

MERRIMACK

WINTER 2019

LIFE CALLS US

Father Raymond Dlugos, O.S.A. builds
an Augustinian community [p. 2](#)



MERRIMACK

A Magazine for Our Alumni, Parents and Friends

Winter 2019

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MERRIMACK
COLLEGE



Dear Alumni, Parents and Friends,

You will read many stories in this edition about the amazing work we are doing in academics and athletics, and the wonderful advances made by our alumni, students and faculty.

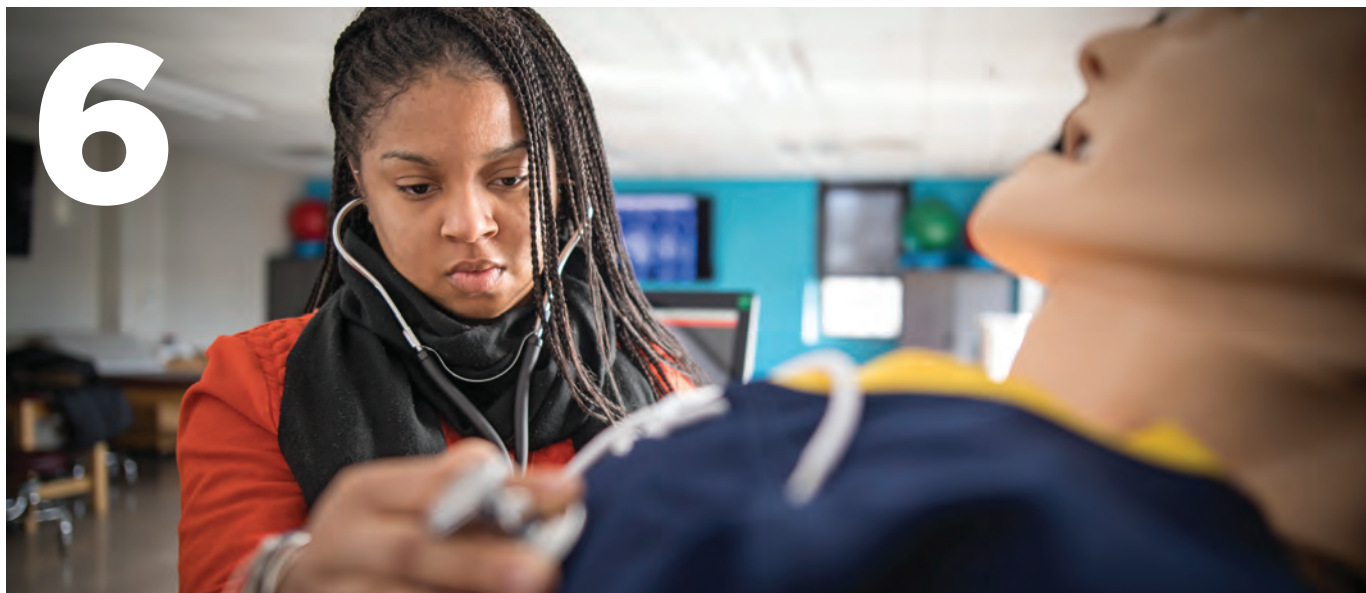
But none of this would be possible, and none of this would be meaningful, without the legacy of faith, strength and community set down by the College's Augustinian founders — a legacy that lives on through people of vision and action like Fr. Ray Dlugos and his brother friars.

As members of the College community, they teach, they direct plays, design programs and lead teams. As priests of the Order of St. Augustine, these men respond to our spiritual needs — comforting, healing and sharing messages of hope. The Augustinians continue to set the tone for all that we do here, every day, for students and for the community.

Fr. Ray, whether in St. Ambrose Friary, the Collegiate Church, the Sakowich Campus Center or the streets of Lawrence, represents the heart and soul of Merrimack College. I am proud to call him a friend, and proud that Merrimack College has drawn such giants of faith and good works to our community.

Best,

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D.
President



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“There is not a better human being in the world when things are tough than Father Ray.”

DR. CHRISTOPHER E. HOPEY, PRESIDENT

On the cover: Fr. Ray integrates Augustinian values into the Merrimack community.
Photo by Marvin Sandoval, M'17.

MAN ON A

MISSION

Article by **Susan Greco** | Photos by **Mary Schwalm**

For many on campus, Fr. Raymond Dlugos, O.S.A., now in his eleventh year as vice president, embodies Merrimack's Augustinian traditions rooted in service, scholarship and community. He's also just a really great guy.

“Life calls us,” Fr. Ray likes to say.

The story of how he joined Merrimack is a case in point. He was working his dream job at a counseling center for clergy when he received the call from the Augustinian order to come to Merrimack College. That was more than 10 years ago.

The College that greeted Fr. Ray in August 2008 was a very different place, striving to identify its role and mission in a changing higher education landscape. He was initially asked to serve as vice president of mission and student affairs, a position “I wasn’t trained for.”

And yet, his experience as a teacher, psychologist, executive and Augustinian-trained priest turned out to be exactly what Merrimack needed.

Life calls us indeed.

With his trademark blend of humor and humility, Fr. Ray set out to lift spirits and build community. It was hard going all right, but a few years into his ministry, he detected sparks of life on campus.

“I was starting to find some energy here that was hidden. That was exciting,” he recalled.

Beginning in 2010, working alongside President Christopher E. Hopey, Fr. Ray has found success resurrecting old traditions and inventing new ones, while helping comfort and guide the College community through times rough and smooth.

“There is not a better human being in the world when things are tough than Fr. Ray,” said President Hopey, recalling incidents in which the College — and its president — needed support, comfort and counsel. “All I have to say is ‘Ray, I need you,’ and he’s right here.”

No one has done more to infuse Augustinian values, messages and experiences into student life. He does that in part by living out a life of service, scholarship and community. “He teaches, he goes on service trips, he’s right there with students at Mack Gives Back. Students see that,” said Mary McHugh, executive director of the Stevens Service Learning Center.



Top: Celebrating his anniversary Mass in the Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher.

Bottom: with President Hopey.



He also pounces on any chance to bring Merrimack sports into the mix.

“We discovered that Merrimack students love to do things when they can do them together,” Fr. Ray said. “Finding ways to bring students together is a big part of my job. You can build community anywhere — on a retreat or at an ice hockey game.”

In fact, students point to Fr. Ray’s reliable and reassuring presence on campus, from the dining hall to the athletic fields.

Mary McNeil, a senior and field hockey captain, noted that Fr. Ray has been team chaplain for nearly 10 years now. “He’s at every game, rain or shine,” said McNeil, “but it doesn’t stop there. We’re always seeing Fr. Ray around campus. A quick conversation makes your day better. Many of us see him at Sunday Mass.”

She added that back when she was a freshman, “it was extremely comforting to find out I would have a team chaplain. I knew Merrimack was a tight-knit community but having a team chaplain reassured me. He constantly puts others first, and has so much knowledge of what life is all about.”

“We discovered that Merrimack students love to do things when they can do them together. Finding ways to bring students together is a big part of my job.” FR. RAY DLUGOS, O.S.A.

Last December, Fr. Ray marked several major milestones: 40 years as an Augustinian, 35 years as a priest, and 10 years at Merrimack. During a campus celebration luncheon, the most moving tributes came from students. “Fr. Ray is always a great person to go talk to if you are having a problem or just want to talk about football,” said Harrison McClellan, a member of Merrimack’s Austin Scholars living-learning community.

