



MERRIMACK COLLEGE



Cardinal Sean O'Malley visit 2018

(with left to right Dr. Isabelle Cherney, Dr. Allan Weatherwax, Fr. Ray Dlugos, Cardinal Sean O'Malley, and Dr. Sean Condon)

PROVOST BRIEFING

March 19, 2018

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

- Faculty Funding Opportunities - Taking Applications Now!
- Micro-Grants for Interdisciplinary Courses or Research
- No Open Office Hours with the Provost this Week
- CETL Mobile Training with Sue Burch from Apple, April 10
- Distinguished Lecture: The Impact of Prevention On the Global Burden of Chronic Disease, April 19th
- Faculty Regalia Request
- Edward G. Roddy Outstanding Teacher Award 2017-2018
- Important Advising Information
- Learning Continuity Resources

- Using TurnItIn for Faculty and Students
 - 2nd Annual Lenten Backpack Drive
 - Lent in Word and Song, March 19
 - Stress Reduction with Mindfulness, March 20
 - CETL Faculty Workshop: Weaving Universal Design for ALL Learners into your Already Fantastic Course, March 21
 - Empowered Breathing and Meditation for Anxiety and Stress Reduction, March 22
 - Persian New Year, March 22
 - Introduction to Academic Governance, April 3
 - Save the Date: Newly Tenured Faculty Reception, April 5
 - Undergraduate Math Conference, April 7
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Faculty Funding Opportunities

Taking Applications Now!

Click on the link below for detail and how to apply.

- [CETL Teaching Fellows](#) - April 6, 2018
 - [Zampell Faculty Fellows](#) - April 6, 2018
 - [Davis Educational Foundation Experiential Education Grants](#) - April 6, 2018
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Micro-Grants for Interdisciplinary Courses or Research

The Interdisciplinary Institute is offering \$1,000-2,000 micro-grants to support development of interdisciplinary courses and research. For more information click the link below or contact Dr. Mark Allman, Interim Director at allmanm@merrimack.edu. Application deadline is **March 26**.

[Micro Grant Application](#)

No Open Office Hours with the Provost this Week

Open office hours will resume after the Easter break

There will be no office hours with the Provost this Wednesday, March 21. Office Hours will return on Wednesday, April 4.

CETL Mobile Training with Sue Burch from Apple

Wednesday, April 10th

Provost Conference Room, Austin Hall

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 week's development sessions with one of Apple's best faculty developers. Consider one of the following sessions and register here: [Registration Link](#)

Make it and Take it - Your way! 12:30 - 2:30 PM (All levels welcome, lunch provided)

During this interactive session move around the room exploring strategies to engage students and assist with classroom management. Bring your ideas and fully charged/updated device.

- Create interactive content with iMovie, GarageBand, and Explain Everything
- Explore creative classroom management strategies with Apple Classroom, Plickers, Socrative, and Poll Everywhere
- Create virtual packets (Numbers) and reflective journals (Keynote)

You set the agenda! Book an individual session with Sue (various appointment slots throughout the day)

Personalized 15-minutes appointments

Distinguished Lecture: The Impact of Prevention On the Global Burden of Chronic Disease

Thursday, April 19th

Welcome Reception: 3:00 - 3:30pm

Event: 3:30 - 4:30pm

Rogers Center of the Arts

Presented by **Dr. Howard Koh**, Professor of Practice in Public Health Leadership, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and the Harvard Kennedy School.

Dr. Koh served as the 14th Assistant Secretary of Health for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), after being nominated by President Barack Obama and being confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

[RSVP HERE](#)

Sponsored by the School of Health Sciences

Faculty Regalia Request

We are taking requests for faculty regalia rentals. If you are in need of regalia for the 2018 Commencement, Honors Convocation, and/or Baccalaureate Mass, please access the Regalia Form via the following link: [Request Form](#). There is an option rent or purchase this year. Rental costs will be paid by the college, however purchases will not. Please submit your request by **April 13, 2018**.

