

The Lasting Impact of Barbara Jones Jones

For nearly 30 years, Barbara Jones Jones has been dedicated to serving the students for Mercy College. Jones Jones started her career at Mercy as a STEP (Science & Technology Entry Program) coordinator in the fall of 1994. Over the years, she was promoted to director of the STEP Program; wrote a grant to get CSTEP (Collegiate Science & Technology Entry Program) back to Mercy; and then became director of HEOP (Higher Education Opportunity Program), thus becoming the first director of the CSTEP, HEOP and STEP programs at Mercy. Jones Jones retired from Mercy College in December 2022.

Over her career, she served thousands of students and maintained and increased funding for the programs by over 400%. She motivated nearly 1,000 high school students to realize their potential and continue to Mercy, and hosted over 200 STEP Saturday Academy classes for 7th to 12th grade students, earning her recognition as a changemaker across Westchester County.

She has always been an advocate for student funding and always put students first. As a result, CSTEP students and alumni have been able to present at research conferences and symposiums.

As director of College Opportunity Programs, you have brought so many academic and educational opportunities to Mercy College and the measure of your success is clearly how many students have been able to live and pursue their dreams after graduation. The Mercy community owes you a debt of gratitude and you truly deserve to be celebrated as you leave behind a legacy of service and collegiality.

Kimberly Rapoza, Associate Professor, Psychology

It has been an amazing 28 years working with Mrs. Jones Jones. When she took over the NYS grant funded programs, I knew HEOP was in great hands. Over her 28 years, she has increased funding for three NYS grants. Always a teacher, always a tutor, always a caring and compassionate person. It has been an honor serving our students under her management. Mrs. Jones Jones makes everyone around her a better person.

Raynell Webb AA '91, BS '92, M.S. '07, HEOP Specialist

You dedicated so much of your time and energy to making the College Opportunity Programs successful.

Jessica De Jesus, COP/HEOP Counselor

Barbara Jones Jones was always someone who could be counted on for sound advice and follow through. She represents the best one could say of a college administrator: She was a true student advocate! Thank you, Mrs. Jones Jones, for your years of service to the Mercy community.

Dr. Rosemarie Murray, Faculty Emeriti



Raynell Webb, President Tim Hall and Barbara Jones Jones

