

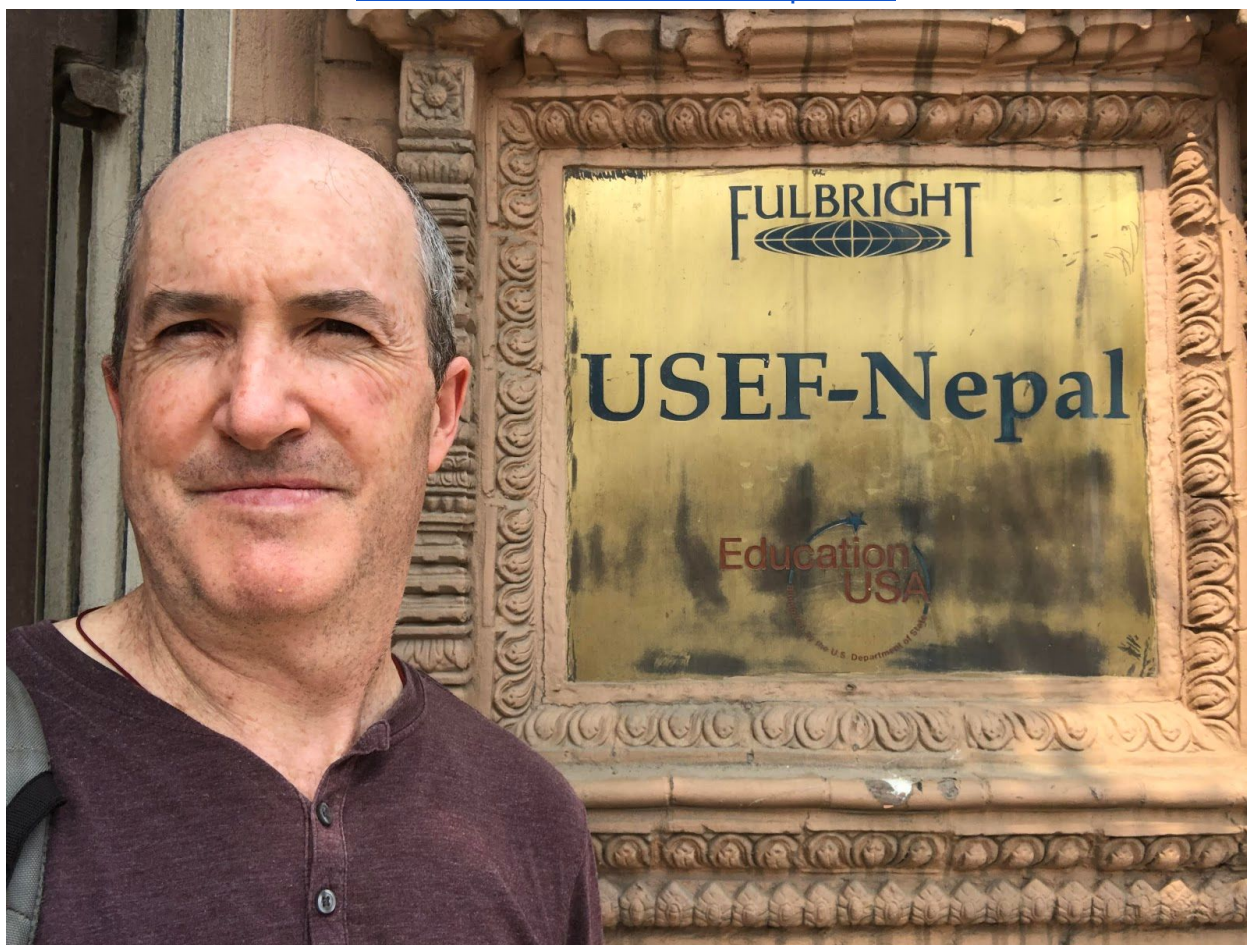


# PROVOST BRIEFING

September 23, 2019

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Dr. Marc Veletzos begins his work as a Fulbright Senior Scholar in Nepal

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

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- Dr. Marc Veletzos, Fulbright Senior Scholar
- CETL Professional Learning: Fall 2019
  - Video & Screen Capture Basics, September 23
  - Learning Continuity, September 25
  - Grading & Feedback in Ultra, October 8

