

Merrimack College

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### Academics in Action

Merrimack College

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# MERRIMACK

FALL 2013



**ACADEMICS IN ACTION.**

DR. CHARLOTTE BERKES IS WORKING TO ADVANCE HUMAN HEALTH BY WORKING HAND-IN-HAND WITH LOCAL BIOTECH.





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**FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Dear Alumni and Friends:

When I joined the Merrimack Community, I knew that it was an opportunity to lead an extraordinary institution. What I didn't know was how quickly we would gain ground and transform the institution in such a major way. As I look at where we are in terms of our long-range plan, I am extremely gratified by the success we've achieved across nearly every facet of our school—academically, physically, spiritually, and athletically.

But even more than that, I appreciate how our community has come together to carry out our vision—the *Agenda for Distinction*—and take Merrimack to the next level. A few prime examples of our collective accomplishments include:

- Hired two new deans and 26 new faculty in the last three academic years
- Added in-demand majors including sustainability and mechanical engineering
- Created Mack Gives Back Day, which coincides with Veteran's Day and St. Augustine's Birthday, to honor those who have served by serving others
- Added more than \$18M in institutional aid and raised \$3.66M in scholarships in three years
- Added 345 new beds on the campus—scheduled to be complete in September
- Received a record number of applicants and will welcome Merrimack's largest (and most diverse) freshmen class in our school's history: more than 800 students strong
- Created new master's degrees in Engineering and Business
- Transformed campus by renovating the McQuade Library, building a new bookstore, creating the Merrimack Club for alumni and faculty, and expanding the Volpe Athletic Complex.
- Hired new leadership in key areas across academics, administration, and athletics.

It's clear that we are on the path to a more dynamic, vibrant future for Merrimack College—and are setting a trajectory for graduates to join the alumni community in becoming successful, ethical leaders who are poised for greatness. We are optimistic for continued success across all fronts. Why? Because we plan to do it together.

With that, I invite you to come back to Merrimack and be part of the excitement. With ribbon cuttings and openings all throughout September and homecoming in October, there are many opportunities to visit and see how our students are making an impact, here on campus, in the community, and out in the world.

Sincerely,

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D.  
President

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"HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE IS A HALLMARK OF OUR PROGRAMS, OFFERING OUR STUDENTS WAYS TO INTEGRATE AND ENHANCE THEIR THEORY-BASED COURSES."

**MERRIMACK**

A MAGAZINE FOR OUR ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND FRIENDS

FALL 2013

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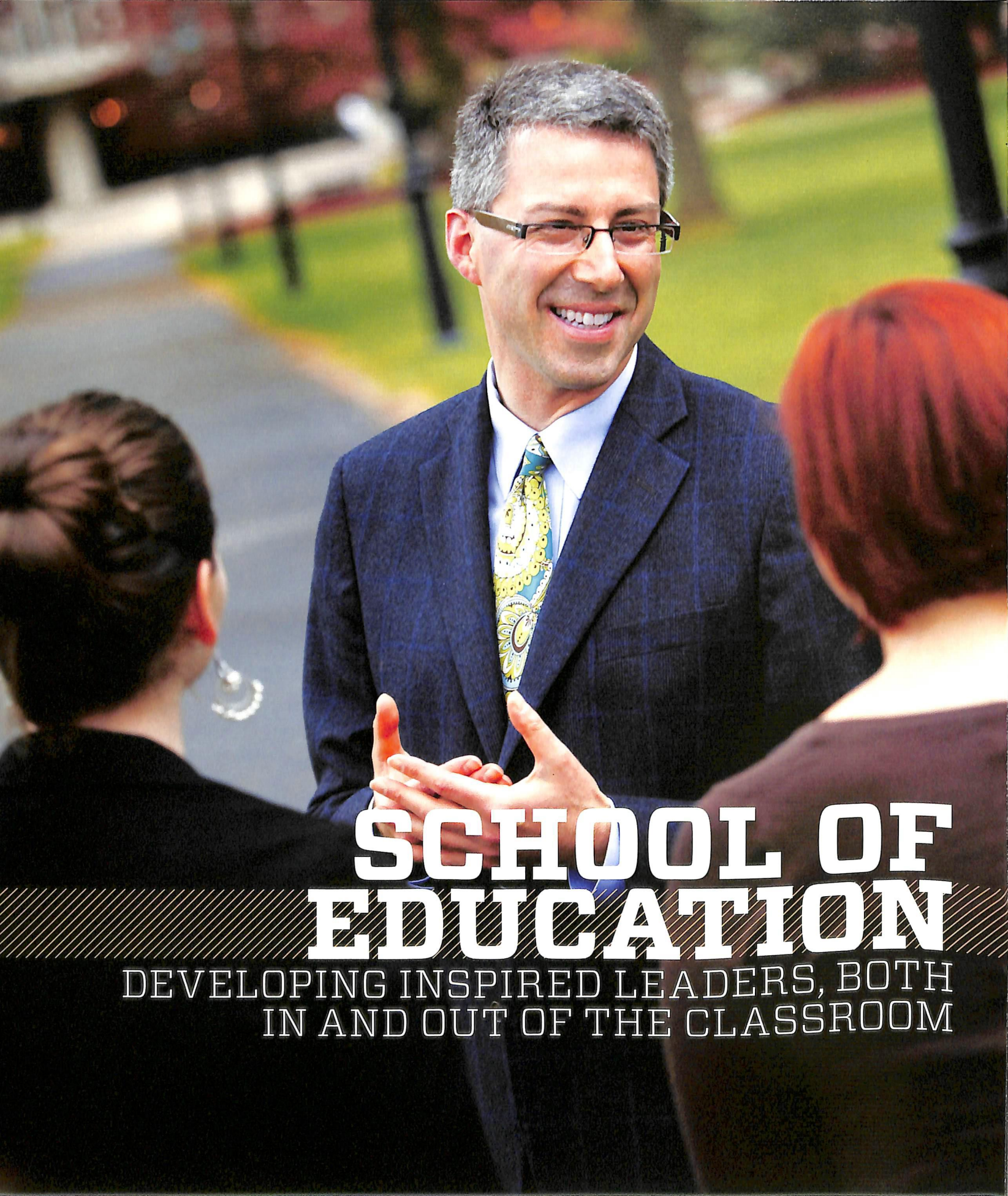
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# SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

DEVELOPING INSPIRED LEADERS, BOTH IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM



“OUR DYNAMIC AND RESPONSIVE PROGRAMS CONNECT EDUCATION WITH COMMUNITIES—CULTIVATING INTELLECTUAL LEADERS WHO ARE GROUNDED IN INTEGRITY AND DEVOTED TO THE BETTERMENT OF THE PUBLIC GOOD.”

The School of Education’s growing programs help current and future educators think critically, solve problems creatively, and develop solutions to today’s most critical education challenges. Three tenets—deep learning, bringing theory to life, and making a difference—shape the School’s approach, both in and out of the classroom, to preparing leaders who understand the crucial role of education in fostering a diverse and democratic society.

Whether at the graduate or undergraduate level, Merrimack’s School of Education offers multiple opportunities for students to connect theory, research, and practice. Dan W. Butin, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Founding Dean of the School of Education, explains the School’s guiding philosophy, “Our dynamic and responsive programs connect education with communities—cultivating intellectual leaders who are grounded in integrity and devoted to the betterment of the public good.”

#### **Making huge strides in a few short years**

Since its founding four years ago, the School of Education has established a reputation for innovation and attracted an ever-increasing number of applicants from the region and around the country.

At the undergraduate level, the School of Education has developed programs in Education, Human Development, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) Education. As testament to the School’s growing popularity, Human Development is currently the third-largest major at Merrimack.

The School has also recently launched a Bachelor’s Degree Completion Program in Child, Family, and Community Studies. With looming legislation that requires childcare providers to have a Bachelor’s degree, this structured, cohort-based program allows students with an Associate’s degree to earn a Bachelor’s degree in two years. The program’s success has been astonishing, with four cohorts of approximately 15 students currently running.

In addition, the School’s graduate programs continue to flourish. In the 2012–2013 school year, more than 200 graduate students pursued a Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Teacher Education, Higher Education, or Community Engagement. Ninety of these students were in the School of Education’s graduate Fellowship programs. Highly selective programs, they provide full-tuition fellowships that are supported by year-long, site-based clinical residencies—allowing students to earn their degree in just one year.

#### **Bringing theory to life while making a difference**

“Hands-on experience is a hallmark of our programs, offering our students ways to integrate and enhance their theory-based courses,” says Dr. Butin. “But in order to have a robust, on-site program, partnerships are key. We are so lucky and thankful to have incredible partners with regional nonprofits, area schools, and school systems.”

Field experiences can be seen across all of the School of Education programs. For example, all undergraduates begin with site visits, volunteer work, and service-learning in their first years and expand the number of hours and responsibilities as they progress through their programs. The culminating experience for all future teachers is the semester-long student-teaching experience, the practicum. During the practicum, students synthesize and develop their education philosophy, create a portfolio, and establish meaningful professional relationships with their students, cooperating teachers, and colleagues.

Merrimack offers other fun ways for students to participate in the field. For instance, the Education Club recently conducted a “Reach Out and Read” event at the Shawsheen Elementary School in Andover, Massachusetts. Undergraduate students read Dr. Seuss classics to 180 kindergarten through second grade students and led a fun, interactive activity to wrap up the event.

Additionally, graduate Fellowship students participate in intensive, on-site residencies for nine months or more, focusing



on areas of Education, Community Engagement, and Higher Education. Education Fellows acquire teaching experience in surrounding public and parochial schools. To prepare for administrative leadership in colleges and universities, Higher Education Fellows work at four-year and two-year institutions as well as organizations including Massachusetts Campus Compact (MACC), a nonprofit coalition of college and university presidents committed to developing civic involvement. Community Engagement Fellows train to become nonprofit leaders, social change activists, and shapers of the national service learning movement through experience at local and national organizations including the Greater Lawrence Community Partnerships for Children and Habitat for Humanity.

Dr. Butin comments on the impact of Fellows' community involvement, "Our Fellowship programs have really taken off and are gaining national recognition. They are incredibly powerful because they allow students to link theory with action and classroom learning with real-world experience."

**BETWEEN SEMESTER-LONG UNDERGRADUATE PRACTICUMS AND FELLOWS' ON-SITE RESIDENCIES, SCHOOL OF EDUCATION STUDENTS ACQUIRE 460-1,200 HOURS OF HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE BY THE TIME THEY GRADUATE.**

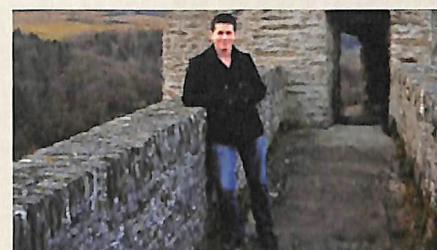
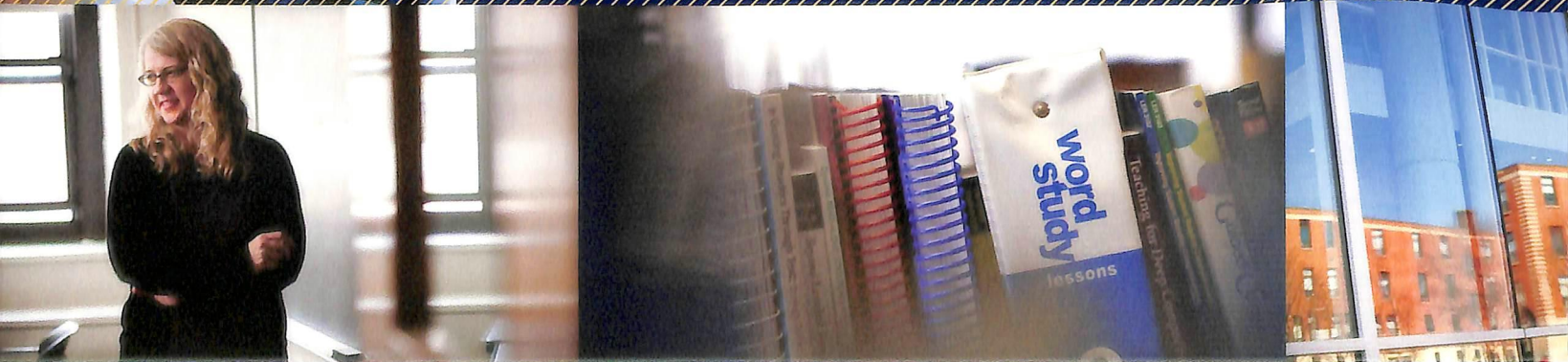


**ABOUT DAN W. BUTIN** Dan W. Butin, recently named a top 100 "Public Presence" Education Scholar, is an Associate Professor and Founding Dean of the School of Education at Merrimack College and the Executive Director of the Center for Engaged Democracy. He is the author and editor of more than seventy academic publications, including the books *Service-Learning in Theory and Practice: The Future of Community Engagement in Higher Education* (2010), which won the 2010 Critics Choice Book Award of the American Educational Studies Association, *Service-Learning and Social Justice Education* (2008), *Teaching Social Foundations of Education* (2005), and, most recently with Scott Seider, *The Engaged Campus: Majors, Minors and Certificates as the New Community Engagement* (2012). Dr. Butin is an Associate Editor of the *Michigan Journal of Community Service Learning* and a board member of the *Journal of College and Character*. Dr. Butin's research focuses on issues of educator preparation and policy, and community engagement. Prior to working in higher education, Dr. Butin was a middle school math and science teacher and Chief Financial Officer of Teach For America. Learn more at [www.danbutin.net](http://www.danbutin.net).

