



News from the Provost



Happy Holidays from the UC Provost's Office!



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Finding Tylene

By Dan Martel

Marjorie Lewis, a Texas native, sports fan, and mother of two, went to a doctor’s appointment that changed her life forever. Her nurse noticed that Lewis was wearing a Tulsa College football shirt, which began a conversation discussing the shared passion of football between the two. At one point during the conversation, the nurse told Lewis about her great aunt, Tylene Wilson, who coached Brownwood college’s football team during WWII after the coaches enlisted as a result of Pearl Harbor. This story inspired Marjorie, making her want to learn more about Tylene’s story.

After doing research on Tylene’s story, Lewis was inspired to write a novel based on it. After predicting the difficulties that can come with getting a novel published, she thought that the process might be easier in a Masters program. With prior careers teaching at the University of North Texas and the University of Texas Arlington, as well as being a sports journalist for years, her journey opened up to the possibility of going for her second Masters degree. This led her to applying and being accepted to SNHU’s MFA program, where she met graduate professor, author, and eventual thesis mentor, Diane Les Becquets. According to Lewis, “[Diane] really helped me shape the novel and find the strength needed to make it what it is.”

Lewis’ thesis was the novel, which covered an approximately two-week period leading up to Tylene’s first game. After completing her novel and graduating, Lewis heard about an opportunity at Texas Wesleyan College, which was opening its football program for the first time since the tragedy of Pearl Harbor. The program ended because all the coaches and most of the players enlisted to fight in WWII. Marjorie decided to apply to be a coach.

On December 7, 2016, the 75th anniversary of Pearl Harbor, Texas Wesleyan reached out to her to offer her a position, which was accepted on that same day. Now, starting in



Marjorie Lewis reading part of her novel at graduation.

January 2017, Marjorie Lewis will be the wide receiver coach for its football program. When asked about the experience, Lewis responded, “It was exciting reaching out to the football coach at Texas Wesleyan College when I saw the position open up. As more members of the athletic department there heard my story, their excitement levels for my journey and rose even more, making the process that much more exciting.”

Marjorie Lewis currently has an agent working to get her novel published, as well as an agent in Hollywood trying to get her story made into a movie. Lewis closed out by saying, “you know it’s funny, I grew up in Texas, but I had to go to New Hampshire to find my inner Tylene.” ■

SNHU and DWC

By Dan Martel

ITT Educational Services, Inc (ITT), the parent organization for Daniel Webster College (DWC), as well as for a few other colleges, is closing. ITT filed for bankruptcy, which threatened the accreditation of its schools, including DWC. SNHU had been previously discussing the possibility of expanding program offerings to students, specifically a strategic initiative to expand upon STEM programs. Therefore, when the U.S. Department of Education and NEASC approached SNHU about the potential of SNHU

creating a Teach-Out agreement with DWC. In September 2016, SNHU reached an agreement with ITT and DWC to teachout the enrolled DWC students and transition several programs to SNHU, which did not exist. With this agreement, SNHU will also enable DWC to teach out every program and run campus operations as usual through the Spring 2017 semester.

Those graduating between now and August 2017 will be receiving Daniel Webster College degrees. Those not graduating prior to August 2017 will have the opportunity to continue their college careers at SNHU. Specifically those that are in good standing, academically and

otherwise, are in a position to be able to transfer to SNHU and complete their program as an SNHU student; and graduating with an SNHU degree. It would be fair to expect approximately 200–250 DWC students on campus for the Fall 2017 semester. When asked if SNHU has hopes of expanding student numbers on campus, Kim Bogle Jubinville, Senior VP for Academic Quality and Accreditation, clarified that, “SNHU hopes to expand its student offerings, not student numbers.”

Transfer Admissions also assists in creating opportunities that give students and families the opportunity to visit campus as much as possible. Thus far, there are four visit dates set, along with weekend campus tours with built-in information sessions. SNHU will also provide transportation for DWC students to visit SNHU on weekdays. For example, on November 6, there was a Preview Day held, where campus tours and panel discussions took place and there are also SNHU-like events being held on the DWC campus, such as bingo nights.

