



PROVOST BRIEFING

December 17, 2018

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Honoring Rev. Raymond Dlugos, O.S.A. for 40 years as an Augustinian Friar and 25 years as a priest, including a decade serving the college and the wider community.

Photo credit: Mary Schwalm

On behalf of the Office of the Provost, we wish you a joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope the holiday break allows you to enjoy time with family and friends and to reflect on the wonderful accomplishments of 2018.

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

- Christmas at Merrimack College

- GAUDETE! (Rejoice!), December 18
 - Christmas Mass followed by the Employee Christmas Party, December 21
- Open Office Hours with the Provost Cancelled this week
- Merrimack Bookstore Christmas Discount
- Invitation to Recommend Students to the Honors Program
- First Year Experience (FYE) Now Accepting Instructor 2019 Applications
- CETL News & Workshops
 - CETL Ed Tech with Sue Burch from Apple, January 8, 9, & 10
 - Spring Course Prep sessions
- Faculty Development Grants: Call for Proposals
- Save the Date - CETL Open House, January 30
- Save the Date - 2019 Research and Creative Achievement Conference, May 2
- Final Exams End, December 19
- All Final Grades Due by Midnight, December 21
- Christmas Recess, December 21 - January 6
- David Raymond: Works, Exhibit Opens: January 15
- Kevin Salemme: Tryptics - Phantom Light, Exhibit Opens: January 15
- Broadway Through the Ages: A Musical Review, January 18

Christmas at Merrimack College

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for any or all of these events to help you get in the Christmas Spirit:

GAUDETE! (Rejoice!)

Tuesday, December 18

4:30 PM

St. Ambrose Friary

The Augustinian Community welcomes all employees of the College to their home at St. Ambrose Friary starting at 4:30 PM for Christmas Cheer during this third week of the Season of Advent.

Christmas Mass followed by the Employee Christmas Party

Friday, December 21

12:30 PM

Chapel of Our Mother of Good Counsel in Austin Hall

Join with your colleagues in prayer and worship together before we go our separate ways for Christmas. This Mass features the Faculty/Staff Choral Ensemble making their one and only appearance of the year.

Open Office Hours with the Provost Cancelled this Week

There will be no office hours with the Provost for this week. Office Hours will return after the break on **Thursday, January 10**.

Merrimack Bookstore Christmas Discount

The Merrimack College Bookstore will have a special Christmas discount for all Merrimack faculty and staff. Thursday, **December 13 through Wednesday, December 19**, the faculty and staff discount will be increased to 20% off. Please have your Merrimack ID ready when making purchases.

Invitation to Recommend Students to the Honors Program

The Merrimack Honors Program is seeking nominations of current first-year students who would be a great fit for Merrimack Honors. Faculty are asked to nominate students who excel in the classroom and would benefit from, and contribute to, the growing Honors community. To nominate a student, please simply send the student's name to honors@merrimack.edu by **January 9th**. We'll do the rest!

First Year Experience (FYE) Now Accepting Instructor 2019 Applications

Applications for the FYE Instructor positions for the 2019 year are now live! All who are interested in teaching FYE in Fall 2019, including returning instructors, should complete [this application](#) by **January 9th**. Please be sure to fully read the position description included in the application form, as the role has changed and grown. Any questions can be directed to [Laura Lyons](#), Assistant Director of Student Success: First Year Experience and Retention Initiatives.

CETL News & Workshops

Ed Tech with Sue Burch from Apple

January 8, 9, & 10

All sessions held in the new CETL space on the lower-level of Sullivan Hall.

Refreshments provided and all levels welcome!

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

Tuesday, January 8

Breakout Escape Room Activity 9:30 - 10:45 AM

Put on your super-sleuth hat and find clues to solve problems with your colleagues. Use your critical thinking skills, collaborate with peers, and most of all muster your perseverance. Leveraging apps to escape and eventually find your way out, you will learn valuable tips and tricks to use in the classroom!

Create and Publish Content, Personalized for your Students 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

During this interactive session create ePortfolios to curate lab manuals, research papers, journals, and study guides using Pages on the iPad. With Pages you can curate content for your students and export into a beautiful ePub. No Mac needed.

Apple Distinguished Educator Preparation 1:30 - 2:45 PM

Learn about the application process for becoming an ADE and begin gathering your materials. Resources and activities to promote deeper student learning will be reviewed using two Multi-touch books: Innovation in Schools and Elements of Learning.

Request an Individual Appointment with Sue (indicate this selection on registration)

Wednesday, January 9

Top Ten Strategies for iPad as a Learning and Teaching Tool 9:00 - 10:15 AM

Explore teaching and learning strategies, leveraging your iPad in creative and productive ways to engage students, save time, and increase inclusion.

Create Interactive Course Materials Your Way 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

During this interactive session, explore strategies to engage students and deepen learning among colleagues. Bring your ideas and fully charged/updated device and prepare to:

- 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)

Request an Individual Appointment with Sue (indicate this selection on registration)

Thursday, January 10

Top Ten Strategies for iPad as a Learning and Teaching Tool 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Explore teaching and learning strategies, leveraging your iPad in creative and productive ways to engage students, save time, and increase inclusion.

