education panel discussion on the book My Stroke of Insight: A Brain Scientist’s Personal Journey written by Jill Bolte Taylor. The panel also discussed the role of collaborative practice in treating patients with cerebrovascular accident.

The panelists consisted of professionals from several different health care services, such as nursing, speech-language pathology and occupational therapy. Representing the research aspect of health care was neuroscientist Dr. Jeremy Seto. Additionally, the panel included two stroke survivors, Marion Orr and Massalla Samuel. The panel was moderated by Associate Professor and Program Head of Health Science Dr. Irina Ellison and Associate Professor of Nursing Dr. Kathleen Kenney-Riley.

Ms. Samuel is a Mercy College alumna who was diagnosed with an ischemic stroke and was in a coma for two months. After a hiatus to recover, she returned to Mercy College and graduated with a bachelor’s in health science in August 2016.

The panel discussed how professionals from different disciplines can work together and provide the best care for their patients. “It’s a lot of listening,” said Speech-language pathologist Kaitlin Dondorf. “There are going to be things I can use in treatment from the occupational and physical therapists, or nurses.” The panelists all echoed these sentiments and emphasized the importance of focusing on the goal of the patient’s care and making sure the lines of communication are open. The panelists also shared how treating patients goes beyond just interacting with the other health care professionals, but also making sure the patients and their families are involved.

Annual Anatomical Donor Memorial

Mercy College’s School of Health and Natural Science hosted its annual Anatomical Donor Appreciation Ceremony on April 18. The ceremony was an opportunity for students and faculty to gather, acknowledge and reflect on the gift they received from these individuals. Dean Joan Toglia quoted the Dalí Lama, “Just as ripples spread out when a single pebble is dropped into water, the actions of individuals can have far-reaching effects. The ripple effect of these anatomical donors’ generous gifts will expand beyond the learning of individual students. Each patient or client our students treat in their future practice, each colleague they mentor, and each student they teach may be a ripple from this earlier experience.” The event was planned by a group of students with guidance from faculty. Candles in bowls surrounded by donors’ initials, soft music provided by a faculty member and students and a moment of silence were accompanied by students sharing the impact the experience had on their learning and future as health care professionals.
Mercy College Physical Therapy Alumni Billy Campbell

TODAY Show weatherman Al Roker was back to work, not even two weeks after having knee replacement surgery. With a rigorous course of physical therapy, from Mercy College alumni, Billy Campbell, Al was able to get back on his feet sooner than expected. Since Roker’s first knee replacement 15 years ago, medical science and the replacement surgery has improved radically. Dr. Campbell graduated from Mercy College in 2012 with a clinical doctorate in Physical Therapy and continues to give back to the college by participating in the DPT program’s Case Study courses.

Exercise Science Club Sponsors Race

The Exercise Science Club held their third Annual Conquer the Croton 5k/10k Trail Race, and had a wonderful turnout! The weather was perfect and a total of 82 runners participated in the race. The event began and concluded in front of Hudson Hall, and took place almost entirely on the Old Croton Aqueduct trail that runs through the Dobbs Ferry campus. The event was organized by the Exercise Science Club undergraduate students, with Brenda Roviezzo (President) and Jillian Anderson (Vice President) leading the day. ClubFit and Pourhouse in Ardsley were two very generous local sponsors. The Mercy College Athletics club also helped as volunteers for the race. The Club donated part of the proceeds to the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Chemistry Club - The Atoms Family

The School of Health and Natural Science has a brand new and exciting student chemistry club which started in spring 2017. Being a chemistry club, we cannot escape the ATOMS, because they are everywhere. So the group decided to name their club “The Atoms Family”. The club is open to all majors with an interest to explore the amazing aspects of chemistry, biology and science in general. In the Fall of 2017, the club is planning to create a science interest revolution at Mercy College with the support of Mercy College students and faculty through fun activities which are open to all of the Mercy community. Stay tuned and prepare to be amazed!

