Innovation in Teaching: Merrimack Pilots New Laptop Initiative

Merrimack College
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Merrimack Pilots New Laptop Initiative
The Merrimack story is powerful. It is one of transformation, of commitment and of dedication. Our many successes, such as our recent 10-year reaccreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), are bringing attention to the committed work of our entire community. And the story does not end there.

The story is told by your successes, our many alumni who have gone on to do outstanding work in your fields and who have tremendous pride in being a Merrimack grad. The story is told by our dedicated faculty members who engage our students in active learning and research and who encourage and guide them to reach their fullest potential as they leave the college. Our faculty, administrators and staff serve as role models and mentors, and have a deep commitment to providing the best educational experience for all our students.

And, of course, the Merrimack story is about our students. The quality and caliber of our students is at the heart of our excellence. Every year a talented pool of students seeks admission to Merrimack, and we are becoming an increasingly competitive and demanding school with greater expectations of our students. Our students thrive in the intense academic experience at Merrimack and, after graduation, move on to exciting opportunities in the world of business, not-for-profits, and in graduate schools. Their experiences, both on campus and after graduation, reflect well on the excellence and value of a Merrimack education in the Augustinian tradition.

As we continue our drive to preeminence, future chapters in our story of transformation will focus on ensuring excellence in our academic curriculum and providing challenging opportunities for the personal and ethical development of our students. Our vision for the future also includes a commitment to increasing diversity on our campus so that the experience of our students better mirrors that of the world in which they will work and live. And it is more important than ever that we continue to share Merrimack's successes with as many as possible so they have a clear understanding of what we are all about.

We have worked hard to obtain the level of achievement that Merrimack experiences today and I am proud to tell our story. It is one in which we can all take great pride.

Sincerely,

Richard J. SanAgata
President, Merrimack College
New Residence to be Built at Merrimack College, Demand High

To meet the growing demand for residency at Merrimack, the college has broken ground for a new residence building on campus which will open in August 2003. The new 210-bed residence for sophomores and juniors, located approximately 40% residency to about 70% today. The goal of the college’s strategic plan is to reach 80% total residency without increasing the size of the student body. Today at Merrimack, approximately 1,360 students live in a variety of residences.

The demand from students to live on campus continues to be extremely high, and students from various geographic areas beyond Massachusetts are increasingly applying for admission to Merrimack. As applications to Merrimack continue to increase (up 12% from 2000), residency requests continue to increase as well. Since 1996, residency requests have increased 84%. In 2001, 93% of incoming freshmen requested housing; 96% of freshmen applicants for fall 2002 have requested housing. The new residence will also help to avoid overcrowding in existing residences.

True to the college’s current strategic plan that has the goal of 80% residency, the addition of a new residence building will not increase the total student population. It is the belief of the college that the current size of the student body contributes to the quality of the learning experience.

New Residence to be Built at Merrimack College, Demand High

As Merrimack has transformed from a commuter to a residential college over the years, its burden has moved from approximately 40% residency to about 70% today. The goal of the college’s strategic plan is to reach 80% total residency without increasing the size of the student body. Today at Merrimack, approximately 1,360 students live in a variety of residences.

The estimated cost is $10 million. The project's architect is Sasaki Associates, who designed the Sakowich Campus Center and the Rogers Center for the Arts.

The new 57,000-square-foot residence will be three stories and its exterior will mirror Deegan Hall, our newest residence built in 1998. Suite-style units will accommodate groups of four, six and eight students. All rooms will be wired for the Internet and will have phone and cable television hook-ups. It will also include seminar rooms, a small multi-purpose room, vending, laundry and more.

Merrimack Earns 10-Year Accreditation from NEASC

President Richard J. Santagati has announced that Merrimack College has been granted reaccreditation for the maximum period of ten years by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). The accreditation is the result of a self-study and a site visit by a team of nine members who met with many constituents of the college last fall. The Commission commended Merrimack for "improving its financial position through the achievement of a stable operating budget and a successful capital campaign" that substantially increased the college's endowment. In addition, the Commission "takes favorable note of the college's clear mission, supported through its Office of Mission Effectiveness, and the demonstrated commitment on the part of the faculty and staff to the students and their educational experience. The self-study reflected an increasing ability on the part of the institution to identify and develop means to address key actions which will continue to improve its overall effectiveness. In sum, the Commission finds Merrimack College to have become a demonstrably stronger institution over the last decade."

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"The positive results of our NEASC visit, affirms the great strides that Merrimack College has made in the last ten years," said Santagati. "It further acknowledges the dedicated efforts of our faculty and staff who have committed themselves to the college and its students and who work hard to continually improve the Merrimack experience. I am extremely pleased at the outcome and grateful to the NEASC team members who have provided us with important insights and guidance as we continue to address a number of critical issues. With everyone's continued support and commitment, we continue on our mission of making Merrimack one of the preeminent Catholic college in the Northeast."

The college will submit a five-year interim report in fall 2006 on our progress and success in several areas, as requested by the Commission. The Board of Trustees is providing leadership for a plan to implement recommendations made by NEASC.

NEASC is one of eight accrediting commissions in the United States that provides institutional accreditation on a regional basis. Merrimack College has been accredited by the Commission since 1953 and was last reviewed in 1991. Accreditation is voluntary. The Commission, which is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, accredits approximately 200 institutions in New England.

Presidential Task Force Explores Plan for Increased Diversity at Merrimack

As part of a college-wide commitment, President Santagati has established the Presidential Task Force on Diversity and Cultural Awareness on the recommendation of a college-wide committee of faculty, administrators, staff, and students. Last fall, the committee developed and recommended a strategic plan for diversity as well as a "Statement on Diversity at Merrimack College." The goal is increased diversity among the student body as well as the faculty, administrators, staff, and students, and to promote understanding and acceptance of different backgrounds and cultures. Diversity refers to different ethnic, racial groups and many other differences that you find in any community, such as sexual orientation, urban, rural.

The task force will ensure that the recently adopted strategic plan for diversity moves forward over the next two to three years, and it will also provide support and advice to the Office of Cultural Awareness and Diversity.

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STATEMENT ON DIVERSITY ADOPTED BY MERRIMACK COLLEGE

As a Catholic college, Merrimack celebrates cultural pluralism in the Church and in the world, and as an Augustinian community committed to justice and peace, we affirm and accept all that is enriching and inspiring in the great variety and diversity of human culture, language and religion.

The commitment of Merrimack College to honor and advance diversity embodies a vigilant, constructive and creative pledge to ensure that all racial, ethnic, cultural and social groups dedicated to discourse and mutual respect are full partners in our common educational quest. The unique experiences and particular perspectives of such partners in the search for knowledge and wisdom contribute to a rich interdisciplinary and multi-cultural curriculum.

Our focus on diversity is guided by the following principles:

- Knowledge is best sought and acquired through experiences of cooperative, respectful and lively exchange among many cultures and social groups.
- Any one intellectual tradition, cultural heritage, social group or philosophical stance can be enriched by creative engagement with other perspectives.
- As an educational community committed to dynamic, active teaching and learning, our curricular and co-curricular structures and programs must ensure that diverse voices are heard and oppressed groups empowered as partners in our common journey through knowledge to wisdom.

