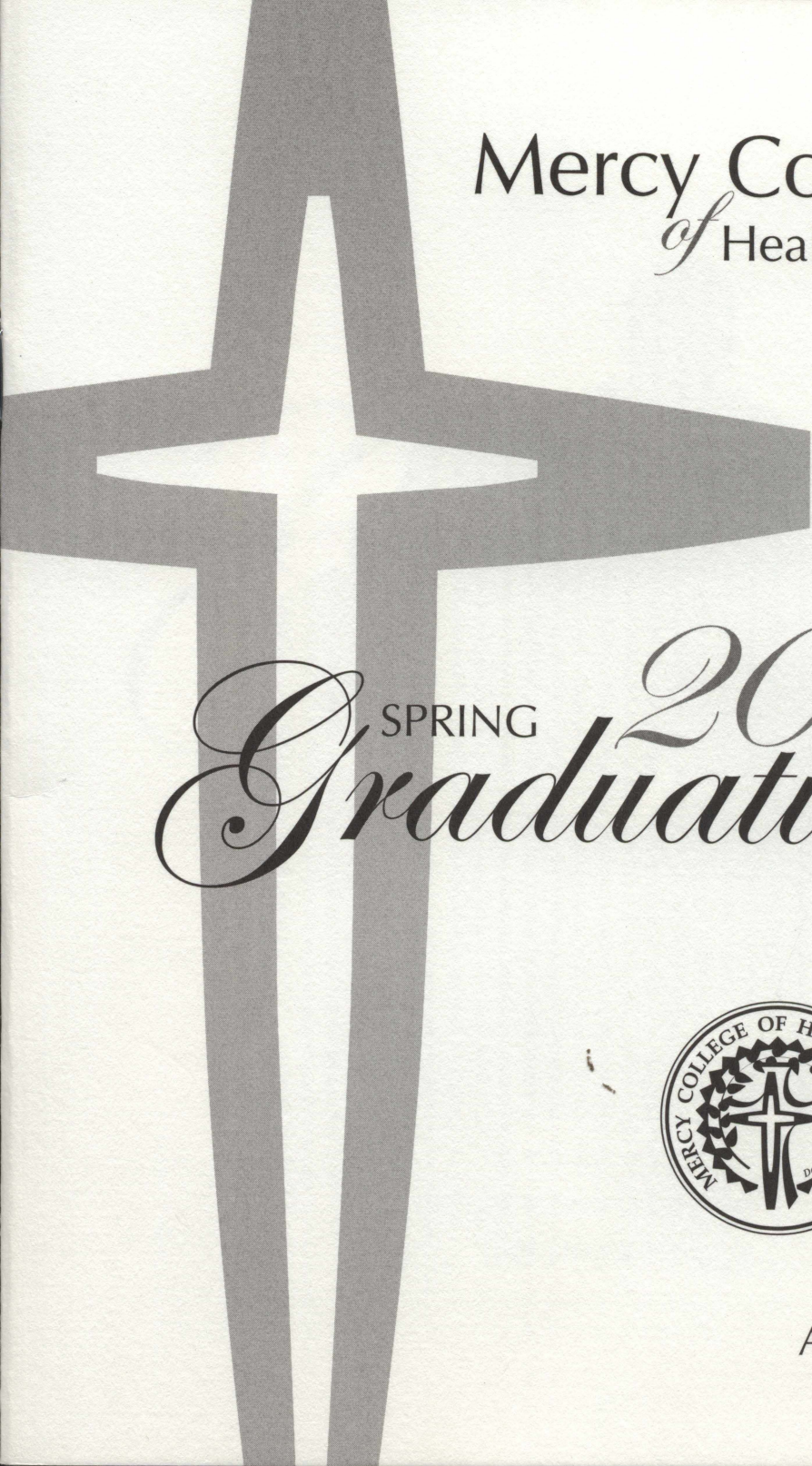
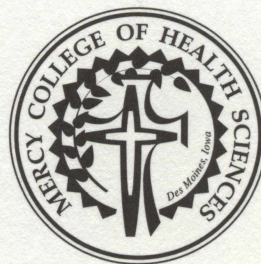


A large, stylized cross graphic in a light gray color, serving as a background element on the left side of the page.

# Mercy College *of* Health Sciences

## SPRING 2008 *Graduation*



April 25, 2008





# Baccalaureate Service Commencement Commending Ceremony SPRING 2008 *Graduation*

Pinning Ceremony .....4  
9:00 a.m.

Baccalaureate Prayer Service .....5  
1:00 p.m.

Commencement Program .....13  
2:30 p.m.

