



Greetings from Merrimack College

Dear Parents,

It is wonderful to have students return to campus eager to start a new semester. As you know, Merrimack is an institution that prides itself on supporting its students, faculty, staff and alumni, as well as extending that sense of support to our external community. This edition of the Parent Newsletter includes just a few examples of the many ways the Merrimack community advances the culture of support, both on and off the campus.

Additionally, I wish to bring to your attention an important message from the Office of Residential Life regarding the housing selection process. Much planning has gone into making this an easier and less stressful experience and I want to make sure you are aware of our efforts to work with students.

Warm regards,

Marie Doyle

Director of Parent and Family Relations

Office of the President

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News from Campus

Faculty-Staff Campaign Participation Exceeds Goal

"*Together for Good* is all about the future of Merrimack. I gave to the campaign because I know firsthand the tremendous student experience that Merrimack provides and all the good that will result from the generosity of our community. As an alumnus, it was important for me to serve as an ambassador and give back to the institution that has helped me become the person I am today."
— David Golden '07, Interim Director of Residence Life and *Together for Good* Campaign Ambassador



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Men's Ice Hockey Welcomes Caleb Hassan to Program through Partnership with Team IMPACT

Caleb Hassan is a 10-year-old from Haverhill who lives with cystic fibrosis. Team IMPACT connects children facing serious/chronic illnesses with college athletic teams in forming life-long bonds and life-changing outcomes. Caleb is the 19th match all-time for our varsity programs at Merrimack, among the most from a single school nationwide.



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Professor Listed Among Top Education Researchers for Sixth Straight Year

The Edu-Scholar Public Influence Rankings has listed Merrimack professor Dan Sarofian-Butin, Ph.D., among America's top education researchers for the sixth consecutive year.

The annual list of 200 scholars recognizes those who shape public

discussions on education.

Sarofian-Butin, former founding dean of the School of Education and Social Policy and full professor in the Department of Education and Community Studies, has spent much of his career working to enhance engaged learning. His recent work has focused on the pros and cons of digital learning technologies and online learning.



"My public scholarship looks at high-impact practices — such as service-learning — and examines how we can change our teaching and learning to become transformational and help students become thoughtful and engaged citizens," Sarofian-Butin said.

"Educators must find ways to make teaching and learning more powerful. Technology is not going away and instead is becoming ubiquitous in the classroom," Sarofian-Butin said.

"So, how do we foster college as an apprenticeship into democracy, rather than what I call an apprenticeship into Wikipedia?"

Frederick M. Hess, director of education policy at the American Enterprise Institute, developed the Edu-Scholar Public Influence Rankings list that is published by Education Week. It uses metrics to calculate how scholars are able to make significant contributions to the national debate on public education by moving ideas from academic journals to the national conversation.

"I'm honored to be a part of this list," Sarofian-Butin said. "Rick Hess has, I believe, done a very important thing by promoting the idea that faculty should be public scholars and can make a difference by being part of the public debate about key issues."

The Academic Success Center

At Merrimack's Academic Success Center (ASC), students can access the Tutoring and Math Center and the Writing Center. These centers recorded over 3,000 visits last semester. Students can also find tutoring in most subjects and meet with one of our Academic Success Coaches will work one on one with any student. It's also a great place to study. Parents are encouraged to remind their sons and daughters that the ASC is the place to be. Visit us at www.Merrimack.edu/ASC. Follow us on twitter at [@MerrimackASC](https://twitter.com/MerrimackASC).



Karl Stollery '12 named to the 2018 Canadian Olympic Team

According to our records, Stollery is the first former Merrimack College student-athlete to be named an Olympian. He was one of the best defensemen in school history and was a driving force in helping the team reach its first-ever Hockey East Tournament Championship Final and the NCAA Tournament for only the second time in the program's Division I history back in 2010-11.



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From the Office of Residence Life

Housing Selection Process Begins

On Monday, January 29 the Office of Residence Life announced the 2018-2019 Housing Selection Process is now open and that housing deposits and housing selection forms are available online. The following information was shared with all students via email.

Housing Deposits

All students who are planning to live on campus are required to pay a \$500.00 housing deposit by Wednesday, February 28, 2018. Housing deposits will be accepted in person at the [Bursar's Office](#),

or [online](#).

2018-2019 Housing Selection Form

All returning students will be required to fill out the housing selection form in order to indicate their intent to commute from home, live off campus through a personal lease, or live in college-provided housing. Students electing to live in college-provided housing will be able to rank their preferred locations and roommates on this form.

The form will be available on MyMack from Monday, January 29, 2018 to Wednesday, February 28, 2018. The form can only be submitted once, and the date of submission has no impact on housing assignments. Therefore, the Office of Residence Life encourages students to take their time, discuss their housing plans with their peers, and submit the form when they are ready to begin the housing selection process.

Students who have applied to be an RA or to study abroad are encouraged to submit a form to prevent any housing challenges should they not be selected for an RA position or accepted into a study abroad program.