- Content Creation using iPad, October 10
- Through Knowledge to Wisdom Conversations, Weekly
- Donna Harrington-Lueker, September 24
- Environmental Movie Nights/Programs
  - Caring for Our Common Home: Ecology Walk for the Campus, September 24
  - Empowered: Power from the People, September 26
- Education Fellowship Information Session, September 25
- Pivot Workshop - Finding Funding Opportunities, September 26
- Diversity and Inclusive Excellence Speaker Sessions, September 26 and 27
- Open House: 21st Century Literacy Partners, October 1
- Yousef Bashir, October 1
- Fire and Flood: Queer Resilience in the Era of Climate Change, October 7
- CETL Teaching Circles: 2019/20 Call for Proposals
- Improving Student Writing: Faculty Workshop Series on Best Practices, October 9 & December 3
- Campus Ministry Send Trips: Apply To Be An Advisor
- Weekly Walks, Every Wednesday
- Weekly Mindful Activity, Every Wednesday
- 2019 Fall Internship & Job Fair, September 26
- Fall Student Exhibition, Opens: October 10
- The Moors, Opens October 10

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## **Dr. Marc Veletzos, Fulbright Senior Scholar, Working in Nepal**

Congratulations to Associate Professor of Civil Engineering Dr. Marc Veletzos, who recently began his work as a Fulbright Senior Scholar in Nepal. Dr. Veletzos and his colleagues at Kathmandu University are working on a variety of earthquake engineering research projects that will improve the research capabilities of Nepal and help the Nepali people develop culturally relevant earthquake-resistant building designs. Dr. Veletzos will return to Nepal next summer to continue these projects. If you would like more information about searching or applying for Fulbright Scholar opportunities, please explore [cies.org](https://cies.org) or contact Vice Provost Sean Condon at [condonj@merrimack.edu](mailto:condonj@merrimack.edu).

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## **CETL Professional Learning: Fall 2019**

Sessions held in the CETL classroom, Sullivan Hall, B-2

[Registration Link for All Sessions](#)

### **Video & Screen Capture Basics, Monday, September 23, 11:00 - 12:00**

Create videos - introductory & explanatory or upload existing videos to Panopto, Merrimack's video hosting solution. Learn how to add quizzes, discussion points, and create captions to your videos so that all students can enjoy your resources.

### **Learning Continuity, Wednesday, September 25, 3:00 - 4:00 PM**

Educational opportunities are endless, but time is finite. Learn how you can still hold class on snow days, bring in guest speakers virtually, communicate with students abroad, hold virtual office hours and more.

### **Grading & Feedback in Ultra, Tuesday, October 8, 1:00 - 2:00 PM**

Leverage the grade book to grade student submissions and provide valuable feedback (audio and text) to promote instructor efficiency and student learning transferability.

### **Content Creation using iPad, Thursday, October 10, 3:00 - 4:00 PM**

Create presentations and digital materials using general i-Work Apps. Add illustrations and notations using Apple Pencil. Show data creatively by structuring spreadsheets your way, with charts, tables, images, and much more!

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## **Through Knowledge to Wisdom Conversations**

Join in conversations on topics related to the Catholic and Augustinian Mission and Identity of the College.

### **September's topic: How might Saint Augustine of Hippo influence our thoughts, words, and actions in the 21st century?**

- Tuesday, September 24, 2:00-3:30 PM, in the Boardroom of Arcidi Hall
- Friday, September 27, 10:30 AM-Noon, in the Boardroom of Arcidi Hall

Register to participate in on of these conversations: [TKTW Conversation September 2019](#).

### **October's topic: How might we move toward being and becoming more fully human in the face of the dehumanizing forces and stressors of the 21st Century?**

- Thursday, October 10, Noon-1:30 PM, Board Room in Arcidi Hall
- Wednesday, October 16, 8:00-9:30 AM, Taylor Chapel of St. Augustine on the 3rd Floor of the Campus Center
- Tuesday, October 22, 2:00-3:30 PM, Board Room in Arcidi Hall
- Friday, October 25, 10:30 AM-Noon, Board Room in Arcidi Hall
- Monday, October 28, 3:30-5:00 PM, Board Room in Arcidi Hall

Register to participate in on of these conversations: [TKTW Conversation October 2019](#)

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## **Donna Harrington-Lueker**

**Tuesday, September 24**

**4:00 PM**

### **The Writers House**

Donna Harrington-Lueker's *Books for Idle Hours: Nineteenth-Century Publishing and the Rise of Summer Reading* draws upon letters, diaries, archival materials, and an array of nineteenth-century popular novels set at summer resorts, to show how the practice of light summer reading (AKA the "beach read") takes shape in the nineteenth century. In addition to this book, her academic work has appeared in the *Keats-Shelley Journal*, *Journalism History*, and *Nineteenth Century Studies*. The campus visit is a homecoming for Harrington-Lueker who graduated from Merrimack College in 1976 with a major in English.

