

74TH COMMENCEMENT

Class of 2024

THE WINSTON SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL POLICY

Friday, May 17, 2024

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

MACE BEARER

James Howland, Ed.D.

Program Director and Associate Professor of Practice, Master of Social Work

CROSS BEARER

Rebecca Jimenez

Associate Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students

THE GRADUATES

Led by Father Raymond Dlugos, O.S.A., Ph.D. Vice President for Mission and Ministry

GRADUATE STUDENTS

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

THE FACULTY

THE DISTINGUISHED ASSEMBLY

Academic Deans
Distinguished Speaker
Honorary Degree Recipient
Board of Trustees
Executive Vice President
Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost
President

The audience is requested to stand if they are able during the Academic Procession, Invocation and National Anthem, and to remain in place until the Academic Procession leaves at the end of the exercises.

PROGRAM

PRESIDING

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D. *President*

PROCESSIONAL

The Portsmouth Brass Quintet

INVOCATION

Kevin J. Lucey '89 Chair, Merrimack College Board of Trustees

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Audrey McGill '25 Accompanied by The Portsmouth Brass Quintet

WELCOME

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D. *President*

A MESSAGE FROM MERRIMACK STUDENT LEADERS

Maxwell Beland '24 Lara Guvelioglu MA '22, MPA '24

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER

Erika Giampietro
Founding Executive Director
Massachusetts Alliance for Early College

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

Erika Giampietro Founding Executive Director Massachusetts Alliance for Early College

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES AND PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D. *President*

AWARDS

Edward G. Roddy, Jr. Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award

Presented by John "Sean" Condon, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost

2024 Merrimack Medal

Presented by Rebecca Jimenez Associate Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students

CLOSING REMARKS

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D. *President*

MERRIMACK ANTHEM

Audrey McGill '25 Accompanied by The Portsmouth Brass Quintet

BENEDICTION

Father Raymond Dlugos, O.S.A., Ph.D. *Vice President for Mission and Ministry*

CLOSING OF THE EXERCISES

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D. *President*

RECESSIONAL

The Portsmouth Brass Quintet

WINSTON SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL POLICY

MASTER'S DEGREE IN COURSE

Jessie Berry Rilev Carrier Jacqueline Abdallah Stephen Adagwuni Shai Bigelow Katelyn Carroll Rachel Adam Laura Bigwood Suzanne Carroll Jillian Adamson A'mari Bing-Way Reid Carter Dinebari Adumene Leah Block Jordan Caruso Julia Afflitto Abigail Carven Jamie Boghosian Claire Aki-Cobham Laura Boguslavskiy Cameron Casella Halev Alcott Vanessa Bonanno Louvin Casimir Jacob Alcott Julia Borriello Vanessa Chambers Samantha Boucher Tatyana Aleinikau Morgan Chase Mark Almy **Brooke Boulds** Shawn Chase Michael Aloisi Venessa Bourgeois Carlie Cherry Kayla Anderson Shea-lynn Bowen Sydney Chillo Matthew Breen Haley Andersson Brianne Christopher Tyler Angers Amber Brewster Alyson Cipro Emily Anyon Jessica Brewster Melanie Clinton Callie Coady Bridget Austin Stephanie Brincklow Erin Avila Ryan Brooks Ashley Cocchiaro Bailey Avisata-Taylor Rochelle Brothers Melissa Cochrane Alyssa Brown Alexandra Colella Nicole Baddour Kerrie Bagni Andrew Brown Mackenzie Collins Allison Bakanowsky Christopher Brown David Comalli Sarah Balestro Lauren Brown Sarah Conlev Lindsav Barbash Takivah Brown Kevin Conlon Gabriella Barbuto Lauren Buckminster Sara Connolly Erika Barresi Lindsav Bukowinski Deanna Conte Gina Burke Nicholas Conti Kerry Barrett Zachary Barry Jennifer Burke Tiffany Coogan Benjamin Batchelder Cara Burns Justin Cook Darnnellyz Batista Samantha Cabral Serena Cook Losangela Batista Abigail Cain Justin Cordeiro Madison Baumann Kelsey Callahan Kelly Corrigan Katherine Callery Susan Bayer-Larson Kelly Costa Thomas Beasley Catherine Camara Danielle Cotton Mariel Beaumier Hugh Cameron Kate Crane Adam Belanger Jaclyn Campano Kayleigh Crocker Michael Belanger Samantha Campbell Courtney Cronin Elizabeth Belbin Emma Campion **Christine Crowe** Katlvnn Bell Jillian Carbone Olivia Crowlev Rachele Carbutt Patricia Curbelo Spencer Benoit Emily Caren Kavla Berardi Jeremy Curley Kerry-Ann Bernard Johanna Carr Keaghan Curley

