**Merrimack College**

73rd Commencement | Class of 2023

The Winston School of Education and Social Policy

Saturday, May 20, 2023

# ACADEMIC PROCESSION

 **MACE BEARERS**

Karen Hayden, Ph.D.

Associate Dean Graduate Programs, Winston School of Education and Social Policy

Russell Olwell, Ph.D.

Associate Dean, Winston School of Education and Social Policy

**CROSS BEARER**

Rebecca Jimenez

Associate Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students

**THE GRADUATES**

Led by Father Raymond Dlugos, O.S.A., Ph.D.

Vice President for Mission and Ministry

**GRADUATE STUDENTS**

**UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS**

**THE FACULTY**

**THE DISTINGUISHED ASSEMBLY**

Academic Deans

Distinguished Speaker

The Board of Trustees

Vice Provosts

Executive Vice President

Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost

President

The audience is requested to stand if they are able during the Academic Procession, Invocation and National Anthem, and to remain in place until the Academic Procession leaves at the end of the exercises.

# PROGRAM

**PRESIDING**

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D.,

President

**PROCESSIONAL**

Merrimack College Band

**INVOCATION**

Father Raymond Dlugos, O.S.A., Ph.D.

Vice President for Mission and Ministry

**NATIONAL ANTHEM**

Mackapella

**WELCOME**

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D.,

President

**REMARKS FROM THE PROVOST**

Sean “John” Condon, Ph.D.

Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost

**ADDRESS TO GRADUATES**

Stacey Ciprich, H’22

Principal of Abbott Lawrence Academy

**RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES AND PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS**

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D., President

**CLOSING REMARKS**

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D., President

**BENEDICTION**

Father Raymond Dlugos, O.S.A., Ph.D., Vice President for Mission and Ministry

**CLOSING OF THE EXERCISES**

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D., President

**RECESSIONAL**

Merrimack College Band

# WINSTON SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL POLICY | MASTER’S DEGREES IN COURSE

Jacqueline Abdallah

Heather Felicia Abraham

Rachel Pauline Adam

Jillian Adamson

Julia Ann Bedard Afflitto

Tayla Nicole Aleci

Olivia Alford

Brooke Allen

Jessica Marie Almeida

Mark Almy

Priya Amar

Jessa Nicole Anderson

Kayla Ashleigh Anderson

Taylor Marie Anderson

Katelyn Anderson

Catherine Thana Andrews

Eliza Dua Andrews

Tyler Angers

Emily Rose Servideo

Jenna Appleton

Theodore Aseltine

Olivia Avery

Alyssa S. Badgio

Kerrie Bagni

Damon Bailey

Shelly Ann Tanesha Bailey

Andrew Baker

Sarah Balestro

Matthew T. Bancroft

Colin Bannen

Lindsay Barbash

Anna Caitlin Leslie

Seanda Bartlett

Kayla Barys

Jacob Beaudoin

Kendra Beaudoin

Spencer Ryan Knowles Benoit

Mikayla Benoit

Kayla Marie Berardi

Lindsey Berke

Vanessa Bertsch

Christina Bither

Leah F. Block

Dominique Hannah Bolduc

Matthew Patrick Bonomo

Julia Borriello

Anthony Bova

Kathryn D. Bramley

Makenzie M. Bray

Stephanie R. Brincklow

Andrew C. Brown

Erin J. Bruce

Isabelle Marie Bruneau

Lindsay Bukowinski

Tyler Christopher Burgoyne

Gina Burke

Kelly Ann Burke

Maria Antonina Buttafuoco

Kimberly Cabral

Sherry Dawn Calabrese

Hannah Christine Callaghan

Kelsey Rose Callahan

Julia Callbeck

Colby Daniel Callery

Katherine Callery

Lauren Rebecca Campbell

Emma Grace Cannistraro

Jillian Amber Carbone

Cameron Michael Carpenter

Abigail Carven

Olivia Maria Casey

Nicole Angela Catino

Ashley Cavicchi

Amanda Chamberlain

Shawn Chase

Carlie T. Cherry

Sydney Chillo

Reem E. Chniouli

Erin Donna Claflin

Melanie Clinton

Diana Belên Coello Baquero

Lauren Michelle Cohen

Joshua David McCauley Colameta

Emily Grace Cole

Kathryn Gau Congleton

Kevin Conlon

Michela D. Connors

Nicholas Conti

Justin Cook

Justin Cordeiro

Alycia Marie Corvini

Kelly Costa

Tiffany Costello

Tiffany L. Cote

Skylar Coutinho

Christina Cramer

Nancy V. Craver-Harnois

Matthew Croston

Olivia Paige Crowley

Dayanara Cruz

Anna Jayce Cuevas

Patricia Curbelo

Keaghan Michael Curley

Ashley Cutter

Demimarie Dabilis

Gabrielle D’Amelio

Taylor Darrell

Chanell DaSilva

Emily Davis

Shaina Renee Dawes

Maria Carolina Ferraz

Kamila Dealey

Olivia Ann DellIsola

Elizabeth Anne DeLong

Brittany Tara Dempsey

Kathleen D’Errico

Brian Thomas Dervin

Leah Devlin

Stacey Diaz

Molly Dickerson

Mark Dilegge

Zully Ninette Dinc

Meghan A. Doane

Brian Donohue

Jamie Dostoomian

Benjamin Paul Doucette

Jacqueline Doucette

Carly Dow

Katelyn Anne Drescher

Danielle M. Driscoll

Abigail Elizabeth Duggan

Emily Durkin

Meghan S. Dzialo

Matthew Paul Eaton

Sara Elkerm

Alexandra Emrick

Jennifer Enaboakpe

Rachel K Enriquez

Ana Delia Espinal

Mackenzie Newman Evans

Katarina B. Everhardt

Julia Elizabeth Fader-Laskin

Jenna Faichney

Ivette Fantauzzi Picart

Jenna Ann Farraher

Kerry Farrell

John Michael Federico

Isabel Marie Fernandes

Shanelle Fernandez

Myracle Sadie Fielding

Rachel Elizabeth Figucia

Caitlin Fiorante

Lia Fitzgerald

Olivia FitzGerald

Jill Fitzgerald

Haley Elizabeth Flaherty-Dawson

Steven Flint

Jessica Ann Flynn

Bianca Elizabeth Foley

Kristen Jennifer Foley

William Foley

Kylie Ford

Shawna Fox

Nicole Freeman

John Gabordi

Devin Galante

Diona Gambini

Christine Ganong

Bria Garabedian

Caitlyn Sumer Garica

Valeria Denisse Garcîa Lara

Erika Jane Gareri

Thomas Garland

Kadyn Germain

Vanessa Gerring

Rachel Ann Gillespie

Alyssa N Giordano

Danielle Gomes

Nieves Gomez-Lopez

Kendra Rae Gordon

Amanda Beth Goscinski

Jennifer Aron Graff

Rosa Granadeno Aguilar

Margaret Elizabeth Green

Daniela Greene

Kayleigh R. Greenfield

Zipporah Griffith

Sydney Elizabeth Griswold

Sebastian Alexander Gruber

Angela Guarino

Caroline Grace Gulla

Maire Lisa Gustafson

Alexandra Hajjar

Katie Renêe Hamilton

Lauren Marie Hamilton

Tania Tasmin Haque

Alyse Kathryn Harradon

Danielle Hart

Molly Hayes

Julia Virginia Healey

Zoe Agnes Santacroce Henderson

Erika Vanessa Hernandez

Breanne Hickey

Aleigha Marie Hilberg

Kelsey Rose Holick

Rulondo Holland

Amanda Hoover

Maureen Huberman

Tiesha Denise Hughes

Julianne Ingraham

Liubomir Iordanov

Ivy Irwin

Emma Nicole Iskra

Alison Jacobs

Esdras N. Javier, Jr.

Arianna S. Jedrey

Laura Helene Johnson

Meghan Lynn Johnson

Phoebe Catherine Johnson

Kristina M. Jones

Ashley Jones

Tayla Jones

Kelsey Leigh Joyal

Sherry Jusseaume

Vanessa Kaddaras

Victoria Kako

Deanna Kiyoko Kalian

Aubine Kalisa

Megan Gabrielle Karcher

Kasey Marie Kavanaugh

Maeve Keane

Bridget Keefe

Christopher Shea Kelleher

Victoria Kelliher

James Aidan Kelly

Lyndsay Kennedy

Peter Thomas Keohane

Kayla Renee Keough

Kimberly Kevorkian

Joseph Kielinen

Catherine Kimani

Megan Kindt

Haleigh Anne King

Shelby Kirejczyk

Kara G. Knipe

Adam Christopher Kohnle

Stephen Kohnle

Rachel Emily Kornreich

Deborah Kosnar

Stephen Kovatsi

Anastasia Kranz

Josef Kranz

Alison M. Kyer Burns

Melanie C. LaCasse

Erin Elizabeth LaMonica

Renee Lamy

Meredith Lane

Timothy R. Lang

Cameron Lankenau

Jordan Grace Laplume

Mandy Marie Laporte

Carina Hernandez Lawrence

Emily Abigail Leal

Kevin J. LeBourdais

Kelsey Leonard

Johanna Elizabeth Lesch

Bianca Lessard

Caitlin Letourneau

Katerina Leung

Emily Levenson

Anna Hanh Levin

Emily Jane Lewis

Adaline Lining

Kaleigh Litchfield

Daniella Marie Lombardo

Brooke Lonergan

Kevin Lopez Giraldo

Abbey Barbara Loughlin

Danielle Lovecchio

Kara E. Lowkes

Haley Margaret Lowney

Kristen E. Machado

Jessie Kimelman MacInnes

Molly S. Magrane

Daniel Mahoney

Jessica Lynn Maille

Olivia Margaret Maly

Valerie Mamish

Rashmi Mandayam

Krista E. Marchand

Jason Daniel Margossian

Emilee Marie Markham

Giana Linda Marks

Nathaniel Marotta

Julia Alexandra Marshall

Hope Martin

Sarah Martin

Aiman Masalawala

Anna Elizabeth Matthews

Faith J. May

Laura Mayott

Keely Lynn McCaskie

Caleb McClure

Caroline McDonagh-Moniz

Andrea Vanessa McDonald

Kaila McEvoy

Kylie C. McGilvray

Lori Gildae

Madison McKinnon

Tina M. McNeil

Thomas McNeil

Audrey Denise McQueen

Amanda Rose McVey

Angela Lee McVey

Meghan Meadows

Rebecca Leigh Miller

Lindsey Minchello

Samantha Rae Missildine

Kendall Mitchell

Hannah Mobilia

Rachel Molenaar

Emma Monaghan

Tamara Omayra Mondesir

Christopher Mooney

Caroline Elizabeth Morgan

Maeve Gallagher Morgan

Joseph Morin

John Morris

Anastasia C. Morrison

Louisa Morrow

Ashley Mountain

Marykate Mulcahy

Amanda Leigh Murray

Jordan Elizabeth Muse

Maha Nassar

Alandra Nespoli

Ashley Newbegin

Leeann Newcomb

Jessica Nicholas

Connor Nickerson

Alison Ning

Hannah Nitescu

Jessica Elizabeth Noke

Derik J. Noland

Taylor Elizabeth Nolasco

Haley Ann Normandin

Michaela Marie Noviello

Katherine Alice O’Brien

Rachel O’Brien

Kathryn O’Brien

Daniel Kelleher O’Connor

Kristen O’Connor

Julie O’Connor

Charlena Destiny O’Keefe

Jacklyn Oliver

Samantha Oliver

Sandra Tegan Olsen

Matthew J. O’Neill

Mary Elizabeth Overbeck

Julia Overhiser

Shawn Kyree Page, Jr.

Joshua Page

Katlyn Sierra Paiva

Matthew J. Palermo

Morgan Palmieri

Shaylyn Parkhurst

Alexandra Mozelle Parsons

Katelyn Parziale

Maya Patel

Allison Marie Paul

Dorothy Paul

Christina Pedersen

Kaitlyn E. Perrin

Mysia N’yami Elaijiah Perry

Christine Peterson

Lyndsey Autumn Pineo

Caitlin Pires

Nancy Pocoli

William F. Politano

Jessica Porter

Jack Matthew Poska

Claire Mary Powell

Tiana Powell

Casey Leigh Power

Edward Prajzner

Evan Prees

Michael Price

Candace Mikayla Proulx

Heather Provost

Madeline Grace Puccia

Marissa Puccio

Stephanie Quezada

Jordan P. Raffalli

Mackenzie Reardon

Laura Ann Reid

Rachel Resendes

Erin Elizabeth Rettino

Roselien Reyes Gonzalez

Erin Reynolds

Abigail Reynolds

Claire Noreen Rhatigan

Joseph Ricci

Kelvin Dewayne Roberts

Allison Rodenbush

Madison T. Rodgers

José Carlos Rodrîguez Flores

Elizabeth Rogers

Antonia Rosati

Jennifer Corinne Rose

Brianna Carmela Rovella

Saira L. Saez

Deanna Lynne Saif

Siobhan Salani

Elizabeth Jepsen Saltus

Sasha Sammis

Enrique Sanchez

Alexandra Marie Scholl

Justin Scott

Robert Jeffrey Scudder

Mary Catherine Seltzer

Samantha Marie Shanahan

Meghan Kathleen Shea

Samantha Reagan Shea

Kyle Sherrick

Eliza Shulman

Erica Silva

Kim Marie Silverman

Alani Simmons

Elizabeth Simmons

Peter Skaza

Ei Phyu Smith

Amanda Jacqueline Snead

Abbi Jo Solomon

Kayla Festa Soares Dos Reis

Sousa

Kailey Lauren Sparks

Tanya Stanley

Molly Staunton

Kathleen Jeanne Stefanelli

Emily Stefanich

Cameron Steig

Claudia Nicole Stephens

Catherine Stewart

Patricia Louise Stewart

Shannon Stewart

Toni Stewart

Kara Stone

Karthika Streb

Elisa Sugerman

Daniel Patrick Sullivan, IV

Chelsea Catherine Sutherland

Jonathan Richard Swain

Gabrielle Marie Synk

Rebecca Jane Szum

Louis David Takesian

Kristina Talambekos

Jordyn Lynn Tanguay

Savannah Taylor

Robin L. Teague

Anna Anastasia Topouzakis

Kiara Torres

Julia Margaret Treon

Rachel Treweek

Katherine Jane Ulcickas

Tatiana Valaes Melendres

Blanca Valencia

Emily Valenzuela

Jessica Vangos

Ashley Raquel Veloz

Alexis Marie Viering

Rachel Vigorita

Martha E. Vosnak

Marissa Votruba

Carolyn Wallace

John Walsh

Emily Wehring

Kaitlin Diane Weidler

Andrea Lynn Whalen

Lindsey Christine Whalen

Garrett Francis White

Kimberly Whittaker

Lily Michelle Williams

Sarah Williams

Olivia Wise

Allison Witowicz

Melissa Witt

Narci Woods

Eric Worden

Chelsea E. Worthington

Yasmine Yilgor

Paula Zagarella

Sara Zaveloff

Danni Zhu

# WINSTON SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL POLICY | UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES IN COURSE

Haley Alcott

Rachel Aleskivitch

Griffin Allaire

Margaret Marie Allen

Sarah Nicole Amato

Alyssa Brooke Anderson

Stephanie Jean Aucello

Laurel M. Barbosa

Alexandra Batts

Amber Bean

Michael Belanger

Anthony Nicholas Bello

Shania Rose Monica Berard

Joseph Bisson

Antonio Bonavita, IV

Emily Bruneau

Riley Brunelle

Cara Rose Burns

Megan Elizabeth Cairns

Joseph Cappadona

Emily Elizabeth Cappucci

Audree E. Carleton

Reid H. Carter

Victoria Lydia Carter

Matthew Cavoli

Molly Marie Cazeault

Morgan Elizabeth Chase

Alyson Rose Cipro

Jordan Marie Clements

Mackenzie Collins

Sara Mian Connolly

Jeremy Curley

Noah Cusack-Margolis

Elizabeth Ann Daly

Nicholas William Dee

Conan Thomas Devlin

Jacob A. Di Martino

Ashley Michelle DiBella

Alyssa Angela DiBlasi

Courtney Elizabeth Dishaw

Kennedy Margaret Dolloff

Brendan Donovan-Tiernan

Thomas David Driggs

Brianna June Dube

Jillian Elizabeth Dunn

Olivia Morgan Encarnacao

Angelina Anoush Falletti

Ashley Jane Farfaras

Victoria Fazio

Elizabeth Ann Fera

James Ference

Michael Fernandez

Michael Montgomery Fierstein

Andrew Richard Finn

Giulia Isabella Fiorentino

Rebecca Fisher

Noelle Elizabeth Fitzpatrick

Andrew Flynn

Emily Caroline Forisso

Scarla Frances

Melissa Gannon

Abigail Garside

Emma Senior Giosi

Alissa Jane Gonzales

Jasmine Gonzalez

Victoria L. Guarino

Marissa M. Hamilton

Gabrielle Hanley

Nathan Alexander Harvey

Bryanna Hendershott

Shane Patrick Henley

Erin Hennessey

Kayla Hennessey

Kyannah Hernandez

Melissa Hernandez

Erin Hill

Catherine Michele Holland

Jessica Ann Hood

Ryan Huntington

Taylor Jax

Emma Kae Jones

Josephine Jozokos

Kaitlin Jurasek

Caroline Rose Kelley

Jenna Kelly

Austin Kenison

Cintia Khouzami

Ashley Christine Kierce

Riley Jane Korengel

Abigail R. Lacroix

Ciara Mary Lally

Lauren Catherine Lancey

Derryn J. Langlois

Courtney Lanpher

Leann LeBlanc

Isabella LeBrun

Sierra Grace Ledoux

Alexis Marion LeFebre

Presley G. Leighton

Sheila Noelle Lethin

Kerra Lipman

Gabriel Lopez

Simon Peter Lukwago

Juliana Marie MacAdams

Molly Macdonald

Michelle Elaine Maffe

Kathryn Marie Mailloux

Allison Mallett

Madeline Marcucci

Toni Ann Marganti

Fabielys Martinez

Keely Martyn

Emma Mastovsky

Conor McAuliffe

Erin Elizabeth McCaffrey

Kevin Patrick McElroy

Grace McIntyre

Courtney McLaughlin

Krystal Memmolo

Caroline Ann Meroski

Ryan Miller

Samantha Lee Millette

Emma Caroline Moffatt

Ashley Mayona Morehouse

Erin Moss

Fiona Mary Nagle

Rebecca Nee

Meghan Neylon

Stephen Charles O’Brien

Megan ODonnell

Celine Marie O’Dowd

Emma Katherine O’Leary

Grace O’Leary

Alanna Irene Palladino

Kaley Patriquin

Michael Patterson

Alexander Robert Perry

Wes Petrone

Ashley Piazza

Timothy Robert Pinkham

Ariana Portalla

Kathryn Porter

Julia Pothier

Domna Poulimeni

Magdalini Poulimeni

Huntyr Alyne Poulin

Benjamin Pulvino

Kyle Richard Quinzani

Marissa Elizabeth Reardon

Kevin Joseph Reddington

Julia Ricci

Abby Grace Ricciardelli

Samantha Nicole Rich

Jack Richards

Jordan Riggs

Vivian Rosado

Jonathan Rosario

Jacqueline Rosney

Lily Meng Ryan

Paige Salvi

Danielle Ashley Santoro

Abigail Sarraf

Ashton Savage

Anna Sawicki

Kiera Ann Scott

Ryan Shea

Joseph Silva

Bridget Slocum

Emily Grace Smith

Kaitlyn Mary Sok

Abigail Sperrazza

Jacquelyn G. Stiles

Christopher Stoddard

Ava F. Sullivan

Erica Surabian

Kaitlyn Danielle Svendsen

Samantha Karen Sypek

Briana Marie Talarico

Daley Mayo Tegan

Morgan Martha Thayer

Delaney Margaret Tobias

Allison Grace Tolan

Daniel Tolan

Melanie Nicole Turano

Fiona Margaret Twomey

Monica Marie Van Stry

Peter Vasta

Sylvia Vega

Antonio Joseph Ventresca

Arianna Rose Vitacca

Adriana Wallis

Michael John Ward

Sarah E. Ward

Angelica Marie Watson

Abigail Grace White

Kylie Willwerth

Kristen E. Wolf

Morgan Noel Woolard

Matthew Zifchak

Gianna Filomena Zuniga

# DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS

**The Girard School of Business and the School of Science and Engineering | 9:00 a.m.**

**John T. Boyce ’81,**

**Chair of the Board of Trustees**

John Boyce chairs the Board of Trustees of Merrimack College and has served on the Board for nine years.

An investment industry leader for 40 years, John has had responsibility for the commercial activities of Insight Investment in North America for the past five years.

Prior to Insight, John spent six years at Aberdeen Standard as Head North America Distribution where he was responsible for building the brand and the region’s institutional business development activities.

Earlier in his career, John led global investment activities at American International Group/PineBridge Investments, General Electric Asset Management as well as U.S. business development for Diversified Investment Advisors/Aegon.

He is also a past board member of the Alzheimer’s Association.

John received his Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Merrimack College in 1981. He holds his FINRA Series 7, 63 and 24 licenses. He resides in Ridgefield, CT with his wife, Maryann Testa Boyce ’81. John and Maryann have two daughters, Lauren G. (Boyce) Koury and Sarah M. Boyce.

**Winston School of Education and Social Policy | 1:30 p.m.**

**Stacey Ciprich, H’22**

**Principal of Abbott Lawrence Academy**

Stacey Ciprich is the founding principal of Abbott Lawrence Academy (ALA), an accelerated honors high school within the Lawrence High School campus. Opened in 2015, it is the district’s first exam high school. In 2020, she was named Educator of the Year Award by the Massachusetts Association for Gifted Education.

Since 2017, Merrimack and ALA have partnered on an Early College Program today known as the Pioneer Scholars Program. Upon graduation from ALA, select Pioneer Scholars enroll at Merrimack with financial assistance covering tuition, room, board and books, as well as dedicated academic guidance and support from faculty and staff.

**School of Liberal Arts and the School of Nursing and Health Sciences | 5:30 p.m.**

**The Rev. Nicholas A. Sannella, J.D., M.D.**

**Pastor, Lowell Collaborative, Archdiocese of Boston**

The Rev. Nicholas A. Sannella graduated from Boston College in 1967, attended Tufts University School of Medicine and trained in vascular surgery at St. Elizabeth’s Hospital in Boston and Stanford University Medical Center.

Returning to Massachusetts, he chose to practice in Lowell and Lawrence, underserved areas in his specialty. He was chief of surgery at Lawrence General Hospital, president of the medical staff at Saints Medical Center in Lowell and vice president of the New England Society of Vascular Surgery. Involvement in hospital and medical staff governance, as well as patient care issues, led to a juris doctorate from Suffolk University.

In 1999 he entered Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts and was ordained in 2003. Today, he is pastor of the Immaculate Conception Church, Saint Anthony’s Church and Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity, which make up the Lowell Collaborative of the Archdiocese of Boston.

He has served as a trustee of St. John’s Hospital and Saints Memorial Medical Center, both in Lowell, and Boston College. He has also served as a medical officer in the United States Air Force Reserve.

# DIPLOMA TRANSLATION

**The translation of the Merrimack College diploma from Latin to English is as follows:**

Merrimack College

To all reading this document

Greetings in the Lord

The President, Faculty and Trustees of Merrimack College

by virtue of properly completing required studies on the recommendation of the faculty

and by the authority vested in us

by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts confer on

name of student

the degree of

name of degree

and grant freely all rights, privileges and honors pertaining to that degree.

In witness thereof we place the seal of the College.

Given in North Andover in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

date of degree

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

John (Jack) T. Boyce ’81, Chair

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D., President

Karen Cambray ’88, Vice Chair

Rev. David A. Cregan O.S.A., Ph.D., Vice Chair

Kevin J. Lucey ’89, P’24, Vice Chair

Marybeth McInnis, Esq. H’17, Vice Chair

Nicholas McDonald, Esq., Secretary

Jeffrey A. Doggett, Ed.D., Officer of the Corporation

Rev. Robert P. Hagan, O.S.A., Ex Officio

Michael P. Arcidi ’85

Bruce A. Bouchard ’79

Matthew Carpenter-Dennis, Esq.

Joanne Caruso Bentley ’81

Peter J. Caulo ’83

Alvin M. Chapital, III, ’86

Lynne Ann Chase ’90, P’23

Rev. Kevin M. DePrinzio, O.S.A., Ph.D.

Francis Kenneth “Ken” Duane ’80, H’16

Michael J. Franco, Esq. ’81, P’12

Rev. Francis J. Horn, O.S.A., J.C.D.

Dennis J. Leonard ’77

Paul L. Mucci P’07

Rev. Arthur P. Purcaro, O.S.A.

Kevin R. Rhodes ’91

Kevin J. Routhier ’99

James E. Scammon ’83

Patrick J. Sullivan

Marques D. Torbert

# ABOUT MERRIMACK COLLEGE

One of only two Catholic Augustinian colleges in the U.S., Merrimack College is a coeducational institution with approximately 5,500 undergraduate, continuing education and graduate students from 34 states and 36 countries, comprising schools of liberal arts, science and engineering, health sciences, education and social policy, and business.

The College’s 220-acre campus is approximately 25 miles north of Boston in North Andover and Andover, Massachusetts. Merrimack is a Master’s Colleges & Universities/Medium Programs institution in the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

# MISSION AND VISION

**Our mission is to enlighten minds, engage hearts, and empower lives.**

Inspired by the Catholic faith and the Augustinian tradition of seeking truth through inquiry and dialogue, our vision is to:

* Prepare students to adapt creatively to tomorrow’s realities through excellence in the liberal arts, sciences, and the professions;
* Build a community of scholars welcoming and respecting a diversity of backgrounds, experiences, beliefs, and perspectives;
* Cultivate the intellectual, moral, spiritual, physical, and personal awareness needed to make wise choices for life, career, and service;
* Encourage and support scholarly work that contributes to the wisdom on which society bases its decisions;
* Engage other educational institutions, industry, and agencies of social change in collaborative efforts fostering a just, peaceful, and sustainable world.

# THE SEAL OF MERRIMACK COLLEGE

Drawing on our rich history, the modern shield of Merrimack College reinterprets elements from the original 1947 college seal.

The shield includes four quadrants:

* The book with the words “Tolle Lege” (“take up and read”), the famous words connected with the conversion of Saint Augustine to Catholicism, proclaiming the College’s founding by the Order of Saint Augustine.
* Wavy pallets, to represent the “swift water” of the Merrimack Valley’s original Native Americans.
* The cross fleurette, from the coat of arms of the Archdiocese of Boston, in which Merrimack College is located. The cross fleurette refers to the French ancestry of Bishop Cheverus, the first Bishop of Boston (1810–1823).
* The symbolism of our colors: blue for loyalty (and the cold, rippling waters of the Merrimack River) and gold for wisdom (also the color of the papacy).



# THE CEREMONIAL MACE

The mace carried in academic processions derives from medieval times in England when an official was taking office. At that time, the mace was a formidable weapon and was held ready by the mace bearer to protect the dignitary. From the sixteenth century in England and since colonial days in the United States, the mace has become a symbol of academic office and is carried by a distinguished member of the faculty.

The Merrimack College mace has a young history. It was fashioned for the 1986 Commencement by Cistercian Monks of the Holy Rood Guild at Saint Joseph’s Abbey in Spencer, Massachusetts. The monks are renowned craftsmen and designers of ecclesiastical vesture.

The Merrimack College mace is thirty-six inches long and is made of black walnut. The front of the mace carries the College’s hand-painted, gold-leafed seal. From the intricate coat of arms of the Order of Saint Augustine, the back of the mace is hand carved with an open book symbolizing the conversion of Augustine. On the left hand side of the book is a tongue of flame above a heart pierced with “the burning love of God.” An elegantly simple cross adorns the top of the mace.

Since 1986, the Merrimack College mace has been carried by the Chief Marshal at Commencement.

# THE CEREMONIAL CROSS

The processional cross is expressive of the Augustinian longing for unity of our minds and hearts in God. It was designed by the Augustinian Contemplative Nuns at the Monastery of Our Holy Savior in Leccetto, Tuscany, Italy. Small replicas of this cross are given to Merrimack students engaged in service to others through Service Learning and the SEND Programs as well as to those who participate in MORE, the Pellegrinaggio en Italia, and other programs that foster self-awareness and spiritual growth.

# REGALIA

The origins of academic dress lie in fourteenth century England. The buildings frequented by medieval scholars were often cold and damp; long gowns (particularly with hoods to protect tonsured heads) may have been worn more for warmth than fashion.

The distinctive gown set the student apart from their fellow citizens. As late as the Civil War, students at American universities wore caps and gowns daily while in residence. Whatever the origin, academic regalia grew in diversity and splendor, with scholars displaying distinctive costume for different occasions and achievements. The result was a bewildering variety of designs.

An intercollegiate commission met at Columbia University in 1894 to establish a standard academic costume code, and over the years it has been revised by an official committee of the American Council on Education. The committee’s prescriptions, while regulating, still allow for great pageantry at formal academic events.

From the cap, gown, and hood, it is possible to distinguish the institution from which the wearer was graduated, the field of learning in which the degree was earned, and the level of the degree— bachelor, master, or doctoral.

The distinguishing feature of the black mortarboard cap, standard at most colleges and universities in the United States, is the color of the tassel—black for the holder of a bachelor’s or master’s degree, gold for a doctor’s degree or the governing officers of educational institutions.

The gown is normally black, and the gown’s cut and trim indicate the level of the degree held. The bachelor’s has long, pointed sleeves, while the master’s has oblong sleeves, open at the wrist, with the front part cut in an arc. The doctor’s sleeves are bell-shaped, with three bars of velvet, and the gown is trimmed with velvet down the front as well. The hood tells the most about its wearer. The length of the hood and width of the binding vary according to degree. The hood is lined with the official colors of the college. The color of the hood’s binding indicates the area of study in which the degree was granted. Students also wear other regalia, including cords signifying academic honors and stoles representing countries they studied in during their academic career.

At formal academic occasions, the President of Merrimack College also wears the Presidential Medal which incorporates the College seal.