

# PRESIDENT'S AWARDS



## MOLLOY UNIVERSITY



### PRESIDENT'S AWARDS CEREMONY

2025 • The Madison Theatre at Molloy University • Public Square

# PROGRAM

## ***Presider***

James P. Lentini, D.M.A.  
President

## ***Master of Ceremonies***

Michelle Piskulich, Ph.D.  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

## ***Invocation***

Michelle Martin, M.S. '17  
Director of Mission and Ministry





## FACULTY AWARD DESCRIPTIONS

### **Emerging Scholar Award**

This award recognizes the emerging scholarly achievements of full-time faculty who have a developing record of research, scholarship, or creative activity. Evidence includes publications, grant proposals, copyrighted documents, the development of innovative technology or practice, performances, exhibits, and/or other scholarly activities in any academic field of study.

### **Faculty Leadership Award**

The Faculty Leadership Award is an award of great distinction that recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to the institution (e.g., task force service, elected governance committees, new initiatives, service to the faculty, service to students) and who exemplifies a commitment to the Molloy University Mission in a spirit of collaboration. This individual is likely to have had an impact on Molloy University, as well as the broader community.

### **Innovative Online Course Design Award**

The Innovative Online Course Design Award recognizes the exceptional online course design of full-time and part-time faculty, as evidenced by a commitment to quality course design that exemplifies effective teaching strategies, continued excellence in online teaching, positive impact on student learning, and innovative approaches to teaching.

### **Academic Assessment Program Rockstar Award**

The Academic Assessment Program Rockstar Award is given to a program in recognition of outstanding program or course-level assessment achievements that contribute to significant continual improvement and substantial faculty engagement in the academic assessment process.

### **The Lighthearted Lion Award**

The Lighthearted Lion Award is presented in recognition of an individual's insight, wisdom and skill in handling diverse teaching and student responsibilities with grace and fortitude. This individual is someone who serves Molloy University students tirelessly, with a collaborative nature and a vision of the future.

### **Maroon Monocle Award**

The Maroon Monocle Award is presented in recognition of an individual's ability to align their philosophy of teaching with research practices in a creative, yet meaningful manner. The ability to creatively align teaching and research practice suggests superior teaching skill that is informed by a faculty member's research.

## INNOVATIVE ONLINE COURSE DESIGN AWARD



### **Rebeca Herrero Sáenz, Ph.D.**

Dr. Rebeca Herrero Sáenz, Assistant Professor of Sociology in the School of Arts and Sciences, is the recipient of the Innovative Online Course Design Award for her *Introduction to Sociology* online asynchronous course. This award recognizes a faculty member for the exceptional design of an online course exemplified by using effective teaching strategies that positively impact student learning, incorporation of innovative approaches to teaching, and demonstration of continued professional development in online teaching. This general education course is

engaging and well-designed. Course modules make use of PowerPoint slides with VoiceThread audio that encourage students to participate in pre and post-lecture conversations. At first, students provide reflections on their own experiences or answers to questions related to the lecture topic and then apply concepts and theories presented during the lecture. These conversations on VoiceThread foster and create a learning environment in which students listen to the ideas and voices of their peers. Discussion board topics are based on lecture content, thought-provoking readings, and challenging questions. Through her participation in the student discussions, Dr. Herrero Sáenz models scholarly inquiry and debate. Her course demonstrates the use of best practices proven to be effective ways to involve students in the learning process. Evidence to her expertise in the field of online learning is that Dr. Hererro Sáenz was invited by the VoiceThread company to present the use of pre and post-lectures as part of their 2024 workshop series. Congratulations, Dr. Herrero Sáenz, on this well-deserved achievement.

