

# Merrimack College and Experiential Education Opportunities

Allan Weatherwax, Provost



MERRIMACK  
COLLEGE

# Merrimack College

## OVERVIEW

**Merrimack College is a selective, independent college in the Catholic, Augustinian tradition whose mission is to enlighten minds, engage hearts and empower lives.**

The College offers undergraduate degrees in the liberal arts, business, science and engineering, and education; it also offers graduate programs and a range of bachelor's degree completion programs.



- » Over 3,000 full-time undergraduates and 450 graduate students representing 32 states and 31 countries
- » 90+ academic programs
- » 13-to-1 student-teacher ratio
- » Strong cooperative education program for all majors, study abroad, internships and career services programs
- » Just 25 minutes north of Boston
- » 75% of students reside on campus
- » More than 50 student clubs and activities
- » NCAA Division I men's and women's hockey and 20 men's and women's NCAA Division II sports



# Merrimack College

## Science and Engineering



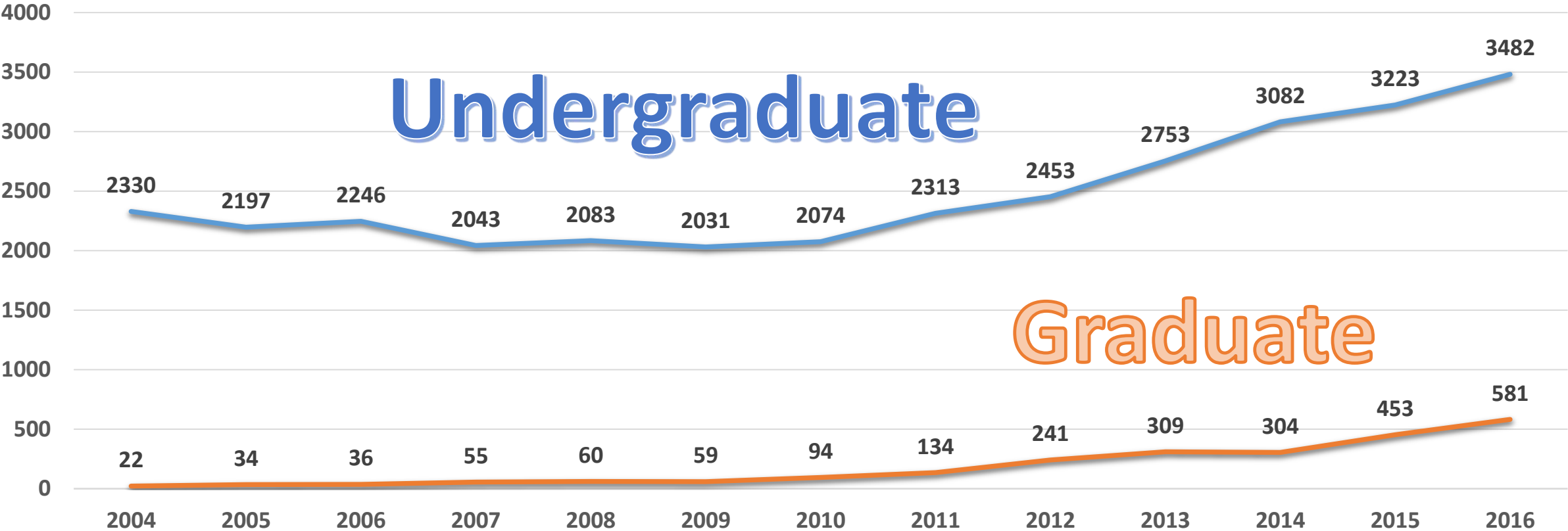
*“Our new engineering suite provides Merrimack students cutting-edge equipment and technology in state-of-the-art classroom environments. Our students are invited to imagine, design, explore, and construct in these spaces. We want them to push beyond traditional education boundaries.”*

Dr. Allan Weatherwax, Dean of the School of Science and Engineering



# Merrimack College

## ENROLLMENT GROWTH



# Merrimack College

## OUR SUCCESS TO DATE

	Academic Year 2010	Academic Year 2017	Change Over Time
Undergraduate Fall Enrollment	1,879	<b>3,416</b>	1,537
Graduate Fall Enrollment	60	<b>581</b>	521
Full-Time Faculty Lines	134	<b>192</b>	65 /126
Total Financial Aid	\$20.8M	<b>\$58.7M</b>	\$37.9M
U.S. News Ranking	178 NLA	<b>Regional Univ. North 57</b>	
Operating Revenue	\$78.2M	<b>\$176.5M</b>	\$98.3M
Fundraising / External Funding	\$2.3M	<b>\$11.4M</b>	\$9.1M
Resident Students	1,397	<b>2,440</b>	1,043
Campus Size (gsf)	1,021,326	<b>1,279,531</b>	269,000