President
Dailyn Despradel

Vice president
Karol Toral

Secretary
Cecilia Mckenna

Treasurer
Sonu Santhosh

Media Advisor
Ian Ramdat
ALPHA ETA INDUCTION CEREMONY

Congratulations to the 50 students who were inducted into the Alpha Eta Honor Society this spring. The top 20% of students from the Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Communication Disorders, Exercise Sciences, Health Sciences, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Veterinary Technology Programs are eligible for induction. Undergraduate inductees must have a 3.5 GPA or higher and graduate inductees must have a 3.8 GPA or higher. All inductees must show capacity for leadership and achievement within their profession. Occupational Therapy Professor, Dr. Laurie Olson, was also inducted into the Society.

Regeneron Visit

On May 5, students from Natural Sciences had a behind the scenes tour of the Regeneron Genetics Center in Tarrytown. The tour focused on the genomics research and development that is being done at the center and students were able to see and experience first hand what a truly world class genomics facility looks like. Having the newly installed Ion S5 in the department, students were familiar with next generation sequencing as they had been working with sequencing bacterial DNA. Regeneron however, had several Illumina HiSeqs worth hundreds of thousands of dollars and two brand-new million dollar sequencers. Students were mind blown when they learned that these new sequencers can process 9-10 billion pieces of DNA in 21 days. Students also got to see how scientists at Regeneron can process their samples with a minimum of human involvement (think Robots!). The best advice offered to the students was that they needed to be computer literate to survive the new workplace. Training in bioinformatics is essential for any biology graduate. Our thanks to Dr Jeffrey Reid and all at the Regeneron Genetics Center.

Occupational Therapy Profession Celebrates 100 Years

The Mercy College Occupational Therapy and Occupational Therapy Assistant Programs made a strong showing at the annual American Occupational Therapy Association conference held in Philadelphia in April 2017. Nineteen faculty, students and alumni made 14 presentations ranging from posters to three-hour long workshops. A large group of students from the programs traveled to attend their first national professional conference, thanks to a Senate micro-grant. The programs also held an alumni reception and reconnected with over 70 alumni.

This conference marked the 100 anniversary of the occupational therapy profession. Over 14,000 Occupational Therapy professionals attended this historic conference.
Future Veterinary Professionals Club

The Future Veterinary Professionals Club had an exciting lineup of events for the 2016-2017 school year. The students and faculty visited Red Bank Veterinary Hospital in New Jersey for a behind the scenes tour of this state of the art veterinary specialty hospital. Students who attended enjoyed the experience and many said they would gladly go back for another more extended visit in the Fall. The club organized two speakers; Dr. Shachar Malta, a board certified exotic veterinarian who came to Mercy to present a case and talk about his work in Africa, and Victoria L. Kearns, LVT, CCRP, NCM, OACM who spoke about physical rehabilitation and her journey to work as a rehabilitator in a specialty hospital on Long Island.

The club took students to an organic dairy farm where they participated in the milking process and learned about large animal care. In addition, the club visited Six Flags Safari and had a personal tour by the Head Technician Mark Harris, LVT who is a Mercy College graduate. The students attended a volunteer day at the Greenburgh nature center and participated in a variety of other activities including volunteering at an equine therapeutic riding school and participating in a work shop at Rhinebeck Equine hospital. Finally, the students assisted in two events held at the College, the Fourth Annual Digital Storytelling awards on April 28 and the Global Veterinary Experience Information Seminar held on April 20. This has been a very exciting year, and the club certainly has many ideas for upcoming events for the 2017-2018 school year.

The Future Veterinary Professional Clubs visit to Mystic Aquarium, located in Mystic, Connecticut was more than just your typical aquarium experience. The Club members visited the aquarium twice this year, once in the winter and then again in the spring. During the trip, students participated in a hands-on workshop, which included performing a necropsy on a Sea lion and participating in a genetics workshop. Student learned about a sea lions unique anatomy and were able to assist in the necropsy process, seeing first-hand what most only read about in books. Students also performed a gel electrophoresis lab, another unique educational experience. The students had nothing but praise for the visit and accompanying activities and they are eagerly planning for their next visit.