### Creating positive change beyond Merrimack

In addition to helping students become leaders in the field of education, Merrimack also organizes programs for accomplished education leaders, both in the community and around the country. The School's Leadership Think Tanks bring together leaders from regional school districts to collaborate on educational innovation and problem solving. Each Think Tank is co-led by a School of Education faculty member and an expert practitioner from within the group. Through these dynamic working sessions—held seven to eight times per year on Merrimack's campus—educators explore contemporary topics including "Connected Learning and Social Media" and "Addressing Student Anxiety: Causes, Manifestations, and Interventions."

The School of Education also houses the Center for Engaged Democracy, a central hub for developing, coordinating, and furthering the adoption of academic programs focused on community engagement. To rally support, the Center organizes an array of research, advocacy, and learning opportunities. This incubator for civic engagement was recently recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for its role in promoting a civic-minded campus. ■



## Congratulations, Complimenti, Félicitations, Tebrkler!

Ryan Matthews, BA'12 and Higher Education Fellow MED'13 Awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to Study in Turkey

If there ever was a student able to deliver on the Fulbright Program's mission to promote international goodwill through the exchange of students—it's Ryan Matthews. In the spring of 2013, Ryan was awarded the prestigious Fulbright Scholarship to study and teach in Turkey during the upcoming academic year.

### Scholar in and out of the classroom

As an undergraduate student at Merrimack, Ryan studied romance languages, specifically Italian and French, as well as Jewish-Christian-Muslim Relations. Continuing his education at Merrimack as a graduate student in the Higher Education Fellowship program, he worked for Dr. Dan Butin, Dean of the School of Education, and collaborated on a website for the Center for Engaged Democracy, a hub for academic programs focused on civic and community engagement. Ryan's advisor, Dr. Susan Marine, describes him as, "incredibly bright, talented, and committed to fostering intercultural understanding."

Ryan's work outside of the classroom distinguishes him as well. Ryan spent the past few summers volunteering with

the Augustinians in San Gimignano, Italy to help the friars take care of and manage groups of visitors from across the world. While in San Gimignano, he met another Augustinian who invited Ryan to his home in Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where he stayed for about a month. Dr. Marine comments on Ryan's competence as a world traveler, "Ryan has a deep commitment to learning as much as possible about other people and places."

### Ambassador in and out of the classroom

Ryan first learned about the Fulbright Program from an Arabic instructor from Tunisia in the United States on a Fulbright Scholarship. He applied for and was awarded an English teaching assistantship, and will be placed in a university to assistant teach English for a full academic year while he receives Turkish language instruction.

"I love languages," explains Ryan, "so the program is perfect is me. I'm able to have the chance to study an unfamiliar language from what I'm familiar with and teach others English in the process. I'm also extremely interested in the history of Turkey, building upon what

I learned in my courses in Jewish-Christian-Muslim Relations." While Ryan will certainly gain immeasurable benefits from his Fulbright experience, Dr. Marine is focused on what he'll give back, "Ryan will be an excellent ambassador for the United States, building bridges of understanding between our country and others. Plus, he is very easy going, and takes adversity well, so whatever the challenges his time in Turkey may bring, I am confident he is up for them! Ryan's approachability and enthusiasm for adventure will serve him well as he embarks upon his journey."

Ryan looks forward to his Turkish adventure, commenting, "The most exciting thing for me is exploring a country, language, and culture that is completely new to me. It's tough to pinpoint why I find it so exciting, but I find it very rewarding to be dropped into situations where everything is completely unfamiliar." There's no doubt that Ryan's time in Turkey will help make the world a little more cohesive as he forges connections with diverse and interesting people all across the globe.

### THE FULBRIGHT PROGRAM

Launched in 1946 under President Harry S. Truman, the Fulbright Program currently awards approximately 1,900 grants annually in all fields of study, and operates in more than 140 countries worldwide.

Overall, the Fulbright Program has provided more than 318,000 U.S. and international participants, chosen for their academic excellence and leadership potential, with the opportunity to observe one another's political, economic, and cultural institutions; exchange ideas; and embark on joint ventures of importance to the general welfare of the world's inhabitants.

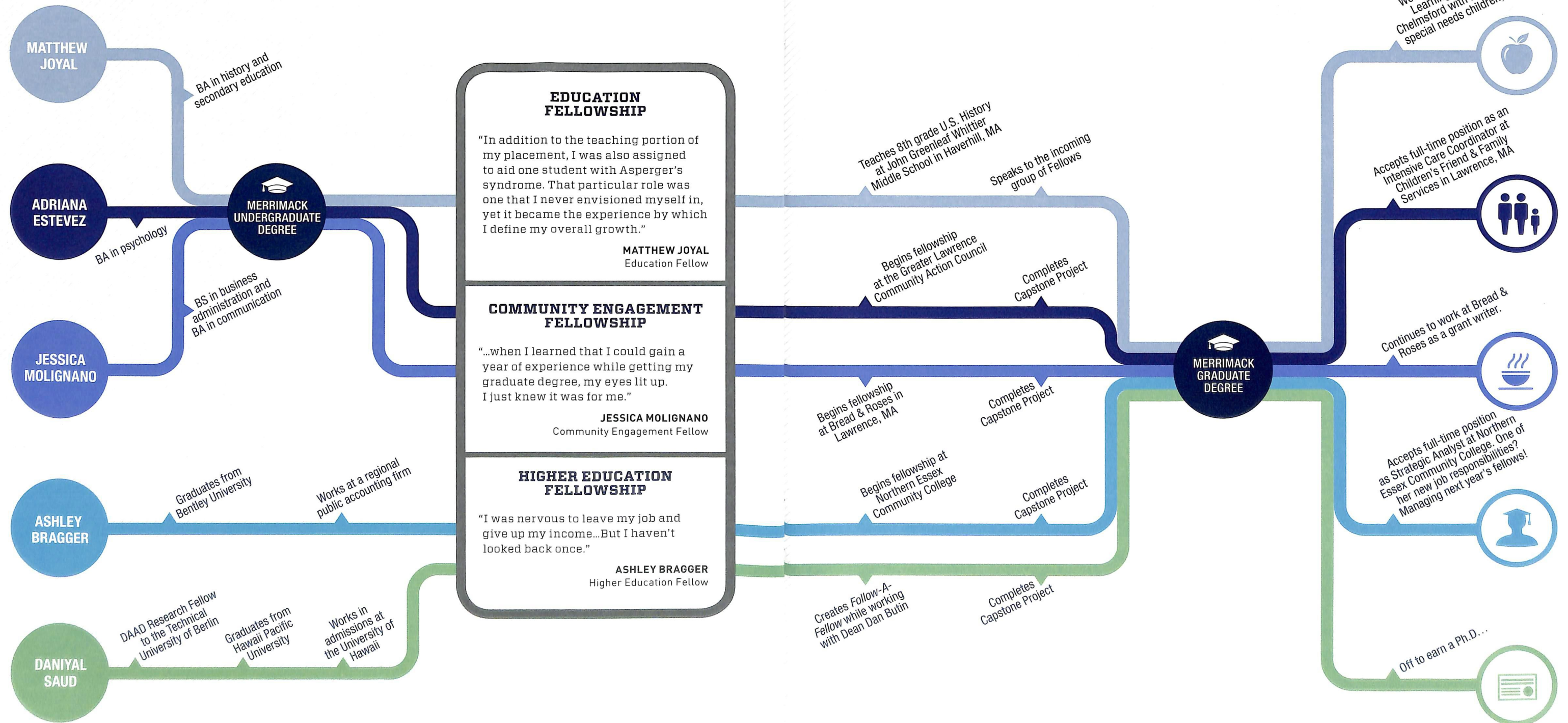
Fulbright U.S. student alumni populate a range of professions and include ambassadors, members of Congress, judges, heads of corporations, university presidents, journalists, artists, professors, and teachers. Bose Corporation founder Amar Bose, actor John Lithgow, composer Philip Glass, opera singer Renee Fleming, and economist Joseph Stiglitz are among notable former grantees. ■



# FOLLOW A FELLOW

"OUR FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS HAVE REALLY TAKEN OFF AND ARE GAINING NATIONAL RECOGNITION. THEY ARE INCREDIBLY POWERFUL AS THEY ALLOW STUDENTS TO LINK THEORY WITH ACTION AND CLASSROOM LEARNING WITH REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE."

Dan Butin, Ph.D., Dean of the School of Education







# PARTNERS IN SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS



## SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FACILITIES ON CAMPUS

The CBBS facilities include a fully equipped modern molecular biology laboratory, including Applied Biosciences real-time PCR Light Cycler, Shimadzu UV-1800 and BioSpec-nano spectrophotometers, LI-COR DNA sequence analyzer; a micro-injection station; a cell culture facility; and an imaging suite.

### Students collaborate with faculty and industry researchers

Step inside Merrimack's Center for Biotechnology and Biomedical Sciences (CBBS) and you'll find science students shoulder to shoulder with professors and corporate scientists toiling to unlock the mysteries of cell biology. You'll hear industry pioneers at the CBBS-sponsored "Bio to Business" conference discussing how they brought scientific discoveries and technical innovations to market. And, you'll see CBBS undergraduate fellows who participated in a genome-sequencing project over intersession guiding genetics students in their own DNA sequencing projects. These unique experiences, rarely found on a college campus, are just a few of the exciting interdisciplinary initiatives spearheaded by the CBBS.

At CBBS's fully equipped, modern laboratory housed in the Mendel Science Center, biology, chemistry, and engineering students conduct research with faculty and corporate partners, including Nexcelom Bioscience. This local biotechnology company enjoys a three-year partnership with Merrimack, launched only months after the start of the CBBS. Located in neighboring Lawrence, Massachusetts, Nexcelom is a leading manufacturer of image-based cytometry equipment, tools that measure and characterize cells.

"THIS WELL-FORGED RELATIONSHIP HAS RESULTED IN STUDENTS AND FACULTY CO-AUTHORING SEVERAL PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS WITH NEXCELOM SCIENTISTS, AS WELL AS SUMMER INTERNSHIPS AND FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT FOR OUR STUDENTS." DR. JANINE LEBLANC-STRACESKI, PH.D. AND DIRECTOR OF CBBS

### Collaboration advances scientific discovery

Right on campus, Nexcelom's corporate scientists perform experiments that test their state-of-the-art automated cell counter, called the Cellometer®. CBBS faculty assist with research design and recruit undergraduates to work on projects as interns. In 2011, biology major Alisha Wilkinson '12 interned at CBBS alongside Charlotte Berkes, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology at Merrimack. Together, they studied the *Histoplasma capsulatum* microbe, the leading cause of respiratory fungal infections worldwide. Working in partnership with Nexcelom, the team tracked the growth of the disease-causing fungi during infection.



Alisha and fellow Merrimack student, Ben Paradis '12 also worked with Dr. Berkes and Nexcelom scientist Leo Li-Yang Chan to co-author a scientific paper based on the research, titled "Rapid quantification of pathogenic fungi by Cellometer image-based cytometry," published in the *Journal of Microbiological Methods*. Consistent with the spirit of innovation, Dr. Berkes, Alisha, and Ben also presented their findings online in a peer-reviewed video journal of biological, medical, chemical, and physical research, called the *Journal of Visualized Experiments* (jove.com). Filmed at the CBBS, this video demonstrated their methodology for using the Cellometer to quantify fungi, and will soon become available for scientists and students around the world to see.

#### Collaboration offers career-defining experiences

For Dr. Berkes, collaboration with Nexcelom furthers her professional interest in immunology, cell biology, and genetics. It also enables her to develop new ways to use cytometry technology in research and in the classroom. Dr. Berkes, who earned her B.S. at Pennsylvania State University, Ph.D. at University of Washington, and completed her postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco, explains "It is a natural fit, as I came to Merrimack with previous experience studying fungi and diseases caused by

fungal pathogens." For Alisha, the hands-on experience offered invaluable insights as she considered careers in scientific research. In fact, today, Alisha works as a staff assistant in the gastrointestinal unit at Massachusetts General Hospital. And, for Ben, the experience led to a job after graduation at Nexcelom as a technical support specialist, serving as a liaison between the company and scientists who use the Cellometer.

Another Nexcelom intern, Danny Laverty '13, will further his interest in science in a Ph.D. program at Johns Hopkins University. And, Merrimack student Stephanie Saldi '13, received a stipend funded by Nexcelom to spend the summer working as one of two undergraduate fellows at the biotech firm. Dr. Janine LeBlanc-Straceski, director of the CBBS, values the myriad opportunities the corporate partnership offers Merrimack students, "Working side-by-side with industry professionals from Nexcelom, our students are able to bridge the gap between academic theory and the practice of the scientific enterprise."

Beyond enhancing student and faculty growth, the successful partnership between Merrimack and Nexcelom helps advance science and the commercial application of science to improve human health for all. ■

#### About Nexcelom Bioscience

With multiple patents pending, Nexcelom is a leader and innovator in the field of image-based cytometry for cell analysis. Thousands of customers, including the top ten pharmaceutical companies, rely on Nexcelom's Cellometer instruments for automated cell concentration and viability analysis. The company is focused on providing novel tools to meet the specific needs of today's researchers.



Leo Li-Yang Chan and Dr. Charlotte Berkes



"OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH MERRIMACK ENABLES COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS WITH A TEAM OF OUR SCIENTISTS AND THE FACULTY AND STUDENTS AT MERRIMACK IN THE EXCELLENT BIOLOGY LABORATORY FACILITY AT CBBS."

