



MARIST
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School of Science Newsletter

FALL 2025



Tarver summer intern Kristen Fitzgibbon hiking to a vernal pool at the Black Creek Preserve.



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Dean's Update

As we near the end of the semester and look back on an eventful fall, the School of Science finds itself on the threshold of an exceptionally energizing moment. Plans are underway for new facilities and new academic programs that will accelerate our signature strengths in science and health. These investments are more than bricks, equipment, or curricula; they are commitments to a future in which a thriving School of Science deepens the intellectual vibrancy of our campus and opens Marist to a broader and more diverse community of prospective students eager to shape the world through evidence-driven work.

This momentum is powered by people. Our faculty continue to distinguish themselves with awards that recognize excellence in teaching, scholarship, and academic innovation. Our students are earning competitive summer research placements across the country, stepping into laboratories and field stations where their developing expertise can take shape. And our alumni, through their wide-ranging accomplishments, remind us of the enduring impact that begins in our classrooms and labs.

We are also strengthening our mission through new partnerships that broaden opportunities for our students and faculty. As I shared in announcing our expanded collaboration with Nuvance Health, now joining Northwell Health: "Our newly expanded partnership builds on a longstanding relationship. I'm proud that the work we began years ago has helped lay the groundwork for an agreement that now brings in two additional schools across our campus."

Together, with shared purpose, strategic investment, and a community that continues to rise, we are shaping a vibrant and ambitious future for the School of Science.

Alicia Slater, PhD

Dean of Science and Senior Associate Provost for Academic Operations



Marist and Nuvance Expand Opportunities for SOS Healthcare Students

Marist University and Nuvance Health, now part of Northwell Health, have expanded their decade-long partnership to enhance healthcare education and workforce development in the Hudson Valley and tri-state region. The partnership also focuses on addressing workforce shortages in healthcare, with clinical training opportunities for Marist students in physician assistant, physical therapy, and medical laboratory science programs. Students gain hands-on experience at Nuvance Health facilities, including trauma centers, pediatric services, and award-winning birth centers. Dedicated liaisons ensure students receive the necessary support during rotations, aligning academic needs with real-world clinical demands. "Our two institutions share a commitment to providing students with exceptional applied learning experiences that prepare them for real-world challenges," said Dr. Catherine Gunther Kodat, Provost at Marist. "Working together not only enriches the educational journey but also helps build a highly skilled workforce ready to meet the evolving health needs of our communities."

The collaboration aims to prepare students for real-world challenges while addressing the region's healthcare workforce gaps. Leaders from both institutions emphasize the importance of applied learning, leadership development, and fostering innovation to meet evolving healthcare needs. "Leadership in healthcare is not just about managing teams — it's about inspiring purpose, fostering resilience, and driving innovation in service of our patients," said Dr. Dereck DeLeon, Chief Academic Officer for Nuvance Health. "This partnership with Marist University reflects our shared commitment to cultivating the next generation of leaders who will shape the future of care with integrity, empathy, and excellence."



Valerie DeLeon '26 (ctr) with Nuvance personnel



Graduate Programs Recognize Student Achievements

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAM—CLASS OF 2024

- VALEDICTORIAN
Jason Intermesoli
- SALUTATORIAN
Thomas Pesci
- CLINICAL EDUCATION EXCELLENT AWARD
Caleigh Schafer
- DELTA PHI TAU NATIONAL PHYSICAL THERAPY STUDENT HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTEES Allison Delmar, Katie Lockwood, and Matthey Meluso

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM—CLASS OF 2025

- AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE DIDACTIC YEAR
Maggie Lebinski
- AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE CLINICAL YEAR
Mia Ridgway
- NEIL FITZGERALD AWARD FOR DEMONSTRATING THE MARIST VALUES OF EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION, SENSE OF COMMUNITY, AND COMMITMENT TO SERVICE
Benjamin Williams
- DAVE DEMBOSKI SERVICE AWARD
Madeline Saarie
- KRISTOFER BAUTISTA AWARD FOR CREATING A SENSE OF COMMUNITY AND BELONGING IN THE CLASSROOM
Sofia Ferreira and John Chiavetta (part-time faculty member)
- PI ALPHA NATIONAL PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTEES Samantha Brino, Sarah Perkes, Francesca Picicci, Eric Jackson, Matthew VanVliet, Benjamin Williams, Maggie Lebinski, Kiki Sussman (program alumni and current lab instructor), and Dr. Daniel Perkes (honorary inductee and former part-time faculty member)

Marist University Lauds Faculty with Awards for Academic Vibrancy



AWARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL RESEARCH, SCHOLARSHIP OR CREATIVE ACTIVITY Megan Dennis, Associate Professor of Biology

This award recognizes the faculty member who has made exemplary contributions to their discipline through scholarship, research, or creative arts. The award recipient will have established widespread recognition and influence in their discipline in the form of publications, extramural funding, notable presentations, artistic endeavors, or recognized displays and performances.