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## **Environmental Movie Nights/Programs:**

## Celebrating [Climate Preparedness Week](#) September 24-30

### Caring for Our Common Home: Ecology Walk for the Campus

Tuesday, September 24

More information can be found [here](#)

- **5:00 - 6:00 PM, McQuade Library**  
Help yourself to the vegan chili bar while you make a ribbon for the [International Climate Ribbon Project](#).
- **6:00 - 7:00PM Eco Walk Starts from McQuade**  
Local faith leaders will speak at each stop, with reflections on caring for our campus, each other, and the Earth as we enter a new year together. [RSVP](#) appreciated.

### Empowered: Power from the People

Film Screening, Thursday, September 26, 7:00 PM

McQuade Library

Part of the Environmental Movie Series. Documentary telling the story of Tompkins County, NY residents who are meeting their own energy needs through renewable resources. [Find More information here](#)

These events are made possible by support from the McLaughlin Martin Family Environmental Innovation Fund through the Center for Sustainability and the Environment.

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## Education Fellowship Information Session

September 25

6:00 - 8:00 PM

Arcidi Center

Prospective students and guests are encouraged to come to hear about our Community Engagement, Higher Education, and Teacher Education full-tuition, one year, fellowship opportunities. Talk with our program directors and admission counselors to learn everything you need to know about the curriculum, placement sites, admission requirements, and more!

[You can register here.](#)

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## Pivot Workshop - Finding Research Funding Opportunities

Thursday, September 26

4:00 PM

CETL Classroom, Sullivan Hall, B-2

Interested in looking for grant funding opportunities for your program or project? The Office of Sponsored Program and McQuade Library will be conducting a Pivot workshop for faculty. Space is limited so please RSVP to [research@merrimack.edu](mailto:research@merrimack.edu) by **September 25th** if you would like to participate.

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## Diversity and Inclusive Excellence Speaker Sessions

Thursday, September 26, 4:00 PM

Friday, September 27, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM or 12:30 PM

Rogers Center

Merrimack faculty, staff and students are invited to an event series on diversity and inclusive excellence. The goal of these sessions is to introduce FYE students to the values of diversity

and inclusion, and to get them, along with the Merrimack community, excited about engaging with these issues. The events will begin with the viewing of Chimamanda Adichie's "The Danger of a Single Story" TEDTalk, followed by an on-stage roundtable discussion by campus faculty. Sponsored by the First Year Experience Program, in partnership with the Interdisciplinary Institute.

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## **Yousef Bashir**

**Tuesday, October 1**

**4:00 PM**

### **Writers House**

Yousef Bashir will read from and talk about his book, *The Words of My Father: Love and Pain in Palestine*. The book chronicles a childhood under Israeli occupation in Gaza. When he was 11 years old, his family home was taken over by the Israeli Army; when he was 15 years old, Bashir was shot in the back by an Israeli soldier. Since then, he has dedicated his life to peace.

In an opinion piece in The New York Times, Bashir writes: "The Israeli army apologized to me, and the soldier who shot me was suspended. I often wonder what has happened to him since, why he did it and what he now thinks about the whole thing. I wish we could talk. I would tell him that I want to do my part to make peace between our peoples more possible, the way my father taught me. I would tell him that I have forgiven him."

See the full article [here](#)

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## **Open House: 21st Century Literacy Partners**

**Tuesday, October 1**

**2:00 - 5:00 PM**

### **McQuade Library (3rd Floor), Tutoring/Math & Writing Center**

All are welcome to attend the first-ever open house of [21C: 21st Century Literacy Partners](#). 21C is a network of Merrimack College centers and programs dedicated to helping students prepare for the demands of the knowledge economy. Recognizing the interconnectedness of information, numerical, and disciplinary literacies, 21C seeks to support and enhance student learning outside the classroom. [Registration link](#)

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## **Fire and Flood: Queer Resilience in the Era of Climate Change**

**Sneak-Peek Film Screening with Live Q and A with the film's creator**

**Wednesday, October 2, 7:00 PM**

### **McQuade Library**

Join us for a sneak-peek film screening of "Fire & Flood: Queer Resilience in the Era of Climate Change" followed by a live Q&A with film creator Vanessa Raditz. See more [information here](#).