Efforts to achieve greater diversity at Merrimack College include an institutional commitment involving:

- A college-wide conversation to advance our understanding of the various meanings and roles of multiculturalism.
- An invitation to departments, divisions and other college constituencies to examine how their programs contribute to diversity at the college.
- A program to recruit students, faculty, administrators and staff in ways that encourage and advance diversity.
- Programs of professional and student development that advance our awareness and enrich our understanding of diversity.
- Community events that highlight and celebrate cultural diversity and intercultural cooperation.
- Advocacy of diversity as an educational priority in the current college conversation on pedagogy.

MERRIMACK CELEBRATES EARTH DAY IN THE CITY

The Merrimack community was out in full force on Saturday, April 20 for "Merrimack in the City/Earth Day." More than 100 students, faculty and staff volunteered their time to help clean up and beautify eight sites in Lawrence, Mass., as well as the Merrimack campus. The group painted over graffiti, painted retaining walls off Route 495 near the entrance to the city, painted apartments for teen mothers with the Lawrence YWCA, and much more.

Students painted the retaining wall at the entrance to the city of Lawrence, Mass. continued on page 6

FIRST-YEAR BUSINESS SCHOOL STUDENTS FULFILL NEW LAPTOP REQUIREMENT

Fulfill New Laptop Requirement

Freshman computing initiative met with great enthusiasm

By Joyce Fauerbach

This fall approximately 150 incoming students will enter the Girard School of Business and International Commerce as the Class of 2006. Many of these young adults were born in the year 1984 -- just three years after the introduction of the IBM personal computer. These students have grown up with technology--they're comfortable with it and are proficient at using Windows, word processing software, the Internet and E-mail. They also have the expectation that computers will be a part of their classroom experience.

As part of a pilot program, Merrimack College has launched a new laptop initiative designed to more fully integrate the business school students' experience with technology to provide them with a similar learning environment that they'll find in the workplace. "Students will be learning on a technology platform that they'll be encountering when they graduate," says Edward Popper, Dean of the Girard School of Business and International Commerce.

The college is also in the midst of revising its business school curriculum for class of 2006. "This new class will encounter a somewhat different business school experience than we've had before," says Dean Popper. "The rate at which technology keeps changing forces us to be more innovative in how we teach our classes. Each required course for a business degree will now require students to use technology -- whether it be spreadsheets, databases or presentation software."

Popper is careful to note that although professors will be teaching technology-facilitated courses, by no means should this be considered distance education. "We still have the same mission -- which is teaching our students to be professional leaders. That is something you just can't do online -- that's done through close interaction between students and professors -- up close and face-to-face." "This initiative," says Popper, "will ensure that technology among the business school students is uniform. Students will have all the available software they'll need loaded right onto the machines. The sharing and collaboration that will be possible among students and with professors is very exciting."

The laptop requirement also means that students can use technology as an information source -- anytime -- anywhere. "It's no longer the case that students are limited to their dorm rooms, the library, or the computer center in order to work. They'll be able to plug into the campus center or share information with a classmate over lunch in the cafeteria," says Popper.

Each incoming freshman student will be assessed a $750 per semester technology fee which in return will give them a brand new, state-of-the-art IBM A30 Think Pad. These wireless machines, which retail for close to $3000, are loaded with a Pentium IV processor and all of the software that students will be expected to use in their business courses. Training on these new machines will be conducted during freshman orientation as well as throughout the semester. The technology fee also includes same-day service and insurance against loss, theft and accidental damage. If necessary, freshmen can roll the technology fee into their student loans, just as they can with book costs.

Students are a significant part of today's classroom experience. continued on page 8
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“Having Merrimack
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project,” Nicossa said.
In March, the class pulled 40 roots balls from wetlands at
Martins Pond. The plants are now growing in black plastic
pots under lights in a greenhouse on the top of the Mendel
Science Center.
When the stems are 18 inches tall, the beetles will be
placed on stems wrapped with mesh.
It’s expected the beetles will establish themselves on the
plants and lay eggs. When the hungry larval hatch, they will
go to work. On June 1, the class will return the beetle-
infested plants to Martins Pond, hoping the bugs will spread.
The students said they like the hands-on approach.
“It’s kind of a win-win situation for Martins Pond and
Merrimack College,” said senior Mike C. Rock, 22, of North
Point Pleasant, N.J.
“Students from both schools in the United States and Canada. To fight the plant, the Martins Pond Association enlisted the help of Lyon’s environmental management class.

A group of neighbors and Merrimack College students plan to fight an

invasive purple weed choking wetlands of Martins Pond in North Reading, Mass. with a tiny, foreign beetle.
The Galerucella leaf beetle, a bug native to Europe, will be used to control the

beautiful invader called purple loosestrife.
This biological control experiment is being aided by an environmental manage-
ment class at Merrimack College in North Andover.
The students and the professor are acting as environmental consultants, doing
the dirty work and saving taxpayers money on consulting fees. They are mapping
the area, growing purple loosestrife, and studying environmental regulations.
“We are really viewing ourselves as nonpaid consultants,” said Professor
Jonathan Lyon, who will present his class’s findings at Town Hall April 30.
It was the Martins Pond Association that pushed for the introduction of the
beetle by contacting the Massachusetts Wetlands Restoration Program, and getting
a permit from state and federal authorities, said Janet E. Nicossa, co-chairwoman of
the association.
Lythrum salicaria, purple loosestrife’s scientific name, has thick foliage and
spiked flowers. Its roots form thick mats. It has already choked acres of wetlands at
the southern end of Martins Pond. Neighbors feel that if Martins Brook, the
pond’s outlet, remains clogged, it will only worsen flooding.
Purple loosestrife is not easy to control. It is resistant to draining, burning,
digging, spraying and cutting. The plant has no natural enemies in North America.
It is hoped the tiny leaf beetle - about 4 to 6 millimeters long - will munch its
way to the rescue, clearing the weed. The beetles don’t bite humans, and prefer
only purple loosestrife.
The 92-acre Martins Pond sits in the northwest corner of town, just south of the
Andover border and west of Route 28. Dozens of small streets with modest homes
borders its east and west banks.
Settlers in the early 1800s first brought purple loosestrife to New England for its
look and for its use as an herbal remedy. It also found its way here as seeds in
ships’ ballast.
Today, wildlife officials must contend with it choking wetlands in the United
States and Canada. To fight the plant, the Martins Pond Association enlisted the
help of Lyon’s environmental management class.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture first approved the beetles’ use in
1992, according to the nonprofit Association of Massachusetts Wetland
Scientists.
Since 1996, officials have released 50,000 to 60,000 beetles at the
Parker River National Wildlife Refuge on Plum Island (Mass.).
There’s no evidence there they have jumped to native plants, said
Deborah Melvin, a refuge wildlife biologist. The beetles
have controlled purple loosestrife, but not eliminated it.
“It’s not a miracle worker here,” Melvin said. “It kind of keeps it in check. It keeps it in balance so other plants can
compete,” Melvin said.

Neighbors and experts said the beetle will control the
weed, but not eradicate it.

RELEASE OF BEETLES DELAYED
DUE TO WET SPRING

According to Biology Professor Jonathon Lyon,
the beetles were released on June 15, about two
weeks later than originally planned due to the
cooler and wetter weather the area experienced
this spring.
Two students returned this summer to intro-
duce the beetles to Martins Pond, and in the fall,
the juniors who were in the class will continue to
monitor the beetles. The activity of the beetles
and their effect on the loosestrife in the pond
will be monitored for the next three years.
Lyon points out that, because the loosestrife is so
well established in the pond, area residents may
not see much of a difference this summer, but
next year should see a noticeable reduction in
loosestrife.

