



## PROVOST BRIEFING

September 17, 2018

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*President Hopey and Athletic Director Jeremy Gibson celebrate with NEC Commissioner Noreen Morris as Merrimack College Athletics earns membership into the Northeast Conference.*

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### **A Note from the Provost**

During the past few days our community at Merrimack College and beyond was tested. As students return to campus, I would like to express deep appreciation for the efforts and resolve of all, especially those individuals in Residence Life, the Police Department, Dining Services and Facilities, who worked tirelessly to serve the students, the entire campus, and our neighbors in the Merrimack Valley. I would also like to thank all those involved in the numerous

faculty-driven initiatives during this time of need. On a personal note, I am grateful for the overwhelming support when I needed to evacuate my Andover home. I'm proud to be a Warrior!

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

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- Faculty Senate and Welcome Back Reception, September 18
- Create Learning Continuity with Contingency Plans
- CETL Teaching Circles: 2018/19 Call for Proposals
- CETL Faculty Funding Opportunity: Lilly Teaching Conference
- Blackboard Ultra, CETL Online Training Opportunity and Personalized Q & A, September 21
- Dan Kaufman, September 25
- Environmental Movie Series, Fall 2018
- Reflections of the Past: Photographs and Artifacts from Merrimack College's Past, Now - October 21
- Building Community, Reaching for Justice Fall 2018 Speaker Series: McKersin Previlus, September 17
- Global Education Fair, September 19
- Open Office Hours, every Thursday
- Interdisciplinary Institute Mini-Lecture and Reception, September 20
- Academic Preview Day, September 23
- 3rd Annual Liberal Arts Career Night, September 26
- Just War and Just Warriors, September 27
- Health Sciences Graduate Programs Fair, October 10
- Fall Writer-in Residence, October 16-18
- Weaving the Maps: Tales of Survival and Resistance , October 18, 2018

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## Faculty Senate Meeting

**September 18**

**4:00 - 5:00 PM**

**Arcidi Center, 2nd Floor**

The first meeting of the Faculty Senate, 2018-19 will be held in the new Arcidi Center. The meeting will be followed by a welcome back reception and Arcidi Center tour.

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## Create Learning Continuity with Contingency Plans

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.

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## CETL Teaching Circles: 2018/19 Call for Proposals

Consider forming a CETL Teaching Circle for the upcoming academic year. Circles are faculty led and composed of faculty from across departments. The collegial nature of the circle is intended to foster openness, mutual support, and innovation and is founded on the idea that

teachers can learn from each other. Proposal deadline is **September 20**. For more information click [Teaching Circle Information and Call](#) or contact Dr. Kathryn Nielsen via email [nielsenk@merrimack.edu](mailto:nielsenk@merrimack.edu).

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## **CETL Faculty Funding Opportunity: Lilly Conference**

The CETL is pleased to offer sponsorship for five full-time faculty members to attend the upcoming [Lilly Conference on Evidence-Based Teaching and Learning](#), November 15-18 at Miami University in Oxford, OH. Awardees will receive funding for registration, travel, and lodging. Those selected will be expected to share what they have learned with departments and colleagues upon return. If you would like to be considered for the conference, please submit in a one page document the following information:

- Years of experience teaching
- Why you wish to attend the conference
- Your desired impact for students and campus culture
- Your plan for dissemination

Please submit letter of interest by **September 28** to [nielsenk@merrimack.edu](mailto:nielsenk@merrimack.edu). Participants will be selected from across the five schools, with priority given to assistant and associate-level applications.

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## **Blackboard Ultra: CETL Online Training and Q & A**

**Basic Course Setup with Discussions, Assessments, and Grading**

**Friday, September 21**

**12:00 - 1:00 PM**

Consider signing up for this session while in the convenience of your home or office. First 45 minutes a guided tutorial, remaining 15 minutes open to Q & A. The session is held via Collaborate, Merrimack's new web conferencing tool and led by Janet Syed, CETL Associate Director/Instructional Designer.

[Registration Link](#)

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## **Dan Kaufman**

**Tuesday, September 25**

**4:00 PM**

**Writers House**

Dan Kaufman will read from/discuss his new book, *The Fall of Wisconsin: The Conservative Conquest of a Progressive Bastion and the Future of American Politics*. Kaufman's writing has appeared in *The New York Times Magazine* and *The New Yorker*.

A review of *The Fall of Wisconsin* in *The New York Times*:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/07/11/books/review-fall-of-wisconsin-dan-kaufman.html>

A piece in *The New Yorker*:

<https://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/the-fall-of-wisconsin-and-the-rise-of-randy-bryce>

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## **Environmental Movie Series, Fall 2018**

Stevens Auditorium, Cushing Hall Basement

7:00 PM

**Wednesday, October 3: An Inconvenient Sequel**

**Wednesday, October 17: Death by Design**

**Wednesday, November 14: Journey of the Universe**

Light refreshments served. All are welcome!

Co-sponsored by the McQuade Library, the Green Team, and the McLaughlin Martin Family Environmental Innovation Fund.

