Today's Students, Tomorrow's Leaders

Merrimack College

Follow this and additional works at: http://scholarworks.merrimack.edu/merrimack_magazine

Recommended Citation
http://scholarworks.merrimack.edu/merrimack_magazine/22

This Magazine is brought to you for free and open access by the College Collections at Merrimack ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Merrimack Magazine by an authorized administrator of Merrimack ScholarWorks.
ERRIMACK
SPRING 2006

Today’s Students, Tomorrow’s Leaders
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Throughout my presidency, as students have entered and exited Merrimack's doors, I have observed and learned a great deal about change. It really hit me though at a recent Convocation ceremony to mark the beginning of our academic year. I overheard an upperclassman talking with a newly-arrived freshman. Dressed in full regalia for the event, I was wearing the presidential medal around my neck. The younger student asked, “What’s that he’s wearing?” The older student replied, “That’s his bling.” I couldn’t help laughing and it really brought home to me how each generation of students brings with it a new and unique perspective.

Today’s students are the young adults of the new millennium. They are a unique group who understand and use technology like no other generation before them. They are interested in giving back to their communities, and want to be tomorrow’s leaders and contributors to society. They recognize that a college degree has become a mandatory step in establishing themselves in the workplace, and they are aware of the sacrifices involved.

The Merrimack community continues to challenge the status quo as our student population evolves each year to the next. In turn, teaching styles, pedagogies, and technology, among others, are constantly under review in order to meet the changing needs of our current students and all those who, in the future, will choose Merrimack College.

Beyond facebook.com, downloading music, and creating the trendiest way to refer to something of yesteryear, today’s students have the ability and the know-how to contribute tremendously to our society. Merrimack takes great pride in knowing that these future leaders choose our community to learn, grow and develop themselves as they help set a footprint for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Santagati
President

TODAY’S STUDENTS, TOMORROW’S LEADERS

Today’s Student in the World of Higher Education

By Kathleen Franzese

For many students who attended college before the mid 1990s, they were very often the ones responsible for their own college application process. They attended a college fair or two, decided where they wanted to apply and completed the applications, for the most part, on their own. Today’s generation of students is a bit different – they very often sit with their parents to discuss options, seek their input on applications, visit schools, and make the final decision together.

That behavior defines today’s youth, say Neil Howe and William Strauss, authors of Millennials Rising, a book about America’s rising generation born in the 1980s and ’90s. According to their research, individuals born roughly in that period are referred to as millennials and they are very often doing homework, surfing the Internet and listening to music all at the same time. Today’s youth use many ways to keep in touch and communicate with each other – instant messaging (IM), text messaging and cell phones. They are involved in numerous structured activities, are invested in community service and, more than ever, want to do well in school.

Education has remained a constant priority throughout the generations; it is the emphasis put on obtaining a higher level of education that has changed immensely. Almost sixty years ago when Merrimack graduated its first class, an undergraduate degree was a dream few were able to accomplish. Today, a college degree is a goal for many high school students and their parents. Very often, those parents hold college degrees themselves and have high aspirations for their children.

According to Howe and Strauss, millennials as a group began entering college in fall 2000. Since then it is their belief that “parents and politicians will rivet public attention onto college students. . . . Campuses will experience a new public spotlight on academic standards, student safety, wholesome community, vigorous political action and national service.”

Furthermore, they predict that as young workers, this group will “offer loyalty and expect it in return. They will seek work-life balance and engage in long-term career planning. They will revise unionism and seek more standard pay scales and benefit packages. They will provide focus for the emergence of a new American middle class.”

Today’s student experiences the college curriculum on a different level – a higher plane. As late as a decade ago, students were taking notes on a continued next page
First-Year Students Choose Austin Scholar Housing

By Heather Notaro

Today’s residential students have extensive living choices and they are selecting what works best for them. Many come to find that they are drawn to the more unique resident opportunities.

“Living/learning options have become an increasingly popular trend over the past ten years,” said Donna Swartwout, Ph.D., director of Admission for Merrimack College’s Office of Admission.

This year at Merrimack, 25 first-year students chose to reside in Austin Scholar housing, which is known as the Austin Scholars. The Austin Scholar group resides, views the campus as an opportunity to create a community within a community.

“This group has done a phenomenal job of drawing students together,” said Jennifer Golojuch, resident director for Ash Hall where the Austin Scholar group resides, views the community within a community. The Austin Scholars participate in many on- and off-campus activities together, including this trip to New York City.

Joseph Michie, a second year Resident Advisor (RA), was offered the position of leading the Austin Scholar residents, and even though this living situation was previously unexplored territory, Joseph happily became the RA for the group.

“I have thoroughly enjoyed this role and I have found my relationship with those on my floor to be very rewarding. It keeps getting better,” said Michie.

“From partaking in impromptu conversations about love, life, death and everything in between, to playing intramural volleyball as a team, to spending time in community service - the intangibles really cannot be quantified.”

Such positive feedback thus far is indicative of where the Austin Scholar residential program is going in the future. An important part of the program is evaluation and, ultimately, it will determine the future of this living experience. Students who currently participate in the program provide positive feedback, while new residents look forward to joining the group.

The Austin Scholars’ housing provides a unique academic and living experience on a college campus. As a RA, it is important to remain vigilant and maintain regular input to the floor leader as to what is working and what might need to be reviewed.

For now, the Austin Scholar residential program offers these students the opportunity to journey through their first year on their terms. “They are a great group,” said Michie.

“They are athletically, artistically, academically. Simply put, they’re a fun and interesting bunch.”

The Austin Scholars participate in many on- and off-campus activities together, including this trip to New York City.
Merrimack students can feel confident that someone attentive will be waiting at the end of the hall, even when away at school. Resident students are well-served in many ways through the presence of a floor leader. There will always be a person welcoming an individual, someone to ask neighboring rooms to a floor leader. There will always be a sounding board for issues plaguing the student body, so diverse backgrounds and experiences are definitely taken into consideration. It is all about creating a comfortable community.

Swartwout also values the reality that every potential RA will have his or her own individual approach. “After selecting a resident advisor, we match their personality and style with a particular group of residential students,” said Swartwout. “Some students will respond better to a subtle floor leader, while others might relate better to an outgoing person.”

Aside from being a born leader, students interested in becoming an RA must meet some technical requirements as well. First, this full-time, on-campus student must be a sophomore or higher with a grade point average of 2.5 or above. Next, the student must complete the mandatory paper-work and take part in a series of interviews that will determine their likelihood of being selected as resident advisor. In terms of training, all RAs are required to be present for a variety of campus programs and events, such as seasonal training sessions, and semester hall closings. Beyond the invaluable experience as a campus leader, reliable peer, and creator of a community – even more than being an impressive resume builder – resident advisors also receive monetary benefits. Each current RA earns $2,000 in academic scholarship ($1,000 each semester), and a $4,000 stipend. The complete annual package is $6,000 a year, which can be applied to housing or academic expenses.

Merrimack resident advisors often go above and beyond the call of duty in organizing events for their residents. Junior Selly Unis, a second-year RA, takes pride in her events which range from pure recreation to a genuine push for civic involvement. “I definitely have favorite programs that were very successful,” said Unis. “One evening, about 50 students and some additional RAs got together to make candy apples and just talked to each other, face-to-face. Also, before the last presidential election, I arranged a political rally where students were able to come and find out about the candidates and talk with a professor about the election.”

For the Thanksgiving holiday, Unis and company raised money from students to create Thanksgiving dinner baskets for those in need. “I was so happy and proud that collectively we were able to give three separate families a better holiday.”

