



MERRIMACK COLLEGE



PROVOST BRIEFING

September 11, 2017

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

- Second Tuesday First Year Advising Meetings, September 12
 - Global Education Fair, September 13
 - Global Outreach Program: Mack-GPS
 - CETL 2017/18 Teaching Circle Call
 - WACE Experiential Education Institute at Merrimack College, October 22-25
 - Continued ABET accreditation of our Engineering Departments
 - Open Office Hours with the Provost, every Wednesday
 - Last day for adding and dropping courses, for conversion of "N" grades for Summer 2017, and for converting to or from Audit
 - Faculty Workshop on Leading Short-Term Global Courses, September 26
 - President's Speaker Series: Ben Nemtin, October 3
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Second Tuesday First Year Advising Meetings

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

4:00 PM

The primary goal is to give first year students an opportunity to meet their primary academic advisor earlier than they do now. The Academic Success Center will centrally organize this

endeavor. This includes the marketing, securing spaces, communicating with faculty, students, and Orientation staff. More information can be found on the Academic Success Center [webpage](#).

Global Education Fair

Wednesday, September 13

4:00-6:00 p.m.

MPR, Sakowich Center

Next Wednesday, The Office of Global Education will host the annual Global Education Fair. Representatives from study abroad program providers will be on hand to answer questions about our 20+ semester options, as will the Merrimack faculty leading short-term courses abroad. Faculty-Led Courses for Spring/Summer 2018 include:

- RTS2450 Pellegrinaggio in Italia, Professor Joseph Kelley
- SOC 3650 Crossing Borders: The Sociology of Immigration, Professor Daniel Herda
- WRT3701 Writing Through War to Peace: Images and Narratives of the Troubles and Beyond in Northern Ireland, Professor Kathleen Shine Cain
- HSC3150 Public Health Issues Abroad: Scotland, Professor Sarah Benes
- COM4450 Global Media: Emerging Culture and Information Industries in the Arab World, Professor Melissa Zimdars
- HED Higher Education Policy and Practice in Ireland (Graduate Course), Professor Elaine Ward

Looking for information about talking with students about study abroad? Visit our page for Faculty & Advisors: <http://merrimack-geo.terraotta.com/?go=FacAdvisors>

Global Outreach Program: Mack-GPS

Call for Faculty

The Office of the Provost would like to introduce a new global outreach program: Mack-GPS. This program is an effort to expand Merrimack's global outreach through faculty to faculty webinar exchanges in a classroom format with our global education partners. The goals of MACK-GPS program include: developing academically-based partnerships with faculty at institutions outside the US; creating webinar/seminar content beneficial to our partner schools; and delivering live classroom to classroom exchanges through a webinar/seminar format.

More information can be found [here](#). If you are interested in learning more and/or participating, please email Vice Provost Jon Lyon (lyonj@merrimack.edu) by **September 15th**.

CETL 2017/18 Teaching Circle Call

The Office of the Provost is pleased to support the CETL teachings circles program, the goal of which is to improve teaching and learning at Merrimack as well as promote community among faculty. A teaching circle is a group of 5-8 faculty members who will work closely together for two semesters to focus on an issue related to improving teaching and learning. The circle is composed of faculty from across departments and is self-directed within the general structure of the teaching circles program.

The collegial nature of the circle is intended to foster openness, mutual support, and innovation. Teaching circle facilitators will receive a \$1000 stipend per facilitator for organizing their circle. Each circle will also be allocated \$500 to support activities related to their work. Proposals for 2017/18 Fall-Spring teaching circles should be submitted to the CETL per Dr. Kathryn Nielsen no later than October 10, 2017. For more information on teaching circles or proposal details, please contact nielsenk@merrimack.edu.

WACE Experiential Education Institute at Merrimack College

October 22 – 25, 2017 (Sunday afternoon to Wednesday noon)

Crowe Hall Executive Room

Registration Deadline: October 2, 2017

The Institute is free of charge to Merrimack College faculty and staff. However, you must register in order to attend at: <http://www.waceinc.org/merrimack2017/onlineereg.html>

Please complete the online registration form and indicate “check” in the payment section. You will be processed as complementary.

Institute summary: Advancing High Impact Experiential Education programs for your campus is an effective way for your institution to address issues of retention, graduation rate, and student expectations and success both before and after graduation. Whether you want to implement new Experiential Education programs and/or move your current programs to a higher level of student learning and program impact, this WACE Institute will help you achieve your goals through a unique combination of expert faculty lectures, facilitated plan development and sustained group interaction (both formal and informal) with faculty and other participants.

During the Institute, participants will have an opportunity to design or refresh their own institutional plans for advancing their experiential education programs and portfolio.

Additionally, all participants, whether they come as teams or as individuals, will develop their “Individual Action Plan” (IAP) with input, feedback and suggestions from Institute Faculty and colleagues. The IAP will be used throughout the Institute to support your reflections and learning from the seven learning modules and round table discussions.

More information can be found [here](#).

Congratulations Engineering!

We are proud to announce the continued *Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)* accreditation of our Civil and Electrical Engineering Departments. A special congratulations goes to our newly accredited Mechanical Engineering Program. This is a reflection of the hard work of faculty and staff in all the Engineering Departments.

Other Events this Week

September 13th

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 8:50 AM to 10:00 AM. Whether you have a specific topic or just want to say “hello,” all faculty are welcome to visit.

September 13th

Last day for adding and dropping courses

Last day for conversion of “N” grades for Summer 2017

Last day for converting to or from Audit

Future Events

Faculty Workshop on Leading Short-Term Global Courses

Tuesday, September 26

Sakowich Campus Center - Meeting Room B (218)

Have you ever considered incorporating an international component into one of your courses? Have you wanted to teach a course abroad, but simply had no idea where to start? If so, then this workshop is your opportunity to learn about the possibilities and how to get started. The panel includes faculty who will be taking students internationally for the first time in 2018 as well as “veterans” of teaching global courses. For additional information, please contact Kathleen Cain, caink@merrimack.edu.

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 Nemtim](#) for his poignant and inspirational keynote “How to Cross Anything Off Your Bucket List.” Nemtim 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.

MERRIMACK COLLEGE PROVOST
315 Turnpike Street | North Andover, MA 01845
(978) 837-3563 or
provost@merrimack.edu
www.merrimack.edu/provost
<https://www.facebook.com/merrimackprovost>

