

Donation Boosts Students' Routes to Success

with New Career Hubs and Dedicated PACT Mentor

A generous donation by **Gioietta and Alberto Vitale, H.D. '09** will create two new career hubs at the MercyManhattan and Bronx Campuses and establish a dedicated PACT mentor for the Mercy Scholars Program. These visible hubs will provide students the opportunity to increase their career readiness through career education programming, virtual and mock interviews, coaching appointments, collaborative projects, as well as employer networking opportunities.

The Career Hub at the Dobbs Ferry Campus will be renamed the **Vitale Career Hub**.

The PACT mentor will help connect the cohort of Scholars across campuses and build cohesiveness and shared aspirations for success through programming and events. By focusing on Mercy Scholars, the PACT mentor will help connect Scholars with appropriate resources to ensure their continued academic, personal and professional success. Rob Cornetta, associate director of PACT, Mercy Scholars, said, "I am truly excited to have the opportunity to serve as the PACT Mentor for the Mercy Scholars Program. Thanks to the generosity of Gioietta and Alberto Vitale, Mercy Scholars will



benefit from new programming and experiences specifically created to support their success. I look forward to working with this group of students and building camaraderie and lasting traditions."

PACT mentors are assigned to all graduate and undergraduate students at Mercy College to help guide students through their journey at the College. These mentors help students choose their majors, navigate degree requirements, register for

- classes, track their academic progress, understand
- financial aid packages, develop leadership skills,
- explore career options and ultimately reach their
- full potential.

The Mercy Scholars Program began in 2016



Photo by Leslie Kahan Photography



Photo by John Raiola

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VITALE CAREER HUB



Photo by Leslie Kahan Photography

to recognize deserving students with four years of undergraduate tuition, books and fees. These students have demonstrated financial need and a record of academic achievement, leadership and service. Mercy Scholars outperform the rest of the College, with 89% of Scholars on track to graduate in four years and an average GPA of 3.4.

“Mercy College is grateful to Gioietta and Alberto Vitale for their continued support of the College’s mission and students,” said Mercy College President Tim Hall. “Their efforts will not only ensure that more students are able to achieve the dream of a college degree, but that they are

prepared for a successful career.”

A longtime supporter of Mercy College, Alberto Vitale is a former Mercy College Trustee and the former Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Random House, Inc. He and his wife, Gioietta, have previously made a number of strategic donations to the College, including the Vitale Life Skills Lab, the Vitale Center for Academic Excellence and Innovation, both on the Dobbs Ferry Campus, as well as investments in career education and technology. They also funded a scholarship for incoming students selected for the Mercy College Honors Program.