



# MERRIMACK COLLEGE



## PROVOST BRIEFING

October 10, 2017

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

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- Merrimack Recycles!
- Faculty Funding Opportunities
- Homecoming Pancake Breakfast with Faculty and Staff, October 14
- CETL Teaching Circles: Call for Proposals (October 10 Deadline)
- CETL Mobile Development with Sue Burch from Apple, October 12
- CETL & Academic Technology offer Digital Teaching and Learning Workshop Series
- CETL Turnitin Resource Videos
- Collaborative Research Grants
- Pivot is Here!
- Updated Routing Form
- 2018 Academic Convocation Speaker: Call for Suggestions
- Call for Proposals for New Living, Learning Communities for 2018-19
- PAUSE: An Opportunity for Sophomores to "PAUSE" at the Campion Renewal Center
- Open Office Hours with the Provost, every Wednesday

- Zach Evans: Defying Impossibility, October 11
  - Dr. David Thornton Moore, October 12
  - The Writers House presents Susan Eaton, October 12
  - Spirituality and Music, October 17
  - She Kills Monsters, October 19-21
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## **Merrimack Recycles!**

Merrimack College has entered into a new phase of recycling on campus. Starting last week, all academic and administrative buildings are being equipped with single-stream, zero-sort recycling bins located throughout each building. Single stream and zero-sort means that cardboard, paper, plastic, metal and glass can all be placed in a single bin. Each bin has accompanying poster to highlight the new system (click [here](#) to view poster). This expanded recycling initiative is being made possible by institutional support through the Office of the Provost, our contracts with Casella and Zampell, as well as generous funding from the McLaughlin Martin Family Environmental Innovation Fund. We ask for your patience in the coming days as we fully institute this new recycling program. If you have any questions, please contact Jon Lyon ([lyonj@merrimack.edu](mailto:lyonj@merrimack.edu)).

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## **Faculty Funding Opportunities**

In the next few weeks, the Office of the Provost will provide information on applying for the following faculty funding opportunities:

- Provost Innovation Fund Grants and Awards
  - CETL Faculty Development Series Grants
  - Davis Educational Foundation Grants
  - Sakowich Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Grants
  - Environmental Innovation Fund Grants
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## **Homecoming Pancake Breakfast with Faculty and Staff**

**Saturday, October 14**

**9:00-10:30**

**McQuade Library**

All faculty members are invited to share a pancake breakfast with alumni and families from 9:00-10:30 am in the McQuade Library at Homecoming on Saturday, October 14, 2017. If you would like a ticket for a free breakfast, please email Marie Doyle at [doylemh@merrimack.edu](mailto:doylemh@merrimack.edu).

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## **CETL Teaching Circles: Call for Proposals**

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](mailto:nielsenk@merrimack.edu).

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## **CETL Mobile Training with Sue Burch from Apple**

**Thursday, October 12 in Murray Lounge**

Whether you're new to teaching and learning with mobile technology or a seasoned mobile instructor, we encourage you to further your pedagogical reach by registering for this weeks' development sessions with one of Apple's best faculty developers. Consider one of the following sessions and register here: [Registration Link](#)

**You set the agenda! Book an individual session with Sue from 9:00 - 10:00**

Personalized 15-minutes appointments

**Productivity and Creativity Tools and Workflow 10:00 - 11:30 (All levels welcome, light refreshments provided)**

Move around the room to complete activities using tools designed to promote creativity and productivity in your classroom. Featured modules: Capturing and Sharing Learning with Keynote, Flipping Content with Explain Everything, Strengthening Learning by creating a podcast with GarageBand, and Label, Learn, and Reflect with Notes and iMovie.

**Make it and Take it - Using any Tools! 12:00 - 1:30 (All levels welcome, lunch provided)**

This content development session is driven by you and your needs: bring your ideas and/or existing content in whatever form (worksheets, PowerPoints, PDFs, etc.) and transform into a seamless workflow. Possible tools may include iWork Apps, iMovie, GarageBand, and iCloud.

**Publishing Interactive Content with iBooks Author (Advanced and Beginner, light refreshments provided) 2:00 - 3:30**

Create and leverage interactive multi-touch books, study guides, reference examples, book chapters and more for learning and teaching. This session is designed for both advanced iBook innovators and newcomers to multi-touch book creation. The session will include an overview of possibilities followed by breakouts tailored to skill and comfort level. We encourage those who are already creating/using iBooks to invite a colleague to the session, where they can get hands on experience. Please bring your Mac to the session.

