



Tuesday,  
September 28, 2010  
5:30 pm  
John P. Hanley  
Student Center,  
West Windsor  
Campus

# Recognition Ceremony for Continuing Students

Fall 2010



# Recognition Ceremony for Continuing Students

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## Program

<b>Master of Ceremony</b>	Dr. Donald Generals, <i>Vice President for Academic Affairs</i>
<b>Welcome</b>	Dr. Patricia Donohue, <i>President</i>
<b>Introduction of Award Recipients</b>	Dean Judith Ehresman, <i>Arts &amp; Communication</i>
	Acting Dean Winston Maddox, <i>Business &amp; Technology</i>
	Dean Robin Schore, <i>Liberal Arts</i>
	Dean Linda Martin, <i>Science &amp; Health Professions</i>
	Vice President 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 this former faculty member to a continuing student in Advertising or Digital Media Arts.***

**Steven M. Benci**

Steven plans to transfer to the College of New Jersey after receiving his associate degree at Mercer.

**Jessica Nami**

Jessica plans to transfer to a four-year college after graduating from Mercer. She hopes to work as a layout and logo designer.

### Architecture

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

**Andrew Burke**

Andrew approaches architecture design with an exceptional graphic sensibility that moves the eye to explore the images of his designs. He hopes to transfer to the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

**Andrew J. Ferro**

Andrew views architecture design with great passion and desire to create an experience for the user. He plans to apply to the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

**Wade W. Hunt**

Wade takes his critical skepticism as a starting point for design, challenging his habitual conservative pragmatism to explore the nature of architecture. He hopes to transfer to the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

**Jessica Kozlowski**

Jessica looks at architecture from a strong conceptual point of reference. She hopes to transfer to the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

**Joseph E. Langan**

Joseph uses his love of drawing and sculpting of form as a starting point in creating architecture. He hopes to transfer to the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

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

**Andrew Burke**

Andrew approaches architecture design with an exceptional graphic sensibility that moves the eye to explore the images of his designs. He hopes to transfer to the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

**Jessica Kozlowski**

Jessica looks at architecture from a strong conceptual point of reference. She hopes to transfer to the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

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

**Wisdom Agyei**

Wisdom creates delicate models of space and form that reflect her respectful and patient search for architecture. She plans to transfer to the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

## 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.**

### **Dylan L. Mallory**

Dylan became interested in building things as a youngster and was further encouraged by visiting different construction sites with his father through the "Take Your Child To Work" program. Upon graduation from Mercer, he plans to transfer to a four-year college for a degree in either Civil Engineering Technology or Construction Management Technology.

**Charles Russell Memorial Scholarship is given in memory of MCCC alumnus Charles Russell, to an outstanding student in Civil Engineering Technology or Electronics Engineering Technology.**

### **Youssef Heikal**

Youssef, originally from Egypt comes from a family of engineers. He is fluent in English and Arabic and is planning to obtain a degree in Civil Engineering.

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

### **Jason Ghaffoor**

Jason plans to continue his studies in Civil Engineering at Rutgers University after graduating from Mercer. He hopes to work for an engineering firm where he will be able to structurally analyze and design bridges and overpasses.

## 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.**

### **Andrea Urbankova**

Andrea has enjoyed many forms of visual arts for much of her life. Her goal is to earn her Associate in Applied Science degree at Mercer and continue her education at a four-year college.

## Music

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

### **Daniel T. Auletta**

Dan has played a prominent leadership role in both our chamber ensemble and jazz band. As a bassist, he exhibits equal mastery of both the classical and jazz idioms. He plans to pursue a career in music education.

### **Kyle R. Bryson**

Kyle has been one of the most hardworking and dedicated members of our college jazz band. Over the past two years he has easily been the most improved guitarist in our ensemble and was a featured solo performer at last winter's jazz band concert.

### **Sean M. Christiansen**

Sean is an excellent student and a propulsive drummer whose talents were on display during his college jazz band debut last winter. Sean plans to pursue his music studies at least through the baccalaureate level with an eventual career in music education.





