



Tuesday,
October 27, 2009
5:30 pm
John P. Hanley
Student Center,
West Windsor
Campus

Recognition Ceremony for Continuing Students

Fall 2009

Recognition Ceremony for Continuing Students

Fall 2009

Program

Master of Ceremony

Dr. Donald Generals,
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Welcome

Dr. Patricia Donohue,
President

Introduction of Award Recipients

Dean Judith Ehresman,
Arts & Communications

Acting Dean Winston Maddox,
Business & Technology

Dean Robin Schore,
Liberal Arts

Dean Linda Martin,
Science & Health Professions

Vice President *Dr. Donald Generals*

Musical selections provided by
Peter Fretwell, *General Manager, WWFM, the Classical Network.*

*Refreshments provided by the
Mercer County Community College Campus Eatery.*





Academic Awards

Arts and Communication Division

Dean Judith Ehresman

Advertising

Gerald Klein Memorial Scholarship is awarded in memory of Gerald Klein, former faculty member, to a continuing student in the Advertising/Computer Graphics program.

Simone Bryant

After graduating from Mercer, Simone intends to continue her education at either The College of New Jersey or Rutgers University. She plans to study Graphic Design with an eye toward a career in advertising.

Architecture

Architecture Scholarships are endowed scholarships awarded annually to ascending architecture students based on talent and academic achievement.

Edgar E. Alfonso

After graduation from Mercer Edgar plans to attend the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Robert Basta

Robert hopes to attend the New Jersey Institute of Technology to earn his bachelor's and master's degrees in Architecture. After gaining experience in the industry he plans on starting his own firm.

Bryan M. A. Caringal

After graduation Bryan plans to complete his studies at a four-year institution and become a licensed architect.

Kristie Cepparo

Kristie plans to transfer to a four-year college after graduating from Mercer. In her spare time she enjoys working with art mediums and photography.

Casandra Lucero

Casandra is a New Jersey Stars student and a member of the Architecture Club. After graduating from Mercer she plans to transfer to Drexel University, the New Jersey Institute of Technology, or the University of Philadelphia.

Michael A. Signorile

Michael will be transferring to the New Jersey Institute of Technology. While at Mercer he served as the Secretary of the Architecture Club.

Roy Church Memorial Scholarship is given in memory of Roy Church, awarded to a student enrolling or enrolled in the Architecture program.

David G. Ritter

David plans to transfer to a four-year institution and to eventually secure a job designing eco-friendly homes.

Jamil E. Faridy Scholarship is awarded to a second-year full-time architecture student with financial needs.

Casandra Lucero

Casandra is a New Jersey Stars student and a member of the Architecture Club. After graduating from Mercer she is planning to transfer to Drexel University, the New Jersey Institute of Technology, or the University of Philadelphia.

Construction/Civil Engineering

Gus Anselmi Construction Industry Advancement Program Scholarships are named after Gus Anselmi, a Trustee of CIAP and are generally made to construction technology students with an interest in a construction career, entering the second year of a two-year associate degree program.

Garrett M. Fondoules

Garrett will graduate with a degree in Civil Engineering Technology. He is currently employed with a Civil Engineering firm.

Julian C. Ramirez

Julian has been on the Dean's List and is planning to transfer to a four-year college. He likes to delve into computers in his spare time.

Paul J. Santoro

Paul is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honors Society. After graduating from Mercer he plans to complete his bachelor's and master's degrees to become a licensed Professional Engineer.

Professional Engineers' Society of Mercer County Scholarship is awarded to an outstanding student in the Engineering program.

Christopher R. Collins

Christopher entered the Electrical Engineering Technology program using the G. I. Bill after serving seven years of active duty in the U.S. Air Force. He is an active member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society where he serves as treasurer.

Digital Media Arts

John P. Boorsch Memorial Scholarship is given in memory of John P. Boorsch to a continuing student in a computer-related field.

Kyle Anthony

Kyle is working towards an Associate degree in Digital Media Arts with a concentration in web design. He is a New Jersey Stars student and was recently hired by the motion graphics company, EP Vision. When he graduates he plans to transfer and pursue his studies as a conceptual and graphic artist.

Journalism

David West Memorial Scholarship is given to a continuing student from the Journalism program.

DeChele Covington

DeChele is a Liberal Arts major who has become known for her investigative reporting and her ability to tackle tough stories on tight deadlines.

Music

Instrumental Awards are given to outstanding students in the Music program.