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## **CETL and Academic Technology Offer Digital Teaching & Learning Workshop Series**

All Sessions: **12:00 - 1:00 PM**

**Location: Provost Conference Room**

Join Janet, Karen and your faculty colleagues in sharing strategies and take-a-ways around hot topics in today's classrooms. Sessions are interactive and light fare will be offered.

[Registration Link](#)

**Getting Students to Come to Class Prepared (October 18) 12:00 - 1:00 PM**

Share and discuss strategies to curate reading for improved engagement, utilize chunking

strategies, differentiate instruction with videos, questions, and games, and promote the benefits of active reading.

### **Creating Instructional Activities that Support Active Learning (November 6)**

**12:00 - 1:00 PM**

Move around the room to complete activities using tools designed to promote creativity and productivity in your classroom. Featured modules: Higher-order processing with Mindmeister, Promote critical thinking with videos, Document classroom lectures with Notability, Annotate, record, and share with Explain Everything, and check-in frequently using Socrative for formative assessments.

### **Promoting Academic Integrity, Ownership, and Responsibility (November 8)**

**12:00 - 1:00 PM**

Share and discuss strategies for self motivation and accountability in your daily classroom, when assessing online and when students are collaborating during group work.

### **Designing Formative Assessments and Rubrics (December 4) 12:00 - 1:00 PM**

Let's discuss and design formative assessments - both formal and informal. We'll also review the benefits of using rubrics for students proficiency and instructor sanity with grading. Rubric template will be shared.

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## **CETL Turnitin Training/Resource Videos**

If you missed last week's Turnitin trainings, take a look at the recorded session(s) to bring you up to speed on promoting academic integrity, improving student writing and empowering critical thinking and self-regulated learning. When using Turnitin, use your Chrome Browser.

Blackboard users: [Turnitin Integrated with Blackboard](#).

Google Classroom or iTunesU users: [Turnitin Site Training Video](#)

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## **Collaborative Research Grants**

**National Endowment for the Humanities**

**Due Date: December 6, 2017 for Projects Beginning October 2018**

<https://www.neh.gov/grants/research/collaborative-research-grants>

The Collaborative Research grant program encourages collaboration that proposes diverse approaches to topics, incorporates multiple points of view, and explores new avenues of inquiry that lead to publications and other resources for scholarly audiences and/or general audiences. Collaborative Research grants support groups of two or more scholars engaging in significant and sustained research in the humanities. The program seeks to encourage interdisciplinary work, both within the humanities and beyond.

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## **Pivot, Pivot, Pivot**

Pivot is here. 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 individualized funding searches and/or request the assistance of Corporate and Foundation Development (CFD) and

the Office for Sponsored Programs (OSP). [Sign-up now](#).

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## Updated Routing Form

In collaboration with the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, the Provost Office has updated the proposal and contract routing form for federal, state, and private funding agencies.

The most recent version, dated 10/05/17, can be found here:

<http://www.merrimack.edu/live/files/1557-mc-proposal-processing-formpdf>

Please contact Melissa Siegel, Director of Sponsored Programs or Kathy Redmond, Director of Corporate and Foundation Development with questions.

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## 2018 Academic Convocation Speaker: Call for Suggestions

The Office of the Provost is preparing for Convocation 2018. Similar to last year, we are requesting faculty input on potential speakers. This year we would like to focus on speakers who could address the theme of ***Experiential Interdisciplinary Learning***. All faculty are welcome and encouraged to make speaker suggestions.

If you would like to make a recommendation, please send a brief paragraph with the name and qualifications of your suggested speaker, and describe why and how they would be able to speak to the topic. Also, it would be very useful if you could provide evidence of the person's speaking abilities, either with links to a video, transcripts of other talks, or personal testimonials. Suggestions sent to [Officeoftheprovo@merrimack.edu](mailto:Officeoftheprovo@merrimack.edu) by **November 17th** will receive full consideration. Please feel free to contact the Provost's Office with any questions.

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## Call for Proposals for New Living, Learning Communities

The Office of the Provost is calling for new proposals for Living, Learning Communities for 2018-19. Any faculty member(s) interested in submitting or being part of a submission should complete the following [form](#) and email it to the [Officeoftheprovo@merrimack.edu](mailto:Officeoftheprovo@merrimack.edu) by October 18th. Decisions for new LLCs need to be made prior to the Thanksgiving Break. If you have any questions about filling out the form, please contact Vice Provost Jon Lyon ([lyonj@merrimack.edu](mailto:lyonj@merrimack.edu)).