Blackboard Ultra, Collaborate, and Panopto Workshops

The CETL, partnering with Academic Technology, is providing spring course prep sessions in December and January tailored to each academic school. Sessions will focus on:

- Introduction to Ultra navigation and view, course set up and design, course communication, and assessment and grading;
- Web conferencing through Collaborate. Hold class on snow days, bring in guest speakers virtually, communicate with students abroad, hold virtual office hours, and more; and
- Learn about Panopto, a video content management system that includes interactive quizzing and seamless upload and organization with transcriptions

Click on the link to choose one of the days offered in your school:

[Girard School of Business, School of Liberal Arts, School of Health Sciences, School of Science and Engineering, School of Education and Social Policy](#)

Civil Conversations about Contentious Issues

March 21, March 28, April 4, and April 11, 2019

4:15 - 5:30 PM

Sanctuary Cafe (simple refreshments will be served)

The Campus Ministry Staff and the Academic Mission Council have been working on a plan to invite the Merrimack College Community to engage in a program of dialogue and discussion as part of our communal experience of renewal during the Christian season of Lent in March and April. We plan to call the program "Civil Conversations about Contentious Issues" with its primary goal being to model for ourselves and for our students how to hold and to experience an

in depth, well informed conversation that examines several different viewpoints on an issue of common concern without losing civility, respect, dignity, or the possibility of learning something from someone with whom we disagree. We would like to hold four of these conversations on the Thursday afternoons that will fall between the College Spring Break and Easter Break.

Our working list of topics for these conversations are the following:

1. Who is my neighbor? Tribalism, National Sovereignty, or Global Solidarity.
2. Lock 'em up and throw away the key? What system of law enforcement, judgment, and punishment will most effectively ensure our safety and our rights?
3. Free for all or not free at all? What economic system will best grant citizens equal rights and access to quality food, water, health care, and education?
4. Do unto others before they do unto you...Does the right to bear arms granted by the second amendment foster safety and freedom?

Please consider three things regarding this program.

First, please consider finding ways to encourage and even provide incentives for your students in the Spring semester to attend and actively participate. Please consider including this on your Spring syllabus as a requirement, and option, or an extra-credit opportunity while drawing attention to how these conversations would be pertinent to the subject they are studying with you.

Second, please plan on coming yourself. Students really take notice and pay attention when two or more members of the faculty engaging each other in a public discussion.

Third, please consider volunteering yourself or recommending a colleague as someone to invite as leaders of these conversations. We would like to have at least two members of the faculty willing to address the contentious issues from at least two different perspectives (which may or may not be your personal opinions or positions). Guidelines for engaging in conversations civilly will be provided and a moderator will be employed to hold all participants to them.

So, if you have a scholarly expertise in any of the topic area, please consider offering that to the rest of us. If you know someone who has that expertise, please either encourage them to volunteer themselves or let us know who they are so I can invite personally. Please send your responses to Fr. Ray Dlugos at dlugosr@merrimack.edu.

Faculty Development Grants: Call for Proposals

The Faculty Development Committee would like to announce that applications are now being accepted for 2019-20 Faculty Development Grants. This includes both academic year grants, which cover specific expenses related to a planned project, and summer 2019 grants, which can cover specific expenses or offer salary support for work undertaken during the summer.

The deadline for applications is **February 1, 2019**.

Electronic Submission NEW THIS YEAR:

Electronic Submissions are optional, but encouraged. If you choose the electronic submission option, email one PDF file attachment of all completed and signed application forms and

supporting information to: fdg@merrimack.edu

For more information [click here](#) or refer to the Faculty Handbook, Section 5.9.

Save the Date - CETL Open House

Wednesday, January 30

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Sullivan Hall, Office Suite B-2

Save the Date - 2019 Research and Creative Achievement Conference

Thursday, May 2

The Office of the Provost and The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning are excited to announce that the 2019 Research and Creative Achievement Conference will take place May 2 for graduate and undergraduate students. More details to follow.

Other Events this Week

December 19th

Final Exams End

Residence Halls Close

Last day of Fall Session 2 graduate online courses

December 21st

All Final Grades Due by Midnight

December 21st - January 6th

Christmas Recess (college closed)

Future Events

David Raymond: Works

Opens: January 15 | Closes: March 10

Artist Reception: February 7, 5:30 - 7:30 PM

McCoy Gallery

Professor Emeritus David Raymond presents a collection of works in oil, pencil and steel.

Kevin Salemme: Tryptics - Phantom Light

Opens: January 15 | Closes: April 7

Artist Reception: February 28, 5:30 - 7:30 PM

Thagaste Gallery

Artist Statement: Photography is a medium that calls into question the accuracy of human perception. The three frames of a triptych challenge our understanding of time, light and space. In a triptych, we see time as simultaneous: three consecutive, yet individual, photographs

viewed together. Our gaze shifts from one image to the next, back and forth. Perhaps we wonder which moment is more important, or which moment came first. This uncertainty functions like human memory, invoking a fragmented vision of space and time. Light can also trigger memory in the same way, where certain light transports me through time to the places and spaces of my memory. Photography is the only time machine ever invented, and each photograph transports the light of the present into the past. When we view photographs, the light of that present moment reaches our eyes, as Sontag says, like the “delayed rays of a star.” This is the phantom light of memory. Time, memory and place merge into one triptych.

Broadway Through the Ages: A Musical Review

Friday, January 18

7:30 PM

Rogers Center Center for the Arts

In one special performance, alumni from both the Department of Visual and Performing Arts and Merrimack's OnStagers return to the Rogers Center stage to present Broadway classics from the "golden age" to the present. Backed by a professional music ensemble, these talented alumni will bring their unique touch to your Broadway favorites. Experience the glamor, glitz, music and laughter as we showcase the treasures of Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, Rogers and Hammerstein, Stephen Sondheim and more!

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