



MERRIMACK COLLEGE



PROVOST BRIEFING

January 09, 2018

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

- Kevin Gately Appointed Registrar
- Mturk Workshop, January 12
- CETL Faculty Development Workshops, January 17
- Davis Experiential Education Grant Proposals, due January 31
- Grant proposal to the U.S. Geological Survey Earthquake Hazards Program has been funded!
- Open Office Hours with the Provost Cancelled this Week
- CYI: Networking Luncheon, January 9
- New Adjunct Orientation, January 10
- Spring Classes Begin, January 22

Kevin Gately Appointed Registrar

It is a pleasure to announce that Mr. Kevin Gately will join Merrimack College as our new Registrar. Mr. Gately brings more than 20 years of experience in academia to Merrimack College. For the last 8 years, he served as the Registrar for Rivier University in Nashua, NH. Prior to working at Rivier University, he spent more than 3 years as the Registrar for Middlesex Community College in Lowell and Bedford, MA. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science from Northeastern University and an Executive Master of Business Administration in Organizational Leadership from Rivier University. Kevin resides in Lowell, MA with his wife Renee and his two daughters, Julia and Amanda. Please join me in welcoming him to the Merrimack College community.

Mturk Workshop

Friday, January 12

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Psychology Group Testing Room, Ground Floor of O'Reilly

The Psychology Department invites you to attend a workshop on the process of collecting data through mturk. You can learn more about mturk here: <https://www.mturk.com/mturk/welcome>. Mturk can be combined with Qualtrics (to which the College already subscribes) to collect data from a diverse pool of participants (both nationally and internationally). Please see the following link for a description of that process: <https://blog.mturk.com/tutorial-getting-great-survey-results-from-mturk-and-qualtrics-f5366f0bd880>. Adam Berinsky will conduct this workshop and cover the following topics:

1. The logistics of setting up data collection with Mturk
2. Who the participants are in these studies and how they are reimbursed
3. The ethics of using Mturk to collect data
4. Best practices in survey design and collection
5. Collecting panel data
6. Running experiments with incentives

Workshop participants will leave with an understanding of how to set up mturk data collection in an ethical manner as well as an understanding of the pros and cons to this way of collecting data. Members of Merrimack's IRB will also be in attendance.

If you are interested, please sign up here: <https://goo.gl/forms/vgoEW4P2xOjicG3D2>. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Christina Hardway at hardwayc@merrimack.edu. Readings will be disseminated prior to the workshop.

CETL Faculty Development Workshops: January 17

Come work with colleagues and the CETL to get ready for the spring semester and back into the pedagogical swing with a day of programming on January 17th. Session details below. As always, if you would like an individual appointment, we are happy to meet with you at your convenience. Please use the registration link below so that we can plan accordingly:

[Registration Link](#)

Engaging College Students in Meaningful Reflection with CETL Faculty Fellow and Assistant Professor of Education, Dr. Rory Tannebaum

10:00 - 11:30 in the Provost Conference Room

Engage in a discussion with peers about both the aims and challenges of having students reflect on content in meaningful ways. Take home a collection of practical suggestions and strategies that you can use in your classroom to encourage reflection by students.

11:30 - 12:30 Networking Lunch

Provost Conference Room

A perfect way to meet new colleagues and to share ideas over lunch!

Assessments and Rubrics with CETL Instructional Designer and Associate Director, Janet Syed

12:30 - 1:45 in the Provost Conference Room

Let's discuss how to employ formative and summative assessments. We'll also review the benefits of using rubrics to improve students' proficiency and instructor sanity with grading. Rubric templates will be shared.

Start at the End: An Introduction to Backwards Design with CETL Instructional Designer and Associate Director, Janet Syed

1:45 - 3:00 Provost Conference Room

You've got your calendar and content and are ready to design your course. Next, ask yourself what do I want students to remember next quarter, next year, or far into the future? What should students be able to do? This session will introduce the concept of Backwards Design and give participants the opportunity to apply the principles to reinvigorate their course and improve learning experiences for students.

Davis Educational Foundation Grant Proposals

Call for Proposals: Spring 2018

The Davis Educational Foundation Grants (DEFG) will support experiential learning course development with stipends of \$1,000 for up to three faculty during the Spring 2018 semester. 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 proposal title, and a brief plan for peer dissemination and implementation. Send proposals to Dr. Patricia Sendall, Dean of Experiential Education, to officeoftheprovo@merrimack.edu.

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.

Grant proposal to the U.S. Geological Survey Earthquake Hazards Program has been funded!

(As published in the most recent Record)

"When you design a building, you want to design it to withstand potential ground motion it might see in its life," Kaklamanos said.

As tectonic plates bump into each other, they often remain locked on fault lines and energy builds until the plates free themselves. Then the accumulated energy radiates away from the fault lines in seismic waves, similar to rippling water. Kaklamanos and his team focus their study on the “input ground motion,” or the seismic waves used as inputs into ground-motion analyses. Their goal is to learn how selection procedures for input ground motions influence the seismic waves predicted at the Earth’s surface.

“The results of this study will help improve the prediction of surface ground motions in engineering design,” Kaklamanos said. “We’re looking at how that input influences the predictions at the surface.”

The USGS Earthquake Hazards Program is responsible for monitoring, reporting, and researching earthquakes and their associated hazards, according to its website. The program funds studies that are aimed at improving the understanding of earthquake hazards and their effects in the United States. The program received 199 funding proposals and only chose 31 in the first round of funding for the 2018 fiscal year. Merrimack will receive \$28,427 to pay research expenses for one year.

Open Office Hours with the Provost Cancelled this Week

There will be no office hours with the Provost this Wednesday, January, 10. Office Hours will return the following week on Wednesday, January 17.

Other Events this Week

January 9th

CYI: Networking Luncheon

11:30 AM-1:00 PM

Crowe Hall, Executive Room

The first step in building your mentoring network is knowing what you need to grow. Join us in a discussion led by Dr. Kathryn Nielsen, Associate Provost & Director Strategic Initiatives, about our shared areas of opportunity and discover how we can build a path to identify mentors that can enhance our professional success and well-being. [Register today!](#)

January 10th

New Adjunct Orientation

3:00- 6:00 pm

Executive Room, Crowe Hall

Please contact the CETL for additional information at nielsenk@merrimack.edu

Reception immediately following

Future Events

Spring Classes Begin

Monday, January 22

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