



# PROVOST BRIEFING

November 12, 2019

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## MACK Gives Back

Photo Credit: David Baron

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

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- Through Knowledge to Wisdom Conversations, Weekly
- Neighbors in Need - Thanksgiving Basket Drive, Monday, November 25
- November: A Season of Remembrance and Gratitude
- Fall 2019 NSF Grants Conference Webcast – Registration Open
- Presidential Fellowships 2020-2021: Information Session, November 22
- CETL Teaching Circles

- The Last Lecture: Guest Speaker: Debra Michals, November 19
- First Year Experience (FYE) Instructor Fall 2020 Applications
- CETL Coffee with an Instructional Designer, Every Monday
- Nominate a Book for the next CETL Group Discussion
- Institutional Data Requests and New Data Request Form
- Introduction to the Visual and Performing Arts- Interdisciplinary Discussion, December 3 & 5
- Important Information to Share with Students
- Faculty Fellowships: Marion and Jasper Whiting Foundation
- Staff Forum, November 12
- MACKfit Employee Wellness: Eating on the Run, November 13
- Jessica McCormack: "Shakespeare in Song", November 13
- Professional Development Retreat: Class of 2020, November 14 & 15
- MACKfit Employee Wellness: Slow Flow Yoga, November 14
- MACKfit Employee Wellness: Employee Benefits 2020, November 15
- Hands to Help Open House, November 15
- A Midsummer Night's Dream, by William Shakespeare, Saturday, November 23

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## 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?"**

- 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](#).

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## Neighbors in Need - Thanksgiving Basket Drive, Monday, November 25

Once again this year, the Merrimack community has the opportunity to share some of our blessings with those in need through the Thanksgiving Basket Drive. The Grace J. Palmisano Center for Campus Ministry Campus Ministry is partnering with the local community organization *Neighbors in Need* ([Neighbors in Need Lawrence](#)) to provide Thanksgiving meals to local families.

There are several ways that you could contribute to this drive.

1. Bring a monetary donation of cash or a check made out to Merrimack College Campus Ministry to the Campus Ministry Office in SAK 350 or send it to mailstop GL48. You can also donate through VENMO ([@CampusMinistry\\_MC](#)). Please indicate clearly the individual or group from whom this donation is coming. Our campus partners in Merrimack Dining Services will use this money to order food for baskets in bulk and so stretching your contributions to care for as many people as possible. Monetary

donations will need to be received by Friday, November 22 in order to supply food for this Thanksgiving.

2. Shop yourself for the items needed to fill a basket for one family. Here is the [list of items](#). You can then deliver your basket to the west entrance (across the road from the Hub) of the Sakowich Campus Center between **7:30 AM and Noon on Monday, November 25**. If you plan to do this, please notify Augustinian Volunteer James Wroblewski at [wroblewski@merrimack.edu](mailto:wroblewski@merrimack.edu) so that we can plan to receive your donation.
3. Volunteer some of your time on Monday, November 25 and Tuesday, November 26 to receive donated baskets, assemble baskets from supplies purchased by monetary donations or help to deliver the baskets to Neighbors in Need. Use this Google Form to sign up for as much time as you can offer [Thanksgiving Basket Drive Volunteer Sign-Up](#)

Thank you for your willingness to make Thanksgiving what it is meant to be!

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## **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 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.

### **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.

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## **Fall 2019 NSF Grants Conference Webcast – Registration Open**

Experience the Fall 2019 National Science Foundation (NSF) Grants Conference virtually! The plenary sessions of the upcoming conference in Boston, MA on November 18-19, will be webcast live to the research community. [READ MORE](#) and [REGISTER](#)

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## **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](mailto:director.institute@merrimack.edu)

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## 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](mailto: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.

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## The Last Lecture

**Guest Speaker: Debra Michals, Director of Women's and Gender Studies**

**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

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## First Year Experience (FYE) Instructor Fall 2020 Applications

Get to know Merrimack students right from the beginning as a Fall 2020 Instructors!

FYE Instructors:

- Have a unique opportunity to help incoming students navigate their first semester at Merrimack.

- May choose to design their own curriculum around a passion area
- Teach a curriculum designed to help students succeed in the classroom and flourish on campus

All who are interested in teaching FYE1050 in Fall 2020, including returning instructors, should complete [this application](#) by **November 25th**. Any questions can be directed to [Laura Lyons](#) or [Russell Olwell](#).

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### **Join the FYE Team at the Mack Club to learn more!**

Tuesday, November 19, 5:00-7:00 PM, Mack Club

The First Year Experience Office is sponsoring a Happy Hour Event for current and interested FYE Instructors. Please join us for drinks and appetizers and the opportunity to chat with current instructors about their experiences with teaching FYE. We hope to see you there!

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## **CETL 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!

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## **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. **Institutional**

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## **Institutional Data Requests and New Data Request Form**

The Office of Institutional Planning and the Registrar's Office have collaborated to establish a new online Institutional Data Request Form for faculty and staff. This simple form has been created to manage the ever increasing number of data requests, coordinate similar requests, and provide a mechanism for tracking and following-up on the requests. **The [Data Request form](#) can be accessed through MyMack and is found under 'QUICK LINKS' on the far left of the MyMack home page. You will need to login to access the form.**

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## **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 Pruetz (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, theater, 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](mailto:pruettl@merrimack.edu) and/or [latianoj@merrimack.edu](mailto:latianoj@merrimack.edu).

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## Important Information to Share with Students

Don't forget to share the following 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](http://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](http://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 is now open. Current students can register through MyMack.
- See the list of courses at [www.merrimack.edu/winter](http://www.merrimack.edu/winter). For questions

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## Faculty Fellowships: Marion and Jasper Whiting Foundation

The Trustees of the Marion and Jasper Whiting Foundation have announced a grant opportunity for faculty fellowships to support scholars of all disciplines to travel to a location or locations, either domestic or international, other than their home institution. The aim is to stimulate and broaden the minds of teachers so as to improve and enhance the quality of their instruction. Grants are primarily for travel and related expenses and not as salary substitutes, scholarships or grants in aid.

**All Application Materials must be received by the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) by 5:00 pm on Monday, January 6, 2020** to be processed and submitted to the Foundation by the application deadline of Friday, January 10, 2020. Award winners will be notified by email by Friday, April 3, 2020 and funds will be disbursed to Merrimack no later than October 2020. The Marion and Jasper Whiting Foundation announcement contains all of the grant guidelines. The average award in 2019 was \$5,252 per fellowship.

To apply, please contact the Office of Sponsored Programs at [research@merrimack.edu](mailto:research@merrimack.edu) to receive the fellowship application guidelines and materials. You are encouraged to schedule your proposed travel during the spring and winter breaks, and all travel must be approved by your department chair and dean prior to submitting your application.

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## Other Events this Week

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## November 12th

Staff Forum  
3:00-4:00  
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## November 13th

MACKfit Employee Wellness: Eating on the Run  
Presented by Harvard Pilgrim  
11:30-12:30 PM  
Blue Line Club, Merrimack Athletic Complex  
[Register Here](#)

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## November 13th

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.

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## November 14th-15th

Professional Development Retreat: Class of 2020  
Hotel Commonwealth | Boston, MA  
The Professional Development Retreat is a two-day career initiative hosted at the Hotel Commonwealth, designed to build students' emotional intelligence and provide students with soft skills. Sixty students from all academic disciplines have been selected, along with more than 20 faculty, staff, employers, and College Leadership Council members to serve as facilitators. Senior leadership are invited to attend the **Networking Reception from 6-7:30 PM on Thursday, November 14** at Hotel Commonwealth. For more information about the Retreat, please contact Ashley Archangelo at [archangelo@merrimack.edu](mailto:archangelo@merrimack.edu).

Sponsored by the O'Brien Center for Career Development.

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## November 14th

MACKfit Employee Wellness: Slow Flow Yoga  
Presented by Campus Recreation Department  
12:00-1:00 PM  
Sakowich Campus Center, Fitness Studio 1 (257)  
[Register Here](#)

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## November 15th

MACKfit Employee Wellness: Employee Benefits 2020  
Presented by Human Resources  
Friday 10:00-12:00 PM

Sakowich Campus Center, Merrimack Club Conference Room  
Additional session, Wednesday, November 20  
[Register Here](#)

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## November 15th

Hands to Help Open House

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## Future Events

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### A Midsummer Night's Dream

by William Shakespeare

Saturday, November 23

2:00 PM

The Rogers Center for the Arts

A love triangle. A meddling 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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