Shelby Lynn Delfino

Shelby, who already has an A.A. in Education, is now pursuing a degree in music. She has been a member of the college jazz band, both clarinetist and vocalist, and is a featured member of the college chorus. She plans to transfer to a four-year institution to earn a degree in Music Education.

John Carl Gervasoni

John is a versatile and propulsive drummer in the college jazz band. He is a Business major, who plans to pursue a career in a music-related business and continue performing.

Joseph A. Lewis

Joe is a saxophonist in the college jazz band, a classical clarinetist in the chamber ensemble, and tenor in the college chorus. He plans to continue his studies after graduation from Mercer to pursue a career in musical performance and education.





Benjamin J. Russert

Ben is a powerful and inventive bass player in the college jazz band. He plans to complete his degree at Mercer, continue his music at the baccalaureate level, and pursue a career in performance.

Troy A. Veglatte

Troy is another dynamo behind the drum kit and a member of the college jazz band. He toured the country this past summer with his own band. After completing his studies at Mercer, he plans to continue performing with the goal of becoming a successful recording artist.

Photography

Louis Draper Memorial Scholarship is awarded in memory of Louis H. Draper, Photography Program Coordinator, to an outstanding full-time student enrolled in the Photography program.

Chris Harker

Chris is currently shooting for the College Voice to explore journalistic photography. He plans to pursue an M.F.A. degree and establish a career as a commercial photographer.

Nicholas W. Sakowski

Nick plans to continue his education in photography either at the School of Visual Arts or the Art Institute of Philadelphia.

Theater

James Tolin Memorial Scholarship is given in memory of James Tolin to a continuing student enrolled in the Theatre program.

Thomas D. Searl, IV

Tommy is a role model for other students. He goes above and beyond the normal work load by creating exciting performance projects for his peers.

Visual Arts

James J. Colavita Memorial Scholarship was endowed in memory of the former coordinator of Ceramics and Sculpture. It recognizes the achievements of outstanding fine arts students who will be ascending to sophomore status.

Thomas Battle

Patricia Bumbera

Patti is a returning student majoring in Visual Arts. She plans to continue her education at The College of New Jersey or Moore College of Art.

CYBIS Art Award provides a scholarship to an outstanding continuing art student with a 3.0 GPA.

Elizabeth Conner

Elizabeth plans to transfer either to The College of New Jersey or Kean University to study Graphic Design. She will pursue a career in Advertising or Graphic Design.

Visual Arts Scholarship is an endowed fund established by the faculty to recognize outstanding student achievement of an ascending freshman in any of the six Visual Arts programs.

Raquel Medina

Raquel plans to continue her study of animation upon graduation. She would like to work in the animation field and eventually create an animated television program.

Brittany A. Pezzillo

Brittany plans to transfer to the School of Visual Arts in Manhattan. She would like to major in cartooning, write and draw graphic novels, create concept art for movies and video games, and illustrate anything from RPG (role playing games) rulebooks to board game boxes.

Erin Scherer

Erin plans to continue her art studies at a four-year university. She hopes to expand her knowledge and ability in the art field.

Sean Slover

Sean is working towards an Associate degree in Digital Media Arts with a concentration in 3D Animation. He holds a Certificate of Proficiency in Architectural Technology and Computer-Aided Design from Mercer. After graduating, he plans to look for a job that combines his interests in both digital media arts and architecture.





Business and Technology Division

Acting Dean Winston Maddox

Accounting

Ed Blissit Memorial Scholarship is awarded in memory of Ed Blissit to students in the Accounting program who demonstrate financial need.

Zachary Burkhalter

Zachary is a Nottingham High School graduate who was ranked 11th in his class. When not studying or in class, Zachary helps his former high school by working the lights and sounds at various events. He also works at several local establishments.

NI Society of Certified Public Accountants Scholarship is given to a continuing student pursuing a major in Accounting with a 3.0 GPA.

Marilyn Rodriguez

After completing an Associate degree in Accounting, Marilyn plans to transfer to Fairleigh Dickinson University or Thomas Edison State College to attain a bachelor's degree in Accounting.

Aviation

Timothy Burns Memorial Scholarship is given to a continuing student enrolled in the Aviation Flight Technology program.

Judith Galayda

Judith has completed her Commercial Instrument Rating and her Flight Instructor Certificate. She is an honors student who recently obtained her Multi-engine Commercial Instrument add-on certificate.