**Mercy College of Health Sciences**

*April Twenty-Fifth*

*Two Thousand Eight*

*Iowa Events Center, Hy-Vee Hall C*

*Des Moines, Iowa*



# Pinning Ceremony

The Pinning Ceremony is a time-honored nursing tradition, dating back before the turn of the twentieth century. Traditionally, nursing students have conducted a Pinning Ceremony to mark the passage from the student nurse role to the practice role. It is an important event that is shared with family and friends.

Introduction  
**Stacy Seeman and Megan Adams**  
Presentation of the Mercy College Pins

The Florence Nightingale Oath  
**Graduation Class of 2008**

## The Florence Nightingale Oath

I solemnly pledge myself before God and in the presence of this assembly to faithfully practice my profession of nursing. I will do all in my power to make and maintain the highest standards and practices of my profession.

I will hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping in the practice of my calling. I will assist the physician in his work and will devote myself to the welfare of my patients, my family, and my community. I will endeavor to fulfill my rights and privileges as a good citizen and take my share of responsibility in promoting the health and welfare of the community.

I will constantly endeavor to increase my knowledge and skills in nursing and to use them wisely. I will zealously seek to nurse those who are ill wherever they may be and whenever they are in need. I will be active in assisting others in safeguarding and promoting the health and happiness of mankind.

# Baccalaureate Service Commissioning Ceremony

Our ecumenical prayer service is a time to reflect on the role that God will play in all of our graduates health care careers. It is our hope that our graduates see themselves as ministers to all people and through the knowledge and understanding they have gained from their studies will be able to provide words and actions that bring healing and comfort.

To help stress the importance of touch in the healing process and to instill a sense of commitment to their new role as a healthcare professional, the Baccalaureate Ceremony includes a blessing of the palms of our graduates' hands – to consecrate them in service to the Lord.

Welcome.....**Barbara Quijano Decker, J.D.**  
President

## Opening Song - "Benediction"

(Music can be found on page 8)  
Please stand and sing.

Opening Prayer .....**Reverend Greg Leach, Pastor**  
All Saints Catholic Church, Stuart, Iowa

## Liturgy of the Word

(Please Be Seated)

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-15 .....**Teresa Doolittle, R.N., M.S.N.**  
Assistant Professor

Response: Psalm 113.....**Mandi Counters, R.N., M.S.N.**  
Assistant Professor

Reader: Blessed be the name of the Lord forever.  
People: Blessed be the name of the Lord forever.



Reader: Praise, you servants of the Lord,  
Praise the name of the Lord.  
Blessed be the name of the Lord,  
Both now and forever.

People: **Blessed be the name of the Lord forever.**

Reader: From the rising to the setting of the sun  
Is the name of the Lord to be praised.  
High above all nations is the Lord;  
Above the heavens is his glory.

People: **Blessed be the name of the Lord forever.**

Reader: Who is like the Lord, our God, who is enthroned on high  
and Looks upon the heavens and the earth below?

People: **Blessed be the name of the Lord forever.**

(Please Stand)

Gospel Reading: Mark 10:46-52..... **Rev. Leach**

(Please Be Seated)

Message ..... **Rev. Leach**

Prayers of the Faithful ..... **Rev. Mr. Dave O'Brien**  
*Director of Pastoral Care Department - Mercy Medical Center - Des Moines*

**Response by all: "Lord, hear our prayer."**

# Commissioning Ceremony

Candidates for graduation will be invited to come up on stage to have their hands blessed with olive oil. For olive-oil, being of its own nature rich, diffusive, and abiding, is fitted to represent the copious outpouring of sacramental grace. Through this action, all present are reminded of the calling of service these graduates are about to undertake through their chosen careers.

Priest: Let us Pray...Lord our God, as we share together this prayer of unity,  
help us to live together in your household united in mind and heart.  
As we give thanks to you today, help us experience the peace you  
give to us. We ask all this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

People: **Amen.**

Calling Forth of Graduates..... **Rev. Leach and President Decker**

**Graduates to Priest: Here I am Lord, your servant \_\_\_\_\_ (first name).**

Priest response: Your loving God calls you and sends you forth to bring His healing  
touch to those you encounter.