This event is made possible by support from the McLaughlin Martin Family Environmental Innovation Fund.

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## **CETL Teaching Circles: 2019/20 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 **October 4**. For more information click [Teaching Circle Information](#) or contact Dr. Kathryn Nielsen at [nielsenk@merrimack.edu](mailto:nielsenk@merrimack.edu).

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## Improving Student Writing: Faculty Workshop Series on Best Practices

Sessions held in the CETL classroom, Sullivan Hall, B-2  
[Registration link](#)

### Providing Effective Feedback on Student Writing

**Wednesday, October 9, 2:00 - 3:15 PM**

Do you find that students don't use your feedback on their writing the way you would like, or worse, don't seem to use it at all? This interactive workshop will focus on best practices for improving student writing through effective, efficient commenting. Participants will leave with concrete strategies for maximizing the impact of their feedback while simultaneously reducing the time and effort it takes to give it.

### Designing Quality Writing Assignments

**Tuesday, December 3, 4:00 - 5:15 PM**

Clear, engaging, and meaningful writing assignments provide opportunities for students to both enhance their writing abilities and demonstrate their learning. This hands-on workshop will explore a variety of objectives for formal assignments, strategies for linking them effectively to course content, and methods for increasing student engagement. Participants will have the chance to analyze one of their own assignments in light of the discussion.

Co-sponsored by the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, The Writing Intensive Committee, and The Writing Center

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## Campus Ministry Send Trips: Apply To Be An Advisor

Would you like to dedicate a week of your winter, spring, or summer break to service - and be more deeply involved in the life of our community at Merrimack? Apply to be an Advisor on a campus ministry Send Trip! Week-long service trips through campus ministry have a 50+ year tradition here at Merrimack College. In 2019-2020, our students will travel to nine different locations in January, March, and June to answer the call to solidarity with communities across our country and the world. But we can't do it without your help.

As an advisor, you will:

- participate alongside student leaders and participants in service & immersion opportunities
- make connections with students off-campus
- support the formation of student-leaders
- learn about the intersection between justice and faith in our Augustinian Catholic tradition

Faculty, staff, and graduate students are all welcome to apply for this unique role.

Advisor applications (and more information about the SEND Program) for this year's trips are now available on the [campus ministry website](#). Applications are due **September 27**. Please email Nicole Benevenia at [benevenian@merrimack.edu](mailto:benevenian@merrimack.edu) or visit the Grace J. Palmisano Campus Ministry Center if you have any questions.

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## Other Events this Week

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### September 25th

**Weekly Walks**

**Wednesdays at Noon**

**Meet in front of McQuade**

Walks are outside weather permitting or the Sak track if not. Open to everyone!

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### September 25th

**Weekly Mindful Activity (Meditation, Gentle Movement)**

**Wednesdays at 4:00 PM**

**Meet at McQuade Meditation Space (Lower Level)**

Drop by the meditation space on the lower level at McQuade (bring a class for a visit).

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### September 26th

**Fall Internship & Job Fair**

**2:00 - 4:30 PM**

**Multipurpose Room, Sakowich Campus Center**

Merrimack College's first annual Fall Internship & Job Fair is one of our largest recruiting events of the year with 60 companies across all industries, focusing on accounting, finance and engineering. Encourage your students to join us to network with companies offering full-time, part-time, internship & co-op opportunities. See a full list of current employers attending [here](#). Sponsored by the O'Brien Center for Career Development.

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## Future Events

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### Fall Student Exhibition

**Opens: October 10 | Closes: November 3**

**Reception: 4:00 - 6:00 PM, August 16**

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

Visit the McCoy Gallery to view select works from our talented student visual artists.

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### The Moors

**A dark comedy by Jen Silverman**

**October 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, and 19**

**Rogers Center for the Arts**

**For showtimes visit the [Rogers Center for the Arts](#) site**

Two sisters and a dog live out their lives on the bleak English moors, dreaming of love and power. The arrival of a hapless governess and a moor-hen set all three on a strange and dangerous path. The Moors is a play about love, desperation and visibility.

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