

# MERRIMACK

FALL 2017



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BUILDING FOR GOOD

# MERRIMACK

A Magazine for Our Alumni, Parents and Friends

Fall 2017

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MERRIMACK  
COLLEGE



## GIVING THEIR ALL

When I saw the final proof of this issue of Merrimack magazine, I was immediately struck by the smiling faces of the successful young alumni profiled in these pages.

A successful life has many components, each building on the other, leading to the next milestone in that person's journey.

Merrimack College is, of course, an academic institution. But, more than that, Merrimack provides the resources and support that inspire, engage and lead students on a path of intellectual and personal growth.

Through academic support initiatives such as the honors program and Compass; student-life activities and organizations such as intramural sports and the Society of Women Engineers; and experiential-education opportunities like co-ops, internships and study abroad, Merrimack helps students achieve a life of fulfillment.

Merrimack's history is filled with examples of its commitment to student success. This year, as we celebrate Merrimack's 70th birthday, we recognize and honor the discovery and achievement that have shaped the college and its graduates.

The measure of Merrimack College lies in the citizens it helps create — citizens such as yourself. Enjoy the pages that follow. I look forward to seeing you on campus soon.

Best,

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D.  
President



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“The hands-on experience was so valuable because it helped me realize that accounting was what I wanted to pursue.”

KEAIRA “KEY” PERRY '14, MS'15

**On the cover:** Crowe Hall, new home to the Girard School of Business, anchors the new North Campus development. Photo by Webb Chappell.



## 10 QUESTIONS FOR

# CARLY MUSCARO '17, DIVISION II WOMAN ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Sprinter Carly Muscaro '17, a four-year standout on both the indoor and outdoor women's track teams, graduated in May as the most successful student-athlete in Merrimack history. The 22-year-old Ashland, Massachusetts, native is a six-time national champion, 12-time All-American, holder of 14 school records and the reigning NCAA Division II record-holder in the 400-meter indoor event. In June, she earned college athletics' highest prize, the Collegiate Women's Sports Awards' Division II Woman Athlete of the Year. She recently entered the professional ranks, where she is represented by the Doyle Management Group.

### **Q: Can you describe how you felt upon learning you had been named the Honda Division II Athlete of the Year?**

I was absolutely speechless. (Assistant Athletic Director for Communications) Chris Aliano called me and said, "You won." And I said, "No way!" I was stumbling over my words.

### **Q: How do you expect your life will change now that you're running professionally?**

It's going to open more doors for me. I'm meeting so many different people, from all walks of life — agents, marketers, meet directors, other athletes. I think it's going to set me up nicely for my career after running.

### **Q: And what will that be?**

From the time I was a kid, I knew I wanted to be a police officer. When I was a senior in high school, I got interested in the Massachusetts State Police. So that's my dream job.

### **Q: If you had to boil down your success to a single trait or characteristic, what would it be?**

Passion — I'm so passionate about what I do. I love talking about track, watching track. I think about track all day long. It's kind of annoying, but I really do. You have to love what you do to really be good at it.

### **Q: Can you briefly describe your weekly workout routine?**

It depends on the time of the year. But on average, I'll work out two to three hours a day, five days a week. Monday is a hard sprint day, where you try to build up lactic acid. Tuesday is a sprint day. Wednesday is a cross-train day, so I'll ride the bike. Thursday is another type of lactic day, where you want to do some type of a hard workout but nothing that will kill you. And Friday is usually prepping for a meet on Saturday.

### **Q: What's your go-to workout song?**

The song I listen to when I want to clear my head and get myself pumped up is Phil Collins' "In the Air Tonight." It's a song that starts out kind of slow and then builds — all of a sudden the drums come crashing in and the tone picks up — and he says, "I've been waiting for this all my life." And it all makes sense to me.

### **Q: What's the worst part about running?**

The mental aspect. It's the voice inside your head that says, "You can't do this. You can't finish this workout. You can't run this race. You're not good enough." That voice is always there, and it's there for every runner. You have to be mentally tough enough to shut that voice up.

**6x**  
NATIONAL CHAMPION

**12x**  
ALL-AMERICAN

**14**  
SCHOOL RECORDS

### **Q: Do you have a personal motto?**

There's a quote by (the late Olympic distance runner) Steve Prefontaine that goes, "To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift." I have a poster with that saying hanging in my bedroom, so I see it every single day.

### **Q: What did you get at Merrimack that you couldn't have gotten anywhere else?**

The community. After my sophomore year, I thought about transferring to a big D-1 school. But all the D-1 schools are very far away, with enrollments in the tens of thousands. At Merrimack, I was close to home and with people who were very friendly. I knew almost everyone. I decided I wanted to be at a school like that.

### **Q: When your running days are over, how will you judge whether your career was a success?**

The answer is already written: It has been a success. As a high-school runner, my times were decent but nothing like they are now. I was a nobody in track and just kind of exploded onto the college scene. It never even occurred to me that I could run professionally until I was a junior in college. So I've accomplished more than I ever thought I could. Everything I do now is a blessing.

— Ken Gornstein

# THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

## A LITTLE HELP GOES A LONG WAY FOR THESE ALUMNI

Articles by **Lauren Savage** | Photos by **Adrien Bisson**

Ask any student or graduate what makes Merrimack special, and the response you're likely to hear most often is "community."

For some, that could refer to the random acts of kindness, chance meetings or extended courtesies that take place every day of the week, in every corner of campus.

For others, however, it undoubtedly means the intentional support systems the college has established to ensure that all students, regardless of origin, ability or faith, have the opportunity to grow, thrive and succeed during their years at Merrimack. These support systems include the

Academic Success Center, the Office of International Student Support and the O'Brien Center for Career Development, among others.

On the following pages, you will meet alumni who have benefited from each of these entities during their student days and, as a result, are prospering in their chosen profession and making a positive contribution to the world around them.

"At Merrimack, community is what we are. It's in our DNA, flowing directly from the life and teaching of our patron, St. Augustine," said President

Christopher E. Hopey. "We learn in community. We grow in community. When necessary, we mourn as a community, and, more often, we celebrate as a community. Every individual's success is our collective success."



**“At Merrimack, community is what we are. It’s in our DNA, flowing directly from the life and teaching of our patron, St. Augustine.”**

DR. CHRISTOPHER E. HOPEY, PRESIDENT

“I didn’t have a lot of experience, but the staff at the O’Brien Center helped me showcase my strengths and develop my first résumé.”

KEAIRA “KEY” PERRY







# KEAIRA “KEY” PERRY ’14, MS’15 THE O’BRIEN CENTER

## Success by the Numbers

Entering Merrimack College as a scholarship athlete in 2011, Keaira “Key” Perry ’14, MS’15, knew her way around the softball diamond. Less clear to her was how to navigate the complex process that would prepare her for a successful business career.

So, early in her freshman year, she paid a visit to the O’Brien Center for Career Development, in search of advice and guidance. It was the smartest decision she could have made.

“I didn’t have a lot of experience, but the staff at the O’Brien Center helped me showcase my strengths and develop my first résumé,” said Perry, who majored in accounting at the Girard School of Business. “They also gave me early insight into the job-interview process.”

As a rising sophomore, Perry landed her first internship at Freeport-McMoRan, a natural-resources company based in Phoenix. There, she had the opportunity to work on everything from budget creation to audit preparation.

“The hands-on experience was so valuable because it helped me realize that accounting was what I wanted to pursue,” she said.

The following year, she interned as a financial analyst at Raytheon Co. while continuing to juggle her schoolwork and softball responsibilities.

“The O’Brien staff was extremely supportive,” Perry said. “They conducted mock interviews with me, offered feedback and taught me everything from effective communication to the importance of making eye contact with interviewers.”

Just as important, she added, they gave her perspective on the occasional failure.

“I did not get every job that I applied to, but I did learn from every rejection,” she said. “That was critical.”

The O’Brien Center’s executive director, Courtney Luongo, explained that her staff supports the college’s mission to prepare students for a fulfilling career after graduation.

“We provide students with resources such as access to experiential education, one-on-one career advising and employment opportunities so that they not only find rewarding careers but also learn how to succeed in those careers,” Luongo said.

With the center’s assistance, Perry secured a place during the second semester of her senior year in the highly competitive Financial Leadership Development Program at BAE Systems, a Fortune 500 tech company. She completed the first year of the rotational employment program while earning a master’s degree in accounting from Merrimack. ■



# MATTHEW CHIROKAS '15

## COMPASS

## Capitalizing on a New Direction

On most Monday mornings, you'll find Matthew Chirokas '15 at his desk, evaluating investment opportunities or monitoring his company's portfolio. A private-equity analyst at Spinnaker Capital in Boston, Chirokas could be the poster boy for business success: a driven young professional confidently working his way up the corporate ladder.

