

The Observer

Volume XIV, Issue I

Re-Established 1993

Manchester, NH

Construction of New East Side Pods is Complete

Amanda Russell
Co-Editor in Chief

The new residence halls on the east side of campus have brought a new style of living to the campus of Southern New Hampshire University. Hampton and Windsor Halls were completed at the end of the summer, and the pod-style living areas are now occupied with students.

The suite-style housing stresses community living, and the spacious community lounges offer a great place for residents to gather. Each suite has a group of pods attached to a long hallway. Within each suite is a bathroom and two shower stalls. The new area is receiving positive reviews from the residents who live there.

"They are great," said sophomore Abbi Newton. "They're the whole package. They're luxurious, air conditioned and pretty quiet. I really love living here," said Newton.

The assistant director of residence life, Pierre Collins, is also impressed with the completion of the two residence halls.

"The concept of these two



The new East Side Pod Style Dorms are a big hit among students.

buildings is different than any other on campus. To see our plans come to fruition was an amazing process. The end result was two very impressive buildings that we're proud to have here on campus," Collins said.

Hampton and Wind-

sor also share great views of the landscape from the windows of the community areas. The study lounges and the immense amount of open space also add to the buildings' impressive appearance.

"The visual appeal of this

area is very impressive. It's truly one of our best construction efforts to date," Collins remarked. "Everything from the landscape outside to the layout of each suite came

See Page 2 **New Dorms**

SNHU 101 Overhauls the Freshman Experience

Ben Barkhouse
Co-Editor in Chief

The five hundred eighty strong Class of 2010 will take SNHU 101, a course designed to develop college level skills and enable students to "track and assess" themselves over their career at the university.

In previous years the university's freshmen were required to take Freshman Experience, or FEX. Dr. Pat Spirou, Chair of the Marketing Department and Director of Freshmen Academic Programs, said that FEX was behind the times.

A committee was formed to create a new course for freshmen, which is designed to foster academic skills in critical thinking, research, writing, and the use of technology. The academic professors teaching this course will also focus on freshmen retention. The introduction of E-Portfolio will also be integrated into this class.

See Page 3 **SNHU 101**

Academic Advising P.A.L.'s to Help Students with Registration

Amanda Russell
Co-Editor in Chief

There's a new team on campus. These fifteen students are equipped with calendars, academic planning sheets, and the knowledge to help students with academic-related questions.

Peer Advising Leader's (P.A.L.'s) are an extension of the office of Academic Resources. They're available to students during their individual office hours around campus to assist with academic planning.

"We hope that the peer to peer advising sessions will help students get the information they need," said P.A.L. advisor, Carey Bradbury. "The P.A.L.'s will be a great resource for undergraduates to bounce ideas and concerns off of."

The P.A.L.'s were on campus in full force on freshman move in day. The student leaders were offering advice and answering questions that ranged from "where do I go to change my schedule," to "how long do I have to drop a class?"

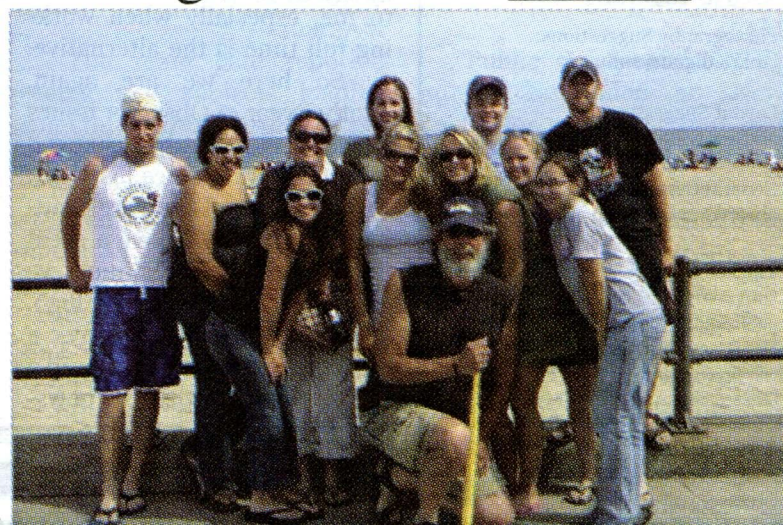
The new advising group

also teamed up with residence life in an effort to spread the word about this new informational resource team.

"P.A.L.'s teamed up with resident directors across campus to get the word out about this great new resource. They answered questions, and got a lot of positive feedback," Bradbury said.

Bradbury continued to say that the Peer Advising Leaders are planning events and informational sessions to

See Page 2 **P.A.L.'s**



*The P.A.L.s at Hampton Beach during their training prior to classes starting.
Photo/Carey Bradbury*

“Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.”