The SNHU community is committed to make this a seamless transition for all that are involved. Onboarding teams and Residence Life will help students with scheduling. By the Spring 2017 semester, SNHU will be actively working with DWC. According to Julie Callahan, Director of Transfer Admission, “Our biggest goal is to stress the importance of delivering information to Daniel Webster College students earlier than we typically would for incoming freshmen or typical transfer students. We want to provide the best customer service and minimize the worries students have about the transition, while making the entire process as simple as possible.”

Moving from a school with approximately 600 students to one with over 3,000 can be a difficult adjustment for many students. This is by no means a simple process, but it is one that is worth it. The Registrar is working hard to create personalized program evaluations for students and to make sure that applicable credits transfer so that this transition can work; and more importantly, that all DWC students can have a clear-picture as to what they will look like as SNHU students.

In order to make the transition work, SNHU needed to find ways to teach-out DWC programs and in some instances transfer DWC students from their current programs of study to similar ones at SNHU. Transfer Admissions is working alongside other key members of the University, including the Registrar, to develop programming for DWC students. For example, there are some programs which are similar across both DWC and SNHU, thus making the transition easier. According to Bogle Jubinville, “Approximately 80% of the majors on DWC’s campus are similar or the same as SNHU’s majors.”

There are a few programs, however, that SNHU did not previously offer. Due to this, coming Fall 2017, there will

also be six new major programs on campus: Aeronautical Engineering, Air Traffic Management, Aviation Management, Construction Management, Electrical & Computer Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering. These added programs will also create job opportunities that will give DWC faculty, as well as others, the opportunity to apply for various positions.

While all students won’t be transferring onto SNHU’s campus, many will be continuing their education through SNHU’s grad or online programs. For those transferring from DWC’s online program to SNHU’s, the transition will be seamless.

If SNHU didn’t step up and reach this Teach-Out agreement, then DWC students, faculty, and staff would have showed up to see the campus doors gated off. This would have created many issues, including the fact that students would be unable to obtain transcripts until such a time when the courts decided who would be responsible for the records of the college and submitting them to the State of New Hampshire.

The property in Nashua, NH that makes up Daniel Webster College is tied up in bankruptcy court. SNHU has made offers on the property, but there would be a long-term commitment if SNHU ever receives the opportunity because of the financial obligation involved. Nothing in this area regarding the property in Nashua, NH is anywhere near the stage of making probable speculations, but the only goal currently is to keep the DWC campus functioning as normally as possible through the Spring 2017 semester.

Callahan ended with, “The situation these students are facing is difficult, especially with all the unknowns that lie ahead of many of them. As much as they deserve to feel angry and upset, I came to find that they are the nicest, most humble students I’ve ever worked with. They are excited to be here and it really speaks volumes to their characters. They are going to be a great addition to this constantly evolving SNHU community.” ■



The Daniel Webster campus in Nashua, NH.

Welcome, Jennifer Carrobis

By Dan Martel

This semester SNHU welcomed a new Assistant Professor in the School of Education, Jennifer Carrobis. She taught middle school math locally in various schools, such as Cawley Middle School in Hooksett, NH, Beech St. Elementary, Park Side Elementary, and McLaughlin Middle School in Manchester, NH.

She is currently teaching two sections of the field-based courses at Gossler Elementary School and one at Westin School. One is for students Pre-K through 2nd grade and the other is students 3rd through 5th grade. She is also teaching EDU-102, Fundamentals of Education.

She has a history of working with lower socio-economic students which has given her a unique background that she brings with her as a professor. Unfortunately, she became used to seeing students constantly leaving class and moving to different areas and school districts. When asked to reflect on it, she responded “I really feel like I’m making a difference in these young students’ lives.”

She also has an interesting background that gives her a well-rounded perspective as a professor. She started her undergrad degree enrolled in an Engineering program. She then switched over to business and gained her Bachelor of Science in Marketing from Penn State. From there, Carrobis earned her MBA at Fordham University.