Edward G. Roddy Outstanding Teacher Award 2017-2018

Edward G. Roddy, 1921-1985, Merrimack College Professor of History and scholar who throughout his life demonstrated a devotion to teaching excellence, care and concern for students and a deep dedication to learning.

NOMINATIONS: Faculty and graduating seniors are asked to nominate a full-time Merrimack College professor for the honor of the *Edward G. Roddy Outstanding Teacher Award*. Students and faculty should consider a wide variety of qualities when submitting a nomination, which may include but are not limited to:

- Ability to engage and inspire student learning, creativity, and independent thinking inside and outside the classroom
- Encouragement of student participation
- Enthusiasm and vitality toward teaching and learning
- Effective and/or creative course design and redesign
- Employment of pedagogical techniques that are fair and respectful of differences among students
- Advisement and/or mentoring of students that reflect care, concern, and expertise
- Adjustment to interests and needs of students based upon formal and informal assessments
- Active involvement in student research projects
- Significant effort in promoting mobile, tech-enriched teaching and learning environments

Comments: Please include specific details of how the above qualities are exemplified by this nominee. Nominations will be accepted until April 15 using this [nomination form](#).

Please Share Important Advising Information with Students

During this advising period, please share information about two great opportunities for your undergrad students:

- GRAD Advantage - This is a great opportunity for students to take graduate courses at Merrimack during their senior year and receive up to 20% tuition remission. Learn more at merrimack.edu/gradadvantage
- Summer Session - Registration is now open for Summer Session, offering 100+ courses for undergrad students. Please encourage your students to register soon. Learn more at merrimack.edu/summer

Contact the Office of Professional Studies at professionalstudies@merrimack.edu or x3563.

Learning Continuity Resources

To keep learning active and moving along during times of school-wide closures, inclement weather, or when participating in other professional activities, consider these strategies for creating learning continuity in your classes: [Creating Learning Continuity Resource](#). Please contact the CETL for additional information on tailoring your instructional design at x3596.

Using TurnItIn for Faculty & Students

You can access TurnItIn through Blackboard, the TurnItIn website TurnItIn.com and the mobile app, which is free to download from the mobile app store. To assist you, below are two short 2-minute videos, one for instructors and the other for students should you wish to have students submit themselves. If you choose the latter, you will need to share with them the Account ID and Password below. You will be able to create your own sign in account and profile after joining with the above information. Please feel free to contact Janet Syed in the CETL if you need additional assistance.

Merrimack Account ID: 99930 Join Password: MerC001947

Instructor Training Video: http://turnitin.com/en_us/training/instructor-training/creating-a-user-account

Student Training Video: http://turnitin.com/en_us/training/student-training

There are many additional resources located on the TurnItIn site that may be of interest to you and your students. Among them, the use of voice memos and several of the feedback/response tools can increase workflow efficiency for instructors and provide increased clarity for students.

2nd Annual Lenten Backpack Drive

Last year during Lent, the Grace J. Palmisano Center for Campus Ministry sponsored our first annual Backpack Drive. This drive is different than the other drives we sponsor, such as the toy and gift card drive during Advent and Christmas that brings happiness into the life of the child. This collection is more somber and certainly more sad. This drive is in coordination with the Massachusetts Department of Children and Family Services. We have been asked for help as they deal with the tragic brokenness of families and the unfortunate need to relocate children in danger to safety. Specifically, there are requesting donations of items that would fill overnight backpacks with supplies a child or a teenager would need when they must be placed in Emergency Foster Care for one or two nights.

Please see the [list for the type of items](#) that would be appropriate to donate. Backpacks

themselves may be gently used but the clothing and other supplies should be new. Donations can include anything from fully loaded backpacks to single items on the list. We also welcome donations of cash with which we will purchase needed items. Please bring any donations you would like to the Grace J. Palmisano Center for Campus Ministry on the 3rd Floor of the Sakowich Campus Center (suite 350) **by Friday, April 5.**

For more information or questions please contact our Augustinian Volunteer, Maggie Morrin at morrinm@merrimack.edu

Other Events this Week

March 19th

Lent in Word and Song

7.30 PM

Rogers Center for the Arts

You are warmly invited to attend Lent in Word and Song, sponsored by the Grace J Palmisano Center for Campus Ministry. This hour-long program will address the ever-ancient, ever-new themes of Lent and humanity's restless search for meaning which some call God. The Schola liturgical music group will sing, and students and faculty will read a range of poems and scripture addressing the human condition. These universal themes will appeal to anyone seeking a time for reflection, regardless of their doubt or faith.

A reception will follow. Free and all are welcome.

March 20th

Stress Reduction with Mindfulness

Tuesdays, March 20 and April 3

4:00 - 5:00 PM

McQuade Library Meditation Room Lower Level Room

Instructor: Jim Howland, Ed.D., LICSW, Hamel Health and Counseling

Participants will learn mindfulness and meditation to help calm and focus the mind.

Commitment to attend all 4 groups is recommended. Pre-registration is required by emailing howlandj@merrimack.edu or phoning 978-837-5441.

March 21st

Weaving Universal Design for ALL Learners into your Already Fantastic Course

Offered at two different times: 9:00 - 10:00 AM and 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Provost Conference Room

[Registration Link](#)

Workshop led by: Jodi Rachins, Director of Accessibility Services Office in collaboration with Academic Services, the CETL, and the Office of the Provost

Workshop Description: Looking around your classroom, you easily see today's diverse learners. Students are more auditory or visual, have sensory or learning disabilities, and/or English is not their primary language. This faculty workshop will introduce you to some simple techniques for leveraging Universal Design, an approach for creating instructional goals, methods, materials and assessments that work for all students. Participants will leave with quick, tangible tips for providing multiple means of representation, action and expression, and engagement in your courses and course materials to connect with all of your learners.

March 22nd

Empowered Breathing and Meditation for Anxiety and Stress Reduction

Thursdays, March 22 and April 5, 12, 19, 26

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

McQuade Library Meditation Room Lower Level Room

Instructor: Danielle Federico

Students will be led through varying Pranayam practice (specialized breathing sequences and techniques). Using the breath as a focus can be a very simple way to calm the body and mind as well as connect the two. They will be taught various breathing practices designed to stimulate the parasympathetic system, countering the overstimulation our bodies and mind go through when in times of stress. Using the breath in this way allows energy to flow and move around the entire body. The effect can be energizing, relaxing and healing. Students may like to bring a notebook and pen to record any experiences that may arise in class. Classes are 60 minutes. Drop-ins welcome, registration requested by emailing C.J. Wong, wongc@merrimack.edu or phoning 978-837-5350.

March 22nd

Persian New Year

11:30 AM - 2:00 PM

1st Floor Lounge, Sakowich Campus Center

Join us to celebrate the first day of Spring & visit our [traditional Persian New Year](#) "Haft-Seen" table.

Introduction to Academic Governance

Date: Tuesday, April 3

Time: 4:00 - 5:00 PM

Location: Crowe Hall, Room 210

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.

Future Events

Save the Date: Newly Tenured Faculty Reception

Thursday, April 5

5:00 - 7:00 PM

Merrimack Club, Sakowich Campus Center

Join us for a reception to celebrate Merrimack College's Newly tenured faculty. A formal invitation to follow.

Undergraduate Math Conference

April 7, 2018

9:45 AM - 3:30 PM

Mendel Hall, First Floor

The Math Department is hosting an undergraduate math conference. If you have students who have done projects involving nice applications of mathematics, please encourage them to present a poster or a 15 minute talk to their peers at this conference. We expect to have about 50 students and faculty from Merrimack and other colleges. The conference is free, but we need participants to sign up by **April 2**. Follow the link for [additional information](#).

MERRIMACK COLLEGE PROVOST

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