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## **Other Events this Week**

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### **September 17**

**Building Community, Reaching for Justice Fall 2018 Speaker Series: McKersin Previlus**

**5:00 - 6:30 PM**

**Crowe Hall, Room 210**

The Building Community, Reaching for Justice Fall 2018 Speaker Series presents McKersin Previlus founder, Bridge 4 My Brothers, Artistic Director Laka Dance Theatre, and Co-Founder Racines Black Dance Festival. Sponsored by the Community Engagement Graduate Program.

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### **September 19**

**Global Education Fair**

**4:00 - 6:00 PM**

**MPR, Sakowich Campus Center**

The Office of Global Education will host its Fall Fair on Wednesday, September 19 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Program representatives and alums will be available to talk about semester programs. Plus, Merrimack faculty leading this year's short-term opportunities will be there for interested students to find out more. Please encourage your students to come to the Fair and consider stopping by yourself.

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### **September 20**

**Open Office Hours with the Provost**

**8:30 - 10:00 AM**

**Provost's Suite, Austin Hall**

The Provost will have open office hours for faculty to drop in every Thursday 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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### **September 20**

**Interdisciplinary Institute Mini-Lecture and Reception**

**4:00 - 6:00 PM**

**Blue Line Club, Merrimack Athletic Complex**

An opportunity to meet the institute's new director, Dr. Simona Sharoni, and the 2018-2019 Scholar in Residence, Dr. Ellen Fitzpatrick. Dr. Fitzpatrick's lecture is titled "Transcending

Borders: Reflections on the Synergy between Interdisciplinary and Global Studies." The event will include light refreshments and an open bar.

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## **September 23**

### **Academic Preview Day**

**9:00 AM - 1:00PM**

This Fall Admission is holding three Academic Preview days. This event centers solely around academic exploration and plays a huge emphasis around faculty. This program offers two blocks of mock classes from each of the five schools. Students have the option to attend two in the field of their choice, or to explore something else they are interested in. Students also take a academic specific tour, and then have mix and mingle lunch that includes several faculty, deans and admission staff. We receive great feedback from these programs which is entirely centered around the help of the faculty. Showing our prospective students and parents first hand what an actual course with a faculty member is like, truly portrays what it is like to be a student at Merrimack.

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## **Reflections of the Past: Photographs and Artifacts from Merrimack College's Past**

**Open Now through October 21**

**Thagaste Gallery, Rogers Center for the Arts**

Relive the history of Merrimack College with these reminders of the past.

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## **Future Events**

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## **3rd Annual Liberal Arts Career Night**

**Wednesday, September 26**

**7:00 - 9:00 PM**

**Rogers Center**

Liberal Arts alumni from a wide variety of fields (including not-for-profits; social, human and clinical services; law; education; media and creative arts; marketing/PR; public service and government; and financial services) will be in attendance to meet and network with current students. The event will begin with a keynote address from alumnus Sean Kavanagh (B.A. in Psychology), who is the CEO of the Ariel Group. Students, faculty and staff from all five schools are welcome and encouraged to attend. Food and drink will be provided. More information to come.

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## **Just War and Just Warriors**

**An Abdelkader Lecture by Major Matt Peterson, USMC**

**Thursday, September 27**

**7:00 PM**

**Cascia Hall**

[Matt Peterson](#) has served several tours in Iraq and Afghanistan and models the openness and cultural awareness of many contemporary American service members. Learn more at the [website event page](#) or the [Facebook event page](#).



Pre-lecture dinner at 5:00PM in the Merrimack Club for interested students. Please RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/JustWarDinner> by 9/21/18.

Hosted by the Center for Jewish-Christian-Muslim Relations.

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## Health Sciences Graduate Programs Fair

Thursday, October 10

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

MPR, Sakowich Campus Center

The School of Health Sciences is hosting a Graduate Programs Fair for students interested in pursuing a career in the healthcare industry. Programs represented include Nursing, Physician Assistant, Nurse Practitioner, Masters in Public Health, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Healthcare Administration and more. Schools attending include Boston College of Nursing, Mass College of Pharmacy, MGH Institute, Sacred Heart University, Simmons College, Tufts University, UMass Lowell, University of New England, University of Mass Medical School of Nursing and more.

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## Fall Writer-in Residence: James Wood

October 16-18

Our Fall Writer-in-Residence will be James Wood. Wood is Professor of the Practice of Literary Criticism at Harvard University and a longtime staff writer at *The New Yorker*. Widely considered to be the preeminent critic of his generation, Wood is the author of *How Fiction Works*, as well as the essay collections *The Broken Estate* and *The Irresponsible Self*, and the novels *Upstate* and *The Book Against God*. **His keynote/reading will be on Thursday, October 18 at 4pm.**

A recent piece on Philip Roth here:

<https://www.newyorker.com/books/page-turner/the-unceasing-necessity-of-philip-roth>

A recent interview with Wood:

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2018/mar/02/james-wood-interview-upstate>

The Writer-in-Residence program is made possible with generous support from the Andrea '79 and Ken Robertson Writers House Innovation Fund.

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## Weaving the Maps: Tales of Survival and Resistance

Thursday, October 18

4:00 - 6:00 PM

Cascia Hall

A world premiere performance, a result of a collaboration of Drs. Laila Farah (DePaul University) and Dr. Isis Nussair (Denison University), followed by Q & A.

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