~ Thomas A. Edison
American inventor

The Observer

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Letters from the Co-Editors

Amanda Russell

Co-Editor in Chief

The first classes of the new school year are behind us, and as students at Southern New Hampshire University, you're probably starting to get just a little bit overwhelmed. It seems like the professors here on campus manage to schedule the same due date for every test, paper and presentation! I reassure you that all the stress will pass, and before you know it, May will roll around and it will be summer all over again. That's some wishful thinking anyway!

While at school this year, I'd like to encourage students to get involved with different activities and clubs around campus. There are countless clubs and organizations that represent our campus community, so there should be something that interests everyone. Joining CAPE, Outreach, The International Student Associa-

Ben Barkhouse

Co-Editor in Chief

It's nice to be back among civilization again. The school is pretty much a ghost town over the summer, which I sweated through here. Summer is a funny time, it's too short when you are at the end of it, yet seems like an eternity because you can't wait to get back to school for another year. Or at least that's how it felt to me, especially when working full time is the alternative.

So here we are again, another year of Observer issues ahead of us. A lot has changed in the Observer since last year. Amanda Russell and I are heading the paper, we have a great new advisor, Judy Timney, we have new sections, a new logo, a new printing company, a bigger distribution range, and a new outlook on what the news-

tion or The Observer, among others, are a great opportunity to meet people who share the same interests as you; and it also looks great on a résumé.

Speaking of The Observer, we'd love to recruit new students. If you love to write, take photographs or use computers, I'd like to invite you to our weekly meetings! We meet at 2:00 (during free period) on Wednesday's in room 301 in Robert Frost Hall. If you can't make the meetings, we're always looking for great articles. If you have an opinion about something on campus, or just have an issue you'd like to raise, we'd like you to send us your work! Talk to one of our staff writers around campus for details.

I hope you enjoy our first issue. We're looking forward to making each issue a little bit better than the last. Keep reading, and I'll see you next month!

paper can be. We want a paper to be proud of; we hope to have interesting and quality content that will be geared towards you the SNHU reader. We will be out there covering your events, your news, and bring information you want to know about. We geared this first issue towards the freshmen, hoping to provide some good insight during the crucial first weeks.

I look forward to a successful and productive year that will transform the Observer and its value to the campus community. As always we are looking for new writers, contributed articles, and articles from campus organizations so get involved and help out the paper. You can join any time; we hold weekly meetings on Wednesday in Robert Frost 301 at 2:00. I hope to see you there!

SNHU's New Director of Public Safety

Amanda Russell

Co-Editor in Chief

The new director of Public Safety spent twenty-two years with the Manchester Police Department before he decided that it was time for a change. The former police captain wanted to move on to a new career that would re-energize and challenge him.

James Winn knew that Southern New Hampshire University would be a great place to begin his new career during the hiring process last year.

"When I was interviewed for this position I had a really good feeling about this University," Winn said.

He continued, "The people here were really nice and welcoming. When I mentioned to some friends that I was a candidate for the position, they all had great things to say about this campus. Overall I got a lot of positive feedback, and that really made me excited to make this mid-life career change."

Winn took over the position in July. The former director of Public Safety, George Miville, retired after serving the SNHU community for two decades.

The new goals for public safety this year seem simple,

See Page 3 **P.S. Director**

New Dorms

Continued from page 1

together better than I could have imagined," said Collins.

Although the new pods are across the street from the schools academic buildings, Newton says she doesn't mind the walk.

"Just knowing that I have a nice place to go back to after class makes the walk worth it," Newton said. "Everything is brand new. You can't compare this place to anywhere else on campus. It's just great."

Trish Norton, a resident assistant in Windsor Hall also had positive things to say about the new buildings, but warns that if people don't treat the residence halls with

respect, they may not remain in such good condition for long.

"I like the pod's because they're new. Unfortunately some students aren't treating them well," Norton reported. "There has already been damage to the two buildings. I just hope that people don't ruin this living space for everyone who is enjoying it," Norton said.

Although Hampton and Windsor are currently filled to capacity, Newton recommends the new residence hall to underclassman in the future. "It's so much different than the dorms on the other side of campus. The furniture is nice, there's a lot of open space, and no other building is air conditioned. You can't argue with that. This place is just a great place to live!"

P.A.L.'s

Continued from page 1

encourage peer to peer contact between advisors and students.

"We want to do a lot of outreach programs in order to reach the students where they live and hang out," Bradbury said. "The P.A.L.'s will have their office hours in places like the cafeteria, the pub and the library in order to reach students where they feel most comfortable."

Bradbury said that the purpose of the P.A.L. program isn't to replace faculty advisors or the academic advising staff.

"The P.A.L.'s are a group of trained peers that should be accessed to answer general advising questions. They

aren't a substitute for faculty advisors. They are another resource students have available to them to answer general advising questions and concerns," Bradbury said.

The P.A.L. team members are prepared to assist the academic advising office during peak times during the school year.