Dr. Megan Dennis teaches cell biology and manages an NIH-funded research lab involving undergraduates. Her lab specializes in using microscopy and biochemical techniques to study protein trafficking during melanosome biogenesis. She actively employs evidence-based practices to boost student engagement and incorporates research experiences to develop students' scientific identities. Dr. Dennis earned her PhD from the University of New Mexico and completed a postdoctoral fellowship focused on research and teaching at the University of Pennsylvania. Her mentorship has successfully prepared her students for advanced studies, including PhD, MD, and DDS degrees.



AWARD FOR INNOVATIVE PEDAGOGY AMONG THE PART-TIME FACULTY Christopher Bowser, Environmental Science & Policy Department

This award recognizes exceptional and innovative instruction and a dedication to student success from among the ranks of Marist's part time faculty members. Award recipients demonstrate engaged and innovative approaches in the classroom.

In addition to his service as a part-time instructor in Environmental Science at Marist, Chris Bowser serves as the Education Coordinator for the NYSDEC Hudson River Estuary Program and Hudson River Research Reserve in partnership with Cornell University. He leads environmental education and citizen science initiatives, including an annual estuary-wide monitoring day with 5,000 participants and a community science project tracking American eel migration. His experience spans Peace Corps service in Mauritania, directing education for Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, international workshops, and teaching at both Marist and Bard College. Bowser has earned multiple awards for leadership and pedagogy, holds degrees in biology and environmental science, and actively volunteers as an EMT while serving on nonprofit boards.

School of Science Welcomes New Faculty



Denise Freeman-Twigg Professional Lecturer, MLS

Professor Freeman-Twigg joined Marist's Medical Laboratory Sciences Department in July 2025 as a Professional Lecturer. She is an alumnus of Marist University, where she completed her double major in Medical Laboratory Sciences and Biology. She started her career as a clinical microbiologist at New York Presbyterian Hospital. During her time there, she obtained her Master's degree in Infectious Disease from Drexel University and worked as a research assistant for the department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine. After obtaining her master's degree, Professor Freeman-Twigg transitioned into Clinical Chemistry as a lead technologist. She continues her work as a clinical chemist and microbiologist with her primary focus on clinical correlations in laboratory science, quality control, and evaluating new methodologies. Professor Freeman-Twigg serves as a full-time faculty member for the accelerated MLS program.



Leonardo "Leo" Incorvaia Clinical Operations Manager, PA Program

Leo Incorvaia joined the Marist University staff full-time in August 2025, bringing a strong connection to both the college and the local community. A lifelong Poughkeepsie resident, he earned his B.S. in Business Administration from Marist in 2023 and is currently pursuing his M.S. in Information Systems with a concentration in Business Analytics. Leo previously interned with Laerdal Medical, where he was introduced to simulation technology for healthcare training, an experience that sparked his interest in clinical operations. He went on to work with Northern Medical Group and Hudson Valley Endoscopy Center, gaining hands-on experience in healthcare operations, administrative support. He is passionate about improving systems and processes in academic and clinical settings and looks forward to continuing his contributions to the Marist community. In this new role, he will focus on supporting Marist's Physician Assistant students during the clinical year.



Clinical Assistant Professor, Clinical Coordinator, PA Program

Professor Andrew "AJ" Hasbrouck joined the faculty of the Marist Physician Assistant Program as a Clinical Assistant Professor and Clinical Coordinator in early 2025. Prior to attending college, he served in the US Army where he received extensive medical training and field experience as a forward deployed Infantryman. In 2011 he returned to the Hudson Valley for his formal education, completing his BS in Biomedical Science at Marist in 2016. He returned to Marist as a graduate student in 2019 earning an MS in Physician Assistant Studies degree



Kyla Johnson Laboratory Director

Kyla Johnson is the Laboratory Director for the School of Science, overseeing laboratory operations, regulatory compliance, purchasing, data governance, and safety programs across instructional and research environments. Holding a Master of Science in Chemistry, she has more than eight years of professional experience in pharmaceuticals, chemical manufacturing, and academia. Before transitioning into academic laboratory leadership, Kyla developed a strong technical career as a chemist at Pfizer, Solvay, and Chemprene. Her industry experience includes designing and synthesizing polymers for mining applications, developing and scaling new rubber formulations, optimizing manufacturing processes through structured root-cause analysis, and conducting analytical characterization using NMR, IR, GC-MS, and HPLC.