### **Charles Koegler**

Charles is both an excellent guitarist and student who brings an unparalleled enthusiasm and spirit to our jazz band rehearsals. He plans to pursue a career in the field of music.

### **Benjamin J. Russert**

Ben's prodigious prowess on the bass has played a pivotal role in propelling the college jazz band to new heights of excellence over the past two years. He plans to pursue a career in music education and performance.

## **Photography**

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

### **Alexander P. Bowe**

Alex would like to transfer to Rutgers University to pursue artistic studies and photography as well as an environmental science program. He hopes to develop a career which uses both artistic and scientific logic in a "green" sort of manner.

### **Kate L. Roberts**

Kate plans to continue her studies in photography at a four-year college while starting her own portrait business and hopefully finding some time to travel and photograph which is what she would like to do professionally.

### **Sara Ziegelbaum**

Sara plans to continue her visual arts education at a four-year institution after graduating from Mercer.

## **Theater**

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

### **Fredy A. Barrientos**

Fredy is an Entertainment Technology major who has worked on several productions, both in the Kelsey Theatre and the Studio Theater at Mercer. In the future, he plans to create his own sound and light entertainment business.

## **Visual Arts**

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

### **Patricia DeCristofaro**

Patricia initially came to Mercer to just get an associate degree but she has had such a good experience that she is now considering obtaining her bachelor's degree. She would like to teach art either at the elementary or high school level.

### **Yannick Hughes**

Yannick is hoping to go into the field of industrial design and study at the University of Cincinnati.

### **Mei-Li Wu**

Mei-Li is hoping to transfer to a four-year college to get her Bachelor's of Fine Arts degree. She feels that obtaining a degree in Advertising and Graphic Design will open doors to new opportunities in the corporate world.

**Walter D. Curtis Memorial Scholarship is given to an outstanding student in the Fine Arts program in memory of Walter Curtis, a talented artist and former MCCC student.**

**Jaclyn Solarski**

After graduating from Mercer, Jaclyn plans to work with her cousin in his personal design business to gain experience. She hopes to one day move to New York to work in the advertising design field.

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

**Eric Veltre**

Eric plans to transfer to a four-year college after graduating from Mercer. He would like to major in Game Design and Animation with hopes of one day owning his own design and animation company.

**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.**

**Susan Phelan**

Susan has been working on her Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science at Thomas Edison State College concurrent with attending Mercer's Fine Arts program. She plans on continuing on for a Master's Degree in Fine Arts.

**Courtney M. Sherwin**

Courtney plans to attend either the Moore School of Art & Design or the Tyler School of Art in Philadelphia. She hopes to work in the field of design in the Philadelphia area.





## 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.

#### **Mei C. Chan**

Mei came to the U.S. three years ago from Hong Kong. She plans to complete her education to become an accountant.

#### **Jeffrey Diaz**

Jeffrey is a Business Administration major who is planning to attend Rutgers University to study economics.

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

#### **Tracye Coleman**

Tracye hopes to complete her degree in Accounting next year and immediately start working on her bachelor's degree. Her career goal is to become a forensic accountant.

#### **Lucy A. Mikolai**

Lucy hopes to earn her A.A.S. degree in Accounting.

#### **Jing Su**

Jing is a mother of two children who had a previous career in accounting in China. She is now pursuing an Accounting degree here at Mercer in hopes of resuming her career in the U.S.

### Aviation

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

#### **Ricky J. Vetick, Jr.**

Ricky is currently a flight instructor who is in the process of attaining his multi-engine rating. He plans to complete his bachelor's degree at Thomas Edison State College and then continue as a professional pilot.

#### **Keith M. Stover**

Keith is a competitive award winner from the Aero Club of Pennsylvania. To earn his tuition and flight fees he is working at Ronson Aviation in line service. After obtaining his commercial instrument certificate he plans to become a flight instructor.