## THE LIGHTHEARTED LION AWARD



### **Kerry Mastrangelo, B.S.'95, M.S. FNP,'06, D.N.P.**

Associate Professor of Nursing, Dr. Kerry Mastrangelo, is the 2025 recipient of the Lighthearted Lion Award. Her impact on Molloy University is evident in her numerous contributions as an educator, mentor, and advocate for underserved communities. She is a shining example of someone who lives the four pillars of the Dominican charism: community, service, spirituality, and study. Her commitment to the academic and personal growth of her students extends far beyond the classroom. Dr. Mastrangelo fosters an inclusive environment that encourages and

empowers her students to excel academically and to embrace their roles as compassionate healthcare providers. She consistently addresses student clinical placement needs, resolves conflicts, and supports challenges with unparalleled sensitivity, professionalism, and creativity. Dr. Mastrangelo's kindness and genuine willingness to help are the foundation of her reputation as an educator who cares deeply about the success of her students. She has dedicated many years to enriching student participation in programs that address healthcare disparities and promote health equity. Her advocacy extends beyond the classroom and into the communities that need it most. Through her guidance, students participating in the Jamaica Medical Outreach program gain hands-on experience and a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by underserved populations. Dr. Mastrangelo encourages students to step outside their comfort zones, promoting a sense of empathy and responsibility that resonates long after the outreach program concludes. Her efforts ensure that students not only become skilled clinicians but also compassionate advocates for health equity. Congratulations, Dr. Mastrangelo, on being honored with this justly earned accolade.



## EMERGING SCHOLAR AWARD



### **Raymond Blanchard, Ph.D., LMHC, NCC, CCMHC**

Since his initial appointment to the Molloy faculty in 2023, Dr. Raymond Blanchard, Assistant Professor of Clinical Mental Health Counseling, has established a robust program of collaborative scholarly research in school-based mental health at Molloy University that serves as a model for his colleagues and students. He was awarded a grant in 2024 from the Association of Counselor Education and Supervision for his study on *Clinical Supervisors' Experiences in School-Based Mental Health Settings Serving Marginalized Communities*. External support of his work underscores the significance and

broader impact of his research in school-based mental health. Dr. Blanchard will share his work at national conferences this academic year. His publication record includes a chapter in a recently edited textbook, an upcoming manuscript for the *Journal of School Mental Health*, and approval of a two-part textbook accepted by Cognella Publishing, to be released in 2026. Dr. Blanchard serves on academic journal editorial boards, and in leadership roles of professional associations. In addition to developing and expanding his own research endeavors, Dr. Blanchard is keen on mentoring the next generation of scholars and supporting their research efforts at local and national conferences. Dr. Blanchard exemplifies the qualities of an emerging scholar. His dedication to research and his collaborative spirit have significantly impacted academic excellence at Molloy University and in the field of Clinical Mental Health Counseling. Congratulations, Dr. Blanchard, on being honored with the Emerging Scholar Award in recognition of your outstanding achievements.

## MAROON MONOCLE AWARD



### **Andrea Honigsfeld, Ed.D.**

Dr. Andrea Honigsfeld is a Professor of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) in the School of Education and Human Services. She has been a speaker and field researcher in local school districts on Long Island, New York City, and across the country. She is recognized internationally for her work on multilingual learners and language and literacy development. Through her invited keynote presentations, Dr. Honigsfeld shares her scholarly work, personal experience related to teaching best practices, and her breadth of knowledge on educational

research related to immigrant education and multilingual learners. Dr. Honigsfeld has the unique gift of challenging current and future teachers intellectually and supporting them in an ongoing positive way while connecting her teaching to real-life experiences and scholarship. She fosters active learning, discussion, and reflection among her students. Similarly, she provides opportunities for students to practice and apply new knowledge while encouraging a philosophy of lifelong learning. As a researcher and scholar, Dr. Honigsfeld has an extraordinary publication record that includes more than 32 books and 75 published articles. Her colleagues give evidence of her unsurpassed professionalism, outstanding ability to share knowledge, and willingness to provide opportunities for her students and junior professors to publish with her, mentoring the next generation of scholars. Dr. Honigsfeld has dedicated her life to sharing her vast knowledge as a teacher, mentor, volunteer, and role model while expertly aligning her teaching and research practices in a creative and meaningful manner. Congratulations, Dr. Honigsfeld, on your achievements and this fully merited distinction as the 2025 Maroon Monocle Award recipient.

## ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT PROGRAM ROCKSTAR AWARD



*Left to right: Melissa McCardle, Joanne O'Brien, Sherone Smith-Sanchez, Ellen Harold, Eve Dieringer, Maria Esposito, Carrie McDermott Goldman, Linda Kraemer, Vicky Giouroukakis, Kylene Foster*

### School of Education and Human Services Teacher Education Programs

The Office of Academic Affairs Academic Assessment Program Rockstar Award is presented to the School of Education and Human Services Teacher Education Programs in recognition of outstanding program and course-level assessment achievements that directly contribute to significant continual improvement. Under the leadership of retired Dean, Dr. Joanne O'Brien, Interim Dean, Dr. Melissa McCardle, Program Directors

Dr. Vicky Giouroukakis and Dr. Francine Wisnewski, and guidance of Dr. Linda Kraemer, Assessment Coordinator, Ellen Harold, AAQUEP Coordinator and Data Manager, Janet Whalen, Coordinator of Field Placement, and Kylene Foster, School Administrator-Executive Assistant, the Teacher Education Programs demonstrate the highest commitment to academic assessment, and substantial, continual, and enthusiastic engagement of its full-time faculty in all phases of the academic assessment process. Specifically, the extensive assessment work required to change program-level accreditors, and the continued commitment to using data to inform best practices, demonstrate the reason these programs are truly assessment rockstars. In so doing, the Teacher Education Programs serve as a complete model of how program-level accreditation and assessment are rocking at Molloy! For these reasons, we are honored to present the 2025 Academic Assessment Program Rockstar Award to the School of Education and Human Services Teacher Education Programs.

## FACULTY LEADERSHIP AWARD



### Vicky Giouroukakis, Ph.D.

Dr. Vicky Giouroukakis serves as the Program Director of Graduate and Postgraduate Programs for the School of Education and Human Services and is the recipient of the 2025 Faculty Leadership Award. A member of the faculty of Molloy University for twenty years, Dr. Giouroukakis is a full professor and an expert in her field of English Education. Her commitment to building a sense of community and belonging among graduate students is evidenced by her collaboration with the Office of Research, Scholarship, and Graduate Studies to launch the

first Molloy University School of Education and Human Services Graduate Student Leadership Association and the development of a Graduate Education Newsletter that is shared with students, alumni, and the wider community. Her scholarship portfolio is impressive; it includes five books and an extensive list of peer-reviewed publications and presentations. She has utilized her expertise to develop graduate programs and curricula, mentor faculty, and identify innovative ways to impact our students and the communities in which they live and work. Dr. Giouroukakis leads the annual Literacy Conference for educators at Molloy, hosts an annual Career Fair for students on campus, moderates the ELA Advisory Board, and serves on multiple University committees. Dr. Giouroukakis is an exceptional leader who shares her knowledge and practical experience at local, state, and national levels. She is a valued colleague to all who have had the pleasure of working with her and learning from her. Congratulations, Dr. Giouroukakis, on your accomplishments, leadership, vision, and this well-deserved honor.



## **AWARD DESCRIPTIONS**

### **The Above and Beyond Award**

This award is given to a staff member or administrator who uses their skills and attributes for the betterment of others on campus. This individual "steps up," volunteers, and consistently asks, "how can I help," even when it exceeds their job description. This person shares their time and talent in ways that help all those in our community, above and beyond their role.

### **The Bartolomé de las Casas Award**

This award is given to an administrator, staff or faculty member who has made significant strides in our work to become a more inclusive community. Through their efforts they have advocated for and celebrated the diversity within our community, while supporting every opportunity to grow in a reflective way. This award is named after Bartolomé de las Casas O.P., who gave up his extensive land holdings and slaves and traveled to his homeland in Spain in 1515 to petition to stop the abuses that European colonists were inflicting upon the natives of the New World. He is said to be the first person to call out these injustices and advocate for human rights.

### **The S. Diane Capuano Service Award**

This award is given to an administrator, staff or faculty member who is committed to creating an atmosphere conducive to taking actions that will improve the lives of others either locally and/or globally in their interactions with colleagues and students. This award is named after S. Diane Capuano, who was at one time the Campus Minister at Molloy and currently serves as a member of the Leadership Council for the Sisters of St. Dominic, Amityville.

### **The S. Leo Francis Monaghan Spirit Award**

This award is given to an administrator, staff or faculty member who demonstrates a commitment to choosing good in all their daily interactions, taking actions that improve the lives of others, and developing relationships that foster teamwork. This award is named after S. Leo Francis Monaghan who, as a long-time biology faculty member, actively participated in faculty, student, and alumni events always cheering them on.