MASTER'S DEGREE IN COURSE WINSTON SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL POLICY

Ashley Cutter Daisha Dukes Giulia Fiorentino Demimarie Dabilis Bianca Dulkis Alison Fisher Kiley Dallas Heather Durbrow Haley Fitzgerald Liliana Dalmer **Emily Durkin** Lia Fitzgerald Elizabeth Daly Hannah Dziadyk Noelle Fitzpatrick Olivia Dziadvk Lindsav Flahertv Kelsev Dal William Damaskos Mikala Eacrett Delaney Fliegel Mia Dambra Amy Eason-LeFort Jessica Flynn Cristina Daniels Maria Eaton Erin Foley Chanell DaSilva Matthew Eaton John Foley Ashley Davies Mary Edmonds William Foley Shaina Dawes Johanna Ford-Hunt Abigail Egan Kenisha De La Rosa Shawna Fox Jeffrey Ehalt Gianpiero de Mari Kimberly Eldredge Tanya Franklin Olivia DeCecca Emily Emery Nicole Freeman Gabriella DeGrazia Alexandra Emrick Sabrina Fullam Olivia Encarnacao Victoria Delannoy Tyler Furnari Olivia DellIsola Will English Maeve Gaffney Marissa Delucia Michelle Ernst Modera Amy Gagliardi Christina Delyani Jacqueline Errera Keri Gagnon Jacob DeMasi-Capua Ana Espinal Diona Gambini David Gardner Christopher Estevez Brittany Dempsey Anna Dennis Thalia Estevez Thomas Garland Ashlev DiBella Mackenzie Evans Kadvn Germain Emily DiBella Stephen Evans Brianna Germano Julia Fader-Laskin Vanessa Gerring Alaina DiBlasi Alyssa DiBlasi Jenna Faichney Ann Gerry Molly Dickerson Kristen Falso Alison Giglio Mark Dilegge Ivette Fantauzzi Picart Sarah Gilbert Meghan Doane Julienne Fares Alyssa Giordano Patric Docmanov Ashlev Farfaras Alexander Gohl Kelli Dohertv Laurine Faro Dimitry Goin Kerry Farrell Danielle Gomes Ryan Donahue Megan Fedele Shaez Gomes Laura Doolev Joseph Feeney Nieves Gomez Jamie Dostoomian Isabel Fernandes Gloribel Gonzalez Benjamin Doucette Shanelle Fernandez Cameron Goodman Sarah Douglas Caitlin Doyle Antonio Ferreira Kendra Gordon Danielle Driscoll Lauryn Field Alvssa Gorman Melissa Driver Amanda Goscinski Rachel Figucia Sarah Finamore Heidi Gould Taylor Dudek

