



PROVOST BRIEFING

October 28, 2019

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Merrimack College Celebrates STEM Week with the Second Annual Family Science Night, "Moon Over Merrimack"

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

- Merrimack's 3rd Annual All Abilities Awareness Week, October 28-November 1
- Graduate Programs Fair, October 29
- "Of Gods and Men" Film Screening, October 29
- CETL Teaching Circles
- Interdisciplinary Institute Events for November

- November: A Season of Remembrance and Gratitude
- Psalm a Day for 150 Days
- AAUP MEETING (open to all faculty), November 2
- Merrimack College Fall 2019 Employee Wellness Weeks, November 4-22
- Liberal Studies Core Faculty Dialogue, November 5
- Faculty Forum on Tenure and Promotion, November 6
- Through Knowledge to Wisdom Conversations, Weekly
- CETL Professional Learning: Fall 2019
- Lise Funderburg, November 7
- Important Advising Information
- Classes begin for Fall Session 2 graduate online courses, October 28
- Faculty Senate, October 29
- Final grades due for Fall Session 1 graduate online courses, October 30
- Cantus, October 31
- Last day for adding and dropping Fall Session 2 graduate online courses, November 1
- Admissions Open House, November 3rd
- Hamel Health Flu Clinic, November 6
- MINTS, Inclusive Classroom Workshop: Mindfulness for Educators November 7
- A Midsummer Night's Dream, by William Shakespeare, Saturday, November 23

Merrimack's 3rd Annual All Abilities Awareness Week!

October 28-November 1

In partnership with McQuade Library and the Academic Success Center, the Accessibility Services Office invites you to **#redefiningnormal** where we celebrate ability, disability, and stigma reduction all in one joyous package! We encourage you to join us and to invite your students (maybe even for extra credit?). Please see the linked flyer: [2019 All Abilities Awareness Week](#)

MACKchats

October 28 - November 1, 12:00-1:00PM

McQuade ERC (2nd Floor)

MACKchats - come any day and bring your lunch for a wonderful and eye-opening experience where a variety of students share their stories of grit, overcoming obstacles, and advocacy of having a disability in college. Here are promotional videos: [Netflix Documentary](#) and [HBO Series](#).

Comedy show from *Asperger's Are Us*, as seen in their shows on HBO & Netflix

Wednesday, October 30, 6:00 PM

McQuade Auditorium (Ground Floor)

Asperger's Are Us is the first comedy troupe composed of people diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome. They've performed over 150 original absurdist sketch shows in 10 countries since 2010. They do not poke fun at (or mention) Asperger's and they did not form to prove that autistic people can be funny.

Pumpkin Painting with DREAM, Harvest Fest, and Disability Discussions

Friday, November 1, 5:00 PM

McQuade Alden Lab (3rd Floor)

Graduate Programs Fair

Tuesday, October 29

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

MPR, Sakowich Campus Center

Please encourage all undergraduate students to attend our first [Graduate Programs Fair](#) where they can learn about the new Double Warrior program and explore Merrimack's more than 30 graduate degree and certificate programs. Stop by anytime between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., and we'll help you get started on the path to becoming a Double Warrior!

"Of Gods and Men" Film Screening

Tuesday, October 29

7:00-9:00 PM

Crowe Hall, Room 126

"Des Hommes et des Dieux" is based on the true story of eight French Christian monks who live in harmony with their Muslim neighbors in Tibhirine, Algeria, from 1993 until their kidnapping in 1996.

Teaching Circles

CETL Teaching Circles are founded on the idea that teachers learn from one another. Teaching Circles meet over the course of two semesters and are designed to meet the needs of the participants. Consider joining a faculty-led Teaching Circle by contacting the facilitators or emailing CETL@merrimack.edu.

Using Metacognition to Support Academic Success and Independent Learning

Faculty Facilitators: Dr. Sarah Benes & Dr. Leah Poloskey

Fall Meetings: 10/31, 11/14 and 12/12 at 10:00

CETL, Sullivan Hall, Lower Level

(If you cannot attend on these dates/times, please contact faculty facilitators who may be able to amend.)

