



# MERRIMACK COLLEGE



## PROVOST BRIEFING

May 1, 2017

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***Here are some of this week's top stories, and a look ahead.***

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- Faculty Dialogue #4 on the Liberal Studies Core, May 4
- Provost Innovation Fund Recipients
- CETL Workshop: Anti-Opressive Teaching Techniques, May 8
- Pivot Software - Sponsored Funding Database Training, May 10 and May 25
- Proposal Writing Institute
- Call for Last Lecture Nominations
- Department of Psychology Making a Significant Contribution to the Literature
- Merrimack College Research and Creative Achievement Conference, May 2
- "Living Out Loud" Listening Party, May 2
- Science and Engineering Sigma Xi Induction & Departmental Academic Awards Ceremony, May 2
- Open Office Hours with the Provost, every Wednesday

- Open Office Hours with Melissa Siegel, every Friday
- Higher Education in Ireland: Study Abroad Graduate Student Presentation, May 9
- Commencement Weekend, May 19-21

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## Faculty Dialogue #4 on the Liberal Studies Core

Thursday, May 4

3:30 - 5:00 PM

Mendel 263

The General Education Committee invites faculty to participate in a fourth and final discussion of the LS core for the spring 2017 semester. We will present additional data that helps to answer the question "Who are our students?" as well as discuss the models that were generated from the second LS core discussion. Hopefully the insights gained from the third LS core discussion of the Mission will help guide this conversation. We will end the discussion by looking ahead to the summer and fall goals for the Gen Ed committee. Please note, to accommodate the Creative Research and Achievement Conference, we will be meeting on Thursday, May 4th from 3:30 to 5:00 in Mendel 263. Please RSVP using the link below:

<https://goo.gl/forms/0jkbJ1EHnTyiu5n42>

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## Provost Innovation Fund

Congratulations to the 2017 Provost Innovation Fund Awardees! Click [here](#) for a list of recipients and their project titles.

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## CETL Workshop: Anti-Oppressive Teaching Techniques

Monday, May 8

12:00 - 1:30 PM

Meeting Room B, Sakowich Campus Center (Lunch will be provided)

[Registration Link](#)

Join us for a workshop on intersectional feminist pedagogy for social justice, with guest speaker Dr. Shannon Weber. The workshop will include tips for developing syllabi that foster inclusive teaching techniques and greater diversity. The workshop will also feature tips for dealing with microaggressions in the classroom.

Shannon Weber is a visiting lecturer in the Women's and Gender Studies Department at Wellesley College, whose work focuses on LGBTQ history, politics, and culture. Her book chapter, "Teaching Same-Sex Marriage as U.S. History," published in the Lambda Award-winning anthology *Understanding and Teaching U.S. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender History*, is written to assist college and high school educators alike in incorporating central insights from LGBTQ studies into general US history curriculum to promote diversity and inclusion for student populations across the country.

This workshop is sponsored by CETL and is the culmination of a year-long Teaching Circle on Anti-Oppressive conducted by Drs. Debra Michals and Raechel Tiffe in Women's and Gender Studies.

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## Pivot Software - Sponsored Funding Database Training

May 10 & May 25 12:00 - 1:00 (Lunch will be provided)

### **Provost Conference Room, Austin Hall**

The search for private and federal funding opportunities has just gotten easier! Merrimack has purchased a license agreement to Pivot, which is a comprehensive funding opportunity database. Pivot also enables users to create individual profiles based on research or program interests, opening up opportunity for collaboration with other Merrimack faculty or the broader international research community. Users will be able to run their own funding searches and/or request the assistance of Corporate and Foundation Development (CFD) and the Office for Sponsored Programs (OSP). Please join us for an overview of how to make the Pivot Software system work for you.

[Registration](#)

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## **Proposal Writing Institute**

**May 10, 2017 internal deadline**

**May 22, 2017 CUR deadline**

The Office of the Provost will reimburse up to three Merrimack faculty to participate in the July 13-17, 2017 Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) [Proposal Writing Institute](#) at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN. This Institute is designed for faculty who have already identified an external funding opportunity or agency and are currently working on a draft proposal. The four-day institute will consist of one-on-one work with a mentor, writing, small group discussions, and critiquing of proposals. The institute has been developed to assist novice to experienced proposal writers in drafting complete proposals for submission.

By **May 10, 2017**, please send a two-paragraph outline of your proposal and the name of the intended funding agency and/or program to Melissa Siegel, Director of Sponsored Programs, at [siegelm@merrimack.edu](mailto:siegelm@merrimack.edu) for internal review.

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## **Call for Last Lecture Nominations**

The Merrimack College Honors Program is pleased to invite nominations for the Annual Last Lecture at Merrimack College. The Last Lecture will be delivered in Fall 2017 by a faculty member who will share with the community their research, values, and passions. This is their chance to share their wisdom as if it were the last opportunity they would have to speak to a group of students.

All members of the community are encouraged to nominate those faculty members whom they would like to hear from during this event. Nominees should be faculty members who exemplify the values of the Merrimack College community. Think about those colleagues among us who have had a positive effect on you in some way, who were engaging, motivated, passionate, and inspiring. Self-nomination is acceptable and encouraged.