Spencer Graboski

Sierra Fiore

Abigail Duggan

MASTER'S DEGREE IN COURSE WINSTON SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL POLICY

Nicole Grainger Eddivette Jimenez Correa Renee Lamv Jennifer Rose Johnson Rosa Granadeno Aquilar Meredith Lane Jennifer Grant Phoebe Johnson Timothy Lang Lyndsey Grava Ashley Jones Derryn Langlois Emily Greenberg Tayla Jones Cameron Lankenau Jennifer Greene Alli Joubert Madelyn Lapierre Micaela Griffin Jill Joyce Jordan Laplume Caroline Gulla Josephine Jozokos **Emily Larkin** Vanessa Kaddaras Alexandra Haiiar Hanna Lawler Victoria Kako Matthew Halev Brandi LeBlanc Elizabeth Hall Aubine Kalisa Kaitlin LeBlanc Michael Karon **Emily Hammond** Lisa Leedy Danielle Hart Diana Katsikaris Sean Leehan Jennifer Hart Kasey Kavanaugh Megan Leger Taylor Hart Maeve Keane Presley Leighton Kathleen Hartnett Mackenzie LeLievre Catharine Keeffe Katlyn Hathaway Christina Keith Haroldo Leme Shannon Haverty-LaPointe Benjamin Kelleher Johanna Lesch Victoria Kelliher Alysha Letendre Abigail Hawes Jenna Kelly Sheila Lethin Julia Healev Rachel Hearn Meghan Kelly Caitlin Letourneau Zoe Henderson Lyndsay Kennedy Patricia Levitre Abigail Henkel Shannan Kennedy Helena Liedtke Annileidy Paula Hernandez Jennifer Kenney Sarah Liekweg Breanne Hickey Ashlev Kesack Marlaina Linnane Aleigha Hilberg Sydney Keyes Madeleine Linschoten VanTung Ho Cintia Khouzami Kaleigh Litchfield Jessie Hodges Joseph Kielinen Ryan Loftus Kerry Kilduff Daniella Lombardo Alexandria Hogan Emily Hogan Catherine Kimani Gabriella Lombardo Brooke Lonergan Heather Hogan Meagan King Catherine Holland Shelby Kirejczyk Kristina Long Jessica Hood Kavlee Knox Amanda Lougee Maureen Huberman Adam Kohnle Abbey Loughlin Domenica Hudy Stephen Kohnle Kara Lowkes Ashleigh Huhn Ziba Kolahy-Shams Haley Lowney Allison Hunt Rachel Kornreich Haleigh Lucas **Taylor Hutchings** Matthew Korzec Cecelia Lunde Sebastien Labissiere Katie Ilkovich Patricia Lyna Liubomir Iordanov Kaleena Laguerre Megan Lyons Colleen Macdonald Alyson Irvin Karima Lahyani Izaak Janock Ciara Lally Erin Mackey Esdras Javier **Emily Lamkin** William MacKinlav

MASTER'S DEGREE IN COURSE WINSTON SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL POLICY

Michelle MacPherson Stephanie Messina Celine ODowd Christine Maggio Benjamin Miele Patricia Oduah Joanna Mills-Reid Jennifer Ogonowski Shannon Maglione Lindsey Minchello Samantha Oliver Brianna Mahoney Nicole Olsen Daniel Mahoney Belinda Miranda Mariely Maldonado Brvce Miranda Sandra Olsen Maria Maldonado Cruz Katherine Mitchell Moreno Christine Ortiz Michelle Manatrey Hannah Mobilia Joshua Page Janet Manning Emma Moffatt Abigail Paine Laura Marino Celeste Molle Katlyn Paiva Giana Marks Tamara Mondesir Kyle Palladino Nathaniel Marotta Meghan Mongeau Jocelyn Palmer Jaminnette Marquez Jake Moniz Kayla Palmer Kiley Martel Jessica Moniz Olivia Pantano Tyler Papciak Kvle Martin Christopher Mooney Sarah Martin Ashlee Morgan Clarice Papp Aiman Masalawala Shaylyn Parkhurst Caroline Morgan Nicole Mastrantonio Katelyn Parziale Isabella Morgan Kaylen Mawdsley Abigail Morin Maya Patel Faith May Kaley Patriquin Joseph Morin Casey McAuliffe Katelyn Morin Michael Patterson Natalie McBeath John Morris Dorothy Paul Patrick McCarter Louisa Morrow Christina Pedersen Brooke McCarthy Marykate Mulcahy **Brittany Peoples** Jaelen McCarthy Amanda Murphy Julia Pepka Keara McCartney Michelle Murphy Elise Persicketti Jonathan Peters Christopher McCov Ryan Murphy Timothy M. McCue Amanda Murray Christine Peterson Andrea McDonald Jordan Muse Lily Peterson Timothy McDonough Corinne Newell Christine Phillips Crissel Pineda Caitlin McElwaney-Rio Jessica Nicholas Shannon McGrath Ashley Nightingale Timothy Pinkham Lori McHenry-Gildae Alison Nina Caitlin Pires Hana McLinden Hannah Nitescu Jason Pollina Shaista Noreen Maggie McManus Nancy Lyn Pompeo Owen McMullen Kaela Noyes Yismark Ponce Serena McNary Starlina Nunez Nicholas Ponte Audrey McQueen Kathryn O'Brien Stephanie Popovichenko