But his road to a fulfilling career wasn't always smooth.

In fall 2011, Chirokas entered Merrimack feeling directionless and uncertain about his future. "The business classes I took in high school were some of the select few courses where I felt fully engaged," he recalled. "But I lacked the confidence to seriously consider a career in such a demanding, competitive field."

So he enrolled in Compass, a then-new program in the Academic Success Center, designed to help first-year students develop their research, analytical, math and writing skills through one-on-one advising, intensive tutoring and peer mentoring.

"I saw Compass as an opportunity to start over and build something I never had in high school," said Chirokas, whose father is also a Merrimack graduate. "I developed key academic and interpersonal skills that taught me how to be a good student and a great networker."

By his sophomore year, Chirokas was accepted into the honors program. Feeling more determined than ever to pursue a career in business and finance, he took on internship and leadership opportunities, and even served as a Compass peer mentor.

"When something changes your life," he said, "it's only natural to want that same experience for others."

Compass director Jennifer Evans said a key to the program's success is its holistic approach to supporting students. "We understand that fostering mental and emotional health is an important part of helping students move forward in the classroom and beyond," she said.

Chirokas, she added, was a model student who availed himself of all the resources and assistance the program offered.

"During his first year, Matt would often come to my office four or five times a week," Evans said. "He worked so diligently. It was amazing to watch him excel."


Chirokas said the skills he learned at Compass have served him well in his fast-paced, high-pressure job, where learning new skills, synthesizing complex reports and managing several projects at once are valued commodities.

"I left Compass not only a stronger student but also a better person," he said. "I am grateful I can take what I learned with me wherever I go." ■



“I left Compass not only  
a stronger student but  
also a better person.”

MATTHEW CHIROKAS

A man with a beard and mustache, wearing a dark blue suit, white shirt, and light purple tie, stands in front of a large, multi-story building with many windows. He has his hands clasped in front of him and is looking towards the camera. The building behind him has a classical architectural style with a balcony on the right side. The sky is clear and blue.

“I was excited to see my dreams become realities. Merrimack really felt like the right place for me to grow and learn.”

BRUNO ZANOTTI



# BRUNO ZANOTTI '06

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT

### All the Right Moves

When he was only 10, Bruno Zanotti '06 told his parents he wanted to play professional basketball. He was, it seems, speaking his dreams into existence. Today, Zanotti is a small forward for Club Libertad, a professional basketball team in his native Paraguay.

Merrimack helped Zanotti keep his eye on the ball. In his senior year of high school, he took classes at Andover High School through the AFS-USA international student-exchange program. He flourished there. By the time he returned to Paraguay to finish his senior year, Merrimack had offered him a full basketball scholarship.

"I was excited to see my dreams become realities," Zanotti recalled. "Merrimack really felt like the right place for me to grow and learn."

As soon as he accepted the college's offer, the staff at the Office of International Student Support sprang into action. "Our office assists international students through customized orientations, help with visa and immigration services, and other resources," said assistant director Carol Leibovitz.

After he arrived on campus, Zanotti continued to rely on the office's guidance. "As a student-athlete, I had the spotlight," he said. "I knew I had a responsibility to use it in a positive way."

Zanotti, who had roommates from North Carolina and Sierra Leone his freshman year, worked with the office as a student representative for diversity. "I understood the importance of exposure to new people, cultures and ideas," he said.

The sports-medicine major quickly proved himself on and off the court. During his junior year, Zanotti juggled school, basketball and his role as a resident adviser. During his senior year, he received the David A. Rafferty III Memorial Award in recognition of his athletic and academic achievement, as well as his leadership in the Merrimack community.

"Bruno was such a presence in our office and on campus," said Leibovitz. "He was always humble and appreciative, so it was great to watch him succeed."

That success was only the beginning. After graduation, Zanotti began playing professionally in the International Basketball Federation. Throughout his career, he has earned more than 10 national championship titles, playing for such countries as Italy, Switzerland and Brazil.

In 2015, Zanotti became general sports director for the Paraguayan Secretariat of Sports, overseeing the planning, implementation and support of sports programs and policy. "It's an honor and a privilege not only to play but to do this work here at home," he said.

Of all his victories, Zanotti says his greatest wins come as a husband and a father to a year-old son. And though he plans to stop playing professional basketball in a few years, he shows no signs of slowing down.

"I don't think any player ever truly retires," he says. "The key is to never stop dreaming." ■



# 70 FOR 70

AS MERRIMACK TURNS **70**, WE  
CELEBRATE **70** STORIES FROM  
THE COLLEGE'S REMARKABLE PAST.

Photo by  
Michael Malyszko

**In 1947**, a new college opened on Massachusetts' North Shore, on 70 acres of North Andover land purchased from the Higgins family of nearby Lawrence.

The college consisted of a single building, a one-story E-shaped cinder-block structure that served as home to the first cohort of 165 first-year students, 60 percent of whom were returning veterans of World War II.

Merrimack College, as the new school came to be known, was the brainchild of the Catholic Archdiocese of Boston — specifically its archbishop, Richard J. Cushing — and a 38-year-old Augustinian priest, Vincent A. McQuade, who worked tirelessly to establish Merrimack and served as its inaugural president.

As the college begins its 70th anniversary celebration this fall, Merrimack magazine looks back at 70 people, places, events,

milestones and curiosities that have had a lasting impact on the institution. This list is not comprehensive, nor are its contents presented in any particular order. It simply offers a lively snapshot of 70 years of Merrimack spirit, ingenuity and achievement.

Many of the details listed here come from three histories of the college: "Merrimack College: Genesis and Growth, 1947-1972," by Edward G. Roddy Jr.; "Merrimack College: The First Fifty Years," by Frank J. Leone Jr., P'07, and Robert D. Keohan '53; and "Keep on Walking: A Tour of the Merrimack College Campus to Awaken Minds and Hearts to the Meaning of Its Augustinian Tradition," by the Rev. James A. Wenzel '52, O.S.A.



1

**ARCHBISHOP RICHARD J. CUSHING**

**Founding Father:** The need to educate servicemen returning home to the Merrimack Valley from World War II moved Cushing to invite the Augustinians to form a four-year college north of Boston. In 1947, the “Augustinian College of the Merrimack Valley” was granted a charter by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. By the time it opened on Sept. 29, 1947, the name had been changed to Merrimack College.



2

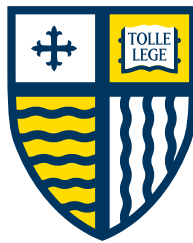
**REV. VINCENT A. MCQUADE, O.S.A.**

**Dreams Into Reality:**

If Cushing was the college’s visionary, McQuade, a native of Lawrence, Massachusetts, was its engineer. McQuade, tapped by the Augustinians to be the driving force behind Merrimack’s establishment, served 22 years as its inaugural president.

**3 REV. JOSEPH GILDEA**

**Intellectual Heft:** Alongside McQuade, another Lawrence native, Gildea, did much to burnish the new college’s academic reputation. A modern-languages scholar, Gildea was professor, dean and vice president at Merrimack from 1947 to 1959, hiring top-notch faculty and crafting individualized programs of study for every undergraduate.



4

**ST. AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO**

**Faith and Knowledge:** Merrimack’s Augustinian origins demand a bow to the college’s oldest inspiration, Christian theologian St. Augustine (354-430). The phrase “Tolle lege” (“Take up and read”), drawn from Augustine’s account of his conversion, appears on the shield in the Merrimack logo.

**6 GLEE CLUB**

**Filled With Glee:** With a gymnasium yet to be built on campus, the college’s first activity group focused on vocal exercises. The glee club, founded in fall 1947 by the Rev. William Wynne, O.S.A., offered students a recreational and artistic outlet. A debating society and several unofficial hockey teams also formed around the same time.



5

**GUILD HALL**

**Guided Glory:** The first building on campus, Guild Hall was a single-story cinder-block structure with seven classrooms, a library, a chapel, two labs and several administrative offices. It was completed in summer 1947, just in time to welcome the college’s first group of students.