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Andover.
The students have also wrestled with the ethics of biologi-
cal control, using one species to control another. The beet-
les have been released safely in 27 states, including
Massachusetts, since it was approved for use in 1992.
“There are problems with everything you do. You’ve just
going to weigh your options,” said senior Jamie M. Baibeii, 22,
of Point Pleasant, N.J.
The students, including junior Stephanie M. Ackroyd, 22,
of Windham, Maine; senior Mike C. Martino, 22, of Lynn,
and senior Diane M. Ferland, 21, of Woonsocket, R.I., said
students show the beetles onlay lay eggs on purple loosestrife.
Lyon said he and future students will track the release of
the beetles.
“Tt’s a tricky species. It’s one thing to say release it. It’s not going to have an effect … I like to take the
qualitative approach b,” Lyon said.
Merrimack College's 52nd
Commencement on Sunday,
May 19 saw 492 students
graduate and three honorary
degrees conferred, including one on the
New York City Fire Department (FDNY).
Merrimack dedicated the whole
of the day to bestow an honorary degree
upon the FDNY, paying tribute to the
men and women who serve as an
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On behalf of the FDNY, 25-year
veteran firefighter Matthew James
accepted the honorary degree. In
a brief address that drew applause
several times as well as two standing
ovations, he said of September 11.
"We were scared, but we were alive,
and we were not going to give in.
We did our jobs and we showed the
world what the price of freedom is
all about."

The following is an excerpt of a speech
delivered by Professor Margarette Kane as
she presented Father Kenny to President
J. Santagati for an honorary Doctorate of
Education honors causa at this year's
Commencement.

"For these people, education is a
liberal education enables us to be
international approach to peace
education.
Father Magennis delivered the
 commencement address, telling the
nearly 4,500 in attendance about his
experience walking with mothers and
young children to school during times
of unrest in Northern Ireland, saying,
"For these people, education is a
privilege worth suffering for — a point
that must be taken away from you — and that is
make the world a better place not just
for you, but also for those around you."

The first 25 years of Merrimack
College’s existence witnessed the
transformation of 240 acres of
open fields and pastures of New England
farmland into a remarkably attractive
campus with many buildings, tree-lined
walks, benches, athletic fields and sweep-
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O.S.A. In the 1950’s, Father Gullen, one
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Continued from page 9

Augustinian planted in the latter part of the 20th century. Surrounding the (Volpe Sports Complex) are trees that Father Kenny planted in the latter part of the 20th century. Between the administration building and college library, almost every tree there was planted by Father Kenny. On the college’s eastern boundary, screening it from the highway, is a remarkable symmetrical row of sugar maples put there by Father Kenny. Of the 34 sugar maples he planted more than 30 years ago, 33 have survived. As a young and struggling school, Merrimack did not have much money for landscaping; so in addition to buying what he could, Father Kenny also approached people who had trees that they might be persuaded to donate to the college. While perfecting his drives at a local driving range, he noticed at the back of the property a magnificent group of older yews including somewhat rare golden yews. After several conversations with the owner of the property, Father Kenny finally convinced him to sell the property to the college. When asked how much he would be able to pay for the yews, Father Kenny replied, “Not as much as they are worth.” The farmer who owned the property laughed and said, “Maybe we can work something out.” If you do take them, I want you to fill in the areas where you dig them out.” Father Kenny said, “I think I can do that,” knowing that because of campus construction going on at the time a large pile of soil had to be removed. So, we were able to acquire plants that flourish today in many places on campus for “some dollars and some dirt.” It was this acumen and diligence that was part of what made him such a fine choice for vice president for financial affairs at the college.

WHERE THEY’RE HEADED

Following Commencement 2002, students are scattering across the world to begin the next stages of their lives. Here are a few of their future destinations:

Michael Marino ’02 will attend the University of Massachusetts Intergraduate School for Marine Studies based at the Marine Research Station of UMASS-Dartmouth in New Bedford. He intends to pursue a master’s degree in Marine Science and Technology with a concentration in Fisheries. He will work out of the Georges Bank Sea Scallops Research program which includes six trips at sea during the summers as part of a fishery management program. He was awarded a $20,000 research assistantship award for each year in the program.

An environmental management major at Merrimack, Marino worked in Alaska during the summer with the Bureau of Land Management. He worked in a remote field 350 miles northwesterly of Fairbanks counting salmon to help determine their level of population decline. While there, he worked with the United States Geological Survey Biological Research Division conducting carcass sampling and mapping streams. Ultimately, Marino hopes to work for a governmental agency in fisheries management.

Ariela Anderson ’02 is headed for the prestigious London School of Economics in the fall where she will pursue her master’s degree in sociology. She will continue her research on “Affluenza” studying the effects of wealth on people, which she began during her junior year. Anderson earned a bachelor of arts in sociology with minors in women’s studies and religious studies.

Alyx Koehler ’02 is a business management major who accepted a position as claimant case manager at Liberty Mutual. She manages workers’ compensation claims.

Some students are choosing to continue the Augustinian spirit of volunteerism that they experienced on campus during their four years. Four recent graduates will spend 10 months volunteering their time as Augustinian volunteers assigned across the country. They are Sean Chine, Jessi Caccavaro, Kevin Martin, and Frank Penny. Caccavaro, the president of student government in 2001-2002, will teach English to and mentor immigrants and children in the Bronx, New York. She has plans to attend graduate school after this assignment. Martin, who worked in Campus Ministry during his four years at Merrimack, hopes to go to an international site, such as Peru or Italy.

YAS AWARDS RECOGNIZE SENIOR RESEARCH, YASSINI ANNOUNCES NEW FACULTY GRANT

Entrepreneur Rouzbeh Yassini, founder and chief executive officer of YAS Broadband Ventures, LLC, of Andover, Mass., visited Merrimack recently to promote and reward excellence on the part of graduating seniors. He also announced a $25,000 annual grant that will extend the program to future years. The YAS Faculty Fellowship will award two grants of $12,500 each to deserving faculty research; details will be announced at a later date. A total of nine winners of the second annual YAS Senior Honors Awards were announced, recognizing academic initiative, originality and achievement above and beyond that required by a student’s major. Nearly 50 students submitted projects for consideration for the cash prizes made possible by Yassini’s commitment.

Yassini viewed student poster presentations, presented the YAS awards and briefly spoke about his motivation in partnering with Merrimack to encourage and recognize student achievement. Winning projects included such projects as “A Look at Social Inequality in Modern India: A Sociological Perspective,” “A Xenopus Myosin, Xmyr4, is Localized to Developing Brain and Spinal Cord” and “Porsche Customer Service Quality.”

Winning projects included:

- “A Look at Social Inequality in Modern India: A Sociological Perspective”
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- “Porsche Customer Service Quality”
What connection does Merrimack College have to fuels and a lot of the emit a large amount of energy. White's main research of late atoms combine to any star and the sun, allowing a fusion reaction, going on in the world to occur. Fusion reactions, much the same reactor is a machine inside this device, allowing microwaves to pass through the hydrogen atoms to make a helium atom, to occur. Fusion reactions, much the same reaction that occurs in any star and the sun, emit a large amount of energy. White’s main research of late has been to research the material to be used as a port inside this device, allowing microwaves to pass through the object and heat the hydrogen atoms to a high enough temperature for fusion to occur.