Angela McVey Julie O'Connor Ariana Portalla Rosmery Medrano Sean O'Connor Jessica Porter Natasha Mercuri Charlena O'Keefe Jessica Potito Marie Merlino Matthew O'Neill Alisa Povenmire Morgan Messina Brittany Odenweller Claire Powell

MASTER'S DEGREE IN COURSE WINSTON SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL POLICY

Tiana Powell Amy Roos Kaitlyn Sok
Edward Prajzner Edgar Rosario Marrero Nicole Solimine
Mary Pratt Antonia Rosati Abbi Solomon
Evan Prees Jillian Rowland William Spirdione
Michael Preston Alexander Royer Riley Spring

Michael Price Olivia Russell Christopher Staniul Alexandra Proch Siobhan Salani Tanya Stanley Candace Proulx Sasha Sammis Molly Staunton Marissa Puccio Enrique Sanchez **Emily Stefanich** Miranda Putnam Kara Sands Cameron Steig Stephanie Quezada Nicollette Santiago Michelleann Sterling Franklin Quijada Cassandra Santos Catherine Stewart Rita Saraiva Kyle Quinzani Toni Stewart Sarah Quirbach Abigail Sarraf Jacquelyn Stiles Joseline Ramirez Shelby Sawtelle Patricia Stocker

Beniamin Ramos Evan Scarlett Cathleen Stollenwerk Joshly Ramos Ellery Schiller **Emily Stone** Nicole Schmidt Kara Stone Julia Ray Stephanie Schneider Ava Sullivan Kevin Reddington Joseph Reen William Schoenberger Daniel Sullivan Ariana Reid Amy Schram Kathryn Sullivan Damara Reid Jenna Scott Meghan Sullivan Isabella Scuderi Christian Surette Caitlin Reilly Sheri Reilly Mary Seltzer Alana Sutherland Caroline Ren Samantha Shanahan Kaitlyn Svendsen

Erin Reynolds Aidan Shea Michaela Szymanski Claire Rhatigan Meghan Shea Louis Takesian Julia Ricci Rachel Sheehan Savannah Taylor Bryna Richards Kyle Sherrick Ashley Tejada Spencer Shock Jylian Tereso Jordan Riggs Eliza Shulman Stephanie Thayer Olivia Riley Jessica Tran Matthew Rinaldi Kenneth Shute Alexander Risberg Arielle Silva Samantha Treff Samantha Roberts Tayla Silva Katrina Tuck Conner Robertson Kim Silverman Marissa Tucker Elizabeth Simmons Eileen Rockwell Laura Tweedy

Jessica Shav

Melinda Sweeney

Rachel Resendes

Racheal Rodimak Rose Simplice Miranda Tygert O'Connell

Jessica Rodrigues Clare Simpson Erin Tyrrell

Joshua RodriguezPeter SkazaKatherine UlcickasElizabeth RogersAmy SmithHaley Vailliant

