



Greetings from Merrimack College

Dear Parents,

The holiday season is upon us, and we wish every family a peaceful and joyous Christmas! For our families of other faiths, we wish happiness to you during this season of lights. Hopefully we'll see many of you at Merrimack's Christmas party tonight at the Four Season's Hotel in Boston, or around campus in the new year.

Students should have met with their advisors and registered for next semester's classes. The Academic Success Center, located in McQuade Library, is available for those who need assistance with their studies.

The [O'Brien Center for Career Development](#), located in the Sakowich Campus Center, provides each student with a career advisor to help facilitate career choices, internships and employment opportunities. You can learn more about the College's most recent [Professional Development Retreat](#) in the story below. This semi-annual career conference helps students recognize and refine the skills they'll need to flourish in the workplace. You can also read more about the O'Brien Center's recent [Liberal Arts Career Night](#) in the story below, which saw more than 70 students and alumni gather in the Rogers Center last month.

Please note that our next newsletter will be sent on January 12, 2018 due to winter break. Thanks for working with us to make sure that your student(s) has the best possible experience at Merrimack College!

Warm regards,

Marie Doyle

Director of Parent and Family Relations

Office of the President

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News from Around Campus

Fall Professional Development Retreat

Last month, 60 seniors attended the fall Professional Development Retreat (PDR) at the Battery Wharf Hotel in Boston. This semi-annual two-day career development conference aims to help students better understand their emotional intelligence and strengthen essential workplace skills in the areas of problem-solving, communication, teamwork, networking, and adaptability. The PDR is sponsored by the O'Brien Center for Career Development in partnership with the College Leadership Council and the Office of the President.



> [Read More](#)

> [View PRD Video](#)

Liberal Arts Career Night

Merrimack's Liberal Arts Career Night offers a powerful networking and learning experience for liberal arts majors pondering post-college careers.

The second annual Liberal Arts Career Night saw 74

undergraduates gather with alumni, faculty and staff from the O'Brien Center for Career Development to learn about career paths for liberal arts majors. First-year students through seniors gathered in the lobby of the Rogers Center to mix, mingle and learn from 13 alumni who represented a range of industries, including: media and creative arts; advertising, marketing and public relations; education; human resources; law; nonprofits; and government.



> [Read More](#)

Mack Gives Back

More than 1,000 Merrimack faculty, staff, alumni, students and family members fanned out across the region for the College's annual day of community service, Mack Gives Back. The event celebrates two days of great importance in Merrimack's history: Veterans Day and St. Augustine's birthday.



"Merrimack was founded by the Order of St. Augustine to provide educational opportunities to local soldiers returning home from World War II, so spending a few hours serving others is a small gesture of solidarity with our nation's veterans," said Father Raymond Dlugos, O.S.A., the College's Vice President of Mission and Ministry who helped establish the event. *"The most important aspect of Mack Gives Back is the opportunity it affords to reflect on how much we have asked—and continue to ask—of the men and women willing to serve in the military, what it has cost them to serve us and whether or not we, as a nation and as individuals, are living in a way that is worthy of their service and sacrifice."*

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Master of Science in Management Program Ranks #8

Merrimack College's Master of Science in Management program is ranked among the top 10 in colleges and universities around the country, continuing a four-year upward trend that landed it at No. 8 this year in the TFE Times 2018 list of best programs nationally.

Merrimack was ranked 11th nationally last year when the list was known as The Financial Engineer, and 15th in 2016 after finishing 23rd in 2015, said Girard School of Business interim Dean Julie Fitzmaurice. Merrimack came in just behind the University of Southern California and just ahead of Pepperdine University this year.

> [Read More](#)

Merrimack's New Student Interdisciplinary Journal: *Intersections*

This new journal will feature interdisciplinary work—integrating knowledge, methods, and modes of thinking drawn from two or more disciplines. Submissions can include scholarship, research, and creative work. To be eligible for publication, all submissions must be from current Merrimack graduate or undergraduate students who must be mentored by a Merrimack faculty member. The inaugural issue of *Intersections* is scheduled for May 1, 2018. More information on *Intersections'* call for papers can be found on the [journal's website](#).

Together for Good: The Campaign for Merrimack College

Campaign Investment Feature:

Karen McLaughlin Martin '75 and Gary Martin

"Merrimack is in a unique position to educate our community on just how important it is to be aware of climate change—and to act against it by taking positive action. And we're dedicated to supporting Merrimack in that endeavor."



To date, *Together for Good* has raised more than \$46 million toward our \$50 million goal.

> [Read More](#)

Merrimack Reads

Book Recommendation by Jacob Turner, Chair & Associate Professor of Communication



This is Your Brain on Music: The Science of a Human Obsession by Daniel J. Levitin, Penguin Group, 2006

"This book draws upon the field of cognitive neuroscience to develop an interesting narrative about the relationships between music and the people who make and listen to it. Drawing upon the intersection between psychology and neurology, the book examines "musical meaning" and "musical pleasure" in a compelling, even tantalizing way. Levitin builds intrigue into the role music plays in our psycho-social lives by discussing his own relationship with music as well as the ways the brilliant thinkers he's worked with understand and make meaning out of music. My own research interests in the ways music acts as a communication vehicle, both in the media and in our interpersonal relationships, brought me to this book and I have not been disappointed as Levitin does a nice job discussing why music, especially popular music (from rock 'n' roll to hip-hop to punk and folk and everything in between), matters in our current postmodern cultural milieu." - Jacob Turner

Rogers Center for the Arts

The Rogers Center for the Arts has two performances remaining in December and an exciting spring lineup, please see their schedule for more information.

> [Performance Schedule](#)

Your Freshman is Okay!

Here is an [interesting article](#) about how well first-year students do in transitioning to college.

End of Semester Information

Residence Halls

Residence halls close Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. For more information regarding residence hall closing and break housing, please visit the Residence Life [break housing page](#). The deadline to register for break housing is Monday, December 11, 2017. Please contact the Office of Residence Life at 978-837-5507 or at reslife@merrimack.edu with questions regarding closing.

Transportation to the Airport

Does your student need assistance getting to the train station, bus station or airport for winter break? Here's how the College can help:

The first option is to book a discounted shuttle to Boston Logan International Airport, Manchester-Boston Regional Airport, or South Station using [FlightLine Inc.](#) and please keep in mind:

- Students will need to select Merrimack College under "Local School" when booking their travel to receive their discount.
- A valid Merrimack ID will be required for service.

The second option is to reserve a free shuttle to the Andover MBTA, Downeaster Haverhill or Logan Express Woburn through the Dean of Students Office—students must notify the office of their travel a minimum of one week in advance by emailing deanofstudents@merrimack.edu.