This teaching circle will focus primarily on metacognition. Metacognition can support not only academic success, but can also help support students in taking charge of their own learning. Metacognitive strategies support self-awareness, growth mindset and a deeper understanding of themselves as learners. Importantly, these abilities can be transferred outside of the classroom and into students personal and professional lives. Finally, metacognition benefits all students and can be applied within any discipline.

Transformative Learning: An Introduction to Augustinian Pedagogy

Faculty Facilitator: Dr. Mark Allman

Fall Meetings: Nov 12, Dec 10, Jan 21, 12:00-1:00 (Lunch included)

CETL, Sullivan Hall, Lower Level

We will explore Augustinian Pedagogy with an emphasis on reflection on experience, learning in community, orienting teaching and learning to the common good, and nurturing the virtue of humility in the pursuit of truth. We begin with an introduction to the life of Augustine and the impact his thought and writing has had on a variety of academic fields. The remainder of the sessions follows Rev. Gary McCloskey's course, "Augustinian Pedagogy" and include short videos followed by discussion.

Interdisciplinary Institute Events for November

Interdisciplinary Teaching in Prison: A Conversation with Brittnie Aiello and Emma Duffy-Comparone

Friday, November 1, 12:30-2:00 PM (*Lunch will be served*)

Arcidi B

Campus Activism Against Gender Based Violence: The Power of Student Voice, Featuring Dr. Ruth Lewis, Northumbria University, UK

Thursday, November 7, 2:00--3:15 PM

Crowe 126

Researching Gender Based Violence on College Campuses: A Conversation with Dr. Ruth Lewis, Northumbria University, UK

Friday, November 8, 12:30-2:00 PM (*Lunch will be served*)

Arcidi B

Presidential Fellowships 2020-2021: Information Session

Friday, November 22, 12:30-2:00 PM (*Lunch will be served*)

Sullivan Hall, CETL Conference Room

For more information contact Simona Sharoni at director.institute@merrimack.edu

November: A Season of Remembrance and Gratitude

Allow November and its special days invite you into an entire season of reflecting on what we have received from those who have gone before us in life and in service and to offer acts of generosity to others arising from genuine gratitude. Join with one another in these celebrations, commemorations, and actions during the month of November.

The Feast of All Saints, Friday, November 1

Join us for Mass at 12:30 PM in the Taylor Chapel of St. Augustine on the 3rd Floor of the Sakowich Campus Center

Mack Gives Back Day, Saturday, November 2

While Mack Gives Back will continue from November 1 through November 9, the bulk of our efforts to honor those who served by serving others will take place on the morning of November 2. Join us in the MPR between 7:30 and 8:30 AM for a send off service as our Warriors fan out across the region to give back to our community.

Mass of Remembrance, Sunday, November 3

We will remember in prayer all members of our community and all of our loved ones who have died during the past year at our Sunday Mass at 7:30 PM in Cascia Hall.

Honoring Our Veterans, Tuesday, November 5

Join us at 10:30 AM in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Campus Center for a service acknowledging the sacrifices made on our behalf by those who have served in the military and welcome veterans from our community to a special brunch in their honor.

The Courage to Remember: The Holocaust 1933-1945, November 9-16

This educational poster series created by the Wiesenthal Center offers compelling, new insights into the Holocaust. McQuade Library all day

Veterans Day Holiday, Monday, November 11

The 1665th Birthday of St. Augustine of Hippo, Wednesday, November 13

Join us for Mass at 12:30 in the Taylor Chapel of St. Augustine on the 3rd Floor of the Campus Center and/or for birthday cake (using his mother Monica's recipe) immediately following Mass.

