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**USJ CELEBRATES EXCEPTIONAL PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
STUDENTS AND FACULTY**

Department of PA Studies Class of 2021 Commencement Awards

(May 14, 2021 – West Hartford, CT) - USJ's annual Student and Faculty Awards conferred during Commencement on May 14, 2021 for the Physician Assistant Studies Class of 2021 recognize student and faculty accomplishments in scholarship, leadership and service.

The University of Saint Joseph today released the list of the 2021 PA Studies Student and Faculty Award recipients.

"The faculty and students all deserve an award this year for perseverance, tenacity and their tremendous commitment to replenishing the medical workforce by graduating this group on time, despite the enormous challenges of the pandemic. The Commencement Awards further shine a light on those who have distinguished themselves," said Tricia Marriott, PA-C, MPAS, MJ Health Law, CHC, DFAAPA, Director and Chair, PA Studies Program, School of Pharmacy & PA Studies.

These exceptional students and faculty, who strive for academic excellence and leadership, were selected to receive honors this year:

Faculty Awards:

2021 Mary Minto PA-C Award for Outstanding Dedication to Student Education & Mentorship, elected by students.

***Timothy Ferrarotti, DHSc, PA-C, DFAAPA, Assistant Professor
Instructional Faculty, Anatomy**

Preceptor of the Year: Recognition of the clinician elected by students, for their dedication to teaching.

***Brandon T. Batory, PA-C AFC Urgent Care**

Pi Alpha Honor Society: Full-time PA faculty who have three years' experience with a PA program and who have fulfilled the criteria of distinguished scholarship, as well as leadership or service to a physician assistant program or the profession.

***Mary Lebatique Minto, MHS, PA-C, Assistant Professor Director of Didactic Education (5 years of service)**

Student Awards (Determined by Faculty)

Pi Alpha Honor Society

Recognition of academic achievement, service, research, commitment to lifelong learning

Pi Alpha is the national physician assistant honor society organized for the promotion and recognition of both PA students and graduates. Membership signifies the inductee's significant academic achievement and honors them for their leadership, research, community/professional service and other related activities. The society also encourages a high standard of character and conduct among students and graduates.

***Sarah Case**

***Thomas Coman**

***Kristen Daugherty**

***Emily Juliano**

***Julia Piwowarski**

Service to the Program-Recognition of time and effort dedicated to advancement of the USJ PA program.

***Sarah Case**

Service to the Profession-Recognition of time and effort dedicated to advancement of the PA profession.

***Julia Piwowarski**

Sr. Beth Fischer Mercy Values Award-Recognition of a PA student who embodies the Mercy Core Values.

***Emily Juliano**

Grit-Recognition of courage, resolve, and strength of character

***Christine Aigbogun**

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The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) offers a wide range of coeducational undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs that combine a professional and liberal arts education with opportunities for mentored research, community service, clinical field work, and internships. Programs are taught on the University's two campuses in West Hartford and Hartford, Connecticut; at off-campus locations throughout the state; and online. Founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy, the University of Saint Joseph offers degrees with value and values. To learn more, view our website at www.usj.edu