7-15

- ESTELLE BERNARDIN**
- BARBARA COUGHLIN '54**
- CATHERINE CAROLYN CULLEN '54**
- GRACE DELAMARE**
- PATRICIA HART '54**
- MARGARET HICKEY '54**
- LORETTA KONOPACKA '54**
- ANTOINETTE MAZZAGLIA '54**
- HELEN TOOHRIG '54**

**Pioneering Women:** Though women were welcomed into the summer school and evening division from Merrimack’s beginnings, they were initially barred from enrolling in the main undergraduate day program. That all changed in 1950, when these nine female students took their seats at opening-day Mass.



# 30

## 1994 WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM

**Hit Parade:** Sixteen years after the men's hockey championship, the women's softball team, coached by Michele Myslinski, soared to the school's second — and only other — national championship, finishing the season with an eye-opening 45-4 record.

# 16

## FIRST COMMENCEMENT

**Let Us Commence:** Merrimack held its first graduation ceremony outside Cushing Hall on June 3, 1951, awarding bachelor's degrees to 112 graduates and presenting honorary doctorates to Archbishop Cushing and Massachusetts Gov. Paul Andrew Dever.



# 17

## CARL YASTRZEMSKI '66

**Yaz, Sir:** Of the Merrimack athletes who went on to professional careers, Yastrzemski stands above the crowd. Yaz played 23 seasons in the big leagues as a member of the Boston Red Sox, amassing 3,419 hits, 452 home runs and 1,844 RBIs. On the penultimate day of his baseball career, Oct. 1, 1983, Yastrzemski was honored by the Fenway faithful. At his request, Merrimack played a major role at the ceremony: President John Deegan, O.S.A., presented gifts to the star slugger, and student Adele Keohan '85, MA'03, sang the national anthem.

# 18-28

- GREG CLASSEN
- MARK CORNFORTH '95
- STÉPHANE DA COSTA '17
- MATT FOY
- JIM HRIVNAK
- JOHN JAKOPIN '97
- BOBBY JAY '88
- STEVE MCKENNA
- DARREL SCOVILLE '08
- KARL STOLLERY '12
- JIM VESEY '88

**Go Pro:** Yaz's achievements notwithstanding, Merrimack's most accomplished sports program over the years has been its men's hockey team. These 11 Warrior icers made it to the top of their profession by logging playing time with a National Hockey League team.

# 31

## CHARLIE DAY '98

**Have a Nice Day:** He's Merrimack's biggest internet sensation. On May 20, 2014, the famed actor, producer and screenwriter returned to campus to deliver the commencement keynote. A video of his address was posted to the college's YouTube channel; to date, it has registered some 2.3 million views.

# 32

## CRACKING THE U.S. NEWS RANKINGS

**News You Can Use:** In 2002, Merrimack upped its prominence on the higher-ed map by cracking, for the first time, the top-10 list of "Regional Colleges, North" in the influential *U.S. News & World Report* rankings of American colleges and universities.

# 29

## 1978 MEN'S HOCKEY TEAM

**We Are the Champions:** Men's hockey boasts yet another distinction. The 1978 squad, under the direction of coach Thom Lawler, captured Merrimack's first national team championship. After skating to a 21-9-2 regular-season record, the Warriors cruised past Mankato State, 6-1, in the semifinals before shellacking Lake Forest, 12-2, in the finals to capture the NCAA Division II title.





# 33-40



**MEL BLANC**  
**JAY LENO**  
**LARRY LINVILLE**  
**DEBORAH NORVILLE**

**WILLARD SCOTT**  
**RICHARD SIMMONS**  
**ALY RAISMAN**  
**ROBERT FROST**

**Seeing Stars:** With more than 50 colleges and universities in Greater Boston, it's no easy feat to entice celebrities to make the trek up to little ol' North Andover. But we've had our share of A-listers, including master voice artist Blanc, former "Tonight" show host Leno, TV weatherman Scott and journalist Norville, fitness guru Simmons, "M\*A\*S\*H" star Linville and Olympic gymnast Raisman. And let's not overlook Pulitzer Prize-winning

poet (and Lawrence native) Frost, who permanently resides on campus by way of a statue sculpted by José Buscaglia Guillermety.

# 41 AEROSMITH

**On Another Note:**  
On Oct. 22, 1971,  
23-year-old Steven

Tyler and 21-year-old Joe Perry brought their nascent band to the Merrimack campus for a night of rollicking rock 'n' roll.



# 42 MERRIMACK COLLEGE CHOIR

**An Audience With the Pope:** The choir

performed in an eminent venue on a holy day in 1989, singing for Pope John Paul II in St. Peter's Basilica during Mass on Palm Sunday. The pope met with the students following the service.

# 43 CHRISTOPHER E. HOPEY, PH.D.

**Figure Eight:**  
A visionary

administrator with a strong entrepreneurial streak, Merrimack's eighth and current president was hired in 2010 amid declining enrollments and severe budget shortfalls. In just seven years, he has led Merrimack into an era of unprecedented growth and success, notable for record student enrollments and fundraising.

# 44-49

**REV. JOHN R. AHERNE, O.S.A.**  
**REV. JOHN A. COUGHLAN, O.S.A.**  
**REV. JOHN E. DEEGAN, O.S.A.**

**RICHARD J. SANTAGATI '65**  
**REV. JOSEPH D. CALDERONE, O.S.A.**  
**RONALD O. CHAMPAGNE**

**Presidential Succession:** In between the college's first and last presidents came six other men who made a lasting impact on this campus: Aherne, 1968–76, who strengthened Merrimack's curriculum, particularly in the liberal arts; Coughlan, 1976–81, an economist who stabilized the college's finances during the turbulent 1970s; Deegan, 1981–94, who broadened Merrimack's base of donors and professionalized the division of student affairs; Santagati, 1994–2008, who transitioned the college to a residential campus; Calderone, 2008, who served as interim president following Santagati's resignation; and Champagne, 2008–10, who provided steady leadership in a transitional role.

# 50 JOSEPH KELLEY, P'12

**More Than an Average Joe:** With more than four decades of

service at Merrimack, Kelley, professor and co-chair of religious and theological studies, is renowned for founding and leading the celebrated Pellegrinaggio pilgrimage to Italy each spring.

# 51 REV. THOMAS KENNY

**Father Appleseed:** No one did more to bring a verdant canopy to the

Merrimack campus than Kenny, the former vice president for financial affairs. From 1965 to 1972 alone, he is credited with planting more than 2,000 trees and 5,000 shrubs on college grounds.



# 52 DANIEL BREEN '51

**'Mr. First':** This was the nickname earned by the 27-year-old former naval officer for any number of good reasons. He was the first student to apply to Merrimack. The first to register. The first to receive a schedule of classes put together by Father Gildea. The first to major in history. And the first Merrimack student to become the father of twins, born in 1948.



# 53

## MILTON PREVOST '52

**A Loyal and Trustee Grad:** In 1969, Prevost became the first alumnus to sit on the board of trustees; a year later, he was made chairman.

# 54-56



## JOHN F. KENNEDY • EDWARD M. KENNEDY • THOMAS P. "TIP" O'NEILL

**Jack, Ted and Tip:** The three lions of Massachusetts politics all paid visits to Merrimack during their careers. JFK, then a U.S. congressman, was guest speaker at a College Communion Breakfast in 1950, 10 years before he was elected president. Brother Ted spoke in Murray Lounge in 1994 during one of his runs for re-election to the U.S. Senate. And O'Neill, then speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, delivered the commencement keynote in 1982.

# 57-58

## MICHAEL CROWE '92, H'17, P'17 KERRIDAN CROWE, P'17

**Something to Crowe About:** The Crowes made the largest single gift in Merrimack history — \$4 million — to support construction of a new home for the business school on North Campus — Merrimack's first new academic building in two decades. Crowe Hall opened its doors in August.



# 59

## CARLY MUSCARO '17

**Run for It!** The Ashland, Massachusetts, native was a good, not great, sprinter when she was recruited out of high school in 2013. Four years later, she graduated from Merrimack as the most decorated athlete in college history, having racked up six national championships, 12 All-American designations, 14 school records, and numerous conference and national honors.