The goal of this work, explains White, “is to one day build a commercial plant that will use a fusion reactor as a source of heat and energy to create electrical power. Particularly relevant in this age of diminishing fossil fuels, it is potentially a source of energy for our country and for the world.” Although he admits this still could be 20 to 25 years away, White and the Department of Energy agree that it remains worthwhile.

This type of energy is particularly attractive because of the plentiful nature of hydrogen, the absence of radioactive by-products of the reaction, and because the radioactive hydrogen used, tritium, is relatively benign with a half-life of 12 years, minimizing handling problems.

The DOE web site that lists Merrimack College as a virtual lab is mainly for users of the fusion materials community who want a connection to other research materials having to do with fusion and fusion reactors. White continues to be involved in the crucial development of these new machines and has designed some of the experiments that have been done in Japan and the United States. He has a three-year grant from the Department of Energy to continue this work.

“This has the potential to be a major power source that gets us away from fossil fuels and a lot of the problems that are going on in the world today,” says White. As he explains, a fusion reactor is a machine that is designed to allow a fusion reaction, when two hydrogen atoms combine to make a helium atom, to occur. Fusion reactions, much the same reaction that occurs in any star and the sun, emit a large amount of energy. White’s main research of late has been to research the best material to be used as a port inside this device, allowing microwaves to pass through the object and heat the hydrogen atoms to a high enough temperature for fusion to occur.

The American Academy of Religion’s (AARR) Pacific Northwest Regional meeting in Eugene, Oregon in early May. Last spring he also presented the paper to the AARR’s New England and Maritime’s Newton held at Brandeis University.

Dr. Mark Birnbaum is a very active researcher and has participated in Merrimack’s Summer Student Research program since its inception.

Dr. Birnbaum, assistant professor of biology at Merrimack, has been named the recipient of the Paul E. Murray Fellowship for 2002-2003. The $10,000 fellowship was established in 2000 at Merrimack to promote science and engineering research that will lead to enhanced effectiveness in classroom teaching.

As the award recipient lists Merrimack College as a virtual lab to share information with other researchers around the world. White, who has been at Merrimack for seven years, has been conducting research on the thermal conductivity of materials since graduate school at the University of Connecticut. Specifically, White has been researching and contributing to an international project to create a fusion reactor that will harness energy in the form of hydrogen.

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“I enjoy sharing my work and research with my students. It gets the students excited about science and their everyday world and how it might impact them in the future,” says White.

To check out the virtual lab Web site, visit www.fusionmaterials.pnl.gov.

Merrimack College listed on a DOE Web site as a Virtual Lab that shares information with other researchers around the world.

Professor’s Research Has Merrimack Named as a National Virtual Lab

What connection does Merrimack College have to the Department of Energy (DOE) and scientists from Japan, Europe, Russia and America? The answer is Physics Professor Doug White. His work has been recognized on the thermal conductivity of materials since graduate school at the University of Connecticut. Specifically, White has been researching and contributing to an international project to create a fusion reactor that will harness energy in the form of hydrogen.

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Merrimack Professors Present Internationally

At Ledoux, professor of philosophy, has been invited to present his paper on Augustine and Buddha at a number of conferences this spring and summer, including one in India. Depending on the tense political situation, Ledoux will present the paper, which explores St. Augustine as a possible bridge between Buddhists and Christians, in early August at the Society of Indian Philosophy and Religion in Calcutta, India. He presented at the American Academy of Religion’s (AARR) Pacific Northwest Regional meeting in Eugene, Oregon in early May. Last spring he also presented the paper to the AARR’s New England and Maritime’s Newton held at Brandeis University.

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A superficial response to this question might be: "That's an easy question. Merrimack is an Augustinian institution because it was founded by the Augustinian Order in 1947."

Such a simplistic answer may have been accurate 55 years ago; it is far from sufficient now that the college has matured with a renewed sense of its identity. It is imperative that all members of the Merrimack family be both familiar with and able to name and articulate the Augustinian values which are embodied in both the foundation and continuing growth of a school that has come of age. The next several issues of Merrimack will address this question through a series of articles sponsored by the Center for Augustinian Study and Legacy at the college and titled "Our Augustinian Heritage at Merrimack College."

This article was written the day after Reunion Weekend 2002. Most of the participants represented members of the classes of 1952, 57, 62, 67, 72, 77, 82, 87, 92, and 97. Several of them were asked to respond to a few questions about the meaning of the word "Augustinian" and about identifying "Augustinian values" which they may or may not have experienced during their student days. It was fascinating to hear responses from individuals from classes spanning more than 50 years.

While most people who responded indicated that they knew the college was an Augustinian institution, many had only a superficial understanding of what that means. Some respondents named values such as community, support or caring for others, collegiality, dedication to higher learning, friendship and service. Few, however, were able to explain the meaning of such generic Christian values in an Augustinian sense.

For the past two years, our Provost, Father Gary McConkey, O.S.A., has held a two-day workshop for faculty members concerned with pedagogy. At the recent gathering in May, several faculty members voiced a desire to have our college's understanding of Augustinian values articulated and explained together with suggested strategies for a realistic implementation of those values in all aspects of life at Merrimack.

The Center for Augustinian Study and Legacy has committed itself to facilitate the process to respond to this request. To this end, the center has formed a broad-based committee of faculty and administrators to address this question. During this summer, those who have been invited to serve on the committee will do some Augustinian reading in preparation for meetings once the next academic year begins in the fall.

This regular column will keep readers updated on this important question and the progress of the committee. Hopefully, it will serve to enlighten our alumni members and friends to help Merrimack College to remain faithful to its Augustinian identity.

It is imperative that all members of the Merrimack family be both familiar with and able to name and articulate the Augustinian values which are embodied in both the foundation and continuing growth of a school that has come of age.

Learn more about the Center for Augustinian Study and Legacy at www.merrimack.edu under Spiritual Life.
The 21st annual President's Cup Golf Tournament held in June raised more than $54,000 to support the scholarship fund. Two hundred thirty players enjoyed the sunny day of support, both personally and financially. This initiative is led of the St. Augustine Society, a new giving opportunity and friends contributing $5,000 or more each year. It will of St. Augustine. Benefactors will help to sustain and in June raised more than $54,000 to support the scholarship in the hearts and minds of a new generation - is at the center of the mission to incorporate Augustinian ideals into the college's mission. To find out how you can become a benefactor, please call Joseph Carder, vice president for institutional advancement, at 978-837-5126.

**Benefactors of the St. Augustine Society will be a vital part of the mission to incorporate Augustinian ideals into the intellectual and spiritual identity of each member of the Merrimack family and the wider community. They will receive special invitations to annual events, opportunities to interact with faculty and to play an integral part in the college’s mission.**

For more information on the St. Augustine Society, and how you can become a benefactor, please call Joseph Cartier, vice president for institutional advancement, at 978-837-5126.