McClellan credited Fr. Ray with helping him through a difficult freshman year. “Fr. Ray is the reason I’m still here today,” he said.

MAJOR MILESTONES

In a decade of community building, here are the moments that stand out for Fr. Ray.

2008-10

DEFINING THE MISSION

"I chaired the committee that developed our **mission statement**: 'to enlighten minds, engage hearts and empower lives.' That was a very powerful experience because of the process we went through and the buy-in we got." Eight years later, that mission statement is just as unifying and relevant.

2010

SPORTS CHAPLAINS

In a successful partnership with Merrimack Athletics, priests serve as team chaplains. After Fr. Ray was assigned to **field hockey**, the team started to win. "I don't know why it's so energizing to be with them but it is. There's a special connection we have." Last year, he officiated at the wedding of one graduate of the team.

2011

MOVE-IN DAY FLASH MOB

In which two students on the orientation team taught 150 students, faculty, trustees and priests, including President Hopey, Fr. Ray and the full contingent of Augustinians, administrators and coaches, a **dance routine** set to "Moves Like Jagger." The moment in St. Clare Court, captured on YouTube, made regional news and Merrimack history.

2012

MASS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

As part of President Hopey's *Agenda for Distinction*, "we started to focus on traditions we could make Traditions." One of those was the **Mass of the Holy Spirit**, an annual back-to-campus event that suffered low attendance. So Fr. Ray reached out to the athletic director, and the teams showed up for the Mass en masse and in colors. To this day, every September, the 1,000-seat Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher is filled to capacity.

2012

MACK GIVES BACK

Gathering a thousand students and staff on the same day was both inspired and a little bit insane. But the **community service** day has grown into an annual testament to Merrimack's values and mission. The event, created by Fr. Ray, now spans nine days and drives more than 1,500 students, faculty and staff to volunteer at Merrimack Valley nonprofits. Kick off is Veterans Day, also the birthday of St. Augustine.

2013-14

THURSDAY NIGHT AT AUGIE'S

When the class that entered in 2011 came of legal drinking age, they didn't go off campus to celebrate as many students had before them. Although Lawrence had always been the place to be on a Thursday night, "this class decided to spend it on campus at **Augie's Pub**, which broke all kinds of long-held traditions." Yet another sign that students took pride in being at Merrimack. The pub features a portrait of St. Augustine, whom, according to Fr. Ray's whimsical historical research, was a patron of beer.

2014

SEND

Fr. Ray started participating in **SEND**, an alternative winter/spring break program in which Merrimack students spend a week working in struggling communities in the U.S. and abroad. "They are deeply meaningful experiences for the students and for me." Unlikely conversations ensue as students immerse themselves in a completely different world, helping people devastated by natural disasters or economic upheaval. They return to campus as stronger leaders. The popular service retreats, in turn, have helped boost interest in the Austin Scholars living-learning community, due to become a four-year program in 2019-20.

2015

CLASS OF 2015

"The students who came in 2011 were different. They really embraced the traditions, went on retreats. They were leaders, and they did a lot to shift the culture. There are classes here now like that class."

2017

"WE BELIEVE IN YOU"

This is the **ministry work** he's most proud of. The campus-wide campaign came about in response to persistent questions about how Merrimack defines its mission and lives its Catholic, Augustinian spirit and traditions.

Rejecting a pat answer, Fr. Ray turned to his theology and Augustinian traditions to create "12 Statements of Faith." "They are not what we believe about God but what God believes about us." One of his favorites: 'You exist in love, through love and for love.' "You don't get to choose that," he says, "it's just true."

Another powerful one: 'You belong and you matter no matter what is true of you.' The 12 statements appear on posters and rotate on large-screen TVs in every campus building. They are used in theology classes, during retreats and on mission trips. "Oh my goodness, does it open up discussions. My intention was to put things into their heads, but what it did was pull things out of their hearts."



40

YEARS AS AN
AUGUSTINIAN FRIAR

FR. RAY BY THE NUMBERS

35 YEARS
AS A CATHOLIC PRIEST

\$3,000,000

RAISED FOR SCHOLARSHIPS &
SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAMS
under Standing Up for Good
co-chaired by Fr. Ray

10 YEARS

AS VICE PRESIDENT OF MISSION
AND MINISTRY AND PRIOR OF
ST. AMBROSE FRIARY

160,125

HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE
by students through the Stevens
Service Learning Center since 2008

12 "STATEMENTS OF FAITH"
PROMULGATED AMONG
THE STUDENT BODY

5 YEARS OF POST-SEASON
TOURNAMENT APPEARANCES
by Merrimack field hockey under
Fr. Ray's chaplaincy

"His interactions with students are truly full of joy as he works to help them integrate their social, academic, work, family and spiritual lives," said Fr. Rick Piatt, O.S.A., director of the Rogers Center for the Arts, who has known his fellow friar for about 25 years. "The same is true for his work with Merrimack administrators, faculty, staff and the board."

Much of Fr. Ray's success stems from building more opportunities for students and staff to engage with each other and with the wider world. He's lifted up student service, made it inviting and even prestigious.

"We've grown exponentially under his leadership," said McHugh, the service learning director. In the fall 2018 semester, she said, a record 800 students enrolled in Merrimack's service learning program, which incorporates community service into academics. Many other students devote a day to local nonprofits during Mack Gives Back or embark on SEND, Merrimack's service immersion trips, which have expanded to more locations.

"These programs have been growing every year for students and staff," McHugh said. "He's been able to focus the community on service over the last few years. He elevates service and service learning."

For example, two years ago, Fr. Ray created an honor society for students doing community service. The Fr. John McKniff, O.S.A., Honor Society recognizes commitment to service over four years.

His staff in the Office of Mission and Ministry describe him as an entrepreneurial leader who encourages creativity. "He's given us the freedom to try things," said McHugh. "He's that quiet presence supporting us in the background and blending service right into Merrimack's mission."

Witness the success of Hands to Help, a neighborhood resource center which President Hopey and Fr. Ray founded in 2015 in response to the needs of

St. Mary Church in Lawrence, another Augustinian institution. Alisha Reppucci '12, director of Hands to Help, said the program has grown from five to 75 Merrimack students each semester serving as tutors to Lawrence students in grades one through eight. Hands to Help lets Merrimack students give back in a way that's steady and rewarding.

"Our students have gotten to know the kids so well, they're able to talk to them about their lives," said Reppucci. "That consistency is important."

"At the heart of Fr. Ray's mission and ministry at Merrimack is a love for the community deeply rooted in a reality without denial or illusion." FR. RICK PIATT, O.S.A.

When colleagues say Fr. Ray "embodies" Augustinian values, they aren't kidding. The day after the natural gas explosions in Lawrence, the focus at Hands to Help quickly shifted to helping families displaced from their homes. Scrambling to find drivers to deliver supplies to Lawrence, Reppucci turned to Fr. Ray for help. He drove a van himself.

How does he do it all? Fr. Ray is quick to give the credit to his staff. But there's something else that keeps him going, too.

"At the heart of Fr. Ray's mission and ministry at Merrimack is a love for the community deeply rooted in a reality without denial or illusion," said Fr. Rick. "He is just as aware of our flaws and our wounds as he is of our strength and our potential.

"He is a faith-filled visionary thinker."

And also a really good guy who loves what he does.

"The idea that we have only one career path is a myth," said Fr. Ray. "Life calls us." ■

MERRIMACK FACULTY, STUDENTS ENGAGE IN LEARNING AND RESEARCH WITH PURPOSE



Executive Director
Sheppard

NURSING PROGRAM

Merrimack College's new undergraduate nursing program will enroll its first class in fall 2019 and enthusiasm is running high — on campus and among applicants.