## **The Professional Excellence Award**

This award is given to a staff member or administrator who consistently exhibits a professional demeanor and excellence in their role. They are often sought after for advice and guidance and are frequently recognized by their colleagues as a leader among peers, often serving on university-wide committees that advance our charism of service.

## **The Rookie of the Year Award**

This award is given to a staff member or administrator who has made a significant impact on the lives of others at Molloy in a short time.

## **The S. Mary Nivard Stabile Award**

This award is given to an administrator, staff or faculty member who shows a commitment to transforming our community through nurturing habits for professional and personal growth, guiding our students to know their full potential and responding to the needs of others. This award is named after S. Mary Nivard Stabile, who is one of the pioneers of Molloy who assisted in establishing the necessary business offices during its foundational years. She was an economics professor who also served in and developed the positions of Registrar, Director of Admissions and Dean of Students.

## **The Molloy Team Award**

This award is given to a Team, Committee, or Department who, through an innovative approach, have demonstrated risk taking, problem solving and creativity to make improvements on behalf of the University. They serve as an example of teamwork and collaboration amongst fellow colleagues, students, and others in our community. This would apply to any cross-functioning team, committee, or department.

## **The Mother Anselma Ruth Medal of Presidential Excellence**

This award is given to an administrator, staff, and faculty member. It is the highest internal award given to an employee who exemplifies the mission of the University. This individual embodies the University's core values and guiding virtues in such a way as to demonstrate that they live the four pillars; act justly and with kindness in all their endeavors; are respectful of every person; embody ethical leadership; and are committed to transforming the community. This award is named after Mother Anselma Ruth, O.P., the first president of Molloy Catholic College for Women when it was opened in 1955.



## THE S. MARY NIVARD STABILE AWARD



### **Linda Silva Thompson, Ph.D.**

Dr. Linda Silva Thompson exemplifies the spirit of the S. Mary Nivard Stabile Award through her unwavering dedication to student success, professional development, and the holistic growth of the Molloy community. As Dean of Student Success and Assessment, Linda has played a pivotal role in guiding students toward realizing their full potential by fostering an environment of support, innovation, and excellence. Dr. Silva Thompson's work with probation and at-risk students exemplifies her commitment to student success. She dedicates significant time to working with students one-on-one to develop plans for success. She has worked collaboratively with academic deans, the Dean of Students, and the faculty to revise student policies and processes in response to the development of the schools, improving clarity for students and faculty, and technological challenges like artificial intelligence. She initiated the Student Success Book Club, a program designed to encourage ongoing professional development among faculty, staff, and administrators. By championing this effort, Dr. Silva Thompson has engaged our colleagues in discussions that enhance their ability to support students effectively. Her commitment to continuous improvement is also apparent in her advocacy for and organization of assessment. A strong commitment to responding to the needs of others is evident in Dr. Silva Thompson's approach to leadership and community building. Her efforts have not only transformed the professional habits of those around her, but have also nurtured personal growth and development. Dr. Linda Silva Thompson's work embodies the values of the S. Mary Nivard Stabile Award, making her a deserving recipient of this prestigious recognition.

## THE ABOVE AND BEYOND AWARD



### **Cindy Vaupel, M.A.**

We are pleased to award the Above and Beyond Award to Cindy Vaupel in recognition of her exceptional contributions as an Administrative Assistant to the School Building Leader (SBL), School District Leader (SDL), and Ed.D. programs in the School of Education and Human Services. Cindy stepped into her role, volunteering to help during a period of exponential growth for the SBL/SDL programs, without any knowledge of the programs. Cindy took on the challenge of learning every aspect of the programs, ensuring that internal and external processes became more efficient and effective. She enthusiastically created new systems while improving existing systems with both the internal team and the outside firm that recruits SBL and SDL students to Molloy. Extremely competent, skilled, and talented, Cindy completes tasks with diligence and attention to detail. Her ideas are creative and practical, and she is both responsive and collaborative. Cindy takes on important roles supporting faculty in critical initiatives that serve the broader community such as the Education Summit, which brought together Long Island and New York City educators to address the mental health needs of recently arrived immigrant youth, and the upcoming literacy conference in fall 2025. For these reasons, Cindy Vaupel is the ideal individual for this well-deserved recognition. Her dedication, innovation, and unwavering support have been instrumental in the advancement of new programs and initiatives, and she exemplifies the spirit of excellence that this award seeks to honor. Cindy is the epitome of a dedicated professional who embodies the Dominican ideals of service, community, study, and spirituality. Congratulations.