## Lord's Prayer

(Please Stand)

Priest: Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave us:

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name;  
Thy Kingdom come;  
Thy will be done  
On earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
And forgive us our trespasses  
As we forgive those  
Who trespass against us;  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For the Kingdom, the power and the glory  
Are yours, now and forever.  
Amen.**

Final Blessing ..... **Rev. Leach**

Dismissal..... **President Decker**



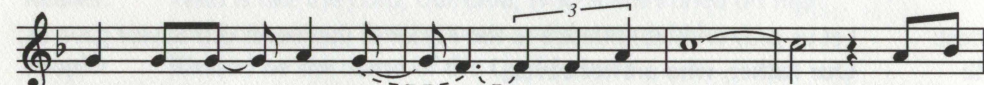
# Opening Song - "Benediction"

by Curtis Stephan

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1. May the peace of God be with you. May the
2. May the love of God be with you. May your
3. May the joy of God be with you. May you
4. May the hope of God be with you. May he



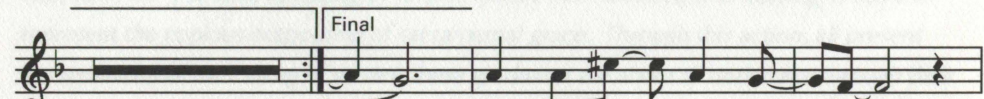
1. fa - vor of the Lord up - on you rest. May his
2. faith - ful trust in him nev - er fail. May he
3. spring up liv - ing wa - ter in your soul. May you
4. lift your spir - it up on an - gel's wings. May your



1. grace up - on you shine and give you light in dark - est times.
2. show - er you with grace, may you feel his warm em - brace.
3. run and nev - er tire, may his will be your de - sire.
4. ver - y pres - ence be a fra - grant of - fer - ing.



1. May the peace of God be yours.
2. May the love of God be yours.
3. May the joy of God be yours.
4. May the hope of God:



4. Fa - ther, Son and Spir - it -



4. may the bless - ings of God be yours.

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## MERCY COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

### Spring 2008 Graduation

#### CANDIDATES FOR BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION

James Leon Machamer ‡  
Ankeny, IA

Kathryn Ann Meyer \*  
Van Meter, IA

#### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Travis Michael Birchem †  
Mason City, IA

Hallie Ann Carlson  
Corydon, IA

Courtney Ann Cuthrell  
Cherokee, IA

Annie Beth Doose  
Des Moines, IA

Katharyn Joanne Friedman  
Ankeny, IA

Toni Marie Griffin  
Laurens, IA

Lindsey Ann Gudmonson  
Lake Mills, IA

Amy Leigh Kenyon  
Des Moines, IA

Sarah Lyn Mongan  
Des Moines, IA

Megan Therese Mosier  
Des Moines, IA

Kristin Marie Pantzlaff  
West Des Moines, IA

Lauren Smith \*

#### Fall 2007 Graduates

Barbara Mae Allen  
Easton, IL

Amy Elizabeth Atkinson  
Nevada, IA

Joel Steven Ball  
Iowa Falls, IA

Vanessa Sue Brody †  
West Des Moines

Heather Ann Cook  
Knoxville, IA

Nadira Dhanaswar ‡  
Ankeny, IA

Lacey Marie Enga  
Ankeny, IA

Kate Allison Ganger  
Cherokee, IA

Shannon Mist Haller \*  
Urbandale, IA

Julie Ann Henkels  
Grimes, IA

Shelby Marie Johnson  
Red Oak, IA

Michelle Caroline Mosier ‡  
Urbandale, IA

Megan Llaire Nissen \*

Amanda Jo Olson  
Carlisle, IA

Ann Marie Oltrogge †  
Gilbertville, IA

Angela Ann Thompson  
Colfax, IA

Abby Kathleen Rockwell  
Clinton, IA

Jillian Marie Schnoes \*  
Remsen, IA

Molly Christine Stafne

Jodi Lynn Taute †  
Cedar Falls, IA

Darla Delores Ugolini \*  
Madrid, IA

Melissa Lynn VanderSchoor ‡  
Des Moines, IA

Julie Ann Veldhuizen  
Lynnville, IA

Katie Lane Zachow  
Carroll, IA

#### CANDIDATES FOR ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREES ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY

Shannon Marie Aiello \*  
Indianola, IA

Jasmina Beslija \*  
Ankeny, IA

Kylie Marie Caster ‡  
West Des Moines, IA

Kara Kayanne Davis  
Monroe, IA

Tiffany LuAnn Dougherty ‡  
Bedford, IA

Cindy M. Kamm \*  
Indianola, IA



## ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY CONTINUED

|                                           |                                                 |                                               |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Bridget Ann Larson<br><i>Waterloo, IA</i> | Dawn Marie Pladna ‡<br><i>Des Moines, IA</i>    | Chandra Jo Van Wyk<br><i>Pella, IA</i>        |
| Amanda Kay Mason                          | Tamy Ann Samuels ‡<br><i>Corydon, IA</i>        | Melissa Ann Vargus *<br><i>Des Moines, IA</i> |
| Erica Lynne McCoy †<br><i>Nevada, IA</i>  | Suzann Lynn Steingreaber *<br><i>Newton, IA</i> | Kellie Ann Vermett ‡<br><i>Capron, IL</i>     |
| Ashley Nicole Moore *<br><i>Cuero, TX</i> |                                                 |                                               |

## ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

James Leon Machamer ‡  
*Ankeny, IA*

## ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

|                                                        |                                               |                                                  |                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Megan Elizabeth Adams<br><i>Red Oak, IA</i>            | Mandi Beth Corson<br><i>Coon Rapids, IA</i>   | Bethany Renae Gibson<br><i>Pleasantville, IA</i> | Melissa Brooke Long<br><i>Grimes, IA</i>           |
| Fatemeh Alavi †<br><i>West Des Moines, IA</i>          | Allison Renae Crookes<br><i>Indianola, IA</i> | Jennifer Ann Golly<br><i>Clarion, IA</i>         | Rachel Elizabeth Maciel †<br><i>Des Moines, IA</i> |
| Michelle Bond Almond<br><i>Indianola, IA</i>           | Shana Jane Daniels<br><i>Cedar Falls, IA</i>  | Bethany Burk Goodenow<br><i>Johnston, IA</i>     | Megan Kay Martinez<br><i>Cedar Falls, IA</i>       |
| Kara Jo Archibald<br><i>Des Moines, IA</i>             | Jodi Marie Deal<br><i>Johnston, IA</i>        | Kathryn Amanda Griffin<br><i>Avoca, IA</i>       | Carrie J. May<br><i>Norwalk, IA</i>                |
| Jaclyn Ann Baker<br><i>Nevada, IA</i>                  | Mala Marie DeVore<br><i>Chariton, IA</i>      | Whitney Nicole Guy<br><i>Indianola, IA</i>       | Tina Marie McMillin<br><i>Bedford, IA</i>          |
| Erin Elizabeth Benson<br><i>Radcliffe, IA</i>          | Jodi Kay Dreessen<br><i>Denver, IA</i>        | Jacquelyn Christine Hart *<br><i>Ankeny, IA</i>  | Maridith Ann Furlong<br><i>McMurry, IA</i>         |
| Shelley Louise Bingham<br><i>Melcher-Dallas, IA</i>    | Jonna Rae Eastcott<br><i>Des Moines, IA</i>   | Ashley Anna Heikens<br><i>Spirit Lake, IA</i>    | Kayla Marie McQuiston<br><i>Newton, IA</i>         |
| Stephanie Ann Brandow<br><i>Carlisle, IA</i>           | Kerri Rose Edwards<br><i>Altoona, IA</i>      | Colin B. Hess<br><i>Elkhart, IA</i>              | Deanne K. Miller<br><i>Marengo, IA</i>             |
| Andrea Lynn Brouwer<br><i>Pella, IA</i>                | Monica Elliott<br><i>Chicago, IL</i>          | Sarah Danielle Hippler<br><i>Iowa Falls, IA</i>  | Elana Elizabeth Miller<br><i>Indianola, IA</i>     |
| Michael D. Campbell †<br><i>Des Moines, IA</i>         | Kathryn Ann Flater<br><i>Runnells, IA</i>     | Tera Marie Howe<br><i>Des Moines, IA</i>         | Amanda Jo Nees<br><i>Dedham, IA</i>                |
| Breanne Nicole Carpenter<br><i>West Des Moines, IA</i> | Haley M. Flynn<br><i>Altoona, IA</i>          | Leah Louise Iverson<br><i>Lake Mills, IA</i>     | Carina Marie Olson<br><i>Norwalk, IA</i>           |
| Megan Kristine Carter<br><i>Dallas Center, IA</i>      | Cynthia Ann Fortune<br><i>Des Moines, IA</i>  | Terrilee N. Jackel<br><i>West Des Moines, IA</i> | Melissa Sue Petersen<br><i>Des Moines, IA</i>      |
| Cara Lee Chicoine<br><i>Ankeny, IA</i>                 | Stephanie Jo Fountas †<br><i>Adel, IA</i>     | Deanna Mae Johnson<br><i>Roland, IA</i>          | Mara Whitney Pierce<br><i>Urbandale, IA</i>        |
| Angela M. Clark<br><i>Waukee, IA</i>                   | Regina M. Gerdes ‡<br><i>Clive, IA</i>        | Kristine A. Lallier<br><i>Ankeny, IA</i>         | Kelli Lynn Sawhill<br><i>Des Moines, IA</i>        |

## ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN NURSING CONTINUED

|                                                 |                                                  |                                              |                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Stacy Marie Seeman<br><i>Bouton, IA</i>         | Denise Annette Skinner †<br><i>Indianola, IA</i> | Lisa Ann Taffae<br><i>Des Moines, IA</i>     | Mary Jane Van Essen<br><i>Otley, IA</i>      |
| Kristie LeeAnn Seibert<br><i>Story City, IA</i> | Nicole Marie Sondgeroth<br><i>Story City, IA</i> | Holly Noel Terwilliger<br><i>Dexter, IA</i>  | Stacie Lynn Walther<br><i>Colo, IA</i>       |
| Michelle Carol Sevier<br><i>Creston, IA</i>     | Brittany Laurenz Sparks<br><i>Albia, IA</i>      | Rebecca Ann Thompson<br><i>Indianola, IA</i> | Suzanne Helen Young<br><i>Des Moines, IA</i> |
| Crystal Gayle Sikes<br><i>Des Moines, IA</i>    | Jill M. Swaim<br><i>Ottumwa, IA</i>              | Shae Elizabeth Thompson                      |                                              |

## ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY

|                                              |                                                      |                                                     |                                              |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Jennafer Kay Borron<br><i>Carlisle, IA</i>   | Abbey Lynn Dorsett<br><i>Panora, IA</i>              | Jennifer Lynn Luppess<br><i>Kamrar, IA</i>          | Barbara Ann Song<br><i>Junction City, KS</i> |
| Brett Allen Chandler<br><i>Runnells, IA</i>  | Ashley Leanne Downs †<br><i>Dexter, IA</i>           | Alyssa Danette Mahlow<br><i>Madrid, IA</i>          | Teri Diane Willard<br><i>Logan, IA</i>       |
| Stephanie Lynn Craft<br><i>Urbandale, IA</i> | Jon Robert Jewell ‡<br><i>Des Moines, IA</i>         | Jodi Lynn Masear<br><i>Runnells, IA</i>             |                                              |
| Nathan Michael Crane ‡<br><i>Ankeny, IA</i>  | Sawyer Lyn Kragel<br><i>Gilbert, IA</i>              | Amanda Janell Oppedal †<br><i>Bondurant, IA</i>     |                                              |
| Maggie Lynn Cross<br><i>Des Moines, IA</i>   | Andrea Christine Lindquist<br><i>Albert City, IA</i> | Kaelyn Marie Patrick *<br><i>Guthrie Center, IA</i> |                                              |

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING INTEGRATED

The following students are pursuing their Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree through the Integrated BSN program at Mercy College of Health Sciences. This is a specialized program that allows eligible students to complete their BSN degree at an accelerated pace while also completing the requirements for the Associate of Science in Nursing this spring.

These students will participate in Commencement upon the successful completion of their BSN degree. Please congratulate them on their accomplishment as well.

|                    |                         |                     |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Lindsay Banker     | Lindsay Hannapel        | Sara Marie Rahfeldt |
| Breana Renee Bjork | Sarah Hicks             | Naomi Chepitok Sawe |
| Emily Boding       | Veronica Hillock        | Sara Segreto        |
| Margaux Buss       | Elizabeth Joan Homan    | Jill Sue Smith      |
| Fara Capman        | Sirena Howrey           | Tracy Taylor        |
| Joanna Cox         | Jordan Brooke Lang      | Shannon Walker      |
| Lauree Deublein    | Hannah Grace Larsen     | Margaret Watson     |
| Holly Durbin       | Brooke Rachel Maley     | Jessica Witt        |
| Ashley Flater      | Kathleen Rose McCormick |                     |
| Amanda Gulbrandson | Jill Patton             |                     |



## GRADUATION HONORS

Mercy College recognizes the outstanding achievement of its graduates by awarding the following commencement honors:

### *Recipients of the Bachelor's Degree*

- ‡ **Summa Cum Laude.** Have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.8 or above.
- † **Magna Cum Laude.** Have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.650 to 3.799 inclusive.
- \* **Cum Laude.** Have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.500 to 3.649 inclusive.

### *Recipients of the Associate's Degree*

- ‡ **Highest Honors.** Have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.8 or above.
- † **High Honors.** Have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.650 to 3.799 inclusive.
- \* **Honors.** Have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.500 to 3.649 inclusive.

### *Recipients of the Certificate's Degree*

- ‡ **Certificate Highest Honors.** Have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.8 or above.
- † **Certificate High Honors.** Have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.650 to 3.799 inclusive.
- \* **Certificate Honors.** Have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.5 to 3.649 inclusive.

Commencement honors are determined based on past semester cumulative grade point average. Final honors will be determined by final cumulative grade point average.

This list represents candidates for graduation. Degrees will be conferred upon completion of all requirements.