**Benefactors of the St. Augustine Society**

**ST. AUGUSTINE SOCIETY**

**STRENGTHENS COLLEGE MISSION**

The Augustinian mission of Merrimack College - to awaken the hearts and minds of a new generation - is at the center of the St. Augustine Society, a new giving opportunity designed to recognize and engage those alumni, parents, and friends contributing $5,000 or more each year. It will support the intellectual and pastoral legacy of the Order of St. Augustine. Benefactors will help to sustain and advance the work of the college and the intellectual and pastoral legacy of St. Augustine through general or specific support, both personally and financially. This initiative is led by Co-Chairpersons Francis Girard '62, Susan (Bernard) Demers '60, and Dr. Laurence Demers '60. Girard and Laurence Demers are also members of the college’s Board of Trustees.

Today, the relevance of Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, lies not just in his intellectual accomplishments and theological legacy, but also in the very human way he sincerely strove, as documented in his writings, to determine what his responsi-

Buchwald will be the featured speaker for the 2002 Speaker Series offered at Merrimack College by the Friends of Merrimack and The Eagle-Tribune newspaper. Buchwald will speak on Monday, October 28 at 7 p.m. at the Rogers Center for the Arts on Merrimack’s campus. The lecture series benefits the scholarship program at Merrimack.

A syndicated writer since 1952, Buchwald’s popular column of political satire appears in more than 500 newspapers. In his legendary career, he has written 30 books and has delighted readers with his unique interpretations of current events. He won a Pulitzer Prize for feature writing in 1982, and, in 1987, was inducted into the Academy of Arts and Letters.

Born in Queens, New York, he was raised in a series of foster homes before running away at age 16 to serve in the Paris Herald Tribune. In 1962, Buchwald returned to the United States and settled in Washington. The Friends of Merrimack is selling reserved seating that entitles the purchaser to attend a reception with Mr. Buchwald prior to his speech. Information on the tickets can be obtained by calling The Friends of Merrimack office at 978-857-5121. All other tickets may be purchased at the Rogers Center box office beginning in September by calling 978-857-5125.

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Panel Calls for Hope, Not Despair, in Middle East Conflict

Merrimack hosts forum

More than 200 people gathered at an educational forum on the Middle East conflict hosted this spring by Merrimack College. Members of a panel who have grown up living this conflict related their experiences and insights in an effort to foster better understanding of both sides of the issue. The overriding feeling of the four panelists was one of hope rather than despair.

“We are seeing the worst wave of violence, at least in my lifetime,” said Gidi Grinstein, 31, a member of the Israeli peace negotiating team at Camp David in 2000 and a captain in the Israeli Navy who has participated in a number of projects that deal with the long-term future of the State of Israel and who has served in the Office of the Prime Minister of Israel. “That wave of violence represents an ongoing process in the Middle East in which the pendulum swings between moderates and radicals and between peace and war. The violence we see now should not lead us to the conclusion that this is the outcome of politics in the Middle East. The pendulum will swing back and then it will be the challenge of the moderates and the challenge of those who work for peace to seize the moment to consolidate the foundation of the political process,” he said.

Echoing those sentiments, Laila Moussa El-Haddad, a native of the Gaza Strip, said, “There are ebbs and flows in every conflict. This happens to be a low point but we shouldn’t conclude that there is no way out. Just as this has been constructed by humans, it can be undone by human beings, so we should not despair.”

Moussa El-Haddad is a Duke University 2000 graduate whose thesis explores the conflict in the Gaza Strip, and whose experience includes working on the West Bank last summer on The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy. Most of her family is from Gaza.

Other panelists included Alon Ben-David, a television journalist who covers defense and military issues in the Middle East and is well-known and respected in Israel among the media, government and military communities; and Dr. Anthony Wani-St. John, who did his doctoral research at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy which focused on the secret negotiations between the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and the Israeli government. The event, “Conflict in the Middle East: Perspectives from a New Generation,” was sponsored by Merrimack and the Merrimack Valley Jewish Federation. It was moderated by Rep. Barry Finegold, a third-term Massachusetts state representative who is active in American-Jewish Affairs and traveled to Israel as part of the Combined Jewish Philanthropy delegation from Boston at the beginning of the intifadah.

President Santagati welcomed those in attendance and thanked the panelists. “This discussion is needed now more than ever as we struggle to understand what we are hearing and seeing daily in our newspapers and on television. Today we might see a far way from peace in that region, but it is discussions such as this that will foster understanding of both sides of the issue. We pray that many more in the world will seek understanding as well as peace can be attained,” he said. He then introduced Rabbi Robert Goldstein of Andover’s Temple Emanuel and director of Merrimack’s Center for Study of Jewish-Christian Relations, who had recently returned from a trip to Israel.

“We must find a way for the children in the school yards of Ramallah and in Jerusalem to be safe and to be free,” said Rabbi Goldstein. “As dark and as hopeless as these last days have been, maybe we can find peace.”

New Administrative Roles Announced

President Richard J. Sansagorta has announced several administrative changes at the college.

Rev. Gary N. McCloskey, O.S.A. has been named the Provost and Dean of the college, having served two years as vice president for academic affairs. Prior to that appointment, Father McCloskey was vice president for academic affairs at St. Thomas University in Florida. He previously served as assistant to the president for urban affairs at Merrimack and has held a number of positions at the State of St. Thomas of Villanova. He earned a doctorate in instructional leadership at the University of Miami, a master’s degree in theology at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., a master’s degree in computing education at Teachers College at Columbia University in New York, and a bachelor’s degree in the honors program at Villanova University.

Mary Lou Retelle ’76 has been named Vice President of Enrollment Management. She has served as the college’s Dean of Admission and Financial Aid since 1994. In her new role, Retelle has responsibility for all functions of the institution that affect student enrollment, from recruitment to graduation. She will oversee Admissions, Financial Aid, Office of the Registrar, and Career Services and Co-operative Education. Enrollment management helps to enhance services that students interface with outside of academics or student life, such as financial aid, billing and registration. Retelle holds a master of education degree in student personnel services from Northeastern University and a bachelor’s degree from Merrimack College. She served as Associate/Assistant Dean of Admission and Financial Aid at Merrimack for seven years before becoming Director of Enrollment Management at the State University of New York-Pondum from 1991 to 1994.

Maryellen CoUiton has been named interim Vice President of Student Life, having served as dean of student development since June 2000. The departments of Counseling and Health, Student Activities/Campus Center, Residence Life and Athletics will report to Colliton. She has led numerous programs and committees, including the Orientation program, the First Year Experience Committee, and the Leadership, Education and Development Committee. Colliton came to Merrimack in 1994 as Director of Student Activities, a position she held until 1999. She holds a master’s degree in education degree in Student Personnel and Counseling from Northeastern University, and a bachelor’s degree in sociology from the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth.

Dr. Bruce Baker was recently appointed Executive Director of Outcomes Assessment and Institutional Research. In this new, Cabinet-level position, Baker is responsible for developing a campaing wide assessment program. Assessment results will demonstrate the degree to which the college is achieving its educational and administrative objectives, and will guide strategic planning and budgeting. Prior to accepting this appointment, Baker served for four years as the vice president for student life following 15 years in a variety of other student life positions at the college. Baker holds a B.S. from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, an M.S. from Northeastern University, and a Ph.D. from Boston College. He resides in North Andover with his wife and two children, and was recently elected to his second term on the North Andover School Committee.