## THE S. DIANE CAPUANO SERVICE AWARD



### **Teresa Aprigliano, Ed.D., RN**

Dr. Teresa Aprigliano is the Associate Dean for Accelerated and Non-traditional Nursing Programs in the Barbara H. Hagan School of Nursing and Health Sciences. Dr. Aprigliano earned an A.A.S. degree in Nursing from Pace University, B.S. and M.S. degrees from Adelphi University, and an Ed.D. from the University of Sarasota. Before coming to Molloy more than thirty years ago as a faculty member, Dr. Aprigliano had an extensive and successful career as a Clinical Nurse Specialist at North Shore University Hospital in the Division of Gynecologic

Oncology. Dr. Aprigliano's career has exemplified the concept of service, particularly focused on the prevention of relationship violence. In 2012, with a law enforcement colleague, Dr. Aprigliano co-founded *The Partner Project*, a non-profit foundation dedicated to raising awareness of relationship violence through education, outreach, and dialogue, responding to community needs. A thoughtful and caring colleague, also trained as a qualitative researcher, she has investigated the experiences of relationship abuse survivors and engages in outreach to educate adolescents and young adults about healthy relationships. With *The Partner Project*, she has sponsored multiple annual toy drives and other community service activities at Molloy. Through her efforts as a faculty member, academic leader and *Partner Project* founder, Dr. Aprigliano takes action to help others, mentoring students and colleagues to step up to improve our community and to give back to others. Her leadership and dedication to service clearly reflect the values inherent in the S. Diane Capuano Service Award.

## BARTOLOMÉ DE LAS CASAS AWARD



### **Kisha Chandler, M.S.'12, M.B.A.'15**

Molloy University proudly recognizes Kisha Chandler as the recipient of the Bartolomé de las Casas Award. Through her dedication and leadership, Kisha has championed diversity, equity, and inclusion, ensuring that every student feels supported, valued, and empowered to succeed. As Director for the Lower Hudson Valley Catholic Colleges and Universities Consortium, Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LHVCCUC LSAMP) program, Kisha has been instrumental in advancing opportunities for historically underrepresented students in science,

technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. Her unwavering advocacy has helped break down barriers, creating pathways for academic success. She has been a steadfast mentor and advisor, ensuring that students—especially first-generation and Latinx students—navigate higher education with confidence and purpose. Kisha's influence extends beyond formal programming; she is often the “go-to” person for countless students in need of guidance and support. Whether through her work in the School of Business, the Center for Multicultural and Intercultural Affairs, the Latino/a/e/x Affinity Group, or her collaboration with various other diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts on campus and within the community, her impact is deeply felt. She has fostered a welcoming and reflective space where all students—regardless of background—can thrive. In the spirit of Bartolomé de las Casas, who courageously fought against injustice and advocated for human dignity, Kisha embodies a relentless commitment to fairness, opportunity, and empowerment. Her efforts continue to transform lives and inspire a more just and inclusive Molloy University. Congratulations, Kisha Chandler, on this well-deserved honor!

## THE S. LEO FRANCIS MONAGHAN SPIRIT AWARD



### **Jacqueline Williams, M.S.**

Molloy University is honored to present the S. Leo Francis Monaghan Spirit Award to Jacqueline Williams in recognition of her steadfast commitment to service, teamwork, and the well-being of our community. This award, named for S. Leo Francis Monaghan, celebrates individuals who embody the Dominican spirit of connection and encouragement—qualities that Jackie exemplifies every day. As Executive Assistant to the Vice President for Mission Integration and Inclusion, Jackie is a guiding force within the university. Her extensive institutional knowledge,