Marist Science Faculty Earn Professional Promotions



Christina Fojas, PhD
Promoted to Associate Professor

As a faculty member of the graduate health science programs and Director of the Gross Anatomy Laboratory since 2016, **Dr. Fojas'** research is driven by a deep interest in student learning, focusing on self-regulated learning, metacognition, learning approaches, and learning environments. Her work draws on the disciplines of cognitive psychology and the scholarship of teaching and learning, contributing valuable insights that enhance educational practices and student success. In addition to her scholarly achievements, Dr. Fojas is currently serving as Interim Director for the Center for Teaching and Learning, where she leads initiatives to support faculty development and innovative teaching strategies across the university.



Brian Pecchia, PT, DPT, OCS, ATC
Promoted to Clinical Associate Professor of Physical Therapy

A faculty member in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program since 2019, **Dr. Pecchia** has demonstrated exceptional dedication to teaching and advancing the field of physical therapy education. Dr. Pecchia plays a central role in the Marist DPT program, where he specializes in delivering comprehensive instruction in orthopedic content as a board-certified orthopedic clinical specialist. Dr. Pecchia is also a proud Marist alumnus, having earned a BS in Athletic Training.



Terry Paskell
Promoted to Distinguished Professional Lecturer of Medical Technology

Since joining Marist University in 2010, **Professor Paskell** has made an impact as an educator and leader. Serving as the Medical Laboratory Science Program Director and Department Chair since 2015, Professor Paskell has guided the program with vision and dedication, ensuring excellence in both curriculum and student outcomes. In the classroom, Professor Paskell brings his expertise to courses such as Clinical Chemistry and Clinical Microscopy, inspiring future professionals in the medical laboratory sciences.



Fran Sage-King, PT, DPT, PhD
Appointed SOS Assistant Dean for Faculty Development

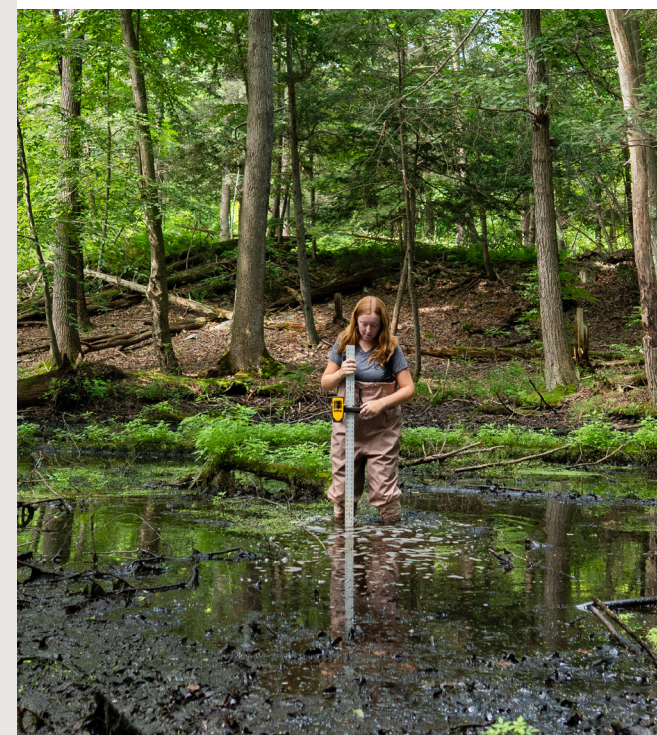
In July of 2025, **Dr. Sage-King** assumed the role of Assistant Dean of the School of Science, bringing experience in undergraduate and graduate programs at Marist University. During her time at Marist Dr. Sage-King taught in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program, where she teaches advanced coursework in the areas of neurologic rehabilitation and limb loss management. In addition, she served as the Interim Department Chair for the Medical Laboratory Science Program. As Assistant Dean, Dr. Sage-King will oversee strategic initiatives that support faculty development and foster interdisciplinary collaboration across the School of Science.



SOS Student Awarded Nationally Competitive Research Experience

The **Picower Institute for Learning and Memory** at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology is a national program that offers undergraduates the opportunity to engage in advanced neuroscience research, particularly those whose home institutions lack such opportunities. Through the **MIT Summer Research Program in Biology and Neuroscience (MSRP-Bio)**, students spend 10 weeks conducting research under the guidance of graduate students or postdoctoral mentors, culminating in a poster presentation. The program also fosters networking with MIT faculty and peers.

