



MERRIMACK COLLEGE



PROVOST BRIEFING

August 28, 2017

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

- Dr. Kathryn Nielsen takes on new administrative role in the Office of the Provost
 - Open Office Hours with the Provost Moved to Thursday - This Week Only
 - Opening of the 2017-18 Academic Year
 - Feast of St. Augustine of Hippo, August 28
 - Faculty Adjunct Orientation, August 28
 - New Faculty Orientation, August 30 and 31
 - An Evening with Dr. Charles Thomas, Jr., Thursday, September 21
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Dr. Kathryn Nielsen takes on new administrative role in the Office of the Provost

It is a pleasure to announce the appointment of Dr. Kathryn Nielsen as Associate Provost and Director of Strategic Initiatives. In her new administrative role, Dr. Nielsen will continue leading the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) and will further direct projects related to Mobile Merrimack, the College's Apple and iPad program. She will also provide stewardship and support for administrative and faculty development and provide oversight on several recent grants and awards. A member of the Merrimack community since 2001, Dr. Nielsen holds a Ph.D. in Education from Lesley University, an M.A. in Literature from the University of New Hampshire, and a B.A. in English from Merrimack College where she graduated summa cum laude and was the recipient of the Bishop Markham Medal for the highest ranking student in the humanities. She has taught undergraduate and graduate courses, and has served the Merrimack College community in numerous administrative roles, most recently as the founding director of the CETL. As an active scholar in the field of higher education, she has been published in New Directions in Transformative Learning and the Journal of the Academy of Business Education and in book chapters that focus on inclusive teaching and learning. Dr. Nielsen is a graduate of the HERS Wellesley Leadership Institute and most recently completed the Harvard Management Development Program in Cambridge. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Haverhill Girls and Boys Club. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Nielsen and offer her your support as she continues the great momentum of Merrimack College.

Open Office Hours with the Provost Moved to Thursday - This Week Only

8:30 - 10:00 AM

Provost's Suite, Austin Hall

The Provost will have open office hours for faculty to drop-in Thursday, August 31, 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.

Opening of the 2017-18 Academic Year

Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Mass of the Holy Spirit

4:15 PM

Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher

Community Barbeque

Immediately following Mass of the Holy Spirit

Sparky's and tent

Thursday, September 7, 2017

Classes are dismissed at 3:30 PM

Academic Convocation with keynote speaker [Reginald Dwayne Betts](#)

4:00 PM

Hammel Gym, Merrimack Athletics Complex

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

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Second Tuesday First Year Advising Meetings

4:00 PM

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

Other Events this Week

August 28th

Feast of St. Augustine of Hippo

12:30 PM

Chapel of Our Mother of Good Counsel

Please plan to join the Augustinian Friars in celebrating the feast of the saint that is the foundation and inspiration of our study, our work, and our community at Merrimack College for Mass at 12:30 PM in the Chapel of Our Mother of Good Counsel on the second floor of Austin Hall followed by lunch in the foyer of Austin Hall.

August 28th

Faculty Adjunct Orientation

4:00 - 7:00 PM

Merrimack Club Dining Room

August 30th and 31st

New Faculty Orientation

September 1st

President's Reception

5:45pm – 7:00pm

North Campus Plaza

Please join the parents and family members of our incoming students for refreshments and time to mingle.

For more information please contact the Office of Student Involvement.

Future Events

An Evening with Dr. Charles Thomas, Jr. Breakthrough: Stories of Resilience, Tragedy, and Triumph

Thursday, September 21

7:00 – 9:00 PM

Murray Lounge, Sakowich Campus Center

Dr. Isabelle Cherney invites you to a presentation and Q&A with Dr. Charles Thomas Jr., multi-award winning social entrepreneur, educator, published author, radio personality, and Concerned Citizen™. Charles has committed himself to service and philanthropic efforts and has varied experiences in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. Charles strives to live according to the Renaissance ideal of broad learning and full engagement in life as a demonstration of human potential.

Light refreshments will be served and books will be available for purchase. This event is free and open to the public.

Questions: 978.837.5339 or pingetonk@merrimack.edu

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