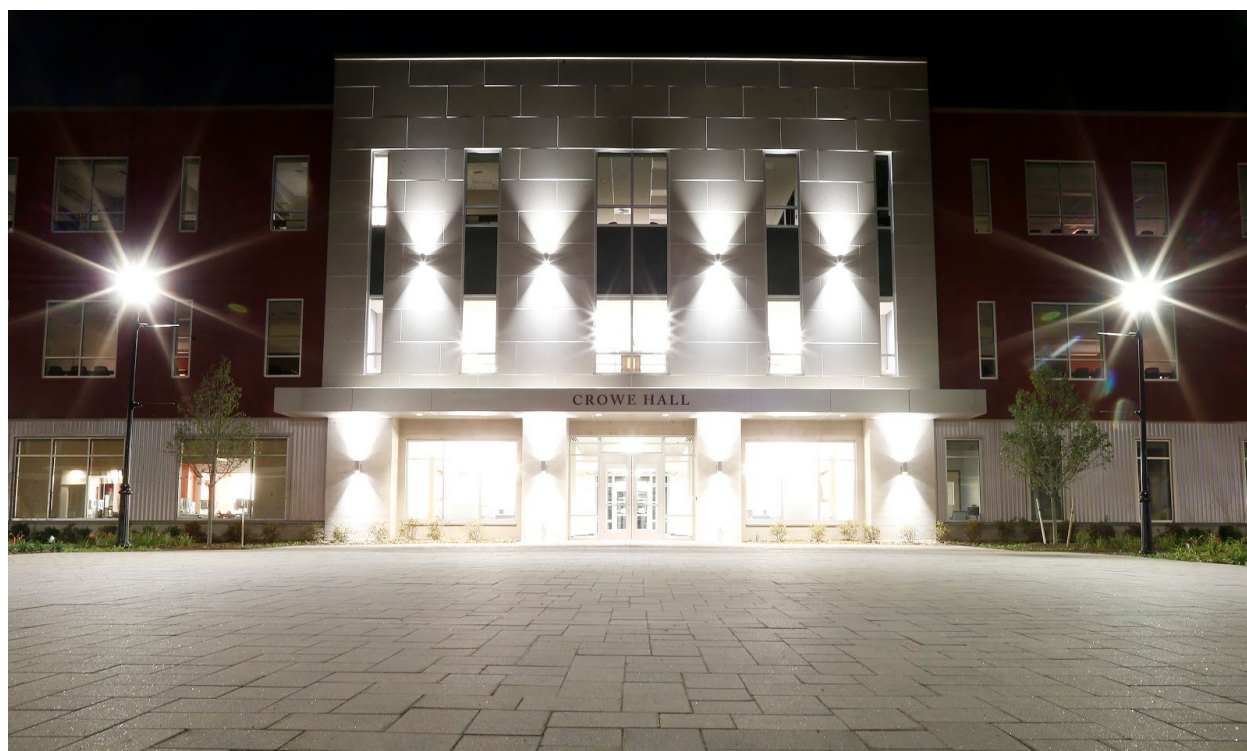




MERRIMACK COLLEGE



PROVOST BRIEFING

September 4, 2017

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

- Mass of the Holy Spirit, September 5
- Academic Convocation, September 7
- Update on the Girard School Dean Search
- IRB Update
- Dr. Michael Stroud named Apple Distinguished Educator Class of 2017
- First day of Fall classes, September 5
- Open Office Hours with the Provost, every Wednesday
- Spirituality Lecture Series sponsored by Religious and Theological Studies and the Center for the Study of Jewish Christian Muslim Relations
- President's Speaker Series: Ben Nemtin, October 3

Mass of the Holy Spirit

Tuesday, September 5, 2017

4:15 PM

Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher

The entire Merrimack community, of all faith traditions, is invited to celebrate of the Mass of the Holy Spirit. Students are asked to wear clothes that identify their membership on athletic teams, fraternities, sororities, clubs or organizations. Faculty need not wear regalia to Mass, but are asked to sit together in reserved seating.

Immediately following Mass of the Holy Spirit, a community barbeque will take place at Sparky's including a tent set up outside Sakowich..