A former U.S. Navy nuclear electronics technician, Jonathan Palmiero (CHEM '26) always had a fascination with lucid dreaming and engineering which inspired his academic path. After leaving the Navy in 2022, he enrolled at Marist to study biochemistry but sought neuroscience experience through MSRP-Bio. This summer, he joined Li-Huei Tsai's lab, a leader in Alzheimer's research using 3D brain organoids. His project explores how microglia influence myelination, a process critical for neural signal transmission. Palmiero's experience has solidified his interest in neuroscience and shaped his goal of developing brain-computer interfaces to restore function for individuals with disabilities. "I wasn't exposed to neuroscience until this (past) summer, and I have to say it's met all of my expectations and exceeded them," he said. "Being immersed in exactly what I was looking for is such a gift and it has really cemented my interest in the field." His ultimate ambition: to harness science and technology to heal.



Kristen Fitzgibbon '26 Selected for Tarver Summer Internship Program

The Marie and Rupert Tarver Summer Internship Program was established to honor the exceptional accomplishments of Marie Tarver, a long-time respected community leader, and her husband Rupert Tarver, a renowned civil rights pioneer in the Hudson River Valley. Each summer, a selected cohort of highly motivated Marist students remains on campus to participate in the prestigious Tarver Internship program. The summer-long community improvement internship empowers students to learn beyond the classroom and gives them valuable experiential learning opportunities at local nonprofits.

This past summer, Kristen Fitzgibbon '26, an Environmental Science major, interned with Scenic Hudson, the region's largest environmental organization. Her work focused on collecting data from vernal pools—critical habitats for amphibians—combining field research with conservation science. "I realized how much I enjoy both fieldwork and data analysis," Kristen said. "Everyone at Scenic Hudson is dedicated to creating positive environmental change." Alex Wolf, Conservation Scientist at **Scenic Hudson**, praised her contributions. "Kristen collected data we wouldn't have had the capacity to gather, helping us understand how local habitats respond to climate change."





Environmental Science Student Receives Open Space Institute Award

Nickolas Webster '27 was awarded the **Open Space Institute (OSI) Barnabus McHenry Hudson River Valley Award** for his research project on the impact of beaver behavior on stream health in the Hudson Valley. The project, conducted with his Marist professors, involved monitoring beaver activity and its effects on hydrology and aquatic health, particularly during dry periods. This award, established by OSI to honor its founding trustee, supports young environmental leaders through financial grants for projects that benefit the Hudson Valley's environment, history, and communities. Oni Tongo, OSI's Conservation Communities Manager, reflected on the significance of the program. "The McHenry Awards are more than just a recognition of academic excellence or achievement—they are a testament to the power of young people to honor the past and shape the future of the Hudson Valley," she said.



CBP Alum Honored with Marist Young Alumni Award

Dr. Bradley Mobeck '20, DDS, was honored during the fall alumni weekend as the 2025 recipient of the Marist University Young Alumni Award. This award is presented annually to a graduate who has reached a significant level of achievement in their profession and who is a model of the quality and caliber of today's Marist student. After earning his undergraduate degree from Marist in 2020, he completed the Doctor of Dental Surgery program at the UCLA School of Dentistry. Today, Dr. Mobeck practices as a general dentist at Rancho Palos Verdes Dentistry in Los Angeles. During his time at Marist, he served as a Resident Assistant and Assistant Resident Director and was actively involved in campus life through Men's Club Volleyball and Campus Ministry.



DPT Faculty Member Receives Accessibility Awareness Award

Dr. Kristin Mende, a faculty member in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program, has been honored with the Faculty and Staff Awareness Award, presented annually by the Office of Accommodations and Accessibility. This award recognizes a member of the Marist community who demonstrates outstanding advocacy for students with disabilities and actively contributes to fostering an inclusive campus culture. Each year, students registered with the office are invited to nominate faculty or staff members who have shown exceptional support and dedication. Dr. Mende was nominated by Katie Spencer '25 (DPT) for her unwavering support and commitment to creating an inclusive learning environment.



SSTEM Scholars Attend National Meeting in San Diego



Several **National Science Foundation S-STEM** scholarship recipients attended the annual NSF S-STEM Scholars conference in San Diego, CA in October 2025. As part of the conference scholars were able to network with other S-STEM scholars from other schools. They were able to learn about various research projects that S-STEM scholars were conducting ranging from molecular biology to AI.

They were also able to attend workshops regarding graduate school, effective science communication, and other aspects of STEM careers.