Cheryl Rooney Ei Phyu Smith Maggie-Molloy Van Dyne

MASTER'S DEGREE IN COURSE WINSTON SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL POLICY

Taylor Vanaria	Rylan Wertz	Matthew Willis
Jessica Vangos	Erin Wesley	Ainsley Witherell
Rachel Vigorita	Garrett White	Athlyn Wood
Arianna Vitacca	Sophia White	Madeline Wood
Marissa Votruba	Kimberly Whittaker	Olivia Wood
Carolyn Wallace	Amanda Williams	Julianne Wydola
John Walsh	Lily Williams	Bradley Zadrozny
Heather Walter	Mollie Williams	Elicia Zecchini
Blake Wasserman	Sarah Williams	Danni Zhu
Bryanna Watts	Araiyah Willis	Kimberly Zuber

WINSTON SCHOOL OF EDUCATION **AND SOCIAL POLICY**

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN COURSE

Julie Ackerson	Katelyn Distasio	Matthew Kaplan
Lillian Ahl	Courtney Dolan	Rory Kerr

Griffin Allaire Annalise Kolenda Leah Doucot Bruno Auzec Megan Downing Molly Kueter Renee Babineau Kristina Doyle Michael Lavallie Lauren Baudo Emma Driscoll Erin Leahv Amber Bean Bonnie Durante Tyler Leavy Anthony Bello Tatiana Estrada Leann LeBlanc Elizabeth Belmonte Victoria Fazio Isabella LeBrun Charlotte Bernhardt Abigail Federici Ava Lescinskas Carly Bettano Patrick Feeney Quinn Lewis Mariah Beutel James Ference Kendra Link

Jessica Ferraro Ashley Bill Gwyneth Littlehale Joseph Bisson Zachary Fiore Gabriel Lopez Ava Firicano Andrew Mac Kailyn Bowie Pamela Brady Euler Rebecca Fisher Molly Macdonald Sarah Breen Jenny Fogle Sara MacGaffey

Julia Brennan Jackson Fortune-O'brien Isabella Maffeo Allison Mallett Riley Brunelle Margaret Franz Halle Burgess Jahaida Gabriel Jenna Malone Allison Cabral Melissa Gannon Natalie Mank Rebecca Cantu Abigail Garside Victoria Mantia Joseph Cappadona Emma Gedick Havlee Marchand Toni Caputo Emily Glynn Gabriella Marchese Fabielys Martinez Joe Carreiro Emily Gosselin

Erin Carroll Kylie Greeley Keely Martyn Sarah Carroll Lindsey Griffin Emma Mastovsky Talia Casale Jenna Gross Edward McCarthy Marissa Chaves Meghan Harmon Emily McCormack Nicholas Ciciotte Alexa Harrington Sophia McGonagle Julia Cohen Sydney Haskin Grace McIntyre Katia Coll-Santana Lindsey Hays Mikayla Melahn Matthew Connelly Kaitlyn Healy Rvan Merchant Victoria Conti Brieanna Metcalf Casey Hegan

Charles Helm Christina Milinazzo Corinna Corriveau Thomas Hemmendinger Emily Mullen Madison Coughlin Erin Hill Aries Mustoe Ciara Cox Jakobi Holiday Rebecca Nee

Aidan Cook

Jalie Cuoco Christopher Nguyen-Bishop Aislin Hynes

Jillian Darois Hannah Jeffers Riley Nigohosian Kelsey Davenport Catherine Johnson Caitlin O'Brien Alec Diradourian Sophia Kalaitzidis Stephen O'Brien

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN COURSE WINSTON SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL POLICY

Grace O'Leary
Joshua Oman
Arline Ortiz
Lauren Paradis
Georgia Parker
Bethany Pender
Sam Phelan
Ashley Piazza
Olivia Poillucci
Molly Porter
Alessia Puccio
Ashley Rapoza
Abigail Raymond
Shea Robertson
John Robinson