Shattered Glass, Shattered Lives, Wednesday, November 13

Annual commemoration of Kristallnacht (November 9-10, 1938) and the Holocaust, with prayer and remembrance for victims and survivors of Genocides around the world. Held at Temple Emanu-EL, 514 Main Street, Haverhill, MA 01830, 7:00-8:00PM.

Thanksgiving Basket Drive, Monday, November 25

Support our neighbors in need this Thanksgiving by providing a basket of food to feed one family or make a cash donation (\$50.00 = one basket). Contact Augustinian Volunteer James Wroblewski at wroblewski@merrimack.edu for more information.

Psalm a Day for 150 Days

Starting November 1st, follow Campus Ministry on Instagram [@mccampusmin](https://www.instagram.com/mccampusmin) and receive a Psalm a day for 150 days for reflection and meditation. To view a sample of a daily Psalm, click here [Daily Psalm](#).

AAUP MEETING (open to all faculty)

The Shift away from Tenure: Consequences for Academic Freedom, Faculty Governance, and the Future of the Profession

Saturday, November 2

Executive Room, Crowe Hall

9:30 AM to noon; luncheon: noon to 1:30 PM

AAUP national executive director Julie Schmid and an expert faculty panel, consisting of Carolyn Betensky (University of Rhode Island), Catherine Moran (University of UNH), and Raymond Shaw of the Merrimack Psychology Dept. Opening remarks by President Hopey.

Luncheon presentation of the Thomas P. Hogan Award for Excellence in Collegial Governance to Michael DeCesare of the Sociology Dept.

Contact Ray Dorney (Sociology), Jo Modica-Napolitano (Biology), or Elaine Ward (Education) for details.

Merrimack College Fall 2019 Employee Wellness Weeks

Merrimack will be hosting our biannual employee wellness weeks from November 4th-November 22nd. Please come participate in healthy nutrition and fitness strategies as well as mindfulness and stress reduction techniques. Check your email for descriptions of the programs being offered and a link to register for each event, space is limited!

Liberal Studies Core Faculty Dialogue: Brainstorm Session About Potential Structures

Led by the General Education Committee

Tuesday, November 5

Cascia Hall

3:30 PM to 5:00 PM

The general education committee will be discussing possible structures for a revised liberal studies core, and will be looking for feedback from the faculty. If you plan on coming, please [RSVP](#).

A Forum on the Tenure/Promotion Process

Co-sponsored by the Merrimack College AAUP Chapter, Faculty Senate Executive Committee, and the Provost's Office

Wednesday, November 6

Crowe Hall 126

3:30 PM to 5:00 PM

This event is designed to provide helpful information about the tenure and promotion process at Merrimack College. A panel of faculty experts will present a series of 5-minute presentations on important aspects of our process (see list below), followed by an open question and answer session.

Topics will include: Tenure and Academic Freedom; Putting Together a Tenure Package and The Role of the Advocate; Importance of Annual Evaluations and 3rd Year Evaluation; The Area Committee; The Appointment, Rank, and Tenure Committee; Promotion to Full Professor

For more information, please contact one of the following: Dr. Ray Dorney, 2019-20 President of the Merrimack College AAUP Chapter (dorneyr@merrimack.edu); Dr. Craig Looney, 2019-20 Faculty Senate President craig.looney@merrimack.edu; Dr. Sean Condon, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and Faculty Affairs (condonj@merrimack.edu)

Through Knowledge to Wisdom Conversations

Conversations will be held on the following dates and times and will be held in the **Grace J. Palmisano Center for Campus Ministry, SAK 350**.

November's topic is "What does inspired by the Catholic Faith and the Augustinian Tradition mean in the diverse and pluralistic culture of Merrimack College?"

- Tuesday, November 5 from 2:00 to 3:30 PM
- Thursday, November 14 from Noon to 1:30 PM
- Monday, November 18 from 3:30 to 5:00 PM
- Wednesday, November 20, from 8:00 to 9:30 AM
- Friday, November 22, from 10:30 AM to Noon

Please register for the conversation you wish to attend through this link [TKTW November](#).