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

#### **Ricky J. Vetick, Jr.**

Ricky is currently a flight instructor who is in the process of attaining his multi-engine rating. He plans to complete his bachelor's degree at Thomas Edison State College and then continue as a professional pilot.

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

#### **Frederick J. Alvarez**

Fred has participated in our flight fairs, club days, and flight team. He has earned his private pilot certificate and is now working towards his commercial and instrument rating while working part-time as a ramp agent at Liberty International Airport.

#### **Nicholas P. Biondo**

Nick is a third semester student in our Flight Technology program and a Cadet Commander in the NJ Civil Air Patrol as well as an Eagle Scout. He is currently completing his private pilot certificate and has aspirations of a career in the U.S. Coast Guard.

**Dengfeng Zou**

Dengfeng obtained his private pilot certificate and is completing his instrument training toward a commercial license. His goal is to become a professional pilot.

**Bryan A. Paci**

Bryan is a third semester student who has completed his private pilot certificate and is making progress towards his commercial instrument rating.

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

**Ricky J. Vetick, Jr.**

Ricky is currently a flight instructor who is in the process of attaining his multi-engine rating. He plans to complete his bachelor's degree at Thomas Edison State College and then continue as a professional pilot.

**Business**

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

**Iryna Stefinko**

Iryna is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society and has been on both the Dean's and President's lists since 2009. She plans to pursue her Bachelor's degree in Economics or Finance.

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

**Bernard Awuah George**

Bernard has been on the Dean's list since Fall 2009. He plans to transfer to a four-year college to earn a Bachelor's degree in Actuarial Science.

**Cheryl A. Jeffrey**

Cheryl started at Mercer in January 2009. She plans to earn her Bachelor's degree in Management.

**Loc Thien Tran**

Loc has been on both the Dean's and President's List since Fall 2009 and is the Vice-President of Mercer's Phi Theta Kappa honor society. He plans to attend Drexel University to pursue a dual degree in Management Information Systems and Finance.

**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.***

**Cheryl A. Jeffrey**

Cheryl started at Mercer in January 2009. She plans to earn her Bachelor's Degree in Management.

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

**Mei C. Chan**

Mei is on both the Dean's and President's Lists. She plans to earn her Bachelor's degree in Accounting.

**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.***

**Wayne M. Hannon**

Wayne, a graduate of the Fire Science Career Prep Program, is returning to Mercer to complete his fire science courses. He has obtained his Emergency Medical Technician and Firefighter 1 certificates from the State of New Jersey, and serves his community as a member of the Lawrence Road Fire Company. He aspires to a career in fire services.





## Funeral Service

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

### **Arthur J. Pecht**

Arthur is a music teacher from Edison. While putting his family through college, he is returning to the other side of the classroom as a student in the Funeral Service Program. He is also working with his brother at Bordentown Home for Funerals.

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

### **Krystalann M. Cherico**

Krystalann is from Fair Lawn in Bergen County. She completed Mercer's Funeral Service Preparatory A.A.S. degree program in the spring and is now tackling the Funeral Service A.A.S. degree program in order to complete the requirements for licensure as a Funeral Director. She is employed part-time at Saul Funeral Homes.

**Funeral Service Scholarship is awarded to a full-time student in the Funeral Service program who demonstrates academic excellence in the field of study.**

### **Kathy M. Ismail**

Kathy gets her daughter off to school in Cliffwood and then proceeds to Mercer to become a student herself. She works part-time for Brown Funeral Home in Plainfield.

**Joseph Gritz Memorial Scholarship is awarded in memory of Joseph Gritz who entered funeral service as a second career. He always appreciated the encouragement and support that he received as a student at MCCC. He also encountered some classmates who struggled to meet their financial obligations so he created a scholarship to be used to help promising funeral service students fund their academic pursuits.**

### **Corry L. Fennell**

Corry makes the trek from Millville in Cumberland County to participate in the Funeral Service program. After working for Carl Miller Funeral Home in Camden, he decided it was time to complete his education in order to get his license as a Funeral Director.