To nominate a faculty member, please fill out this [form](#) with the faculty member's full name and a detailed description of why they should deliver the last lecture. Nominations are due by **Friday, May 12th, 2017**.

The Honors Student Council in consultation with the Honors Program Director will review the nominations and select the 2017 Last Lecturer.

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## Department of Psychology Making a Significant Contribution to the Literature

[ResearchGate](#), a networking site for researchers, recently recognized members of the Department of Psychology for the most read department from Merrimack College in March 2017. Congratulations to Laura Kurdziel, Michael Mascolo, Azara Santiago Rivera, Raymond Shaw and Michael Stroud for their contributions to the literature.

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### Other Events this Week

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#### May 2nd

##### **Merrimack College Research and Creative Achievement Conference**

**4:00 - 6:00 PM**

**Lawler Arena, Merrimack Athletic Complex**

**MPR, Sakowich Campus Center (Higher Education and Community Engagement Colloquium)**

The second annual Merrimack College Research and Creative Achievement Conference is a college-wide conference and celebration designed to highlight the academic and creative excellence of undergraduate and graduate work, to foster engagement among faculty members, students, their families, and the community.

Please come visit and support your fellow students for this event. Posters for the Higher Education and Community Engagement Colloquium will be on display in the MPR in the Sakowich Campus Center and posters, talks, roundtable discussions, and video presentations will be delivered in Lawler Arena in the Merrimack Athletic Complex. Nearly 500 students will be presenting their work from all schools across campus.

We hope to see you there!

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#### May 2nd

##### **"Living Out Loud" Listening Party**

**6:00-7:00 PM**

##### **Writers House**

There's nothing like the power of a good story – it can offer a window into lives and experiences unlike our own; it can make us look at the world in a whole new way and inspire us to care about issues we may have never even considered. That's the premise of Living Out Loud: Storytelling for Social Change, that by sharing our stories, each and every one of us can be a force for change. Storytelling has the power to open minds, touch hearts, and inspire empathy and solidarity. It can move us to think and then to act.

WMCK will debut a new radio show, "Living Out Loud" Storytelling for Social Change." Living Out Loud is a radio program that will feature true stories as told by the real students of Merrimack College and will premiere on WMCK from 6pm to 7pm on Tuesday, May 2. There will also be a listening party at the Writers House on May 2 at 6pm. Please tune in to WMCK or join us at the Writers House to hear these compelling stories, as told by our students in their own words and voices. [WMCK on TuneIn](#)

The second episode of the show, which features stories by Merrimack students, will be May 9 from 6-7:00 p.m.

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## **May 2nd**

**Science and Engineering Sigma Xi Induction & Departmental Academic Awards**

**Ceremony**

**6:00 - 8:00 PM**

**Murray Lounge**

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## **May 3rd**

**Open Office Hours with the Provost**

**8:30 - 10:00 AM**

**Provost's Suite, Austin Hall**

The Provost will have open office hours for faculty to drop in every Wednesday from 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM. Whether you have a specific topic or just want to say "hello," all faculty are welcome to visit.

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## **May 5th (and every Friday)**

**Open Office Hours with Melissa Siegel**

**9:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

**Provost's Suite, Austin Hall**

Melissa Siegel, Director of Sponsored Programs, will hold hours in the Office of the Provost every Friday from 9:00 AM-4:00 PM. This is your opportunity to stop by with any and all questions about sponsored activities, programs, or grants. Please e-mail [siegelm@merrimack.edu](mailto:siegelm@merrimack.edu) to set up an appointment or just plan on swinging by to say "hello." Melissa is excited to learn more about you and your teaching, scholarship and research interests.

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## **Future Events**

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### **Higher Education in Ireland: Study Abroad Graduate Student Presentation**

**Tuesday, May 9**

**2:00 - 4:00 PM**

**Merrimack Club**

Please join us to hear about lessons learned from our visit to Irish universities in Dublin, Cork and Galway.

*Sponsored by the Office of Global Studies and the Graduate Higher Education Program*

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## **Commencement Weekend**

**Friday, May 19, 2017**

**Graduate Commencement Exercises**

**6:00 PM Merrimack Athletics Complex**

Faculty lineup at 5:00 PM in Class 1182 (formerly CETL, near The Writers House), Merrimack Athletics Complex. Please arrive dressed in regalia. Refreshments will be served. A reception will immediately follow the commencement ceremony in the Sakowich Campus Center.

**Saturday, May 20, 2017**

**Legacy Reception**

11:00 AM - Cascia

**Honors Convocation**

1:00 PM - Merrimack Athletics Complex

Faculty line up is at 12:30 pm in Class 1182, (formerly CETL, near Writers House). Please arrive dressed in regalia, refreshments will be served.

**Baccalaureate Mass**

4:00 PM - Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher

Faculty lineup at 3:30 p.m. in front of Austin Hall. Please arrive dressed in regalia (no caps). A reception will immediately follow Mass in the Sakowich Campus Center.

**Sunday, May 21, 2017**

**Undergraduate Commencement**

10:00 AM - Merrimack Athletics Complex

Faculty lineup at 8:30 a.m. in McQuade Library, first floor. Please arrive dressed in regalia. A continental breakfast will be served. A reception immediately follows the commencement ceremony in the Sakowich Campus Center.

For more information, please visit the [Commencement Faculty](#) page.

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