**Merrimack College**

73rd Commencement | Class of 2023

The Girard School of Business and the School of Science and Engineering

Saturday, May 20, 2023

# ACADEMIC PROCESSION

 **MACE BEARERS**

Fan Chen, Ph.D.

Chair, Accounting & Finance Department & Associate Professor, Finance

Joel Kuszmaul, Ph.D.

Associate Dean, School of Science and Engineering

**CROSS BEARER**

Rebecca Jimenez

Associate Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students

**THE GRADUATES**

Led by Father Raymond Dlugos, O.S.A., Ph.D.

Vice President for Mission and Ministry

**GRADUATE STUDENTS**

**UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS**

**THE FACULTY**

**THE DISTINGUISHED ASSEMBLY**

Academic Deans

Distinguished Speaker

The Board of Trustees

Vice Provosts

Executive Vice President

Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost

President

The audience is requested to stand if they are able during the Academic Procession, Invocation and National Anthem, and to remain in place until the Academic Procession leaves at the end of the exercises.

# PROGRAM

**PRESIDING**

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D.,

President

**PROCESSIONAL**

Merrimack College Band

**INVOCATION**

Father Raymond Dlugos, O.S.A., Ph.D.

Vice President for Mission and Ministry

**NATIONAL ANTHEM**

Mackapella

**WELCOME**

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D.,

President

**REMARKS FROM THE PROVOST**

Sean “John” Condon, Ph.D.

Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost

**ADDRESS TO GRADUATES**

John T. Boyce ‘81

Chair, Board of Trustees

**RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES AND PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS**

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D., President

**CLOSING REMARKS**

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D., President

**BENEDICTION**

Father Raymond Dlugos, O.S.A., Ph.D., Vice President for Mission and Ministry

**CLOSING OF THE EXERCISES**

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D., President

**RECESSIONAL**

Merrimack College Band

# GIRARD SCHOOL OF BUSINESS | MASTER’S DEGREES IN COURSE

April Baker

Juainer Beato-Lopez

Isabel Rose Bowen

Nicolas Brackett

Benjamin Edwin Singh Brar

Laura Jean Brightney

Joseph Buck

Eric Burton

Rosemary Callahan

William Calverley

John Camirand

Kylie Kristabella Capri

Ashley Christina Carrington, MS

Amanda Nicole Cavicchi

Reimundo Chavez

Elizabeth A. Cicerone

Catherine Coker

Alex Thomas Connolly

Patricia Katy Coughlin

Janet Crockett

Tristan Crozier

William Daughan

Sandra Lee del Rosario

Stanislav Demin

William A. Dennison

Francesco Dondini

Matthew Joseph Donlan

Courtney Edwards

Hugo Esselin

Adam J. Fontaine

Felice Genuario

Danielle A. Giordano

Cortney Gladstone

Michael Golankiewicz

Crystal Nicole Gomez

Wilfredo Antonio Gonzalez Garcia

Andrew J. Gorham

Anairis Lucrecia Gotay

Emily Day Grandahl

Jovan Grant

Paul Hansen

Kerri Hanson

Rebecca Sarah Harty

Alexandria Jane Hogan

Rosanne Honders

Taylor Marie Hubert

Daniel Jacob Johnson

Elizabeth Marie Johnson

Cory Alan Jolicoeur

Brendan Joyce

Christopher James Kalil

Elena Marie Kapolis

John Kasprzyk

George Peter Katsikaris

Kaitlyn Nichole Kaufman

Jason Paul Kluge

Elias Albert Lagesse

Jack Landers

Michael Lang

Megan Larson

Ottoville Severi Leppäenen

Ciara Elise LiCausi

Elizabeth Lichter

Samuel Lichter

Sophia A. Limonciello

David Lunt

Anthony J. Luti

Nicole Alexandria Manning

Kelly Kavanaugh Marie

Kaitlin Marie Marques

Jacqueline M Mason

Caroline Lord May

Bridgete McAuley

Jessica Lyn McGee

Mick G. Messner

Ejaz Mughal

Arthur Mukotanyi

Bradley Lawrence Myers

Anthony Sergio Nasta

Alessandro Negri

Elie B. Nembambi

Maryann Nguyen

Emily Elizabeth Nolan

Gillian Lee O’Brien

Jalina M. Pedersen

Raquel Mercedes Perez

Nicholas A. Perez-Blanco

Stefano Pesenti

An Phan

Brooke Pistorino

Shannon Place

Samuel David Rebinskas

Grace Elizabeth Reid

Thomas Joseph Rooney

Kevin Russo

Alanis Sadlowski

Gregory Sawyer, Jr.