One scholar remarked "Being surrounded by so many other bright, driven students was just the encouragement I needed. It is rare to be around people who instantly understand our experience on a different level because they have the same scholarship. Finding that community was invaluable and a huge lift for me. The conference really reignited my excitement for Biology and has left me feeling energized and inspired as I move forward with my studies."

In addition, Kyra Campbell's ('27) award-winning logo design (above) was on full display throughout the conference. When it was shared at the meeting, the scholars that attended noted that there was a huge round of applause for Kyra's great work!



Fall Semester Highlights!

- 1 The return for the fall semester saw the opening of a new Student Success Lounge, dedicated to School of Science students as a space for learning, study, and community-building. The space in Donnelly Hall was converted from a classroom into a lounge following conversations with student club leaders who shared their visions for the space. In addition to movable furniture, more comfortable seating options were added along with whiteboard surfaces and plenty of charging options. The space is available to SOS students daily, including weekends, and has shown to be very popular so far!
- 2 On October 11th, the Doctor of Physical Therapy students organized the 4th annual PAD Clinic to screen community members for leg blood flow issues and foot sensation in collaboration with the Physician Assistant students. Since its inception, this event has provided a valuable service to the Marist community, screening over 150 participants and encouraging approximately 50 of them to follow up with various health care providers to address potential issues.
- 3 Marist Doctor of Physical Therapy faculty **Dr. Holly Franzen-Korzendorfer** (center) and Program Director **Dr. Jim Rauh** (right) attended the Today Show plaza on Friday, October 24th with over 30 other participants to support Physical Therapy Month and the "PT for Future Me" campaign, which emphasizes prevention, wellness, and improving mobility and strength to support all aspects of work, life, and play.
- 4 Under the guidance of **Dr. Heather Roberts**, first year Doctor of Physical Therapy students make meaningful connections while gaining hands on experience while conducting bi-monthly exercise classes at Marist for a support group for caregivers and individuals with cognitive decline.





Student Spotlight: Grace Proctor '26, MS in Athletic Training

Hometown: Yorktown Heights, NY

Undergraduate Degree: BS in Integrative Neuroscience, Binghamton University

Current Clinical Rotation: Columbia University Football

Previous Clinical Rotations: Roy C. Ketcham, John Jay, and Yorktown High Schools; Ivy Rehab Physical Therapy (Rhinebeck, NY)

Favorite Course: Clinical Skills!

Tell us about your research thesis project.

For my project, I have proposed to induce muscle soreness in participants via a standardized exercise protocol. Then, we'll be utilizing and comparing the subjective and functional outcomes of a control group against two different recovery modalities – cold water immersion and the Marc Pro Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation device. This research hopes to contribute to the ever-growing base of literature of different modality usage for recovery from delayed-onset muscle soreness (DOMS).

How did you become interested in athletic training?

I started with a strong interest in psychology but was also enamored with biology and quickly started to consider PT and other health science professions during undergrad. However, I'd say that coming from a dance background through the Division I level, while also being a sports medicine intern at the same institution, I've seen inequities in access to sports medicine care, and that swayed my interest toward athletic training. As an AT, I hope to make all athletes feel important and seen in my care.

What are your career goals?

I've had many incredible clinical experiences with both high school and collegiate athletics so I could see myself working in either of those areas, or in an emerging setting like the performing arts. Generally, I want to always continue learning, build strong relationships, and continue helping patients to get better and get back to doing what they love.

What is something that most of your patients wouldn't know about you?

I can do a backflip!

What advice would you give to a student that may have an interest in athletic training?

I'd certainly recommend they reach out to get involved with their school's athletic training staff. Shadowing and interning in an athletic training room was what made me confident this was the career I wanted to pursue!



Experiential Learning Trip to the Adirondack Mountains

Professor Richard Feldman's *Natural History of the Hudson Valley* class undertook a rigorous two-night field expedition to the Adirondacks in September 2025, where ten students camped at Heart Lake, explored local ecosystems, and summited New York's second-highest peak, Algonquin Mountain. Over the course of the trip, students strengthened their scientific understanding and team cohesion through guided field observations, outdoor meal preparation, and targeted team-building exercises, complemented by an evening briefing from Adirondack Mountain Club Environmental Stewardship Manager Liam Ebner on the unique high-elevation habitats they would encounter. The ascent—culminating in steep 80-degree rock faces—was supported by Professor Feldman and experienced alumna Jenna Robinson ('17), and ultimately brought the group to the alpine summit, where Summit Steward Katie introduced them to fragile species such as deer's hair sedge, *Diapensia lapponica*, and alpine goldenrod. The experience offered students an uncommon encounter with one of the Northeast's rarest ecosystems and fostered both scientific insight and a deeper sense of community. *Story by Jack Fournier-Stephens, ENSC '28.*