Her husband’s work brought them to the New Hampshire area where she raised her three daughters and volunteered with local organizations. Due to her educational background with engineering, Carrobis was able to go through an alternative certification process to be able to teach. This led her into the world of teaching, which started as a Title I teacher for local elementary and middle schools in the Manchester area.

When asked about courses she’s excited to teach in the future, she spoke about a new course, EDU-120, Developing



Headshot of Jennifer Carrobis.

Mathematical Thinking. She worked with Dr. Megan Paddock to design the course. With the thought of teaching a brand-new course, Carrobis said, “she loves the openness of SNHU students and their ability to ask questions will enable her to be able to improve the course by providing unique feedback.

Jennifer’s connection with SNHU is even more empowering. One day, her three daughters approached her asking if there’s anything she wished she could have done in her life. Carrobis answered her daughters that she wanted to go for her Doctorates Degree, but that she was too old to continue her education. Thanks to the motivation her daughters gave her, she began looking at options and came across SNHU’s Ed.D. program. The summer of 2014 she enrolled at SNHU. A position then opened up in SNHU’s School of Education, which Carrobis saw as a great opportunity to teach in higher education. Now as a student in the dissertation phase of the Ed.D. program, and as a professor with the opportunity to bring classes to teach at schools she used to work for, she has seen her life come together into a complete amalgamation of passions. ■

Admission), the Dorothy S. Rogers Career Development Center, and Institutional Advancement. Bringing admissions, career development, and alumni engagement together under a single roof serves as a reminder that engagement is a lifelong benefit to members of the SNHU community, one that echoes the ethos of personal and professional development running through this university.

“The Gustafson Center exemplifies the growing trend of students seeking internship and experiential opportunities long before they step on campus. These discussions happen early in the enrollment process, and the Gustafson Center merges both Admissions and Career Development teams

to make those opportunities a reality,” says Gregg Mazzola, vice president of enrollment management and marketing for University College.

The welcome center is named for President Emeritus Richard Gustafson and his wife Joanne. Dr. Gustafson served as president of the institution from 1987 until 2003, with primary charges from the Board of Trustees to consolidate operations and focus on the main campus on North River Road; build stronger academic programs worthy of regional and national accreditation; and build financial strength with a prudent management plan and new fund raising activity.

“The hallmarks of Dr. Gustafson’s commitment to this institution are twofold, and still ring true with our mission today: he focused on academic rigor and building partnerships with local organizations to benefit students,” says Don Brezinski, vice president of Institutional Advancement. Today, the Alumni Engagement team works closely with the Career Development team to identify alumni, business leaders, and local partners to enrich the student experience.

“With the alumni team pipelining industry experts for student projects and classroom speakers, and the career development team developing relationships with employers – this is a union that makes it even easier for us to focus on the mission of

Athletics Update

By Eric Coplin

It was another successful fall season for Penmen athletics, as one team and one individual earned NCAA appearances, one squad just missed out on a Northeast-10 Championship and a young unit turned in a pleasantly surprising campaign.

Despite its run of four straight NE10 Championships coming to an end, men’s soccer did extend the nation’s longest active Division II NCAA Tournament appearance streak to nine, earning its 22nd berth, overall. The team finished 12-5-2, overall, and captured a first round victory against Le Moyne, before dropping a 1-0 decision to eventual East Region Champion, Adelphi.

Nine Penmen collected NE10 All-Conference accolades, including First Team selections, graduate students Rayane Boukemia, Yannis Becker and Tobias Esche, whom all were chosen to All-East Region teams by both the NSCAA and D2CCA. Boukemia went on to be named an NSCAA All-American.

Women’s soccer made the end of its season interesting as it earned its second straight NE10 Championship berth on the final day of the season with a 3-1 win against sixth-ranked Adelphi. In a re-match with the then-12th-ranked Panthers just three days later, however, the Penmen dropped a 2-1 double-overtime decision in the quarterfinal round.

student success,” says Brezinski. “And the admissions team will naturally benefit as these relationships and experiential learning models continue to develop. Incoming students and their families want to understand with concrete examples who and why investment in an SNHU education is worth it.”

Kristi Durette, executive director of alumni engagement, is excited to have a physical representation of the One University focus on community, relationships, and engagement. “Our office serves all alumni from across this institution, from UC, COCE, and CfA, and we find that regardless of the program from which someone has graduated, what unifies everyone is that desire to give back and work with students. Being in closer proximity to our colleagues in career and admissions will facilitate this work on behalf of students.”

The Gustafson Center will have a number of LEED-friendly features as well as community spaces, including a versatile training room that can be configured in a number of ways to host everything from a catered networking mixer to a presentation-ready classroom.

The citizens of the Gustafson Center are working on the details of an open house to welcome our entire community into our new space. In the meantime, we invite you to visit us and check out the latest, beautiful new building on campus. ■

The team came up huge all year in big-moment situations, going 2-1-1 against nationally-ranked opponents and 4-2-1 in games decided in the 90th minute or later.

Five Penmen earned NE10 All-Conference honors, including First Team honoree, senior Olivia Parsons, who received her second straight D2CCA All-East Region nod.

In just its third year of existence, field hockey submitted its best season ever, setting program records for wins (9), conference victories (5) and winning percentage (.500), while getting stronger as the campaign progressed. The team’s biggest win of the year came when freshman Alison Hildreth notched her first career goal with no time on the clock to record a 2-1 victory over top-ranked and eventual NE10 Champion LIU Post.

Freshmen Laura van der Doorn and Maaïke Gerkema, as well as sophomore goalkeeper Melanie Rennie, were all recognized with NE10 All-Rookie Team selections.

A young volleyball team with a first-year interim head coach claimed seven wins in the fall, including a 3-0 sweep of first-place and NE10-unbeaten Bentley, just three days after pulling out a five-set victory against Merrimack.

Freshman Joanne Coffey set a new program record for assists by a freshman dishing 890 to top the 682 handed out by interim head coach Catherine Cotton in 2012.



The men's cross country team finished fifth, overall, at both the NE10 Championship and NCAA East Regional, while it was once again anchored by senior Nacho Hernando-Angulo. The most decorated runner in program history earned his second straight berth to the NCAA National Championship, while re-writing more of the program's record book along the way. Hernando-Angulo set a new school record in an 8,000-meter event (24:40), posted the highest finish at the NE10 Championship (No. 2) and NCAA East Regional (No. 2), and also become the first two-time USTFCCCA All-Region honoree and two-time NE10 First Team All-Conference selection.

On the women's side, the Penmen were 11th at the NE10 Championship and 14th at the NCAA East Regional. Senior Laura O'Hanlon became the only four-time All-Region honoree and three-time All-Northeast-10 Conference performer in program history during the season.

Women's tennis turned in a dominant fall campaign as it went 12-3, overall, and 10-2 in conference play. The Penmen advanced to the semifinals of the NE10 Championship for the 10th straight season before falling to eventual Champions, Adelphi. Grad student Abba Chadli was selected as the NE10 Player of the Year, while sophomores Softia Morais, Anna Sala and Rachel Wagner, as well as junior Lindsay Baum, also notched All-Conference selections.

Men's golf narrowly missed out on its second consecutive NE10 title as it finished one stroke back of the top spot. The team did not come away empty-handed in the fall, however, as it captured its second straight NEIGA Championship. Second-semester freshman Matt Paradis led the team with a 73.4 average per round, with junior Joshua LaCasse not far behind at 74.8. Paradis earned the top spot at two events, including a three-way share of individual medalist honors at the NEIGA Championship, while LaCasse turned in a pair of top-five finishes. The team will look to advance to the NCAA National Championship for the second straight season in the spring.

The women's golf team, in just its fourth year as a program, finished sixth at the NE10 Championship and also produced third-place finishes at both the Franklin Pierce Fall Invitational and Quechee Division II Challenge. Sophomore Kaitlyn Lutinski's 87.5 strokes per round paced the squad.

The winter season is also off to a solid start as men's basketball began the year 6-0 for the first time since 2003-04 and jumped into the national rankings for the first time in nearly 12 years. Women's basketball is having a .500 season early on and men's ice hockey is already a 10-game winner before the winter break. ■