Elma Sehovic

Jordan Seyfert

Michael Simari

Grace E. Soucy

David Kenneth Stuart

Ryan Francis Sullivan

Etchu Tabenyang

Elilia Teixeira

Kyle Templeton

Kathryn Tompson

Sofia Silva Vasconcelos

Matthew Venuti

Matthew Phillip Verreault

Christine Marie Volpe

Nguyen Vu

Jessica Hope Wagner

Ryan Walker

Matthew Walsh

Cameron Robert White

John Williamson

Julie Danielle Wilmot

Sidni A. Wise-Wright

# GIRARD SCHOOL OF BUSINESS | UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES IN COURSE

Ella Marie Affanato

Jacob Steven Aleksa

Kate Mary Thiboutot Alexanderson

Gianluca Robert Alfe

Samarah Alteon

Brooke Alves

Jada Simone Andrade

Nicole Andrea

Ashley Arcidi

Mariah Arsenault

Julia Auger

Sydney Austin

Aidan Bagley

Zachary Bail

Bianca Nicole Baldassaro

Brandon Baldi

Kathleen W. Bank

Cassidy Barcelos

Morgan Barker

Cecelia Francesca Barron

John Barron

Vincenzo Napoleon Basile

Marcus Eric Bennett

Annmarie Berthiaume

Jacqueline Ann Bethoney

Cole M. Birdow

Jack Blanchard

Adam Edward Bockhoff

Jane Bonazzoli

Henri Bourque

Amy Bowab

Jacob P. Brennan

Peter Brown

Lauren Burke

Meghan Lynn Burke

Scott Evangelos Bussell

Nolan Butler

Shane Cameron

Dimitri Diego Campusano

Jacob Cappello

Talia Carbone

Ethan Carman

Kevin Michael Carroll

Michael Alfred Caruso

Joseph Casale

Cameron Casella

Joshua Cavallaro

John P. Centofanti

Diamond Christian

Isabella Cecilia Ciciulla

Daniella Joyna Cimino

Liana Marie Cincotti

Robert Cleary

Gabriel Clemente

Cameron Colby

John Collins

Lauren Concannon

Patrick Joseph Conroy

Sean Richard Conway

Serena Rae Cook

Kenneth Cooper

Noah Cotrupi

Michael Dewey Courtney

Cory Couture

Ryan Cox

Christian Crowley

Matthew Crowley

Amedeo Cubellotti

Samuel Richard Dalke

Brandon Kenneth Dalton

Nicholas Matthew D’Angelo

Gina D’Arcangelo

Joshua John Davis, Jr.