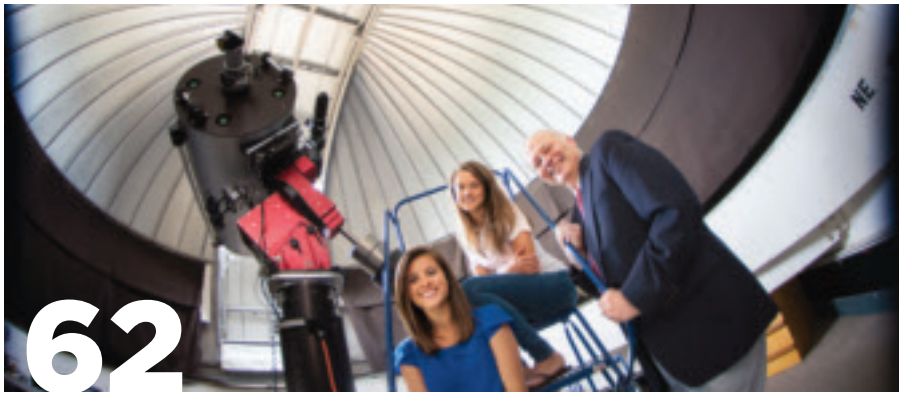
## MOSELEY WROUGHT-IRON BRIDGE

**What Have We Wrought?** If not for the efforts of civil engineering professor Francis Griggs, Merrimack's most iconic landmark would have ended up on the scrap heap. Griggs, an expert in 19th-century bridges, convinced the crumbling bridge's owner, Atlantic Enterprises, to transport the structure to campus, where it would be restored and installed over a reflecting pond south of the library by Merrimack engineering students. Today, the national landmark stands as a symbol of Merrimack's link with the city of Lawrence, where the bridge once served as a beacon of hope to the thousands of immigrants settling in the Merrimack Valley.

# 61 WILLIAM R. GARRETT JR.

**Mr. Merrimack:** He has been described as the "heart and soul" of Merrimack College. During a 46-year career (1954–2000), Garrett served as an instructor, director of the engineering division, assistant to the vice president of academic affairs and, finally, assistant to the president during the Coughlan, Deegan and Santagati administrations.





### MENDEL OBSERVATORY

**Seeing Stars:** In April 1993, the observatory, featuring the largest research telescope in the Merrimack Valley, opened at the Mendel Center.



### CASCIA HALL

**Have Church, Will Travel:** In 1996, the former Fellowship Bible Church at the corner of Routes 125 and 114 in North Andover was relocated to the Merrimack campus, a gift of American Stores/Osco Drug Co.

## 64-66

**JOSEPH H. HENNESSEY  
HOMER BOURGEOIS  
J. LEO CRONIN SR.**

**Laity Pioneers:** In 1960, Hennessey was appointed the college's first lay director, of the business administration department. Three years later, Bourgeois and Cronin became the first laypersons appointed to the board of trustees.



**FRANK GIRARD '62, H'16**

**He Means Business:** A commercial photographer by trade, Girard began evening classes at Merrimack in the late 1950s to make a better life for himself. He eventually transferred to the day school and graduated as a top student in the business school. To demonstrate his thanks, Girard made a \$2.5 million gift to the business school, which now bears his name.

## 68 JAMES J. ST. GERMAIN

**It's All Politics:**

A renowned figure on campus for three decades (1951–81), St. Germain founded and served as the first chair of the political science department. His legend lives on as the namesake for the college's annual political science lecture series.

## 69 EDWARD G. RODDY JR.

**Making History:**

A beloved faculty member who served as inaugural chair of the history department from 1965–70, Roddy may be best known for writing the definitive history of Merrimack's first 25 years, "Merrimack College: Genesis and Growth, 1947–1972." Today, his name is also attached to Merrimack's outstanding teacher of the year award.



## 70 YOU! Take a Bow:

Last but certainly not least, we tip our hat to you, our loyal alumni. Without your financial and moral support, Merrimack would not be the vibrant success it is today. Thank you for everything you do in our behalf.



# TRANSFORMING THE CAMPUS

## Merrimack Ups Its Game With New Academic Building, Athletic Stadium

It's a building boom the likes of which Merrimack has not seen in more than two decades.

Within weeks of each other this fall, the college opened Crowe Hall, a three-story academic building that serves as the new home of the Girard School of Business, and Merrimack Stadium, a gleaming multiuse facility with a capacity of 4,000 spectators.

President Christopher E. Hopey proudly presided over the opening of both facilities, which were priorities of the college's \$50 million *Together for Good* capital campaign. Crowe Hall was built with the help of a \$4 million gift from Michael Crowe '92, H'17, P'17, chairman of Merrimack's board of trustees, and his wife, Kerridan, P'17 — the largest single gift in Merrimack history.

"Merrimack is an institution on the move," Hopey said. "And while we've made great strides over the past eight years, we can't afford to rest on our laurels. We must continue on our trajectory of providing the best possible educational experience for our students, and that starts with creating the spaces and facilities where they can grow and thrive intellectually, socially and spiritually."

And the beat goes on. Later this fall, the college will hold a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Welcome Center, a two-story, 19,000-square-foot structure that will also house the O'Brien Center for Career Development. Completion is expected by next fall.



Photos by Tom Kates



## CROWE HALL

Home to the Girard School of Business, Crowe Hall is a 50,000-square-foot academic pavilion that anchors the new North Campus development. It features leading-edge classrooms, the Mucci Capital Markets Lab, the Financial Capability Center, the Lucey Center for Business Advising, and the Bouchard Center for Management Consulting and Student Applied Learning.



Photos by Webb Chappell

## MERRIMACK STADIUM

The new Merrimack Stadium, a multiuse facility with a capacity of 4,000 spectators, features, clockwise from top, new chairback and bleacher-style seating, a synthetic-turf field and an eight-lane, 400-meter track. The facility is home to the football team, men's and women's lacrosse, women's field hockey and men's and women's track and field.

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## ACADEMIC SUCCESS CENTER



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## SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES



Summer renovations brought new life to several well-worn spaces on campus. The programs and services of the Academic Success Center, top, were united under one roof on the third floor of McQuade Library; the new School of Health Sciences, middle, now occupies the top three floors of O'Reilly Hall; and the department of visual and performing arts has been relocated adjacent to The Writers House in the Academic Innovation Center.

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## VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS



## NEW RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY SUPPORTS WOMEN IN STEM

Though women make up about half the U.S. workforce, fewer than one-quarter hold positions in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics professions. This not only deprives the country's fastest-growing sector of some of its brightest and most creative minds, it stifles innovation and growth by failing to capitalize on women's unique perspectives on the market economy.

If more women are to join — and succeed in — the STEM professions, economists and scientists agree, they will need strong academic and social support networks at all levels of their education. Against this backdrop, Merrimack this fall introduced a

Women in STEM living-learning community, open to all first-year female students majoring in any of the college's science, engineering or math disciplines, including the health sciences.

Officials said that students in this cohort, who live on the third floor of Deegan West, will benefit by exploring and sharing their passion for science and technology with one another in a uniquely supportive environment. They will all take the same STEM-focused First Year Experience course, be offered special lectures and programming geared to a STEM audience, and serve as mentors at an after-school science club for girls in Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Director of Science and Engineering Programs Maureen Sakakeeny, who has led the development of Women in STEM at Merrimack, serves as the primary adviser to the residents, and also teaches the specially designed FYE class.



**“The goal of Women in STEM is to attract, retain and prepare female students for careers in the STEM professions,”** Sakakeeny said. “Merrimack is committed to growing the talent pool for STEM majors, specifically among the female population, which is currently underrepresented in the STEM fields.”

The Women in STEM community was championed on campus by Madhu Dhar, M'17, who explored the topic in her master's capstone project. Dhar was involved in shaping the new program, contributing her experience as a longtime advocate for women in STEM fields.

# THE MERRIMACK SOCIETY

A leadership gift to Merrimack College helps us to honor our Augustinian tradition of scholarship, service and social justice. Donors who give an annual contribution totaling \$1,000 or more, helping to fund critical projects and programs, are recognized as part of The Merrimack Society.

**Austin Level:** \$5,000+

**Cushing Level:** \$2,500 - \$4,999

**McQuade Level:** \$1,000 - \$2,499

**Young Alumni McQuade Level:** \$100+  
(Graduates from the last 10 years)

For more information, visit [merrimack.edu/givingsocieties](http://merrimack.edu/givingsocieties)





## LIBERAL ARTS LAUNCHES INTERDISCIPLINARY INSTITUTE



Janet Caputi

The School of Liberal Arts has launched a new Interdisciplinary Institute with a focus on bias, perfectly timed to study the current political and cultural climate in the United States.

The institute is designed to foster collaboration between students and faculty across traditional academic departments to solve problems and address major public questions. It will combine the skills and perspectives of history; philosophy; visual and performing arts; psychology; sociology; economics; women's and gender studies; biology; and other disciplines.