Christine Burke has been named acting Director of Resident Life. She joined the college in 1991 as drug prevention specialist, and project coordinator for the Department of Education-Drug Prevention Program. In September 1995 she became coordinator of health education in Counseling and Health. Burke is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. She has a M.Ed. from Lesley College.
NEW TRUSTEES WELCOMED

The Merrimack College Board of Trustees welcomes three new trustees: Rev. Donald Francis Reilly, O.S.A.; Rev. Augustine M. Esposito, O.S.A.; and Robert Thornton, O.S.A.

REVEREND AUGUSTINE M. ESPOSITO, O.S.A. is the president of Montignor Bonner High School in Drexel Hill, Penn., and has taught at the St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Villanova University, and Temple University. Ordained in 1979, he holds a Ph.D. from Temple University and a master's degree in Spanish from Middlebury College. Father Esposito also holds a M. Div. from the Washington Theological Union and a bachelor's degree from Villanova University. He has presented a number of papers in English and Spanish and served as a translator for the Augustinian General Chapter in Rome, as well as at various conferences nationally and internationally. Father Esposito has given many retreats to priests and laity in the U.S., Canada, Peru and South Africa.

REVEREND DONALD FRANCIS REILLY, O.S.A. was recently elected as prior provincial of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova and was installed in June. Ordained in 1974, Father Reilly holds a doctorate of ministry in counseling degree from New York Theological and a master's in theology from Washington Theological Union. He earned his bachelor's degree at Villanova University. He received for second best since the inception of the honor in 1989. Hockey East officials instituted the academic honor roll in 1989 to recognize athletes who excel in the classroom as well as on the ice. To qualify for the team, an individual must post a 3.0 GPA or higher in each of the two academic periods during which his team was actively competing. A total of five Merrimack players were named to the Hockey East All-Academic Team. In addition to Smith, Joe Exter, a junior from Cranston, R.I.; Lou Eyster, a sophomore from Norwell, Mass.; Brad Mills, a senior from Hingham, Mass.; and Jason Wolfe, a senior from College Park, Maryland, also earned the honor. Merrimack has had a total of 91 student athletes named to the honor roll since 1989, including a record 13 in 1996.

CYNTHIA P. DANAHER, a member of the college’s Board of Trustees since 1997, has been elected its Vice Chairman. She served as the Group General Manager for the Medical Products Group of Hewlett-Packard Company in Andover, Mass., from 1995 to 1999, having joined the company in 1977. Miss Danaher was a member of the Raytheon Electronics Systems Laboratories (RESL), directing the merger of Raytheon Research Division, Raytheon Missile Systems Division Laboratories and Raytheon Equipment Division Laboratories to form RESL. In June of 1992 she was appointed Program Manager of the Navy’s Aegis Extended Range Missile Engineering Development Program. Danaher also serves as Market Manager of Systems Software Laboratory from 1987 to 1992 and held several engineering and program management positions in Raytheon’s Equipment and Missile Systems divisions. He holds a bachelor of science in mathematics from Duquesne University and a master’s degree in mathematics from Northeastern University. A Westford, Mass, resident, she served as the Group General Manager for the Imaging Systems Division, Health and Safety Trusteess since 1997, has been elected its Vice Chairman.

BROTHE ROBERT THORNTON, O.S.A. is an Augustinian brother and clinical psychologist. For the past eight years, he has served on the Provincial Council of the Augustinian Province of St. Thomas of Villanova, and is in private practice in the Philadelphia area. Br. Bob served as assistant to the president for urban affairs at Merrimack from 1987 to 1990, and at the Merrimack’s Student Counseling Service from 1989 to 1990. He holds a bachelor’s degree in religious studies from Villanova University, a master’s degree in social work from Columbia University, and master’s and doctoral degrees from Widener University.

BASEBALL (12-32)

Home Run Record Set

The baseball team finished strong going 9-4 over its last 15 games of the season.

WOMEN’S LACROSSE (6-10)

Three Make First Team All-Conference

The Warrior women’s lacrosse team advanced to the Northeast-10 playoffs for a second straight season, and finished with a record of 6-10. Three Warriors were named to the Northeast-10 All-Conference First Team.

MEN’S LACROSSE (5-10)

Four Earn NE-10 Honors

Four Merrimack College men’s lacrosse players earned All-Conference honors, while three were named All-New England in 2002 as the Warriors finished with an overall record of 5-10.

SOFTBALL (35-16)

Morgis Two-Time All-America

It was a typically superb season for the Warrior softball coaching program. The squad advanced to NCAA post-season play for the 12th time, won its 11th Northeast-10 regular season title (fifth straight) and captured the Northeast-10 Tournament crown for a second straight year. The Warriors finished with an overall record of 35-16 and a conference mark of 23-5.

Baseball Pearson/Ryan Team All-League

The Merrimack College men’s doubles team of Michael Pearson and Sean Ryan was named to the Northeast-10 All-Conference Third Team. Merrimack finished with a team mark of 5-7.
John Obert, manager of Alumni Relations at Merrimack, received the 2002 "Citizens Who Care" award from the Andover Rotary. The award is presented annually to a champion of Catholic education whose personal and professional life mirrors the mission of St. Mary's school.

Richard Filosa has been elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Actuaries. Filosa is a director and senior vice president of the Prudential Insurance Company of America in Life Assurance Operations. With more than 25 years of experience in insurance and financial services, Filosa directs all aspects of Prudential's life and health insurance operations. He has been a member of the Academy since 2002.

James Guarino, CPA, CFP, has earned his certification in financial planning. He has worked at RSM McGladrey, Inc. in Burlington, Mass. since 1984 where, as a senior tax manager, his responsibilities include tax planning and personal wealth management for business owners of closely-held companies and high-net-worth individuals.

Richard Armstrong, of Milton, Mass., was named CIBC Stockbroker of the Year for 2001. This is a national award that recognizes the top stockbroker for CIBC Oppenheimer.

Robert Luftin has been named general manager of production, sales and inventory for the Motors and Controls Business Sector at General Electric Co., Ft. Wayne, Ind.

David "Army" Armstrong, of Milton, Mass., was named CIBC Stockbroker of the Year for 2001. This is a national award that recognizes the top stockbroker for CIBC Oppenheimer.

Laura Marie Cardinale, Methuen, Mass., was involved in a serious bus accident in February 2002 while traveling on a ski outing. She was hospitalized at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N.H. was promoted to 9th degree black belt in Goju-Ryu Karate. He also earned the Teaching Grade of Hanshi, the highest level of instructor certification attainable in martial arts.

Bill Lyons of Salem, N.H. was awarded the degree of 7th degree black belt in Goju-Ryu Karate. He also earned the Teaching Grade of Hanshi, the highest level of instructor certification attainable in martial arts.

Steve Alexander, president of the Steve Alexander Group in LaJolla, Calif., was appointed by Governor Gray Davis to the California State Medical Board.

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Erica DelSimone has been hired as the new director of the East Boston Chamber of Commerce. She is engaged to be married in Boston on November 3, 2002.

Kristen Picariello of Winchester, Mass., is an institutional sales associate at Columbia Management Group, a subsidiary of Fleet Boston Financial.

But the atmosphere is different these days at Granby. Now, she can be found at the Homelake Garden, Plymouth, Mass., September 8, 2001.

Marriages


ERIN BOUTIN '97 and BRIAN WILSON at St. Patrick's Church, Merrimack, N.H., June 2, 2001.

CHRISTINE NEWTON '97 and JAMES CROCKER at Christ the King Church, Old Lyme, Conn., June 2, 2001.

