



## PROVOST BRIEFING

June 4, 2018

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

- Open Office Hours with the Provost Moved to Tuesday - This Week Only
- Create Your Impact: Women's Forum, June 5
- Learning Management System Changes for all fall classes 2018
- Handshake Software is Here
- Summer Orientation, June 20-21, June 25-26, and July 16-17

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### Open Office Hours with the Provost Moved to Tuesday - This Week Only

8:30 - 10:00 AM

### **Provost's Suite, Austin Hall**

The Provost will have open office hours for faculty to drop-in Tuesday, May 8, 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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## **Create Your Impact: Women's Forum**

**Tuesday, June 5**

**9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

Join us for an exciting one-day forum focusing on women's personal and professional development at Merrimack College. Sessions will feature personal finance, problem solving and decision making, and mentorship. The day is designed to allow participants to attend one or more sessions based on their interests and schedules. Make a date to invest in yourself!

[Registration Link](#)

### **Opening Keynote: Leadership Creates a Feeling featuring Betsy Myers, Founding Director of the Center for Women and Business at Bentley University**

9:00 - 10:30 AM

Cascia Hall

### **She's Got It: A Women's Guide to Saving and Investing featuring Betsy O'Boyle, Financial Consultant, TIAA**

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Executive Room, Crowe Hall

### **Mentorship Workshop featuring Kathryn Nielsen, Ph.D., Associate Provost & Director of Strategic Initiatives & Heather Sullivan, Associate Vice President & Director of Campaigns**

12:15 - 1:15 PM

Executive Room, Crowe Hall

### **Decisive Women Leaders featuring Lynne Hambleton, Senior Trainer and Consultant, Corporate Education Group**

1:30 - 3:30 PM

Cascia Hall

### **Truth and Share: Women Together for Good**

### **Networking Reception hosted by Dean Catherine Usoff, Ph.D., and the Girard School of Business**

3:45 - 5:00 PM

Executive Room, Crowe Hall

For more details please visit the [Create Your Impact](#) webpage.

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## **Learning Management System Changes for all fall classes 2018**

There are important changes coming that you will need to know for all of your fall classes!

Review updates and changes here: [Blackboard updates](#).

Take this [Blackboard usage survey](#) to see if you are a good candidate to use the Ultra view this fall. You will be contacted with results shortly after taking it.

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## Handshake Software is Here

The Office of the Provost and the O'Brien Center for Career Development are pleased to announce the college is upgrading the software that runs Advantage this summer. The transition to Handshake comes after a comprehensive review of the current platform to assess the quality of the experience for our students, faculty, staff, alumni and employers. With support from the Davis Education Foundation, Handshake will provide significant improvements in our ability to support, measure, and report on our students' engagement in experiential education; representing a significant milestone in the continuing evolution of Merrimack College.

Handshake is a cutting-edge technology firm that specializes in software for career development offices. Launched in 2014, Handshake is used by 100% of Fortune 500 companies and over 500 U.S. universities, including Stanford, Villanova, and Wake Forest. After a series of discussions and demonstrations, it was clear that Handshake offers students, alumni, faculty, staff, and employers an intuitive, simple, and powerful system.

The new system will be live for employers on May 29, for students on June 25, and for faculty/staff at their own convenience. The O'Brien Center will be hosting various sessions so that faculty and staff can learn more about the system in the coming months. If you are a faculty member hosting an internship course in the fall, we strongly recommend that you coordinate with your school's career advisor to set up your account over the summer. If you are currently using Advantage to post on-campus positions, the O'Brien Center will be in contact about important next steps.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the O'Brien Center at (978) 837-5439 or via e-mail at [obriencenter@merrimack.edu](mailto:obriencenter@merrimack.edu).

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## Summer Orientation

The Orientation Committee has begun planning for Summer Orientation and we would like to request the faculty's assistance for advising and registration. Since we will be welcoming over a thousand students to campus this fall, we needed to adjust the orientation sessions and add a third session! Here is the schedule for the three sessions

- Session 1: **June 20-21, 2018**
- Session 2: **June 25-26, 2018**
- Session 3: **July 16-17, 2018**

Advising will take place on Thursday, **June 21st**, Tuesday, **June 26th** and Tuesday, **July 17th** from **9 am - 12 pm** in **Hamel Court** at the Merrimack Athletic Complex

This year the Committee is again asking for assistance at any or all of the sessions to advise our incoming first year students. To the best of our ability, we will match students with their academic advisor or a member of their department and we will need additional assistance for those students who are undeclared. For Session 1 and 2 we are hoping for a minimum of two people per department with extra faculty in the larger majors. For Session 3, we expect a smaller number of students (and we know that faculty are not usually around in the summer) but

will know our needs as we get closer to July. Please know that ANY AND ALL faculty members are welcome to participate. As in the past, please send Mary McHugh the names of the faculty members who can attend by **Monday, June 11th** at [mchughm@merrimack.edu](mailto:mchughm@merrimack.edu)

If you have any questions or suggestions about Summer Orientation, please feel free to contact your school's representative on the Committee, Mary McHugh, Peter Ellard, Diane Shaw, or Allison Pukala.

The Orientation Committee would also invite everyone to the Family Cocktail Receptions, which will be on Wednesday, June 20, Monday, June 25th and Monday July 16th from 4:30 - 6:00 PM in the Blue Line Club.

Thank you as always in advance for your assistance as we all look forward to welcoming the Class of 2022!

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