Jayme Nicole DeCesare

Amy DeLeo

Daniel DeLeo

Antonio Derry

Miles Dewhirst

Evan DiGiovanni

Samuel Paul DiPillo

Michael D. DiPlacido

Brett James Doherty

Abigail Dolan

Darell Z. Dorrah

Dylan Matthew Dresher

Zachary D’Urso

Michael James Dyer

Edward Dzialo

Gabrielle Eckard

Leah El-Hachem

Scott Elliott

Francis Esquivel

Courtney Evans

Colleen Marie Fahey

Emma Rae Faivre

Mary Ashleigh Faletra

Michael Fallon

Anthony Fazzolari

Johan C. Feilscher

Dylan Fernandez

Mariah Fernandez

Michael Arturo Ferrara

Mary Elizabeth Flaherty

Kylie Renee Flanagan

Trent Flood

Brooke Flynn

Erin M. Flynn

Molly Flynn

Nicholas S. Foderaro

Joseph Anthony Ford, lll

Ethan Fowle

Keanna French

Jayden Frye

Michael Gaeta

Tyler James Galvin

Lucas Allen Gauch

Natalie Theresa Gebeyan

Leila Geha

Emma Mary Patricia Gerbutavich

Gabrielle Gervais

Zachary Gibbons

Marc Gonzalez

Andrew James Gorey

Michael T. Gorgoni

Alexandra Goskoski

Ted Molloy Gosselin

Emily May Grace

Ava Harnch Grady

Kelleigh Greaney

Samantha Jane Grenier

Anna C. Grinnell

Guillermo Gutierrez-Largaespada

Alexander Haba

Andre Jalil Hanania

Alexander Daniel Harrison

David Hawes

Jake Anthony Heerman

Alexander Heffernan

Matthew Heffernan

Liam Nicholas Hemeon

Catherine Joyce Henaire

John Henry

Bianca Camille Herbert

Audrey Hill

Maegan Hladick

Matthew Hottleman

Emily Margaret Hunt

Meghan Rose Hurley

Cameron Matthew Ingham

Alexandra Patrice Inman

Benjamin Jacoby

Omar Jasseh

Matthew E. Jenkins

Mikaela Johnson Campana

Marissa Jones

Ryan Kacmarcik

Laura Katamani

Emily Paige Kauranen

Armen John Kazanjian

Elizabeth Ann Keane

Dylan Anthony Kehoe

Garrett Kelley

Elizabeth Mary Kempker

John Kennedy

Meghan Kerr

Elizabeth Ann Kilmer

Junghyun Kim

Tiffany Jasmine Kirkland

Kyle L. Knight

Matthew Korzec

Fatoumata Kourouma

Michael Franklin Kusick

Joshua Kusinski

Martîn Jamil Lahood, Jr.

Avery LaMotte

Matthew Leo Lane

Owen LaPlant

Ryan E. LaPointe

Sean Larrow

Jordyn LeCompte

Andrew Joseph Lee

Benjamin Lee

Michael Paul LeGage, Jr.

Gavin LeggSpadano

Meghan Ann Leporati

Amanda Flynn Lepsevich

WilliamJacob Lerman

Samantha Lessick

Zachary W. LeTendre

Calogero LoGrasso

Renea Lombardi

Nicholas Lopez

Elvin Louis

Jason Louis

Sean S. Lynch

Connor E. Lyons

Benjamin Mac

Jacob Macchi

Bruna M. Mariani

Patrick Madden

Robert Magazzu

James Majeski

Maxwell Makara

Liza Judith Manuele

Phillip A. Marchese

Matthew Francis Marino

Kiley A. Martel

Cameron Martin

Makenna Mathieu

Kayla Diana Mayo

Timothy McCaffrey

Nicolas McCarthy

Richard Patrick McCoy, II

Angelo McCullough

Emily Elizabeth McDaid

Jacob McGlynn

Brendan McGonagle

Brennan McInnis

Daniel Gerard McMahon

Bradley McMullen

Nolan Mealey

Damian John Medina

Patrick Mello

Brandon Aaron Melo

Emma Gerilyn Mercier

MiKenzie Leigh Merrow

Heather Lee Mileika

Jacob Millsap

Claudia Marie Mirshak

Shaka Malik Moales

Emma Virginia Monkiewicz

Connor R. Morrison

George Mosher

Kyle Austin Muldoon

Aidan James Mulligan

Emily Charlotte Murphy

Kevin Lawrence Murphy

Michael Dudley Murphy

Andrew J. Musselman

Ryan Mut

Luke Myers

Rachel Needham

Allyson Nerf

Jordyn Nobrega

Kevin Daniel Norton

Robert Anthony Noto, Jr.

Jameson Michael O’Connell

Thomas Orcutt

Grace Owaida

Stephen James Pagliuca, Jr.

LyAnn Palma

Ronald Paolo

Paul Richard Papageorgiou

Kaerys Carolyn Parry

Deven Patel

Roshani V. Patel

Shahil K. Patel

Jaylissa Yasmine Perdomo

Matthew L. Pescatore, Jr.

Alyson Pinkham

Anthony Lee Pistorino

Kyle S. Pizzarella

Jada Powell

Derrick Joseph Pratt

Marino Romani Preziosa

Logan Michael Prousalis

Garrett Prucher

Nathan Quaye

Samuel Reid Rabassa

Jacob Scott Randall

Riley Edward Reed

Siegfried Rico Reid, Jr.