"The Interdisciplinary Institute embraces the potential for new knowledge, new ways of understanding and new insights on complex questions that can come from integrating the theoretical

and methodological approaches of more than one field of study," Provost Allan Weatherwax said. "By creating opportunities for students to engage with these complex issues, the institute also reaffirms Merrimack's mission to enlighten minds, engage hearts and empower lives."

The institute's inaugural theme is "The Complex Nature of Bias: Is It Inevitable?"

"Given recent events in our country, our focus on bias seems particularly relevant and powerfully important," said Monica Cowart, vice provost and founding director of the institute. "The creation of this institute further underscores the college's historical commitment to fostering social justice and embracing diversity. Merrimack is taking a leadership role in these areas at a time when this leadership is greatly needed."

Interim Dean Sean Condon added that by becoming involved with the institute, faculty and students will have opportunities to become more effective problem solvers.

"It will enable them to engage with others who have different perspectives and approaches, and in turn, both students and faculty will be motivated to take collaborative approaches to formulate and address complex and crucial questions," Condon said.

Janet Caputi, a Florida Atlantic University professor who holds joint appointments in the departments of women, gender and sexuality studies, and communication and multimedia, will serve as the institute's inaugural visiting scholar. She will teach courses related to the theme, collaborate with students on research projects and hold public events addressing major questions relating to bias.

Merrimack faculty, aided by grants from the institute, have designed courses and events to complement the theme. The institute will also offer experiential-education opportunities, classroom learning and robust on-campus programming, including symposia and workshops.

## SOMETHING'S ALWAYS COOKING AT THE MERRIMACK FRIARY

By day, Merrimack's three full-time Augustinian priests serve God and their fellow man.

By night, they serve one another ... dinner.

From hearty lasagna to rustic chicken to grilled swordfish, enticing aromas are always emanating from Saint Ambrose Friary on Elm Street, home to Merrimack's apostolate.

Until five years ago, the friary employed a cook. When she retired, the friars had an epiphany. Now, the friary's six residents take turns cooking the evening meal.

As Father Rick Piatt explains, "We love to cook, we're fairly good at it, so we said, 'Let's just cook for ourselves.' That way, our time at home is our time with each other. There's no other person in the house, no employee or staff person. It's just us."

Each friar has assumed a cooking persona that befits his personality and his Merrimack day job.

For example, Piatt, director of the Rogers Center for the Arts, is the artist, improvising and injecting his personal touch into each creation. Father Raymond Dlugos, vice president for mission and ministry, is the administrator who efficiently and assiduously goes about his meal-preparation duties. And Father Stephen Curry, professor of practice and special assistant to the dean in the School of Education and Social Policy, is the pedagogist — he gets a kick out of showing others how to reimagine traditional dishes.

In addition to cooking for one another, the friars also enjoy hosting dinner guests and preparing meals for students on campus. Dlugos is renowned for whipping up homemade lasagna for groups of up to 40 on special occasions, such as reunions for Pellegrinaggio pilgrimage participants. "It's a great way to remind them of how good the food is in Italy compared to here," he says with a wry smile.

And while each of the friars has his favorite dish to prepare, they're always looking to expand their repertoire.

"It's important to keep learning new recipes and cuisines to add excitement to life," says Curry, the youngest of 14 children, who, out of necessity, has been cooking from a young age. "And it's always rewarding when I can integrate our Augustinian charism of community into the meal and share it with others."

— Ken Gornstein



From left: Fathers Stephen Curry, Rick Piatt and Raymond Dlugos.

Photos by Webb Chappell





1

## Fr. Steve's Grilled Swordfish With Lemon-Caper Beurre Blanc; Fresh Garden Salad

Enjoy a glass of Chenin Blanc or Sauvignon Blanc wine to complement this dinner. Bon appétit!

### Grilled swordfish

Serves 4

4 swordfish steaks (8 ounces each)  
Olive oil, for glazing

1. Preheat your grill to 450°F.
2. Glaze the swordfish with olive oil before placing it on the grill (the oil will help to keep the fish moist).
3. Grill swordfish for 3-4 minutes on each side. As soon as the fish is white on both sides and begins to flake, it is done. Be careful not to overcook, which can lead to an overly dry texture.

### Lemon-caper beurre blanc

2 tablespoons minced onions  
1/4 bottle Chenin Blanc or Sauvignon Blanc wine  
Juice of 1 medium lemon  
1 tablespoon capers, drained  
1 cup heavy cream  
1 stick unsalted butter  
½ teaspoon sea salt  
1 teaspoon freshly ground pepper

1. Place the minced onions and wine in a stainless-steel saucepan. Over high heat on your stovetop, reduce the mixture for about 12 minutes, or until almost completely reduced.
2. Add lemon juice and capers to the pan, and reduce for another minute.
3. Add cream, and bring sauce to a boil. Cook for about 2-3 minutes over medium heat, reducing liquid by half or until the desired thickness is achieved. (This step can be done up to an hour before serving the sauce.)
4. Set heat on low. Cut butter into half-ounce cubes. Add cubes one at a time while constantly stirring with a whisk. Wait until each cube has been nearly incorporated into the sauce before adding another. Once all the butter has been added, remove pan from heat, and season the sauce with salt.
5. Ladle the sauce over the grilled swordfish. Lightly season with freshly ground pepper.

### Tips

*As you add the butter, if the sauce starts to separate on the outside edge and get thin, add the butter more quickly, and lift the saucepan off the burner. If the sauce starts to get very thick, add the butter more slowly.*

*If you desire to hold the sauce before serving, don't let it get too cold or too hot. Maintain a temperature no cooler than 100°F and no hotter than 130°F. If the oven is on and the stovetop burners are off, leaving the saucepan on the stovetop will usually keep the sauce warm enough. Stir every 15 minutes or so.*

### Fresh garden salad

8-ounce bag of mixed salad greens  
8 cherry tomatoes  
4 hard-boiled eggs  
4 ounces crumbled feta cheese  
4 ounces unsalted cranberry trail mix  
2 tablespoons minced onions  
Balsamic vinegar and olive oil, to taste  
1 teaspoon freshly ground pepper

1. Rinse and dry salad and tomatoes. Peel, rinse and dry hard-boiled eggs.
2. In a large salad bowl, combine salad greens, tomatoes, feta cheese, cranberry trail mix and minced onions. Toss gently.
3. Add balsamic vinegar and olive oil according to taste.
4. Garnish with hard-boiled eggs, cut into quarters, and freshly ground pepper.

## Fr. Rick's Rustic Grilled Chicken; Rosemary Roasted Potatoes and Rainbow Carrots; Asparagus With Bacon

This is the kind of dinner I like to make: hearty, spicy and easy! The friars like to eat it, and when I make it for students, nothing is ever left over. I generally plan on half a bird per person, but judge according to your own crowd.

### Rustic grilled chicken

Whole frying chicken, cut in half (you can get your butcher to do this for you)

Olive oil

1 tablespoon Tonguespank Garlic Grappa Spice Blend\*

1 teaspoon each of salt, freshly ground pepper and paprika

1. Rinse the chicken, and pat it dry. Rub with olive oil.
2. Mix the spices in a small dish, and rub the mixture all over the chicken, including under the skin. Put chicken in the refrigerator for 20 minutes.
3. Place chicken on a hot grill, skin side up. Once the skin starts to color, turn chicken over.
4. Cook until juices run clear. Cooking time will depend on your grill and the size of the bird. (If baking the chicken, which I don't suggest, set oven to 375°F. Bake until juices run clear. Again, cooking time will depend on your oven and the size of the bird.)

*This is a spicy blend, which I like, but feel free to use any herb or spice blend you prefer. If you'd rather not make the roasted potatoes and carrots, the spicy chicken pairs well with homemade mac and cheese.*

### Rosemary roasted potatoes and rainbow carrots

Red bliss potatoes (blue, gold or white potatoes can also be used)

Organic rainbow carrots (I use baby carrots, but any size will do)

Olive oil

Fresh rosemary

Sea salt

Freshly ground pepper

1. Cut potatoes into roughly 1-inch chunks. Spread on a baking sheet or an oven-safe dish. Add carrots.
2. Toss potatoes and carrots in a blend of olive oil, rosemary, sea salt and pepper.
3. Bake at 375°F until potatoes are golden and can be pierced easily with a fork (roughly 45 minutes).

### Asparagus with bacon

Asparagus, trimmed

Olive oil

Sea salt

Freshly ground pepper

Bacon



1. Lightly oil the asparagus, and season it with sea salt and pepper. Place the asparagus on a baking sheet. Wrap small bundles of the spears with uncooked bacon strips, or lay the bacon evenly over the spears, or roughly chop the bacon and sprinkle it over the spears (whichever method you prefer).
2. Bake at 350-375°F (depending on your oven). Watch the bacon. When it is done, the asparagus should be done as well.