CHRISTINE KEARNEY '96 and NANCY MAYER at St. Mary of the Nativity Church, Scituate, Mass., November 10, 2001.

ANNA PAULI A DOBROFIRA '95 and CHRISTOPHER BAROUD at Our Lady of Merry Church, Merrimack, N.H., January 26, 2002.

HEATHER LEIBOVITZ '99 and WILLIAM SPOLIDORO at Our Lady of the Snow Church, Blue Point, N.Y., September 15, 2001.

SU.SAN CHUAN-YE MELE '02 and ANDREW GRASS at St. Andrew's Church, Merrimack, N.H., September 20, 2001.


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Eunice MICTION '55, of Haverhill, Mass., died April 15, 2002 at the Oxford Manor. She served in the United States Air Force during World War II. After graduation from Merrimack he earned a master’s degree in education at Salem State College. He served as principal of the Ellis School in Freemont, N.H. and later taught at Whittier Vocational Technical High School until his retirement in 1986.

Laurie Elizabeth CONTI '91, of Raynham, Mass., died February 26, 2002 of cancer. She raised funds for N.E.A.D.S. and C.C.I. service dog organizations and was the spokesperson for Service Dog Awareness. She was president of the Lauretta Conti Foundation for Animals with Cancer and a spokesperson for the National Cancer Support Council for Animals.

Professor Emeritus of English James A. MCCRAVEY passed away on Tuesday, June 18, 2002 following a short illness. After his retirement in 1980, Professor McCravey served Merrimack College from 1948 to 1980, joining as a member of the college’s first faculty and its first director of public relations. He taught English, rhetoric, literature, public speaking and journalism for 34 years. Professor McCravey was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Literature by Merrimack in 1972. He is a native of Lawrence, Mass., and is survived by his wife, Irene. Professor Emeritus of chemistry at Merrimack where she was his academic colleague for more than 30 years. The McCravey’s three children, all alumni of Merrimack College, are James A. McCravey Jr., '76, Vincent J. McCravey, M.D. '74; and Mary McCravey. He also is survived by several grandchildren.


Douglas Finnegan '81 and wife Nancy a daughter, Jolie Tellz, February 22, 2002. She joins brother Tylee.

Laura (Martino) Reynolds '84 and husband David a daughter, Lydia Rose, January 28, 2002. She joins sister Emma Marie.


Suan (Ciovo) Steiner '85 and husband Andrew a daughter, Melissa [sic] Philip, May 7, 2002. He joins sister Isabel Rose.

Carol (Strong) '87 and Gerald Beland '87 twins, Sophia Elizabeth Hordina and Maxwell Esten Wilson, September 30, 2001.

Leila Ann (McGurah) McCravey '85 and husband Bruno a daughter, Sarah Victoria, February 12, 2002. She joins sister Katherine and brother Jack.

Elisabeth Fotheringham '86 and husband Mark a daughter, Justine, January 12, 2002. He joins brothers Sam and Aidan.

Steven Glennon '88 and wife Pamela a son, Casper Thomas, February 11, 2002.

Christine (Carnes) Fordson '89 and husband Mike a daughter, Kaitlyn Ann, January 13, 2002.

Julia (McClure) Doherty '90 and husband Joe a daughter, Sarah Victoria, February 12, 2002. She joins sister Katherine and brother Jack.

Ethan Thomas (Doherty) '95 and Linda Marie a son, Connor Robert, August 28, 2001.

Jennifer (Shaw) Smith '90 and husband Michael a daughter, Kayla Elizabeth, August 2, 2001. She joins sister Olivia.

Jenifer (Shepard) Clarke '96 and husband Robert a son, Gaven Robert, March 18, 2002.

Paul J. LEONARD '92, of Woburn, Mass., died February 26, 2002 suddenly on April 2, 2002 at home. He was a project manager for Jules A. Courdeau, Inc. in Beverly.


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We'd like to hear more about you!!

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...taken an exotic vacation...or have other news to share, write us.

Please complete this form or use the electronic registry AlumniNet, at www.merrimack.edu.

Mail to: Merrimack Magazine, Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike Street, Box A-8, North Andover, MA 01845; FAX 978-837-5225; or Email john.ohert@merrimack.edu.

Due to space limitations, however, we are unable to accept photos.

REV. RILEY HONORED BY MERRIMACK ALUMNI

Alumni from Delaware Valley recently recognized Reverend George F. Riley, O.S.A. '57, special assistant to the president for external relations at Villanova University, for his dedication, loyalty and continuing commitment to our alma mater. A Certificate of Appreciation and gift were presented to Father Riley at a Sunday Brunch held in his honor at the Four Seasons Hotel in Philadelphia. This celebration took on special significance since it coincided with Father Riley's celebration of his 40th anniversary ordination.

A native of Lawrence, Mass., Father Riley attended Merrimack before entering the Order of St. Augustine. He received a bachelor's degree from Villanova University, master's degrees from Villanova University and Augustinian University, and a doctorate in philosophy from the Catholic University of America. Father Riley served as a trustee of Merrimack College from 1972 to 1983 and continues to serve as a member of the Development Committee.

CONTINUING EDUCATION DIVISION ALUMNI UNITED

Kathleen O. Korona ’02 was awarded the Victor J. Mill Award at this year’s Commencement. She graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor of arts degree.

The award is awarded to the first-ranking student in the Division of Continuing Education. A Lawrence businessman since 1946, Victor J. Mill Jr. succeeded his father as president and CEO of Lawrence Pumps, Inc. Mill is also a former trustee of Merrimack College.
Alumni News

Reunion 2002 Honors Ten Classes

The Class of 1952 celebrated its 50th reunion this year and they did so by giving back to their alma mater as well as to future students. Class members raised $105,000 for their class gift, surpassing their $100,000 goal. Led by Class Chair Jim O’Brien who made the lead gift of $20,000, the class had a 75% participation rate. Their gift established the 1952 Scholarship Fund for future students and supported various programs important to the growth of Merrimack and the future of many students. The successful effort was led by class agents Phil Callen, Jim Maloney, John Sangermano and Father Jim Wenzel, O.S.A.

Reunion 2003 will be May 30 and 31 honoring the classes of '53, '58, '63, '68, '73, '78, '83, '88, '93, '98.

Enjoying the festivities of their recent reunion were David '62 and Jane White; Jim '62 and Helen (Birmingham) Sellers '62, '61; and Grace (Pappalardo) Smith '67.

Mike '62 and Eleanor Cronin were among the hundreds who gathered at this year’s reunion to enjoy the clambake and other festivities.

More than 30 members of the Class of 1952 attended this year’s reunion to celebrate their 50th reunion. During the weekend, they attended a Mass in St. Clare Church and dined together in the Sakowich Center.

Alumni Council President’s Letter

Dear Fellow Alumni,

As I write you, plans are in the works for a new year of alumni programs and activities. On behalf of the Alumni Council I welcome your involvement and input regarding these events. One of the goals of the council is to increase participation by all alumni. Through greater participation we can develop programming and activities that serve all. Your thoughts are vital to the creation of a strong alumni program.

There are countless ways to become involved. You can volunteer to assist with a program, attend an event or provide us with your thoughts and ideas. Opportunities abound and are unlimited. Please contact the Alumni Office at 978-837-5107 or email John Obert at john.obert@merrimack.edu to find out how you can make a difference.