"The fantastic response we have had from a wide pool of very impressive student applicants has reiterated the excitement of nursing at Merrimack College," said School of Health Sciences Dean Kyle McInnis. "We are eager to hit the ground running in September with our first class."

The Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing granted initial approval for Merrimack to offer a bachelor of science in nursing and McInnis has appointed Lynne S. Sheppard, R.N., D.N.P., the executive director of the program.

"I'm very excited at the prospect of bringing in our first nursing class and cannot wait to meet each and every student personally on the first day of orientation," Sheppard said.

CENTER FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT



Looking inward and outward, Merrimack's new multidisciplinary Center for Sustainability and the Environment will provide both the College and the region a platform and voice to advance environmental awareness, support

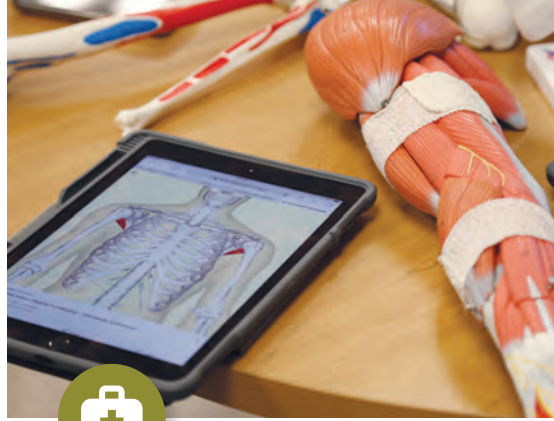
research and enhance academic programs. The center's mission is to foster dialogue and support solutions to local and regional sustainability and environmental issues through support for Merrimack's environmental curriculum, hands-on environmental scholarship and learning, innovation and reciprocal community partnerships.

The center is the result of a gift from the environmentally active Martin family, who created the McLaughlin Martin Family Environmental Innovation Fund at Merrimack. "My hope is for Merrimack to become an epicenter of climate change and sustainability education for the community," said Karen McLaughlin Martin '75, who with her husband, Gary Martin, made the center possible. "The fund will help host speakers on campus, empower students to go out into the community and get more people educated and involved."

The center is engaged in supporting the environmental science and sustainability major that draws on faculty expertise across all the schools at the College including the sciences, engineering, humanities, social sciences, health sciences and business. It has inaugurated both a film and speaker series on campus, focused on critical issues of local and national environmental concern. The center is also working to support work by the student Green Team.

Students and faculty have created raised-bed vegetable gardens that will provide food to Neighbors in Need, which works with 13 local food pantries to bring fresh, nutritious

“The combination of an aging Baby Boomer population, a national increase in chronic diseases, and a wave of retirements in the health-related fields is creating strong demand for nurses,” McInnis said. Merrimack College is the perfect school to help solve the shortage.



“The mission of Merrimack College aligns perfectly with what nursing is all about — service to others,” said McInnis. “Nursing gives us exciting new opportunities for teaching, scholarly research, external partnerships and ability to deliver our service mission.”

To ensure that Merrimack graduates the highest quality nurses, the College is being extremely selective. The first class will only have 30 to 40 students, even though the average among nursing schools is 80-90 students. The smaller class size ensures students will have close working relationships with instructors.

Classes will begin with Sheppard teaching a nursing-specific cohort in First Year Experience, the course that introduces first-year students to college life and the culture and values of Merrimack. That will give her the opportunity to get to know the students well, introduce them to the art and science of nursing and give personal attention to their learning needs in order to achieve success in the program.

The School of Health Sciences is developing clinical affiliations and partnerships with medical and healthcare institutions such as Lawrence General Hospital, Holy Family Hospital in Methuen, Mass. and Whittier Rehabilitation Hospital in Haverhill, Mass.

“We continue to expand our partnerships with leading hospitals and healthcare organizations throughout the Merrimack Valley and Greater Boston that will further create exciting education and career opportunities for students,” McInnis said.

After the first class successfully completes four years of study in nursing, students will be eligible to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination. The nursing program will then be eligible for final approval from the Massachusetts Board of Registration. ■

“The mission of Merrimack College aligns perfectly with what nursing is all about — service to others.”

DEAN KYLE MCINNIS

food to struggling families. A student mini-grant program supports student initiatives and teams of faculty, students and local experts have been conducting research on Shawsheen River sub-watersheds with community partners. A faculty, staff and student steering group is helping guide the center’s programming and focus.

“My hope is for Merrimack to become an epicenter of climate change and sustainability education for the community.” KAREN MCLAUGHLIN MARTIN '75

“The Martins’ gift has been a catalytic event for Merrimack,” said Jon Lyon, a biology professor and vice provost who has been serving as interim director of the center.

Lyon, himself a longtime environmental researcher and advocate, says the center allows Merrimack to “unify three interlinking components to support environmental initiatives at the College — first, enhance our growing environmental curriculum and academic programs; second, fund innovative sustainability projects and initiatives across the sciences,

engineering, the humanities, social sciences and business; and third, facilitate the development of new community partnerships centered on sustainable practices and addressing community needs in the Merrimack Valley.” ■





BIOETHICS MINOR



Professor Ridenour



Professor Fuller

Should Facebook function as a warning system to prevent suicides? Should drug addicts be eligible for organ transplants? Students can expect to debate

such thought-provoking questions when they enroll in Merrimack’s new undergraduate bioethics minor.

“From a career standpoint, bioethics is a great choice for students interested in nursing, health sciences, biology, ethics, healthcare management, health policy or counseling,” said Lisa Fuller, bioethics program advisor and assistant professor of philosophy. She created the interdisciplinary bioethics minor with Autumn Ridenour, assistant professor of religious and theological studies.

“We are excited to launch the bioethics minor,” said Sean Condon, interim dean of the School of Liberal Arts. “It is another example of collaboration among liberal arts faculty to create curriculum that provides different perspectives on crucial questions in our contemporary world.”

Bioethics, also known as biomedical ethics, is often in the news. An international furor erupted recently when

a Chinese researcher announced the birth of twin girls he claimed to have genetically modified as embryos to be resistant to HIV. Merrimack held a faculty forum on the case in late February. “You are basically introducing into the gene pool a human who nature would never have created,” said panel organizer Mark Allman, associate dean of liberal arts and professor of religious and theological studies. “This could potentially alter the species.”

The Catholic Church is firmly opposed to such experimentation.

“As rapid technological change offers human beings ever more powerful tools to shape biological processes, it is essential to think deeply about the moral questions raised by this knowledge and power,” noted Condon.

The bioethics minor provides students with a moral and scientific framework for analyzing ethical issues and a critical understanding of healthcare practices around the world. Building on core offerings such as justice in health and healthcare, the bioethics minor encompasses five courses for 18 credits. It is open to all students.

“For health science majors, the bioethics minor is a chance to add more humanities and social science to become more well-rounded graduates,” said Fuller. “Likewise, a political science or philosophy major can take public health and health communications to demonstrate an understanding of the healthcare field,” and students in religion and theological studies can deepen their understanding of the technologies that will test existing ethical boundaries.



ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT

Merrimack College’s new master of science in engineering management (MSEM) draws on the strengths of two schools to build an innovative educational experience that responds to a fast-growing demand in the job market.

The MSEM “leverages the strengths of our engineering programs and faculty and the Girard School of Business and its faculty to create a truly industry-relevant, interdisciplinary degree program for young professionals wanting to advance their career,” said Dean Cynthia McGowan of the School of Science and Engineering.