## Commencement Program

### Academic Processional

Pomp & Circumstance ..... Edward Elgar  
Music provided by Phil King

### Call to Order

Barbara Quijano Decker, J.D., President

### Invocation

Rev. Mr. Dave O'Brien, Director of Pastoral Care Department,  
Mercy Medical Center - Des Moines

### Musical Interlude

The Lord's Prayer ..... Albert Hay Malotte  
Vocalist Chelsea Smith accompanied by Phil King

### Commencement Address

Curt Olson, R.N. ASN '05, Charge Nurse  
Da Vita Dialysis Riverpoint Clinic, Des Moines, IA

### Presentation of Candidates

John Nies, Ph.D., Provost

### Conferring of Degrees

Barbara Quijano Decker, J.D. and Patricia A. Shoff, J.D.; and  
Deans and Academic Program Chairs

### Musical Interlude

Ave Maria ..... Franz Schubert  
Vocalist Chelsea Smith accompanied by Phil King

### Farewell Address

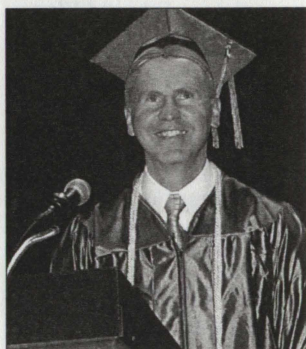
James Leon Machamer, Bachelor of Science in Health Care Administration and  
Associate of Science in Emergency Medical Services

### The Academic Recessional

With Trumpets and Horn ..... Handel



## COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



### **Curt Olson, R.N., ASN '05**

*Charge Nurse, DaVita Dialysis Riverpoint Clinic, Des Moines, IA*

Curt Olson is a charge nurse at the DaVita Dialysis Riverpoint Clinic in Des Moines, and has been since the completion of his Associate of Science in Nursing degree from Mercy College, and the passing of the NCLEX Exam in the summer of 2005.

After having worked in the travel industry for a few years, Olson started and successfully grew his own cookie bakery business called DoBiz Bakeries in Campustown in Ames, and eventually Des Moines

and Lincoln NE for 20 years. Olson spent significant time caring for his infirmed mother who eventually passed away. It was then that he shifted his professional focus to join the health care field and sold the name and recipes of his business.

In addition to the nursing degree Olson earned at Mercy College, he holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota.

## FAREWELL SPEAKER

### **James Leon Machamer**

*Bachelor of Science in Health Care Administration and Associate of Science in Emergency Medical Services Graduate*

James receives his Bachelor of Science in Health Care Administration and Associate of Science in Emergency Medical Services degree from Mercy College of Health Sciences. He was nominated because of his caring, leadership, and commitment to his profession. The faculty recommended him for his enthusiasm, professionalism, and support.

## ACADEMIC TRADITIONS

The traditions surrounding academic ceremonies, such as inaugurations and commencements, are rooted in the customs of the Middle Ages when universities were first formed. Gowns and mortar boards, for example, were a common form of dress during the era. Today, graduates wear colorful academic apparel, signifying their alma maters and highest degrees received.

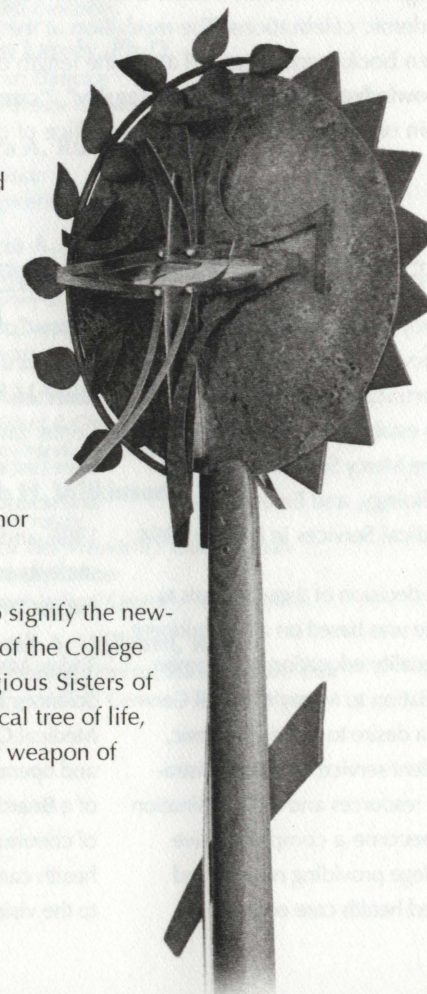
This academic garb and other similar symbols in evidence at today's ceremony reflect the continuity and strength of higher education in our culture. Two particular symbols, important to Mercy College of Health Sciences, are its mace and presidential chain of office, containing the medallion incorporating the seal of the College.

