

Consumed in SERVICE

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ALL MASK-FREE AND GROUP PHOTOS WERE
TAKEN PRIOR TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

MAVERICK

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MESSAGE FROM

President Timothy L. Hall



As Mercy embarks on a fall term unlike any other, the College stands proud of its efforts navigating the unprecedented coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and ensuring a safe and healthy reopening for students, faculty and staff.

Since March, Mercy has been here for you, continuing institutional functions and protecting students, no matter the challenges thrown our way.

From the College's remarkable pivot from in-person to online classes, to virtual physical and mental health services, to career service webinars, to countless student wellness check-ins conducted by PACT

mentors, Mercy paved a clear road for students to finish their semesters with as much support as possible.

We organized an online commencement celebrating the accomplishments of the class of 2020 graduates. Our annual Trustees' Scholarship Dinner duly honored treasured supporters and honorees, and raised an amount beyond our goal to continue to provide scholarships to deserving students.

Our success stemmed from keeping the welfare of our students and employees at the forefront of our decision-making, with the Mercy mission as our guiding light: No matter the circumstances, Mercy commits to providing personalized and high-quality learning environments for all students, including those who may be demographically underrepresented in higher education, have high financial need and identify as first-generation college students.

In keeping with our mission, the College created a Student Emergency Fund, which will exist in perpetuity to address the needs of students and keep education accessible during this uncertain and everchanging time.

As demonstrated in this edition of Maverick Magazine, along with creating opportunities for financial support, Mercy worked diligently and thoughtfully to ensure the best possible outcomes for our diverse student body.

Mercy's **OnCampus Plus** plan puts students at the center of the College's reopening, while stories of **Mavericks Making a Difference** - students, staff, faculty and alumni assisting the most in need individuals and industries during the pandemic - show the College community's determination to serve.

They include **Jesse Means, M.S. '03**, an educator in the Bronx who transitioned to remote learning with creativity and drive, **Evita Kubhar '19** and **Nyssamae Garcia CNR '19**, nurses who saved lives in the epicenter of the pandemic, and **Clinical Instructor Sherrye Samuels**, a faculty member who answered the Governor's call for additional nurses and covered shifts in overwhelmed hospitals.

While addressing COVID-19, Mercy continued to grow and deepen its impact in the community, and happily welcomed two new deans: **Peter West, Ph.D., dean of the School of Liberal Arts**, and **Stuart Sidle, Ph.D., dean of the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences**. **Louise Squitteri '65** generously donated two scholarships and impressive alumnus **Luis Torres, M.S. '00**, principal of P.S. 55 in Bronx, New York, continued to lead his high-achieving school.

Despite unfortunate circumstances, we have been successful in giving students the necessary support to continue their lives, and educations, uninterrupted. The events of the world have only deepened our understanding that education is a way to overcome adversity. As we enter a new normal this fall, we commit to keeping a route to education open, and being here for you along the road.

Sincerely,

Tim Hall
President