



# 2023 112<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT

GRADUATE CEREMONY

MAY 17, 2023

GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY  
THE MERCY UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY

# GRADUATE COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

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**5:30 PM**

## **PRESIDING**

Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D.  
*President*

## **MACE BEARER**

Beth Schaefer, Ph.D.  
*Professor of Physics and  
Chair of the Faculty Assembly*

## **PROCESSIONAL**

“Pomp and Circumstance” .....Edward Elgar

## **OPENING**

Janice Warner, Ph.D.  
*Provost*

## **THE NATIONAL ANTHEM**

“The Star-Spangled Banner” .....F. Scott Key  
John Stafford Smith  
Led by Natalie Moradian '26,  
accompanied by Robert MacReynolds

## **INVOCATION**

Jeffrey Schaffer  
*Director of Campus Ministry and Mission*

## **WELCOME**

Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D.  
*President*

## **SALUTE TO THE FACULTY**

Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D.  
*President*

## **REMARKS ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Julia Ann Upton, RSM, Ph.D.  
*Chair of the Board of Trustees*

## ADDRESS ON BEHALF OF GRADUATES

Jennifer DePietro '23

*M.S. in Communication and Digital Marketing Candidate*

## PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATE FOR HONORARY DEGREE

**Doctor of Business Administration**

***Carol Stillwell***

Presenter: Jennifer J. Edmonds, Ph.D.

*Dean of the School of Business and Digital Media*

## COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Carol Stillwell

*Owner and President of Stillwell-Hansen, Inc.*

## PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

Janice Warner, Ph.D., *Provost*

Mary Chinery, Ph.D., '86, *Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences*

Jennifer J. Edmonds, Ph.D., *Dean of the School of Business and Digital Media*

Kelly McNeal, Ph.D., *Dean of the School of Education*

Theresa Wurmser, Ph.D., *Dean of the Hackensack Meridian Health School of Nursing and Wellness at GCU*

## ALUMNI WELCOME

Kristen Cladek '14

*President of the Alumni Association*

## CLOSING REMARKS

Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D.

*President*

## ALMA MATER

“Hail to the Blue and Gold” ..... Alice Piper Kuser '27,  
Hermine Carpentier Stein '29, and others  
Led by Gabrielle DiGangi '23, Liana Hollendonner,  
Rowan Krutchkoff '26, Kayla Latendresse '24,  
and Natalie Moradian '26,  
accompanied by Robert MacReynolds

## RECESSIONAL

“National Emblem March” ..... Edwin Eugene Bagley

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*Please turn off all cell phones so as not to interrupt this celebratory but solemn event. We ask that you kindly respect all roped-off areas. Due to state regulations, guests should remain at their seats during the ceremony. This program is not the official list of graduates; it is based on the information available at the time of publication.*

*If any items in this program have been displayed incorrectly, please send an email to [marketing@georgian.edu](mailto:marketing@georgian.edu) so that we can update the online version.*

# CAROL STILLWELL

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Carol Stillwell is the Owner and President of Stillwell-Hansen, Inc., a leader in data center infrastructure solutions. S-H offers a complete complement of data center products including power, precision cooling, fire protection and traditional HVAC products. Carol joined founder Gordon Stillwell in 1964, rising thru various roles in the company before becoming President in 1991. During her time as President, she has helped the company realize unprecedented growth in terms of sales volume, and along the way has achieved numerous business

awards and recognition for the company's excellent customer service and expertise. Stillwell-Hansen has consistently had the honor of being named as one of New Jersey's top 250 companies, while Carol has proudly been recognized as one of the top women business leaders in the state each year from 2009-present.

In addition to leading a very successful company, Carol has devoted her life to many philanthropic causes in a heartfelt mission to improve the lives of others. Among Carol's most recent efforts are 180 Turning Lives Around, Ashley Lauren Foundation, Bayshore Hospital Foundation, Brookdale Community College, CASA of Monmouth County, CFC Loud and Clear, Count Basie Theatre, Monmouth County SPCA, Monmouth University, United Way of Monmouth and Ocean Counties, Tigger House, and the Valerie Fund Children's Center at Monmouth Medical. Carol has been profoundly humbled to be honored by many of the organizations she supports, awards too numerous to list. However, she is most proud of the difference her efforts have made in directly benefiting the underserved children and families in the community, which these organizations work so tirelessly to assist.