Civic Engagement & Next Generation Science Standards at Rider University

On March 25, teachers from districts across New Jersey joined with SENCER community leaders, including Prof. Davida Smyth from Natural Sciences, to explore Civic Engagement and the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). SENCER’s focus on civic issues was used to inspire investigations into natural phenomena that could serve as a basis for classroom modules. Rider University, and Kathy Browne, Co-Director of the SENCER MidAtlantic regional Center for Innovation (SCI), hosted the meeting and organized and facilitated discussions. Following the welcomes, teachers, seated by grade level, began to grapple with natural synergies of SENCER and NGSS. Fusing observable natural phenomena and civic issues generated particularly exciting discussions, from how headphones in the classroom could be turned into a lesson on sound, technology and social injustice, to how volcanic eruptions and earthquakes could be studied from geology to ecology. Both teachers and community leaders were stimulated to think outside the curricular box, with great energy and excitement.
Communication Disorders Hits the Theatre!

On April 5, 2017, 18 students from Professor Eileen Hoffman’s undergraduate Multicultural Issues in Communication Disorders class attended the hottest revival on Broadway, Miss Saigon. The class started their adventure with lunch in Daniela’s Restaurant, paid for by the Faculty Senate and Micro-Grant, then walked to the Broadway Theater for the show. Natalie Cruz was grateful to the grant committee for providing lunch and stated, “I enjoyed the opportunity to spend the afternoon together over delicious food. The show Miss Saigon was unbelievably entertaining and amazing. While watching the show I was able to make cultural comparisons which we learned in our multicultural class.” Brianna DeLuise said, “Watching Miss Saigon on Broadway was an amazing experience for our class and it was great that we were able to relate it to our Multi-Cultural class at Mercy. Being with Professor Hoffman and my class mates for this experience is something that I will treasure forever as a senior at Mercy College.”

Just a few days later, graduate students from Professor Hoffman’s Special Topics in Communication Disorders class attended the matinee performance of Dear Evan Hanson. Allie Cardella found it to be a wonderful bonding experience for the class while Brinn Castagna explained, “This show is a must see for anyone, but especially for those who want insight into an adolescent’s complicated world.” Eliza Shaker indicated that “The story opened my eyes to the complexities of family dynamics, mental illness and the search for personal belonging. As a future speech language pathologist, it was moving to see how the ‘messy reality’ of our personal struggles, ultimately unite us.”

Fairytale Physical Therapy Debut at Blythedale Children's Hospital

On January 30, Fairytale Physical Therapy presented Disney’s “The Frozen Show” to Blythedale Children’s Hospital in Valhalla, NY. Approximately 45 children, danced, sang, and helped the cast bring the magic of Arundel to life! The children even welcomed the cast with a poster of Frozen drawings.

Monica LoConti, Columbia University's Fairytale’s Principal Director for the Class of 2017, attended a conference at Blythedale Hospital in late November. There, she met several physiatrists who were interested in learning what Fairytale Physical Therapy could do to brighten their patients’ days. They helped her to coordinate the performance with the principal of Mt. Pleasant School within the hospital, where all of the students are patients.

Monica reached out to Mercy College’s Physical Therapy Program to put together Fairytale Physical Therapy’s first two-school cast! From Columbia University Medical Center’s Physical Therapy Program, Monica LoConti (’17) played Elsa while Lance LoConti played Kristoff. From Mercy College’s Physical Therapy Program (all Class of 2018), Katie Wolff played Anna, with Kathleen Delaney as Olaf, Cate Quinlain as the Narrator/Dancing Snowflake, Chris Kish as Hans, and Main Kim as Sven. Fairytale Physical Therapy is so grateful to have made new friends from Mercy College in a new kingdom at Blythedale! They look forward to bringing more shows to new places and collaborating with other PT Programs in the area.