warm professionalism, and unwavering dedication make her a trusted resource and an invaluable asset to Molloy. She navigates complex challenges with grace and wisdom, offering insight and support to colleagues, faculty, staff, and students alike. Beyond her daily responsibilities, Jackie's contributions to the MLK Day of Service Committee highlight her deep commitment to the common good. As co-chair and organizer of this initiative, she has ensured that Dr. King's legacy is honored through impactful acts of service that bring the Molloy community together in meaningful ways. Jackie has served on several committees including Laudato Si', Health and Welfare, Middle States Standard 1, and she serves as a Mission Ambassador. Her ability to foster collaboration, problem-solve with care, and uplift those around her reflects the very essence of this award. Jackie is the heart of teamwork and kindness on campus. She is always willing to listen, assist, and lead with compassion. Her dedication to choosing good in all her interactions makes her a true role model for the Molloy community. Congratulations, Jackie Williams, on this well-deserved recognition!

## THE PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD



### **Talita Ferrara, Ed.D.'22, LMHC-D**

With great admiration and appreciation, we recognize Dr. Talita Ferrara, Senior Director of Health and Wellness, as the recipient of this year's Professional Excellence Award. Dr. Ferrara embodies the highest standards of professionalism, leadership, and dedication to her field. She works diligently to create an environment that is effective and compassionate while serving the health and wellness needs of Molloy students. Her unwavering commitment to excellence has made a lasting impact on both her colleagues and the institution as a whole. A distinguished

member of our staff, Dr. Ferrara is known not only for her expertise but also for her generosity in mentoring others. Her colleagues consistently seek her guidance, valuing her insight, wisdom, and steadfast commitment to the university's mission. Whether navigating complex challenges or inspiring innovation, Dr. Ferrara remains a trusted voice and a pillar of support. Her leadership extends beyond her immediate role, as she plays an integral part in shaping university-wide initiatives. Serving on key committees, she has been instrumental in advancing programs that reflect our charism of service, fostering a culture of collaboration, integrity, and excellence. Through her work, she has strengthened the university's foundation, ensuring that its core values are upheld and its vision is realized. Dr. Ferrara's ability to lead with both professionalism and compassion sets her apart. Her tireless efforts have earned her the respect and admiration of her peers, making her a leader not only in title but in action. Today, we honor Dr. Ferrara for her exceptional contributions, her unwavering dedication to our students and staff, and the profound impact she has made on our university community. Congratulations, Dr. Ferrara, on this well-deserved recognition!

## THE ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD



### Kimberly Rudolph, B.A.

Kimberly Rudolph, Student Account Representative, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications and Visual Arts from Fordham University. A wonderful addition to our Bursar staff, Kim brings a skillset which makes her a true asset to the Bursar and to Molloy. She is a fast learner and is quickly and completely grasping the role and function of her position. Assigned to the refund team, she has proven to be extremely proficient. A colleague shared, "Kimberly is always approachable, respectful, welcoming and hospitable. She provides exceptional customer service in all dealings with students, parents and other departments within the University." An exemplary customer service representative, Kim has demonstrated good listening skills and compassion when encountering difficult situations with students. She is thorough and goes the extra mile every time. She is a true team player. Kim jumps to assist co-workers when needed. She is perceptive and has already made practical suggestions for improving the processes in which she is involved. Prior to joining Molloy, Kim worked as a post-production supervisor in the entertainment industry where she oversaw the editing and distribution of many hours of television content. Outside of work, Kim enjoys spending time with family. She and her husband, Paul, who has been with the NYPD for 20 years, are Rockville Centre residents. Kim's great sense of humor, contagious laugh, and warm personality have enabled her to become a welcome member of our team, and we congratulate her on this well-deserved recognition.

## THE MOLLOY TEAM AWARD



*Left to right: Shannon Rocks, Cathleen DiPietro, Deborah Weber, Dorothy Bock, Valerie Kutcher*