Students Seek Leadership Roles

New Program Aims to Educate, Train and Empower Students

By Marie DeMarco

Helping students gain knowledge and experience to develop as leaders has been the goal of a new successful program instituted by Student Life. The program, Exploring Leadership, is a four-part series that begins with first-year students and has a goal of giving ownership to the students. The enhanced leadership program teaches students about leadership styles, theories of leadership, group dynamics, and running meetings.

“The issue is really empowerment - of the students themselves - to know that there is material to learn, to recognize what they know, and to share it with other students,” explained Sharon Broussard, assistant director for leadership development.

It is a hot issue for today’s students high school through college. “Students are becoming more savvy consumers when they are choosing schools. Leadership opportunities are something students are getting more of in high school and they want to continue that in college,” expressed Director of Student Activities Shelby Harris. To help inform prospective students of the new initiatives in the Student Life area, the staff of Student Activities partner with the Admission Office.

“The vision is to train, work with and then recognize the accomplishments of our students,” said Broussard. For example, student orientation coordinators are now introduced to certain theories and certain behaviors so they can better understand group dynamics. “We are training them because we recognize that these student leaders need to develop certain skills in order to help run a group.”

“We’ve reached out to all existing student programs and worked to provide students with additional skills in order to help build their confidence and level of comfort as leaders. They know that Student Life staff is behind them for instruction and support,” said Broussard.

Any student group or individual can plan an event on campus. All students have been empowered to plan events by following certain guidelines. They are trained in procedures and then allowed to run with their program, with the support and encouragement of advisors and the Student Life team.

Vice President of Student Life Maryellen Colloton believes the outcome is a much richer one for two reasons. “Our students are learning a great deal from these experiences and many additional programs are happening as well,” she said. “By building the confidence of our students, we are strengthening the entire academic environment at Merrimack. If our students are seeing more empowered and more confident, they are going to be more active in the classroom and they are going to be more active outside the classroom. This meets and strengthens the college’s strategic initiative to create a stronger Merrimack College.”

MC
Financing a College Education Calls for Planning
By Christine Mordach, Director of Financial Aid, and Penny King, Associate Director of Financial Aid

Financial aid and paying for a college degree have changed over the past twenty years. Merrimack Magazine asked Director of Financial Aid Chris Mordach for her inside view of those changes and how it affects families today.

1. Government student loans: These are loans that are available to students who are looking for additional financial assistance. The rates and repayment terms vary by lender.

2. Alternative student loans: These are loans that are available to students who are looking for additional financial assistance. The rates and repayment terms vary by lender.

3. Parent educational loans: These are loans that are available to credit-worthy parents of dependent undergraduate students. Parents may borrow up to the full cost of education, less any financial aid the student receives. The current interest rate is 6.1%. This is an annual variable rate that changes on July 1 every year.

4. Payment plans: These are plans that allow a family to spread their tuition costs over an eight, nine or ten month period. Colleges may offer this through a participating company.

5. Federal and state need-based aid has not kept up with the cost of a college education. Therefore, many families are borrowing higher amounts to finance their children's educations.

6. Should today's student consider educational loans inevitable?

A Yes, over 60% of the financial aid that is offered in this country is in the form of an educational loan.

7. Does Merrimack offer any assistance to students once they leave campus with loans?

A Once students graduate, they are faced with responsibilities of supporting themselves. For many students, this is the first time that they are responsible for paying obligations on time. One of the services that we provide is debt management and loan consolidation workshops. Over the past five years, Penny King, associate director of Financial Aid, has worked with the Senior Class Success Program helping students to prepare for life after college. This year, we are bringing in a specialist from CitiBank to provide an additional layer of valuable information to help students during these critical years after graduation. During this session, we will cover how to handle debt and keep credit rating positive. This seminar provides some valuable information to students on how to handle their expenses.
Celebrating a Milestone:
A Decade of Jewish-Christian Relations
By Heather Notaro

For the past ten years, an increasingly influential entity on the Merrimack campus has dedicated its full efforts to foster inter-religious understanding among Jews and Christians. Through curriculum changes, programs with national and international recognition, and a driven mission, Merrimack’s Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian Relations celebrates its first decade anniversary with solid plans and enthusiasm for the future.

The creation of the center began with inter-religious communication groundwork in the 1940s and 1950s, as Augustinians worked closely with the region’s Jewish leaders and the Anti-Defamation League to promote positive relations between Christians and Jews.

As years passed, interest grew in the potential relationship between Christians and Jews and in the early 1990s, a Jewish-Christian Relations Study Week was established at Merrimack by Dr. Padraic O’Hare, current director of the Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian Relations and professor of religious studies. Support for the Jewish-Christian relations program rose significantly in 1995, when President Richard J. Santagati advocated for the creation of an actual center dedicated to Jewish-Christian relations. Thus, the Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian Relations was born.

“The center continues to be a tremendously important fixture for our community — we need to be aware of our strong ties to the Jewish community,” said President Santagati. “It remains a driving force for inter-religious education on our campus and far beyond.”

The center has encouraged major curricular and extracurricular changes throughout campus. Jewish and Jewish-Christian based course offerings went from zero to eight in ten years and more than 1,000 non-Jewish students have elected to take these courses.

Rabbi Robert Goldstein, chairman of the board for the Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian Relations, as well as an adjunct professor of religion at Merrimack, believes the awareness encouraged by the center is obvious.

“There is no question in my mind that the center has made a profound difference,” said Rabbi Goldstein. “I have said in the past, and I believe it to be true, there is nothing I do that will have greater and more lasting effect on people than my work at the Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian Relations.”

The future holds new educational initiatives, such as the Holocaust Curriculum Project, which would infuse Holocaust studies in an interdisciplinary manner through the sciences, liberal arts and management studies.

The center is always working to promote knowledge of the shared and tragic past between Jews and Christians; reconciliation in the present; reverence among Jews, Christians and Muslims; and work for justice and peace together, now and in the future.

With ten years behind the center, major goals have been achieved:

- The center’s unique and prestigious programming, such as discussions with world renowned speakers including Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Elie Wiesel, and leading religious scholar Sister Mary Boys, has enriched Merrimack’s community. Interfaith understanding has grown with events which celebrate Jewish holy days, panels which discuss interfaith marriages and child-rearing, and the Tikvon Olam award presentations which recognize an individual who has significantly contributed to the evidence of justice and compassion in the world.
- The center has initiated a program of sponsoring original research in Jewish-Christian relations with the creation of the Catherine McAuley Memorial Fellowship. National and international recognition was obtained as the center became a member of the Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations, an international organization of centers and institutes that have a collective goal of supporting Jewish-Christian relations.
- To date, in recognition of the work of the center, Director Padraic O’Hare has received prestigious awards including the Lelwold F. Zakim Humanitarian Award, and the Dr. Maysor J. Tye Community Service Award. A generous endowment, the Beaumaner Casey Fund, was also granted to the center in 1996 for library resources in Jewish-Christian relations by Ms. Roberta (Robbi) Beauman, to honor her late husband, Kenneth Beauman, and the late Rev. Thomas Casey, O.S.A.

The future holds new educational initiatives, such as the Holocaust Curriculum Project, which would infuse Holocaust studies in an interdisciplinary manner through the sciences, liberal arts and management studies.

The center is always working to promote knowledge of the shared and tragic past between Jews and Christians; reconciliation in the present; reverence among Jews, Christians and Muslims; and work for justice and peace together, now and in the future.

Running as a Spiritual Experience:
Unique Course Requires Students to be Runners
By Heather Notaro

What religion course requires that all students be avid runners who run at least four to five miles daily? “Spirituality of Running,” a course in the Department of Religious Studies, encourages its students, who are also long distance runners, to understand how a direct spiritual connection with one’s environment can be achieved through running.

Dr. Warren Kay, associate professor of religious studies and “Spirituality of Running” instructor, started thinking about the creation of this course as he watched a child run across the lobby of the Volpe Center. It reinforced what he already believed — running is a natural human instinct; children are not taught to run, they just do it.