Lance F. Hansen Memorial Scholarship is given in memory of Lance Hansen to a continuing student enrolled in the Aviation Flight Technology program.

Rajief O. Jobson

Rajief is from Jamaica. He is completing his flight requirements towards his Commercial Instrument Rating in the Aviation Flight Technology Degree program.

The Sky's the Limit Scholarship is given to several deserving Aviation students from funds raised through a golf outing held by Friends of Trenton-Mercer Airport.

Christopher Ali

Christopher is a fourth semester Aviation Flight Technology student. He is an excellent student with an overall GPA of 3.78/4.00. He plans to transfer to Purdue University upon graduation to obtain a baccalaureate degree in Aviation.

Austin K. James

Austin has returned to school to complete his Aviation degree. He has already earned a baccalaureate degree from Pakistan.

Rajief O. Jobson

Rajief is from Jamaica. He is completing his flight requirements towards his Commercial Instrument Rating in the Aviation Flight Technology Degree program.

Christopher B. Moyers

Christopher is fulfilling his hope of becoming a professional pilot. A former flight team member and National Intercollegiate Flying Association participant, he will be completing his degree in May.

Luis Robles

Luis came to the United States from the Dominican Republic at age 17. He is pursuing his dream of becoming a professional pilot.

Ricky J. Vetick, Jr.

Ricky is completing his degree in Aviation Flight Technology. He will be transferring to Thomas Edison State College. Ricky will soon be receiving his Flight Instructor certificate on his way to becoming a professional pilot.

Harry D. Trought Memorial Scholarship is given in memory of Harry D. Trought, a former MCCC employee, to an outstanding aviation student.

Keith M. Stover

Keith is a continuing Aviation Flight Technology student. A recent recipient of recognition by Aero Club of Pennsylvania, he is also a member of both the MCCC Flight Club and Flight Team.

Business

National Westminster Bank Scholarship is given to a continuing student in the Business program.

Rajani Kurukundi

Rajani has a bachelor's degree in Computer Science from the State University of New York. After completion of her degree in Business Administration from MCCC, she would like to pursue her M.B.A. degree.

PNC Bank Scholarships are awarded to full-time students in the Business program with a 3.0 GPA or higher who demonstrate financial need.

Nana Chachua

Nana has a bachelor's degree in Mathematics and plans to transfer to Rider University to pursue an Accounting degree. Nana also volunteered at Anchor House in Trenton for at-risk youth.

Ryan V. Grasso

Ryan plans to earn his bachelor's degree in Business from Rutgers University.

Pingping Zeng

Pingping plans to earn a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Rutgers University.

Business Administration

Fred Anker Memorial Award is given in memory of this Business Division faculty member and dean to an outstanding continuing student in Business Administration.

Man K. Chan

Man plans to attend a four-year institution after completing his studies at Mercer.

Robert Harris Memorial Scholarship is given in memory of this former Business Division dean and faculty member to an outstanding student in Business Administration.

Umid Isamukhamedov

Umid will pursue a bachelor's degree in Finance or Economics from Rutgers University after completing his associate degree in Business Administration from Mercer.

Fire Science

John M. "Jack" Mainzer III Memorial Scholarship is given in his memory to a continuing student in the Fire Science Technology program in need of financial assistance.

Mark C. Ross

Mark is a continuing student in our Fire Science Program. He graduated from the Fire Science Career Prep Program as the class Valedictorian. He is an active firefighter with the Fire District No. 4 in Hamilton, having previously served as a Junior Firefighter.





Funeral Service

Robert Blanchard Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a student dedicated to learning and entering the final year of the Funeral Service program.

Sarah J. Mundy

Sarah is employed by Nulty Funeral Home in Philadelphia and she represents the sixth generation of her family to enter the funeral service profession. She is a graduate of Quinnipiac University in Connecticut with a B.S. degree in Health and Science Studies. Sarah looks forward to the challenge of following in her father's footsteps as an honors graduate of the MCCC Funeral Service Program.

Columbia Bibbo-Petrolle Scholarship is given in memory of Columbia Bibbo-Petrolle to a continuing student enrolled in The Funeral Service program.

Jessica Buccafusco

Jessica is currently enrolled full-time in the Funeral Service program and is employed by Spotswood Funeral Home. She has already earned a bachelor's degree in Health and Exercise Science from Rowan University as well as a master's degree in Education from Wilmington University.

Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management

Chef Jacket Partnership Scholarships are given through donations made by several generous supporters to students enrolled specifically in the Hospitality program.

Blue Bottle Café

Dennis M. Muka

Dennis is a former Vice-President of the Hospitality Club and is employed as part of the kitchen staff at a local restaurant. He continues his academic culinary pursuits while learning hands-on skills through his employment.

Flavor Dynamics, Inc.

Paul V. Valetutti

Paul is in Mercer's Culinology program. Being one of only about ten Culinology Programs in the country, partnered with Rutgers University, Paul chose MCCC to satisfy his desire to obtain a degree in Food Science.

The Hamilton Manor

Julie Ann Mammino

Julie is currently employed by a local restaurant. She is pursuing her associate degree in Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management.

Mercer Oaks Catering

Christine A. Cirkus

Chris works as an assistant for some of the non-credit culinary classes. She will soon complete her Certificate of Proficiency in Professional Baking.

RC Fine Foods

Anthony M. Lopez

Anthony, a former President of the Hospitality Club, has been involved with our Hospitality Club in many catering events both at the college and in the community. His hard work and dedication has helped make these events successful.

Sysco Foods

Frank Caponi

Frank was the Executive Chef of the Food Preparation II class restaurant in the spring semester of 2009. He is employed at a local restaurant gaining hands-on experience while pursuing his culinary studies.

Wegmans Food Markets, Inc.

Margaret DeGennaro

Margaret has worked as an assistant in many non-credit classes. She is pursuing her A.A.S. degree in Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management.

Laurenti Charitable Trust Scholarship is given to a continuing student enrolled in the Hospitality program.

Minerva M. DeCarlo

Minerva is the Hospitality Club Treasurer. She has already earned a Certificate of Proficiency in Professional Baking and is well on her way to obtaining an Associate Degree in Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management.

Merrill Lynch Scholarship is awarded to a continuing student in the Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management program.

Bonnye J. Randolph

Bonnye is currently pursuing her associate degree in the Chef Apprenticeship program and now works as an assistant in some of the non-credit courses that she had previously taken on her own.

Information Technology

Robert Negron Memorial Scholarship is given in memory of Robert Negron to a first-year student studying in the Information and Technology field on the basis of financial need.

Marcus Covington

Marcus is working towards a degree in Information Technology while maintaining a full-time job with the State of New Jersey.

Karen Procaccini Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a continuing female student with a GPA of 3.0 or better on the basis of financial need.

Deborah Rhett

Deborah is a full-time student working towards a degree as an Administrative Professional. She is confident that her newly acquired skills as well as 25 years of past experience in the field will lead to a challenging position in the workforce.





Liberal Arts Division

Dean Robin Schore

English

Anthony J. Mennuti Memorial Scholarship is awarded in memory of Anthony J. Mennuti, MCCC Assistant Dean for Institutional Advancement, to continuing Liberal Arts students studying English.

Sara M. Gatling

Sara is a full-time student in the Honors program. She plans to transfer to The College of New Jersey to pursue her degree in Secondary Education and English and to ultimately teach high school English.

Diane M. Jedski

Diane is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honors Society for two-year colleges. She plans to transfer to The College of New Jersey to pursue her bachelor's degree.

ESL

Vickie Seltzer ESL Scholarship is given in memory of Vickie Seltzer, an ESL adjunct instructor at MCCC to students enrolled in ESL classes on the West Windsor Campus.

Santiago Jose Ramirez

Santiago was born in Argentina and came to the United States several years ago. He came to Mercer to get an education and get a chance at a better life.

Dung Le

Dung is a native of Vietnam. He came to the United States to get an education in hopes of achieving his dream of becoming a doctor.

Mathematics

Avner H. Ferester Mathematics Scholarship is given in memory of Avner Ferester to an outstanding continuing math student with the highest GPA.

James Hodges III

James is a full-time student majoring in Chemistry and hopes to transfer to Rutgers University's Chemistry program to complete his bachelor's degree. He is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the International Honors Society for two-year colleges.

Psychology

Ronald J. Kopcho Memorial Scholarship is given in memory of the former Dean of the Liberal Arts Division and professor of psychology to a continuing student in the Humanities and Social Science program with an interest in psychology.

Shawn Scott

Shawn is committed to making a career in the field of psychology. Becoming a professor of psychology and fostering the creativity of students is his ultimate goal.