### The Student Solution Center

The Student Solution Center is so deserving of the Molloy Team Award which recognizes exceptional innovation, risk-taking, problem-solving, collaboration, and creativity in advancing the mission of Molloy University. Under the leadership of Cathleen DiPietro, team members Valerie Kutcher, Shannon Rocks, Deborah Weber, and Dorothy Bock employ creative strategies leading to positive outcomes. Faced with challenges related to the FAFSA rollout, 2024 enrollment required imaginative and unconventional thinking. Understanding the assignment, the Student Solution Center team implemented an innovative initiative of early first year student registration. Demonstrating

remarkable courage and creativity in implementing this untested method, this initiative addressed the immediate issue and set a new standard for early registration for first year students going forward. Their ability to think outside the box results in greatly enhancing the student experience, as they always make the needs of the students their top priority. The Student Solution Center exemplifies true collaboration, bringing together colleagues, faculty, and students. They consistently consult and collaborate with faculty advisors, Financial Aid, the Registrar, the Bursar, Admissions, Student Affairs, Academic Affairs, and many other departments. They consciously foster a culture of inclusivity and shared purpose, resulting in amazing successes that contribute significantly to Molloy's impressive graduation and retention rates. The Student Solution Center's dedication to innovation and collaboration has a profound impact on Molloy and our students. Their work serves as a model of excellence within our community.

## THE MOTHER ANSELMA RUTH MEDAL OF PRESIDENTIAL EXCELLENCE



### Jeannine Perrin

Jeannine Perrin, Administrative Assistant and Office Manager for The Rebecca Center for Music Therapy at Molloy University, is the cornerstone of the center and an invaluable member of the Molloy community. Her dedication extends beyond her daily responsibilities, as she continually demonstrates an unwavering commitment to the clients, staff, and the university as a whole. With warmth, professionalism, and a tireless work ethic, Jeannine ensures that The Rebecca Center operates seamlessly, fostering an environment of support and inclusivity.

As Staff Council President, Jeannine is a passionate advocate for her colleagues, ensuring that staff voices are heard and respected. She plays a key role in various committees, including Mission Ambassadors, Laudato Si', Community Connections, and the Professional Day Committee. Her leadership is rooted in a deep commitment to Molloy's mission, promoting unity, respect, and collaboration throughout the campus. Jeannine exemplifies ethical leadership, always acting with kindness and fairness. She treats everyone with dignity, regardless of their role, and is known for her willingness to step up, volunteer, and ask, "How can I help?" Her selfless nature and dedication to service make a profound impact on those around her. Through her daily efforts, Jeannine strengthens the Molloy community, fostering relationships and creating a welcoming atmosphere for all. Her outstanding dedication, service, and leadership make her a truly deserving recipient of the Mother Anselma Ruth Medal of Presidential Excellence.

## THE MOTHER ANSELMA RUTH MEDAL OF PRESIDENTIAL EXCELLENCE



### Paul Van Wie, Ph.D.

Dr. Paul Van Wie, Professor of History and Political Science in the School of Arts and Sciences, earned a Ph.D. in history from the CUNY Graduate Center. He is the author of six books on Long Island history, with another one soon to be published. He has volunteered for 30 years with the Town of Hempstead Landmark Preservation Committee and, since 2017, has served as its Chair. Dr. Van Wie is also a Trustee of the Nassau County Historical Society and is the Founder of the Franklin Square Museum. His newest community roles include the Presidency of the Friends of

Hempstead Plains at Nassau Community College and acting as Trustee of the Agricultural Society of Queens, Nassau, and Suffolk Counties. At Molloy, Dr. Van Wie currently serves as the advisor to the History and Political Science Club and the History and Political Science Honor Societies. In recognition of his many contributions, Dr. Van Wie received the Faculty Alumni Award in 2014. Dr. Van Wie's 30-year career has embodied the four pillars of Dominican life. His spirituality is reflected in his status as a Third Order Dominican. His commitment to study is evidenced by his recent promotion to the highest academic rank, full Professor. His dedication to building community includes his strong bonds with students, alumni, and colleagues and extends to his volunteer work on Long Island. Dr. Van Wie's life as a teacher has never been just a job, but a mission to prepare the next generation for meaningful careers and ethical leadership. We are honored to present him with the Mother Anselma Ruth Medal of Presidential Excellence.





