

ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

LAURIE PRIEST

ALUMNAE SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD 2019

PRESENTED TO



*Mirjam L. Kechakian '19*

**MIRJAM L. KEOCHAKIAN, CLASS OF 2019**, the Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College is pleased to present you with the Laurie Priest Scholar-Athlete Award. This award is conferred upon a student who demonstrates qualities that make her an outstanding athlete, an exceptional scholar and a leader within the community.

Mirjam, as an all-star athlete, you have played an instrumental role in the success of the Mount Holyoke field hockey team during the past four years. Your commitment to excellence and outstanding leadership on and off the field have led you to many successes throughout your athletic and academic career. A three-time NEWMAC Academic All-Conference honoree and four-time National Field Hockey Coaches Association National Academic Squad honoree, you led your team to a NEWMAC championship your first season and the three consecutive conference playoffs that followed. A starter during each season of your Mount Holyoke career, you have become a formidable and impactful player, with your dominance on the field widely recognized by your coaches and teammates.

While your accomplishments on the field are truly outstanding, your academic achievements are equally impressive. A biology major and chemistry minor, in 2018 you were named Junior of the Year, an award given to a junior student-athlete who has significantly impacted their academic program. Active within the biology department, you have served as laboratory teaching assistant, helping to support students during their laboratory hours and with their assignments, and served as research assistant for Patricia Brennan, assistant professor of biological sciences. During a semester abroad in Ghana, you became immediately engaged in the community, helping to organize a book drive for the Kisseman Foundation for Children, a nonprofit organization that brings educational opportunities to children. You also served as a volunteer field hockey coach, bringing your athletic, team building and mentoring skills to teen players in Ghana.

MIRJAM, in recognition of these and other achievements in athletics and academics, the Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College is proud to honor you with the 2019 Laurie Priest Alumnae Scholar-Athlete Award.

MARIA Z. MOSSAIDES '73  
PRESIDENT  
ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

NANCY BELLOWS PEREZ '76  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE