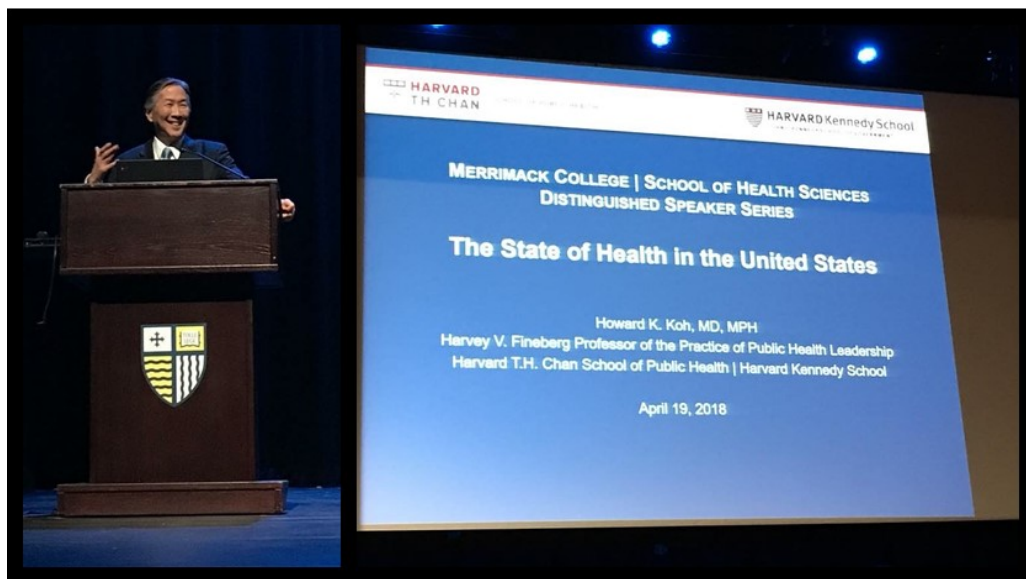




# MERRIMACK COLLEGE



**Dr. Howard Koh**, Professor of Practice in Public Health Leadership, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and the Harvard Kennedy School discusses the “State of Health in the United States” at the Rogers Center last week. 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 confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

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## PROVOST BRIEFING

April 23, 2018

[www.merrimack.edu/provost](http://www.merrimack.edu/provost)

[www.facebook.com/merrimackprovost](https://www.facebook.com/merrimackprovost)

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

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- 2018 Commencement Weekend, May 19-20, 2018
    - Legacy Reception, May 19
    - Honors Convocation, May 19
    - Baccalaureate Mass, May 19
    - Graduate Hooding Ceremony, May 19
    - Commencement (combined undergraduate and graduate), May 20
  - AAUP Thomas P. Hogan Award Ceremony and Reception, April 25
  - 15th Annual Tolle Lege Reception, April 26
  - Finals Process for Students with Accommodations
  - Research and Creative Achievement Conference, May 3 & 9
  - Summer Semester Courses

- Call for Nominations for Last Lecturer 2018
- Native Resistance in the Age of Trump Presented by Nick Estes, Ph.D., Harvard University, April 23
- International Tea, Tuesday, April 24th
- Robin Becker, April 24
- Faculty Senate, April 24
- Open Office Hours with the Provost - Now on Thursdays
- Climbing PoeTree, April 26
- Annual 2018 Spring Concert Featuring Flo Rida, April 26
- Spring Employee Development & Well-Being Workshop: Having Difficult Conversations led by Crystell Anthony, April 30
- Reflections on an Interdisciplinary Journey: A Conversation with Dr. Jane Caputi, April 30
- General Education Faculty Dialogue, May 16
- Save the dates: CETL:
  - Creating Multi-Touch eBooks, May 22
  - Faculty Tech Fair, May 23
  - Team-based Learning, May 24
  - Experiential Education Workshop with Donna Qualters, May 29
  - Community Engagement Institute, May 29th & 30

## **2018 Commencement Weekend**

**May 19-20**

### **Saturday, May 19**

#### **Legacy Reception**

11:00 AM - Merrimack Stadium Viewing Patio

#### **Honors Convocation**

1:00 PM - Hammel Court, Volpe Athletic Center

#### **Baccalaureate Mass**

4:00 PM - Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher

#### **Graduate Hooding Ceremony**

4:00 PM - Hammel Court, Volpe Athletic Center

### **Sunday, May 20**

#### **Commencement (combined Undergraduate and Graduate)**

10:00 AM - Merrimack Stadium

Faculty line up and additional details still to come.

## **AAUP Thomas P. Hogan Award Ceremony and Reception**

**Wednesday, April 25**

**3:30 - 5:00 PM**

**Crowe Hall, Executive Room**

The Merrimack College chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) established the Hogan Award in 1988 to recognize those members of the college community who have contributed to furthering equity, openness, and joint professional responsibility as principles of collegial governance. The award is named for Tom Hogan, professor emeritus of economics and longtime academic dean. This year's recipient of the Hogan Award is **Dr. Marie A. Plasse**, Professor of English. Light refreshments will be served.

More information about the Hogan Award, including a list of past recipients, can be found [here](#).

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## 15th Annual Tolle Lege Reception

Thursday, April 26

4:00 PM

Writers House

Please join us and congratulate your colleagues. This year's speakers include Drs. April Bowling, Cynthia Carlson, Fan Chen, Anne Flaherty, Autumn Ridenour, Rory Tannebaum, and Allan Weatherwax. Refreshments will be served.

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## Finals Process for Students with Accommodations

For final exams, the Testing Center request process will be as follows:

1. All students who have been approved for testing accommodations have been emailed a link to fill out a google request form for their final exams (we will be reminding them to fill out this form between 4/16/18 and 4/26/18): [Student Finals Testing Center Request Form](#).
2. The Accessibility Services Office will then confirm the students' requests and their approved accommodations and we respond to them with an invite to take their exam in our center.
3. On Friday 4/27/18, we will email you a list of the students we are aware of taking your exam(s), their scheduled time in the testing center, and a link to confirm the details of the exam - it can also be found here: [Faculty Finals Testing Center Response Form](#).

**Please note the following:**

- In some instances, students will have 2 exams on the same day and due to their extended time accommodation we will need to move one of the exams to an alternate day - in these cases, we will contact you directly.
- Additionally, due to our Testing Center hours (8:30-4:30) we may need to schedule your students' exams outside of the expected start and end time for the assigned exam block. We understand this isn't ideal, but we have incorporated a signed Confidentiality and Academic Honesty Agreement for all students and all exams.
- Please do let us know if you receive a student request but have never received accommodation letters from that student this semester.

Thank you for your ongoing support with our efforts here in the Testing Center to support student accommodations.

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## 2018 Research and Creative Achievement Conference

May 3, 3:30 - 5:30 PM Undergraduate Session - MPR

May 9, 3:00 - 6:00 PM Graduate Session - MPR and Cascia Hall

Light refreshments will be served.

The Office of the Provost and the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning are pleased to invite you to celebrate the nearly 500 undergraduate and graduate student projects at the 2018 Research and Creative Achievement Conference on May 3 and May 9.

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## Summer Semester Courses

Summer courses will be created in Blackboard according to the following schedule. If you have any questions, please contact the help desk at [askit@merrimack.edu](mailto:askit@merrimack.edu). For course assistance, please self-enroll in Online Course Assistance; a Blackboard course set up with a variety of topics to help you design your online course.

How to self-enroll? Navigate to Blackboard>Courses>Course Search>type in - online course assistance>Go>use the drop down arrow next to course name and Enroll>Submit>OK.

April 16 - Courses that run in the first half of the semester that are online only (S4) will be created and made available for editing.

May 1 - Student Enrollments will begin feeding to S4 courses

April 23 - Full semester (S3) courses, and all other courses that run the first half of the summer (S1) will be created and made available for editing.

May 7 - Student Enrollments will begin feeding to S1 and S3 courses

June 4 - Courses that run second half of the summer semester online only (S5) will be created.

June 18 - Student Enrollments will begin feeding to S5 courses

June 11 - All other courses that run second half of the summer will be created (S2)

June 25 - Student Enrollments will begin feeding to S2 courses.

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## Call for Nominations for Last Lecturer 2018

The Merrimack College Honors Program is pleased to invite nominations for the Annual Last Lecture at Merrimack College. The Last Lecture will be delivered on November 13 in the Fall 2018 semester by a faculty member who will share with the community their research, values, and passions. This is their chance to share their wisdom as if it were the last opportunity they would have to speak to a group of students.

All members of the community are encouraged to nominate those faculty members who you believe exemplify the values of the Merrimack College community. We encourage you to think specifically about those faculty members who have had a positive effect on you in some way, or who were engaging, motivated, passionate, and inspiring. Self-nomination is acceptable and encouraged.

To nominate a faculty member, please fill out this [form](#) with the faculty member's full name and a brief, detailed description of why he or she should deliver the last lecture. Nominations are due by **Friday, May 11th, 2018**.

The Honors Student Council in consultation with the Honors Program Director will review the nominations and select the 2018 Last Lecturer.

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## Other Events this Week

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### April 23

**Native Resistance in the Age of Trump Presented by Nick Estes, Ph.D., Harvard University**  
**4:00 - 6:00 PM**  
**Murray Lounge**

Following the aftermath Of the historic resistance against the Dakota Access Pipeline at Standing Rock, what does the future of Native resistance look like? This talk offers a meditation on the history of Native resistance and contemporary Native organizing around state violence against Native lands and bodies and environmental justice.

Sponsored by the Interdisciplinary Institute

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## **April 24**

**International Tea**  
**3:00 - 4:30 PM**  
**Unity House**  
**27 Rock Ridge Rd.**

The International Tea is our wrap-up event of the academic year, where treats and tea from around the world can be enjoyed by all. Please join us for delicious refreshments, all students, faculty and staff are welcome!

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## **April 24**

**Robin Becker**  
**4:00 PM**  
**The Writers House**

Robin Becker is a poet, critic, feminist, and professor. She is the author of eight collections of poetry, including, most recently, *The Black Bear Inside Me*, *Tiger Heron*, and *Domain of Perfect Affection*.

Learn a little about Robin Becker's process when composing the poem "Hospice."

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## **April 24**

**Faculty Senate**  
**4:00 - 5:00 PM**  
**Murray Lounge**

The agenda and supporting documents have been posted on Blackboard.

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## **April 26**

**Open Office Hours with the Provost - **Now on Thursdays****  
**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 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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## **April 26**

**Climbing PoeTree**

**Performance 2:00 - 3:15 PM**

**Workshop 4:00 - 5:15 PM**

**Murray Lounge**

Co-creators Alixa Garcia and Naima Penniman are cultural architects committed to reframing the story through multi-voice spoken word, hip hop, world music, and multimedia theater that translate deep research around the most pressing issues of our time into stunning artistry that catalyzes their audiences to activate the transformation they wish to cultivate within themselves and their communities. They will be accompanied by violinist and vocalist Mazz Muse.

Co-sponsored by the Department of Women's and Gender Studies and the Interdisciplinary Institute.

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## **April 26**

**Annual 2018 Spring Concert Featuring Flo Rida**

**Lawler Rink, Merrimack Athletic Complex**

**Doors: 7:00 PM**

**Show: 8:00 PM**

The Office of Student Involvement is excited to announce the 2018 Spring Concert featuring Flo Rida. Tickets for Faculty and Staff are on sale now at [www.merrimack.edu/springconcert](http://www.merrimack.edu/springconcert). Tickets are \$40. This is an 18+ show and all ticket sales are final. If you have any questions please email [osi@merrimack.edu](mailto:osi@merrimack.edu).

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## **Future Events**

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### **Spring Employee Development & Well-Being Workshop: Having Difficult Conversations led by Crystell Anthony**

**Monday, April 30**

**9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**Murray Lounge, Sakowich Campus Center**

Having difficult conversations are a necessary part of good communication. Being both direct and diplomatic is the key to effectively communication. In this session, you will learn how to positively address a range of issues and behaviors with co-workers, clients, and other people in the workplace through direct communication, effective feedback, and managing up.

Please speak with your direct supervisor to ensure appropriate department coverage prior to [registering](#).

For questions, contact [humanresources@merrimack.edu](mailto:humanresources@merrimack.edu) or 978-837-5157.

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## Reflections on an Interdisciplinary Journey: A Conversation with Dr. Jane Caputi

Monday, April 30  
12:00 - 1:30 PM  
Blue Line Club

Dr. Caputi, Inaugural Visiting Scholar of the Interdisciplinary Institute, will discuss turning points in her career with special attention to how the interdisciplinary engagements have enriched her scholarship, teaching and activism. The event is also an opportunity to bid farewell to Dr. Jane Caputi.

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## General Education Faculty Dialogue

Wednesday, May 16  
1:00 - 3:00 PM  
Executive Room, Crowe Hall

The General Education Committee invites all faculty to a conversation about potential new structures of General Education at Merrimack College. The Committee will update the faculty on their work and present examples from our environmental scan, consultations with other Schools and work with Huron Consulting. Following a brief presentation, the Committee will engage the faculty in a facilitated general discussion. This faculty dialogue is a continuation of the previous discussion held on April 12th.

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## Save the Dates (Times TBA)

- CETL: Creating Multi-touch iBooks, May 22
  - CETL: Merrimack Innovates! Faculty Tech Fair, May 23
  - CETL: Team-based Learning with Dr. Jane Parent, May 24
  - CETL: Experiential Education Workshop with Donna Qualters, May 29th
- Community Engagement Institute
- Dinner, May 29 (5-7pm)
  - Institute Sessions, May 30
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