ACS Club Seminar Series— Dr. George Dawson, PhD

Dr. George Dawson, a Marist alum and current SOS advisory board member, recently shared insights from his work in the biotech field during a presentation for the students and faculty of the Marist SOS community on November 19th. Speaking to his 39 years as a scientist for Abbott Laboratories, Dr. Dawson discussed his path from Marist in the 1970s to later developing the first test licensed by the U.S. FDA to screen blood donors for exposure to HIV and to diagnose suspected HIV cases. His presentation was not only insightful and engaging, but also deeply inspiring to all in attendance.



DPT Program Streamlines Curriculum to Enhance Affordability and Access

As of January 2026, the DPT program will transition from 36 months in duration to 32 months for the graduating class of 2028. "The Marist DPT program is continually evolving and responding to market demands. The revised curriculum was developed to maximize the time spent in didactic and clinical coursework while simultaneously being mindful of the cost of higher education today," said Dr. Jim Rauh, DPT Program Director. In addition to the change in program length, the DPT program has also created and finalized an undergraduate direct admit pathway with its first inaugural student starting in January of 2026. To learn more about the DPT program and admission requirements, **contact** the program staff.





Faculty Focus on Dr. Jennifer Han, Assistant Professor of Biology

What inspired you to pursue a career in science, and what ultimately brought you to Marist?

I've always been fascinated by plants, a passion that began in my grandmother's garden. This interest led me to work as a landscape architect, but I eventually wanted a deeper understanding of plant biology, which inspired me to earn a PhD. After years in research-focused roles, I realized how much I missed teaching and mentoring students.

Can you share a research project you're currently working on?

I'm working on projects that explore how fungi and plants interact in nature. One exciting focus is on saving the majestic American chestnut tree, once a giant of eastern forests but nearly wiped out by a fungal disease. At Marist, we're testing whether certain fungi can help fight this pathogen, using a chestnut tree right in the Fern Tor Preserve on campus as part of the research. Early results look promising, and it's thrilling to think we might help restore a species that shaped entire ecosystems.

What do you find most rewarding about working with and mentoring students?

What I find most rewarding about working with students is watching their growth, both academically and personally, as they gain confidence in their abilities. There is something incredibly meaningful about seeing a student move from uncertainty to mastery, whether it's grasping a challenging concept, developing their own scientific questions, or realizing their potential in a research or professional setting. Mentoring future professionals is especially fulfilling because it allows me to support students during a formative stage in their lives. I enjoy helping them identify their strengths, explore career paths, and build the skills they need to succeed. Ultimately, the most rewarding aspect is the relationships that develop.

Outside of work, how do you like to spend your time?

I love spending my free time outside, hiking with my dogs, putting around in the garden, and foraging for mushrooms and edible plants - really anything that gives me an opportunity to explore the world around me. I am also an avid pianist; I started playing piano when I was around 5 years old and still enjoying playing in the evenings to wind down for the day.

Who has been a significant mentor for you, and what advice did you take away from them?

My post-doc advisor, Dr. Lori Carris, has had a huge influence on me. She took me out on some of my first foraging trips and shared her favorite morel and porcini spots with me. More than any single piece of advice, what really stayed with me was how she interacted with and treated people. It did not matter if you were a student, colleague, or employee, you were always treated with respect and consideration. Lori had received a plant cutting from her graduate school advisor that she kept and grew and when she retired, Lori gave me a cutting from that same plant that I still have at home.

What is one book or podcast you recommend that has shaped your thinking or teaching?

One of my favorite podcasts is called No Such Thing as a Fish. The podcast hosts present their favorite fact of the week, with each co-host adding additional information about that fact. The podcast reminds me that the world is full of interesting things that I do not know and that learning never ends.