Carol's business success, combined with her outstanding philanthropic efforts, has made her a natural choice for selection to serve on the Board of Trustees for many organizations. She is currently honored with the privilege of sitting on the following Boards: 180 Turning Lives Around, Brookdale Community College Foundation, Bayshore Medical Center Foundation, CASA, Count Basie Theatre, Hackensack-Meridian Hospital Advisory Board, Lunch Break Advisory Board, Mercy Center, Monmouth University Board of Trustees, Parker Family Advisory Board, SCAN, Tigger House, United Way of Monmouth and Ocean, and YMCA.

Carol has long enjoyed a fondness for fine wine, spending her limited free time in beautiful Napa Valley. Also, with a life-long passion for horses, she cherishes spending time at her farm in Colts Neck, NJ.

Carol is graciously assisted in her many philanthropic efforts by her twin sister Mary Ann Larkin. She is the proud mother of one son, Scott Belford, and six bonus children, as well as GC to many wonderful grandchildren and Godchildren.

# CLASS OF 2023

*Candidates for Graduate Degrees*

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## SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

*Doctor of Psychology in School Psychology*

Dianna Batalla<sup>†</sup>  
Krystal Joy Norman

Monica Ralph  
Leah Schorr

*Master of Arts*

Kristen H. McShea  
Rita Andonian  
Jaime Crudup<sup>‡</sup>  
Brianna Schaar Decker  
Daisy Delvalle<sup>‡</sup>  
Cristian Emmanuel Mendoza<sup>‡</sup>  
Sydney Irene Tuzzo<sup>‡</sup>  
Mary Williams<sup>‡</sup>  
Rebecca Bauer<sup>†</sup>  
Megan N Boese<sup>†</sup>  
Rebecca Connolly<sup>†</sup>  
Diane Danch<sup>†</sup>  
Deanna Dunne<sup>†</sup>

David Nisan Fetman<sup>†</sup>  
Lauren Elizabeth Jezycki<sup>†</sup>  
Carly Marie Lawson<sup>†</sup>  
Kara Nicole Mattsson<sup>†</sup>  
Fallon E Oates<sup>†</sup>  
Marjorie Pawlowicz<sup>†</sup>  
Samantha Rose Realmuto<sup>†</sup>  
Danielle N Rizzo-Mahler<sup>†</sup>  
Stephanie Torres<sup>†</sup>  
Carol Angell  
Frances Ann Burke  
Janine Corgan

# SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND DIGITAL MEDIA

## *Master of Business Administration*

Katlyn Anne Bigott<sup>†</sup>  
Noelle A Chant<sup>^</sup>  
Brian Joseph DiPasquale<sup>‡</sup>  
Helmo Pedrosa Custodio  
Filho  
Chaya Fischer  
Julianna Fren<sup>†</sup>  
Jack Samuel Guiton

Peter Henin<sup>†</sup>  
Esther Kotler<sup>†</sup>  
Dallas Price Lamme<sup>†</sup>  
Allison Elaine Mcknight  
Nicholas Riavez  
Aniyah Tenaj Russell<sup>^</sup>  
Kristopher Soto<sup>‡</sup>  
Anthony J Troche<sup>†</sup>

## *Master of Science*

Jennifer Rae DePietro<sup>^</sup>  
Henry Andrea Jean Michel<sup>^</sup>  
Shamaine Jones-Haynes<sup>^</sup>  
Daryl L Layton<sup>†</sup>  
Elisa Michelle Lopez

Chioma Ossai<sup>^</sup>  
Ryan David Rigby<sup>^</sup>  
Matthew Schoenberger<sup>†</sup>  
Sandra Sosa<sup>†</sup>  
Matthew Vasquez<sup>^</sup>

# SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

## *Master of Arts*

Alyssa Kathleen Abade<sup>†</sup>  
Megan Banks<sup>†</sup>  
Jaclyn Bavaro<sup>‡</sup>  
Stephen Bazaz<sup>†</sup>  
Kelly Booth<sup>†</sup>  
Eric Timothy Brown<sup>†</sup>  
Peter Anthony Buttitta<sup>‡</sup>  
Tara Carlisle<sup>^</sup>  
Danielle Casciano<sup>^</sup>  
Maringlena Coliu-Vizzoca<sup>‡</sup>  
Azure Diggs<sup>†</sup>  
Sarah Dodgson<sup>†</sup>  
Edward Eldridge<sup>†</sup>  
Megan Fleming<sup>†</sup>  
Samantha Foy<sup>‡</sup>  
Samantha Rose Gerardi<sup>†</sup>  
Nora Green<sup>‡</sup>

Nicole Renee Hamlett<sup>‡</sup>  
Jeremy Lipari<sup>‡</sup>  
Nicholas Lorusso<sup>†</sup>  
Michael Mango-Puglisi<sup>†</sup>  
Kerri Lee McQueen<sup>^</sup>  
Da'Shauna Melton  
Rachel Millward<sup>†</sup>  
Angela R. Mosbrucker<sup>^</sup>  
Alison Prendeville<sup>‡</sup>  
Rebecca Romanko<sup>^</sup>  
Stephen Thomas Russell<sup>†</sup>  
Margaret Shelton<sup>‡</sup>  
Valerie Smith<sup>^</sup>  
Jessica Sparandera<sup>‡</sup>  
Lauren Staats<sup>†</sup>  
Allison Tate<sup>‡</sup>

## *Master of Arts in Teaching*

Sydney Nicole Crawford‡  
Evangeline Rose Politowski‡  
Nolan Christopher Czech  
Brandon William Downey  
Nicole Galante  
Nicholas Xavier Napolitano†  
Ariana Gabrielle Zaneccchia  
Cameryn E. Cimirro‡

Vanessa Ferrara  
Katelyn Ann Hooker^  
Victoria Quattrocock  
Alexa Marie Quinn  
Brittany M Russo‡  
Kevin Wilhalme

## *Master of Education*

Lisa Ann Morsink†  
Cassandra Andrea Oresko†  
Paige Sessock†  
Brenda Limaldi  
Nick Santucci‡  
Catherine C Cahill‡  
Anthony Salvatore Calco^  
Rudyarde Exume  
Jennifer Lynne Kennedy  
Briana Nicole Nespoli^  
Brandon Wall  
Allison Patricia White  
Benjamin Wilson  
Ashlee Buitrago‡  
Paul A Gonzalez  
Nicole Shawn Nietzer  
Noemi Olavarria^  
Denise Allman†  
Paula L. Chaussepied^  
Wendy Faria^  
Ivana Garcia

Althea George^  
Jamieson Lyn Gilmore†  
Cindy M Joyce^  
Amanda Margaret Linder^  
Brienne O'Neill†  
Kimberly Rego^  
Leah Russo†  
Madison Savulich†  
Michelle Spinella^  
Caitlin Valmas^  
Katie Lynn Williver†  
Joyce Witter^  
Samantha Binn  
Kaitlyn Coleman  
Andrew Cooper‡  
William J Hauser‡  
Michelle Marie Kilgore†  
Crystal Sheree Mays‡  
Julie Oakes†  
Jennifer Racine†  
Donald Scazafave†

# **HACKENSACK MERIDIAN HEALTH SCHOOL OF NURSING AND WELLNESS AT GCU**

## *Master of Arts*

Jennifer Cacciarelli  
Sara Rose Cruz‡

Gianna Marie Macera^  
Stefanie A Turner‡

† Degree conferred August 2022 ‡ Degree conferred December 2022  
^ Degree anticipated to be conferred in August 2023

# SPECIAL GRADUATE AWARDS

*Faculty grant awards in recognition of outstanding ability and achievement in the student's academic program.*

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## SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

### CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING

*First Award in Clinical Mental Health Counseling* ..... Cristian Mendoza

*Honorable Mention Award in Clinical Mental Health Counseling* ..... Mary Williams

### SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY, PSY.D.

*First Award in School Psychology Psy.D. Program* ..... Krystal Norman

### SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY, M.A.

*First Award in School Psychology M.A. Program* ..... Diane Danch

*Honorable Mention Award in School Psychology M.A. Program* ..... Deanna Dunne

### THEOLOGY

*First Award in Theology* ..... Frances Burke and Janine Corgan



# SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND DIGITAL MEDIA

*School of Business and Digital Media Executive Advisory  
Council Emerging Leader Award* ..... Matthew Vasquez

## **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (M.B.A.)**

*First Award in MBA* ..... Kristopher Soto

*Honorable Mention Award in MBA* ..... Nicholas Riavez

## **COMMUNICATION AND DIGITAL MARKETING**

*First Award in Communication and  
Digital Marketing* ..... Daryl Layton and Matthew Vasquez

# SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

## **ADMINISTRATION AND LEADERSHIP**

*First Award in Administration  
and Leadership* ..... Jaclyn Bavaro

## **INSTRUCTIONAL ENDORSEMENT WITH M.ED.**

*First Award in M.Ed.  
(English as a Second Language)* ..... Ashlee Buitrago

## **READING/LITERACY SPECIALIZATION**

*First Award in Reading/  
Literacy Specialization* ..... Brianne O'Neill

## **SCHOOL COUNSELING**

*First Award in School Counseling* ..... Jennifer Kennedy

## **TEACHING (M.A.T.)**

*First Award in Teaching (M.A.T.)* ..... Ariana Zaneccchia

*Honorable Mention Award in  
Teaching (M.A.T.)* ..... Brandon Downey

# HACKENSACK MERIDIAN *HEALTH* SCHOOL OF NURSING AND WELLNESS AT GCU

## INTEGRATIVE HEALTH

*First Award in Integrative Health*..... Jennifer Cacciarelli

*Honorable Mention Award in Integrative Health* ..... Stefanie Turner

## THE PRESIDENT'S MEDALLION

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The President's Medallion, which is also called the lavalier, depicts the seal of the university on the front and the cross of the Sisters of Mercy on the reverse. It is worn by the president at official university functions of high solemnity, such as the Inauguration, Convocation, and Commencement. The seal of Georgian Court University features the Cross of Christ, which symbolizes true Christian character. This character is enlightened by the lighted lamp and illustrates the virtues of truth and goodness. These virtues are fostered through the Book of the Arts and Sciences by which Georgian Court students achieve intellectual development. The lion signifies moral and physical fortitude united by the laurel wreath, the Greek symbol of victory and triumph.

The name of the school is inscribed in English, accompanied by the founding date, 1908.

Bonitas, Disciplina, Scientia—goodness, discipline, and knowledge—are the virtues through which Georgian Court graduates will triumph in the formation of their characters.

## THE UNIVERSITY MACE

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The history and tradition of the mace is rooted in medieval times. Over time the mace was used for royal ceremonial purposes and eventually became intertwined with the idea of a scepter, made with precious metals and encrusted with jewels. The mace evolved into a symbol of authority, order, and pomp in academic ceremonies, reflecting the mission and values of the institution. A new mace was crafted for Georgian Court after the institution became a university in 2004.

The university mace symbolizes the commitment of the faculty and administration of the university to excellence in education, and to the Mercy core values of justice, respect, integrity, service, and compassion. The fluted walnut staff bears the gold seal of Georgian Court surrounded by blue enamel, which is positioned above a bronze plate engraved with the Mercy core values. The mace is proudly carried by the mace bearer, traditionally the incoming chair of the Faculty Assembly.

## ACADEMIC REGALIA

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Today's academic regalia has its origins in medieval English custom, where styles of gowns, mortars, and hoods conveyed the loyalties, disciplines, and achievement levels of the wearers. These academic costumes arrived in America in the 1700s and have been made uniform by two 20th-century examinations by a commission for the American Council on Education.

