



MERRIMACK COLLEGE



PROVOST BRIEFING

October 23, 2017

www.merrimack.edu/provost

www.facebook.com/merrimackprovost

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

- Provost Innovation Fund - Call for Proposals
- Academic Governance Discussion, October 30
- Soliciting Mid-semester Student Feedback
- New IRB Online Application Training Available
- CETL Mobile Training with Sue Burch from Apple, November 3
- CETL and Academic Technology Offer Digital Teaching & Learning Workshop Series
- Tolle Lege Submissions
- McQuade Messenger Now Available
- Dr. Asgari Sadegh presenting at the International Conference on Sustainable Infrastructure in NYC
- Meghan Daum, October 24
- Midterm Grades Due, October 24
- Open Office Hours with the Provost, every Wednesday
- Poetry Now!, October 25

- Welcome Center Groundbreaking, October 25
- NOBUNTU: A Cappella at its best, October 28
- New England Brass Band, October 29
- New Visual Art Exhibits, October 26-December 22

Provost Innovation Fund - Call for Proposals

The 2017-2018 Provost Innovation Fund (PIF) Call for Proposals is focused on supporting innovative and collaborative faculty-led initiatives that employ interdisciplinary approaches to enhance teaching and learning in the classroom, laboratory, field and/or studio. Proposals should demonstrate clear linkage to the College's *Agenda for Distinction*.

The 2017-2018 grant program is open to all levels and types of interdisciplinary approaches, including but not limited to faculty collaborations, new program exploration, interdisciplinary seminar development, classroom/studio/lab enhancements and short-term study abroad proposals. All faculty applying for projects will need to demonstrate at least inter-Departmental level impact for their proposal. Priority will be given to proposals that emphasize fully interdepartmental or inter-School collaborations. In addition, collaborations between faculty and campus offices such as the McQuade Library, Global Education Office, the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning and other Centers are encouraged.

To download the Call for Proposals and the proposal guidelines, please click [here](#). Proposals are due **November 21st**. If you have any questions or inquiries, please contact the officeoftheprovo@merrimack.edu

Davis Educational Foundation Grant

Call for Proposals: 2017-2018

The Davis Educational Foundation Grants (DEFG) will support experiential learning course development with stipends of \$1,000 for up to six faculty during the 2017-2018 academic year. Proposals should result in a new or improved experiential education course or program with a preference for courses geared toward first and second-year students. Experiential components include work-integrated learning (co-op, internship, externship); undergraduate research; study abroad; study away; service learning; travel stipend for student/professor conference paper presentation; and community engagement. Proposals should be one page and include a brief plan for peer dissemination and implementation. Send proposals to Dr. Patricia Sendall, Dean of Experiential Education, at sendallp@merrimack.edu.

Fall Awards

Three (3) \$1000 awards

Proposals due **November 3**

Awards announced November 17

Reports due January 12

Spring Awards

Three (3) \$1000 awards

Proposals due **January 31**

Awards announced February 15

Reports due April 15

Summer Awards

Up to two Davis grants will be awarded for work done in the summer. Look for a call for proposals in the March/April time frame.

Academic Governance Discussion

Date: Monday, 30 October

Time: 3:30-5:00 pm

Location: Crowe Hall, Executive Room

There will be a presentation given by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and the Merrimack AAUP Chapter introducing academic governance at Merrimack. This is part of the new faculty orientation and all faculty are welcome and encouraged to attend. There will be an opportunity for discussion at the event and light refreshments will be served.

The event is being co-sponsored by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, the Merrimack Chapter of the AAUP, and the Office of the Provost.

Soliciting Mid-semester Student Feedback

Mid-semester evaluations are not required, but precisely because they are formative in nature and relate to an ongoing course, they can provide valuable information that allows us to make small changes to a course to improve student learning. These formative evaluations can also warn us of things we're doing that might actually get in the way of student learning. And, finally, they afford another opportunity to discuss our pedagogical objectives and learning goals with our students.

There are a few ways you can solicit feedback: Conduct your own short evaluation [Mid Semester Evaluations Resource](#) or you can have a member of the CETL conduct a Small Group Instructional Diagnosis SGID. A SGID is a focus group led by CETL in which we speak with the students to ask what is working in the course and what they would like to see changed. The CETL acts as a neutral third party and will collect anonymous feedback and report it back to you. With both options, the CETL is also available to make recommendations to instructors on student input.

Contact the CETL to schedule a SGID or for additional information at X 3596 or nielsenk@merrimack.edu

New IRB Online Application Training Available

The IRB is available to provide training for groups and individuals (faculty interested in receiving training for themselves and/or students etc.) on using the new online Cayuse IRB software. The training would be most efficient if it could be provided to courses engaged in IRB activities (e.g., graduate, research methods and/or capstone courses), to faculty who know they will have a large number of students needing IRB approval, and/or faculty knowing they will be submitting IRB applications in the coming weeks. Please contact the IRB at irb@merrimack.edu and they will work with you to set up the type of training session you need.

CETL Mobile Training with Sue Burch from Apple

Friday, November 3rd, Provost Conference Room

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. To attend any of the following sessions, register here: [Registration Link](#)

Leverage iOS 11 Tech Updates 11:30 - 1:00 (All levels welcome, lunch provided)

Did you know that the recent updates to iOS 11 can improve workflow, note taking, navigation speed, and multitasking inside and outside the classroom. This popular session will show you how the Notes app now has a document scanner, inline drawing, and the ability to search handwritten text. Learn how your students can use the enhanced Slide Over and Split View to review content, review a web page, and take notes. Get students to a designated website quickly and easily with a QR code. These are just a few of the many features that Sue will go over in this session.