Idalys Reynoso

Meghan Nicole Richter

Isabella Mary Rinaldi

Mary Ellen Riordan

Caroline Elizabeth Robinson

Daniel Richard Rodier

Olivia Romano

Jack Rooney

Mitchell Root

Emma Dow Rotondo

James Rowley

John Rush

Domenic Russo

Abdelmalek Sabri

Stephen Santarpia

Lucas Sarantopoulos

Holly Schweitzer

Joseph Lawrence Scioli

Abigail Shea

Michelle Elizabeth Shepard

Michael Sidhly

Brian Smith

Garrett Smith

Justin C. Sommer

Ian Sparks

Brandon Michael St. Onge

Julia Stabile

Alexander Keith Steele

Sarah Rose Stergis

Nolan Stevenson

James Strong

Evan Studley

Trevor John Suydam

Phillip Tammaro

Lindsay Margaret Tavano

Kayla Ann Thibodeau

Kaylee Ann Thomas

Jay Thompson

Alexandra Elise Tomasso

Troy Nicholas Tomeo

Kristen Elizabeth Tracy

Andrew Traveis Tringali

John Fotis Tsaousis

Melissa Lynn Uhrynowski

James Austin Valade

Angel Vargas

Matthew Davide Vettraino

Laura Vilella-Durieux

Jared Wain

Samuel David Walsh

Sean Walsh

Robert MacGregor Welsher

Alex Michael Weston

Grace Catherine Wheeler

Macy Margaret Wilcox

Michael Wilder

Melinda Williams

Joshua Wilson

Samuel Arthur Windle

Sarah Ann Withers

Ian D. Woods

Sydney Lynne Woods

Nelson Young-Simpson

Miguel Youssef

Emily Jayne Yuu

Jacob Adam Zwickau

# SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING | MASTER’S DEGREES IN COURSE

Anthony Abi-Nader

Quadri Ameen

Madeleine Anctil

Jenifer Antonelli

Abhay Bhurane

Terrick Boire

Mary Bonefant

Noah Tyler Briggs

Ares Canetti

Joseph Chalhoub

Amanda Clarke

Jesse Alan Conlon

Samuel Lucas Crow

William Dempsey

Joseph Jesus Diaz

Zachary Olivier Dieujuste

Mohab Gamal Eldokla

Kelby Daniel Faulk

Anthony Fonte

Joshua Brian Gabel

Ellen Gagnon

Steven Gambino

Connor Jacob McCoy Gibbons

Matthew Christopher Gibney

Luke R. Groder

Annick R. Guerin

Joseph David Hollins

Deana Hutcheson

Sarah Noelle Johnson

Samuel Johnson

Aynura Kalmurzaeva

Rebecca Lynn Licciardi Kendall

Sunkwon Kim

Ronnie King

Kyle Macri

Eliot Mangeolle

Tyler J. Mann

Domenic William Martiniello

Joseph Mazza

Ahmed Messid Bouziane Meflah

Sarah Elizabeth Montgomery

Deogratias Musyoki Muthini

Patrick Neff

Benjamin A. Nelson

Lauren Elise Nixdorf

Meaghan Leonardia O’Brien

Lisa Partington

Gleiciane Pereira Cardoso

Danielle Talia Pintone

Victor Jospeh Privetera

Makayla Sharelle Richard

Robert John Sand

Erick O. Sereti

Bridget Shanahan

Andre J. Singer

Cheick Sissoko

Jared Richard Smith

Fareesa Syeda

Erica Jean Tanzella

Emma Tkachuk

Russell Townsend

Laura Trimboli

Tighe C. Tubito

Joshua David Villarreal

Bryan Waruhiu

Ruth Maria Wilson

# SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING | UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES IN COURSE