SHNS Associate Dean Named Fellow of AOTA

Associate Dean and Occupational Therapy Professor Dr. Kathleen Golisz was recognized by the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) for her significant contributions to driving and brain injury rehabilitation. Dr. Golisz was awarded the honor and distinction of the AOTA Roster of Fellows. The Roster of Fellows recognizes those who through their leadership, knowledge and expertise have made a significant contribution over time, with measured impact, to the occupational therapy profession.
**FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**PUBLICATIONS:**


**PRESENTATIONS:**

Occupational Therapy and Occupational Therapy Assistant faculty made several presentations at the April 2017 American Occupational Therapy Conference held in Philadelphia, PA

**Workshop:**


**Short Courses:**

Dougherty, D., & Tomlin, G. *Clinician and client: Two underemphasized components of evidence-based practice*

Olson, L., & Messina, K. *Kindergarten fine motor centers as a multitiered system of support: reflections on their evolution over 10 years*

Toglia, J., & Steinberg, C. *The Multicontext Approach: Expanding the range and variety of treatment activities used in metacognitive strategy intervention*

Goverover, Y., Baum, C., Toglia, J., & Wolf, T. *Assessing functional cognition: Its importance in occupational therapy research and practice*

Poole, S., & Zizik, D. *Evidence-based occupational therapy intervention for patients with distal radius fractures*

**Papers:**

Dumitrescu, D., Lucke, G., & Burkhart, A. *The value of future oral history research in occupational therapy*

Lucker, G., Dumitrescu, D., & Burkhart, A. *A Systematic Approach To Updating and Recording State-Level History of the Profession*

**Posters:**


Lopez, E. B., & Olson, L. (April, 2017) The role of therapeutic listening in social participation for preschoolers with special needs

Sullivan, C., & Dumitrescu, D. *Best practices in interprofessional and intraprofessional fieldwork models*

Marandi, A., Bassignani, M., Mastrogiavanni, A., Batistick-Aufox, H., O’Dell, M., & Toglia, J. *The relationship between executive function and functional mobility in subacute stroke patients*


FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PRESENTATIONS (continued):


CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES

Mary Anne Aylward
Promotion to Assistant Professor

Shari Berkowitz
Promotion to Associate Professor

Honorary Masters of Pedagogy
Ruth Hansen & Nancy Beverly

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES
# 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, FAOTA  
KGolisz@mercy.edu

## Undergraduate Programs

### Department of Natural Science
Biology, Clinical Lab Science, Exercise Science, and Health Science  
Davida Smyth, PhD-Department Chair  
DSmyth1@mercy.edu

### Biology
Bachelor’s Degree  
Renee Haskew Layton, PhD  
RHaskewlayton@mercy.edu

### Clinical Laboratory Science
Bachelor’s Degree  
Michelle Naylor, MS, MT (ASCP)  
ACanger@mercy.edu

### Communication Disorders
Bachelor’s Degree  
Helen Buhler, PhD, CCC-SLP  
HBuhler@mercy.edu

### Exercise Science
Bachelor’s Degree  
Astrid Mel, PhD, HFS, CISSN, CSCS  
AMel@mercy.edu

### Health Science
Bachelor’s Degree  
Irina Ellison, PhD  
IEllison@mercy.edu

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

### Nursing (BS)
Bachelor’s Degree  
Peggy C. Tallier, MPA, EdD, RN  
PTallier@mercy.edu

### Occupational Therapy Assistant
Associate’s Degree  
Cristina Dumitrescu, MS, OTR/L  
Cdumitrescu@mercy.edu

### Veterinary Technology
Bachelor’s Degree  
Lisa Schenkel, DVM, CCRT, CVMA  
LSchenkel@mercy.edu

### Veterinary Technology: Pre-Vet. Medicine
Bachelor’s Degree  
Lisa Schenkel, DVM, CCRT, CVMA  
LSchenkel@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  
Deborah Dougherty, OTR, OTD, MS, OTR  
Director  
DDougherty1@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**

---

**SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND NATURAL SCIENCES**

FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE MERCY COLLEGE SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND NATURAL SCIENCES NEWSLETTER, CONTACT KATE KEESLER - KKEESLER@MERCY.EDU

1200 Waters Place  
Bronx, NY 10461

2651 Strang Blvd.  
Yorktown Height, NY 10598

1-800-MERCY-GO