Kali Rowe

Serena Russo
Emma Ryder
Kelly Sacramone
Paige Salvi
Gabriela Scarpelli
Casey Sheehan
Luke Sheehan
Rachel Sheikh-Abdou
Bridget Slocum

Abigail Sperrazza Nicole Stagg Kailyn Stanio Amaya Staton Caitlin Ann Sullivan Erica Surabian

Sara Elizabeth Swanton

Aislin Terenzio
Allison Tolan
Daniel Tolan
Meghan Tully
Julia Vass
Peter Vasta
Sylvia Vega
Jordyn Vella
Sean Walsh
Molly Whelan
Kylie Willwerth
Hanna Wizboski
Ryan Young

Emma Zimon

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER AND HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

Erika Giampietro

Honorary Doctorate of Education

The Massachusetts Alliance for Early College breaks down barriers to college and career success for all students, particularly for those who have historically been underserved and underrepresented, by supporting the growth of and creating conditions for high-quality, high-impact early college programs across Massachusetts.

Prior to founding the Alliance, Ms. Giampietro served as senior advisor to the chair of the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education. In this capacity, she built expertise in areas critical to the success of early college in Massachusetts.

She facilitated a burgeoning coalition around early college, helped draft and advance legislation and policy related to early college, partnered alongside the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Department of Higher Education in growing the initiative, and provided technical assistance to a group of early college programs.

Prior to that, Ms. Giampietro worked in the Boston Public Schools (BPS) for seven years serving in a variety of roles, including deputy CFO, interim CFO and special assistant to the superintendent. While at BPS, Ms. Giampietro oversaw the district's \$1 billion budget, facilitated strategic planning for the superintendent and co-authored a long-term financial plan for the district.

She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia.

DIPLOMA TRANSLATION

The translation of the Merrimack College diploma from Latin to English is as follows:

Merrimack College

To all reading this document

Greetings in the Lord

The President, Faculty and Trustees of Merrimack College

by virtue of properly completing required studies on the recommendation of the faculty

and by the authority vested in us

by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts confer on

name of student

the degree of

name of degree

and grant freely all rights, privileges and honors pertaining to that degree.

In witness thereof we place the seal of the College.

Given in North Andover in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

date of degree

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Kevin J. Routhier '99

James E. Scammon '83

Patrick J. Sullivan

ABOUT MERRIMACK COLLEGE

One of only two Catholic Augustinian colleges in the United States, Merrimack College is a rising institution with a decade-long trajectory of growth and innovation. Merrimack is a selective, research-oriented, master's comprehensive institution with approximately 5,700 undergraduate and graduate students from 34 states and 36 countries, comprising schools of arts and sciences, engineering and computational sciences, nursing and health sciences, education and social policy, and business. The College's 220-acre campus is just north of Boston in North Andover, Mass.

MISSION AND VISION

OUR MISSION IS TO ENLIGHTEN MINDS, ENGAGE HEARTS AND EMPOWER LIVES.

Inspired by the Catholic faith and the Augustinian tradition of seeking truth through inquiry and dialogue, our vision is to:

- Prepare students to adapt creatively to tomorrow's realities through excellence in the liberal arts, sciences and the professions;
- Build a community of scholars welcoming and respecting a diversity of backgrounds, experiences, beliefs and perspectives;
- Cultivate the intellectual, moral, spiritual, physical and personal awareness needed to make wise choices for life, career and service;
- Encourage and support scholarly work that contributes to the wisdom on which society bases its decisions:
- Engage other educational institutions, industry and agencies of social change in collaborative efforts fostering a just, peaceful and sustainable world.

THE SEAL OF MERRIMACK COLLEGE

Drawing on our rich history, the modern shield of Merrimack College reinterprets elements from the original 1947 College seal.