Assistant professor Sadegh Asgari, a civil and urban engineer trained at Columbia University, who serves as a Zampell Family Faculty Fellow, explained the program as one that “brings together the technological problem-solving savvy of engineering and the organizational, administrative and planning abilities of management” to train professionals for “complex, engineering-driven enterprises.”

The launch of the bioethics minor coincides with the introduction of the new bachelor of science in nursing program in the School of Health Sciences. Said Ridenour: “The timing could not be better. Deans and directors have enthusiastically supported the efforts of the minor and are excited to work toward common goals that intersect across campus.”

“As rapid technological change offers human beings ever more powerful tools to shape biological processes, it is essential to think deeply about the moral questions raised by this knowledge and power.” DEAN SEAN CONDON

The bioethics credential could give job seekers an advantage. “Professional ethics consultation in hospitals has really taken off, and many jobs for people with an ethics background go unfilled,” according to Fuller.

“Bioethics takes in many controversial and thought-provoking issues, such as physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia, the just distribution of organs and vaccines and the ethical implications of employing surrogate mothers from developing countries,” said Fuller.

“The bioethics minor is also a valuable credential for students applying to medical school or graduate school in the health professions, since it provides a broad and critical understanding of healthcare practices both domestically and globally.” ■

The average salary for engineering managers, according to Glass Door, is more than \$130,000 and jobs in the field are projected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to grow by 6 percent over the next decade.

The new master’s program, which meets evenings, features courses in operations, mathematical modeling and optimization, engineering decision analysis, marketing, accounting and finance, Asgari said. The master’s also focuses on teaching effective communication and the appreciation of ethical responsibilities.

Faculty include experienced engineering managers such as Anthony DiCarlo, the former chief engineer at MITRE, and Richard Fox, former CEO of CDM Smith. The program is open to technology, science and engineering professionals. ■

The program “brings together the technological problem-solving savvy of engineering and the organizational, administrative and planning abilities of management.” PROFESSOR SADEGH ASGARI



The Merrimack Society

The Merrimack Society recognizes the College’s leadership donors, whose thoughtful annual contribution total \$1,000 or more.

“I received a good education in the Augustinian tradition at Merrimack. My education served me well as I worked to support myself and my family. My donation to Merrimack College is my attempt to pay back for the education and spiritual training I received at Merrimack so many years ago.”

— Tony Fragala '54, P'86, '92
Donor, The Merrimack Society

Learn more about The Merrimack Society at www.merrimack.edu/giving

NEW DEAN OF LIBERAL ARTS



Dean Ryan

Karen L. Ryan will join Merrimack College as the dean of its School of Liberal Arts. She begins July 1.

“After a nationwide, inclusive and collaborative search process, Merrimack College has chosen Karen Ryan to shepherd our School of Liberal Arts into what promises to be a very bright future,” said Provost Allan Weatherwax.

“Her record of program development, experience in building relationships within and across schools and fierce devotion to liberal arts education will serve Merrimack extraordinarily well.”

Ryan, former dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Stetson University, is a professor of Slavic languages and literature. She holds a Ph.D. and M.A. from the University of Michigan and a B.A. from Cornell University, and before Stetson, taught at the University of Virginia, Iowa State University and Williams College.

President Christopher E. Hopey said Ryan will continue to build Merrimack’s record of momentum and success. “Dr. Ryan

has the brilliance, creativity and perseverance to create boundless opportunities for our students and faculty in the liberal arts, and we are pleased she has chosen to join us on our trajectory.”

“Her record of program development, experience in building relationships within and across schools, and fierce devotion to liberal arts education will serve Merrimack extraordinarily well.” PROVOST ALLAN WEATHERWAX

As dean at Stetson, Ryan oversaw recruitment of 50 faculty members over five years and created several graduate and undergraduate programs, ultimately overseeing 19 departments and six interdisciplinary programs.

“I’m delighted to join the Merrimack College community at this pivotal moment, as the College is building on its strong foundation of excellence and planning growth and innovation,” she said. “I look forward to supporting and leading the School of Liberal Arts and collaborating with my new colleagues at Merrimack.” ■

APPLE DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

Apple formally recognized Merrimack College as an Apple Distinguished School in a ceremony that celebrated the College’s commitment to technological innovation.

“This didn’t start with an elaborate plan,” President Christopher E. Hopey recounted to an audience of College trustees, Apple executives, faculty and administrators. “This started with a bold vision of ‘what is possible’ to move education forward at Merrimack, and the faculty picked it up and ran with it.”

Hopey recounted the College’s trajectory over eight years, from a College that was still using electric typewriters and would not provide technical support to Apple projects, to today’s deployment of iPads to every student, as well as faculty and staff, for use in classes and curriculum, as well as admission efforts, an athletic recruitment and player development.

He praised especially Provost Allan Weatherwax and Dr. Kathryn Nielsen, associate provost and director of strategic initiatives, for their work in inspiring and motivating faculty. He also thanked the Davis Educational Foundation, which provided grant support to the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning and for experiential education at the College.



“When you are an Apple Distinguished School, it’s recognition of creating a culture of continuous innovation in teaching and learning on your campus,” said Nielsen. “It’s an impressive designation in higher ed.”

Mary Jane Blatt, Ian Camera, Paul D’Ascoli and Cheryl Low of Apple joined the ceremony, praising Hopey and lauding the work Merrimack has done in creating a “center of leadership and educational excellence.”

As an Apple Distinguished School, Merrimack will be able to share its story of using technology in the classroom on a national and international stage. There are 23 Apple Distinguished higher education institutions around the globe and only two others in New England.

“It’s about demonstrating a vision for learning with technology that inspires creativity, collaboration and critical thinking inside and outside the classroom,” Nielsen said. ■

GRADUATE PROGRAMS FOR TOMORROW'S LEADERS



CAREER-FOCUSED MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMS

Girard School of Business

- Accounting, M.S.
- Accounting, M.S. (online)
- Business Analytics, Graduate Certificate (online)
- Business Analytics, M.S. (online)
- Data Science and Business Analytics, M.S. (online)
- Management, M.S.

School of Education and Social Policy

- Catholic School Leadership, Graduate Certificate
- Community Engagement, M.Ed.
- Criminology & Criminal Justice, M.S.
- Educational Leadership, C.A.G.S.
- Higher Education, M.Ed.
- School Counseling, M.Ed.
- Teacher Education, M.Ed.
- Teacher Education, M.Ed. (online)

School of Liberal Arts

- Clinical Mental Health Counseling, M.S.
- Public Affairs, M.P.A.
- Spiritual Direction, M.A.
- Spirituality, M.A.
- Spiritual Direction, Graduate Certificate
- Interfaith Spirituality, Graduate Certificate

School of Science and Engineering

- Civil Engineering, M.S.
- Data Science, Graduate Certificate (online)
- Data Science, M.S. (online)
- Data Science and Business Analytics, Graduate Certificate (online)
- Engineering Management, M.S.
- Mechanical Engineering, M.S.

School of Health Sciences

- Athletic Training, M.S.
- Community Health Education, M.S.
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- Health and Wellness Management, M.S.

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SPOTLIGHT ON MERRIMACK ATHLETICS

Hall of Fame

Merrimack College inducted the newest members of the Merrimack Athletics Hall of Fame, as six former student-athletes, one team and a distinguished honoree were enshrined as the Class of 2018 during Homecoming Weekend last October.