Select Recent Presentations and Publications by Students and Faculty

*Denotes Marist student

- Kellermeyer, R., Seidel, C., Redwine, W.B., Moran, R.L., Bertho, S., Ornelas-García, C.P., Alegre, D., Weaver, K., Unruh, J., Troutwine, B., Wang, Y., Collins, E*, Rutkowski, J*, McGaugh, SE., Espinasa, L., and Rohner, N., 2024. Long-term hybridization in a karst window reveals the genetic basis of eye loss in cavefish. *bioRxiv*, pp.2024-10.
- Espinasa, L., Gutierrez, A*, Hinkle, A., and Niemiller, M. L. (2024) A new genus and species of nicoletiid silverfish (Insecta: Zygentoma: Nicoletiidae) from caves of northern Alabama, USA. *Subterranean Biology* 49: 1-17. doi: 10.3897/subtbiol.49.119986
- Novobilsky, E.E.*; Navin, J.R.*; Knights, D.H.; Klos, P. Z. (2025) Observational monitoring records downstream impacts of beaver dams on water quality and quantity in temperate mixed-land-use watersheds. *Data*, 10, 51. <https://doi.org/10.3390/data10040051>
- DeGennaro, G*, Stewart, T*, Klos, P. Z. (2025) Spatial hotspots of microplastic accumulation in sediment associated with stream outflows into lakes and estuaries. *Pollution Study*. 6(2): 294. <https://doi.org/10.54517/ps3294>
- Adler-Colvin, J*, DeGennaro, G*, Klos, P. Z. (2025). The ecohydrology of a Japanese knotweed invasion. *Probe - Soil Science*, 7(1): 2247; <https://doi.org/10.18686/ss2247>
- Bell, A.*, Zureick, E.*, Henry, K.J. In a Healthy Population, is Time-Restricted Eating, Combined with Resistance Exercise, More Effective in Decreasing Body Fat Percentage Compared to Resistance Exercise Without Time-Restricted Eating? A Critically Appraised Topic. Poster Presentation at the EATA Annual Meeting & Clinical Symposia, January 2025, Philadelphia, PA.
- Brackman, D.*, Alsbergs, M.*, Henry, K.J. Does an Increased Dietary Omega-3 Intake Lead to a Faster Recovery from Delayed-Onset Muscle Soreness in a Healthy Population? A Critically Appraised Topic. Poster Presentation at the Eastern Athletic Trainers' Association Annual Meeting & Clinical Symposia, January 2025, Philadelphia, PA.
- Warren, S.*, Buzharsky, D.*, Henry, K.J. Does the Use of Instrument-Assisted Soft-Tissue Mobilization Have an Effect on Ankle Dorsiflexion Range of Motion? A Critically Appraised Topic. Poster Presentation at the EATA Annual Meeting & Clinical Symposia, January 2025, Philadelphia, PA.
- Buckheit, S.*; Kepner, R. Bustin' out the biotech bubbles: Testing methods for gas vesicle isolation from *Halobacterium salinarum* NRC-1. HVLSG, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY, May 1, 2025
- Coté-L'Heureux, C.*, Likollari, U.*, Kepner, R. Polar cyanophage: Characterizing phage-infecting cyanobacteria from opposite ends of the Earth. HVLSG, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY, May 1, 2025
- Gracia, A.*, Kepner, R. Eutrophication in action: Microcosm assessment of the impact of NO₃⁻ and PO₄³⁻ addition to Hudson River water. HVLSG, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY, May 1, 2025
- Novero, A.*, Richard, J.*, Awadallah, B.*, Hanneman, B.*, DasSarma, P., Kepner, R. Scaling down for survival: The dynamic morphology of *Halobacterium salinarum* NRC-1 in extreme conditions. HVLSG, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY, May 1, 2025
- Frengul, J*.; Kiwiet, N.J. "Exploring Rate Enhancement with Zinc-Alginate Beads: A
- Green Chemistry-Inspired Kinetics Experiment." Poster Presentation. 25th Annual Mid-Hudson ACS Undergraduate Research Symposium, SUNY New Paltz, April 25, 2025
- Wilkinson, L. M*.; Nadeau, J. M. "Solvatochromism and Aggregation-Induced Emission Enhancement in Molecules Containing Quinoxaline Acceptors Attached to Phenyl-Thiophene Donors." Poster Presentation. 25th Annual Mid-Hudson ACS Undergraduate Research Symposium at SUNY New Paltz, April 25, 2025
- Fitzgibbon, K.* and Weiss, K.C.B. Analyzing causes and perceptions of human-black bear interactions through space and time. Poster Presentation.
- Iommazzo, L. S*.; Woolridge, E. M. (2025). Oxidation of a lignin model compound by the laccase mediator system: a study of mediator effectiveness. Mid-Hudson ACS Undergraduate Research Symposium, SUNY New Paltz, New Paltz, NY, April 25, 2025. POSTER
- Rizwan, K*.; Woolridge, E. M. (2025). Design and evaluation of a potential redox-robust xylanase. Poster Presentation at the Mid-Hudson ACS Undergraduate Research Symposium, SUNY New Paltz, New Paltz, NY, April 25, 2025.

