

Annual Gala Raises Scholarship Support

In June, Mercy celebrated four individuals for their dedication to education, athletics and community at the College's 40th Annual Virtual Trustees' Scholarship Gala. The event was hosted virtually to enable more guests to attend safely while preserving social distancing guidelines.



Mercy honored **Kimberly Davis**, the National Hockey League's Senior Executive Vice President, Social Impact, Growth Initiatives &

Legislative Affairs, with the Community Leadership Award. **Joan Toglia, Ph.D.**, former dean of Mercy's School of Health and Natural Sciences, received the College's Lifetime Achievement Award. The CNR Legacy award, inaugurated in 2020, was given to **Eileen Niedzwiecki CNR SAS '72**,



Joan Toglia, Ph.D., President Tim Hall, Daniel Montez '21 and Eileen Niedzwiecki CNR SAS '72

Photo by John Raiola

who served as Mercy's Director of Development, CNR Alumni Relations. **Daniel Montez '21** received the Award for Student Achievement.

The virtual event raised over \$275,000 for student scholarships and over 1,500 people watched the event. Once safe to do so, the College hosted a small cocktail reception outside on the Dobbs Ferry Campus on September 25 to recognize the honorees and to thank our supporters.

New Endowed Scholarship Honors Carole Bergen

Longtime Mercy College Assistant Professor of Mathematics

In July, Mercy College received a generous donation from Robert Bergen '03 and his wife, Erika, to fund an endowed scholarship in memory of his mother, Carole Bergen — longtime assistant professor of mathematics at Mercy College. The scholarship will support female undergraduate students studying mathematics.

"This scholarship honors my mother's love of mathematics and her dedication of teaching three decades of Mercy College students," said Bergen. "She was a pioneer in her field, and this will continue her legacy of empowering women to transform their lives through higher education and achieving a college degree. One of her passions was to encourage women to study mathematics or computer science, two male dominated fields. In her search for better ways to reach



Carole Bergen

Photo provided

students, she started math labs, adapted some key courses for an online learning environment and always worked at updating courses to improve them. Friends and colleagues described her

as dedicated, enthusiastic and compassionate, noting that she never cared about taking credit for her accomplishments, but always put the needs of her students and the College above her own. Her energy and spirit were an inspiration to everyone she encountered."

Carole Bergen — who passed away on March 26, 2020 — taught math at all grade levels for over 40 years and spent the last 30 of those years at Mercy. As Carole herself explained in her self-penned obituary, "She loved teaching and never doubted her chosen profession as she saw math teaching evolve from blackboard and pencil and paper to computerized distance learning instruction."

To contribute to the Bergen Family Endowed Fund please contact Katy Coppinger, Executive Director of Development at kcoppinger@mercy.edu or give a secure gift online at www.mercy.edu/carole_bergen.