Academic Convocation

Thursday, September 7, 2017

4:00 PM

Hamel Gym, Merrimack Athletics Complex

Faculty line up is at 3:30 pm, first floor of McQuade Library. Please arrive dressed in regalia, (no tams). Classes are being dismissed at 3:30 PM.

A Welcome Back Faculty Reception will immediately follow in the Executive Room, Crowe Hall.

Update on the Girard School Dean Search

The Dean of the Girard School search is well underway, and we are extremely excited about the future of the School. There have been several notable developments to share with you:

Recruitment Efforts: Our search consultants from the national search firm of Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates have started the process of contacting candidates who have been nominated by others, as well as actively recruiting prospective candidates from their database.

Timeline: The Search Committee has begun the review of applications and will continue to review applications through early October. We are on track to conduct our preliminary interviews in mid-October with the goal of having candidates on campus in late October.

The Office of the Provost will update you as we move along in the process and will keep you informed of the progress of the search committee's work. It is our hope that we identify and select the best individual possible to help lead the Girard School.

IRB Update

The Institutional Review Board (IRB) will continue its review of full proposals this fall. The IRB meeting schedule is shown below. It is important that proposals get submitted to the IRB at least 10 business days prior to the formal IRB meeting dates.

Meetings for the fall semester

Monday, September 11, 1:30-3:00

Monday, September 25, 1:30-3:00

Thursday, October 12, 2:00-3:30

Thursday, October 26, 2:00-3:30

Thursday, November 9, 2:00-3:30

Thursday, November 16, 2:00-3:30

Thursday, December 7, 2:00-3:30

In other IRB news, the IRB will be transitioning to an online protocol submission system (Cayuse) by October 1st. The IRB leadership has been working the past six weeks on preparing and testing the new online system. The IRB will provide a series of training sessions for faculty and students when the online system goes live, and dates and times for the training will be posted here in the Provost Briefing. The new online system will provide a much more streamlined and efficient protocol submission and review process and will signal the end of using those clunky paper forms.

Dr. Michael Stroud named Apple Distinguished Educator Class of 2017

Congratulations to Dr. Michael Stroud who was recently recognized by Apple for his innovative work in teaching and learning with mobile technology. Formerly a CETL faculty fellow, Dr. Stroud was invited to join the Apple Distinguished Educator Class of 2017. The ADE Program began in 1994, when Apple recognized K-12 and higher education pioneers who are using a variety of Apple products to transform teaching and learning in powerful ways. Today it has grown into a worldwide community of over 2,500 visionary educators and innovative leaders who are doing amazing things to make learning deeply personal in and out of the classroom.

Other Events this Week

September 5th

First day of Fall classes

September 6th

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.

Future Events

Second Tuesday First-Year Advising Meetings

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

4:00 PM

The primary goal of the Second Tuesday First-Year Advising meetings is to give first-year students an opportunity to meet their primary advisor earlier than they do now. The Academic Success Center will centrally organize this endeavor, which includes the marketing, securing spaces, communicating with faculty, students, and Orientation staff. More information can be found on the Academic Success Center [webpage](#).

Spirituality Lecture Series sponsored by Religious and Theological Studies and the Center for the Study of Jewish Christian Muslim Relations

The first in a series of lectures open to the public and to the entire Merrimack Community will be presented by Father Ray Dlugos, OSA on Tuesday, September 19 at 7:00 PM in Stevens Auditorium in Cushing Hall. The topic of this first lecture will be "Augustinian Spirituality with the Christian Tradition." Future lectures in the series will include Dr. Laura Pruett of the Department of Visual and Performing Arts on "Spirituality and Music" on October 17; Kevin Salemme, Director of Media Instructional Services on "Spirituality and Art" (also this year's Last Lecture sponsored by the Honors Program); and Chaplain Shareda Hosein on "Islamic Spirituality" on December 5.

President's Speaker Series: Ben Nemtin

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

6:00 PM

Rogers Center for the Arts

Please encourage your students to join [Ben Nemtin](#) for his poignant and inspirational keynote "How to Cross Anything Off Your Bucket List." Nemtin is the Creator and Executive Producer of MTV's hit series *The Buried Life* and #1 New York Times Bestselling Author of *What Do You Want To Do Before You Die?*

For more information and to reserve your seat, visit www.merrimack.edu/speakerseries
This event is Sponsored by At&T, Robert McCusker '68 and the Office of the President.

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