Layan Abdelkarim

Ziyad Alqarni

Justin William Applebee

Sydney Babb

Allan Barata

Samuel Barresi

Autumn M. Bates

Connor Beevers

Sophia Beland

Harrison Bell

Justin Bettencourt

Nicholas William Bordenca

Ian Branconnier

Jessica Ann Brewster

Hannah Renee Brisson

Nicholas Burling

Modesty Butler

Zachary M. Camino

Andrew Caron

Michael Chankhour

Rachel Chanley

Camron Alexander Chrissis

Ashley Elizabeth Cocchiaro

Aiden Timothy Coleman

Killian Coleman

Owen Collins

Lorena Corbelli

Kevin G. Costa

Jeffrey Thomas Crane

Paul Matthew Cromwick

Alyssa Rae Cugno

Colby S. Currier

Taelyr Marcia-Elizabeth Czech

Kiley Joyce Dallas

Robert Gary Danehy, III

Eric DeFelice

Kaleigh Nicole Della Grotta

Jason Demers

Skylar DiMartino

Owen Enestvedt

Jake Ryan Festa

Brendan Fitzgerald

Emmalee Foley

Daniel Fox

Allyn French

Ryan Gamelin

Andrew Gardner

Sedona Gillard

Matthew Gilliland

Mina William Girgis

Nicholas Lima Gois

Hannah Nicole Goldthwait

John Gosselin

Arthur Got

Daniel Gray

Logan Green

Itzel Guadalupe Guzman Dominguez

Drew Ruppy Hailey

Jacob Hamel

William Hancock

Thomas Hardy

Jake Francis Howlett

Patrick Byron Hurley

Teghan Inglis

Sean Patrick Janerico

Andrew Clayton Jenet

Rivency C. Jeudy

Gage Johnson

Allyson Danielle Jones

Taisha Emmanuela Joseph

Austin John Kalinowski

Jaden S. Kamm

Quinn Danielle Kellogg

Madison Elise Kirrane

Ryan Joseph Kless

Trym Kyvaag

Christina M. Lane

Matthew Lanney

Katelyn Laurencio Leal

Meghan Lee

James Arthur LeFave, Jr.

Elizabeth Mary Lemone

Neil Letellier

Brandon Turner L’Heureux

John C. Liddy

Daniel Lignos

Braden Likhite-Koehler

Samuel Peter LoPiano

Leudybert Lora Cruz

Andrew John Malek

Sean Edward Maloney

Christian Mann

Anton Mao

Enrico P. Marcoaldi

Corey Simon Mastrocola

Collin Patrick McCabe

Riley David McCue

Griffin McNulty

Madison Medeiros

Catherine Merritt

Isaac Anthony Mezher

Bradley James Miller

Frederick Agustiv Monroy

Curtis Moore

Vanni Rose Morello

Raymond Mullin

Molly O’Brien Murnane

Lyanne Murphy

Moses Mwaura

Yash Nandwana

Joseph Nemeczky

Patrick Norcross

Jad Noureddine

Sophia Susana Obering

Kathryn O’Neil

Olivia Orlowska

Antoni Piascik

Aleksandra Piascik

Fayth Ann Poitras

Zachary Bowen Pond

Magdalini Poulimeni

Gihana Pruitt

Allyson Qualley

Francisco Quintana

Kennedy Rahaman

Jared Nathan Rathbun

Kelly Lynne Redford

Allison Reeb

Carlos M. Reyes

Adam Roczniak

Michael Romefelt

Connor Shane Rose

Jillian Marie Rowland

Alexander Fredric Royer

Ashley Ryan

Logan Salvi

Gabriella Sarraf

Terrence J. Scanlan, Jr.

Lillian Abigale See

Garald J. Seip

Gregory Sencabaugh

Kyle Silva

Starr Sroka

Aislinn P. Sullivan

Kyle Sweeney

Nicholas T. Tenczar

Gregory Thomas

Mason Tidd

Laney Shea Tillman

Parker David Todd

Maddie Vaine

Brianna Van Hecke

Leonardo Venturotti

Madysen Elizabeth Wallace

Sean White

Christopher Wildman

Erik Owen Wunderlich

Sylvia Zaeder

# DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS

**The Girard School of Business and the School of Science and Engineering | 9:00 a.m.**

**John T. Boyce ’81,**

**Chair of the Board of Trustees**

John Boyce chairs the Board of Trustees of Merrimack College and has served on the Board for nine years.

An investment industry leader for 40 years, John has had responsibility for the commercial activities of Insight Investment in North America for the past five years.

Prior to Insight, John spent six years at Aberdeen Standard as Head North America Distribution where he was responsible for building the brand and the region’s institutional business development activities.

Earlier in his career, John led global investment activities at American International Group/PineBridge Investments, General Electric Asset Management as well as U.S. business development for Diversified Investment Advisors/Aegon.

He is also a past board member of the Alzheimer’s Association.

John received his Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Merrimack College in 1981. He holds his FINRA Series 7, 63 and 24 licenses. He resides in Ridgefield, CT with his wife, Maryann Testa Boyce ’81. John and Maryann have two daughters, Lauren G. (Boyce) Koury and Sarah M. Boyce.

**Winston School of Education and Social Policy | 1:30 p.m.**

**Stacey Ciprich, H’22**

**Principal of Abbott Lawrence Academy**

Stacey Ciprich is the founding principal of Abbott Lawrence Academy (ALA), an accelerated honors high school within the Lawrence High School campus. Opened in 2015, it is the district’s first exam high school. In 2020, she was named Educator of the Year Award by the Massachusetts Association for Gifted Education.