The latest induction included representation from six different sports, including the first-ever selections in the history of the field hockey and women's lacrosse programs. The Hall of Fame, which honors individuals and teams that brought distinction, honor and excellence to the College, as well as those whose merit, special contributions and leadership have helped advance the College and its athletic program, now stands at 59 inductees spanning back over 70 years.

Among the honorees was Ken Duane '80, H'16, whose contributions helped make possible the College's new Duane Stadium.

With President Christopher E. Hopey setting the stage by recounting the College's great growth and trajectory, including its invitation to NCAA Division I, and Director of Athletics Jeremy Gibson recounting the record of each honoree, the inductees all took the microphone to explain to family, friends and fans what taking the field, ice or track at Merrimack meant in their lives. The event culminated with a group photo and, of course, the addition of each new face to the Hall of Fame wall in the Merrimack Athletic Complex.

The Class of 2018 welcomed Amanda (Baldwin) Mayock '01, the first-ever women's lacrosse inductee; Nancy (Daly) Dwyer '94, one of the most dominant women's soccer players in school history;



President Hopey enjoys remarks by former trustee Ken Duane '80, H'16, at the Hall of Fame ceremony.

April Daugherty '13, a three-time All-American and first-ever field hockey selection; Jim Hrivnak '89, who backstopped the men's ice hockey team to its first-ever NE10 National Championship in the Division I era; Corey Lunney '13, who was named the national player of the year as a senior with the men's lacrosse program; Judy O'Connell '95, one of only two three-time All-Americans in the history of the softball team; the entire 1994 national champions softball team, which included O'Connell; and finally, Ken Duane '80, H'16, a distinguished honoree who served on Merrimack's Board of Trustees from 2006-14 whose contributions to the College's capital campaign helped make possible the building of a new stadium and track, among many other milestones on campus.



SquashBusters

Merrimack College is further strengthening its commitment to the betterment of our community, specifically the youth of Lawrence, by formalizing a partnership with the nationally recognized organization SquashBusters.

SquashBusters is a 22-year-old youth program that combines squash and fitness, academic support and enrichment, community service, mentoring and summer opportunities to improve the lives of young people in Lawrence, Boston and Providence.

The organization reports that 98 percent of its students feel that SquashBusters connects them with caring adults.



Merrimack and SquashBusters hope to build approximately 18,000 square feet of space that will include eight squash courts, classrooms, office and meeting space, and locker rooms in the College's athletics district.

"This synergistic relationship will create a program that deepens our work with young people in Lawrence," said College President Christopher E. Hopey.

The partnership will also benefit Merrimack's student body, which continues to grow not only in numbers but in socioeconomic and geographic diversity. The addition of an on-campus squash facility will add to what is already a robust offering of student organizations. It could also pave the way for future club or varsity programs in the athletic department, joining the ranks of other nationally recognized schools that sponsor the sport at the varsity level.

"We are excited for how this partnership enhances our relationship with the Lawrence community and for its potential to positively impact the lives of many," said Director of Athletics Jeremy Gibson.



President Hopey and SquashBusters founder Greg Zaff sign their partnership agreement.

Merrimack will become the latest college to partner with SquashBusters, joining other regional institutions such as Harvard, Northeastern, Trinity, Yale, Amherst and Williams.

Merrimack also partners with Abbott Lawrence Academy, Lawrence's honors high school, to provide classes for college credit and supports service programs such as Hands to Help at St. Mary parish and the Financial Capability Center, which offers advice and education to clients of nonprofit agencies in the city.



The Warrior Fund

+ COMPETING FOR GOOD

Gifts to The Warrior Fund allow our more than 600 athletes to be successful students who excel in the classroom, give back to the community, and will compete with respect and tenacity against the elite competition in Division I.

Make your gift today at www.merrimack.edu/gift

MAKING THE MOVE TO **DIVISION I**



Fall Recap



The Warriors 2018 NE10 Championship field hockey team

On each respective playing surface, in the classroom and in the community, Merrimack Athletics enjoyed another successful fall semester that saw Warriors shine in every facet of their student-athlete experience.

Competing in their final seasons prior to Division I reclassification, the field hockey and women's golf programs reigned supreme in the Northeast-10 Conference by winning their respective league championships. Two more programs — women's tennis and men's soccer — reached their NE10 Championship matches. At the national level, the women's cross country program reached the NCAA Division II Cross Country Championship for the second time ever and posted the program's best-ever finish. The field hockey program also reached the NCAA Tournament, while the women's golf team will compete in NAAs this spring.



Merrimack's student-athletes did not stop at dominating athletically; the Warriors were equally impressive in the classroom. As a department, the student-athletes posted a cumulative grade-point average of 3.11, and eight of Merrimack's programs that competed in championship seasons this fall finished with a team GPA of 3.0 or higher. The women's soccer program compiled the highest team GPA among that group, earning a 3.604.

The Warriors' community endeavors impacted many in the Merrimack Valley and beyond. Four Merrimack programs — baseball, men's lacrosse, softball and women's basketball — added new teammates through the Team IMPACT organization. Team IMPACT is a national nonprofit that connects children facing serious or chronic illnesses with college athletic teams, forming life-long bonds and life-changing outcomes. The four new Warriors represent the communities of Lawrence, Mass., Plaistow, N.H., North Andover, Mass. and Methuen, Mass.; each new Warrior celebrated a special draft day ceremony and signed a unique National Letter of Intent.

Student-athlete volunteer efforts also included the Andover Walk to End Alzheimer's, Mack Gives Back and other team-specific initiatives.

The College's winter season is now in full swing, with men's/women's ice hockey, men's/women's basketball, women's swimming and men's/women's indoor track & field all competing toward their respective conference championships.

Student-athletes posted a cumulative grade-point average of 3.11, and eight of Merrimack's programs that competed in championship seasons this fall finished with a team GPA of 3.0 or higher.

HOMECOMING / A RAINY WEEKEND DIDN'T STOP THESE WARRIORS!



TOGETHER FOR +GOOD+

The Campaign for Merrimack College



A LIFE DEDICATED TO ACADEMIA

JOANNE CARUSO BENTLEY '81

As senior director of business operations and faculty research management services at Yale University, Joanne Caruso Bentley '81 leads an organization that supports faculty research by administering proposals and managing millions of dollars of sponsored awards. She attributes much of her leadership and negotiation skills to her early experiences at Merrimack College where she was a member of the Student Government Association and a resident assistant. For the past few years, Joanne has served on Merrimack's College Leadership Council, and she recently joined the Board of Trustees. Apart from the time and leadership she dedicates to Merrimack, Joanne is a donor to the *Together for Good* Campaign and recently gave a generous gift to benefit the College's Academic Success Center. She is married to Dr. Christopher Bentley, a family physician and they have two grown children, Laura (28) and Jennifer (25).

First-Generation College Student

Originally from New Haven, Conn., Joanne and her three siblings all attended a parochial grammar school and a Catholic

high school. "When it came time for us to go to college, it wasn't a question of if we would go, it was where," said Joanne. "My father had wanted to go to college but wasn't able to because he had to work at his family's car repair business. Both my parents were huge proponents of us getting a college education, and they sacrificed a great deal to make that happen."

Joanne knew she wanted to go away to school — her parents required that for at least one year — but she didn't want to go too far. Her guidance counselor had suggested Merrimack College. "There was just something about it that appealed to me," she said. Joanne was the third child in her family to go to college. Her brother had gone to Boston College and didn't even have housing the first year. "When my father pulled up to Merrimack, we were immediately surrounded by a group of orientation leaders who told us that they would take care of carrying everything into the dorm. The welcome we received that first day was just outstanding," said Bentley. That same day, she met one of "her nearest and dearest friends," with whom she's had a lifelong friendship. She also met a lot of other first-generation college students like her.

Learning Life Skills on Campus

At Merrimack, Joanne got involved pretty quickly with class council and student government. "I felt like I was part of the community from day one," she said. "My extra-curricular activities taught me how to negotiate and interact with administrators while the fabric of the Merrimack community reinforced my family's principles." As a freshman Joanne majored in biology, but she became a business major the following year. "A lot of students go to school and change their majors and there are so many options to choose from at Merrimack as well as extra-curricular activities." As a senior, Joanne and two of her classmates started a women's club softball team, which eventually became a varsity sport.

As a graduate Joanne started donating annually to the College as soon as she could. "There were no years I missed. I believe in supporting the place that allowed me to go from adolescence to adulthood and gave me so many opportunities. I've always felt committed to giving back. And being on every reunion committee has kept me connected to the school."

A Commitment to Student Success

After earning her M.B.A. from the University of New Haven, Joanne worked in higher education for almost her entire career. She believes that retention rates are really important at colleges. "There's always going to be a reason a student transfers, but I believe that they shouldn't be forced to transfer because they didn't get the academic support they needed," said Joanne. That's why she chose to support Merrimack's Academic Success Center. The programs it offers — such as time management skills, one-on-one tutoring, and strategies for minimizing test stress — help students tackle challenges and achieve their personal best academically.

When President Hopey established the College Leadership Council, he engaged many CLC members in providing Merrimack students with workshops and activities around building resumes and honing interview skills. Joanne served on the council for a number of years before accepting a position on the Board of Trustees. "I'm really excited about starting on the board," added Joanne. "It's a new chapter of my life. Things are looking so bright for the future of the College and I really look forward to continuing to give back."

A Vision for the Future

Over the years Joanne has watched Merrimack go through various phases. "What President Hopey has done is amazing," she said. "The school is just exploding. And the growth and interdisciplinary programs are providing great opportunities for students. My classmates and I all say that our degrees have appreciated in value since we attended Merrimack." And Merrimack's leaders agree that couldn't be more true.

+ INNOVATING FOR GOOD

Academic Success Center

Located in newly renovated space in the McQuade Library, the Academic Success Center (ASC) strives to engage and encourage all students to achieve academic and personal success. By developing skills and fostering confidence, self-advocacy and persistence both in and out of the classroom, the ASC collaborates and communicates across the campus community.

Thanks to the support of generous donors, the ASC has been able to expand, providing more one-on-one group programs to assist in time management, study techniques and note taking skills.

“I believe in supporting the place that allowed me to go from adolescence to adulthood and gave me so many opportunities.” JOANNE CARUSO BENTLEY '81



8,000

ONE-ON-ONE ACADEMIC SUCCESS COACHING SESSIONS AND MEETINGS TOOK PLACE IN THE ASC IN 2017-18



4,029

VISITS TO THE TUTORING AND MATH CENTER IN 2017-18

AHEAD OF HER TIME

ROBIN SMITH '66

Originally from Malden, Mass., Robin Smith '66 came from very modest beginnings. Her mother worked three jobs to make ends meet and from a young age Robin learned to save her pennies. She attended Merrimack as a commuter student where she majored in chemistry, then went on to earn her master's degree at Lowell Technological Institute. After a few different jobs, Robin took a position at Verizon (formerly New England Telephone) as an engineer where she stayed for more than 20 years. When Robin returned to Merrimack during her 50th reunion year, she was so inspired by the growth of the College that she decided to create a scholarship for female STEM students in honor of her mother, Muriel A. Smith.

Robin grew up in a one-bedroom apartment. Half of everything Robin earned went toward saving for school — “You're going to go to college,” her mother always told her.

A Passion for Science

When it came time to apply to colleges, Robin knew she wanted to major in engineering or chemistry, a degree that could lead to a well-paying job so she would not have to worry about money. “I wasn't going to be a dorm student, we didn't have money for that, but Merrimack had a Chemistry Department, and it was a small school, which I thought would give me more opportunities to interact with professors.” Without ever having visited the campus, Robin showed up the first day of classes. “There were only 10 chemistry majors in the department,” she said, and she was one of just two females. She worked hard at Merrimack, got along well with her peers and professors and made some lifelong friends.

After graduating, Robin pursued a master's degree in chemistry at Lowell Technological Institute, where she was the only woman in her class. She had been

accepted at Villanova but did not want to be so far from home, so her professor from Merrimack made a call to Lowell Tech on her behalf. While Robin did well in graduate school, she could not find a job afterward in her field, so she took a position managing the watch department at Jordan Marsh. “My mom and I had moved to Westford by then, and she would drop me off in Burlington, head to work in Malden at the phone company, and pick me up on her way home.”

Landing a Job

When a position for a chemical salesperson at a local company opened up, Robin applied. She had a promising phone interview with the hiring manager who afterward scheduled a face-to-face meeting. Because of Robin's name and low voice, he wrongly assumed she was a man. When Robin finally met him, he turned her down for the job. “It's just the way life was in those days,” she said.

In 1972, four years after she graduated with a M.S. in chemistry, New England Telephone was just starting to actively hire women engineers. Robin was the first female outside plant engineer in the north, moving up through the ranks to operations manager, and ultimately spent 24 years at the phone company (which after many acquisitions/mergers became Verizon). She retired at the age of 50, more than 20 years ago now, and moved to her home on picturesque Newfound Lake in New Hampshire.

Returning to Merrimack

In 2016, Robin returned to Merrimack for the first time in 50 years. “I couldn’t believe how much Merrimack had changed. I mean I knew it wasn’t still one building, but I was so impressed by the new laboratories and the science and engineering facilities. The students are doing things today that, back in the day, you didn’t do until graduate

school.” Blown away by Merrimack’s progress, Robin generously donated \$100,000 to the College and has since designated an additional 6-figure gift from her estate to Merrimack. These investments have helped establish a scholarship in her mother’s memory — the Muriel A. Smith Memorial Endowed Scholarship — to support young women pursuing a degree in science, technology, engineering or math (STEM). “I think the world needs more female leaders in these areas. STEM is so important — there’s a wow factor to developing solutions through STEM that

gives people an opportunity they never had,” she said. The scholarship honors her mother, who still holds a very special place in her heart. “She probably would have been embarrassed and said, ‘you shouldn’t be creating a scholarship in my name,’” Robin admitted, since her mother was someone who did not seek attention, “but everything I have today is because of her kick in the pants. I wanted her to be remembered, and I felt confident about associating her name with Merrimack because I know the school is going to be around for a long time.”

“STEM is so important — there’s a wow factor to developing solutions through STEM that gives people an opportunity they never had. I think the world needs more female leaders in these areas.” ROBIN SMITH '66

The 1947 Society

The 1947 Society recognizes Merrimack alumni, parents and friends who demonstrate their generosity and commitment to the College with a planned gift.

“Merrimack has made a tremendous effort to stay competitive in an aggressive market and always finds different ways to contribute to the community. I really like the innovative and unique work Merrimack is doing and I want to help support that.”