### **Sidney M. Hagans**

Sidney has worked for Jackson Funeral Residence in Jersey City for several years. An accomplished musician, he is taking advantage of Mercer's part-time evening program in Funeral Service in order to complete his academic preparation prior to licensure as a Funeral Director.

## 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.**

### **Barilla Pasta**

#### **David A. Aust**

David is a full-time CPA who decided to take some culinary courses at Mercer and has proven himself very knowledgeable in the kitchen. He led the Hospitality Club's culinary efforts for more than 200 guests who attended the Iron Chef Cat Cora event.

### **Blue Bottle Café**

#### **Cindy M. Lukenda**

Cindy is currently pursuing her academic studies through our Professional Bakery Certificate Program. She maintains a perfect 4.0 GPA while working hard towards her goal of starting her own bake shop.

### **Flavor Dynamics, Inc.**

#### **Robert T. Stauning**

Robert is working towards his A.A.S. in Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management. One of the many skills that he has excelled at is ice cream making. In fact, he was serving ice cream that he made, courtesy of the new Cooking Channel, at this year's Food Network Food & Wine Show in Atlantic City.

### **Grover's Mill Coffee**

#### **Christine A. Cirkus**

Chris works as an assistant for some of our non-credit culinary classes in addition to attending her culinary and hospitality classes. She will soon complete her Certificate of Proficiency in Professional Baking.

### **KatManDu**

#### **Daniel Santiago**

Daniel is a kitchen staff employee at KatManDu where he is learning the restaurant business first hand while taking classes at Mercer. Because of his dedication and hard work, he has been awarded the KatManDu Sponsor Partnership Scholarship.

### **Mercer Oaks Catering**

#### **Jenny M. Keris**

Jenny demonstrates her culinary skills in a positive and professional manner and always represents our program well. She is an excellent student who is actively pursuing her A.A.S. in Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management.

### **PIM Brands**

#### **Minerva M. DeCarlo**

Minerva has maintained a 4.0 GPA in her culinary and hospitality courses while remaining an active member of the Hospitality Club. She has served twice as an officer. She already earned her Certificate of Proficiency in Professional Baking and will soon graduate with her Associate degree in Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management.

### **RC Fine Foods**

#### **Mark J. Zalvino**

Mark is a dedicated student who has proven his commitment to his studies. He is currently pursuing his A.A.S. in Culinary Arts and hopefully will soon showcase his skills in one of our partner restaurants.

### **Sysco Foods**

#### **Thomas Bernhard**

Tom is an excellent student who has excelled in his culinary courses. He is working towards his A.A.S. in Culinary Arts and hopes to gain employment in a local restaurant.

### **Terra Momo Group**

#### **James Jeungho Han**

James is a kitchen staff member at Eno Terra, a fine dining restaurant in the area. He is being awarded this scholarship because of his culinary ability in the kitchen.

### **Wegmans Food Markets, Inc.**

#### **Christopher M. Santiago**

Chris, a current prepared foods kitchen employee at the Princeton Wegmans, is receiving this scholarship to continue his studies in Culinary Arts.





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

**Robert Solomidta**

Robert is currently pursuing his A.A.S. in Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management. His friendly personality will be an asset as he completes his studies and enters the management arena.

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

**Tiffany Millen**

Tiffany is currently pursuing her A.A.S. degree in Culinary Arts. In addition to attending classes full-time, she also works at one of our sponsor partners, the Blue Bottle Cafe, while still maintaining a GPA of 3.8.

# Liberal Arts Division

Dean Robin Schore

## English

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

### **Christopher J. Obudho**

Chris is an Air Force veteran who served in the first Gulf War. He plans to transfer to William Paterson University upon graduation as a Liberal Arts major with a focus on English.

## English as a Second Language

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

### **Huiyong Lee**

Huiyong, originally from Malaysia, is currently pursuing a degree in Mathematics at Mercer. She earned excellent grades in her preliminary ESL courses leading to her major and hopes to continue on to obtain her Master's degree in Mathematics. Her goal is a career in teaching mathematics at the elementary school level.