As an avid long distance runner himself and long-time coach of Merrimack’s cross-country team, Dr. Kay believes that running is one of the most natural things a human can do. “Very young children begin to run right away without instruction,” said Kay. “Just like running, spirituality is part of human life and through this course I aim to make that connection apparent to students while encouraging them to use that connection in their own running.”

“Spirituality of Running” begins with placing the sport of running in a historical context, relating it to Eastern and Western spiritualities. By using life case studies, the course investigates how running, the oldest of sports, has historically been understood as a spiritual experience. The course also examines what is meant by “spirituality” as well as analyzes prayer, sacraments, and pilgrimage as ways of understanding running. The students share their actual experiences with running and how running can establish a relationship with the world around them and with God.

The course has recently been featured in publications such as the Chronicle of Higher Education, The Boston Globe, The Eagle-Tribune and College Bound magazine.

Alumni, Senior Business Students Network the Night Away
By Heather Notaro

More than 90 future business leaders, dressed in business attire, formed a line inside the Sakowich Campus Center last fall contemplating what conversation might be most appropriate to initiate with the approximately 60 successful Merrimack alumni waiting on the other side of that door.

Billed as a prime opportunity to network, the annual Senior Business Reception offered students the opportunity to learn from seasoned pros who had stood in their shoes as Merrimack undergrads not too long ago. With every decade of Merrimack graduates represented at the event, these hopeful business people had their pick of generational and occupational lessons.

They also anticipated learning “the ropes” from the evening’s keynote speaker, Dan Murphy, ‘89, vice president of business development and external affairs for the New England Patriots. Throughout Murphy’s address, he spoke of the elements of a Merrimack education that helped him get where he is today, such as the one-on-one attention he received and the feeling that “...the professors had a vested interest in the students.”
Community Service:
A Student’s Perspective

By Meghan Sweeney

Reprinted with permission from the Brainerd Forum, January 11, 2006

Each new year, I make a resolution to help others. In a society where money is everything and how skinny and pretty we are is most important, I feel to hopefully make others do something to help people less fortunate.

There are millions of people who don’t have close to what we have and it is important to wake up each day knowing that you are lucky for the roof over your head and that there are people around you that love you.

At 19, I try to do this each day and I have come to realize how lucky I am by the things that people not so fortunate have taught me. There are children who don’t have parents, family members or even friends around to care for them. They are put into orphanages and have yet to be adopted and each year as they get older, begin to have no hope. All they are asking for is to be loved, something we take for granted.

There are also millions who are homeless and don’t have shelter, or even a hot meal in the cold blustery winter winds, who are gripping to life under a worn blanket. There are teenagers, mothers, who feel hopeless that they cannot get an education because they have no one to watch their children when they should be at school.

I want to meet people and explore some job prospects and definitely learn more about the accounting field,” Morello concurred.

As the event came to a close, Murphy passed around the Super Bowl rings he has received since starting work with the New England Patriots organization; this tangible example showed the students what comes of a determined mindset and a Merrimack education.

continued from previous page

Community Service...

I know when I got to college, service was something I wanted to keep as part of my college experience.

While entering Merrimack College, the first club I signed up for was MerrimAction. It is a program where students volunteer a few days every week. Tutoring, serving and making food in soup kitchens, going to nursing homes and walking dogs at animal shelters are a few of the sites we go to.

I was head of a site that went to the WCCA in Lawrence. Two days a week I would tutor and play games with children less fortunate. I will never forget a little girl who cried to me because she wanted to win a free plain white Tshirt. This young girl wanted the shirt to give to her sister because she had no clothes to wear to school.

It was a real eye opener that this little girl went from poverty to having enough. It inspired me to volunteer.

This year, I want to try to help this world in any way that I can. It takes a few people to start to make a difference that can only grow into a change.
Students to Study Sculpture and Drawing with Master in Italy

A new course offered through Merrimack College will take students to one of the world’s most authentic atmospheres for history and art for an opportunity to intensely study painting, sculpture and architecture. This journey goes far beyond the classroom and allows art lovers to live and learn in Tuscany, with significant monumental sites; small towns in Tuscany; and important cities with their collections of world famous art.

The course, FA340 Drawing, Sculpture: A Study of Form in Tuscany, offers four credits. Students will experience the extraordinary artistic and cultural unity of this territory through guided visits to surrounding areas, including the town of San Gimignano with its streets, piazzas, museums and public buildings; the countryside rich with significant monumental sites; small towns in Tuscany; and important cities with their collections of world famous art.

It is open to individuals of all ages, not just Merrimack students, with course work or experience in drawing, sculpture, design or painting. No particular aptitude in painting or sculpture is required. The course runs from June 2 through June 30, 2006. Faculty members are Italian sculptor, artist and Master Teacher Marco DiPiazza of San Gimignano, Italy and Bonn, Germany; Jason Di Resta, M.A., Merrimack adjunct professor in art history and field studies lecturer for Syracuse University in Florence; and Susan Scott, curator of the Collegiate Church and Museo d’Arte Sacra di San Gimignano, archival librarian for the Opera della Metropolitana di Siena, and adjunct professor in art history. Students will stay in the 13th-century Monastery of St. Augustine in San Gimignano (Siena), Tuscany, Italy.

Interested individuals should go to www.merrimack.edu/sculpturetuscany for a downloadable application and other information. For further information, contact the International Office at Merrimack College, 978-837-5210.

Community Recognizes Authors at Merrimack

By Marie DeMarco

Numerous members of the Merrimack College community gathered in February to recognize the recent books, chapters and articles published by faculty, administrators and alumni at the Third Annual Tolle Lege reception held in the Perkins Periodical Room of McQuade Library.

Several authors had the opportunity to give a synopsis of their published works at the reception, a book signing followed.

"We are excited to be given the opportunity to recognize our authors and the hard work and long hours of research that goes into each publication," said Barbara Lachance, director of McQuade Library. "This is an event that allows us to support each other’s important endeavors."

According to Lachance, 26 faculty members and three alumni have contributed publications to the Tolle Lege collection. Eight books were added to the collection, two of which were published in 2005. The authors of 35 journal articles and three book chapter authors also participated.

The 2005 contributors are:

Alumni Dr. Robert K. O’Neill ’66; Elaine Sampson ’78; and Sally Connolly ’61.

Faculty members:

Dr. Abdallatif Bagegni, Electrical & Computer Engineering; Dr. Michael Bradley, Mathematics; Dr. Monica Cowart, Philosophy; Dr. Kathleen FitzPatrick ’79, Biology; Dr. Linda Foote ’78, Biology; Dr. George Hellerman, Philosophy; Dr. Boulame Kezin, Management; Dr. He Li, Political Science; Dr. Deborah Litvin, Management; Rev. Gary McKeeley, O.S.A., dean of the college; Dr. Curtis Martin, Political Science; Dr. Josephine Modica-Napolitano, Biology; Dr. Rebecca Norris, Religious Studies; Dr. Susan Pariseau, Management; Vonce Poteat, Computer Science; Dr. Ruth Propper, Psychology; Frances Quinn, Accounting & Finance; Anthony Roselli, Education; Dr. Norma Rueda, Mathematics; Dr. Rose-Mary Sargent, Philosophy; Dr. Suzanne Scholz, Religious Studies; Dr. Carole Sokolowski, Mathematics; Dr. Gregory Sonok, Electrical & Computer Engineering; Dr. Gina Vega, Management; and Dr. William Wians, Philosophy.

All authors were asked to sign their works. A listing of the complete collection is available through Lachance. The collection is housed in the Reference Room of McQuade Library.

