



PROVOST BRIEFING

November 4, 2019

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Merrimack Welcomes Faculty Members, Dr. Ke Li and Dr. Yun Xiu Visiting from Hubei Polytechnic University in China

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

- Merrimack College Fall 2019 Employee Wellness Weeks, November 4-22
- Through Knowledge to Wisdom Conversations, Weekly
- Liberal Studies Core Faculty Dialogue, November 5
- CETL Professional Learning: Fall 2019
- November: A Season of Remembrance and Gratitude
- Faculty Forum on Tenure and Promotion, November 6
- Lise Funderburg, November 7

- MINTS, Inclusive Classroom Workshop: Mindfulness for Educators November 7
- Interdisciplinary Institute Events for November
- CETL Teaching Circles
- The Last Lecture: Guest Speaker: Debra Michals, November 19
- Nominate a Book for the next CETL Group Discussion
- Introduction to the Visual and Performing Arts- Interdisciplinary Discussion, December 3 & 5
- Hamel Health Flu Clinic, November 6
- Human Development Panel, November 6
- Careers in Life Sciences: Alumni Panel & Networking Reception, November 7
- Jessica McCormack: "Shakespeare in Song", November 13
- A Midsummer Night's Dream, by William Shakespeare, Saturday, November 23

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!

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](#).

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](#).

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!

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.

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

No class, College closed

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.

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 (dooneyr@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)

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>

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.](#)

Interdisciplinary Institute Events for November

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

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: Nov. 14 and Dec. 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.

The Last Lecture

Guest Speaker: Debra Michals

Tuesday, November 19

7:00 PM

Cascia Hall

Each year, one invited speaker delivers a Last Lecture as if it were the very last opportunity a professor had to speak before students and colleagues on any subject that has been of the greatest importance and value in her/his professional life. The Lectures frequently focus on the speaker's passion about - and commitment to - their vocation as an educator.

Sponsored by the Honors Program

Nominate a Book for the next CETL Group Discussion

The CETL is seeking recommendations for the December/January read. Please enter your suggestion(s) by November 18 at [CETL Reading Nomination](#) for a book, podcast, or article that centers on topics related to teaching and learning in higher education.

Introduction to the Visual and Performing Arts Interdisciplinary Discussion

Tuesday December 3 and Thursday, December 5

12:00-2:00 PM

Jonathan Latiano (Visual Arts) and Laura Moore Pruett (Music) are co-teaching a new, freshmen-level, interdisciplinary large enrollment course called "Introduction to the Visual and Performing Arts." As part of the institution's increasing commitment to interdisciplinarity, we would like to invite professors from all other departments for a brief classroom visit during the last full week of the semester to discuss the connections between your discipline and the arts conceived broadly (music, theatre, design, dance, architecture, visual arts, etc.). If you are available and interested, please complete this brief two-question form: [Interdisciplinarity and the Visual & Performing Arts](#). Questions may be directed to pruettl@merrimack.edu and/or latianoj@merrimack.edu.

Other Events this Week

November 6th

Hamel Health Flu Clinic

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.

November 6th

Human Development Panel

5:30-7:00 PM

Dr. Alfred L. Arcidi Welcome Center, Room 201 A

Together with the O'Brien Center for Career Development, the School of Education & Social Policy is sponsoring a panel of alumni and professionals that will share their experiences in a wide variety of career paths. This is an opportunity for Human Development and Human Services majors and non-licensure Education majors to explore different career paths and meet

people who work in those fields. We anticipate alumni and professionals from the following fields: child life, speech & language pathology, ABA, social work, non-profits, adjustment counseling and more! Enjoy a selection of appetizers as students network with individuals in an industry or career they may be interested in. Students can click [here to RSVP](#).

Sponsored by the O'Brien Center for Career Development

November 7th

Careers in Life Sciences: Alumni Panel & Networking Reception

4:00-6:00 PM

Dr. Alfred L. Arcidi Welcome Center, Rooms 201 A & 202 B

Join the O'Brien Center for Career Development and the School of Science & Engineering for the first annual Careers in Life Sciences: Alumni Panel & Networking Reception. Bring your questions as you hear from exceptional Merrimack alumni as well as industry professionals in a night of networking. Following the panel will be a networking reception, beginning at 5 PM. With a fine selection of appetizers and a hosted bar, come spend the evening learning more about careers in the life sciences. Speak to representatives from companies like Pfizer, New England Biolabs, Boston Children's Hospital, TraceLink, Phasex Corporation, and many more! This is a great event for all class years to meet and network with people who are pursuing careers they may be thinking about. Students can click [here to RSVP](#).

Sponsored by the O'Brien Center for Career Development

Future Events

Jessica McCormack: "Shakespeare in Song"

November 13

12:30 PM

Rogers Center for the Arts

A brand new treat for Rogers Center audiences, soprano Jessica McCormack sings pieces inspired by the Bard.

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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