CETL Professional Learning: Fall 2019

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

[Registration Link for All Sessions](#)

Motivational Strategies to Keep Students on Track from Thanksgiving to Christmas!

Tuesday, November 5, 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Discuss the power of groups and community in a digital or face to face environment, revisit growth mindset, and create an interactive environment for your students to thrive.

Video and Screen Capture Basics

Thursday, November 7, 3:00 - 4:00 PM

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.

Coffee with an Instructional Designer

Drop-In Mondays

9:00 - 12:00 PM

CETL, Sullivan Hall, B-2

The CETL is your one stop shop for all of your fall course design needs. Bring your course design challenges. Anything goes!

Lise Funderburg

Thursday, November 7

4:00 PM

The Writers House

Lise Funderburg's books include *Black, White, Other: Biracial Americans Talk about Race and Identity*, *Pig Candy: Taking My Father South*, *Taking My Father Home*, and *Apple, Tree: Writers on their Parents*. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Nation*, *The Washington Post*, *National Geographic*, and elsewhere.

<http://www.merrimack.edu/academics/the-writers-house>

Important Advising Information to share with students

This advising period, please share information about two great opportunities for your undergraduate students.

Double Warrior program – Benefits to students include:

- An automatic 25% savings off graduate tuition for most online and on-campus programs when they earn a master's degree at Merrimack.
- An accelerated application process which waives the personal statement and recommendations requirement.
- The option to take up to two graduate courses during senior undergraduate year, which are covered by the 25% Double Warrior scholarship. Interested students should complete the online form at www.merrimack.edu/DW.
- Students whose senior schedules are unable to accommodate graduate courses can use the Double Warrior scholarship and fast track application after graduation.
- Additional information, including details on participating degrees, may be found at www.merrimack.edu/double-warrior. Note the Double Warrior scholarship cannot be combined with fellowships, which have a separate application process.

Winter Session: January 2 – 15, 2020

- Winter Session is a great way for students to earn four credits in just two weeks. Registration for dozens of online undergraduate courses -- including a special 9/11 New York experiential learning course -- opens on **October 31**.
- See the list of courses at www.merrimack.edu/winter. For questions, contact the Office of Professional and Continuing Studies at professionalstudies@merrimack.edu or x5484.

Other Events this Week

October 28th

Classes begin for Fall Session 2 graduate online courses

October 29th

Faculty Senate

4:00-5:00 PM

Crowe Hall, Room 107

October 30th

Final grades due for Fall Session 1 graduate online courses

October 31st

Cantus

7:30 PM

Rogers Center For the Arts

"One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind..." The all-male vocal ensemble performs an a cappella concert inspired by one of man's great achievements. [More Information.](#)

November 1st

Last day for adding and dropping Fall Session 2 graduate online courses

November 3rd

Admissions Open House

Future Events

Hamel Health Flu Clinic

Wednesday, November 6

1:00 - 5:00 PM

MPR, Sakowich Campus Center(Please note the new location)

Open to all students, faculty and staff. Bring your insurance card, (most insurances accepted).

Without insurance \$35 fee. No appointment necessary.

MINTS Inclusive Classroom Workshop: Mindfulness for Educators

Thursday, November 7

4:30-6:30

Crowe Hall, Room 107

Come learn about living in the present moment! Research finds that educators who practice mindfulness have demonstrated reduced stress and burnout, reported greater efficacy in doing

their jobs, and had more emotionally supportive and better-organized classrooms. [More Information.](#)

A Midsummer Night's Dream

by William Shakespeare

Saturday, November 23

2:00 PM

The Rogers Center for the Arts

A love triangle. A meddlesome would-be father-in-law. A maiden smitten with unrequited love. A squabbling fairy King and Queen. A play within the play. And a mischief-maker with a magical flower that unleashes the spell of love on the unsuspecting. Mix it all together, and fantastically funny complications ensue in one of Shakespeare's most beloved comedies.

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