Community Recognizes Authors at Merrimack continued from previous page

Authors Celebrated...

continued from next page
Professional Education Builds Skills and Careers

By David Rattigan

Hundreds of adult learners arrive on campus from work each evening, still in business attire, with serious demeanor, focused on learning skills to improve their careers. When the college brings its advanced business seminars and training programs to companies on-site, the students are often selected from within the company, learning skills their employer thinks will be mutually beneficial.

In all cases, the goal is to use education to improve, and get ahead. By offering a variety of certificate programs and offering specialized training, Merrimack's Center for Professional Education is a valuable resource for individuals and businesses. It's a way to access knowledge that can be put to immediate use.

"Professional education is skill-oriented and skill-building," said Richard Benedetto, director of the center and a 30-year business professor. "These students come to us for special training so they can perform better and excel at their jobs, advance in their jobs, and even get new jobs."

The college's financial planning certificate program is the most popular. The program boosts a very high success rate for participants taking the Certified Financial Planning professional exam, surpassing the national average. As instructor Ken Dean said, "The CFP (designation) is the gold standard in the industry."

Whether for financial planning, computer training or other courses, students share the common interest of wanting to better themselves. Some are career changers, possibly re-training after a layoff. Some are already working in their field. They all want to get ahead.

"It's interesting," said Barbara Maclachlan, director of the financial planning certificate program. "We have people who haven't gone to college, and people with two master's degrees. So, there's a good range of backgrounds. They all understand that this is definitely something that will help them move forward in their careers."

The certificate programs, which also include human resources, project management, purchasing, certified manager, numerous Web programs and others, eventually lead students to a national exam upon completion of several courses. "These certificates open new doors as they set people apart from others in their field," said Benedetto. "They acquire new skills, knowledge, and state-of-the-art-type information they can't get anywhere else."

Benedetto has put recent focus on bringing seminars in computer training, management skills, etc. directly to businesses. The center has run programs for area companies such as Raytheon, Fidelity, Converse, Phillips Academy Andover, Vista Controls, and National Grid, to name a few.

Professional education offers a proven advantage for employers as well. Their employees are more technically advanced in specialized areas that are not offered in a college or graduate program. "Workplace skills and workplace special knowledge are what set us apart from a graduate program," stated Benedetto.

Mark Browne, manager of transmission engineering and design for National Grid's U.S. headquarters in Westboro, hired Merrimack's Center for Professional Education to conduct project management training for a group of 12 engineers and others. Browne felt the training helped provide a common understanding of project management terminology and the process. In so doing, it established common ground for the group.

"Project management can be quite diverse, and this gave us a common way of looking at it and going forward," he said.

Dorothy Zanni, director of Web and IT programs, has followed industry needs for professional certifications and expanded IT offerings to now include the Project Management Certification program, the Oracle OCP-DBA 9/10 certification classes, Linux and Java programs, along with some advanced Microsoft classes like MS SQL Server, MS Access and MS Project.

The Web Certification programs have also been enhanced and streamlined to meet current web market demand.

"Companies realize they don't have the in-house resources to do some of the things we do," Benedetto said, "so they reach out."

Visit www.merrimack.edu/professional for a complete listing and additional information, or call 978-837-5182.

Merrimack Enters the New World of Body Fat Measurement

By Heather Notaro

There's a new cutting-edge technology to measure body composition and Merrimack has it. Merrimack is one of the few institutions in the northeast to have this alien-style pod, called the BOD POD®, which quickly and accurately measures body fat and composition.

An individual sits within an enclosed chamber for only five to seven minutes and his or her body composition is calculated based on several considerations. The BOD POD® accommodates a variety of body styles - NFL and NBA players have used this equipment - even Sumo wrestlers. It replaces old-school body composition measuring systems such as skin calipers. The BOD POD® is an innovative tool for measuring body fat accurately and is an overall indicator of total health.

"We are one of a few colleges to have this system so we are thrilled to bring state-of-the-art equipment to our Merrimack community and beyond, hopefully encouraging people to find out about their own bodies," said Dennis Fontaine, head athletic trainer and lecturer at Merrimack. "People can start their New Year resolutions here at Merrimack."

Members of the Merrimack hockey team have already utilized the equipment, and it is anticipated that coaches, especially local high school wrestling coaches, will be interested in using the equipment as well. Merrimack recently acquired this equipment as part of its Sports Medicine, Sports Training, and Athletic Training education programs. They are using the BOD POD® as a motivator for student learning and for establishing consistent top-notch body composition accuracy for athletes and others. All of Merrimack's sports medicine staff, and biology/educated health instructors have been trained on the system.

As for student learning and research, it is intended to incorporate the BOD POD® across the sports medicine curriculum. Merrimack's exercise physiology classes are also trained on the BOD POD® so they can obtain a hands-on understanding of body composition.

New Online Professional Development Programs Launched

For those individuals interested in enhancing their careers and options, Merrimack College's Center for Professional Education has recently announced the addition of three new online certificate programs targeting working professionals and executives.

The programs include:

Leadership: This six-week certificate program highlights the role leadership plays in personal and professional life, while focusing on the real-world application of sound leadership principles.

International Trade: This 16-week certificate program combines the concepts of international management, marketing, supply chain management and global trade finance critical in today's global economy.

Advanced Business Administration: This 30-week certificate program includes general management courses in the areas of accounting, finance, marketing, business strategy and leadership.

Each certificate program can be delivered 100% online. For corporations, the programs can also be delivered as hybrid courses with both onsite and online delivery. Once completed, professionals and executives will be better prepared to assume leadership roles within their organizations. All courses will be instructor-facilitated by practitioners and academicians who are themselves leaders in their fields.

For more information on these online certificate programs, contact 978-837-5182, or visit www.merrimack.edu/professional.
Dr. Joseph T. Kelley, provost of Merrimack College, is also vice president for mission effectiveness at Merrimack; he has taught theology and religious studies for three decades.

Q: What will I be judged on?

On Wednesday, July 28, 1999, Pope John Paul II surprised a lot of people gathered in St. Peter's Square by correcting a widespread misunderstanding of a key biblical teaching.

Dr. Kelley is also vice president for mission effectiveness at Merrimack; he has taught theology and religious studies for three decades.

Q: Is hell a physical place?

On Wednesday, July 28, 1999, Pope John Paul II surprised a lot of people gathered in St. Peter's Square by correcting a widespread misunderstanding of a key biblical teaching.

Dr. Kelley is also vice president for mission effectiveness at Merrimack; he has taught theology and religious studies for three decades.

Dr. Joseph T. Kelley

Merrimack College was recently awarded a three-year grant from the Davis Educational Foundation to conduct current experiential learning initiatives on campus and to create and implement new models of this type of teaching and learning.

Experiential learning engages students in guided, interactive processes designed to enhance growth in academic, personal, community and civic life. These experiences can include student-faculty undergraduate research, internships, and cooperative education opportunities. Previous studies show the positive impact of experiential learning on understanding of course work, knowledge of a field of study, achievement and overall engagement in college and in the larger community.

Established by Stanton and Elizabeth Davis after his retirement as Chairman of Shaw's Supermarkets, Inc., the Davis Foundation Educational Grant will help to generate new models of experiential learning which are both active and reflective and will be integrated into both curricular and co-curricular initiatives, thus affecting students in many areas of campus life.

"Over many years, Merrimack College has successfully embedded a wide array of on- and off-campus experiential learning projects into campus life," said Merrimack College President Richard J. Santiago.

"Experiential learning has become a signature feature attracting students to our college, and it contributes in a unique way to the quality of a Merrimack College education. Students who choose to participate in such opportunities not only increase their future career options, but also, more importantly, experience the benefit of a deeper dimension of learning. We are extremely grateful to the Davis Foundation for their support."