# High Impact Experiential Education Design

## Experience

Has direct Learner Involvement (is hands-on and learner's choice)

Is meaningful & substantial (not just watching, has impact)

Is situated/authentic (ideally in place where learning is to be used)

Embraces disruptive moments and supports personal exploration of one's beliefs and values

## Curriculum Integration

Learning outcomes are articulated and measured

Outcomes and assessment are aligned

Experiential and academic learning are connected for, and by, the learner

## Student Outcomes

Skills, knowledge & understanding are developed

Attitudes, values and beliefs are challenged

The learner contributes to the learning environment and the curriculum

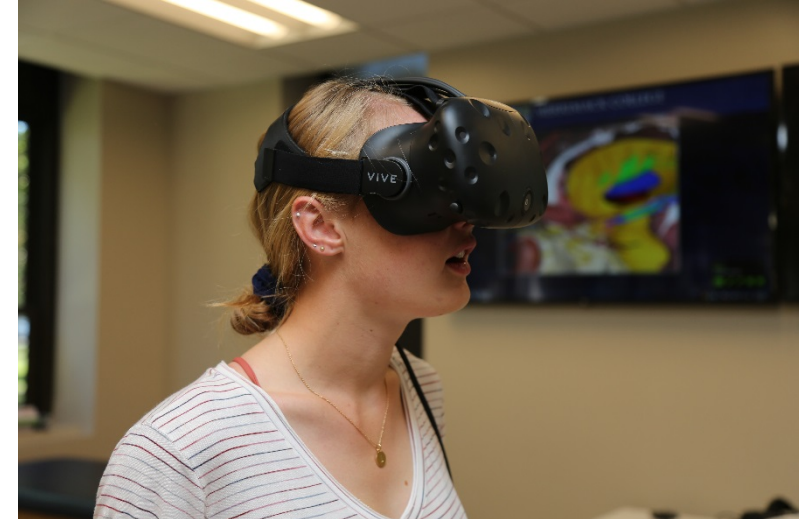
New meaning is constructed by connecting previous and new learning

## Reflection

Is ongoing and meaningful: In and on practice and projected forward to future practice

Is Critical vs Descriptive

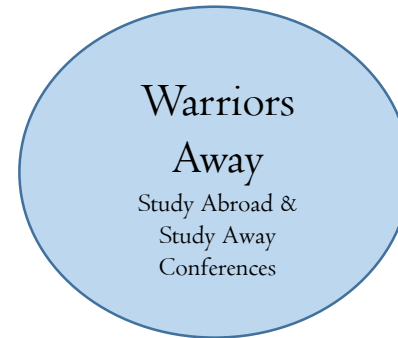
Is socially mediated, supported, and assessed