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## PAUSE: An Opportunity for Sophomores to “PAUSE” at the Campion Renewal Center in Weston

Last year, Merrimack College received a \$47,290 [NetVUE](#) Program Development Grant from the Council of Independent Colleges and the Lily Foundation to support programming designed to foster a sense of vocational awareness in our students. The grant calls for a collaborative effort among faculty and professionals from Student Affairs and Mission and Ministry to develop this programming over the next two years.

To provide some background on the foundation work already conducted, since last February informational sessions were offered in which people from across campus worked to develop an experience geared toward sophomores. As a result of these discussions, Merrimack College will inaugurate the program **PAUSE**, an opportunity for sophomores to “pause” for 3 days at



Campion Renewal Center in Weston, Massachusetts. This type of student formation program has had incredible success at Boston College and many other faith-based institutions throughout the nation.

Our hope is that it will have similar success here at Merrimack. **PAUSE**, to be held January 18-20, 2018, will invite students to step back from their busy lives to think about how their major, course of study and future career fit in with who they really are. We are planning for this to be an opportunity for sophomores to have real conversations with students, faculty and staff about finding and pursuing passions...and yes, to “pause.” One significant component of **PAUSE** is to have faculty and staff share their own personal reflection in dialogic panels (a nod to our Augustinian heritage). In these panels, faculty and staff will be invited to share on one of the following sets of questions:

- *What do you know of yourself? Why are these things important?*
- *Who has been important to you and why? Who has carried you? Whom have you carried?*
- *How have you turned your unique talent into a gift for others and the world? How wide are your circles of service and care for others?*

In order to reach a diversity of students, please encourage sophomores to register using the **PAUSE** registration link below. We are also asking for you to nominate students - kindly send nominations to [pause@merrimack.edu](mailto:pause@merrimack.edu). We'd appreciate registrations and nominations to be submitted by **November 15**. The planning committee will follow up with an invitation to nominated students. [PAUSE Registration Link](#)

Thank you in advance for your support of this new and exciting initiative. If you have any questions, feel free to contact any of the members of the planning committee at [pause@merrimack.edu](mailto:pause@merrimack.edu).

Best Regards,  
Rev. Ray Dlugos, OSA, Vice President for Mission and Ministry  
Allan Weatherwax, Ph.D., Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

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## Other Events this Week

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### October 11th

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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### October 11th

Zach Evans: Defying Impossibility

12:30 PM

### **Rogers Center Theatre lobby**

Join us in the for a light lunch and bold entertainment! Take a break from your day and be stunned and awed by feats of illusion performed by our own Merrimack student Zach Evans. Magic Zach brings energy to the stage by combining audience participation, comedy, and mind boggling illusions to astonish and entertain his audiences. Lunch and the performance are FREE and open to the public!

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## **October 12th**

**Dr. David Thornton Moore**

**Experiential Teaching: Assessment, Theory & Practice**

**11:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

**Provost's Conference Room (Registration is Closed)**

Facilitated by the CETL, Experiential Education and the Department of Psychology

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## **October 12th**

**Susan Eaton**

**12:00 PM**

**The Writers House**

Susan Eaton will read and discuss her book *The Children in Room E4*, a compelling look at urban schools and the resegregation of American education. Eaton is Director of the Sillerman Center for the Advancement of Philanthropy at the Heller School at Brandeis. For more information on this and other events, please visit the [Writers House website](#).

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## **October 13th-15th**

**Homecoming Weekend**

Merrimack College will come alive as alumni, parents, families and Warrior fans from all over return to campus for Homecoming. The weekend celebration includes the opening of our brand new Warrior Stadium on Friday night. Join us under the lights for a pep rally – there will be live music, games, food and fireworks! Nothing beats an autumn weekend on campus. For a full schedule of events, visit the [Alumni and Friends](#) webpage.

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## **Future Events**

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## **Spirituality and Music**

**Tuesday, October 17**

**7:00 PM**

**Stevens Auditorium**

The Spiritual Lecture Series continues with Dr. Laura Pruett, Associate Professor, Visual and Performing Arts. Pruet will discuss "Spirituality and Music". All are invited to attend.

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## **She Kills Monsters**

**October 19-21, 7:30 PM**

**October 21, 2:00 PM**

**Rogers Center for the Arts**

A young teacher stumbles into an action-packed adventure in the imaginary world of a role-playing game that was her late sister's refuge. This high-octane dramatic comedy is laden with homicidal fairies, nasty monsters, fantastical puppetry, dragons and 90's pop culture references. It's a heart-pounding crowd-pleasing homage to the geek and warrior in us all.

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Archived [Provost Briefings](#) can now be found on the Office of the Provost webpage.

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