Experiential learning will impact the academic life at Merrimack College by providing opportunities for students to achieve the learning outcomes of the academic strategic goals: critical thinking skills; communication skills; ethical understanding; reasoning and responsibility; adaptability; cultural understanding and respect for diversity; and reflective thinking skills. Experiential learning also helps students to actualize the Augustinian values of scholarship and service, and to live the Campus Community Standards.

The new Davis Educational Foundation funding will not only help to formalize experiential learning and its value to course work, it will also assist in efforts to bridge curricular and co-curricular initiatives of the college.

Members of the entire Merrimack College community are invited to work together in the development of unique projects which link the work of the classroom with commitment to community and civic involvement.

A survey to faculty and students will be conducted this spring to establish a baseline understanding of experiential learning activities currently occurring on the Merrimack campus.

Students Raise Dollars

Last fall, Merrimack College students assisted the Office of Institutional Advancement in the FY 2003-2006 Fundraising Phone-A-Thon as part of the annual Merrimack Fund Giving Program. The students raised close to $83,000 in new gift pledges from 1,065 alumni. The students will again hit the phones soon, so say hello if you receive a call.

President Richard J. Santagati expressed his gratitude to the students for making such a positive representation of the college. He congratulated them on the significant success of the program and thanked them for a job well done.

Experiential learning has become a signature feature attracting students to our college, and it contributes in a unique way to the quality of a Merrimack College education. Students who choose to participate in such opportunities not only increase their future career options, but also, more importantly, experience the benefit of a deeper dimension of learning. We are extremely grateful to the Davis Foundation for their support."

Experiential learning will impact the academic life at Merrimack College by providing opportunities for students to achieve the learning outcomes of the academic strategic goals: critical thinking skills; communication skills; ethical understanding; reasoning and responsibility; adaptability; cultural understanding and respect for diversity; and reflective thinking skills. Experiential learning also helps students to actualize the Augustinian values of scholarship and service, and to live the Campus Community Standards.

The new Davis Educational Foundation funding will not only help to formalize experiential learning and its value to course work, it will also assist in efforts to bridge curricular and co-curricular initiatives of the college.

Members of the entire Merrimack College community are invited to work together in the development of unique projects which link the work of the classroom with commitment to community and civic involvement.

A survey to faculty and students will be conducted this spring to establish a baseline understanding of experiential learning activities currently occurring on the Merrimack campus.
Norville Praises Merrimack’s Augustinian Traditions  By Heather Notaro

As a broadcast journalism student at the University of Georgia, Deborah Norville always knew what she wanted professionally. Now, more than two decades later, Norville, the current anchor of top-rated TV news magazine Inside Edition, had plenty to share in a heart-to-heart with more than 250 audience members last fall in the Rogers Center for the Arts.

During the lecture, she praised the Merrimack community for preserving its Augustinian heritage. “I am so excited to be here on campus,” Norville said. “Your Augustinian traditions of service and community are so special and I heartily applaud you for keeping them strong.”

Norville Praises Merrimack's Augustinian Traditions  By Heather Notaro

Alden Trust Grant to Aquire Chemistry Equipment

The George I. Alden Trust of Worcester, Mass. recently awarded Merrimack College a grant in the amount of $125,000 to be used toward the acquisition of scientific equipment in the soon-to-be-renovated chemistry laboratories in Mendel Center. Renovations are expected to be completed by the start of the fall semester.

The Alden Trust funds small, predominantly undergraduate colleges and focuses its giving on capital, equipment, and instructional technology initiatives. The Alden Trust also funded Merrimack in 1999 with a grant to the soon-to-be-renovated chemistry lab.

Merrimack Offers Guaranteed Tuition Rates For All Incoming Freshmen

In an effort to help freshmen students and their families better predict and plan for the cost of a four-year college education, Merrimack College announced a new plan that will guarantee tuition, room and board will not increase during their four years of enrollment.

This tuition plan is offered for all incoming freshmen as a way to stabilize and predict the cost of a four-year Merrimack education. It offers families a better way to plan their finances over time, and aims to take the guesswork out of financial planning. By doing so, the college hopes to lessen the financial uncertainty that affects many families during the college admission process.

“Our students and alumni continually tell me that one of the things they value most about their Merrimack education is our dynamic and supportive community of belonging and shared purpose,” said Merrimack President Richard Santagati. “The Merrimack College Tuition Plan is one more example of our commitment to our students and to the future of our college.”

Merrimack College established a special toll-free number to assist parents and families in learning about the plan and how it could impact their decision and future.

Alumnus Named Vice President, Institutional Advancement

Charles R. Mollor ’84 is Merrimack’s new vice president for Institutional Advancement. Mollor now leads and oversees all aspects of the Office of Institutional Advancement and fosters further development of the college through increasing the awareness of the excellence Merrimack College has to offer.

He brings more than 20 years of expertise in building and developing service businesses and advising executives on strategy, sales and organization effectiveness. Mollor comes to Merrimack from Right Management Consultants where he was managing vice president, providing leadership and direction for sales, marketing, development and execution of business strategies. Prior, he served as managing director and senior vice president for the very best for our college and our students.”

Mollor also served as vice president of TMP Worldwide, Inc. where he developed and managed new service offerings. He has also worked at EDS Management Consulting Services and Bank of Boston.

He earned his B.A. at Merrimack College, with a major in political science and a minor in business and service sciences and is a special advisor to the Workforce Development Committee of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, and is a special advisor and board member to Flavors of New England and Capital Realty Partners.
Additional New Leadership in OIA

Michael Randall '98 is the new manager of annual giving in the Office of Institutional Advancement. He manages the annual Merrimack Fund and works with the Alumni Relations Office on the Reunion Program. He was the former director of student activities at Curry College and has a B.A. from Merrimack and an M.Ed. from Suffolk University. Randall is married to Karen (Rapp) '98. His father, Allen Randall, is also a Merrimack alumnus (class of 1970).

Maraghy '68 Appointed to Board of Trustees

Patrick B. Maraghy, executive vice president of RINET Company, LLC of Boston, was appointed to the Merrimack College Board of Trustees at the December 2005 meeting. A Merrimack alumnus, he earned a B.S. in accounting in 1968 and an M.B.A. from DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois.

Maraghy has been employed with RINET since 1977. In 1999, RINET merged into Boston Private Financial Holdings, Inc., a publicly traded wealth management company. Maraghy has direct client responsibility for several individuals, couples, families, trusts and charitable entities. He develops tax and financial plans, asset allocations, estate planning analysis and assists clients with sophisticated charitable giving strategies. He is also involved with screening and recommending alternative investments for his clients.

Prior to his position at RINET, Maraghy worked for many years as a tax manager at PriceWaterhouse & Company, where he began his career. He is a Certified Public Accountant and is a member of the American Institute of CPAs and the Massachusetts Society of CPAs. He is also a member of the Boston Estate Planning Council.

College Names New Leaders in Admissions

Merrimack College recently announced new appointments in the Office of Admission.

Jorge Hernandez was promoted to director of freshmen admission. In this position, he focuses on new markets and expanded student interest for the college. Jorge earned his B.A. from Villanova University and his M.Ed. from Lesley University. He has been at Merrimack College since 2003.

Joyce Carson, a member of the Merrimack admission team since 1998, was promoted to director of transfer admission. She will focus on transfer students, new initiatives, and continuing education endeavors. Joyce has a B.A. from Emmanuel College.

Kathy Marshall '94 is now the assistant director of admission. Previously, Marshall held the position of manager of Alumni Relations at Merrimack since 2002. In her new position, she will continue her efforts to blend alumni and admission initiatives through student referral and legacy programs. Kathy earned a B.S. from Merrimack College and an M.A. from Curry College.

Hockey Celebrates 50 Years

The Merrimack College Athletic Department recently unveiled a series of four new images to be used as additional logo marks to promote the Merrimack College athletic program.