### **Salima Chernane**

Salima, originally from Morocco, is in her fourth semester here at Mercer. She has made exemplary progress as she exits the ESL program and embarks on her career passion: nursing. Salima would eventually like to become a registered nurse after she obtains her degree.

## Mathematics

***Avner H. Ferester Mathematics Scholarship is given in memory of this former professor of mathematics and physics to an outstanding continuing mathematics student with the highest GPA.***

### **Cheryl L. Hicks**

Cheryl is a Computer Science major with a 4.0 GPA. She is a member of the NJ Stars club and the Phi Theta Kappa honor society. She plans to transfer to the College of New Jersey after graduating from Mercer in May.

## Psychology

***Ronald J. Kopcho Memorial Scholarship is given in memory of this 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.***

### **Kristina A. DePinto**

Kristina is energized by the study of psychology and in particular the teachings of Freud. She is an excellent student who hopes to pursue a career in the field of psychology.

## Social Services

***Dr. Robert E. Small Memorial Scholarship is awarded in memory of this former faculty member to a continuing student in the Social Service program.***

### **Valerie M. Spaulding**

Valerie is the mother of six children. She returned to school in 2008 and is working towards a degree in the social service field.

***Karen Procaccini Memorial Scholarship is given in memory of this former Mercer staff member to a continuing female student with a GPA of 3.0 or better on the basis of financial need.***

### **Ayodele P. Kanyako**

Ayodele, originally from Sierra Leone, spent her teenage years living through a brutal civil war. This experience has given her a deep sense of empathy for people who are going through difficult times and need help. After completing her associate degree, she plans to obtain a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Social Work.





## Science and Health Professions Division

Dean Linda Martin

### Biology

***Biology-Dowd Fessler Laboratory Scholarship is given in memory of William R. Dowd, Sr. , an MCCC alumnus and member of the biology faculty and Jodi Fessler, a biology laboratory instructor, to an outstanding biology laboratory student.***

#### **Patrick D. Puliti**

Patrick is a Biology major at Mercer and plans to transfer in the Fall of 2011 to The College of New Jersey. His goal is to become a physician specializing in infectious diseases.

### Nursing

***Mary Scarano Scholarship is given to a third-semester nursing student with unmet financial need and excellent clinical skills.***

#### **Timothy J. Klockner**

Tim is a former U.S. Air Force military police officer and the security supervisor at Mercer. He has completed an A.S. degree in Biology and one in Chemistry. He plans to pursue a degree in the field of Nursing.

***Nursing Scholarship is awarded to outstanding students in the Nursing program.***

#### **Casey N. Carty**

Casey has always had a strong desire to help people so she eventually decided to pursue a career in nursing. She feels that Mercer provides a comprehensive program that will help her to attain her goal.

### Ornamental Horticulture

***Clarence and Lena DiDonato Memorial Award is given in their memory to deserving students in the Ornamental Horticulture program.***

#### **Ian J. Riley**

Ian's career in horticulture began at the age of 14, when he registered with the Hamilton Township "Serving our Seniors" program to start mowing lawns for senior citizens in his neighborhood. Over the years, this grew into a lawn and landscape maintenance business. After Mercer, Ian would like to pursue a bachelor's degree in either landscape design or landscape architecture.

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

#### **Jonathan Barrera**

Jonathan currently works in the horticulture industry, and is a father of three small children. He loves his work and studying more about horticulture in his classes here at Mercer.

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

#### **Jerald D. Albrecht**

Jerald, currently the principal officer and shareholder of a Princeton paralegal firm, returned to school in the fall of 2009 and enrolled in the Ornamental Horticulture Program. He hopes to complete half of his degree requirements at Mercer before transferring to the Landscape Architecture program at Rutgers University. Jerald's primary interest going forward is a second career in landscape design.