Since 2017, Merrimack and ALA have partnered on an Early College Program today known as the Pioneer Scholars Program. Upon graduation from ALA, select Pioneer Scholars enroll at Merrimack with financial assistance covering tuition, room, board and books, as well as dedicated academic guidance and support from faculty and staff.

**School of Liberal Arts and the School of Nursing and Health Sciences | 5:30 p.m.**

**The Rev. Nicholas A. Sannella, J.D., M.D.**

**Pastor, Lowell Collaborative, Archdiocese of Boston**

The Rev. Nicholas A. Sannella graduated from Boston College in 1967, attended Tufts University School of Medicine and trained in vascular surgery at St. Elizabeth’s Hospital in Boston and Stanford University Medical Center.

Returning to Massachusetts, he chose to practice in Lowell and Lawrence, underserved areas in his specialty. He was chief of surgery at Lawrence General Hospital, president of the medical staff at Saints Medical Center in Lowell and vice president of the New England Society of Vascular Surgery. Involvement in hospital and medical staff governance, as well as patient care issues, led to a juris doctorate from Suffolk University.

In 1999 he entered Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts and was ordained in 2003. Today, he is pastor of the Immaculate Conception Church, Saint Anthony’s Church and Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity, which make up the Lowell Collaborative of the Archdiocese of Boston.

He has served as a trustee of St. John’s Hospital and Saints Memorial Medical Center, both in Lowell, and Boston College. He has also served as a medical officer in the United States Air Force Reserve.

# DIPLOMA TRANSLATION

**The translation of the Merrimack College diploma from Latin to English is as follows:**

Merrimack College

To all reading this document

Greetings in the Lord

The President, Faculty and Trustees of Merrimack College

by virtue of properly completing required studies on the recommendation of the faculty

and by the authority vested in us

by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts confer on

name of student

the degree of

name of degree

and grant freely all rights, privileges and honors pertaining to that degree.

In witness thereof we place the seal of the College.

Given in North Andover in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

date of degree

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

John (Jack) T. Boyce ’81, Chair

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D., President

Karen Cambray ’88, Vice Chair

Rev. David A. Cregan O.S.A., Ph.D., Vice Chair

Kevin J. Lucey ’89, P’24, Vice Chair

Marybeth McInnis, Esq. H’17, Vice Chair

Nicholas McDonald, Esq., Secretary

Jeffrey A. Doggett, Ed.D., Officer of the Corporation

Rev. Robert P. Hagan, O.S.A., Ex Officio

Michael P. Arcidi ’85

Bruce A. Bouchard ’79

Matthew Carpenter-Dennis, Esq.

Joanne Caruso Bentley ’81

Peter J. Caulo ’83

Alvin M. Chapital, III, ’86

Lynne Ann Chase ’90, P’23

Rev. Kevin M. DePrinzio, O.S.A., Ph.D.

Francis Kenneth “Ken” Duane ’80, H’16

Michael J. Franco, Esq. ’81, P’12

Rev. Francis J. Horn, O.S.A., J.C.D.

Dennis J. Leonard ’77

Paul L. Mucci P’07

Rev. Arthur P. Purcaro, O.S.A.

Kevin R. Rhodes ’91

Kevin J. Routhier ’99

James E. Scammon ’83

Patrick J. Sullivan

Marques D. Torbert

# ABOUT MERRIMACK COLLEGE

One of only two Catholic Augustinian colleges in the U.S., Merrimack College is a coeducational institution with approximately 5,500 undergraduate, continuing education and graduate students from 34 states and 36 countries, comprising schools of liberal arts, science and engineering, health sciences, education and social policy, and business.

The College’s 220-acre campus is approximately 25 miles north of Boston in North Andover and Andover, Massachusetts. Merrimack is a Master’s Colleges & Universities/Medium Programs institution in the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

# MISSION AND VISION

**Our mission is to enlighten minds, engage hearts, and empower lives.**

Inspired by the Catholic faith and the Augustinian tradition of seeking truth through inquiry and dialogue, our vision is to:

* Prepare students to adapt creatively to tomorrow’s realities through excellence in the liberal arts, sciences, and the professions;
* Build a community of scholars welcoming and respecting a diversity of backgrounds, experiences, beliefs, and perspectives;
* Cultivate the intellectual, moral, spiritual, physical, and personal awareness needed to make wise choices for life, career, and service;
* Encourage and support scholarly work that contributes to the wisdom on which society bases its decisions;
* Engage other educational institutions, industry, and agencies of social change in collaborative efforts fostering a just, peaceful, and sustainable world.