“We are very excited about this,” said Merrimack Athletic Director Sean T. Frazier. “We went through an extensive design process to come up with these images and could not be any happier with the results. We feel these new logo marks are an extension of the new Warrior logo that was introduced in 2003. These give us a professional look that will help to increase visibility of the athletic program and enhance school and community spirit.”

In November 2003, Merrimack College introduced the college’s new mascot, Mack the Warrior. “Mack” replaced the figure of a Native-American that had been Merrimack’s athletic mascot for decades. This logo, which depicts a figure of the Roman era inside the shape of a shield, remains the primary logo for Merrimack College.
Joelle Martin (Somerville, Mass.) wrapped up a career filled with a laundry list of milestones. She is leaving the Merrimack College women's basketball program with a wave of records in her wake. On top of the list, she reached an impressive milestone on February 11, 2006, as her squad topped UMass Lowell in consecutive action.

In that game, Martin scored 21 points to push her over 2,000 points for her career. She became Merrimack's first female player to reach the 2,000-point mark and the fourth Warrior in school history to reach that plateau. She strengthened her hold on Merrimack's all-time scoring leader and, with 2,038 career points, she is the fourth-leading scorer in Northeast-10 history.

Martin holds several school records, including points in a single season with 612, field goals made in a single season with 192, and free throw percentage for both a single season and a career. She led her team to the conference championship last month, Martin was named to the All-Northeast-10 (first team); Daktronics of the Year and WBCA/Kodak Division II Region I All-American. MC

John Cascio (Bow, N.H.) has been named assistant athletic director/director of athletic media relations at Merrimack College. Cascio comes to Merrimack from Boston College, where he had served as the assistant athletic director of media relations for the past five years. There, he was responsible for coordinating the production of numerous media guides, served as the primary contact for Boston College women's basketball, field hockey, and softball, and was co-manager of football press box operations.

Prior to his position at Boston College, Cascio spent five years at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va. A four-year letter winner in softball, she graduated with a degree in English from Holy Cross in 1993. She recently completed her master's degree at Boston College.

Reunion 2006 – Saturday, June 3
Welcoming All Classes
Calling all classes! Whether you graduated a half-century ago or a half-decade ago, your personal and academic experiences are stories that contribute to the prestige of Merrimack College.

Come celebrate one of life’s greatest accomplishments - the completion of your college education. Merrimack’s 50th year Golden Graduates are being honored in a memorable ceremony and all alumni are welcome to attend and enjoy the festivities.

Find out how the institution has changed in the last 50 years by asking a Golden Graduate. Learn which professors might still be teaching at Merrimack. Mingle with your fellow classmates! It is time to reflect on years past and rekindle old friendships. This year, we will also celebrate our first 55th year reunion!

The evening begins with a very special ceremony to acknowledge a life-time of learning...

50th Golden Graduate Ceremony
The Class of 1956, as well as Golden Graduates from 1951-1955 and their guests, are invited to a memorable and nostalgic event where Merrimack College President Richard J. Santagi will present golden diplomas to these special graduates. Campus Ministry will kick off the celebration with music and prayer.

The night moves on to dinner, dancing, and much more...

Visit www.merrimackathletics.com
Cascio Joins Athletics Team
Lisa Cascio has been named assistant athletic director/director of athletic media relations at Merrimack College. Cascio comes to Merrimack from Boston College, where she had served as the assistant athletic director of media relations for the past five years. There, she was responsible for coordinating the production of numerous media guides, served as the primary contact for Boston College women's basketball, field hockey, and softball, and was co-manager of football press box operations.

Prior to her position at Boston College, Cascio spent five years at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va. A four-year letter winner in softball, she graduated with a degree in English from Holy Cross in 1993. She recently completed her master's degree at Boston College.

Reunion Class Chairs
Class Year | Alumni
--- | ---
1951 | Dan Brown
1956 | Mary DeManuele
1961 | Dean Quinlan
1966 | Mary Lou Edmunds
1971 | Joe Smith
1976 | Dave McGillis
1981 | Mary Franco
1986 | Kathy Colton
1991 | Julie Aron Mehta
1996 | Kristen Piccirillo
2001 | Dan Flynn
2006 | President's Cup Golf Tournament
Indian Ridge Country Club
Andover, Mass.
Special Alumni Division Morning Tee Times Available
For details, call Jackie Gillette 978-837-5121
Jacqueline.gillette@merrimack.edu

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
1:00 p.m., Golden Graduate Ceremony honoring the Class of 1956, Cascio Hall
6:00 p.m., President’s Cup Golf Tournament Morning Tee Times Available
10:30 p.m., Welcome the 50th Reunion Class: President Richard J. Santagi 50th Reunion Class Gift 25th Reunion Class Gift
Alumni of the Year Presentation Reunion graduates will receive gifts, class pictures will be taken, and designated areas will be available for reminiscing with your former classmates.
9:00 p.m. - 12:00 midnight Dancing and entertainment continues
All alumni are encouraged to attend. Appetizers, buffet and cash bar (beer and wine) will be provided, as well as DJ and other entertainment. $35 per person for alumni in the classes of 1996-2005.

President's Club Special Alumni Division Morning Tee Times Available
For details, call Jackie Gillette 978-837-5121
Jacqueline.gillette@merrimack.edu

Stay and Play...
Monday, June 5, 2006
President's Cup Golf Tournament
Indian Ridge Country Club
Andover, Mass.
Special Alumni Division Morning Tee Times Available
For details, call Jackie Gillette 978-837-5121
Jacqueline.gillette@merrimack.edu

Alumni Relations 978-837-5107
## Upcoming Alumni Events

### April 27, 2006

**Alumni Business Breakfast**

Dave McGillivray '76, Guest Speaker

7:30 a.m. - Murray Lounge

Complimentary Continental Breakfast

For more information, contact Kathy St. Hilaire at kathleen.st.hilaire@merrimack.edu.

McGillivray '76 is race director of the B.A.A. Boston Marathon for which he has worked tirelessly for 18 years. Valedictorian of the Merrimack Class of 1976, McGillivray has challenged himself physically, mentally and spiritually as he has accomplished many goals in all aspects of his life.

Perhaps best known for his run across the United States in 1976 for the Jimmy Fund, McGillivray ran a total of 3,452 miles in 80 days averaging 45-miles a day. In May 2004, McGillivray ran across the country again, this time with nine other veteran marathoners, in relay style, from San Francisco to Boston as part of TREK USA, an event which he founded, and raised over $300,000 for five children’s charities. Personally, he has run 118 marathons including the Boston Marathon for the past 34 consecutive years.

McGillivray is owner and president of Dave McGillivray Sports Enterprises, Inc. He has directed marathons and triathlons across the country and delivers motivational speeches to audiences throughout the U.S. and the world. McGillivray was inducted into the Running USA Hall of Champions in January 2005.

McGillivray’s book, The Last Pick, chronicles his career while motivating and inspiring the reader to achieve what is thought to be the impossible. It is due out this year.

### April 28, 2006

**Golden Graduate Retreat**

Rekindle your friendships and maintain your spiritual ties to Merrimack College

2:00 p.m. Retreat led by Rev. James Wenzel, O.S.A. Murray Lounge - 2nd floor, Sakowich Center

4:30 p.m. Mass celebrated by Rev. James Wenzel, O.S.A. Marian Taylor Chapel - 3rd floor, Sakowich Center

5:30 p.m. Reception in McCoy Art Gallery, Rogers Center for the Arts

7:30 p.m. Tribute to Frank Sinatra, Rogers Center for the Arts

Meet Kathy St. Hilaire, Addition to Alumni Relations

Kathy St. Hilaire '05 is the new assistant director of Alumni Relations for Merrimack College. Most recently, she has served since 2001 in the Stevens Service Learning Center, first as administrative assistant and then earned a promotion to assistant director.