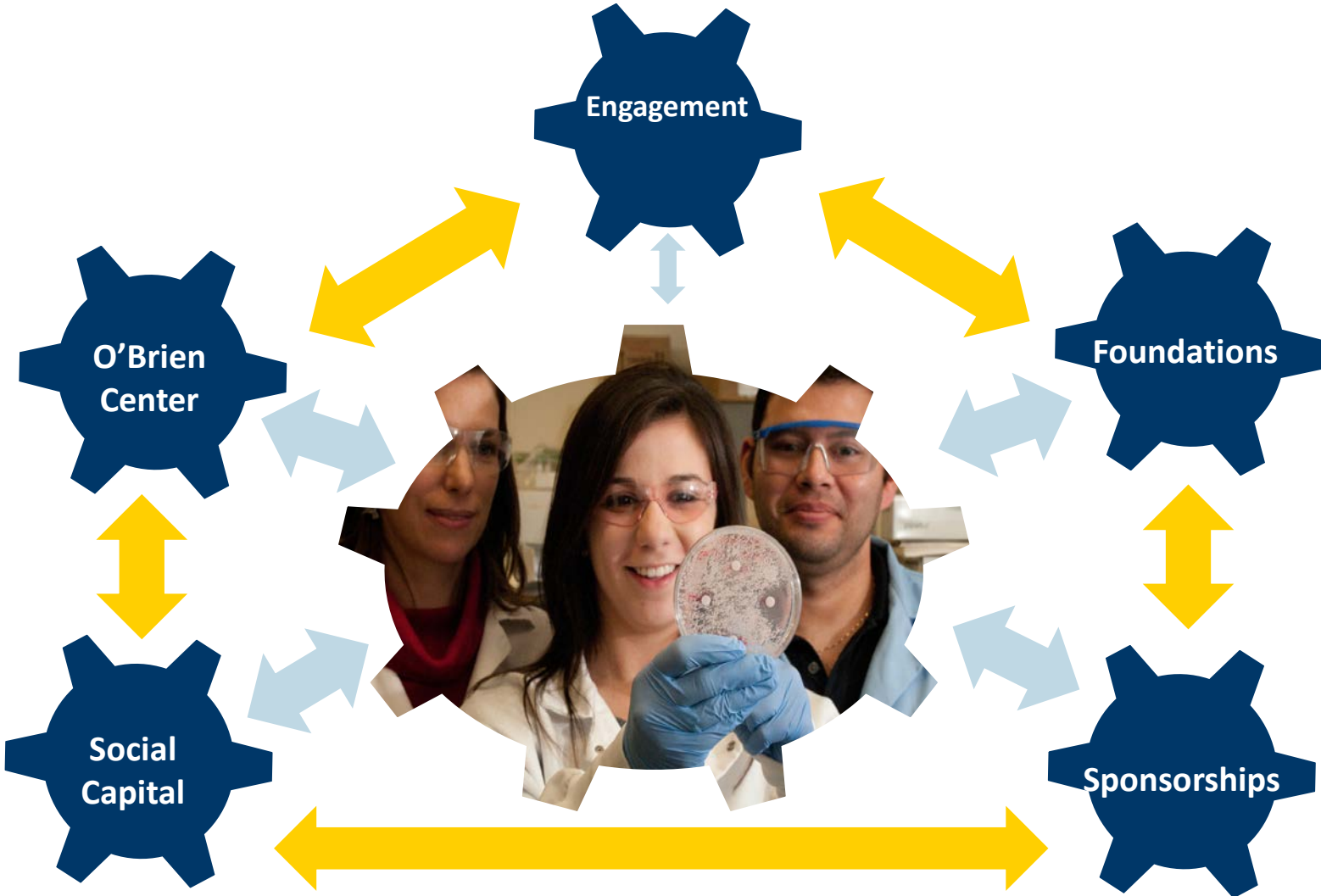
# Over-arching Content

## Warriors in the World

Preparing Students for Life After Merrimack



**INSTITUTIONALIZING RELATIONSHIPS**



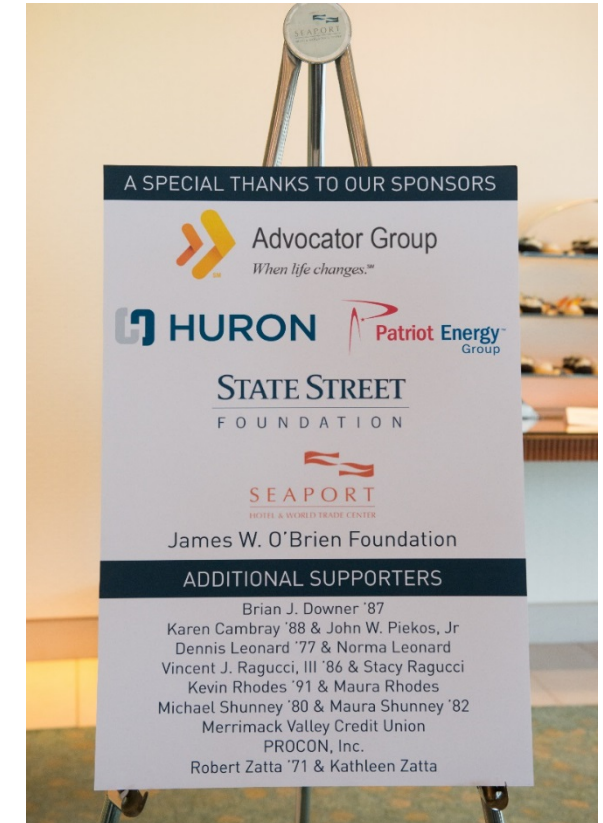


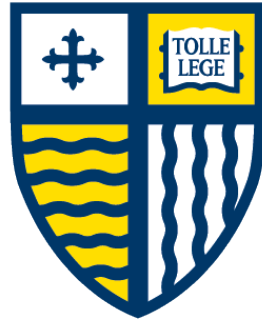
# Merrimack College

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RETREAT

Designed to build emotional intelligence and provide students with soft skills” such as problem-solving, conflict resolution, critical observation and adaptability.

Through an application and selection process, sixty students from a wide range of academic disciplines representing the Girard School of Business, School of Liberal Arts, School of Education and Social Policy, School of Science & Engineering and School of Health Sciences will participate in this signature program.





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