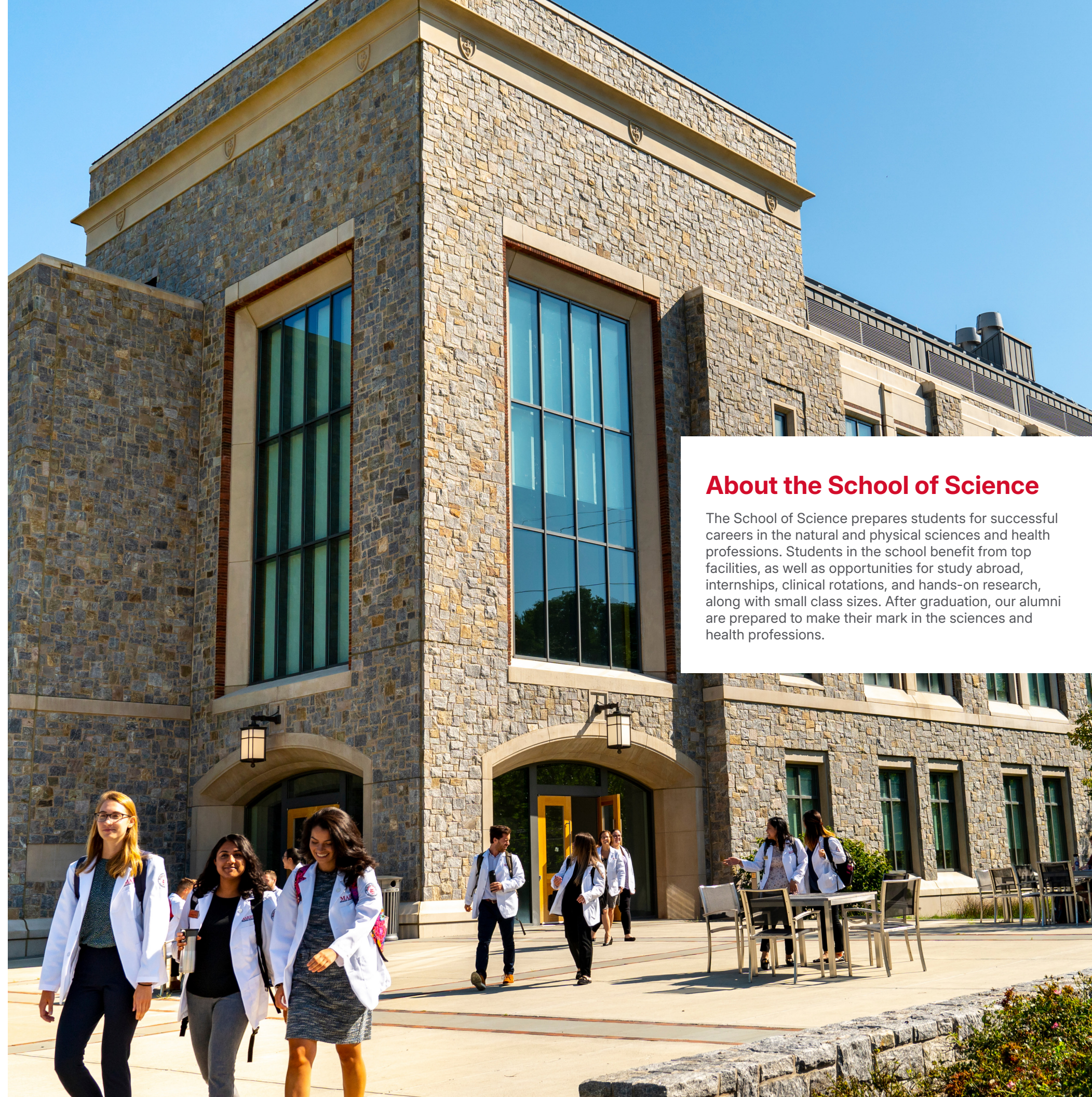


School of Science Advisory Board Members

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- **Dr. Henry Yoon, MD;** Physician, Director of Family Medicine Residency Program, Stamford Health; Medical Director, Physician Assistant Program, Sacred Heart University
- **Dr. Alicia Slater, PhD,** Dean, School of Science, and Senior Associate Provost for Academic Operations, Marist University
- **Mr. Mike Byerley,** Associate Vice President for Development, Marist University

About the School of Science

The School of Science prepares students for successful careers in the natural and physical sciences and health professions. Students in the school benefit from top facilities, as well as opportunities for study abroad, internships, clinical rotations, and hands-on research, along with small class sizes. After graduation, our alumni are prepared to make their mark in the sciences and health professions.





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