The shield includes four quadrants:

- The book with the words "Tolle Lege" ("take up and read"), the famous words connected with the conversion of Saint Augustine to Catholicism, proclaiming the College's founding by the Order of Saint Augustine.
- Wavy pallets, to represent the "swift water" of the Merrimack Valley's original Native Americans.
- The cross fleurette, from the coat of arms of the Archdiocese of Boston, in which Merrimack College is located. The cross fleurette refers to the French ancestry of Bishop Cheverus, the first Bishop of Boston (1810–1823).
- The symbolism of our colors: blue for loyalty (and the cold, rippling waters of the Merrimack River) and gold for wisdom (also the color of the papacy).



THE CEREMONIAL MACE

The mace carried in academic processions derives from medieval times in England when an official was taking office. At that time, the mace was a formidable weapon and was held ready by the mace bearer to protect the dignitary. From the sixteenth century in England and since colonial days in the United States, the mace has become a symbol of academic office and is carried by a distinguished member of the faculty.

The Merrimack College mace has a young history. It was fashioned for the 1986 Commencement by Cistercian Monks of the Holy Rood Guild at Saint Joseph's Abbey in Spencer, Massachusetts. The monks are renowned craftsmen and designers of ecclesiastical vesture.

The Merrimack College mace is thirty-six inches long and is made of black walnut. The front of the mace carries the College's hand-painted, gold-leafed seal. From the intricate coat of arms of the Order of Saint Augustine, the back of the mace is hand carved with an open book symbolizing the conversion of Augustine. On the left hand side of the book is a tongue of flame above a heart pierced with "the burning love of God." An elegantly simple cross adorns the top of the mace.

THE CEREMONIAL CROSS

The processional cross is expressive of the Augustinian longing for unity of our minds and hearts in God. It was designed by the Augustinian Contemplative Nuns at the Monastery of Our Holy Savior in Leccetto, Tuscany, Italy. Small replicas of this cross are given to Merrimack students engaged in service to others through Service Learning and the SEND Programs as well as to those who participate in MORE, the Pellegrinaggio en Italia, and other programs that foster self-awareness and spiritual growth.

REGALIA

The origins of academic dress lie in fourteenth century England. The buildings frequented by medieval scholars were often cold and damp; long gowns (particularly with hoods to protect tonsured heads) may have been worn more for warmth than fashion.

The distinctive gown set the student apart from their fellow citizens. As late as the Civil War, students at American universities wore caps and gowns daily while in residence. Whatever the origin, academic regalia grew in diversity and splendor, with scholars displaying distinctive costume for different occasions and achievements. The result was a bewildering variety of designs.

An intercollegiate commission met at Columbia University in 1894 to establish a standard academic costume code, and over the years it has been revised by an official committee of the American Council on Education. The committee's prescriptions, while regulating, still allow for great pageantry at formal academic events

From the cap, gown, and hood, it is possible to distinguish the institution from which the wearer was graduated, the field of learning in which the degree was earned, and the level of the degree—bachelor, master or doctoral.

The distinguishing feature of the black mortarboard cap, standard at most colleges and universities in the United States, is the color of the tassel—black for the holder of a bachelor's or master's degree, gold for a doctor's degree or the governing officers of educational institutions.

The gown is normally black, and the gown's cut and trim indicate the level of the degree held. The bachelor's has long, pointed sleeves, while the master's has oblong sleeves, open at the wrist, with the front part cut in an arc. The doctor's sleeves are bell-shaped, with three bars of velvet, and the gown is trimmed with velvet down the front as well. The hood tells the most about its wearer. The length of the hood and width of the binding vary according to degree. The hood is lined with the official colors of the college. The color of the hood's binding indicates the area of study in which the degree was granted. Students also wear other regalia, including cords signifying academic honors and stoles representing countries they studied in during their academic career.

At formal academic occasions, the President of Merrimack College also wears the Presidential Medal which incorporates the College seal.

COLLEGE ANTHEM

Michael J. Rossi, Ph.D. Rev. Joseph L. Farrell, O.S.A. Rev. Scott C. Ness, O.S.A.