— Frieda Bleeck '66

Donor, The 1947 Society

Learn more about The 1947 Society at www.merrimack.edu/plannedgiving



TOGETHER FOR +GOOD+

The Campaign for Merrimack College

TOGETHER + WE ACHIEVE GREAT THINGS

Progress Toward Campaign Goal



\$56.4M RAISED

BUILDING FOR GOOD
GOAL \$10M

COMPETING FOR GOOD
GOAL \$6M

INNOVATING FOR GOOD
GOAL \$2M

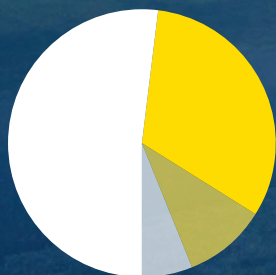
STANDING UP FOR GOOD
GOAL \$21M

SPONSORED RESEARCH/OTHER
GOAL \$4M

THE MERRIMACK FUND
GOAL \$7M



10,594 DONORS



- ALUMNI - 52%
- FRIENDS - 32%
- PARENTS - 10%
- FOUNDATION/CORP/ORGANIZATION - 6%

THANK YOU to our over 10,000 donors who have helped make the *Together for Good* Campaign a success. There is still time to be a part of this historic campaign for Merrimack College. Make your gift today and be counted!
www.merrimack.edu/togetherforgood

+ TOGETHER WE CAN. + TOGETHER WE STAND. + TOGETHER FOR GOOD.



The Merrimack Fund

Your participation in making a gift to The Merrimack Fund, along with support from thousands of others coming together, helps to shape the future of Merrimack.

Make your gift today at
www.merrimack.edu/gift

- + TOGETHER WE **CAN**.
- + TOGETHER WE **STAND**.
- + TOGETHER **FOR GOOD**.



NOTABLE AND QUOTABLE

The accomplishments and shared expertise of Merrimack's exceptional faculty

▶ Research from sociology assistant professor **DANIEL HERDA** was recently published in the Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs. His research examines the discrimination experiences of young Muslim Americans in Southeastern Michigan and how these can alter their self-perceptions and opinions about the United States. Herda also published in Social Science Research, with professor Bill McCarthy of UC-Davis, the article "No Experience Required: Violent Crime and Anticipated, Vicarious, and Experienced Racial Discrimination."

▶ **LAURI KURDZIEL**, assistant professor of psychology, was recently quoted in The Boston Globe on the topic of naps and bedtime sleep for preschoolers. Kurdziel conducted research with two others entitled "Sleep-dependent enhancement of emotional memory in early childhood" which was published in Scientific Reports.

▶ Associate professor of marketing **JOSEPH R. STASIO** recently commented to WalletHub on how to choose the best credit cards on the market.

▶ **BRITTNE AIELLO**, associate professor of criminology, spoke to the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review for a story about an increase in female inmates due to the opioid crisis. She focused on the high bails set in some cases. For a poor suspect, she said, "\$10,000 might be like \$5 million."

▶ Assistant professor **MELISSA ZIMDARS** of communication and media, and adjunct professor **MARY MCHUGH** of political science spoke to the Eagle-Tribune for a story on teaching students about politics in the age of Trump, following a Haverhill High incident in which a teacher assigned students to evaluate whether the president exhibits signs of fascism.

▶ **ANDREW MAYLOR P'16, '17**, an adjunct professor in the master of public affairs program, has been named comptroller of the commonwealth of Massachusetts by Gov. Charlie Baker H'16

▶ A column on mindfulness practices in the January edition of American Libraries singled out **MCQUADE LIBRARY'S** approach, including a meditation room, breathing classes, bikes with immersive technology, movie nights, plants and mindfulness kits on bird watching, yoga, meditation and other ways to reduce anxiety.



View Merrimack's latest videos — national TV spots and our Division 1 celebration — on the Merrimack College YouTube channel.

ALUMNI NEWS

1950s

▶ **DONALD SHEA '58** presented a paper to the International Telemetry Conference in Phoenix, Ariz. on Nov. 6, 2018. The title of the paper is "The Coaxial Antenna - A Natural Design for Multi-band Feed Applications."

1960s

▶ **DR. LAURENCE DEMERS '60, H'11** was recently named a Top Doctor by Marquis Who's Who.

1970s

▶ **THOMAS METCALF '73.** Forty-five years after canoeing the St. John River in Maine and graduating in 1973, **JOHN BREEN '73, JOE KINGSTON '73, DICK CARLSON '73, RICH COOK '73, GREG RHEAUME '73, and TOM METCALF '73** did a reunion canoe trip of the Allagash River in Maine this past summer. [1]

▶ **DONNA HARRINGTON-LUEKER'S '76** book on 19th-century summer reading has been published by the University of Massachusetts Press. Titled "Books for Idle Hours: Nineteenth-Century Publishing and the Rise of Summer Reading," the book explores the how today's "beach reads" took shape in the nineteenth century with the rise of travel and tourism and a newfound acceptance of light leisure reading.

▶ **PATRICIA HURLEY '76** married **JAMES RICCIARDONE '77** on Oct. 20, 2018.

▶ **ROBERT BLAISDELL '77** now oversees all administrative operations in addition to the finance, legal and compliance departments in his role as chief financial officer and executive vice president at Geiger.



▶ **MICHAEL KORDEK '77** was elected to the Wyoming Valley Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors in Kingston, Penn.

▶ **WILLIAM BARLETTA '79** was named combined facilities director, Town of Sudbury and Sudbury Public Schools.

▶ **JAMES O'DONNELL '79.** 2 The Top Marketing, Inc., co-founded by O'Donnell and his son, Dan, as a result of conducting numerous business and online marketing seminars to small businesses, recently reached its 10-year milestone and has grown from a local marketing agency into a nationally known SEO consulting services provider. [2]

1980s

▶ **KATHLEEN COOK '81, P'12** was the recipient of the G.F. Bettineski Child Advocate of the Year Award from Essex County CASA. Cook accepted the national award last spring before 1,200 colleagues and admirers at the Sheraton Boston Hotel.

▶ **DR. JOHN WELLS '82, P'14** has been named the acting associate chief of staff for research service at the Bedford VA Medical Center. He has been a research scientist there for 30 years.

▶ **MICHAEL TIGHE '87** was named vice president of business development at Triple S.

ALUMNI NEWS (continued)



3



4



5



6



7



8

▶ **LOUIS DIGGS '88** was named senior sales director, US Education, KNeoMedia.

1990s

▶ **KARLEEN OBERTON '91** was promoted to chief financial officer at Hologic.

▶ **KATHLEEN HESSION '93** was named executive director of the Maryland Center for School Safety (MCSS).

▶ **WAYDE MCMILLAN '94** will take on the role of executive vice president and chief financial officer at Insulet Corp. effective March 1, 2019.

▶ **JAMES MURPHY '94** was named vice president and director of information security at Rockland Trust.

▶ **DAVID BIANCAVILLA '98** was promoted to principal at BSC Group.

2000s

▶ **FRED WEBSTER JR. '02** was honored on Oct. 17, 2018 by the Boston Business Journal as a "40 Under 40" honoree. In July 2018 he was ranked #21 "Wicked Good Bostonian" by The Boston 100.

▶ **DANIEL P. YOUNG '02** and **JENNIFER A. MILLER '03** were married at Walt Disney World on Oct. 13, 2018. Joining the newly-married couple were many Merrimack College alumni. [9]

▶ **ANTHONY ALBANO '04** married Maryalyce Camerano at St. Agatha Church in Milton, Mass. on May 25, 2018. In attendance were many Merrimack and TKE alumni.

▶ **JON DEMARCO '05** was named assistant principal at Ahern Middle School, Foxborough Public Schools.