Social Services

Dr. Robert E. Small Memorial Scholarship is awarded in memory of Dr. Robert E. Small to a social services continuing student.

Theodore L. Condo, Jr.

Science and Health Professions Division

Dean Linda Martin

Biology

Biology Laboratory Scholarship is given in memory of Jodi Fessler, an MCCC biology laboratory instructor to an outstanding biology laboratory student.

Utsav J. Patel

Utsav received an A in both of the general biology classes at Mercer. Utsav moved from India to the United States a year ago. He plans to earn his A.S. degree in Biology from Mercer and continue his education in the neurobiology field.

Nursing

Area PRO VII Physicians Scholarships are awarded to students from Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, and Somerset Counties demonstrating superior academics in nursing, on the basis of financial need.

JoAnn Abdelwahabe

JoAnn is a single mother raising three children. In addition to her nursing studies, she enjoys singing. She is a previous recipient of the Charlotte Newcombe Scholarship.

Amber Cilio

Amber was originally a Business major but decided to switch majors to pursue a career in the nursing field. She views nursing as an area of limitless opportunities for self-fulfillment and public service. She is currently a second semester nursing student here at Mercer.

Nicole Giddens

Nicole was originally interested in a business career but is now pursuing her dream of becoming a nurse.

Gafaru Hall

Gafaru came to the U.S. from Africa in 2005. He secured employment at Woods Services in Langhorne, Pennsylvania, first as a Residential Counselor and presently as an MTS (Medication Trained Staff). This training has heightened his desire to pursue a career in nursing.

Jessica Hernandez

Jessica, who is in the Army Reserve National Guard, has attended Mercer since 2007. She is pursuing her dream of becoming an RN.

Jacqueline Rojas

Jacqueline has been a Nursing major at Mercer since 1994. She has worked as an LPN in nursing homes since 1997.

Dawn Stillwell

Dawn, who originally was interested in a career in agriculture, has worked in the medical field as a phlebotomist for many years. This summer she was selected to participate in the nurse extern program at Robert Wood Johnson. This experience helped to reaffirm her decision to pursue a career in nursing.

Catalano Family Fund Scholarship is awarded to an enrolled Nursing student who also works in some capacity at either Capital Health or Helene Fuld.

Cori L. Levesque

Cori currently holds a full-time position in the evening as a nursing assistant at Princeton Hospital and has a part-time cashier's job in order to finance her nursing studies. Her ultimate goal is to become a Nurse Practitioner in the field of Pediatric Oncology.





Charlotte W. Newcombe Scholarships are awarded to continuing students in the Nursing/Health profession.

Maxfe Dayanghirang

Maxfe is currently enrolled as a full-time student in the Medical Laboratory Technology Program. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Santo Tomas in the Philippines. While pursuing his studies at Mercer, he is employed as a full-time Pharmacy Technician at Ocean Medical Center.

Nahid M. Hamlabady

Nahid is a full-time radiography student enrolled in the second year of the program. She currently works part-time as a nursing assistant at The University Medical Center at Princeton. Nahid plans to earn her A.A.S. degree in Radiography and to pursue additional education in ultrasound.

Nadia Marinaccio-Herrera

Nadia has worked at various positions in the health field over the years and is currently employed by Robert Wood Johnson Hospital as a Unit Secretary. Upon completion of her RN license, she will assume the position of Parish Nurse at her church. She hopes that ultimately she could use her nursing skills in an organization like Doctors Without Borders.

Cheryl A. Kinter

Cheryl currently holds a full-time position in the evening at Robert Wood Johnson in the pharmacy department and attends classes during the day. She feels that her present job, coupled with her earlier work experiences at a major corporation, have played an important role in her decision to pursue a nursing career.

Nursing Scholarship is awarded to an outstanding student in the Nursing program.

Dolores Hawrylo

Dolores worked for 23 years in the financial industry, and while she enjoyed her career, she longed to fulfill her lifelong dream of becoming a nurse. She is currently in the Nursing program and will be graduating in December. She will be returning in the fall of 2010 to pursue her RN to BSN.

The Josephine Peiser Charitable Foundation Scholarships are awarded to continuing full-time nursing students with a GPA of at least 3.0.

JoAnn Abdelwahabe

JoAnn is a single mother raising three children. In addition to her nursing studies, she enjoys singing. She is a previous recipient of the Charlotte Newcombe Scholarship.

Nadia Gabsi

Nadia is a single mother who has been working with children for the past 22 years. She is hoping to achieve her goal of becoming an RN as a pediatric nurse.