I invite you to also participate in two upcoming events. Homecoming is scheduled for October 4-6. View the changing landscape and footprint of our alma mater. Visit with faculty and see the newest technology being used in our classrooms. Enjoy Merrimack football vs. AIC, see classmates and old friends, and plan to meet new friends. Save the date! Details will be forthcoming shortly.


I look forward to seeing you on campus!

Bob Carmichael '78

Prelude Reception Series at Merrimack College

Alumni and Merrimack friends! Please note in our calendar some selected special prelude receptions in the McCoy Art Gallery prior to selected performances in the Rogers Center for the Arts. Enjoy a delicious buffet reception. You will have the chance to meet with the performers and members of the Merrimack College community. Please call early as space is limited. Reservations are required; cost is $20.00 per person.

Tickets for performances are sold separately.

PLAN NOW FOR REUNION 2003!
May 30 and 31
Reunion will honor the classes of '53, '58, '63, '68, '73, '78, '83, '88, '93, and '98.
All alumni invited to participate!
OMING ATTRACTIONS – CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT MERRIMACK COLLEGE

SEPTEMBER
4 – New Student Orientation
11 – Remembrance Memorial honoring anniversary of September 11, 2001. noon, Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher
12 – Hackers’ Golf Tournament, Far Corners Golf Club, Buford, Mass. 7:30 a.m. For information, call 978-837-5107.
17 – Commencement 10 a.m. Speaker: Frans Rouw, author of “Eleven Seconds.” Rogers Center.
18 – A 10-week series on Wednesday afternoons at 3 p.m. will explore selected topics in music, art and history. Series runs through November 20.
4 – Art Bookache presented by Friends of Merrimack, 7 p.m. Rogers Center. For more information, see page 16. For tickets, call 978-837-5555.

OCTOBER
4 – Tambakos Video Competition presents: “Nosferatu” 8 p.m. Rogers Center. Live soundtrack accompaniment provided by Tiger Saw. Free.
5 – “New Wave Vaudeville”, 2 p.m. Rogers Center. Family entertainment. Tickets $10 in advance, $10 seniors and students in advance $15 at the door. Prelude reception in the McKe Art Gallery prior to performance features art exhibit, refreshments. $20 each, reservations required.
17 – Andover Chamber Music Series presents: “Rebel Without a Cause.” 7 p.m. Rogers Center. Free.
18 – “Paddy on the Road, the Times and life of Christy Moore”, presented by the Dubblejoini Theater from Belfast. Ireland. 8 p.m. Rogers Center.
19 – Andover Chamber Music Series presents: THE GYPSY SPIRIT at 4 p.m. For tickets, call 978-674-0222 or visit www.andoverchambermusic.org.
24 – Merrimack College Concert Choir presents a seasonal concert. 4 p.m. Rogers Center. For tickets, call 978-685-3505. Prelude reception in the McCoy Art Gallery prior to performance features art exhibit, refreshments. $20 each, reservations required.
25 – “A Celtic Christmas,” a traditional Irish program of music, song and dance featuring Irish Stoemaker Tomasene Foley. 7 p.m. Rogers Center. Tickets in advance $20/$18 seniors and students. All tickets at door $22. Prelude reception in the McKe Art Gallery prior to performance features art exhibit, refreshments. $20 each, reservations required.
31 – New England Civic Ballet presents; “Nutcracker.” Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 7 at 2 p.m and 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 8 at 11:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. For tickets, call 978-674-0222 or visit www.nevenglandclassical.org.

NOVEMBER
1 – Tiger’s Baku featuring Tiger Okoshi” and Bobby Keys & Lucy Stevens – Jazz Concert. 8 p.m. Rogers Center. Tickets $12 in advance/$10 seniors and students in advance. All tickets at door: $15.
2 – “Tout Fishing in America.” Family entertainment-Originl brand of folk-pop and children’s music. 3:30 and 8 p.m. Rogers Center. Tickets $10 each or family four pack for $30.
3 – Merrimack Valley Philharmonic Orchestra. 7:30 p.m. Rogers Center. Family concert –Tickets $12 in advance, $10 seniors and students in advance $15 at the door. Prelude reception in the McKe Art Gallery prior to performance features art exhibit, refreshments. $20 each, reservations required.
8 – Merrimack College Orr-Stoges Dramatic Society presents “Rehearsed for Murder.” December 8 at 8 p.m., December 9 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tickets: $10 general admission. $5 students and employees. All tickets at door $10.
10 – “Hoch, piano recital. 3 p.m. Rogers Center. Tickets: $12 in advance/$10 in advance for seniors and students; All tickets at door $15.
15 – A Cappella Night, a variety of a cappella entertainment, including Merrimack College faculty member Anna Choi, 7 p.m. Rogers Center. All tickets $35.
17 – Andover Chamber Music Series presents: THE GYPSY SPIRIT at 4 p.m. For tickets, call 978-674-0222 or visit www.andoverchambermusic.org.
21, 22, 23 – Prancher Player presents: “Funny Girl,” Nov. 21 at 8 p.m.; Nov. 22 at 8 p.m., and Nov. 23 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Rogers Center. For tickets, call 978-521-0359.
24 – Merrimack College College Choir presents a seasonal concert. 4 p.m. Rogers Center.
27-Dec. 1 – Thanksgiving recess.

DECEMBER
6, 7, 8 – New England Civic Ballet presents; “Nutcracker.” Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 7 at 2 p.m and 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 8 at 11:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. For tickets, call 978-674-0222 or visit www.nevenglandclassical.org.
13 – Treble Chorus of New England concert featuring Sir David Wilcox, folk-pop and children’s music. 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Rogers Center. Tickets $10 each or family four pack for $35.
17 – Alumni Christmas Party, Bay Tower Room, Boston.
20, 21, 22 – Merrimack Valley Philharmonic Orchestra. 2:30 p.m. Rogers Center. For tickets, call 978-545-8555. Prelude reception in the McKe Art Gallery prior to performance features art exhibit, refreshments. $20 each, reservations required.
24 – Merrimack College Concert Choir presents a seasonal concert. 4 p.m. Rogers Center.
27-Dec. 1 – Thanksgiving recess.

WAYS OF GIVING
Bequests can accomplish your philanthropic goals.

Throughout the 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. Why? Because these people wanted to help create opportunities for future generations and preserve their most closely held personal values.

Merrimack College is no exception. We have received bequests that have become a permanent part of our endowment, have expressed personal values and honored loved ones. The following sample bequest language can give you an idea of what you can accomplish:

“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 there from to 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 our Tagastan Society. Otherwise, if you would like language on how to memorialize a family member, or support a cause that has special meaning to you, please contact Elizabeth Magliozzi, director of gift & estate planning, at 1-800-210-8665 or 1-978-837-5136. Or, you may complete and send in the form below.

This information is strictly confidential.

Merrimack College Office of Institutional Advancement
C/o Elizabeth Magliozzi, 315 Turnpike Street, N. Andover, MA 01845

Yes! Please send me information on how to remember Merrimack in my/our will.

[ ] I have already included Merrimack College in my estate plans through
[ ] My will
[ ] a trust arrangement
[ ] another

Name – please print
Class Year
Telephone
Address
E-Mail Address
City, State, and Zip

This information is strictly confidential.

Always check with your attorney when updating your will.

* This is not legal advice.