▶ **LAUREN DONOGHUE-CINELLI '05** got married on Sept. 29, 2018.

▶ **JENNIFER (GOODUS) DUGAN '08** married Andrew Dugan on Aug. 11, 2018 at Eisenhower House in Newport, R.I. Bridesmaids included fellow Merrimack & Alpha Sigma Tau sorority sisters. [8]

▶ **KATIE (DESPRES) GABRIELLO '08** and **NICK GABRIELLO '07** welcomed baby Teddy on June 8, 2018. He joins big brother John and big sister Betsy. [4]

▶ **AMANDA GILMAN '09** was named managing director at Sandler O'Neill & Partners.

2010s

▶ **JAMIE FAGAN '10** married **SARAH (LEVINSKY) FAGAN '11** on November 3, 2018.

▶ **JOHN KRAVIC III '11** married Emily Fahey on Sept. 28, 2018.

▶ **MARK LONG '11** married **JOANNA KINGSTON '14** in June 2018 in Plymouth, Mass. [5]

▶ **MARYROSE MAZZOLA '12** married Mark Blakeney on July 28, 2018 at the Popponeset Inn on Cape Cod. The wedding party included many Merrimack alumni. [7]

▶ **ALISHA (WILKINSON) ROBY '12** and **THOMAS ROBY '14** were married on Oct. 5, 2018 at St. Mary Church in Quincy, Mass. The pair met and fell in love while attending Merrimack in 2011. Many members of the Merrimack community were in attendance. [3]

▶ **NICK CARROZZA '13** recently transitioned into private practice as an associate attorney with his father, Peter J. Carrozza '74 at Carrozza Law Offices, engaging primarily in personal injury law and criminal defense.

▶ **ALEXANDRA (PICARDI) RACICOT '13** married Kevin Racicot on Dec. 7, 2018 in a private Boston City Hall ceremony followed by a dinner with close friends and family. The couple currently resides in Quincy, Mass. [6]

▶ **ROBERT VOSSLER '13** was named associate at The Law Firm of Schoonmaker, George, Colin & Blomberg, PC. [10]

▶ **TYLER CUMING '14** and **LOUISE MCGILLIVRAY '14** married on Dec. 31, 2017 in Cambridge, Mass. In attendance were former Merrimack

teammates and coaches. Louise and Tyler now reside in Washington, D.C. [11]

▶ **SARAH CONNELLY '15, M'16** was recently named by Milton Academy as their newest annual giving officer, young alumni.

▶ **ETHAN CHILDS '17.** Work that Ethan helped conduct during his Pfizer internship his junior year at Merrimack was published in the Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences. The name of the paper is "Investigation of fogging behavior in a lyophilized drug product."

▶ **PATRICK CURTIN '17** has been hired as manager of patient access at Winchester Hospital, a member of Lahey Health. Patrick is currently pursuing his master's of healthcare administration at Boston College and will be graduating next summer.

▶ **ASHLEY TREBISACCI'S M'17** higher education master's capstone research on LGBTQ+ study abroad students was featured in an article on NPR.com.

▶ **JAMES WEGMAN '17** was named client engagement associate, Nickerson People Relations.

▶ **KALEIGH YUAN '17** was hired as a police officer in the Chelmsford Police Department.

▶ **ERIN MCKENNA '18** has accepted a position as a finance associate with GroupM in New York City.

IN MEMORY

Grace Bernardin '55
Robert Cassidy '55
Alfio Finocchiaro '57
David Manning '58
Raymond Heffernan '58
Dolores Grant '59
James Dunigan Jr. '59, P'84
Richard Arthur '61
George Cooper '62
Denise Christian '64
Mildred Matasso '64
Anthony Higgins '65
Roberta Cianci '65
Francis Armstrong '71
Paul Becotte '73
Mary Douglas '74
Sarah Power '78
Ellen Kent '80
Kelly Martin '85
Eileen Sarre '86
Charline Henry '89
Mark Magane '92
John Irving '96
Sarah Wilber '06



SHARE YOUR NEWS! Tell us what you've been up to, and we'll share your news here! Email your news and photos to alumnirelations@merrimack.edu.



SAVE THE DATE



APRIL

03 Atrium Performance
12:30 p.m. • Rogers Center

04 Come Together: Washington, D.C.
Join fellow Washington D.C.-area alumni, parents and friends for a special event to celebrate Merrimack's momentum
6 p.m. • Downtown, D.C.

04-06 Lucky Stiff
A drop dead funny musical comedy
7:30 p.m. • Rogers Center
Matinee • April 6 • 2 p.m. • Rogers Center

10 Atrium Performance
12:30 p.m. • Rogers Center

10 Religion, Science and Ecology Conference
Under the auspices of Cardinal Sean O'Malley
3-8 p.m. • On Campus

15 2019 Visual Arts Student Exhibition
Annual exhibition of student work, including senior capstone projects, in drawing, graphic design, film, painting
9 a.m.-5 p.m. • Rogers Center

11 Health Science Graduate Networking Reception
5-8 p.m. • Arcidi Center

12 President's Speaker Series: An Evening with Giuliana and Bill Rancic
Their Personal Story, Breast Cancer Awareness, and Caregiving Journey
6:15 p.m. • Lawler Rink

13 A Far Cry
This conductor-less chamber orchestra is a tight-knit collective of 17 young, professional musicians
7:30 p.m. • Rogers Center

14 Sound of Music Family Sing-A-Long Parade • 1:30 p.m. • Rogers Center
Movie • 2 p.m. • Rogers Center

15 My Song is Love Unknown: A Festival of Readings and Songs for Holy Week
7:30 p.m. • Rogers Center

17 Atrium Performance
12:30 p.m. • Rogers Center

19 Health Science Networking Reception
5-8 p.m.

24 Atrium Performance
12:30 p.m. • Rogers Center

25 Feast of Faiths and Family
Annual student dialogue dinner and IFA awards
5-7 p.m. • Merrimack Club

25 Pope Francis: A Man of His Word (Documentary)
Pre-screening lecture • 6:30 p.m. Rogers Center
Movie • 7 p.m. • Rogers Center

MAY

03 MERRIMACK MUSIC JAM WEEKEND VI: Intercollegiate A Cappella Invitational
Join us for a celebration of and by collegiate musicians from Merrimack College and student music groups from other invited institutions
7:30 p.m. • Rogers Center

04 MERRIMACK MUSIC JAM WEEKEND VI: An Evening of Jazz with the Merrimack Jazz Ensemble and Guests
Join us for a celebration of and by collegiate musicians from Merrimack College and student music groups from other invited institutions
7:30 p.m. • Rogers Center

05 MERRIMACK MUSIC JAM WEEKEND VI: Merrimack Concert Band and Concert Choir Spring Performances
Join us for a celebration of and by collegiate musicians from Merrimack College and student music groups from other invited institutions
3 p.m. • Rogers Center

18 Legacy Reception
A celebration of family legacy at Merrimack
10:30 a.m.

18 Honors Convocation
Celebration honoring Presidential Scholars of the undergraduate class of 2019
1 p.m. • Lawler Rink

18 Baccalaureate Mass
Class of 2019 students, family and friends join together for Mass
4 p.m. • Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher

18 Hooding Ceremony
A celebration to honor master's degree graduates
4 p.m. • Lawler Rink

19 69th Commencement Ceremony
Join us as we celebrate the class of 2019
10 a.m. • Duane Stadium

31-JUNE 1 Reunion Weekend
Celebrate the classes of 1954, 1959, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004, 2009 and 2014

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