Nicole Giddens

Nicole changed course from business to nursing after becoming interested in the medical field.

Anthony & Sophie Prassas Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a continuing nursing or culinary student on the basis of academic performance.

Holly S. Mellis

Holly is a graduate of Pratt Institute with a B.A. in Graphic Design and a Paralegal Certification from Adelphi University. After emergency surgery at a local hospital, the compassion and skill of a member of the nursing staff so influenced her, she decided to make a career change to nursing.

Ornamental Horticulture

Clarence and Lena DiDonato Memorial Award is made in their memory for deserving students in the Ornamental Horticulture program.

Jeremy Miller

Jeremy plans on going to work at a nursery or garden center. After getting more experience, he would like to attend Rutgers University for turf grass management. Jeremy has a passion for landscaping and has been working in the industry since he was 13 and never wants to stop.

Mary Monroe Doerler Scholarship is given to a student studying in any field of Ornamental Horticulture and Plant Science.

Jonathan Barrera

Jonathan came to New Jersey from Guatemala and is from a family of eight. He has two daughters and a son. He loves his work and also enjoys his classes. He always tries to do his best on the job and in school.

Dogwood Garden Club of Princeton Awards are scholarships awarded to outstanding students in the Ornamental Horticulture program.

Sean Cox

Sean has been working in garden centers for the past five years. He is currently the Pond Manager at Flagg's Garden Center in Moorestown, New Jersey. Working in garden centers has made him want to further his education. He hopes to eventually own a garden center.

Elizabeth E. Houton

Elizabeth first obtained a college paralegal degree and worked nearly ten years in the legal industry. After living on the west coast for several years, she developed a deeper appreciation for outdoor plants. She switched career gears to pursue her interest in plant science and happily looks forward to working in this field.

Christopher S. Marshall

Chris is hoping to receive a Horticulture degree. Currently he is working at Kale's Nursery planting trees and learning about trees, shrubs, perennials, and annuals. After Mercer he plans to transfer to Rutgers University and continue his degree in turf management. He has grown up around golfing and would like to build and manage golf courses.

Kristen Morgan

Kristen went to Burlington County Institute of Technology and majored in Ornamental Horticulture/Floral Design. After graduating from high school she went to work at Petal Pushers Inc. in Hamilton.

Megan S. Reed

Megan's goal is to finish her associate degree at MCCC and transfer to Rutgers to get her bachelor's degree in Plant Science. She would love to have her own greenhouse one day.

Marquand Park Foundation Scholarships are awarded to outstanding students entering their second year in the Ornamental Horticulture program.

Jenny Buffington

Horticulture is the centerpiece of Jenny's childhood memories. She served as a 4-H Horticulture Leader and had a small cut-flower business from her home. She is now completing her education in the Ornamental Horticulture program at Mercer.

Robin Foose-Swinney

Robin has been inspired by all the opportunities Mercer has to offer. She is confident that the knowledge she has received will prepare her for a career in horticulture.

Matthew Hemmes

Matthew started working in the horticulture field in 1999 at Princeton Theological Seminary. He worked there for five years and started with Brickman Landscaping in 2004. He is looking forward to graduating from Mercer and continuing his education in the field of horticulture.





Renine Jackson

Renine loves gardening and flowers and being with people and helping others. She is hoping to use all of her scholastic knowledge to pursue a career in horticulture.

Scott Kopitskie

Scott is currently employed as an account manager for Brickman Landscaping in Hamilton, NJ. He is pursuing an Ornamental Horticulture degree at Mercer to further his professional career. Scott hopes to attend Rutgers to attain a degree in Landscape Architecture.

Valeri B. O' Bryan

Valeri received an AA in Communications 12 years ago and worked for a number of years in the advertising profession and has decided on a career change. She has returned to Mercer to pursue a degree in Ornamental Horticulture.

Science Education

Bonazzi Foundation Scholarship assists a matriculating MCCC student who has both an interest in teaching and a financial need.

Jacquelin P. Colon

Jacquelin is majoring in Biology while taking classes in micro biology, entomology at MCCC. She plans to continue her education sciences.

Science & Health Professions

Dr. Paul Janssen Memorial Scholarship is given in memory of Paul Janssen, founder of Janssen Pharmaceutica, Inc., to a continuing student in the area of Science and Health Professions.

