



PROVOST BRIEFING

October 01, 2018

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

- Environmental Film Series: An Inconvenient Sequel, October 3
- Faculty Funding Opportunity: Expanding Experiential Education
- McCoy Gallery Features Treasures from the College Collection
- Early Alert Requests
- Student Life Updates
- Professional Development Retreat for Seniors
- Posting Items in the Provost Briefing
- Faculty Senate Meeting
- Atrium Series: Sam Luke Chase, October 3

- SGA Blood Drive, October 3 & 4
- Open Office Hours, Every Thursday (Please note abbreviated hours for this week)
- Master Class: A Play by Terrence McNally, October 4-7
- Health Sciences Graduate Programs Fair, October 10
- Political Science Alumni Career Event, October 10
- Building Community, Reaching for Justice Fall 2018 Speaker Series: Marquis Victor, October 15
- Fall Writer-in Residence, October 16-18
- Weaving the Maps: Tales of Survival and Resistance , October 18

Environmental Film Series: An Inconvenient Sequel

Wednesday, October 3

7:00 PM

Stevens Auditorium

The 2017 documentary focused on Al Gore's ongoing work to persuade governmental leaders to invest in renewable energy. This event is made possible by support from the McLaughlin Martin Family Environmental Innovation Fund.

Trained Climate Reality Leader [Larry Yu](#) will lead a discussion before the film. Larry Yu is an Agent for Change, Communications, and Sustainability. His work focuses on the impact of business on society and the environment. He has lived in the Boston area since graduating from MIT.

Davis Educational Foundation: Call for Proposals

The David Educational Foundation Grants (DEFG) support experiential course development with stipends of \$1,000 for up to 6 faculty for the 2018-2019 academic year. Proposals should result in a new or improved experiential education course or program with a preference for experiences 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; community engagement. Proposals should be one page and include a title, abstract, description and brief plan for dissemination and implementation. Send proposals (and any questions) to sendallp@merrimack.edu and copy nielsenk@merrimack.edu.

Fall Awards

Three (3) \$1000 awards

Proposals due: **October 15**

Awards announced October 30

Spring Awards

Three (3) \$1000 awards

Proposals due: January 31

Awards announced February 15

McCoy Gallery Features Treasures from the College Collection

Open now through December 21

An exhibition of various works from the Merrimack College Art Collection.

Early Alert Requests

As a reminder to last week's email, please be sure to use an [Early Alert Request](#) to identify those students who may already be showing signs of academic difficulty.

Student Life Updates

Do you want to know what is happening on our campus on the weekends for students? If you want to see what is being communicated each week to undergraduate and graduate students, please email deanofstudents@merrimack.edu, and you will be added to the list to receive these emails.

Professional Development Retreat for Seniors

Application Deadline: Oct. 1st

November 1-2, 2018

Hotel Commonwealth, Boston, MA

The Professional Development Retreat is a two-day career development initiative for seniors that is designed to build emotional intelligence and provide students with "soft skills" such as problem-solving, conflict resolution, critical observation, and adaptability. Through an application and selection process, sixty students from all academic disciplines will be selected for the November retreat. Students will connect with a distinguished group of industry experts to work side-by-side and gain knowledge about the practical aspects of the workforce. This distinctive program illustrates Merrimack College's commitment to student success and the impact of the College's network. Workshops, presentations, and small group sessions will address the following:

- Understanding and Communicating Your Strengths
- Team Problem Solving
- Professional Communication
- Networking Skills

This is an all-expense paid retreat for students. Please encourage your Seniors to apply via merrimack.edu/handshake

Sponsored by the O'Brien Center for Career Development

Posting Items in the Provost Briefing

The Provost's Office has created the Provost's Briefing in an effort to limit the number of emails coming from the office and to include events and information from departments and schools in one place for faculty. If you would like to post an item in the Provost Briefing, send your information to Vicki Bianchini, bianchiniv@merrimack.edu, by **10:00 AM each Friday**. Submissions should be in the following format:

Headline

Date (if applicable)

Time (if applicable)

Location (if applicable)

Description and Links

Other Events this Week

October 2nd

Faculty Senate Meeting

4:00 - 5:00 PM

Arcidi Center, Meeting Room A

Agenda and meeting documents can be found on the Faculty Senate Blackboard site.

October 3rd

Sam Luke Chase: Roots/Folk/Acoustic

12:30 PM

Rogers Center Atrium

A native of Scituate, MA, Sam Luke Chase is a multi-instrument singer/songwriter who sings heart on your sleeve roots-based acoustic folk songs. Sam's raspy baritone and acoustic riffs immediately draw you in.

October 3rd & 4th

SGA Blood Drive

1:30 to 7:00 PM

MPR, Sakowich Campus Center

[CLICK HERE to schedule an appointment.](#)

October 4

Open Office Hours with the Provost

8:30 - 9:30 AM (Abbreviated hours this week only)

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.

October 4th-7th

Master Class: A Play by Terrence McNally

Thursday, Friday & Saturday October 4-6, 7:30 PM

Sunday October 7, 3:00 PM

Rogers Center for the Arts

Maria Callas was one of opera's most celebrated and controversial divas. In this funny, uplifting and poignant play, the great star tries to inspire passion in three students in a Julliard School "master class". As the students clash with the fading diva, love, passion and art soar to new heights. Written by Tony Award winner Terrence McNally, this performance features Merrimack's fall Artist in Residence, opera singer Christina Lamberti, together with students from the Department of Visual and Performing Arts. Directed by Fr. Richard J. Piatt, O.S.A.

Future Events

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.

Political Science Alumni Career Event

Wednesday, October 10

11:00 AM and 2:00 PM

The Writers House

The Political Science department will host 14 of our Merrimack Political Science alumni to talk about their career paths and offer tips for our undergraduates thinking ahead to their post-Merrimack life. All students of any major or level are welcome. There are [two panels of alumni guests](#), 11:00-12:15 and 2:00-3:15. Please direct any questions to Anne Flaherty at flahertya@merrimack.edu

There is also a 12:30 lunch event for our guests and upper level students. If you have a junior or senior level student that might benefit from the chance to network with these alumni at the lunch, please email flahertya@merrimack.edu for an invite. Faculty are also welcome at the lunch- again, just reach out to Anne to ensure that there is room.

Building Community, Reaching for Justice Fall 2018 Speaker Series: Marquis Victor

Monday, October 15

5:00 - 6:30 PM

Crowe Hall, room 210

Marquis Victor is the Founding Executive Director of [Elevated Thought](#). Elevated Thought is an art and social justice Lawrence-based organization that actively serves and develops communities through youth empowerment curriculum, beautification projects, youth organizing, and public outreach.

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.

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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