Build Your Skills - Become an Apple Teacher 1:00 - 2:00 (All levels welcome, light refreshments provided)

Apple Teacher is a professional learning program designed to support and celebrate educators. During this session, you will sign up for the Apple Teacher program and start working on your first badge! Keep earning badges on your own in this self-paced environment until you earn your official Apple Teacher logo (takes as little as a day or can be done over a few weeks). Being recognized as an Apple Teacher identifies you as a leader in tech innovation inside and outside the classroom.

Coding with SWIFT Playgrounds 2:00 - 3:30 (All levels welcome, light refreshments provided)

Coding is an essential skill for many of today's students. Experience coding through SWIFT Playgrounds, a stepping stone to deeper work with the SWIFT programming language that has been used to design some of the world's most powerful software.

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](#)

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.

Tolle Lege Submissions

McQuade Library recognizes the academic scholarship of the Merrimack College community by collecting published works by faculty, staff, students and alumni for the Tolle Lege Collection. Each winter, authors of books, journal articles and papers published during the previous academic year are honored with a reception. This year, we've moved the annual Tolle Lege Reception to March instead of the customary February date. It will be held at the Writers House on Thursday, March 8, 2018 at 4:00 PM.

We at McQuade Library ask the Merrimack community to please submit copies and/or citations of any book(s), article(s) or papers that were published between January 1, 2017, and December 31, 2017. Please submit all materials/citations (including submissions expected to be published in December) by **Friday, December 8, 2017**, to Frances Nilsson, nilssonf@merrimack.edu and/or to Michaela Keating, keatingm@merrimack.edu.

Tolle Lege materials [or citations] can also be added to [Merrimack ScholarWorks](#), the College's open access publishing platform. ScholarWorks promotes the use of the college's unique academic and artistic achievements to a global audience of students and scholars while ensuring its long-term preservation.

McQuade Messenger

The Fall 2017 issue of the McQuade Messenger, the Library's newsletter, is now available [here](#).

Dr. Asgari Sadegh presenting at the International Conference on Sustainable Infrastructure in NYC

Dr. Sadegh's paper is an interdisciplinary work that integrates ideas from civil engineering, law, management, finance, and environmental science to address one of the major current global challenges: Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

Dr. Sadegh will be giving a preview of this talk to all Merrimack faculty and students interested in this subject, **Monday, October 23**, in Crowe Hall 107 at 5:00 PM.

Other Events this Week

October 24th

Meghan Daum

4:00 PM

The Writers House

Our fall Writer-in-Residence, [Meghan Daum](#), is the author of four books, including, most recently, *The Unspeakable: And Other Subjects of Discussion*. A columnist at The *Los Angeles Times* for more than a decade, Daum now writes the EGOS column, about new memoirs, for *The New York Times Book Review*, and has taught recently in the graduate writing programs at Columbia University and the University of Iowa.

For more information about Meghan Daum, please visit the Writers House website:

<https://www.merrimack.edu/academics/the-writers-house/>

The Writer-in-Residence program is made possible through support from the Andrea '79 and Ken Robertson Writers House Innovation Fund.

October 24th

Mid-Term Grades Due

Mid-term grades are due for all students enrolled in full-semester courses. The mid-term grade option is currently open in MyMack, and you may enter your grades anytime between now and Tuesday October 24th. Click [here](#) for Instructions for entering grades.

October 25th

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.

October 25th

Poetry Now!

12:30 PM

Rogers Center for the Art

Featuring Kenadine (Ken and Nadine Delano, Poet Laureates of N. Andover), Gayle C. Heney, Blaine Hebbel, Jim Knowles, and CJ Morse, this is an exciting new event in the Rogers Center Atrium Series line-up! Join us for lunch and a poetry slam, performed by a wealth of incredible local poets. Be swept up in the words and artistry of these talented writers and performers. Both lunch and the performance are free and open to the public.

October 25th

Welcome Center Groundbreaking

4:00 PM

Crowe Hall Courtyard

Light refreshments will be provided

Please R.S.V. P to Libby Johnson at johnsonl@merrimack.edu by 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 23

October 28th

NOBUNTU: A Cappella at its Best

7:30pm

Rogers Center for the Arts

Nobuntu is an African concept that values humbleness, love, purpose, unity and family from the female perspective. It is also the name of this amazing five-part a cappella vocal ensemble of young women from Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. Their repertoire fuses traditional Zimbabwean music, Afro Jazz, Gospel, and Crossover. With pure voices, a few traditional instruments, and dance, Nobuntu's breathtaking performances touch the humanity in us all.

For more information visit the [Rogers Center for the Arts](#)

October 29th

New England Brass Band

2:00 PM

Rogers Center for the Arts

A 30-piece brass and percussion ensemble under the expert direction of Mr. Steve Bulla. As staff arranger for the United States Marine Corps Band, Mr. Bulla arranged a myriad of musical scores for White House and other official events between 1980 and 2010. The New England Brass Band upholds the instrumentation and music of the "British Brass Band" tradition. Free admission for veterans and patrons with a military ID. [Tickets on sale now!](#)

New Visual Art Exhibits

The Jewish Tradition: Featuring artist Iris Sonnenshein

Thagaste Gallery, Rogers Center for the Arts

Exhibit runs October 26 - December 22. Free and open to the public. [Learn More Here](#)

From Here to There: By artist K. Min

McCoy Gallery, Rogers Center for the Arts

Exhibit runs October 26 - December 22. Free and open to the public. [Learn More Here](#)

Opening reception for both exhibits on October 26 from 5:30-7:30

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>