Emilia Alvarez-Negron

Emilia has had a lifelong desire to help people less fortunate than herself. In 2005, after a career in the corporate world, she enrolled in the Nursing program where she is juggling her studies and raising her family while her husband is serving a tour of duty overseas.

Letisha L. Hogans

Letisha began her studies at Mercer in 2005. She has been in the medical fields industry for the past 20 years, starting as a secretary and working her way up to a Claims Examiner. She has always wanted to go into the nursing field and is hoping to achieve that goal upon graduation.

Roma Bank Scholarships are awarded to Mercer students who are full-time students in the Healthcare program.

Jay Castillo

Jay's inspiration to study nursing came from his mother who was a nurse in the Philippines before the family immigrated to the U.S. He started working at Robert Wood Johnson as a Unit Secretary/Patient Care Technician. He is currently enrolled in the Nursing program here at Mercer and is confident that it is the career for him.

Jessica Serrano

Jessica came to this country from Ecuador at the age of 12. Nursing has always been a dream of hers. She looks forward to graduation and working in this rewarding field.

Mrs. Edith Zussman Scholarship is given to a deserving student with a 3.0 GPA or better, who is entering his/her second year in one of the Health Profession degree programs.

Christopher Randolph

Christopher is a nursing major with a GPA of 3.2. He tutors students in biology and chemistry at the college. His peers have praised him for his teaching skills and dedication.

Academic Affairs

Vice President Dr. Donald Generals

Special Academic Awards and Scholarships

Scholarships in Honor of Recognized College Employees

MCCC Professor Emeritus Association Scholarships are awarded to outstanding continuing students.

Alicia Edwards

While working at a local hospital, Alicia decided to enroll in Mercer's Radiography program. She has completed the pre-requisites and is now a full-time student.

Timothy J. Klockner

Timothy is a Nursing student who has already earned two Associate in Science degrees; Chemistry and Biology. He is a full-time Mercer employee in the Security Department. After graduation Timothy plans to work in the nursing profession and eventually become an Anesthesiologist.

Letrice Thomas

Letrice is a Business Administration major who has been working one full-time job and sometimes adds a part-time job to pay her college expenses. She has already been accepted at Rider University.

Staff Recognition Scholarships are awarded to continuing students by faculty or staff members who have received outstanding performance awards in teaching, community service and human relations during Mercer's annual Staff Recognition Ceremony.

Distinguished Teacher

Shelly Robinson

Shelly has an insatiable thirst for knowledge as well as an appreciation of the value of education. As a returning student, she plans on acquiring her associate degree and then continuing her studies at a four-year institution. She will focus on social services and hopes to attain a bachelor's degree in Psychology.

Community Service

Timothy J. Klockner

Tim is a Nursing student who has already earned two Associate in Science degrees, Chemistry and Biology. He is a full-time Mercer employee in the Security Department. After graduation, Tim plans to work in the nursing profession and eventually become an Anesthesiologist. He is very dedicated to community service. He helps to raise funds every year for the American Heart Association and works toward making Mercer more environmentally friendly.

Human Relations

Dawn N. Stillwell

Dawn, who originally was interested in a career in agriculture, has worked in the medical field as a phlebotomist for many years. This summer she was selected to participate in the nurse extern program at Robert Wood Johnson. This experience helped to reaffirm her decision to pursue a career in nursing.





Urban League Guild Scholarship is awarded to full-time academically accomplished students attending MCCC at our James Kerney campus.

Jacqueline Negron

Jacqueline's goal is to one day open a facility to help AIDS patients and their family members.

Barbara A. Simmons

Barbara is aspiring to become a social worker. She hopes to help end abuse of elderly or disabled people in nursing homes and hospitals. She will be graduating in May 2010 and transferring to the Rutgers School of Social Work.

Boys and Girls Club Scholarship is a full scholarship awarded to a full-time incoming freshman student at MCCC, selected from the program participants at the Boys and Girls Club.

Osvaldo Santiago, Jr.

Links Scholarship Criteria Award is made to a female student of African-American descent attending MCCC, who has graduated from Trenton Central High School with a 2.5 or better GPA. The candidate selection is made by the Links organization from among students who have submitted an essay.

Shanique Stoddard

Shanique graduated from Trenton Central High School where she served as a mentor for incoming high school freshman to help create a smooth transition from middle school to high school. This mentoring experience spurred Shanique's interest in education and the profound impact it can create. She is now majoring in education courses here at MCCC.