The housing selection form will recognize students who were impacted by the moves during summer 2017 and prioritize them accordingly.

Selecting a Group

Students can submit their form as an individual or in groups ranging in size of up to eight people. Groups can be composed of students from any class year. Order of selection will be based solely on the cohort year of group members. This means that students will generally be placed with the class year in which they identify. Credit hours will have no bearing on housing assignment decisions.

Ranking Building Preferences

As part of the housing selection form, students will rank by building. The building preferences you see will be based on the member of your group with the lowest cohort year. Please see below for further explanation:

Groups that have a sophomore as the lowest cohort year can rank the following:

Monican Centre
The Townhouses
Merrimack Apartments at Royal Crest
O'Brien Hall

Groups that have a junior as the lowest cohort year can rank the following:

The Townhouses
Merrimack Apartments at Royal Crest
O'Brien Hall
North Residential Village
South Residential Village

Groups that are exclusively seniors can rank the following:

Merrimack Apartments at Royal Crest
O'Brien Hall
North Residential Village
South Residential Village
St. Thomas Apartments (A-F)
St. Ann Apartments (G-M)

Living Learning Communities

Students who are planning to live in a Living Learning Community (LLC) for the 2018-2019 academic year will be able to indicate this on the housing selection form, after indicating that they intend to live in college-provided housing. Please see below for the three different living learning communities.

Austin Scholars

The Austin Scholars Living Learning Community is open to upperclassmen residential students who have shown exemplary leadership and service in their community. This Living Learning Community combines traditional learning, reflection, and weekly service in Merrimack's neighboring communities. This program is only open to current freshmen and sophomores who are already participating in the Austin Scholars LLC.

Honors

The Merrimack College Honors Program offers a Living Learning Community for upperclassmen honors students. Inspired by St. Augustine, the Honors Program believes that students learn best in the company of friends, and can become leaders while engaged in all of the social and co-curricular opportunities that

arise while living together with a common purpose.

W.I.L.L. House

W.I.L.L. stands for Wellness Integrated Living and Learning. This new LLC approaches wellness from a holistic perspective. Whether it be physical, emotional, spiritual, or mental, this community is designed to provide students with an environment designed to help them maintain their well-being. A substance free environment, each member of W.I.L.L. House must agree to keep alcohol and other drugs outside of this residential area.

mwMedical Accommodations

All Medical Housing Accommodation requests must go through the Accessibility Services Office. Students interested in pursuing an accommodation should follow the Non-Academic Accommodation Request outlined on the Accessibility Services [website](#). Students must submit their online request and a completed Medical Provider Form no later than Wednesday, February 28, 2018. Students who currently have a Medical Housing accommodation with the Accessibility Services Office must re-apply with an updated Medical Provider Form if they are looking for an accommodation for the 2018-2019 Academic Year.

Below is the step-by-step process for applying for a medical accommodation.

Step One: Apply for housing

- All returning students who wish to receive housing must apply for housing in order to indicate their intention to participate in the Housing Selection Process by submitting a deposit by February 28, 2018. For more information please visit the [Residence Life website](#).

Step Two: Submit the Non-Academic Accommodation(s) Request Form and attach the completed Medical Provider Form

- REQUIRED: The link for the Non-Academic Accommodation(s) Request Form is here: [Non-Academic Accommodation\(s\) Request Form](#).
- REQUIRED: The Medical Provider Form can be downloaded at this link: [Medical Provider Form](#).
- Additional documentation may be submitted to accessibilityservices@merrimack.edu or to the office, but will be considered insufficient as standalone documentation.
- Your request and documentation must be submitted annually (i.e., if you received medical housing accommodations for 2017-2018, you must re-apply and submit updated documentation).
- The deadline to apply for returning students for Fall 2018 is February 28, 2018.

Step Three: Await Notification

- You will receive written notification on the status of your request from the Accessibility Services Office before room selection takes place.
- If approved, Residence Life will contact you about your placement.
- Please note, in some instances, your accommodation request will be approved but you may need to be on the waitlist for Residence Life to be able to place you in a reasonably determined space.

Open Office Hours

The Office of Residence Life will be designating time each week to answer students' questions regarding the 2018- 2019 Housing Selection Process. Students are welcome to stop by anytime, but these office hours ensure someone will be available, or shortly after a student arrives to the office. Please see times below:

Wednesday, February 7, 2018: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Wednesday, February 14, 2018: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Wednesday, February 21, 2018: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Monday, February 26, 2018: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Tuesday, February 27, 2018: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Wednesday, February 28, 2018: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Info Sessions

For more information regarding housing selection stop by one of the following information sessions:

North: February 5 | 6:00 PM | The Sanctuary

South: February 5 | 7:00 PM | House 5 Common Room

If you have any further questions, please contact us by coming to the office located on the third floor of the Sakowich Campus Center in suite 370, by emailing us at reslife@merrimack.edu, or by calling (978) 837-5507.