### *The Mace*

Maces were war clubs used during the Middle Ages as weapons of last resort by military officers. They evolved over time into powerful symbols of rulership and became associated with the pride of a nation. In the university, the mace became a traditional symbol of protection and later evolved into use as a longer, walking stick. It is carried at academic processions not only to bring authority to ceremonial occasions but to symbolize the unity and aspirations of the collegial community.

The honor of the mace bearer for Mercy College of Health Sciences goes to the College Senate President, and that honor today goes to Jim Tagye, B.A., Marketing Coordinator.

Mercy College's mace is made of a contemporary design to signify the newness of the College. The three-dimension rendering is that of the College seal, which has a primary focus on the cross of the Religious Sisters of Mercy, surrounded symbolically by the leaves of the biblical tree of life, which are transformed into the serrated edge of a medieval weapon of which it shares a historical reference.

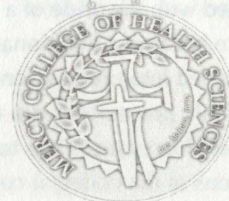




# The Chain of Office

The tradition of a chain of office goes back to the colorful life of the integrated town-community in the Middle Ages. Temporal symbol of community harmony was the mayor, who at his investiture was given a chain with medallions that represented all of the guilds working together for the welfare of the town. In the medieval university, the chief official – or rector magnificus – held authority similar to that of the mayor in civil society. Thus, he, too, was honored with a chain of office, but his consisted of insignia of all of the colleges of his university.

Mercy College of Health Sciences' chain of office made its first appearance in August 2006 at the inaugural of President Decker and is now a part of all College commencements and other formal academic celebrations. The medallion at the end of the chain of office is again the seal of the College. Open book medals spaced along the length of chain are engraved with the core values of the institution "knowledge", "reverence", "integrity", "compassion", and "excellence". Along with the mace, the chain of office is on display in the Office of the President.



## MERCY COLLEGE - A BRIEF HISTORY

Mercy College evolved from Mercy School of Health Sciences, a certificate and diploma institution established as a consolidation of the Mercy Schools of Nursing, Radiology, and Emergency Medical Services in January 1994.

The decision of these schools to unite was based on a commitment to quality education, a common affiliation to Mercy Medical Center, a desire to share academic, student service, and administrative resources and a determination to become a comprehensive college providing nursing and allied health care education.

Mercy College of Health Sciences was founded by the Board of Directors of Mercy Medical Center on July 14, 1995. Students were first enrolled in liberal arts and science courses in May 1996, and the first degree-seeking students entered the College in August 1996.

Today, Mercy College of Health Sciences is a partner with Mercy Medical Center – Des Moines and operates under the leadership of a Board of Directors comprised of community, academic and health care leaders committed to the vision of the institution,

which is "to be nationally recognized for excellence in the delivery and innovation of health sciences education as demonstrated by distinguished graduates who serve and lead in their community".

## MERCY COLLEGE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Rodney L. Ausich, Ph.D.

Board Chair  
President  
Kemin Health, L.C.

### Elaine Ball

Community Representative

### Steven Berry, M.D.

Physician  
Chest, Infectious Disease and  
Critical Care Associates

### Kent E. Carr, M.D.

Chief Executive Officer  
Mercy Clinics, Inc.

### Barbara Q. Decker, J.D., ex officio

President  
Mercy College of Health Sciences

### Sister Jude Fitzpatrick, CHM

Chancellor / Director of  
Administrative Services  
Roman Catholic Diocese of Des Moines

### Lynn M. Graves

Vice President - Executive Operations  
Principal Financial Group

### Carlton King, J.D.

Vice Board Chair  
Retired

### William Knowles

Retired Executive

### Martin Larréy, Ph.D.

Interim Director  
Conference for Mercy Higher Education

### Sandra A. Ruhs, M.D.

Physician  
Diagnostic Imaging Associates, P.C.

### Patricia A. Shoff, J.D.

Board Treasurer  
Attorney-at-Law  
Belin, Lamson, McCormick, Zumbach  
& Flynn

### David H. Vellinga, ex officio

President & Chief Executive Officer  
Mercy Medical Center — Des Moines

### Robyn H. Wilkinson

Board Secretary  
Senior Vice President / Chief Human  
Resources Officer  
Mercy Medical Center — Des Moines

### Deborah A. Willyard, R.N.

Unit Nursing Director, Intensive Care Unit  
Mercy Medical Center — Des Moines



## ADMINISTRATION

Barbara Q. Decker, J.D.  
*President*

Shirley Beaver, R.N., Ph.D. C.N.A.A.  
*Dean of Nursing*

Sue Bravard, PT, MS  
*Chair, Physical Therapist Assistant*

Traland Davis, CST  
*Chair, Surgical Technology*

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*Chair, Emergency Medical Services*