The color of the gown is commonly black, with no trim for the bachelor's or master's degrees. The doctor's gown is faced along the front with broad velvet panels and has full bell-shaped sleeves each bearing three horizontal bars of velvet; it may be worn open or closed. The bachelor's gown has pointed sleeves in contrast to the master's gown, which is distinguished by the long oblong sleeve with a square cut. The hood worn around the neck and draped down the back displays the colors of the institution which awarded the degree, as well as the colors of the degree subject. Bachelor's degree hoods are optional. Tassels for caps or mortars are black, though gold is most often worn by those with doctoral degrees. The cords, sashes, and stoles worn by some of the graduating students are provided by the academic honor societies or programs to which they belonged. The colors and lettering of the honor regalia are those of the honor society or program.

The official Georgian Court University gown is worn by the president, trustees, honorary degree recipients, and Commencement speaker. The royal blue gown is embellished with black velvet panels on the front, on which the Georgian Court University seal is embroidered in gold, and black velvet chevrons on the sleeves. The hoods are Georgian Court's school colors of blue and gold, and the black velvet tams are adorned with gold silk tassels.

# HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

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- 1963** John F. McCarty
- 1964** The Hon. Margaret Chase Smith
- 1966** Helen Hayes
- 1967** The Hon. Mildred Barry Hughes '23
- 1973** The Most Reverend George W. Ahr, S.T.D., D.D.
- 1975** Loretta Young  
George Gallup Sr.  
George Gallup Jr.
- 1976** Ralph Nader
- 1980** Buckminster Fuller
- 1982** The Hon. Alan J. Karcher
- 1983** Rosemary Haughton  
Gov. Thomas H. Kean  
The Hon. James J. Howard
- 1984** Rev. J. Bryan Hehir
- 1985** Mary Alice Williams
- 1986** The Hon. Theodore J. Lebreque  
Hortense Kessler Green  
Col. Guion S. Bluford Jr.
- 1987** Mary Little Parell
- 1988** Joyce Carol Oates
- 1991** Dorothy K. Light  
Daniel P. Weadock  
Douglas E. Johnson
- 1992** Deborah P. Wolfe, Ed.D.
- 1994** Mary Higgins Clark
- 1995** Mary Ann Martin  
Jay Cleveland Harbeck  
Edward B. Connolly
- 1996** H. George Buckwald
- 1997** The Most Reverend John Charles Reiss, D.D., J.C.D.
- 1999** Mary Loretto Snite Dillon '37  
Kingdon Gould Jr.
- 2000** Helen F. Boehm  
Lucille Bongiovanni  
Jack Ford
- 2001** Laurence M. Downes  
Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C.  
JoAnne Kane  
The Hon. Robert W. Singer
- 2002** Dorothy J. Marron '36  
The Hon. Christopher Smith  
Msgr. Leonard R. Toomey
- 2003** Bruce Feiler  
Hirair Hovnanian  
Eleanor Weisbrod '44
- 2004** Joseph Buckelew  
Joyce Armstrong Carroll, Ed.D., '59
- 2005** Virginia S. Bauer  
Ellen Mullane Gallagher '64  
Gerald R. Gallagher
- 2006** Rosalie Bertell, GNSH, Ph.D.  
Marlene Lynch Ford, J.D., '76  
Ruth B. Mandel, Ph.D.
- 2007** Elizabeth Christopherson  
Mary E. Morris Powell '45  
Zeni Fox, Ph.D.
- 2008** Margaret Cleary '51  
María Elena González, RSM  
Patricia B. Licuanan, Ph.D.  
Anne Milgram, J.D.  
Grace Nolan, RSM, '57  
The Hon. Eugene D. Serpentelli, J.S.C.
- 2009** Rev. Daniel Berrigan, SJ  
Rev. Ann Struthers Coburn '72  
Judith M. Persichilli  
The Most Reverend John M. Smith, J.C.D., D.D.  
Mary C. Sullivan, RSM, Ph.D.
- 2010** Barbara Ellen Black, D.P.S.  
The Hon. Honora O'Brien Killgallen, J.D., J.S.C., '82  
Kevin Ryan, J.D.
- 2011** Helen Hanna Casey '71  
Major General Maria Falca-Dodson  
Assemblyman Joseph R. Malone III  
Tim McLoone
- 2012** Richard Hader, R.N., Ph.D., FAAN, CHE, NE-BC, CPHQ  
The Hon. Rochelle R. Hendricks  
William R. Johnston  
Elizabeth Schmalz Ferguson