# THE SEAL OF MERRIMACK COLLEGE

Drawing on our rich history, the modern shield of Merrimack College reinterprets elements from the original 1947 college seal.

The shield includes four quadrants:

* The book with the words “Tolle Lege” (“take up and read”), the famous words connected with the conversion of Saint Augustine to Catholicism, proclaiming the College’s founding by the Order of Saint Augustine.
* Wavy pallets, to represent the “swift water” of the Merrimack Valley’s original Native Americans.
* The cross fleurette, from the coat of arms of the Archdiocese of Boston, in which Merrimack College is located. The cross fleurette refers to the French ancestry of Bishop Cheverus, the first Bishop of Boston (1810–1823).
* The symbolism of our colors: blue for loyalty (and the cold, rippling waters of the Merrimack River) and gold for wisdom (also the color of the papacy).



# THE CEREMONIAL MACE

The mace carried in academic processions derives from medieval times in England when an official was taking office. At that time, the mace was a formidable weapon and was held ready by the mace bearer to protect the dignitary. From the sixteenth century in England and since colonial days in the United States, the mace has become a symbol of academic office and is carried by a distinguished member of the faculty.

The Merrimack College mace has a young history. It was fashioned for the 1986 Commencement by Cistercian Monks of the Holy Rood Guild at Saint Joseph’s Abbey in Spencer, Massachusetts. The monks are renowned craftsmen and designers of ecclesiastical vesture.

The Merrimack College mace is thirty-six inches long and is made of black walnut. The front of the mace carries the College’s hand-painted, gold-leafed seal. From the intricate coat of arms of the Order of Saint Augustine, the back of the mace is hand carved with an open book symbolizing the conversion of Augustine. On the left hand side of the book is a tongue of flame above a heart pierced with “the burning love of God.” An elegantly simple cross adorns the top of the mace.

Since 1986, the Merrimack College mace has been carried by the Chief Marshal at Commencement.

# THE CEREMONIAL CROSS

The processional cross is expressive of the Augustinian longing for unity of our minds and hearts in God. It was designed by the Augustinian Contemplative Nuns at the Monastery of Our Holy Savior in Leccetto, Tuscany, Italy. Small replicas of this cross are given to Merrimack students engaged in service to others through Service Learning and the SEND Programs as well as to those who participate in MORE, the Pellegrinaggio en Italia, and other programs that foster self-awareness and spiritual growth.

# REGALIA

The origins of academic dress lie in fourteenth century England. The buildings frequented by medieval scholars were often cold and damp; long gowns (particularly with hoods to protect tonsured heads) may have been worn more for warmth than fashion.

The distinctive gown set the student apart from their fellow citizens. As late as the Civil War, students at American universities wore caps and gowns daily while in residence. Whatever the origin, academic regalia grew in diversity and splendor, with scholars displaying distinctive costume for different occasions and achievements. The result was a bewildering variety of designs.

An intercollegiate commission met at Columbia University in 1894 to establish a standard academic costume code, and over the years it has been revised by an official committee of the American Council on Education. The committee’s prescriptions, while regulating, still allow for great pageantry at formal academic events.

From the cap, gown, and hood, it is possible to distinguish the institution from which the wearer was graduated, the field of learning in which the degree was earned, and the level of the degree— bachelor, master, or doctoral.

The distinguishing feature of the black mortarboard cap, standard at most colleges and universities in the United States, is the color of the tassel—black for the holder of a bachelor’s or master’s degree, gold for a doctor’s degree or the governing officers of educational institutions.

The gown is normally black, and the gown’s cut and trim indicate the level of the degree held. The bachelor’s has long, pointed sleeves, while the master’s has oblong sleeves, open at the wrist, with the front part cut in an arc. The doctor’s sleeves are bell-shaped, with three bars of velvet, and the gown is trimmed with velvet down the front as well. The hood tells the most about its wearer. The length of the hood and width of the binding vary according to degree. The hood is lined with the official colors of the college. The color of the hood’s binding indicates the area of study in which the degree was granted. Students also wear other regalia, including cords signifying academic honors and stoles representing countries they studied in during their academic career.

At formal academic occasions, the President of Merrimack College also wears the Presidential Medal which incorporates the College seal.