



Greetings from Merrimack College

Dear Parents,

One of the best parts about Merrimack College is our collective commitment to fostering a community that cares. This parent newsletter reflects our commitment to further our mission to engage the community by enhancing the season of Lent, addressing safety on campus, welcoming a new dean, engaging alumni and parents, and furthering the professional development of our students. We hope that this newsletter allows you a snapshot of our caring community.

Warm regards,

Marie Doyle

Director of Parent and Family Relations

Office of the President

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News from Campus



A Message from the President

The following message was sent to students, faculty and staff at Merrimack College.

As the nation, and Merrimack College, continues to mourn the 17 senseless deaths at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida last week, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of our strong and mutually supportive community. As a Catholic, Augustinian community, we are particularly horrified that this violence took place within a community of learning, and we offer our prayers and deepest sympathies for those who lost their children, brothers, sisters and friends.

As you know, there is nothing more important than the safety and well-being of our students, faculty, staff and visitors. Tragic events such as the shooting that took place in Florida push us to reflect on our efforts to keep our learning, working and living spaces safe for all. I want to ensure each of you that Merrimack College is consistent and vigorous in our emergency planning. We regularly review, update and train for our emergency plans and want each member of our community to feel prepared should a threat arise.

That is why last fall we began community training sessions for emergency preparedness, which were well attended by students, faculty and staff. The Merrimack College Police Department has planned four more sessions taking place this March. I encourage each of you to attend and familiarize yourselves with how you should respond in the event of a campus emergency. Additionally, in partnership with local police forces, Merrimack Police will also be having on campus exercises to practice and evaluate responses to active shooter events. You will find more information regarding emergency preparedness trainings for faculty and staff below.

The Merrimack College Police Department is accredited, highly trained for emergency situations, and second to none; they maintain strong with surrounding departments who have sped to our assistance in the past. However, campus safety involves every member of our community. Residence life staff are integral to campus security, as they are our ears to the ground. Blue light phones for emergency contact are found throughout campus, as are cameras monitoring campus activities. The RAVE Guardian app allows instant emergency communication with police from any location. And of course, faculty, staff and fellow students watch out for one another, and call on help when something seems amiss.

I want to be clear: We have no particular reason for concern at Merrimack College. However, we live in a world where tragedy is all around us. With the safety of this community our foremost concern, we

continue to train, to expand our blanket of security protections, and to prepare for what was once unthinkable. I encourage everyone to take part in the upcoming training sessions — even if you have taken part in earlier sessions — to continue to look out for each other, and to pray not only for those suffering in Florida but for the continued safety and security of all.

God Bless,
Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D.
President

Season of Lent

Merrimack provides many opportunities for students and faculty to enhance the Season of Lent. Fr. Ray Dlugos, Vice President for Mission and Ministry, calls for us to renew ourselves and our planet through prayer, worship, fasting and other forms of sacrifice. He also encourages acts of generosity and charity toward those in need. In addition, Merrimack's links to Facebook and Instagram (@campusminmc for Instagram and Merrimack College Campus Ministry for Facebook) will present all of us with challenges to engage in behaviors that will enhance our own personal lives, improve the experience of community on our campus, and have a positive impact on our planet and the entire human community through MC LENTEN CHALLENGE '18. Feel free to tap into these links and accept the challenges offered by Campus Ministry.



Girard School of Business Names New Dean

The Merrimack community recently welcomed Catherine Usoff, former dean of the Graduate School of Management at Clark University, as new dean of the Girard School of Business.

"The appointment of Dr. Usoff is another significant move forward for the Girard School of Business and a highly visible signifier of our strategic investments in critical academic fields," Merrimack President Christopher E. Hopey said. "With her extensive experience in leadership, curriculum development and building corporate and alumni relationships, she will help guide the school and the college to even greater heights."

> [Read More](#)

March Alumni/Parent Receptions Planned for Florida

Good friends, sunshine, and balmy breezes are calling Merrimack south! If you're in Florida next month, please join your alma mater for one or more alumni/parent receptions taking place in the Ft. Lauderdale, Ft. Meyers, Naples and Jacksonville areas.

Fast becoming a tradition, our Destination Florida visits offer alumni/parents a chance to reconnect with fellow Warriors while catching up on news of the College. President Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D., will join us at our Florida receptions and share updates on what's new and exciting at Merrimack and offer a glimpse of what the future holds for the College. Enjoy cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and food stations.



We're also excited to visit with alumni/parents at JetBlue Park at Fenway South on March 15 when our beloved Red Sox take on the Toronto Blue Jays. Alumni/parents in the Naples area are invited to join us — decked out in their Merrimack finest — on the Merrimack trolley for the annual St. Patrick's Day parade followed by an alumni/parent luncheon.

> [More Information and to Register for Destination: Florida 2018](#)

Professional Development Opportunities

Merrimack College continues to be a higher education leader by offering many professional development opportunities to our students. From retreats with alumni in Boston to networking breakfasts, Merrimack strives to prepare our students with real life opportunities to meet leaders, including alumni, in the workforce who offer advice, internships and employment.

Encourage your student to attend one of the many professional development opportunities are available this spring. Please [visit our website](#) for detailed information about the events. Below is a list of upcoming events:

Sciences Boot Camp II & Networking Reception, graduate students only: Wednesday, March 7
Health Sciences Networking Breakfast, undergrads only: Thursday, March 8
Career Fair Kickoff: Tuesday, March 13 & Wednesday, March 14
Campus Center Career Fair: Thursday, March 15
On Campus Interview Week: Monday, March 19 - Friday, March 23
Higher Education Mock Interviews: Monday, March 19
Community Engagement Mock Interviews: Wednesday, March 21

Student News

Residence Hall Hours During Spring Break

Spring Break is coming! The break runs from 7:00 p.m. on Friday, March 23 to 10:00 a.m. on Monday, April 2. There will be no classes and all dining locations will be closed. Students participating in pre-approved College activities should click here for information about break housing, including the break housing request form. All other students are expected to be off campus and out of the residence halls during this period. Please contact Elizabeth Kew at kewe@merrimack.edu with any questions you may have regarding break housing.

Fall Registration Information

All students need to meet with their advisors and get registration clearance in order to register. Students were sent a detailed email with additional information. If students are thinking of declaring or changing their major or minor, now is the time to do so. Here are important dates to note:

Advising

Junior/Continuing Seniors: March 19, 20 & 21
Sophomore: April 3, 4, & 5
Freshmen: April 9, 10, 11

Online Registration

Junior/Continuing Seniors: March 22-23
Sophomores: April 6 & 9
Freshmen: April 12 & 13