### **Audrey Cohan, Ed.D.**

It is with great honor that we present the Mother Anselma Ruth Medal of Presidential Excellence to Dr. Audrey Cohan, recognizing her commitment to the University's core values and guiding virtues. Dr. Cohan exemplifies these principles through her actions, which are always guided by a sense of justice and compassion. Her research is collaborative and focuses on empowering educators to support English language learners and their families. She consistently downplays her own role to highlight the contributions of others, whether in her faculty, administrative or grant writing efforts. Those working with Dr. Cohan know her commitment to justice is unflinching and will recognize the phrase uttered in response to injustice, "It's just not right." Dr. Cohan's interactions with colleagues, students, and community members are marked by profound respect and a belief in the inherent worth of every individual. She works tirelessly to remove barriers to success and leads by example with integrity, transparency, and a strong moral compass. Her leadership has earned the trust and admiration of many and is sought after for professional guidance in teaching and research. In every role, Dr. Cohan has significantly impacted our community. She has a talent for uniting faculty towards common goals, promoting Molloy's reputation, and improving students' lives. Her efforts in developing new academic programs, advocating for graduate students, and promoting research, scholarship, and creative activity have strengthened the Molloy University community. In recognition of her outstanding contributions, we proudly award Dr. Audrey Cohan the Mother Anselma Ruth Medal of Presidential Excellence. Her dedication to justice, respect, ethical leadership, and community transformation makes her a deserving recipient of this honor.



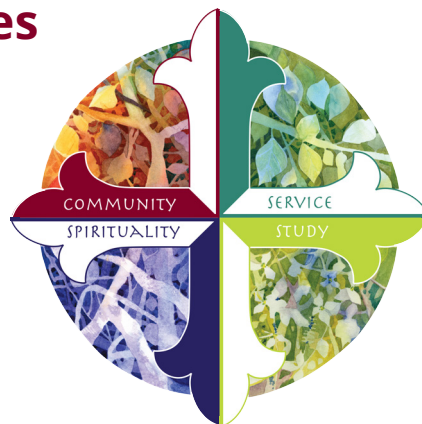


## Mission Statement

Molloy University, an independent, Catholic university rooted in the Dominican tradition of study, spirituality, service, and community, is committed to academic excellence with respect for each person. Through transformative education, Molloy promotes a lifelong search for truth and the development of ethical leadership.

## Molloy Values and Guiding Virtues

Molloy University is a Catholic, independent university founded by the Sisters of St. Dominic (Dominican), Amityville. “The Dominican vision for education is a holistic way of looking at and being in the world. It is grounded in values integral to the mission of the order: the pursuit of truth, integration of study and contemplation, seeing God in all things, compassion and justice, and engaged scholarship.” *Dominican Charism in Higher Education: A Vision in Service of Truth* (2012). Therefore, Molloy University, grounded in the four pillars of study, service, spirituality and community, values:



### Acting justly and with kindness in all our endeavors

*We consciously choose the ethical direction.*

- Choose the good in all our daily interactions
- Take actions that will improve the lives of others—both locally and globally
- Develop relationships that foster teamwork within a supportive community

### Transforming our communities

*We believe that, as leaders, our own lives are in need of constant transformation as the starting point for creating a transformative learning environment*

- Nurture habits for ongoing personal and professional growth
- Create an expansive vision that helps our students see limitless possibilities and encourages them to have an openness to all people and things
- Develop reflective and responsive students and graduates in an ever-changing global society

### Searching for truth

*We acknowledge that all of us share some part of the truth and endeavor to engage one another even in the midst of passionate disagreements on contrasting convictions.*

- Commit to listening; taking a non-defensive stance
- Create an inclusive atmosphere where people can ask significant questions
- Be curious and flexible; open-minded

### Reflectively listening to ourselves, our God and to the signs of the times in our contemporary world

*With humility, we cultivate self-awareness in order to respond with our best truth to our diverse community and world.*

- Cultivate an inner capacity for self-reflection; create opportunities for reflection-in classrooms, among colleagues in work settings and at every level of interaction on campus
- Act in such a way as to encourage a more inclusive campus community
- Build relationships that support diversity

*We pause to acknowledge that Molloy University is located on lands once home to Indigenous Peoples, including the Lenape, the Montaukett Indian Nation, and Indigenous Peoples who resided in the Massapequa, Merrick, and Rockaway territories. We recognize the long and complex history that has brought us to these lands, and we seek to understand the ongoing impact of settler colonialism and its influence on the cultures and heritages of Indigenous Peoples. We remember and acknowledge our connections to Indigenous Peoples and appreciate the opportunity to live and learn on this land. We honor Indigenous Peoples of the past, today, and generations to come.*



**MOLLOY  
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*Cover art by Francis Bonnet*