## Fr. Ray's Taste-the-Love Lasagna

Go to the grocery store, and get a box of lasagna noodles. Turn it over, and follow the recipe on the back. As you prepare the lasagna, be sure to pour into it as much love as you possibly can for those who will eat it.

## COLLEGE ADDS 28 FACULTY ACROSS ALL SCHOOLS



Cannon



DiCarlo



Garrone-Shufran



Mallona



McLaughlin



Mitchell



Unsal



White

Merrimack has hired 28 new faculty members across disciplines to accommodate the steady growth in academic offerings on campus, college officials said.

“We are elated to welcome so many new faculty faces to Merrimack, all of whom will add tremendous value to the academic experience students receive at Merrimack,” Provost Allan Weatherwax said. “This is a great opportunity for our students to learn from individuals with varied expertise and new and exciting approaches to teaching.”

### New faculty include:

- Brandi L. Baldock, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry*
- Andrew Cannon, M.S., *Lecturer, Health Sciences*
- Jane Caputi, Ph.D., *Visiting Professor and Scholar, Interdisciplinary Institute*
- Joseph Chiarelli, Ph.D., *Lecturer, Chemistry and Biochemistry*
- Anthony DiCarlo, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering*
- Stephanie Garrone-Shufran, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor, Education and Community Studies*
- Fotios Kokkotos, Ph.D., *Professor of Practice, Data Science and Business Analytics*
- Benjamin Larkin, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor, Sport Management*
- Raymond Lavoie, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor, Marketing*
- John Lovett, Ph.D., *Lecturer, Political Science*
- Amelia Mallona, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor, Education and Community Studies*
- Robert Marceau, Ph.D., *Lecturer, Computer Science*
- William McDowell, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor, Biology*
- Kevin McGravey, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor, Political Science*
- Ryan Patrick McLaughlin, Ph.D., *Lecturer, Religious and Theological Studies*
- Natalie Mitchell, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor, Marketing*
- Jessica Peacock, Ph.D., *Lecturer, Health Science*
- Michael Piatelli, Ph.D., *Lecturer, Biology*
- Aleksandra Plocha, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor, Clinical Mental Health Counseling*
- Christy Pottroff, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor, English*
- Ashrafur Rahman, M.S., *Lecturer, Civil Engineering*
- Jessica Rich, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor, Communication and Media*
- Simona Sharoni, Ph.D., *Professor, Women’s and Gender Studies*
- Rena Stroud, Ph.D., *Lecturer, Mathematics*
- Omer Unsal, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor, Finance*
- Dan Vlahos, B.F.A., *Assistant Professor, Visual and Performing Arts*
- Kathy Welby, M.Ed., *Professor of Practice, Education and Community Studies*
- Gwyne White, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor, Clinical Psychology*

## ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME ENSHRINES 11 NEW MEMBERS

Merrimack College enshrined 11 new members into its Athletics Hall of Fame Oct. 12 — the school's first induction ceremony since 2004.

The new inductees were welcomed by senior administration officials and dozens of current hall members at a ceremony that featured the opening of a new Hall of Fame Gallery in the Merrimack Athletics Complex's Volpe Center.

Those enshrined included nine former student-athletes who brought distinction, honor and excellence to the college and two individuals whose merit, special contributions and leadership helped advance Merrimack and its athletic program.

"We are proud to honor all these outstanding student-athletes and generous supporters of our programs who helped make Merrimack the success it is today," President Christopher E. Hohey said.

This year's inductees are:

- Molly Cindric '11, women's volleyball
- Darren Duncan '10, men's basketball
- Jim Hrivnak '89, men's ice hockey
- Andrew Jackson '08, football
- Andrea Leonard '00, women's cross country
- Joelle Martin '06, women's basketball
- Steve McAuliffe '98, men's soccer
- Raffaella Paparo '96, softball
- Sue Plante '90, women's soccer
- Greg Rogowski '09, men's lacrosse
- Richard Gallant, H'15, special contributor (president, Islanders Hockey Organization)
- Dave McGillivray '76, H'12, special contributor (president and owner, DMSE Inc.)



The Hall of Fame Class of 2017 includes, from left, Sue Plante, Andrew Jackson, Joelle Martin, Steve McAuliffe, Molly Cindric, Greg Rogowski, Raffaella Paparo, Andrea Leonard, Richard Gallant, Dave McGillivray and Darren Duncan.

Photo by James Stankiewicz



## The Warrior Fund

Gifts to The Warrior Fund help to provide the highest level of training and equipment, out-of-region travel, leadership development and recruitment of the very best student athletes.

► Make your gift today at [merrimack.edu/gift](http://merrimack.edu/gift)

## ENGINEERING PROGRAMS HIT KEY ACCREDITATION MILESTONE

The independent nonprofit Engineering and Accreditation Commission of ABET Inc. has accredited Merrimack College's new mechanical engineering program and reaccredited the bachelor's degree programs in electrical and civil engineering.

ABET accreditation assures that programs meet standards to produce graduates ready to enter critical technical fields that are leading the way in innovation and emerging technologies and anticipating the welfare and safety needs of the public.

The designation is also a boost to job-seeking graduates who benefit from the programs' enhanced standing and reputation.

"Everyone who has graduated from this program has an accredited degree," said Joel Kuszmaul, associate professor and chair of civil engineering. "Our engineering faculty are excellent teacher-scholars."

To be eligible for accreditation, a new program must graduate a class that has been enrolled for four years, said Franco Capaldi, associate professor and chair of mechanical engineering. Merrimack's mechanical engineering program was established in 2012 and graduated its first class in 2016. The accreditation received this summer is retroactive to the 2016 graduating class.

Among the factors that helped earn Merrimack accreditation were its \$2 million in physical improvements to the Mendel Center and the addition of highly regarded instructors, including those who have recently earned their doctorates and others who have years of industrial experience.

"The college has made considerable investments in facilities and faculty for engineering," said science and engineering dean Cynthia McGowan. "The quality of the new faculty is excellent."

ABET is a nongovernmental accrediting agency for programs in engineering and engineering technology; applied and natural sciences; and computing. It is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

ABET collects measurements of competence, including data that demonstrate a program's continuing improvement. Accreditation is valid for six years.

"Requirements for ABET accreditation are much more stringent than the requirements for accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges," said Jack Adams, associate professor and chair of electrical engineering. "These three programs are already collecting data for reaccreditation in six years."

Mechanical engineering is the largest of the three programs, with about 140 students this semester. Civil engineering enrolls about 113 students and electrical engineering about 70.

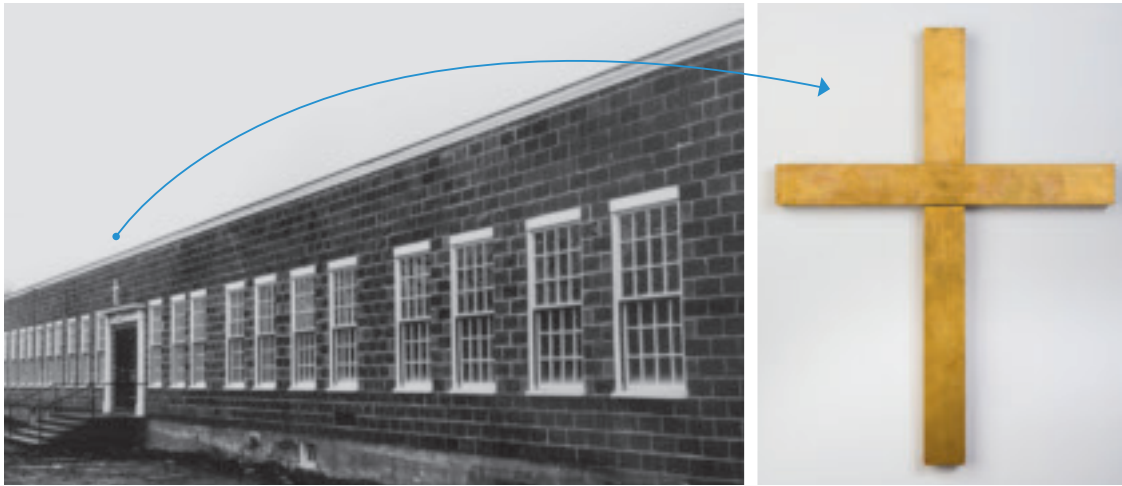
## Your Gift to THE MERRIMACK FUND Makes a Difference!

"I was drawn to the sense of **community** at Merrimack College. Our professors know each student's name and encourage us to pursue the things we are **passionate** about. Through service trips, internships, and other opportunities at Merrimack, I have been able to gain **valuable hands-on experience**." – Andria Auger '18

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY!  
MERRIMACK.EDU/GIFT



## CROSS REVERENCE



Seventy years ago, when Merrimack opened its doors for the first time, this simple wooden cross hung over the main entrance of the college's first and only classroom-administration building, Guild Hall, a single-story, cinder-block building on Peters Street in North Andover, one block north of the present campus. Boston Archbishop Richard J. Cushing, the visionary who conceived the idea of creating a school of higher education north of Boston for returning veterans of World War II, was on hand to bless the cross. Following the blessing, some 165 freshmen entered Guild Hall for the first-ever day of classes at Merrimack College: Sept. 29, 1947.

## ONLINE M.ED. PROGRAM RANKED AMONG BEST IN COUNTRY

Merrimack's Master of Education program has been ranked among the best in the country for online or hybrid programs designed to lead to initial teacher certification.

Merrimack placed 23rd among the institutions that met the screening benchmarks set by TeacherCertificationDegrees.com, a popular website for those looking to explore, begin or advance careers in education. The list included such schools as Arizona State University, Clemson University and the University of Southern California.

The rankings considered cost, program accreditation, graduation rates and school rankings in U.S. News & World Report's regional, national and online categories.

**"A growing number of education schools are hosting online teacher preparation programs at the master's level to respond to teacher shortages in high-demand subjects and in select regions of the U.S.,"** said Robe Voce, founder of TeacherCertificationDegrees.com. "Our list differentiates itself from others by homing in on master's programs designed for initial certification, also known as career-changer programs."

Merrimack's online graduate teacher-education program was the first competency-based M.Ed. program in Massachusetts. The program offers adult students the opportunity to complete

their degree with a variety of concentrations from the comfort of their home, with a flexible schedule.

Each student is guided throughout the program by a personal teacher-education specialist, who serves as a kind of success coach, said Isabelle Cherney, dean of the School of Education and Social Policy.

"Our students greatly benefit from our personalized one-on-one interactions and world-class faculty," Cherney said. "The students find this personalized support, as well as the face-to-face immersion events and Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure preparation tools, invaluable. It's wonderful to see our graduates fulfill their dreams and inspire the next generation of students."

# TOGETHER FOR +GOOD+

The Campaign for Merrimack College



## CHAMPIONS FOR CHANGE

**RICHARD, H'15, AND SUSANNA GALLANT**

While many of Merrimack's biggest supporters are alumni, that's not always the case. Perhaps there's no greater example than Richard, H'15, and Susanna Gallant. Their relationship with Merrimack College began with their passion for supporting the college's ice hockey program.

A seasoned entrepreneur with multiple business interests, Richard is president of the Middlesex Islanders, one of New England's premier development and competitive hockey programs. "Shortly after I became the new steward of the Islanders, I met President Hopey at a Merrimack hockey game," Richard explained. "It was before the college had launched the *Agenda for Distinction*, and I was in the right place at the right time to help kick off a meaningful fundraising campaign to facilitate improvements like the new rink and support the launch of the women's ice hockey program."

The Gallants provided \$3.7 million to support the project, including covering construction expenses to help bring

Merrimack's Academic Innovation Center and Gallant Arena to fruition in 2013.

"Richard and Dr. Hopey have really forged a strong partnership," explained Susanna. "Their attitude is, 'Let's make it happen.' Their entrepreneurial spirits match perfectly. It's tremendously exciting to see the changes that have occurred as a result."

### Welcoming the community

The Gallant Arena serves as a powerful beacon, welcoming visitors from across New England to Merrimack's campus. The home of the Middlesex Islanders, the rink is utilized for games, practices and events that draw friends, family and fans.

"President Hopey would like us to use the rink in a way that benefits the community, enhances the college's visibility and welcomes new people onto campus," said Richard. "It's worked extremely well. In fact, we've had more than 2 million visitors walk through that building to attend games and other events."

In addition to forging new connections with the community, the Merrimack ice hockey teams have also provided insight, inspiration and encouragement to the Islanders youth teams. "The kids have a unique bond with the college students, and some have even gone on to play ice hockey for Merrimack," said Susanna.

### Advancing the college's mission

Since collaborating with Merrimack on the arena project, the Gallants have continued their generous support. A strong advocate for the *Together for Good* campaign, Richard is a co-chair of the *Competing for Good* initiative, which has a fundraising goal of \$6 million. To kick off the campaign, Richard and Susanna pledged \$600,000 to help the college build new turf fields, construct a new stadium and support Merrimack's progress toward becoming a Division 1 athletic institution.

"In my role, I've had the opportunity to talk about the college's vision and the transformation I've seen over the last

several years. I've seen class sizes increase dramatically, new majors and programs added, new infrastructure built. I'm very proud to be part of it," said Richard. "Because Merrimack is an institution on the move, it's very easy to support it."

Leveraging his experience on Wall Street and as an entrepreneur with businesses including Global Technology Finance and FiberTech Medical, Richard also lends his strategic-planning expertise to Merrimack. "The most successful businesses these days consistently evolve," said Richard. "When you look at Merrimack College, it's not just about athletics; it's about athletics, academics and the student experience. President Hopey is always pushing to make everything at Merrimack better."

As Merrimack gains momentum, Susanna and Richard eagerly anticipate what the *Together for Good* campaign will help accomplish. "We're committed to Merrimack's progress and development. Since the beginning, it's been exciting to see the college grow," said Susanna. "I look forward to what the future holds."

## A FOUNDATION FOR GOOD

**KEVIN '89 AND KAREN LUCEY**

Kevin Lucey '89 credits Merrimack with helping make him the person he is today.

"Where I am and the successes I've had are in part a result of the foundation I built at Merrimack," Lucey said. "I had a great experience there, and I give the college a lot of credit for helping me get to where I am today professionally."

An O'Brien Scholar during his student days, Lucey embodies the best of Merrimack. He is COO and managing director at the private equity investment firm Hamilton Lane, in Pennsylvania. In addition to his professional success, he has been married to his wife, Karen, for 26 years; they have four children ranging in age from 16 to 22.

Since graduating from Merrimack, Lucey has been an active supporter of the college. From working with high school guidance counselors to boost applications from the Philadelphia area, to serving on the college's board of trustees, Lucey has given back in many ways. As a trustee, he also sits on the Institutional Planning and Strategy Committee, the Student Experience and Athletics Committee and the Real Estate and Development Partnerships Committee, and serves as co-chair of the Finance and Investment Committee. In this capacity, Lucey has witnessed — and helped facilitate — many of Merrimack's accomplishments.

"President Hopey and his team have developed an aggressive plan to move the college forward. It's been a breath of fresh air to see it executed so well," Lucey said. "Thanks to their hard work and to the

significant investment from alumni and the broader community, Merrimack is on the right trajectory and going in the right direction."

"It's been rewarding to see the changes," added Karen. "Merrimack has become a leader and a model for other higher education institutions."

#### Getting to the next level

When Lucey looks to the future, he sees new challenges to overcome. "Merrimack's dramatic increase in student enrollment comes with a new set of responsibilities. We've gotten to the next level, so how do we stay there? As a member of the board of trustees, I am focused on that issue," he said.

To help Merrimack continue its momentum, the Luceys have made a significant gift

to name the Lucey Center for Business Advising in Crowe Hall, which is home to the Girard School of Business. "I have affection for the business school because that's my background," explained Kevin.

"As supporters, we're dedicated to helping the college continue to move forward, and President Hopey felt that the Center for Business Advising would be the best application for our gift," Karen added.



## DISCOVER YOUR OPTIONS



BEQUESTS



RETIREMENT PLANS  
AND LIFE INSURANCE



REAL ESTATE



CHARITABLE TRUSTS

# 1947 SOCIETY

The 1947 Society, honoring Merrimack's founding year, was established to recognize Merrimack College alumni, parents and friends who demonstrate their generosity and commitment to the College through a planned gift. Including Merrimack College in your estate plan is a simple, yet powerful, way to invest in the future of the College.