An employee of the college since 1997, St. Hilaire’s combined experiences at Merrimack have prepared her for her latest position in Alumni Relations. She knows Merrimack College as an employee, an alumna, and a parent. She is the mother of another alumus, Justin ’03. Responsible for numerous events in the student life arena, she has the solid experience to plan outstanding events for her fellow alumni.

St. Hilaire earned a B.A. at Merrimack in communication studies. She has plans to pursue her master’s degree in higher education.

### Meet Kathy St. Hilaire, Addition to Alumni Relations

Kathy St. Hilaire ’05 is the new assistant director of Alumni Relations for Merrimack College. Most recently, she has served since 2001 in the Stevens Service Learning Center, first as administrative assistant and then earned a promotion to assistant director.

An employee of the college since 1997, St. Hilaire’s combined experiences at Merrimack have prepared her for her latest position in Alumni Relations. She knows Merrimack College as an employee, an alumna, and a parent. She is the mother of another alumus, Justin ’03. Responsible for numerous events in the student life arena, she has the solid experience to plan outstanding events for her fellow alumni.

St. Hilaire earned a B.A. at Merrimack in communication studies. She has plans to pursue her master’s degree in higher education.

#### Class Notes

**M63**

John Phinney received The Dinner Foundation Award for being voted teacher of the year at St. Mark Catholic School in Boynton Beach, Fla. He has taught for the Diocese of Palm Beach for the past 12 years and prior to that worked for IBM for 30 years.

**M65**

Jo-An Sipple has been named the interim president of Marian Court College, Swampscott, Mass.

**M67**

Michael Apone is the principal/owner of Apone Associates, providing accounting, tax and real estate brokerage services on Cape Cod.

**M75**

Paul Egan has recently been appointed the new research and development coordinator at Kayem Foods, Inc.

**M78**

Elaine (Favuzza) Sampson has written her first book, Grace for the Journey: A Story of Illness, Hope and faith. It is about her spiritual journey living with chronic and life-threatening illness. In addition to the author’s personal testimonies, the book also includes over 400 Scriptures and 40 poetic-prayers.

**M84**

Tim Walsh is the owner of an investment advisory firm, Walsh Financial Services, located in Crown Point, Ind. Tim was recently appointed by the governor as trustee of the $7 billion Indiana Teachers Retirement Fund.

**M92**

Brian Courtemanche is the library director at Endicott College.

**M96**

David Piri received his master’s degree in social work in May 2005 and is now a licensed certified social worker.

**M97**

Jason Sakellari, Esq. has opened a law practice in Manchester, N.H.

**M98**

Michael Randall is the new manager for annual giving in the Office of Institutional Advancement at Merrimack College.

**M99**

Misty Dalley Bergeron is marketing manager for Elsevier - Science and Technology Books in Burlington, Mass.

**M00**

Erin Dalley Boyle received her master’s degree in early childhood education from Lesley University in 2003.

**M01**

Joe Jeffrey is an account management associate at Genzyme in Cambridge, Mass.

**M03**

Patricia “Patti” Cronin is teaching and coaching girls’ soccer in Hope Dale. Her team won the state championship in November 2005.

**M05**

Mark Sinclair has moved to Los Angeles and was accepted into UCLA’s Professional Screenwriting Program.
WEDDINGS

WILLIAM DANAHY ’78 and Anna Gerou, June 11, 2005, at St. Paul the Apostle Church, Winnepeg, Manitoba, Canada.

BETH ANWAKE ’95 and Joshua Hazell, June 25, 2005, at the Church of the Annunciation in Lutinville, VI.

LAURA MARROCCO ’95 and Stephen O’Neill, October 22, 2005, at the Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher at Merrimack College. Alumni in attendance were: Brenda (McDonough) Robertson ’94, Lisa (Huyen) Mullen ’94, Karen (Yanus) Green ’94, Danielle (Capone) Adams ’94, Patricia (Cicamello) Callis ’95, Tara (Blancacress) Tibbet ’95 and Robert Isacco ’95.

KATHERINE BASTILLE ’97 and Jeffrey Dufresne, November 19, 2005, at the Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher at Merrimack College. Alumni in attendance were: Fr. Joseph Richaud, Maureen (Mailloux) Clennem ’97, Timothy Clennem ’97, Dr. Marianne (Kidd) Moore ’97, Karen Conno ’97, Nicole Lempere ’97, Jean Laytise ’97, Heath Stone ’97, Heather (Sloan) Barrett ’97, Dr. Michael Barrett ’97, Lahlayne (Sullivan) Manzi ’96 and Albert P. Manzi III ’96.

JENNIFER (LOONEY) HART ’86 and TIM HART ’86, a daughter, Molly McNally Hart, on January 4, 2005. Jennifer joins sister Audrey.

SUZANNE (DESMARAIS) WOLKE ’86 and husband R. Scott Wolke, a son, Samuel Nicholas, on October 11, 2005.

TRACY BLAIR ’87 and husband Jonathan Dennis, a son, Kade Marklee, on September 19, 2005. Kade joins brothers Connor and Nathan and sister Leanne.

JAMES HENDERSON ’91 and LINDA (CARLETON) HENDERSON ’93, a son, Cole William, on October 19, 2005. Cole joins brother Jace.

LAURIE (TRINH-HO) PARKER ’91 and husband Paul, a daughter, Lindsey Elizabeth, on June 4, 2005. Lindsey joins brother Matthew and sister Lauren.

ELIZABETH (FRADETTE) CUNNINGHAM ’92 and husband Michael, a daughter, Meggan Patricia, on March 28, 2005. She joins sister Sarah and brother Sean.

JEANNE (SARNO) MCANDREWS ’92 and husband Paul, a daughter, Adeline Marie, on September 4, 2005. Adeline joins brother Thomas. Adeline’s uncle is Joseph Sarno, Merrimack’s baseball coach.

DAVID Pucci ’92 and wife Melissa, a son, Andrew David, on May 11, 2005. Andrew joins brother Thomas.

MARK BICKFORD SR. ’93 and wife Michelle, a daughter, Madisyn Theresa, on March 19, 2004. Madisyn joins brother Mark, Jr.

JENNIFER (COONEY) HART ’86 and ERN HART ’94, a daughter, Molly McNally Hart, on August 23, 2005. Molly joins brother Kevin and sister Shaela. Molly’s grandfather is Professor Lawrence Looney of the Economics Department.


JOLINE ROMANO PEPPER ’93 and husband Eric, a daughter, Erica, on April 5, 2005.

PAULA BERGERON ’94 and husband Marc Godin, a daughter, Hailey Marie, on October 11, 2005.


ALICE (MACCO) DUMOND ’95 and husband Keith, a son, Aidan Robert, on November 22, 2005.

TANASI (KELLER) FAHEY ’96 and husband Michael, a son, Jack Michael Fahey, on July 3, 2003.


JENNIFER (AMBROSINO) SEICROWSKI ’01 and husband Mark, a son, Jack Riley, on October 31, 2005.

SARAH (BOYD) HARTY ’93 and husband Paul, a son, Matthew Nunziato and daughter, Gabrielle May, on December 11, 2005. Matthew and Gabrielle join sister Rebecca and brother Michael.

OBITUARIES

Edward “Skip” Graftzy ’55, of Ventura, California, died October 26, 2005. Skip joined Raytheon in 1959, interrupting his career to serve for five years in the U.S. Navy, where he achieved the rank of lieutenant. Following his military commitment, he returned to Raytheon where he worked in the financial field for 37 years.

Paul PAYNTER ’59, of San Diego, California, died October 26, 2005. Several members of his family from his hometown of Arlington, Mass. traveled to California for the services.