### **Jennifer Buffington**

Horticulture is the centerpiece of Jenny's childhood memories. Her father was a seed salesman, and the two of them had planned to open a greenhouse business together. These plans were put on hold but now, 30 plus years later, Jenny is finishing her Associate Degree in Horticulture here at Mercer.

### **Patricia A. Cary**

Pat graduated from Mercer over thirty-five years ago. After a career in human services she has returned to Mercer to study ornamental horticulture in preparation for a second career in greenhouse or nursery work.

### **Scott P. Kopitskie**

Scott currently is an account manager for the Brickman Group. He is pursuing his degree in Ornamental Horticulture at Mercer to further his professional career and to serve his clients better.

### **Dawn M. Myers**

Dawn is currently employed at a nursery where she is working to improve and expand their perennial program. After obtaining her degree from Mercer, she hopes to work for an arboretum, botanical or public garden designing and planning seasonal displays.

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

### **Cynthia J. Begue**

Cynthia plans to receive an Associate's degree in Horticulture from Mercer, and then would like to pursue a bachelor's degree. Her career goal is to own and operate a CSA (community supported agriculture) farm.

### **Sean P. Cox**

Sean has been working in garden centers for the past six years. In the future, he hopes to own his own garden center and would like to do some traveling to discover plants in their natural environment.

### **Louis M. Kiesling, III**

Lou initially attended Mercer in 1980, and returned in the summer of 2008 as a horticulture student after retiring from the military. His goal is to breed carnivorous plants at the Phillip Alampi Beneficial Insect Laboratory.

### **Sean Clayton**

Sean is currently employed by the N.J. State Forest Service in Jackson and is working towards his degree in horticulture.

## **Science Education**

**Bonazzi Foundation Scholarship assists a full-time student who has both an interest in teaching and a financial need.**

### **William P. Ersing**

William is a Plant Science major whose career goal is to combine both a science and education degree so that he can teach science. William had worked in the computer/electronics field before deciding to come to Mercer to obtain a college degree.





## Science & Health Professions

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

### **Vi Ngoc Hoang**

Vi's decision to pursue a career in nursing was deeply influenced by her childhood experiences while helping to care for both her handicapped grandmothers. As a full-time nursing student, she is on her way to fulfilling her dream of becoming a highly qualified nurse who will provide primary care to patients while establishing mutual trust and acting as a healer of both body and mind.

### **Justin Framolaro**

Justin earned his A.S. degree in Biology from Mercer in 2006 and has returned to pursue a degree in Nursing.

**Charlotte W. Newcombe Foundation Scholarships are awarded to continuing students in the Nursing or Health Professions degree programs.**

### **Lori A. Hammer**

Lori already has an A.S. in Biology and her academic interests were always in the Health Professions. She decided to return to school and is now in her second year of the Radiography program.

### **Debra S. LeMay**

Debra, a former financial advisor, has decided to pursue a career in the Nursing and Health Care field. She is currently enrolled in the Physical Therapist Assistant Program. Debra is also a competitive athlete who is a two-time National Champion in Ultimate Frisbee.

**Roma Bank Scholarships are awarded to full-time students in the Health Professions degree programs.**

### **Nadia Gabsi**

Nadia is the granddaughter of a nurse and the great-granddaughter of a physician. When she was 12 years old, she had the opportunity to travel to North Africa and see the conditions of a free hospital. Since that time, she has looked forward to becoming a nurse.

### **Christopher Randolph**

Christopher is in the final year of the Nursing program at Mercer. He has termed his time in the program as the best experience in his life and he is looking forward to a career in nursing.

**Walter and Louis Sutcliff Foundation Scholarship is awarded to a student in the Nursing or Health Professions degree programs.**

### **Mayra F. Guayanay**

Mayra came to the U.S. from Ecuador ten years ago. She is currently enrolled in the professional phase of the Medical Laboratory Technology Program. Mayra combines her academic pursuits with family responsibilities for two young daughters. She also works part-time as a Health Care Assistant at Planned Parenthood in Trenton.