For more information, please visit [merrimack.edu/plannedgiving](http://merrimack.edu/plannedgiving)

# TOGETHER FOR **+GOOD+**

The Campaign for Merrimack College

## TAKING MERRIMACK TO THE NEXT LEVEL – TOGETHER

### PROGRESS TOWARD CAMPAIGN

**\$42.7M**

RAISED



85.4%

**\$50M**

CAMPAIGN GOAL

#### BUILDING FOR GOOD

GOAL \$10M

**\$6.7M**

RAISED

#### COMPETING FOR GOOD

GOAL \$6M

**\$3.2M**

RAISED

#### INNOVATING FOR GOOD

GOAL \$2M

**\$1.4M**

RAISED

#### STANDING UP FOR GOOD

GOAL \$21M

**\$22M**

RAISED

#### SPONSORED RESEARCH/OTHER

GOAL \$4M

**\$4.8M**

RAISED

#### THE MERRIMACK FUND

GOAL \$7M

**\$4.6M**

RAISED

### FACULTY/STAFF GIFTS

**204**

RECEIVED



68%

**300**

GOAL

### "GOOD TO GREAT" SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE

(new endowed/current use scholarships)

**\$2.4M**

RAISED



80%

**\$3M**

GOAL

Campaign donations raised from FY2013 through Aug. 31, 2017. The campaign was publicly launched in October 2016 and anticipated to conclude in 2019.

## ALUMNI NEWS

▶ **ANN TROPEANO '80** joined American Express as an account consultant in its corporate card division. Tropeano and her husband live in Scottsdale, Arizona.

▶ **AMY COREY CAMPBELL '03** was recently promoted to assistant director of mental health at the Worcester County House of Corrections in West Boylston, Massachusetts.

▶ **KASSANDRA PAPPAS FASANO '07** and her husband, Ralph, of Waltham, Massachusetts, welcomed a daughter, Giulia Rose, on March 17. [1]

▶ **JEFFERSON WELCH '09** was married to Chalsee Amaral in May at the Renaissance Golf Course in Haverhill, Massachusetts.

▶ **SARAH LYNCH '11** and **KEVIN COGNATA '12** were married Aug. 27, 2016, at St. Mary Annunciation Church in Danvers, Massachusetts. The reception was held at Ipswich Country Club. Merrimack guests included **Andrea Politano '11** (maid of honor), **Julie Fitzpatrick '11**, **Kendra (Lima) Maltais '11**, **Jerry Smith '11**, **Tom Halley '11**, **Paul Giancioppo '11**, **Kyle and Cara (Perkins) Murphy '11**, **Drew**



**Condon '11, Torie Hansen '11, Ian Bock '11, Michael Yacubian '11, Nick '13 and Lexie (Lunetta) Carrozza '14, Max Johnson '13, Peter Wollny '13, Elliot Silvia '14, Kiara Huntress '15, Justin Guanci '14, Chris Mason '15, Mike Bearce '15 and Jason and Michelle (Cronin) Westgate '10.** [2]

▶ **NICHOLAS LOCOCO '12** and **ANDREA CHIEFFALO '12** met and fell in love at Merrimack! In 2015, while visiting campus, Nick proposed. On July 22, they were married, with 25 Merrimack alumni in attendance! [3]

▶ **MELISSA GARABEDIAN '12** and **DENNIS MURTAGH '11** were married by Fr. Jim Wenzel in August at the Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher. Many alumni were in attendance, including bridesmaid **Alysse Corolla '12**, best man **Matthew Donovan '11** and groomsmen **Joseph Broderick '11** and **Kyle O'Donnell '11.** [4]

▶ **NICHOLAS CARROZZA '13** graduated from Massachusetts School of Law in 2106 and successfully passed the bar. He married **ALEXA LUNETTA '14** in September 2016 at the

Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher, like his parents. He is in practice with his father, **Peter Carrozza '72**, in Methuen, Massachusetts.

▶ **MICHAEL DALEY '13, M'14,** and **JENNIFER BROOKS '13, M'15,** both of Tewksbury, Massachusetts, were married Oct. 9, 2016, at Saint William Catholic Church in Tewksbury, Massachusetts. [5]

▶ **MAGGIE JACQUES '13** and **MICHAEL LARACY '13** were married in Hull, Massachusetts, in August 2016. Both are graduates of the civil engineering program. [6]

**SHARE YOUR NEWS!** Tell us what you've been up to, and we'll share your news here!  
Email your news and photos to [alumnirelations@merrimack.edu](mailto:alumnirelations@merrimack.edu).

# SAVE THE DATE



## NOVEMBER

**04 Mack Gives Back Day**  
7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. • Multipurpose Room, Sakowich Campus Center

**08 “Shattered Glass, Shattered Lives,”** prayer and remembrance for victims and survivors of genocide, with professor Susannah Heschel  
7-8 p.m. • Temple Emanuel, Andover, Mass.

**14 Carl Safina, award-winning writer and conservationist, will discuss his book “Beyond Words: What Animals Think and Feel”**  
4 p.m. • The Writers House

**14 Spirituality Series: “How Photography Can Be Used to Understand the Universe,”** with Kevin Salemme, director of media instructional services  
7 p.m. • Stevens Auditorium, Cushing

**16-18 “The Mystery of Edwin Drood,”** presented by the OnStagers Dramatic Society  
2 p.m. • Rogers Center for the Arts

## DECEMBER

**01 Annual Christmas Celebration**  
7 p.m. • Four Seasons Hotel, Boston

**03 “A Merrimack College Christmas,”** performances by the jazz ensemble, concert choir and concert band  
7:30 p.m. • Rogers Center for the Arts

**04 “Lessons and Carols: The Story of the Birth of Christ in Scripture, Story and Song”**  
7:30 p.m. • Rogers Center for the Arts

**05 Celebration of Light and Hope**  
5:15 p.m. • Rogers Center for the Arts

**05 Spirituality Series: “Islamic Spirituality,”** with Shareda Hosein  
7 p.m. • Stevens Auditorium, Cushing

## JANUARY

**25 “A Charlie Chaplain Festival of Shorts”**  
6:30 p.m. • Rogers Center for the Arts

**30 Spirituality Series: “Jewish Spirituality,”** with Rabbi Howard Mandell  
7 p.m. • Stevens Auditorium, Cushing Hall

## FEBRUARY

**01 Oscar-winning film “Moonlight”**  
6:30 p.m. • Rogers Center for the Arts

**07 “Think Globally/Act Locally: Feed Your Neighbor” — packing 15,000 meals for Merrimack Valley Food Bank**  
11 a.m.-4 p.m. • Multipurpose Room, Sakowich Campus Center

**23 “Columbinus,”** by Stephen Karam, P.J. Paparelli and others  
7:30 p.m. • Rogers Center for the Arts

## MARCH

**01-08 Pamela R. Tarbell Paintings**  
9 a.m.-4 p.m. • McCoy Gallery, Rogers Center for the Arts

**03 A Cappella Night: Five O’Clock Shadow,** featuring Boston Jazz Voices  
7:30 p.m. • Rogers Center for the Arts

**06 Where We Dwell Together: 15th Annual Interfaith Prayer**  
7-8 p.m. • Cascia Hall

**15 Spring Career Fair**  
2-4:30 p.m. • Multipurpose Room, Sakowich Campus Center

**15 Folk Artists Anna & Elizabeth**  
4 p.m. • The Writers House

**18 The Young Irishlanders (Irish music, song and dance)**  
3 p.m. • Rogers Center for the Arts

**20-21 Model Passover Seder**  
2-2:30 p.m. • Murray Lounge, Sakowich Campus Center

## APRIL

**03 Poet Gabrielle Calvocoressi**  
4 p.m. • The Writers House

**10 Poet and Educator Javier Zamora**  
4 p.m. • The Writers House

**12-14 “Noises Off,”** by Michael Frayn  
7:30 p.m. (2:30 p.m. matinee on 4/14)  
Rogers Center for the Arts

**12-15 Visual Arts Student Exhibition**  
9 a.m.-4 p.m. • McCoy Gallery, Rogers Center for the Arts

**24 Poet Robin Becker**  
4 p.m. • The Writers House

**27-29 Mackapella’s Third Annual Intercollegiate A Cappella Invitational**  
7:30 p.m. • Rogers Center for the Arts



**ALUMNIEVENTS** [merrimack.edu/alumnievents](http://merrimack.edu/alumnievents) 978-837-5703  
**ATHLETICS** [merrimackathletics.com](http://merrimackathletics.com) 978-837-5341  
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# REUNION WEEKEND 2018 | JUNE 1-3

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CELEBRATING CLASSES OF 1953, 1958, 1963, 1968,  
1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008 & 2013.



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## A HOMECOMING TO REMEMBER



Photos by Bob Keene