We’d like to hear more about you ... Let us in on your news. If you’ve received an award or promotion... Been married or had a baby... Earned a graduate degree... Moved... Obtained a new job... Celebrated a special anniversary... Or have other news to share with your fellow alumni, please contact us at alumnirelations@merrimack.edu or send your information to Alumni Relations, Merrimack College, 155 Turnpike Street, North Andover, MA 01845.

NEW ARRIVALS

BINETTE ’97 and Jeffrey Delforth, November 19, 2005, at the Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher at Merrimack College. Alumni in attendance were: Fr. Joseph Richaud, Maureen (Mailloux) Clennem ’97, Timothy Clennem ’97, Dr. Marianne (Kidd) Moore ’97, Karen Conno ’97, Nicole Lempere ’97, Jean Laytise ’97, Heath Stone ’97, Heather (Sloan) Barrett ’97, Dr. Michael Barrett ’97, Lahlayne (Sullivan) Manzi ’96 and Albert P. Manzi III ’96.

JAMES HENDERSON ’91 and LINDA (CARLETON) HENDERSON ’93, a son, Cole William, on October 19, 2005. Cole joins brother Jace.

LAURIE (TRINH-HO) PARKER ’91 and husband Paul, a daughter, Lindsey Elizabeth, on June 4, 2005. Lindsey joins brother Matthew and sister Lauren.

ELIZABETH (FRADETTE) CUNNINGHAM ’92 and husband Michael, a daughter, Meggan Patricia, on March 28, 2005. She joins sister Sarah and brother Sean.

JEANNE (SARNO) MCANDREWS ’92 and husband Paul, a daughter, Adeline Marie, on September 4, 2005. Adeline joins brother Thomas. Adeline’s uncle is Joseph Sarno, Merrimack’s baseball coach.

DAVID Pucci ’92 and wife Melissa, a son, Andrew David, on May 11, 2005. Andrew joins brother Thomas.

MARK BICKFORD SR. ’93 and wife Michelle, a daughter, Madisyn Theresa, on March 19, 2004. Madisyn joins brother Mark, Jr.

SARAH (BOYD) HARTY ’93 and husband Paul, a son, Matthew Nunziato and daughter, Gabrielle May, on December 11, 2005. Matthew and Gabrielle join sister Rebecca and brother Michael.

JOLINE ROMANO PEPPER ’93 and husband Eric, a daughter, Erica, on April 5, 2005.

PAULA BERGERON ’94 and husband Marc Godin, a daughter, Hailey Marie, on October 11, 2005.


ALICE (MACCO) DUMOND ’95 and husband Keith, a son, Aidan Robert, on November 22, 2005.

TANASI (KELLER) FAHEY ’96 and husband Michael, a son, Jack Michael Fahey, on July 3, 2003.


JENNIFER (AMBROSINO) SEICROWSKI ’01 and husband Mark, a son, Jack Riley, on October 31, 2005.

SARAH (BOYD) HARTY ’93 and husband Paul, a son, Matthew Nunziato and daughter, Gabrielle May, on December 11, 2005. Matthew and Gabrielle join sister Rebecca and brother Michael.

OBITUARIES

Edward “Skip” Graftzy ’55, of Ventura, California, died October 26, 2005. Skip joined Raytheon in 1959, interrupting his career to serve for five years in the U.S. Navy, where he achieved the rank of lieutenant. Following his military commitment, he returned to Raytheon where he worked in the financial field for 37 years.

Paul PAYNTER ’59, of San Diego, California, died October 26, 2005. Several members of his family from his hometown of Arlington, Mass. traveled to California for the services.
CALENDAR 2006

APRIL
20 – 22 Pentucket Players present "Kiss Me, Kate!" at 8 p.m. (Rogers Center)
25 – International Film Series "AMERICANA" at 7 p.m. (Rogers Center)
26 – First Rev. Robert W. Bullock Memorial Lecture on "Preaching and Peace Among Religions" with Rev. John T. Pawlikowski, O.S.M. at 7 p.m. (Cascia Hall)
26 – Tambakos Film Series "Guys and Dolls" at 7 p.m. (Rogers Center)
28 – "Perfectly Frank" Tribute to Frank Sinatra at 7:30 p.m. (Rogers Center)
29 – Merrimack College Jazz Ensemble "An Evening of Jazz" at 7:30 p.m. (Rogers Center)
30 – Merrimack Valley Philharmonic Orchestra featuring Eleanor Perrone at 2:30 p.m. (Rogers Center)

MAY
6 – New England Classical Singers present "Spring Fling" at 7:30 p.m. (Rogers Center)
7 – Andover Choral Society presents "The Wide World Over" at 3 p.m. (Rogers Center)
8 – 11 – Boston Lyric Opera presents Opera New England production of "The Daughter of the Regiment" for ages six and up at 9:45 a.m. and 11:45 a.m. (Rogers Center)
20 – Baccalaureate Mass at 4 p.m. (Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher)
Baccalaureate Reception at 5 p.m. (Multi-purpose Room, Sakowich Center)
21 – Commencement at 10:30 a.m. (Voipe Center)

JUNE
2 – 30 – Fine Arts Studio Course (4 credit) in San Gimignano, Italy. (contact Carol Leibovitz, International Office, 978-837-5210.

Open Houses
• Continuing Education
• Professional Education
• Suffolk MBA and MPA programs
• Master's of Education

MONDAY, MAY 8
THURSDAY, JUNE 8
5:30 – 7:00 p.m., Sakowich Campus Center
Merrimack College
For more information, visit www.merrimack.edu/nightlife

Athletics
For the complete schedule of athletic games, as well as athletics news, visit www.merrimackathletics.com

ATHLETICS
For the complete schedule of athletic games, as well as athletics news, visit www.merrimackathletics.com

SUNDEY, MAY 21
Commencement – 10:30 a.m.
SATURDAY, JUNE 3
Reunion 2006

SAVE THESE DATES!

Bequests can accomplish your philanthropic goals.
Throughout history, the health of charitable organizations, in fact the very existence of many, has been due in large part to the vision of individuals who established a bequest. These people have a strong desire to create opportunities for future generations and preserve their most closely held personal values.

Merrimack College, like many other fortunate organizations, has received bequests that have become a permanent part of our endowment, that have expressed personal values and have honored loved ones. These gifts are the ultimate "thank you" to Merrimack -- the institution that had such a positive influence in the life of these donors.

The following sample bequest language can give you an idea of how you can change the life of a Merrimack student, and memorialize a loved one:
"I give and bequeath to the trustees of Merrimack College, in North Andover, Massachusetts, the sum of $ (or ___% of my residuary estate), and I request that said funds be invested and the income therefrom be used for the award of scholarships to students from the state of New York. This scholarship shall be awarded in the name of my mother, Jane Smith. The college may give preference to students who are pursuing a degree in the Liberal Arts, but this preference is not mandatory." *

Let us know if you remembered Merrimack in your will. We'd love to thank you now and welcome you to this special, forward-thinking group of benefactors. Otherwise, if you would like sample language on how to memorialize a family member, or support a cause that has special meaning to you, please contact Patricia Thompson, director of development, at 978-837-5117. Or, you may complete and send in the form below.

* This is not legal advice. Always check with your attorney when updating your will.
Did you know that gifts to the Merrimack Fund...

- Support student scholarships and faculty development?
- Enhance student life programming?
- Allow us to utilize cutting edge technology in the classroom?
- Provide valuable resources for the McQuade Library?
- Enable our sports teams to enhance the leadership skills of our athletes?
- Continue programming to support our Augustinian heritage?

A gift to the Merrimack Fund is a vote of confidence in the college's future. Its impact will be felt throughout campus. You can truly make a difference in a student's life. The time is now, please consider a gift to the Merrimack Fund today!

Give safely online: www.merrimack.edu/gift or mail your gift to: Merrimack College A-8 315 Turnpike Street North Andover, MA 01845