**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 Professions degree programs.**

### **Jalisha E. Crews**

Jalisha is majoring in chemistry and hopes to become a dentist specializing in orthodontics. She plans to transfer to either Rutgers University, The College of New Jersey or Drew University after she graduates from Mercer in May.

## Academic Affairs

### Vice President Donald Generals

#### Special Academic Awards and Scholarships

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

##### **Stacey L. Downing**

Stacey is majoring in Radiography. She is a single mother of three and worked for ten years at Capital Health System as a Health Access Representative. She is looking forward to graduation and beginning her career in Radiography in a hospital setting.

##### **Justin R. Parag**

Justin is a Business Administration major who is very active in programs at his church as well as in community service both on and off campus. He is planning to transfer to a four-year college after graduating from Mercer. His goal is to be an International Financial Advisor.

##### **Deborah Rhett**

Deborah is majoring in the Office Systems Technology program and plans to get her Associate 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.

##### **Nicole S. Ucci**

Nicole is majoring in Education. She has been working with children for the past three years in an after school program run by the YMCA. After earning her associate degree from Mercer, she plans to enroll at Rider University to earn a Baccalaureate degree in Secondary Education and Mathematics. She wants to be a high school teacher.

##### **Shing Wai Yam**

Shing Wai is majoring in Civil Engineering. After graduating from Mercer, he plans to transfer to Rutgers University to earn a Baccalaureate Degree in Engineering. Shing Wai plans to use his talents and personal resources to help poor people by designing and installing rain water catchment systems and waste water treatment/disposal systems.

##### **Zoya V. Zhukova-Higazi**

Zoya is majoring in the Hotel, Restaurant, and Institution Management Program. He has been working in his chosen field as a food service worker at Mercer's Conference Center as well as at the student cafeteria. He is also a Front Desk Associate at the Marriott Hotel. Zoya's goal is to be employed by a hotel and work his way up the career ladder to become a Hotel Manager.

***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**

##### **Denise Kendall**

Denise is an excellent student in psychology, history, and the French language. Her impressive background includes experience as a professional ballet dancer and an accounts manager with a financial firm. Denise, a loyal Mercer returning student, is majoring in Liberal Arts and Social Science. She plans to transfer to Rutgers University and then work in the behavioral sciences and women's programs.

#### **Community Service**

##### **Margaret DeGennaro**

Margaret has taken both non-credit and credit classes in our Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management and Culinary Programs. She has been extremely helpful as an assistant for several non-credit classes and for our Summer Kids in the Kitchen Program. She is a dedicated student who is pursuing her A.A.S. Degree in Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional Management.





## **Human Relations**

### **Cheryl L. Hicks**

Cheryl is a Computer Science major with a 4.0 GPA. She is a member of the NJ Stars club and the Phi Theta Kappa honor society. She plans to transfer to the College of New Jersey after graduating from Mercer in May.

***Robert Sydney Needham Memorial Scholarship is awarded to an academically outstanding student who is committed to community service and/or campus leadership.***

### **Jaclyn Solarski**

After graduating from Mercer, Jaclyn plans to work with her cousin in his personal design business to gain experience. She hopes to one day move to New York to work in the advertising design field.

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

### **Jennie L. Havens**

### **Roselee Rivera**

***Italian Heritage Scholarship is awarded to a student interested in Italian culture and heritage.***

### **Casandra Lucero**

Casandra, a former recipient of an architecture award, hopes to study Italian architecture and to further explore her own designs. She plans to transfer to Drexel University to continue her studies.

***Latina Women's Council Scholarships are awarded by the Latina Women's Council of Mercer County to students who are attending MCCC. The Latina Women's Council is this year's partner in the MCCC Foundation's Community Partnership Scholarship Program.***

### **Jocelyn V. Castellano**

### **David C. Clavijo**

### **Rebekah M. Dietrich**

### **Christie Gonzalez Cintron**

### **Gabrielle C. Irizarry**

### **Andrea B. Pesantez**