PETER Y. LI, PH.D., PRESIDENT & CEO, NEXCELOM BIOSCIENCE

#### SYLLABUZZ

## LOOK UP!

### By Dr. Ralph Pass, Director of Merrimack College Observatory

- Right now, the telescopic highlight is Saturn and its main moon, Titan, which appears as a star circling the planet. For most people, viewing the rings of Saturn is an oh-my-gosh moment. In June, Saturn appears in the southeast at dusk, and in September, it will appear in the south.
- On August 12, you can view a fireworks show—the famous Perseids meteor shower. For optimal viewing, find a comfortable spot with a clear horizon, and look to the northeast. The show starts around midnight and lasts until twilight. During this time, you can expect about 60 meteors or streaks of light per hour, including shooting stars known as "torches of the Gods."
- The most spectacular sky show this year is expected to be "the comet of the century," the Comet ISON. Currently about five times further from the sun than the earth, the comet will pass within a million miles of the sun, causing it to heat up, generate a long tail, and become very bright. In fact, it will get so hot that it may fragment, which could spoil the show. If it stays together, however, then it should be visible during the day, particularly if you block the sun with your hand. This sky show will take place toward the end of November and into early December.

The Mendel observatory will hold viewing events during this time, which will be posted online at: [merrimack.edu/community/observatory/](http://merrimack.edu/community/observatory/). We invite you to come by and "look up" with us!

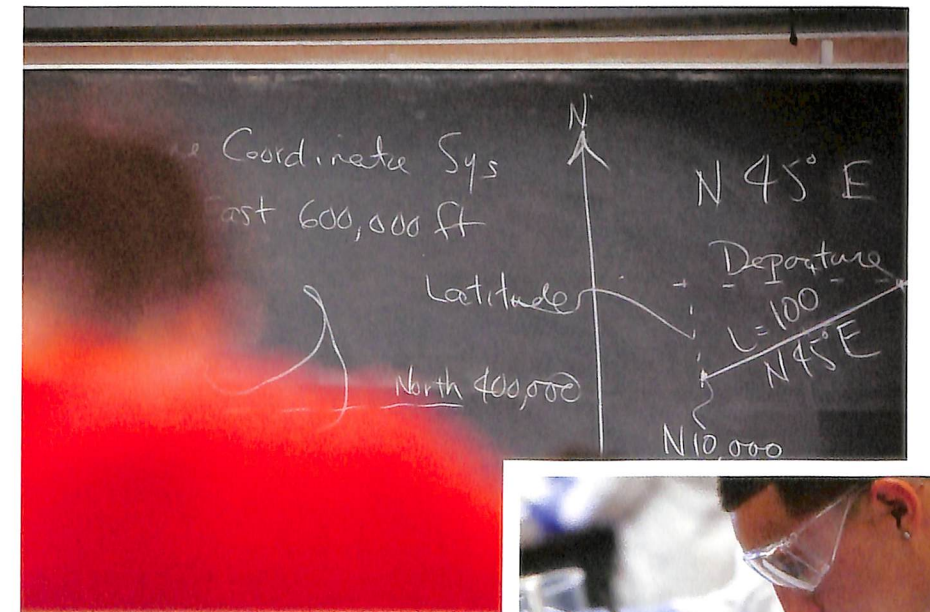
#### Star light, star bright

Most shooting stars are the size of a grain of sand. They are the debris of comet tails, burning up in the atmosphere.

## Merrimack College Awarded Prominent Grant from National Science Foundation

In May 2013, Merrimack College received the exciting news that The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded the School of Science and Engineering a grant of nearly \$500,000 to participate in Foundations for STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) Success. This initiative—part of a \$10 million grant program jointly funded by the NSF, Intel, and General Electric, provides resources for hands-on learning opportunities with the goal of retaining undergraduate students in the disciplines of engineering and computer science.

"Being recognized by NSF is further proof of the cutting-edge, scholarly work that occurs at Merrimack College," said Dr. Christopher E. Hopey, President. Dr. Modica-Napolitano, Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs, added, "This award is a testament of our faculty's commitment to strengthening our curriculum as well as ensuring the best possible educational experience and outcomes for each of our science and engineering students." Merrimack joins other institutions of higher education including Syracuse University, University of Texas at Austin, and Cornell University who have been awarded grants to participate in Foundations for STEM Success.





# Frank Girard, '62

## Francis E. Girard School of Business and International Commerce

Repaying generosity with generosity



Since Frank E. Girard made the \$2.5 million donation to the school that now bears his name, the Francis E. Girard School of Business and International Commerce has made incredible strides. Now boasting a graduate program; distinguished faculty members; innovative curriculum; career-focused mentoring, co-op, and internship programs; and a growing number of students, the Girard School of Business has made its benefactor proud. "When I look at the Girard School, I am most proud of how much it has grown and the quality of the graduates it produces, says Girard. To me, it's a place where students work hard, demonstrate exceptional

work ethic and determination—seeming to out-achieve many of their contemporaries at other schools."

Countless Merrimack students have benefited from Girard's gift over the years—whether through scholarships, better classrooms and curriculum, or an improved ability to attract sought-after faculty members. It is this last point that really strikes home with Girard, "Faculty is one of the biggest elements to any school's success. The addition of the graduate program at Merrimack has been extremely gratifying. You can't accomplish something like that unless you have

the right people in place. The faculty I've met seem to share an abiding commitment to the College. They see their role as more than a job. Rather, Merrimack is a community to which they belong."

### Mentors make a difference

Girard graduated from Merrimack in 1962 with a degree in business administration, but it wasn't always clear that he was on the college track. In fact, it took some convincing for Girard to pursue a bachelor's degree. "I was fortunate enough to have had mentors who gave me terrific guidance. I trained and worked as a commercial





photographer while taking evening classes at Merrimack to earn an Associate's degree. As an employee of Craig Systems, Inc., I worked as a full-time industrial photographer. Erick Kauders, President of Craig, took an interest in me and told me that he didn't think I would meet my full potential by continuing to work at his company. He encouraged me to go to college full-time to earn my Bachelor's degree.

To help me pay for it, he offered to give me all of the professional photography equipment I would need to work my way through college by doing freelance photography jobs."

With this generous proposition before him, Girard went to visit Father Smith, Merrimack's Director of Admissions, explaining that he wanted to move from the evening program to the day program. "Father Smith told me that my high school preparation was not sufficient. I had to convince him to give me a chance and let me in on a probationary semester."

The rest, as they say, is history. By the end of the first semester, Girard achieved the second-best grades in the business school and went on to become an elected member of student council, News Editor of *The Warrior* (now

*The Beacon*), and president of his fraternity, Sigma Beta Kappa. In his senior year, Frank was recruited by two major IT corporations, but signed up for active military service. After that, he held many major corporate roles, eventually becoming President and CEO of Boston Technology, and later, Vice Chairman and CEO of Converse Network Systems.

When asked what he attributes his success to, he acknowledges Merrimack's role. "Through their guidance and direction, Merrimack's faculty really inspired me and gave me confidence. Professor Savoy, my economics professor, engendered my love for economics, which I still have to this day. As a freshman, he inspired me in this direction and helped me discover that 'I do best what I like best'."

**Sharing success. Creating a legacy.**

When Girard was leading Boston Technology, an employee came into his office and asked if he knew how many Merrimack graduates were working at the company. While he was always supportive of hiring Merrimack students, Girard was surprised to learn that there were 13 Merrimack alums on staff in the home office. "Someone suggested that we take a group photo, which made its way to the College.

Around this same time, our company had just gone public and I'd rung the bell on the New York Stock Exchange. The stock was performing really well and sales were growing rapidly. Let's face it: the timing could not have been better for Merrimack to approach me about giving back to the school, which I really wanted to do. After reviewing several options, I decided to exercise most of them. I finally had a chance to share my success and that was important to me."

Asked why he gives, he says, "I can't think of a better thing to do. Not only is it personally gratifying, but the college has a way of recognizing it, without being overly grandiose, and showing their appreciation in many ways that are not public. Anyone giving to the school—colleagues of mine, people I know well, and friends, all say the same thing—'we did what we thought was right and we feel good about it.' Giving back is very, very gratifying, but the payback isn't in dollars; it's in good, psychic rewards."

"The physical campus enhancements are truly impressive. But, underlying this is the change that has come with our new leadership in Dr. Hopey and his untiring determination to make Merrimack an outstanding institution. I understand that we will be entertaining the largest freshman class in history this fall. We will expand the number of graduate degrees and continue to expand our presence in Division I athletics. Most important, we continue to improve our recognition as a quality educational institution with regional and national recognition. Clearly, I am proud to be an alumnus of Merrimack."

Now retired, Girard participates in some board activities and enjoys golfing, photography, and traveling with his wife, Henriette. But thoughts of Merrimack are never far from his mind. "My grandson, Chris, is attending Merrimack in the fall and I couldn't be more delighted. I think he's going to be a terrific addition." ■

# STEP UP. STAND OUT. MERRIMACK COLLEGE



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- Master of Education in Higher Education
- Master of Education in Community Engagement



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graduate@merrimack.edu 978-837-5073



# LEARNING THROUGH CULTURAL IMMERSION

SHORT-TERM STUDY ABROAD



Imagine the power of studying British paintings in the English village of Wroxton or the medieval philosophy in “Medieval Manhattan” San Gimignano, Italy. Consider the impact of visiting the sites of Bloody Sunday or the Easter uprising for perspective on Ireland’s turbulent past, or conducting field work in Belize to gain appreciation for biological and cultural diversity.

When you see the world as your classroom, the opportunities for learning are endless. That’s the spirit of study abroad, and the reason Merrimack offers a wide array of options at different times of year, often with career preparation or service-learning components.

In the 2011–2012 academic year, 122 Merrimack students participated in a study abroad program, and a little more than a half selected a short-term option. Lauren Bent, Director of the Office of International Programs, notes that enrollment in short-term programs is growing rapidly—mirroring the national trend as reported in the 2012 Open Doors Report conducted by the Institute of International Education.

#### Many motivations, many outcomes

Merrimack students select the short-term study abroad option for many reasons, among them, lower expenses and the ability to balance other commitments. Short-term programs also offer students a great way to test drive the study abroad experience—helping them better determine if they’d like to pursue a full semester or year abroad.

Bent recommends study abroad for all students across all majors, saying that it “expands their understanding of themselves, the world, and critical global issues. Study abroad experiences help prepare students to contribute and compete in a global society.”

#### Crossing Borders

The benefits of well-conceived study abroad experiences cannot be overestimated. Adjunct professor and '09 graduate Elisa Kirschhoffer participated in the very first Crossing Borders program to learn about the peaceful co-existence of Jews, Christians, and Muslims in Medieval Spain. “I never imagined that this quick little trip would be a life-altering journey for me. In the months prior to leaving, we studied the period of peace among the Jews, Christians, and Muslims living in Southern Spain in 700-1500 CE.”

“Once in Spain, the history was made tangible in the architecture, food, and other aspects of the culture of Andalusian region. We visited mosques, churches, and synagogues. I never expected to be so moved by a place, history, or culture, particularly since I’d already traveled a lot with little more to show for it than great memories.” The Crossing Borders experience is designed to help students internalize and spread the themes of religious tolerance, understanding, and appreciation—all essential in helping make conflict among religious groups a thing of the past.



Sarah Wooley '14, a double major in Athletic Training and Spanish, realized the benefits of cultural immersion during her participation in Crossing Borders. "A trip highlight was my stay with host families in Spain and Morocco, which really helped me engage in their culture. My favorite aspect, though, was interacting with students in Morocco who were around my age. This experience complemented my academics. Seeing things firsthand that I'd learned about in class gave me a greater appreciation for them."

**Augustinian pilgrimage**

Another flagship short-term study abroad program is the annual pilgrimage to Pellegrinaggio, Italy. To personally experience the Augustinian characteristics of community, spirituality, and service, Merrimack pilgrims visit sites that were important to St. Augustine of Hippo Regius and Augustinian friars. Father Jim Wenzel led the first pilgrimage in March of 2000. Since that time, more than 400 alumni, faculty, staff, and students across the extended Merrimack community have participated in this distinctive learning opportunity.

Father Wenzel comments, "I think it is unique to have representatives from all areas of the College, young and old, students, and faculty. It has pleased me very much to see that each year, a distinct community of friends develops and grows prior to and especially during the journey itself. It is truly representative of St. Augustine's emphasis on a community of friends as a distinct locus for the presence of God."

Students prepare for the pilgrimage by participating in pre-trip monthly seminars. In addition to traveling to Spain and Morocco, Sarah Wooley also took advantage of the opportunity to travel to Italy this past spring.

This year, the Pellegrinaggio trip happened to fall on Holy Week. Father Wenzel expressed the thrill of being in Rome from the Wednesday of Holy Week until Easter Sunday and participating in Liturgies celebrated by newly elected Pope Francis. "There was even greater joy in Rome because of Francis' recent election as Pope. It was an electrifying experience. This opportunity allowed our participants to understand that we are a worldwide church."

"Study abroad is recommended for all students across all majors who wish to expand their understanding of themselves, the world, and critical global issues," says Bent. "As St. Augustine said, 'The world is a book, and the person who does not travel reads only one page.' In that vein, we hope our students take advantage of opportunities to be well-read, well-traveled global citizens." ■



Sarah Wooley '14 enjoying Italy Scarf shopping in Morocco

"Cultural immersion is a hallmark of Merrimack's short-term programs."