- 2013** Mary Patrice Brown, J.D.  
The Hon. Frank J. Guarini, J.D.  
Amy Joseph Habib '60  
The Most Reverend David M.  
O'Connell, C.M., J.C.D.
- 2014** The Hon. Thomas F. Kelaher, J.D.  
Maryann Cusimano Love, Ph.D.  
Tracey Severns, Ed.D.  
Francis X. Wentworth Jr.
- 2015** Mary Louise Miller, RSM, Esq.  
Karen Schneider, RSM, M.D.  
Father Alphonse Stephenson  
Robert J. Wicks, Psy.D.
- 2016** John R. Garbarino  
John K. Lloyd, FACHE  
Rose Martin, RSM  
Maria Cordis Richey, RSM,  
Ph.D., '50
- 2017** Deacon James J. Knipper '15  
Adam Lowy  
Richard Rohr, OFM  
Barbara Williams, RSM, '63
- 2018** Elisabeth Fontenelli  
Jon F. Hanson  
Triantafillos Parlapanides,  
Ed.D., '00
- 2019** Brian Gragnolati, FACHE  
Justice Anne M. Patterson, J.D.  
Michael A. Pontoriero,  
M.D., FACS
- 2021** Annie Hanna Cestra '73  
Marlene Laó-Collins
- 2022** Robert C. Garrett, FACHE

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2022–2023

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Julia A. Upton, RSM, Ph.D., *Chair*  
Megan E. Mulcahy Romano, *Vice Chair*  
Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., *University President*

James E. Andrews '17  
Nina B. Anuario  
Michele Teresa Aronica, RSM, Ph.D.  
The Hon. Jeffrey S. Chiesa, Esq.  
Rodrigo A. Colon, Jr. '95, '17  
Alicia Cook '08  
Chris E. Domes, Ed.D.  
Madeline Ferraro, Esq.  
Mary Ellen Fuhrman, RSM  
Rev. Msgr. R. Vincent Gartland  
Marilyn E. Gonyo, Ed.D.  
Joyce A. Heckman '83  
Robert H. Hutchins  
Deacon James J. Knipper '15, H'17  
Michael J. Laferrera

Mary K. E. Maples, Esq.  
Kerry Anne McGeary, Ph.D.  
Judith M. Persichilli, RN, B.S.N., M.A.  
Tammi C. Redd, Ph.D.  
Rev. Msgr. Joseph N. Rosie  
Elizabeth M. Schmalz H'12, '16  
Edward J. Smith

*Trustee Emeritae*  
Patricia Smith Heanue '68  
Patricia E. Koch, Esq., '69  
Amelia Alonso McTamaneay '67  
Elizabeth Healey Mulvihill '66  
Linda M. Orlando '07  
M. Deborah Hanley Williams '68

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## OUR MISSION

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Georgian Court University, founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, provides a comprehensive liberal arts education in the Roman Catholic tradition. The university has a special concern for women and is a dynamic community committed to the core values of justice, respect, integrity, service, and compassion, locally and globally.

Georgian Court University provides students with:

- a curriculum broad enough to be truly liberal, yet specialized enough to support further study and future careers;
- an environment for the entire university community to grow through shared educational, cultural, social, and spiritual experiences; and
- the will to translate concern for social justice into action.

# ***ALMA MATER***

## **“Hail to the Blue and Gold”**

Hail to the Blue and Gold  
Dear Georgian Court  
'Mid stately pines so old  
Ideals you brought to us  
Of honor and loyalty,  
Faith staunch and true;  
We pledge fidelity and love  
To you.

So through the years to come  
Your name will be  
Symbol of faith and love  
And constancy, dear G.C.!  
Here in these hallowed halls  
Pledge we anew  
Our hearts' devotion to the  
Gold and Blue.

**GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY**  
THE MERCY UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY