



73RD COMMENCEMENT

Class of 2023

THE SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS AND
THE SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Saturday, May 20, 2023

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

MACE BEARERS

Anne Boxberger Flaherty, Ph.D.
Interim Associate Dean, School of Liberal Arts

Traci Alberti, Ph.D., FNP-BC
Associate Dean of Nursing, School of Nursing and Health Sciences

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
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

The Rev. Nicholas A. Sannella, J.D., M.D.
Pastor, Lowell Collaborative, Archdiocese of Boston

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

SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

MASTER'S DEGREE IN COURSE

Anne Abreu	Alexander Gohl	Audrey Murphy
Annabella Agnoletti	Hannah Goodwin	Haley Elizabeth Norris
Claire Aki-Cobham	Alyssa Gorman	Starlina Nunez
Lisa Allen	Bryan Frederick David Grasso	Laura Anne O'Connor
Stephen Almeida	Katherine Anne Gundersen	Patricia Oduah
Haley Andersson	Emily Hammond	Jennifer Ogonowski
Bridget Garvey Austin	Abigail Henkel	Jonathan Arthur Peters
Meghan Shaye Barrasso	Cameron David James	Stephanie Popovichenko
Darnnellyz Raquel M. Batista Q.	Melvin Johnson	Joshly Ramos
Katherine Bonney	Ryan Jeffrey Josephson	Stephen Reddy
Rochelle Brothers	Catherine Mary Julian	Anthony Joseph Russo
Brianne Christopher	Jennifer Karius	James Allen Meier Ryan
Bailey Ann Clurman	Benjamin William Kelleher	Shelby Lee Sawtelle
Melissa Lynn Cochrane	Shannan Rose Kennedy	Amy Schram
Justine Autumn Cook	Edie Lawlor Kramer	Meghan Christine Schweizer
Cristina Daniels	Sebastien Labissiere	Michael Dimitri Senoff
Ashley A. Davies	William MacKinlay	Renee E. Snow, MD
Gianpiero de Mari	Shannon Maglione	Mark Stanko
John William Delaney	Jonna Janiece Elaine Martinez	Barbara Stoebel
Margery Susan Dwyer	Jorge Martinez	Goldera Surlis
Maria Eaton	Ryan Masse	Melinda Sweeney
Scott J. Falzano, Jr.	Patrick McCarter	Celine Tedenby
Paula Flynn	Jaelen McCarthy	Michelle Mona Thompson
Kiera Noreen Foley	Annie McDonnell	Kirstin Ann Trouville
Ana Isabel Fox	Hana McLinden	Olivia Valdes
Tyler Calisay Furnari	Owen McMullen	Damien Williams
Katie Gabriello	Bryana A. Michitson	Aaron Wolfe
Rocco Anthony Geary	Belinda Miranda	David W. Woodford
Donald J. Gibson	Celeste Molle	Julianne Wydola

SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN COURSE

Omara Jasmin Acosta Foe	Jeffrey T. Converse	Paul Ganci
Fabiana Albanese	Kelly Elizabeth Corrigan	Isabel Kathryn Garcia
Tatyana Aleinikau	Joseph A. Cyrulik	Hannah Juliette Gibbs
Maria Ann Aliberti	Kassandra Daley	Alexandra Gioia
Dawn Almas	Pedro de Godoy Mancini	Camari Glasgow
Nicholas James Andriotakis	Hannah Elizabeth Delaney	Alexandra L. Glinsky
Emilee Allison Aswad	Tea Dellanno	Shayla M. Goodell
Nicholas Casey Barber	Michael Vincent DelloStritto	Jenna Lynne Gordon
Kelly Aislinn Barclay	Mykel Joesph Derring, Jr.	Sahana Arun Gorur
Naajaa Barnor	Joseph John DeSario	Patricia Margarita Gosselin
Kathleen Barriere	Dante Xavier DeSousa	John Grady
Zachary Robert Barry	Kari Diamantopoulos	Michael A. Gravante
Michael E. Atanda Bashorun	Dianelys Difo	Ashley Diana Greene
Julissa Bejar	Kuriaki DiFruscia	Amelia Rosalind Groothuis
Grace Bellefeuille	William Dinkel	Olivia Haddad
Jake Anthony Bencale	Evan Dodge	Allison Hamel
Julia Ann Bettencourt	Christopher Wehter Dolan	Alison Hannon
Sydney Laura Blades	Meghan Doyle	Jacob Hardy
Nicholas Bonazoli	Victoria Ann Duff	Joshua Colin Heath
Zacaria Bouhalloufa	Haley Margaret Dufton	Nicole Carol Hennessey
Venessa Lynn Bourgeois	Vali Durra	Gabrielle A. Heroux
Emma Marie Bouvier	Denise Marie Eaton	Nicole Claire Hersey
Nina Rose Bramante	Emily Eaton	Andrew Higgins
Shanikwa Branch	Gabrielle Eckard	Patricia Hill
Colby Brennan	Meagan M. Ellis	Cassandra Hunt
Sean M. Brenner	Luisa Gabriela Eslava	Syandene K. Inniss
Sarah Broderick	Ashley Elizabeth Falite	Hannah Kate Iskra
Ryan E. Brooks	Ashley Jane Farfaras	Kathleen Jeffers
Allyson Foley Buckley	Robert Joseph Fernandes	Deborah Celeste Jimenez
Emily Victoria Burke	Zoe R. Ferrara	Elaine Marie Jones
Jamie Burns	Antonio Pissarra Ferreira	Autumn Elizabeth Kane
Cole Glenn Cameron	Anthony Louis Fiato	Samantha Karavias
Ali Rae Carr	Hannah Grace Fitzpatrick	Alethea Anne Keamy
Desirae Anne Carr	Filip Forsmark	Riley Keene
Danielle Castino	Margaret Frawley	Brooke Kennedy
Cherilyn Chadwick	Serena Frisella	Madison Donna King
Lisa Chaloux	Megan Sarah Frongillo	Meghan C. Knowles
Harrison Chase	Nathaniel Philip Frontiero	Flavio Kodheli
JeanFranco Cholidis	Christopher Fruland	Abigail Kraunelis
Caitlin Michelle Coleman	Morgan Gaffey	Patrick John Henry Krol
Isabella Towsey Collins	Matthew Brian Gagnon	Priscilla Laine
Kaitlyn Marie Collins	Nicole Galvin	Mary R. Landers

CONTINUED

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN COURSE
SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

Stephen Landers	Mandi Lynn Miller	Emily Barbara Sarica
Brandon P. Lawrence	Jordan Minor	Taylor Elizabeth Sawyer
Katherine Lawrence	Bryce David Miranda	Lillian R. Schaefer-Calderon
Amanda Dorothy Lee	Shirley Mitchell	Juri Schlingmann
Michael Paul LeGage, Jr.	Alexander Nicholas Moore	Gabriela Schmeiske
Nicholas Michael Lenon	Luke Morgan	Lily Ryan Seremet
Margaux Marie Lestage	Travis Michael Motsis	Ryan Charles Shannon
Andrew Leuci	Andrew David Mountain	Jacquelyn Shaw
Marlaina Linnane	Dennis Moynihan	Margaret Silvestri
Stacy Litzos	Colin Murphy	Nathan P. Silvia
Gabriella P. Lombardo	Rebecca Sarah Needleman	Sarah Ann Simpson
Melissa S. Lora	Emily Neff	Olivia Snow
Abigail J. Low	Samuel O'Brien	Christopher John Sokol
Drew Robert MacInnis	Abigail O'Keefe	Shawn Sousa
Brigid Murphy Madden	Christopher James O'Neil	Carly Ann Stabile
Randy J. Maldonado	Bianca Barbara Orman	Michelleann Imari Sterling
Brianna Marie Malerba	Johnna Frances Padvaiskas	Harrison Stott
Madelyn Eve Mallaghan	Lila Panico	Dorian Elon Straker
Ashley Manocchia	Anthony Parrazzo	Meghan Laura Stratton
Nicole Violet Martin	Eva Lynda Pastor	Kathryn Grace Sullivan
Kali Mata	Jane Caroline Pavluk	Jeffrey Supple
Noelle Anna Mattiace	Anna Merle Pellerin	Noah Surman
David Maturo	Sarah Elizabeth Pendenza	Dianna Sutera
Angela Mayes	Chase Perry	Myles Taylor
Peter David McAllister	Elise Anne Persicketti	Xander Thesz
John McBain	Gina T. Petraglia	Angelina Toribio
Anna Catherine McCarthy	Gordon Hung Pham	Gabrielle Lynn Tretton
Jackson W. McCarty	Evan Phillips	Kimberly Turgeon
Kyle Sean McCarty	Ollie G. Piazza	Kimberly Eiko Turner
Brooke McEachern	Emely Rachel Pimentel Castillo	Jared R. Ullstrom
Lauren McElhinney	Audrey Pomar	Helen Sarahi Vasquez
Elizabeth McFarland	Raegan Porfido	Katilyn Elizabeth Walmsley
Charles Warren McGarigle	Danielle Powers	Megan A. Wigley
Daniel McGowan	Julia Ricci	Grace Elizabeth Wilson
Jordan G. McKoy	Donovan James Robinson	Zachary T. Wilson
Braelyn McLaughlin	Jessica Rodriguez	Michael Bernard Wisnes
Erin Elizabeth McPherson	Joseph Edward Rogers	Jordan Wolfgang
Paige Alexandra Means	Laurel Kiki Elise Roust	Emily Anne Wood
Diane G. Melo	Renee Ruiz	Ehsan Yaqhubi
Joshua Michael Mendonca	Rowan James Salhi	Lisa Yuen
Nathaniel Rosario Grey Merida	Nicholas Salmon	Lillian Zagorites
Stephanie Jeanne Messina	Christopher Sannella	Meghan E. Zeytoonian
Colin Michael	Leanne Santerre	
Cassandra Miller	Megan K. Santry	

SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES

MASTER'S DEGREE IN COURSE

Patrick Lamont Aiken, Jr.	Alexander Hughes	Hanjun Park
Joseph Dennis Amundson	Patricia Inirio	Kevin The Pham
William Augustus Baldwin, V	Joshua Warren Janzen	Layn Kyler Phillips
Dominique Broyard Bell	Brianna Taylor Johnson	Dominic Pisello
Nicholas Bettencourt	Karissa Kakleas	Kelly Rose Pittendreigh
Erika Bodnar	Timothy John Kamibayashiyama	Jorge Pizarro Colon
Kathleen Borgasano	Alexis Kapsambelis	Matthew Paul Quinlan
Karen Ann Boylan	Elizabeth Marie Kashian	Noël Charles Riley
Zachary Robert Brol	Ashley E. Kesack	Chase John Rogers
Kayla A. Brownhill	Jack Kraunelis	Kyle Azevedo Rosa
Taylor Brianne Carreiro	Arnold Lee	Catherine Marie Rossi
Alexander Cassell	Sydney Jaye Leeds	Megan A. Rumenapp
William Celorier	Ryan Parker Leibold	Kai Joseph Samiere
Shane Joseph Collins	Jake Leitner	Rodney Tyler Samson
Joseph Connolly	Nicholas Justin Long	Erica Ann Schafer
Alyssa Katherine Costantino	Joseph Z. Losack	Tristen Schiafo
Ashley Craig	Charles MacDowell	Marya Schiltz
Erica Lynne Crowley	Elise Makowski	Danielle Sheehan
Madeline L. Cushing	Thomas Morris Manning	Retta Ann Smith
Chase James Drake	Abigail Mansfield	Rachel A. St.Pierre
Sophia Christina Eisenhaure	Jordan Alan Manuel	Paul Stone
Brandon David Ellsworth	Kevin McGrath	Mike Sukaloski
Steven W. Filby	Laura Jane McNaughton	Rachana Reddy Tandra
Ian Ganley	Corinne Frances McPadden	Taylor Thomas
Madeline Josephine Grady	Joshua Miller	Ashley Julia Turner
Sophia Griffin	Julia Moore	Caitlin Victor
Dylon Grzenda	Miranda Rose Morel	Samuel Weeks
Emily R. Hanna	Sydney Morgan	Casie White
Elijah Terrell Harris	Meredith Lynn Morin	Ty Wilhelmsen
Nadia Katrina Havens	Kyle James Nehiley	Madison M. Withers
Meghan E. Hawley	Catherine Grace O'Donnell	Anthony S. Witherstone, Jr.
Karsen Healy	Geofred Mogere Osoro	Emmilee Ann Woodbrey
Michelle Huerzeler	Briana Kay Papparazzo	Emelia Marie Zukowski

SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN COURSE

Joshua Addo	Madison Cote	Madeleine Guimont
Emily Grace Allen	Maddison Elizabeth Craven	Madison A. Hambrick
Sarah Amaral	Hayleigh Patricia Crawford	Fiona Claire Heffernan
Chloe Grace Atteridge	Brianna D'Aloia	Kylie Hern
Madison Hannah Babine	Grace Elizabeth DelRossi	Alexis Taylor Hutchins
Julianna Leigh Banda	Julianna Nicole DeLuca	Braden A. Jewett
Mariah Paige Baranowski	Dakota May Demko	Samantha Johnson
Cecelia Francesca Barron	Mai Detzel	Evan Bardin Jones
Ashley Makena Bates	Kara Lynn Devereaux	Molly Katherine Kelly
Alyson Marie Bauer	Ami DeVito	Kara Kilroy
Jenna Grace Bednarz	Madison Dewinkeleer	Abigail Laine
Victoria Marie Belisle	Allison Elizabeth DiCarlo	Sarah Lama
Brian Gilman Belmonte	Geena N. DiDuca	Kaleigh Lane
Jessica Ray Berry	Angelina Marie DiLello	Ava Lanning
Benjamin Joseph Berube	Alexandria DiPerri	Jennifer Rose Lansing
Viviana Bocanegra	Braydon John Dolbashian	Logan Lattime
Brooke Bolduc	Erin Marie Drew	Emma Rose Letarte
Skyler Jaims Bomba	Julie Edson	Meredith Lewis
Kelsey Aristide-Bonheur	Mackinzie Anne Edwards	Samantha LiPetri
Faith Isabella Bono	Rebekah Edwards	Sophie Ruth Long
Caroline Christina Boucher	John Elie	Christofer Lopez Bierd
Audrey Sarah Bourque	Alexandra Cole Fischer	Siobhian Lowman
Laurel Breen	Kaitlyn Flammia	Michael Lucey
Emma Brushingham	Madison Jean Fornwalt	Megan Elise Lyons
Taylor Budgell	Nicolas Fowler	Erin Nicole MacBlane
Nicholas Michael Burton	Elizabeth Francioso	Sophia Fiore Mace
Natalie Elizabeth Calkins	Meredith Ann Fullford	Mikala Magner
Katherine Callahan	Alana Nicole Fursman	Ava Mahoney
Abigail Mae Campbell	Ashley Gajdzik	Hadi Mohamed Majed
Trenton Robert Cano	Kyra Ann Galonek	Meghan Maloney
Nathaniel Caron	Melissa G. Gâmez	Veronica Maria Severino
Cristina Ann Cedrone	Ilaisa Garcia	Mary Maroney
Ella D. Dumont Charpentier	Abigail Louise Genev	Hector Martinez Pleitez
Benjamin Chase	Rebecca Gersbeck	Meghan Paige McDonough
Sydney Lee Cochran	Ava Bella Gilboard	Cole B. McGhie
Brianna Grace CoCo	Connor Scott Godin	Lauren McKenney
Kayla Kerri Collins	Gabriela Maria Goldwasser	Maggie Lyn McKeon
Sara Comisky	Emma Kylene Gorski	Abigail McLeavy
John J. Comosa	Molly Catherine Anne Goulart	Kaitlyn Riley McNiff
Alexa Christie Connell	Lydia Grant	Annabelle Mary McSweeney
Megan Connelly	Olivia Quin Griffin	Madison Stephanie Merritt
Jillian Corridori	Rachel Brooke Griffin	Madison Metcalf
Gianna Costa	Katelyn Grise	Bridget Courtney Michel

CONTINUED

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN COURSE
SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Jordyn Montoya	Alison Keene Reardon	Molly Stockfisch
Julie Moran	Andres Patricio Reyes	Quintan James Stott
Alexis Moscoffian	Firas Rimawi	Yvonne Tan
Haley Mullen	Julia Elizabeth Ritcey	Maggie E. Tardiff
Shane Patrick Murphy	Tyler J. Roberts	Julia Eve Taylor
Liam Norton	Loraine Rodriguez	Emily Scott Tebbetts
Hannah Rose O'Brien	Vivianna Rose Rodriguez	Katelyn Marie Thompson
Maura O'Connor	Adriana Luisa Romano	Brooke F. Toothaker
Patrick Robert O'Dea	Sophia Salviati	Jillian Jean Tosi
Madison Lee Oelkers	Kara Anne Sands	Katelyn Rose Tourigny
Tristan O'Grady	Marco E. Sannella	Erin Kathryn Tyldesley
Emma Grace O'Neill	Madigan Saunders	Jordan Ava Vaillancourt
Gisselle Ortiz	Sydney Sawyer	Jessica Lynn Van Heynigen
Isabella Ozga	Nicholas R. Scali	Taylor Nicole Vartanian
Nathan Palanica	Sophie Mae Scarbo	Vanessa Wainwright
Holly Paolino	Gianna Marie Sciarappa	Brooke Waitt
Georga Paquette	Kaitlyn Seeley	Jessica Wargo
Amanda Lynn Bodnar Pellino	Nicholas Seeto	Gabrielle Lyn Weilding
Alicys Alejandra Perez	Ana Maria Serratos Vela	Cameron Wheelock
Anna Teresa Perrotti	Veronica Shaw	Stephen Woods
Julia Christina Petta	Hallie Shiers	Emily Yath
Jerry Alain Pierre	Abigail Rose Sleeper	Alexis Yurczyk
Adam Pinto	Michelle Sohegian	Ava Marie Zarella
Sydney Kimberly Plemenik	Kylie E. Soter	Emily A. Zerofski
Lauren Rhodes Quinn	Chynna Staco	June Zhang
Kelsey Elaina Rasmuson	Kaitlyn Stephenson	

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.

The 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 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.

The 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 his pursuit 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.



MERRIMACK
COLLEGE