Professor Lynn McGovern, Academic Director of Short-Term Study Abroad Programs

**Short-Term Study Abroad Options**

**Summer Session in Wroxton, England**  
Study at Wroxton College in the quintessential English village

**Summer Session in San Gimignano, Italy**  
Study with Merrimack faculty in "Medieval Manhattan"

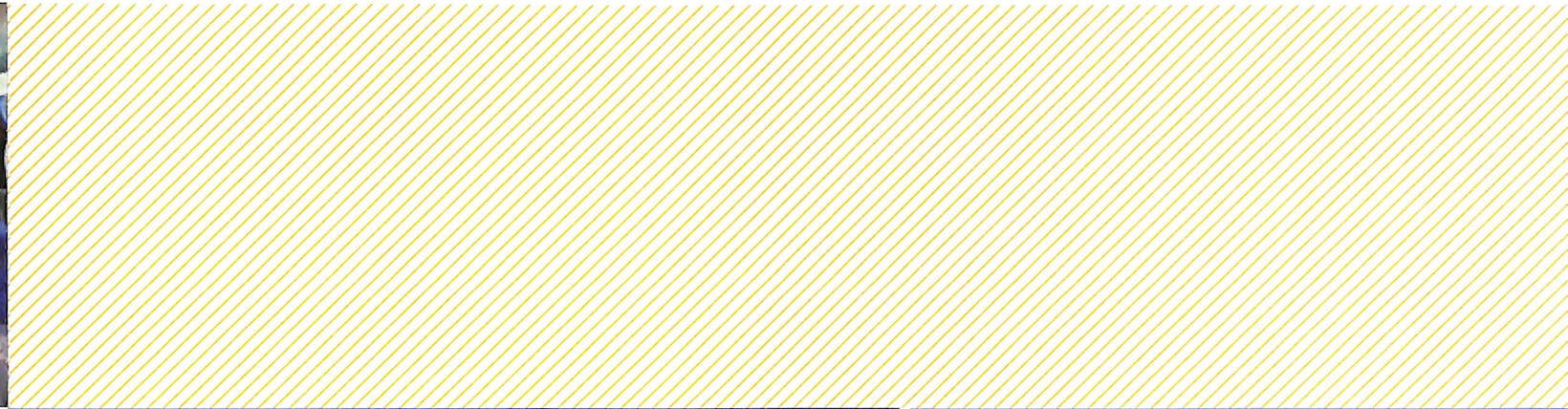
**Spain & Morocco: Crossing Borders**  
Explore the peaceful co-existence among Medieval Jews, Christians, and Muslims

**Pellegrinaggio, Italy: In Search of Augustinian Community**  
Journey with pilgrims along St. Augustine's steps

**Dublin & Belfast, Ireland**  
Study Ireland's turbulent past and travel with Merrimack faculty

**Belizean Landscapes**  
Conduct ecological fieldwork in a remote location

**Did you know?**  
Alumni are welcome to take part in the Pellegrinaggio trips to Italy.  
To learn more, visit [www.merrimack.edu/alumni](http://www.merrimack.edu/alumni).



The 2013 Pellegrinaggio group in Rome, Italy



Crossing Border group in the "Medina," Fez, Morocco



Pilgrims attend a lecture on the subject of Augustinian community in Cassago Brianza



Crossing Borders in 2009 in front of the Alhambra in Granada, Spain

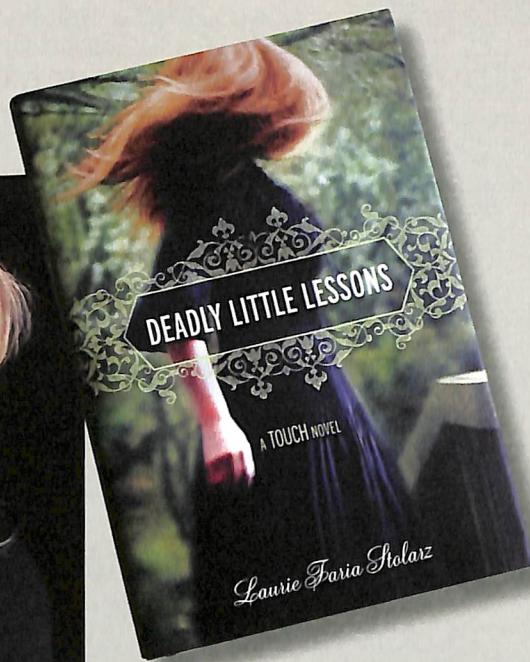
"Study abroad experiences help prepare students to contribute and compete in a global society."  
Lauren Bent, Director of the Office of International Programs



## Q&A WITH AUTHOR LAURIE FARIA STOLARZ, '94



photography: Joseph Puleo



Merrimack alumna Laurie Faria Stolarz is the author of several popular young adult novels including the *Touch* series (the latest release of which is *Deadly Little Lessons*), *Project 17*, and *Bleed* (all published by Disney/Hyperion Books for Children), as well as the bestselling *Blue is for Nightmares* series. With more than a million books sold worldwide, Stolarz's titles have been included on numerous award lists, including the Quick Pick for Reluctant Readers list, and the Top Ten Teen Pick list, both through the American Library Association.

**Q: What is the key to creating a successful book series?**

**A:** It's essential to have a relatable main character—no matter how extraordinary he or she is—who will sustain the reader's interest throughout the course of each novel in the series. It's important to put that character in a compelling

situation—one that hooks the readers' attention from the very first page and keeps them turning pages until the very end of each book.

Each book in the series needs to show the main character's growth (or arc) as he or she is presented with a unique set of challenges and learns a new lesson each time. In my books, my main character often has a secret, as well as a group of flawed and intriguing friends. I also incorporate humor to help lighten those darker moments. Last, incorporating elements of suspense (including cliffhangers) is definitely key, no matter the genre, because it leaves readers begging for more.

**Q: Did you have aspirations of becoming an author while attending Merrimack?**

**A:** Yes, but I never thought it was something that I would actually be able to do. I majored in business because I

wanted to be able to support myself. Getting a business degree was both practical and "safe."

Growing up, money was tight, and the idea of becoming a writer seemed far more of a pipe dream than something I could one day accomplish, let alone support myself doing. Both of my older brothers majored in business in college—one of whom is also a Merrimack alum—and became successful. I'd planned on following in their footsteps.

**Q: Did your professors help influence your career direction?**

**A:** Even though I never thought that becoming a writer was a realistic goal, during my freshman year, Professor MaryKay Mahoney stopped me after class one day to ask me if I'd ever thought about pursuing writing in a more serious way. She told me how talented she thought I was and that I owed it to myself to pursue that talent. I'm forever grateful for her encouragement, because those words put the possibility inside my head.

Though I didn't have the confidence at the time to make the leap from business, it was nice to be recognized for something I'd always wanted to pursue. In the end, I'm grateful for my business degree, because as a writer I run my own business. Though I have editors, agents, and publicists, I do a lot of my own marketing as an author and having this background helps immensely.

**Q: When is the last time you visited Merrimack?**

**A:** I was on campus this past fall when I was guest speaker in one of Dr. Mahoney's creative writing classes.

**Q: What's the most outrageous thing you've done in the name of research?**

**A:** In my field, research is essential. Not only do I try to keep current on teen culture, I often have to research the book's subject matter. Once, I

had to figure out how to break into an abandoned mental institution, the former Danvers State Hospital, which was rumored to be haunted, in the middle of the night. I did this for my research on *Project 17*, which deals with the supernatural. I connected with a group of urban explorers and became so spooked by my research that I wasn't able to sleep at night.

**Q: What stimulates you intellectually?**

**A:** My work and my obsessive need to get things right. I'm also fascinated by holistic health and nutrition.

I absolutely love what I do and I'm grateful for that every day. I think the best part of my job is when someone writes to me saying that my books have gotten him or her to enjoy reading.

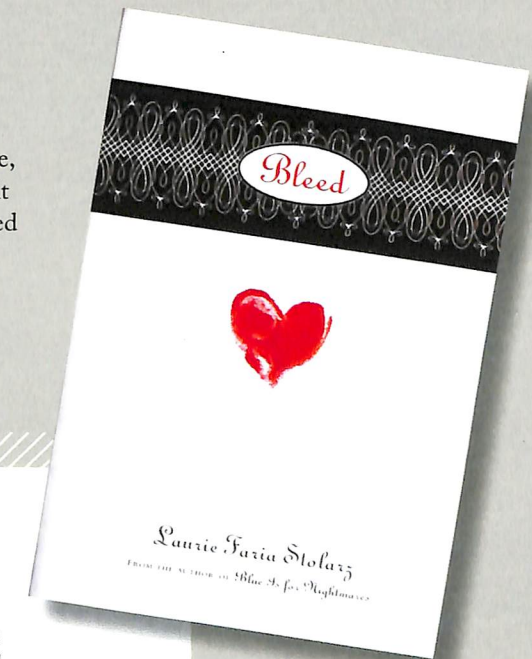
Though I loved telling stories as a young person, I wasn't an avid reader. As an adult who writes for teens, I knew I wanted to target young people who were like me—individuals who don't naturally gravitate toward reading for pleasure. It's a thrill to hear from those teens—to hear that my books helped change their attitudes about reading.

**Q: What's next for you?**

**A:** My *Blue is for Nightmares* series was recently optioned for a TV series by Persistent Entertainment and Blondie Girl Productions (Ashley Tisdale's production company). It was sold to ABC Family and went to the pilot stage, but it did not get picked up. That said, it was an amazing experience and I learned a lot through the process, starting with

initial vision meetings all the way to the pilot script.

I'm currently working on my 14th book for young adults. It's called *Welcome to the Dark House*, the first book in my new *Dark House* horror series with Disney/Hyperion Books for Children. It will be out next winter. ■



### From *Bleed*

It was the way he talked about her. The way his eyes filled up, like they could drown you in just one blink. The way his dimpled chin trembled when he spoke. How his voice was all splintery, splintered into a million pieces—all about her, about how much he loved her and couldn't accept that this had happened, that he had done it.

The trial had lasted a little over two weeks. But I watched it a lot longer than that. Thanks to Court TV and an old VCR, I watched every night before I went to bed and sometimes until the sky turned blue again. Some nights I just couldn't say good bye, couldn't bring myself to look into those watery eyes or hear that broken voice and shut the power off. That would be like abandoning him in some way—leaving him alone there in that cold, impersonal courtroom, trapped in the TV.

I'd play and replay the tape, noticing new things each time. Like that his hair was really dark, dark brown, rather than black like all the papers said. And that he had a Madonna-like mole on his bottom lip that moved with his mouth when he talked.

The tape became fuzzy in parts. Parts where it was his turn to talk about Melanie. When he said how nothing else meant anything, including prison, or death, or anything else they might do to him, if he couldn't see her everyday, if she couldn't read him one of her poems.

I just never knew someone could love that much.



## Merrimack Concludes 2012-2013 with the Most Championships Since 1999

Highlighted by the first-ever regular season championship for men's lacrosse, Merrimack's athletic programs won a combined five league championships in 2012-2013—the most in 14 years. The men's lacrosse team was ranked as high as third in the country, its highest ranking ever, while Corey Lunney was named the USILA National Player of the Year and a first-team All-American for the third time.

The women's golf team also led the way this spring. Only in its second season, the team won the ECAC Championship by 30 strokes. Men's tennis remained a model of consistency winning its second-straight Northeast-10 regular season and conference championship, while qualifying for its sixth-straight and sixth-ever NCAA Tournament. The men's tennis team will enter 2013-2014 with 22 straight conference victories.

Merrimack also enjoyed an outstanding fall season as men's soccer won its first Northeast-10 Championship since 1999 and won its first-ever NCAA Tournament. Meanwhile, the field hockey team won its second-straight and second-ever conference title and advanced to its second-straight NCAA Final Four.

In all, Merrimack won 55% of its games—the most since 2009-2010. In fact, the baseball team tied the school record for wins with 30, while reaching the Northeast-10 Championship for the first time since 1996.

### WOMEN'S GOLFER ALI REED QUALIFIES FOR NCAA TOURNAMENT

After finishing second at the NCAA Super Regionals in Illinois in early May, Sophomore Ali Reed qualified to compete in the NCAA Division II Women's Golf Tournament. As 1 of 12 qualifying individual golfers in the country, she competed against 11 individuals and 16 teams, finishing 49th overall at the LPGA International Legends Course in Daytona Beach, Florida.

### VOEGELI INVITED TO PHILADELPHIA EAGLES TRAINING CAMP

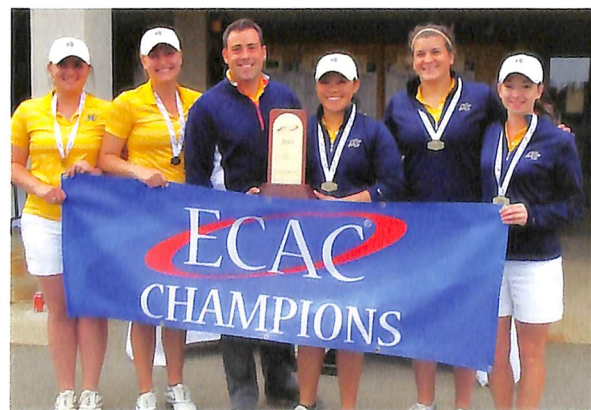
Wide Receiver Isaiah Voegeli became the fourth Merrimack football player in two seasons to sign a NFL contract. The Northeast-10's Most Valuable Player signed with the Philadelphia Eagles and will attend Eagles' training camp this summer.

"I am speechless," said Voegeli. "I am so grateful for this opportunity. I can't thank head coach Dan Curran enough for his help and guidance and preparation to get me to this point."