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*Dean of Academic Affairs*

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*Chair, Nursing*

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*Associate Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chair, Health Care Administration*

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Auburne Overton, R.P.S.G.T., M.H.A.  
*Chair, Polysomnographic Technology*

Gina Penn, B.S., R.D.M.S.  
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*Dean of Enrollment and Student Services*

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*Chair, Medical Assisting*

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*Associate Dean of Allied Health*

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*Vice President of Institutional Advancement*

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Erin Moon, B.A., R.D.C.S.  
Karen Norris, B.S., R.T.(R)\*  
Tara Snelson, R.D.M.S., R.V.T.  
Patty Risinger, P.T., M.S.P.T.  
Steve Vannatta, NREMT-P  
Debra Wolff, BSRT (R)(M)(QM)

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Joseph Moravec, D.Min.\*  
Glenn Oren, Ph.D.  
Nancy Traiser, Ph.D.

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Tria Allen, R.N., B.S.N.  
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Dale Brown, R.N., M.S.N., N.P.  
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Mary Schemmel, R.N., M.S.N.  
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Melissa Spring  
Dave Steenhoek  
Jim Tagye, B.A.\*\*  
Jennifer Thompson, M.L.I.S.  
Kim Wetzel  
Sue Zylstra

\*Celebratory Marshal  
\*\*Ceremonial Marshal

## MERCY COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS

**Nursing Graduates:** The Mercy College Nursing Alumni Association has a long history of activity for nursing alumni. The nursing alumni association's mission is five-fold: build a communications network and provide social and professional functions; maintain a bridge for nursing alumni to stay informed of activities at the College; assist students through sponsored scholarships; support the efforts of the Division of Nursing; and provide periodic continuing education programs for its members and the nursing community.

**Allied Health Graduates:** The Mercy College Allied Health Alumni Association is currently being organized to foster a mission similar to that of the nursing alumni association. The new alumni association is open to all graduates, including certificate and degree recipients of the College, and its predecessor programs. You are invited to contact the Institutional Advancement staff for more information on upcoming meetings and events.

## Special Thanks

Vocalist: Chelsea Smith  
Pianist: Phil King

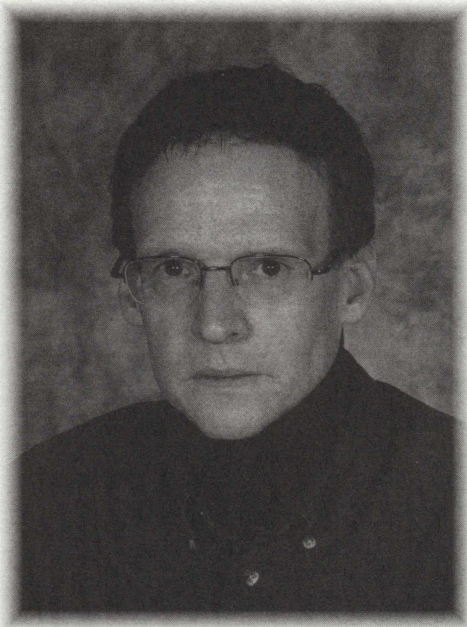
Please turn off cell phones and pagers during the Ceremonies.  
*Thank you.*

Family members are invited to come forward to take pictures of their graduate during the pinning ceremony, commissioning ceremony and the conferring of the degree.



## A TRIBUTE TO MARK G. STEVENS, DVM, PH.D.

DECEMBER 7, 1955 – FEBRUARY 27, 2008



Mark G. Stevens, Professor of Microbiology, joined the staff of the Division of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Mercy College as the Division's second employee in the summer of 1998. He taught microbiology and pharmacology during his years of teaching at Mercy College.

Mark was a board certified microbiologist with the American College of Veterinary Microbiology (ACVM). He earned his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from Kansas State University in 1982 and his Doctor of Philosophy in Microbiology from Washington State University in 1988.

He also founded his own company, A-VAC Inc., which consulted with swine producers in Iowa, Nebraska and Illinois to develop effective autogenous vaccination programs to improve herd health and reduce the amount and frequency of antimicrobial use in swine production.

He was a member of Sigma XI, the scientific research society; Phi Zeta Honor Society of Veterinary Medicine; and was a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Microbiologists (ACVM). Mark published over 100 research articles and scientific abstracts throughout his career.

Mark is survived by his wife, Ilene; step-daughters, LuAnn (John) Richardson, Lorraine (Roger) Hedrick, Lynn (David) Ward and Leslie (Jason) Verba; and five step-granddaughters, Haley, Hannah, Madison, MacKenzie and Libbie; brothers, Rick and Stacey; and sisters, Melodie and Collette.