This is a dream come true that I've dreamt about since I was seven, to just have a shot and I've been blessed by this opportunity."

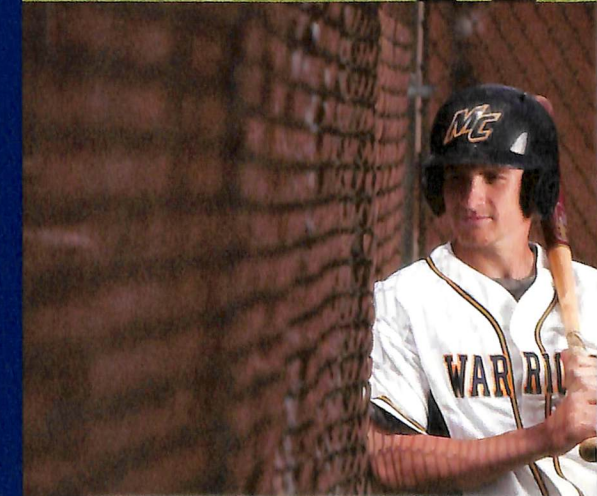
Voegeli leaves Merrimack as the most decorated offensive player in program history. He was a consensus All-American last fall breaking multiple Northeast-10 Conference records along with nearly every Merrimack College receiving record.

"We are so proud of Isaiah and all of his accomplishments and we couldn't be more excited for him as he moves on to the next phase of his career," said first-year head coach Dan Curran. "Very few people have the opportunity to play football at the highest level and I can't think of an individual who has earned it more than Isaiah. Isaiah has set the standard for all future offensive players at Merrimack with his unbelievable production, competitiveness, and work ethic." ■



## Athletic Highlights

- ☛ **Five Conference Championships** (field hockey, men's soccer, men's tennis, men's lacrosse, women's golf), most since 1999
- ☛ **Three NCAA Tournament appearances** (field hockey, men's soccer, men's tennis)
- ☛ **One NCAA Individual Qualifier** (Ali Reed - Women's Golf)
- ☛ **Highest-winning percentage** as a department since 2009
- ☛ **Department-wide 3.13 GPA**, highest ever
- ☛ **Nineteen All-Americans**, most in school history
- ☛ **Highest-ever national lacrosse ranking (#3)** in men's history
- ☛ **Tied school record for wins** in a season (30) in baseball
- ☛ **Posted biggest turnaround for wins** among any Division II women's basketball programs (12 wins)
- ☛ **Northeast-10 Rookie of the Year** in women's cross country (Kerry Phelan) and women's track (Noelia Figuereo)
- ☛ **First-ever, first-team all-conference player in hockey** (Mike Collins)
- ☛ **First-ever program win in women's crew**





## School of Liberal Arts Welcomes Dean Kathleen Tiemann



**KATHLEEN A. TIEMANN**

**Former Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, University of North Dakota (UND)**

Kathleen earned her B.A. degree in Sociology from Grand Valley State University and received her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Sociology from Western Michigan University. She came to UND in 1988, was promoted through the ranks to professor and was named Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor of Sociology in 2009. Her research focuses on teaching sociology, sexualities, and the career trajectories of chairs of graduate departments of sociology. As Interim Dean, she provided leadership and direction for 18 departments and several programs of study in the University's College of Arts and Sciences.

After 24 years at the University of North Dakota (UND), Dean Kathy Tiemann is heading east to become Merrimack's Dean of the School of Liberal Arts. Expressing her enthusiasm about the opportunity, Dean Tiemann said, "The excitement at Merrimack is contagious. They're making things happen. The momentum is evident when you talk to people on campus. I found the environment to be very enticing."

Dean Tiemann looks forward to helping advance the College's Agenda for Distinction by demonstrating the value of contemporary Catholic thought and Augustinian traditions. For her, service learning and community engagement initiatives are important aspects of fulfilling this mission—helping bridge the college with the community.

She also understands the value of keeping curriculum fresh and relevant, citing a recent collaborative effort she helped lead. "I'm working with the business school to add liberal arts

emphases to their social entrepreneurship program—enabling students to select from specialized tracks in economics, sustainability, faith and culture, and global justice. Bundling courses creates relevant multi-disciplinary programs that students really value. I hope to explore similar curricula opportunities at Merrimack."

Integrating classroom lessons with hands-on experience is an integral part of Dean Tiemann's academic philosophy, which is why she encourages faculty to make in-class research part of the curriculum. "At UND, many of our students work with faculty on research projects and help present papers at professional meetings. I think it's important to give students a chance to be published and recognized for their work."

When asked about the value of a liberal arts education, Dean Tiemann was quick to respond. "A liberal arts education is a practical education. Most people change

their occupational identity approximately three times in their lifetimes. Look at all the specialized occupations that we were training people for 10 or 15 years ago that no longer exist. With a liberal arts education, students acquire valuable skills in reading, writing, and critical thinking that can be applied to new challenges. Those skills don't expire." To further emphasize the importance of the liberal arts, Dean Tiemann referenced C.S. Lewis' quote that while friendship, philosophy and art are unnecessary for survival, they, like liberal arts, "give value to survival."

Along with her partner, Reverend Doctor Gayle Baldwin, Dean Tiemann will be moving to the east coast with dogs Bogey and Putter. Self-proclaimed golf nuts, Tiemann says with a laugh, "We thought about naming one of the dogs Eagle, but that just seemed like too much pressure to put on an animal." ■

"Being in the presence of the new pope was a truly humbling experience. The crowd outside of St. Peter's basilica was giving off thousands of different emotions. I saw people in tears and heard people shouting 'papa Francesco' in every language. It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience to witness people from all over the world unite in admiration for the new pope."

-AMANDA RYAN '15

"Knowing that the kids were that close to the pope, was very, very gratifying."

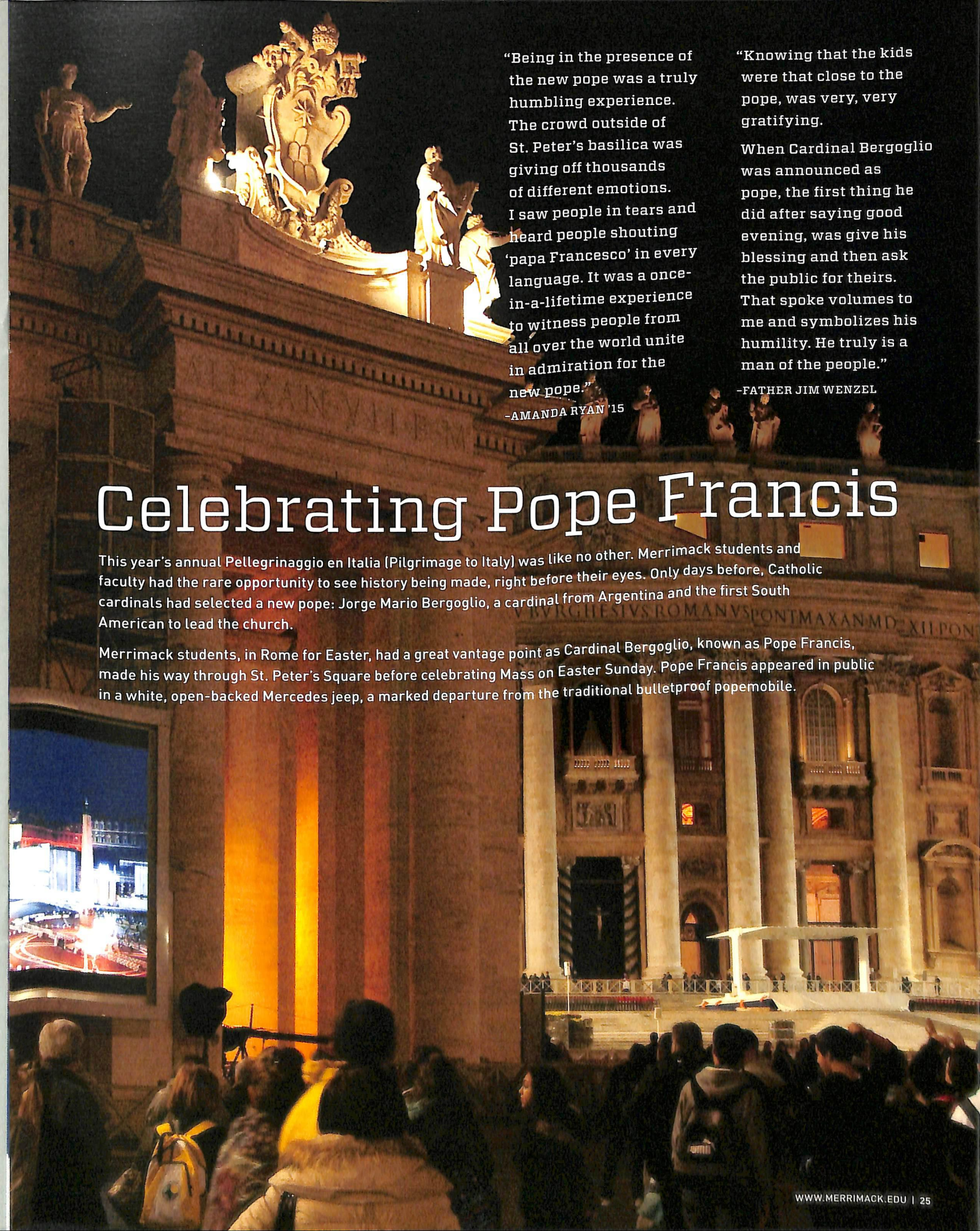
When Cardinal Bergoglio was announced as pope, the first thing he did after saying good evening, was give his blessing and then ask the public for theirs. That spoke volumes to me and symbolizes his humility. He truly is a man of the people."

-FATHER JIM WENZEL

# Celebrating Pope Francis

This year's annual Pellegrinaggio en Italia (Pilgrimage to Italy) was like no other. Merrimack students and faculty had the rare opportunity to see history being made, right before their eyes. Only days before, Catholic cardinals had selected a new pope: Jorge Mario Bergoglio, a cardinal from Argentina and the first South American to lead the church.

Merrimack students, in Rome for Easter, had a great vantage point as Cardinal Bergoglio, known as Pope Francis, made his way through St. Peter's Square before celebrating Mass on Easter Sunday. Pope Francis appeared in public in a white, open-backed Mercedes jeep, a marked departure from the traditional bulletproof popemobile.





## New Faces at Merrimack College

**SARA BRAZDA**—Vice President of Development and Alumni Affairs  
Sara Brazda comes to Merrimack most recently from a position at Babson College. Sara began her career with the National Kidney Foundation in Washington, DC. Following her work with the National Kidney Foundation, Sara worked with the University of Florida's athletic fundraising operation as Director of Operations and as the Director of Development and Alumni Affairs for UF's Warrington College of Business Administration.



**JEREMY GIBSON**—Athletic Director

Jeremy Gibson has been named Merrimack's new Athletic Director. Jeremy has served on numerous committees including the NCAA Lacrosse Championship Local Organizing Committee, ECAC Hockey Executive Committee (Chair) and has served as the Ivy League administrator for a variety of sports. Since 1997, Jeremy has worked at Harvard University, most recently as the senior associate athletic director.



**BILL KLINE**—CFO/Vice President for Finance and Budget

Bill Kline comes to Merrimack from Hawaii Pacific University in Honolulu, Hawaii where he served as Vice President and CFO. Bill has previously worked with a start-up company that helped U.S. universities expand their international presence in developing countries. He was also CFO for Schiller International University, a for-profit university with campuses in the U.S. and throughout Europe. Prior to that, Bill spent twenty years at KPMG as Audit Partner working with a focus on health care practices and financial services.



**DAVID HAUTANEN JR**—Vice President for Enrollment Management & Retention

David Hautanen joins Merrimack from Northeastern University, where he spent the last ten years in enrollment management, both as the Associate Dean and Director of Admissions and as the Director of International Recruitment and Strategic Enrollment Initiatives. Prior to his time at Northeastern, David was the Director of Undergraduate Admission and Recruitment at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.



## Awards and Recognition

**PROFESSOR DAVID RAYMOND HONORED WITH AAUP AWARD**

The American Association of University Professors (AAUP) bestowed the 6th Thomas P. Hogan Award for Excellence in Collegial Governance to David E. Raymond, professor, Visual and Performing Arts. Established in 1988 in the name of Emeritus Professor of Economics Thomas P. Hogan, the award is presented to a member of the Merrimack community who has furthered equity, openness, and joint professional responsibility as principles of collegial governance.

**PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Yet again, Merrimack College has been named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. The Honor Roll recognizes institutions that achieve meaningful, measureable outcomes in the communities they serve and place students on a lifelong path of civic engagement.



## Merrimack—Pfizer Corporate Partnership Launches

Through the stewardship of board member Jack Pasini, Merrimack has formalized a long-term partnership with Pfizer that enables Merrimack students to augment their education by working alongside world-class scientists who are developing innovative, cutting-edge solutions to today's problems. This partnership serves as a successful model for future collaborations—and contributes to the school's goal of developing distinctive learning opportunities for all students.

This year, Heather Hook '14 and Gabby Angelini '14, have been selected to participate in the fellowship program at Pfizer. There, they will work on projects that focus on engineering cells to create purified proteins for therapeutic purposes.

"Investing in academic and experiential learning opportunities is crucial to expanding enrollments and creating signature learning experiences for our students. This new corporate partnership between Merrimack College and

Pfizer helps advance this long-range priority," says Christopher Hopey, Ph.D., President of Merrimack College. "Merrimack College is fortunate to have an active board member like Jack Pasini who, like all of our board members, is focused on our overarching goal: to secure the brightest future possible for Merrimack and its students."

### PROFILE

## About Jack Pasini, '73



After a distinguished 30-year career at Pfizer, Inc., Jack joined biopharmaceutical company Oligomerix, Inc. as a Director and

Chief Commercial Officer in 2010. Located in New York, Oligomerix is focused on early-stage drug discovery targeting tau protein in Alzheimer's disease.

At Pfizer, Jack gained broad commercial leadership experience across a range of responsibilities. Prior to retiring, Jack was Vice President, Worldwide Marketing where he was responsible for

Pfizer's Global Infectious Diseases and Respiratory Therapeutic groups. He led successful global launches of many of Pfizer's novel products including Spiriva, Diflucan, Vfend, and Zithromax, which generated in excess of \$5B in revenue.

Two of Jack's key contributions include the leadership of the global alliance with Boehringer-Ingelheim that launched and built Spiriva into the most prescribed medicine in the world for the treatment of COPD. He also spearheaded the development of several key philanthropic programs for Pfizer, including the Diflucan Partnership Program, which makes available Pfizer's novel anti-fungal medicine to patients in 62 developing countries who are suffering from life-threatening fungal infections and cannot afford to pay.

Jack's other responsibilities included three years as Vice President of Business Intelligence & Planning and a year as Pfizer's Regional President of the Africa, Middle East Region. In 1997, Jack was appointed Vice President of Product Development.

Jack graduated from Merrimack College with a BS in Business Administration and earned an MBA from Fairleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey.

Jack is also a member of the Merrimack College Board of Trustees. He and his wife Debbie live in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and have two grown children. ■



# MERRIMACK COLLEGE:

## Celebrating Distinction in Action

Over the past three years, Merrimack has been transformed through the power of its people, its ideas, and its momentum. We have gained champions and validators—both far and wide—and have proven our strength in many arenas. As we celebrate our accomplishments, know that this is just the beginning. We look forward to keeping up the momentum, and moving forward together.

### Cutting Edge Academic Spaces

- Sports Medicine Labs
- Writer's House
- Markets Lab

### New Academic Programs

- Master's degrees in Engineering and Business
- Bachelor degrees in Theater Arts, Mechanical Engineering, Information Technology and International Studies

### Strong Augustinian and College Traditions

- Mack Gives Back Day of Service
- Project Medishare for Haiti Collaboration
- Baccalaureate & Convocation Mass
- Light and Hope
- Midnight Madness

### Enhanced Student Spaces

- Residential Village
- McQuade Library & Crowe Commons
- Augie's Pub
- Fitness Center
- Bookstore

Come back to campus and attend one of our upcoming events. You'll see for yourself how Merrimack is becoming a stronger, more vibrant institution of distinction.

### September 19, 2013

#### Opening celebrations!

- Residential Village
- Volpe Athletic Complex: Rink, Sports Medicine labs, Innovation Center, Markets Lab, Bookstore
- Fitness Center in Sakowich Campus Center

### October 25 & 26, 2013

#### Homecoming Weekend

### October 11 & 12, 2013

#### Merrimack Men's Hockey at Denver

### November 9, 2013

#### Mack Gives Back Day of Service

### November 15 & 16, 2013

#### Merrimack Men's Hockey at Notre Dame

### December 3, 2013

#### Celebration of Light and Hope

### December 5, 2013

#### Alumni Christmas Party

### January 4, 2014

#### Frozen Four—Merrimack vs. Providence at Fenway Park

[WWW.MERRIMACK.EDU/MOMENTUM](http://WWW.MERRIMACK.EDU/MOMENTUM)



# COMMENCEMENT 2013

UNDERGRADUATE  
CEREMONY—MAY 19



#bestfouryears



**Congratulations!**  
Class of 2013!



“Watching @chrisp\_chris graduate from @merrimack reminds me of how proud I am to be a Warrior.”

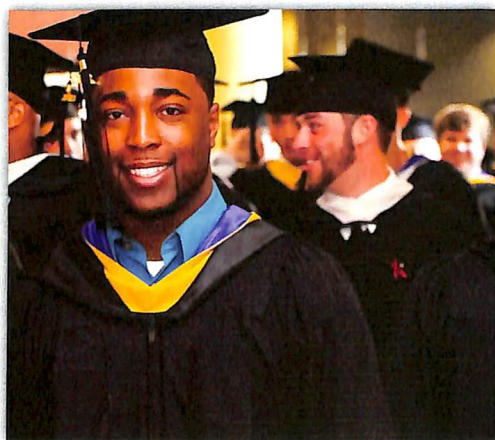
Rebecca Provost @BeccaP3188 19 May



## Class of 2013

Starting the line up for commencement!

#merrimack2013



“It’s been an amazing four years, with an amazing group of people and I look forward to the next chapter in my life @merrimack.”

#best4years  
Hannah Morley @hmmorley 19 May



▲ Honorary degree recipients with President Hopey. Left to right: Dr. Richard M. Freeland, Liz Murray, Prospero Cardinal Grech

## Undergraduate Ceremony – Honorary Degree Recipients' Citations

**Prospero Cardinal Grech**  
*Cardinal of the Holy Roman Church, Consultor of the Sacred Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission*

Perhaps foremost among your many accomplishments and acts of service to the church and the order of St. Augustine, was the role you played as co-founder and president of “Augustinian Patristic Institution” in 1969. This premier institution is dedicated to the study of the works of St. Augustine and the fathers of the church.

**Dr. Richard M. Freeland**  
*Commissioner of Higher Education for Massachusetts, author, and former President of Northeastern University*

As president of Northeastern University you laid out the vision of an institution few could see. The institution, the alumni and the city of Boston all benefited from your ability to translate vision to a new reality—an institutional transformation that many consider one of the greatest in the last forty years.

**Liz Murray**  
*Author and inspirational speaker*

By dreaming big you saw a future that most believed was impossible. Determined not to allow your circumstance to define you, you taught yourself lessons that ultimately led you to Harvard and a life of accomplishment.

## GRADUATE CEREMONY—MAY 17



“@merrimack grad school graduation day!! As of tonight I will officially be a Master of Ed—look out student affairs world—here I come!”

Angela M @amcg777

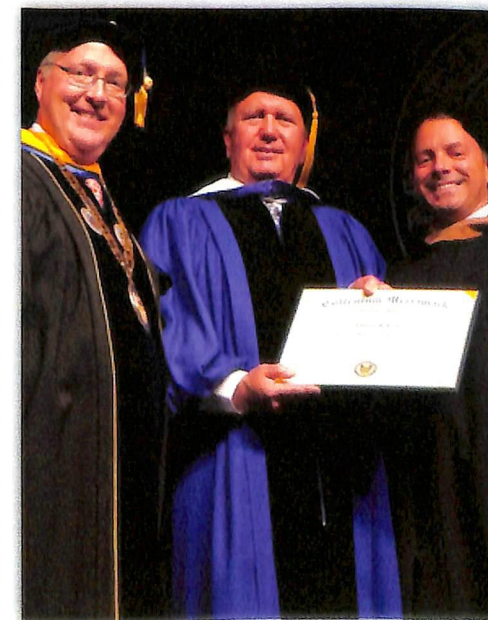


## Graduate Ceremony – Honorary Degree Recipient Citation

**Thomas Keefe**  
*CEO of Interational Medical Equipment Collaborative*

Utilizing the Augustinian Catholic education you received at Merrimack College, you created an international medical equipment collaborative and developed an integrated system to combat poverty all over the world.

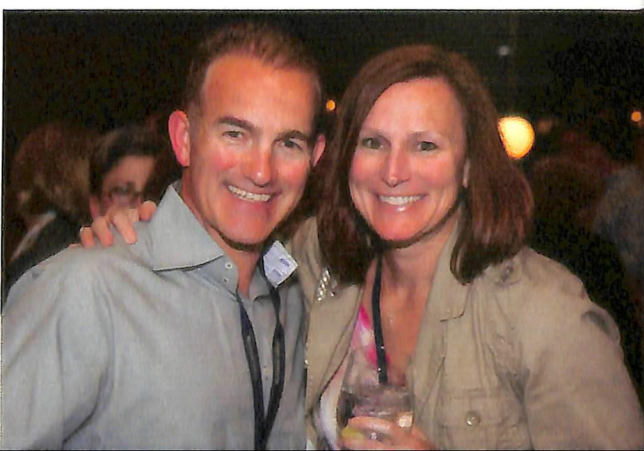
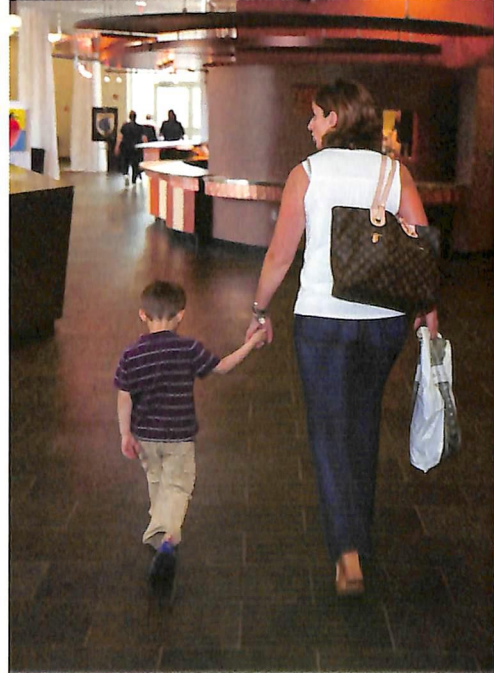
◀ Left to right: President Hopey, Thomas Keefe, and Timothy Murphy, Chairman of the Board, President and CEO, Beacon Health Strategies





# What a weekend!

Thank you to all our amazing alums who came to celebrate reunion weekend with us on June 7, 8 and 9.



## Thank you!

**From transforming the campus, to strengthening our faculty, to supporting our students—your generosity has made an immediate impact at Merrimack College.**

In the last year, more than 3,000 alumni supported the College—raising just over \$5.2 million. In addition to reaching a giving milestone, we also exceeded our participation goal with 15.5% of alumni supporting the College.

“Last year was very positive because of the variety of giving and the increase in participation,” notes Sara Jane Brazda, Merrimack’s new Vice President of Development and Alumni Affairs. “The support of our donors is providing life-changing educational opportunities for our students.”

This is the second year in a row that the alumni and friends of Merrimack College have come together to raise more than \$5 million dollars in a fiscal year—and a total of \$13.3 million over the past three years.

“This tremendous investment in Merrimack shows how deeply committed our alumni are to the future of this Institution,” says President Christopher E. Hopey. “Merrimack is fortunate to have so many supporters and I am looking forward to engaging with more alumni who want to experience the excitement and momentum for themselves.”

From all of us at Merrimack, we thank you for your support over the last year. We will continue to make strides, ensuring the future of Merrimack College as an institution of distinction.

[www.merrimack.edu/gift](http://www.merrimack.edu/gift)



## Alumni News

57

**Carmen Reitano** is writing his life story titled: *A Damn Ram!* The title originates from his astrological sign Aries. Carmen is eighty years old and is writing the book at the insistence of his children and grandchildren. Carmen was born with dyslexia and faulty saccadic eye tracking but went on to become an Executive Vice President at some of the largest corporations in the world including Wang and Hyundai Electronics America. He also cofounded Edvocacy.org with Geoff Cronin and others to develop software to detect and quantify dyslexia and to gather the information in a database that they believed would have the potential to assist in designing a remediation system.

58

**Patricia Maney Gorton** is part of the RE-SEED program at Northeastern University and is a volunteer laboratory assistant for science teachers at St. Mary's Middle and High Schools in Lynn, MA. Patricia majored in Biology and is a graduate of SMH as are her brother **Joseph '57**, and her sister **Eileen Maney McClelland '66**. Patricia has two grandchildren who are students at St. Mary's High School.

61

In 2012, **Rosemary Banks** and her husband Jim celebrated their first fifty years together with an anniversary cruise shared with their four daughters, their spouses, and their 13 grandkids. "It's been a great adventure!" says Rosemary.

**Col. Edward Doyle** and his wife Cindy are celebrating their fiftieth wedding anniversary and will be cruising around New Zealand and Australia after Christmas. (1)

63

In 1997, **David M. Cleary** retired from Oliver Ames High School in North Easton, MA after teaching, coaching, and referring for 28 years. He was elected to the MA State Hockey Coaches Association's Hall

of Fame in 1985. In 2009, David was also selected, with the 1980 Oliver Ames State Champion Golf Team, into the Oliver Ames High School Athletic Hall of Fame. In 2011, he was selected into that Hall of Fame as the hockey and golf coach. He was the commissioner of eight leagues in Southern Massachusetts, assigning all the games during 18 hockey seasons. Now living in FL, David is enjoying his retirement by playing golf and tennis and catching up on his reading. David says he "had a great ride and enjoyed all the athletic contests and the relationships I made during my college, teaching, and coaching careers."

64

**Richard Reitano** is still teaching at Dutchess Community College and Vassar College in the spring semesters. Richard and his wife take the fall semesters off to travel. He "officially" retired from Dutchess in January 2008. Richard asks, "Who will attend our 50th class reunion in 2014?"

66

**Donna Fannon** moved back to MA in 2010 to care for her mother who is now 92. She also serves as a member of the leadership team of her order, the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart, and works on special projects for The Jesuit Collaborative in the area of spiritual director formation. Recently **Diana (Kilinski) Perkins '66**, her husband and Donna got together for lunch in Baltimore. They hadn't seen each other since graduation! (2)

In June of 2012, **Helen Hoffman** received the Nicholas Popov Award in recognition of generosity, kindness, and service to the children and youth of Newmarket. The award was presented by the Newmarket Community Education Partnership and included \$700 to be used at Helen's discretion to benefit her students. Helen has purchased an iPad and apps (designed for the learning disabled) for the students she works with daily.

67

**Patricia Smith** retired from Monmouth University in 2011 and married a week following. She became Samuel's grandmother in 2010. "Life is great!" she says.!

69

**Neal Boutin** retired from the state of NH after 35 years of service, most recently as Chief of Field Operations for the Division of Child Support Services. He spends summers at Weirs Beach on Lake Winnepesaukee and winters at Manasota Key in Englewood, FL, riding his Harley, golfing, and being a beach bum. Neal says, "Rho Beta to all my brothers in DPK."

**Jean Doyle** recently traveled to Salt Lake City for the annual American Association for State & Local History Awards event. Jean received a Lifetime Achievement Award for her work in preserving the history of Newburyport, MA.

71

**Stephen Hickox** was recently appointed the CEO of CDM Smith, a \$1.2 billion global engineering and construction company in Cambridge, MA. He started his career at CDM Smith after graduating from Merrimack College in Civil Engineering.

72

**Nicholas Forbes** retired from the Corps of Engineers in January 2009 after 34 years.

On February 22, 2013, **Terry Monahan** celebrated 40 years as a sportswriter in San Diego County, starting with *The Sentinel* in 1973 and including the *Escondido Times-Advocate*, the *North County Times*, and now the *Union-Tribune San Diego*. He's probably covered about 5,000 high school games in his career.

74

**Richard Coughlin** served as Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Truman State University from May 2010 to July 2012. He has now returned to his previous position as Dean of Libraries and Museums at Truman State University.

**Mark Shaw** was recently nominated and elected to serve on the Board of Governors—Salem Country Club (3 years).

76

**Marie Boyd** completed her doctorate in Educational Leadership in Higher Education from Argosy University last April. The title of her dissertation is "Information Competency as a Predictor of California Community College Student Transfer Success."

**Mary "McKenna" McKinney** and her husband Timothy are healthy and blessed with three beautiful kids. Their daughter Laura is a nurse at the PICU at Mass General, Courtney Anne is a second grade teacher in Duxbury, and Timmy is attending Bryant University and studying Marketing Communications while playing D1 basketball.

78

**Linda Jacobson** received her MSN in 1988 from the Yale University School of Nursing in the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Program. She has been working as a Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (CPNP) and Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) in Connecticut for over 20 years. In June 2009, she opened Complete Pediatrics in North Haven, CT, with two pediatricians.

**Joanne Bibeau** is transitioning her many years of legal practice and experience to working in church management. Joanne is presently enrolled in the Church Management Masters degree program of the School of Business of Villanova University and is a candidate to receive her Masters in Church Management in 2014.

80

**Joan Koesterherm** was recently promoted to Engineering Fellow, a top rank in Engineering representing the top 10% of engineers in the company.

82

**Ray Joyce**—Director of Development Lazarus House Ministries—and his family was pleased to participate in the 13th Annual Hike for Hope in support of Lazarus House Ministries. For four years in a row, Ray, his wife Michele, and their children Henry (11), Alden (6), and Sarah (9) have taken part in the event (with their fearless dog Maisy leading the way!). Ray says, "Special thanks to Merrimack for once again hosting this annual walk for families who are homeless or in dire need. In addition to my class reunion in May 2012, it was great to be back on campus for the Hike for Hope. Thanks also to all my fellow alumni who participated or helped out with Lazarus House in some way in 2012. Your involvement is much appreciated."

83

**Marie Goggin** became a proud grandmother for the first time on July 15, 2012 to her beautiful grandson, Owen Joseph Goggin. (3)

**Bob Modrak** was promoted in August 2012 to Manager of Supply Chain Compliance and Governance at Raytheon Integrated Defense Systems in Andover, MA. Bob has been employed at Raytheon since June 2008 and previously held the position of Subcontract Manager supporting several domestic and international prime contracts. Prior to Raytheon, Bob was employed at BAE Systems (formerly Sanders, A Lockheed Martin Company) in various procurement and subcontract management roles after graduating from Merrimack in 1983. Bob lives in Derry, NH with wife **Brenda (Thuillier '82)** and four children: Christopher (20) and triplets Anthony, Stephanie, and Brittany (16).

**Elizabeth Foley** was promoted to Vice President at Brown Brothers Harriman & Co., managing a team of Business Analysts who support client technology requests.



84

In January 2013, **Jay Dunigan** was seen as the character "Andrew Bridgeworth" on the ABC network airing of a Hallmark Hall of Fame production of "The Makeover" starring Julia Stiles, David Walton, and Camryn Manheim. In April 2013, Jay and Claudia celebrated their 28th year of marriage and the blessings of their three children. "Life is good," says Jay.

The American Diabetes Association, the nation's largest voluntary health organization leading the fight to Stop Diabetes®, is pleased to announce that Jay of Londonderry, NH, has been named a member of the Board of Directors for the Association. As a member, Dunigan is responsible for the oversight of the Association's key strategic objectives. Additionally, he will work closely with the Association's volunteers and staff on initiatives in support of the organization's mission during his tenure. (4)

**Karin Killeen** celebrated her 20-year anniversary of joining the Massachusetts Air National Guard. She is currently serving as the A1 for the Massachusetts Air National Guard.

87

**Elizabeth Scott** is training for 12 half-marathons in 12 months in 2013 to raise funds for cancer research at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in memory of her dad.



**90**  
**Gregory Waters** just received word that his self-study was accepted to continue his National Board Teacher Certification for the next 10 years. See [nbpts.org](http://nbpts.org) for further information.

**93**  
**Andreas Widmer** wrote a book about his experience as a Swiss Guard under Blessed John Paul II called *The Pope & The CEO* ([www.thepopeandtheco.com](http://www.thepopeandtheco.com)). The book also features a section about his experience at Merrimack College. [1]

**94**  
**Michael Consoli** opened a new real estate office in North Andover called Consoli Realty Group. This full-service real estate company caters mostly to residential buying and selling. Michael lives in North Andover with his wife **Beth (Addressio) Consoli '95** and two children.

**96**  
**Julie Gordon** has recently accepted a teaching position at Norwell High School as a special education teacher. Additionally, she serves on the Human Rights Committee for the ARC of the South Shore and has recently been awarded Volunteer of the Year by the Board of Directors. Lastly, she consults for Child and Family Psychological Services as an Educational Consultant. She lives in Norwell with her husband Jay and their two children John [9] and Julia [7].

**Erin Drislane** and her husband **Dave '97** will be celebrating 15 years of marriage. Erin says, "It seems like we just met at Freshman Orientation yesterday. Our three girls are doing fantastic, growing fast." Pictured are Kaitlin [14], Emily [12], and Abrielle [3]. [2]

**97**  
**Andrew Gibson** recently started as Library Director at Briarcliffe College based in Bethpage, NY.

**98**  
**Robert Kilkenny** is happy to announce that, due to recent growth, he has opened a new office at 225 Cedar Hill Street in Marlborough. Robert says, "This new location will allow me to continue to offer great service to my expanding client base. Please call me if you would like to schedule a visit to my new location." Call 508-630-2151 or visit [www.kilkennycpa.com](http://www.kilkennycpa.com).

**Anna-mary (Cullen) Geist** recently became the President of It's My Heart New England Chapter—a local non-profit group that supports, educates, and advocates for families affected by Congenital Heart Defects (CHD). Her family has been involved in this organization since their son Samuel was born with half a heart (Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome) in September 2010. Samuel had his third (and hopefully final) open-heart surgery on November 12, 2012, at Boston Children's Hospital, came home after only nine days, and is recovering well with the help of his big sister Emily. [Photograph is of Samuel—14 days post-op with his 3 1/2-year-old sister Emily] [3]

**99**  
**Jared Emond** and his wife Melissa just celebrated their daughter Reagan's first birthday, and their son Nolan is 2 1/2. After six years at Genzyme, Jared began a new job at Intelligent Medical Devices in October. [4]

**01**  
**Joe Jeffrey** attended his first Merrimack hockey game in 10+ years when he went to the Merrimack-Army game on December 11, 2012 with fellow alumni **Dan Defillippo '99** and **Matt Matosic '01**!

**Stephanie Rinker's** son, Blake Rinker, turned one year old a few months ago! [5]

**03**  
In May 2012, **Bill Scaggs** earned an MBA from Jacksonville University and in June he joined CSX in their Financial Planning & Analysis Group. Just

recently, Bill and **Sam Salamone '02** attended the Patriots vs. Jaguars game for a mini MC reunion! (See photo) Bill is living in Saint John's, FL with his wife, Sarah and son, Matthew [3]. Bill says, "Miss the MC community and hope to visit soon!" [6]

**05**  
**Captain Joshua Carroll** officially separated from active duty on February 13, 2013, after nearly eight years of service. Recently, he was deployed to Afghanistan where he earned an Air Force Commendation Medal and the Presidential Volunteer Service Award for his Social Enterprise "Flying Scarfs Inc.," which seeks to empower impoverished Afghan women through micro economic development. Upon returning from overseas, Capt. Carroll successfully completed his first Ironman (140.6 miles) in St. George, UT. His near-term plan after separating is to continue his service through economic development in Raleigh, NC (where he lives) and through a humanitarian mission to Haiti. Next fall, he plans on attending law school. [7]

**Cara Kennedy** is very involved with a local theater company, ACT Andover. They often perform their musicals right at the Rogers Center on campus! In addition to performing in their shows, she also produces the youth educational programs and sits on the board. Check them out at [www.actandover.com](http://www.actandover.com)!

**Adriana Grasso** is engaged to Andy Borrero. They will be getting married on October 26, 2013. [8]

On September 15, 2012, **Adam Van Buren** proposed to **Meghan Farrar** in the Boston Public Gardens 11 years after they met at Merrimack College. The wedding will be in September 2014 and will be held in Portland, Maine. [9]

**Christopher Wallace** was ordained as a transitional deacon at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross on January 19, 2013 and became a priest in May 2013.

**07**  
**Adam LaGrassa** graduated from New England Law | Boston in May 2012 and received notice that he passed the Massachusetts Bar Exam. His swearing in ceremony was at Faneuil Hall in Boston on November 27, 2012. He is now in the process of seeking a new job as an attorney.

**Adam Gilbert's** "Representations of Asteroidal Sets on Subdivisions of Stars," a paper related to graph theory, has been accepted to appear in the *Journal of Combinatorial Mathematics and Combinatorial Computing*.

**Charity Garlasco** will be getting married in Bristol, RI in September 2013!

**09**  
**Nichole Baldwin** completed her M.A. in Integrated Marketing Communications in July 2011 from Emerson College.

After completing law school at the Massachusetts School of Law, **Andrea Faris** was just recently sworn into the MA Bar as a licensed attorney. She is also engaged to be married next spring.

**Jamie Caccavaro ('09 and '12)** got engaged to Christopher Bang and plans to wed in 2014.

**10**  
**Michael Salvucci** is currently a third-year law student at New England Law | Boston and will be graduating in May.

**11**  
**Richard Matson** proposed to Natalie Varner in the Top of the Hub Restaurant in the Prudential Tower on April 13, 2012. She said "yes!" and they married in Pasadena, CA on July 13, 2013. Natalie is an environmental engineer working for EBI Consulting in Woburn, MA and Rich is a structural engineer working for AECOM in Boston, MA. [10]

**Amanda Persichetti** graduated with a Masters Degree in Ocean Engineering in May 2012. She got engaged on November 3 to another alum, **Jeff Costa '11**.

**Alicia Barroso** is currently at Duquesne University working towards a Masters degree in Occupational Therapy.

**12**  
**Bethany Emerson** married **Ryan Durkee '09** in May 2013!

**Stephen DeMattia** received his NH Statement of Eligibility and took the Praxis I on November 16. He is currently scheduled to take the Praxis II: Biology Content Knowledge on December 21, 2012 so that he can become a high school biology teacher.

**Danielle Jones** landed a job at Enterprise Rent a Car in the Management Training Program in Old Saybrook, CT.

**Tracy Coleman** is studying for a Masters degree in Sport Administration while working as the primary athletic trainer for both the men's and women's cross-country and track and field teams at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana.

**Weddings**

**86**  
**Mary-Joan Pelletier** married Frank Potvin in Reading, MA on December 1, 2012. [11]

**91**  
**Mary Wheeler** married Bryan Gosselin on March 17, 2012 at St. Augustine's Chapel in Lawrence, MA. Fr. Joe Farrell, O.S.A. and Fr. Bill Waters, O.S.A. officiated. Fr. Scott Ness, O.S.A. was the organist. Former Campus Minster Peggy Schumann was a bridesmaid, **Thomas Bachand '86** was a reader. The bride was escorted by her cousin, **David Pekarski '78**. Many Merrimack grads from various years were in attendance.

**02**  
**Aaron Roux** married Tanya Scholes on September 29, 2012. The ceremony and reception took place at Bishop Farm Bed and Breakfast in Lisbon, NH. Alumni in attendance were **Frank Morris '02**, **Erin Mulligan-Morris '03**, **Nate Sparks '02**, **Dennis Lanning '02**,



**Ed Bowen '02**, **Jennifer Rinsland-Bowen '02**, **Scott Tuttle '02**, **Brad Bamberry '02**, **Brian Calder '03**, **Bridget Fradette-Calder '03**, **Jarret Dubois '02**, **Sara Gianetti-Altieri '03**, and **John Simpson**. [12]



**05 Erin (Coughlin) Hart** got married on March 3, 2012 to Charles Hart. **Megan Swain '04** and **Maggie Casey '05** were bridesmaids in the wedding. (1)

**10 Caitlin Dunn** and **Brian Reilly '07** were married on June 30, 2012 at Andover Country Club. Alumni in attendance included **Andy Severance '06**, **Chris Dobi** and **Brien Andrysick '08**, **Steve Viglione**, **Adam Wilding**, **John Seaward**, **Nora Cahill**, **Brittany Holmes** and **Allison Lydon '09**, **Amanda Meads '10**, **Liam Hoare** and **Tim McHugh '11**, **Erin McMahon** and **Mollie Fitzgerald '13**, and former Merrimack College Men's and Women's Tennis Coaches **Chris Stevens** and **David Fay**. (2)

**12 Abigail (Moreira) Vanzant** got married to SGT. Nicholas Vanzant of the US Army and moved to Fort Gordon, GA where he is currently stationed. (3)

**New Arrivals**

**95 Paula (Novelli) Smart** and husband Ian welcomed twins, Michael Ian and Matthew Paul, on April 7, 2012. They join big sister Mia.

**97 Lisa (Etsell) Costa** and her husband David Costa welcomed their beautiful son, Ian David, on November 30, 2012. He is their first child. (4)

**99 Alex '99 and Kerry '98 (Contlin) Gregson** welcomed a son, Brody Contlin Gregson, on October 22. Brody joins big brother Jake. (5)

**00 Brian Bell** and his wife welcomed their first child, Jackson Quentin Bell on December 19, 2011. Brian says, "He just turned one and our lives are so much more amazing having him in it." Their English bulldog, Cupcake, turned four on January 20, 2013. Brian is working in software sales and residing in Medford, MA.

**01 Nicholas Fleming** and **Jocelyn (Finos) Fleming '00** are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Piper Rose. Piper was born on September 3, 2011. She was welcomed home by big sister Avery (2) and Guinness the English bulldog. (6)

**Alexis Dugan Kovacs** and her husband Jeremy welcomed with love another baby boy, Christopher Michael Kovacs, on May 29, 2012. His big brother Dylan (2) adores him! (7)

**Lauren (Baker) O'Neil** and husband **Jake O'Neil** welcomed son Conrad Chase O'Neil on October 19, 2012. He joins big brother Trevor. (8)

**02 Danielle and Robbie Winter** welcomed Riley Josephine Winter on April 17, 2012. (9)

**Keith Hery** and his wife, Jean Hery, had a baby girl, Regan Faith Hery, on May 13, 2012. (10)

**Kimberly Silva** would love to announce the birth of her second daughter, Elynn Katherine. She was born on July 22, 2011 and weighed 10 lbs. 3 oz. She is adored by her older sister, Audrey Jane. (11)

**03 Amy Campbell** gave birth to twin boys, Alexander and Ethan, on November 15 and 16, 2011 with her husband, Brian. (12)

**04 Jennifer Lecesse** had a baby boy, Michael Lecesse, on August 27, 2012.

**Danielle Brazill** and **Bryan Brazill '05** welcomed son Owen Burton Brazill on October 22, 2012. (13)

**05 Stephanie (D'Orso) Mackey** and **Paul Mackey '03** welcomed their first child Liam Mackey to the world on June 26, 2012. (14)

**06 Mike Snow** and Clota Snow celebrated the birth of their first child, Zoey Elizabeth Snow, on January 27, 2013.

**Passages**

**52 Philip T. Cullen Sr.**, 85, a longtime North Reading resident, passed away on Saturday, June 8, after a short illness. He was the beloved husband of 55 years of Mary (Leary) Cullen.

Phil was born at home in West Medford, Mass., the youngest of four sons of the late John and Esther (Grady) Cullen. He was a member of Merrimack College's second graduating class in 1952.

Moving to North Reading, Mass., in 1960, he built a thriving accounting and tax-preparation business that spanned 50 years. He was also the longtime proprietor of the former Li'l Peach convenience store, where he provided jobs to many local people. Phil was a member of St. Theresa's Church and the Knights of Columbus. He was a U.S. Army Veteran of World War II.

Known for his friendly nature and quick wit, he loved reading, spending time at the beach, and traveling with his wife and fellow Merrimack alums to locations all over the world. He was recognized by the American Red Cross for his frequent blood and platelet donations. He was active in the Boy Scouts, and was involved for many years with the Merrimack College Alumni Association. Until recently, he could be found walking in his neighborhood daily, stopping to chat with his many friends as well as former customers.

Besides his wife, he is survived by a daughter, Kathleen Cullen Kirks and her husband, John, of Andover; a son, Kevin M. Cullen of Stoneham; and two grandchildren, Lacey and Hayden Kirks of Andover. He was predeceased by his son, Philip T. Jr. in January of this year. He is also survived by his three older brothers, William of Cary, N.C.; John of Hamden, CT, and Emmett of Quincy; as well as many nieces, nephews, in-laws, and friends, who will miss him very much.

**Arthur J. Flanagan**, 87, of Methuen, died peacefully on January 23, 2013, at Mary Immaculate Nursing Restorative Center in Lawrence, MA Arthur, son of the late John J. and Loretta (Schiller) Flanagan, was born in Lawrence. He attended St. Augustine's Grammar School in Lawrence and graduated from Central Catholic High School and Merrimack College, where he received his Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration. He proudly served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was an accountant and auditor for many years at the U.S. Army Natick Labs, Fort Devins, and finally at Jeanne D'Arc Credit Union until his retirement. He also served as a warden for local precinct elections.

Arthur was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Council #4027, Merrimack College Alumni, St. Augustine's Holy Name Society, and was a communicant of St. Monica's Church in Methuen, MA. [cut some of this paragraph for space] Arthur will be deeply missed by his beloved wife of 57 years, Ruth C. (Quinn) Flanagan; his children, William J. Flanagan and his wife Susan of Belmont, MA, Maura K. Pennisi and her husband Richard of Windham, NH, Brian A. Flanagan and his wife Rhonda of Salem, NH, Kevin F. Flanagan of North Conway, NH, and David E. Flanagan of Salem, NH; and his four grandchildren.

**58 Lawrence J. O'Keefe** passed away on September 30, 2012. Larry is survived by his wife Nancy and four children. After graduating from Merrimack College, Larry obtained his law degree from Suffolk University and practiced law in Massachusetts for over 40 years. He also served as the City Solicitor in Peabody, MA for 28 years. Larry was a member of the Merrimack hockey team and served as co-captain his junior and senior years.

**61 Robert B. Winkowski**, 72, of Dunstable, MA, passed peacefully on December 21 at home with his family after a valiant battle with cancer. He was the devoted

husband of Ann Marie (Sehlstedt) Winkowski, with whom he enjoyed 46 years of marriage. Robert was born in Jersey City, NJ in 1940. His family then moved to Haverhill, MA where Robert was educated, graduating from Haverhill High School. Dr. Winkowski received his BA in History from Merrimack College. He earned his Master of Education in Educational Administration from the University of Massachusetts, completed graduate work in History at Clark University in Worcester, MA and earned his Doctor of Education (Ed. D) from Boston University.

Dr. Winkowski was awarded many fellowships, grants and scholarships during his lifetime. He was named a Fulbright-Hays Scholar in 1977 and studied in Egypt. In 1992, he received a second Fulbright-Hays Scholarship and traveled to China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. In 1989, Dr. Winkowski was named a Keizai Koho Fellow and toured Japan. He was the recipient of the National Endowment for the Humanities award from the Institute of French History and Culture to study at the University of Washington and was awarded a second NEH Independent Study Fellowship where he researched the history of the Slavs.

As a life-long educator, Robert began his teaching career at the Canterbury School in New Milford, CT. He then joined the faculty at Dracut High School where he remained for 38 years. During his career, he also served as Adjunct Faculty, European History at Merrimack College and Rivier College, Nashua, NH. Dr. Winkowski was a scholar and master teacher who will be equally remembered by his family for his unyielding dependability as a devoted and generous son, brother, husband, father and grandfather.

Robert was the son of the late Benjamin and Anna (Walsh) Winkowski. In addition to his wife, Dr. Winkowski is survived by a daughter and son-in-law; Beth W. and her husband, Robert M. Hodgkinson, two sons; Stephen B. Winkowski and David B. Winkowski, a beloved granddaughter; Victoria G. Hodgkinson, all of Dunstable. (15)





**Rev. James E. Hannan, O.S.A.**, the last of the Founding Augustinian Fathers at Merrimack College, died on Saturday, July 27, 2013 at the age of 97. Fr. Hannan was a member of the first faculty at Merrimack in 1947, where he established the four-year religion program for the College.

Fr. Hannan professed vows in 1939 and was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Mitty in the Cathedral of San Francisco in 1940. He graduated from Villanova College in 1941 and one year later earned a Masters Degree in Education from Catholic University.

In 1949, while at Merrimack College, Fr. Hannan was commissioned as chaplain in the Air Force Reserve and called to active duty during the Korean War after which he returned to Merrimack College. He served as chaplain of the College and chair of the Religion Department.

In 1976, Fr. Hannan retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force Reserve. In addition to his service to Merrimack College, Fr. Hannan later served as rector of the Augustinian Collegiate Seminary at Villanova and numerous assignments at St. Augustine Monastery in San Diego and as chaplain at San Diego County Jail. For thirty-four years, he assisted at St. John the Evangelist Church in San Diego until 2008.

In 2008, the Honorary Doctor of Augustinian Education at Merrimack College was bestowed upon him. Until just before his death, Fr. Hannan still corresponded faithfully with alumni from the first graduating class at Merrimack College.

Merrimack College is very grateful for the dedicated work and insight of Fr. Hannan in creating the foundation of the religion program we have today.

## CALENDAR

**SEPTEMBER 1-2**  
New Student Orientation

**SEPTEMBER 3**  
Classes begin

**SEPTEMBER 3**  
Mass/Opening Convocation

**SEPTEMBER 19**  
Opening Ceremonies

**SEPTEMBER 28**  
Football vs. Pace – 1st home game of the season

**OCTOBER 25-26**  
Homecoming

**NOVEMBER 9**  
Mack Gives Back

**NOVEMBER 27-29**  
Thanksgiving Break – College is closed

**DECEMBER 3**  
Light and Hope

**DECEMBER 5**  
Alumni Christmas Party

**DECEMBER 13**  
Residence Halls close for Christmas Break

**DECEMBER 17**  
Faculty/Staff Mass/Christmas Party

**DECEMBER 21-JANUARY 5**  
Christmas Break – College is closed

**JANUARY 4**  
Frozen Fenway

**JANUARY 20**  
Martin Luther King Day – College is closed

**JANUARY 21**  
Spring Semester – Classes begin

### ALUMNI EVENTS

Visit [www.merrimack.edu/alumni-events](http://www.merrimack.edu/alumni-events) or call 978-837-5440.

### ATHLETICS

For schedule and news, visit [www.merrimackathletics.com](http://www.merrimackathletics.com)

### ROGERS CENTER

Event listings and tickets, visit [www.merrimack.edu/rogers](http://www.merrimack.edu/rogers) or call the box office at 978-837-5355.

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**Thomas Keeling, Ph.D.**, 70, of Pine Orchard Road, Chepachet, RI, died November 22, 2012 at his home. He was the devoted husband of Beth (Casey) Keeling. Born in Putnam, CT, he was a son of the late George and Rose (Cacciapouti) Keeling. He had lived in Chepachet for the past 28 years. Thomas graduated from Burrillville High School, Merrimack College and American International College, where he completed his graduate studies.

He was inducted into the Merrimack College Athletic Hall of Fame and received the Jack Ferns Award for dedicated service to Ponaganset Athletics. He was also a member of the PKT fraternity at Merrimack College. He also coached the Ponaganest Middle School track team. He served in the Peace Corps in Panama from 1964-1967. He was the loving babysitter of Matty Marcello.

Besides his wife, he is survived by his sons 2LT Michael T. Keeling, USAF of San Antonio, Jacob T. Keeling, a URI senior, of Gloucester, Nicholas T. Keeling a Brown University junior; a daughter, Rina Palumbo of Johnston; his siblings Dorothy Cook of Florida,

Helen Detrick of Alabama, George Keeling of Burrillville; and three grandchildren. (16)

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**Susan E. Danforth**, 53, of South Portland, died unexpectedly on January 27, 2013 at a Portland hospital. She was born in Methuen, a daughter of George A. and Jeanne T. Bernardin Danforth, Jr. Susan was a 1978 graduate of Andover High School and a 1982 summa cum laude graduate of Merrimack College. She also earned a master's degree in English at the University of Vermont, where she also served as a graduate teaching fellow.

Susan worked for the Portland Symphony Orchestra as a marketing assistant and publications coordinator, and then more recently for Bowdoin College as Associate Director of Communications and College Editor. The staff at Bowdoin jokes that no communication goes in or out of the college without Susan proofreading it. She had a passion for music and education.

Susan is survived by her parents of York; two brothers, George Arthur Danforth, III of North Andover, Stephen J. Danforth and his wife, Cynthia of Andover.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

# HOME COMING 2013

Merrimack College's Homecoming and Family Weekend will be taking place on **October 25-26**

We hope you will join us for the exciting athletic games and festivities we have planned!

### Homecoming 2013 highlights:

- Football tailgate
- Family carnival fun zone
- Men's ice hockey vs. Army
- Student life coffee hour
- Greek reunions

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