Bradbury continued to say, "The P.A.L.'s will be working hard during the days leading up to registration for the next semester. They're just an excellent resource for students to meet with at a peer level in a comfortable atmosphere. I really want to encourage students to take advantage of this resource."

BEER!

We can't serve it at an Observer Meeting,
but you should join anyway.

Meetings are weekly in Robert Frost 302 @
2 pm on Thursday.

Feel free to email us as well with any
comments or questions at
observer@snhu.edu

SNHU News

Welcome to the Athletic Complex

Amanda Russell

Co-Editor in Chief

Welcome to Southern New Hampshire University, home of the Penmen. You may be wondering what is offered in athletics for me if I don't play a varsity sport. Well never fear, here is your guide to the Southern New Hampshire University Athletic Complex.

Let's start off with the facilities. The most noticeable may be Larkin Field. This turf field is home to both men's and women's soccer and lacrosse, but also home to intramural flag football. The turf is also a great place to relax with friends and toss a Frisbee or play catch. The next outside facility are the tennis courts. These are located right next to the athletic complex. There are four courts and they are open to any full time student. If you need racquets and balls you can borrow them from the equipment room. (We will visit the equipment room more in depth later on)

The last outdoor facility that you may want to visit is the baseball and softball fields. Both have recently been renovated. They are located further down North River Road across from Webster Hall. This is where you can watch Penmen Baseball and Softball as well as take part in Home-run Derby and Wiffle Ball.

Let's move inside the athletic complex now. The athletic complex is home to the two thousand seat Fieldhouse, where you can find men's and women's basketball as well as women's volleyball and cheerleading. There is also the smaller gymnasium with a stage where campus events take place. Both these gyms have open time for those who wish to shoot around or play catch or kick around a soccer ball.

For those who wish to get in shape there is a 5500 square foot fitness center. This fitness center has cardio machines, free weights, and a climbing wall. If this fitness center

SNHU 101

Continued from page 1

Dr. Spirou noted that the course would not be taught as a lecture, but rather as a seminar style class. The course information packet states "SNHU 101 will serve as an introduction to college-level work."

All incoming freshmen will be required to use E-Portfolio. Student assignments and other work will be stored and graded online, and a consistent grading rubric will be implemented. Over time this E-Portfolio will be key in providing data on progress, a resource never before available.

This online collection of work can also be useful when seeking employment; a sort of 21st century resume. The School of Education students are expected to have E-Portfolio by the Spring, followed by the School of Business, and the entire student body by 2009.

This universal rollout is a first for any university in the nation, explained Dr. Spirou. In addition to E-Portfolio, SNHU 101 students can also expect to use Blackboard, RefWorks, Turn It In and other technology based programs as part of the course requirement.

SNHU 101 will have themes woven throughout the course to give context to assignments and augment freshmen English courses. Tentative themes are global perspectives, technology



Dr. Spirou, Director of Freshmen Academic Programs

& society, media & contemporary culture, and environmental issues. Part of the aim for this course, Dr. Spirou said, is to create consistency for the students and a unified syllabus.

Marlys Mayfield, the author of the course textbook, "Thinking for Yourself," gave an all day seminar in critical thinking to the faculty who will be teaching SNHU 101. They also received three days of training in E-Portfolio and another day for assessment.

In addition to "Thinking for Yourself," freshmen were required to read "Fast Food Nation" by Eric Schlosser over the summer. A writing assignment can be expected on the book. Charles Wilson, the co-author of the sequel, "Chew on This" will be the Convocation speaker this fall.

The university has high hopes for SNHU 101, a key course in its 21st century approach to quality academia and freshmen retention.

P.S. Director

Continued from page 2

but they're an important step to improve professional relationships around campus.

"I think that we've got an excellent [Public Safety] staff here. Everyone works hard and carries a great attitude. They all helped me transition into this position, and I appreciate them all for their efforts," Winn said.

Winn plans to encourage the public safety staff to engage more with the campus community in an effort to build positive relationships throughout campus.

"Public Safety can be perceived negatively because we enforce the rules. Our job is to keep everyone safe. We

want to shed that negative stigma because there are so many positive things that we do. I really want to get that message out," Winn said.

Jump starting cars, assisting with lockouts and providing an escort service on campus are a few of the positive efforts public safety performs on a daily basis.

Another goal Winn has set for his department is to maintain a professional manner during incidents around campus. He plans to encourage communication between Public Safety officers, faculty and students.

"Nobody likes to be confronted when they're approached for violating the rules. People become very defensive in these situations, so it's important that the Public Safety staff delivers the mes-

Public Safety Log

Ben Barkhouse

Co-Editor in Chief

Monday 9/11/06
9:40PM

At the above date and time, Public Safety received a radio report that a student called and stated he had seen someone carrying away a large flatscreen TV from Ossipee. Upon arrival at the scene, a student informed Public Safety that TV was placed between windows near the door to Ossipee. No description of the perpetrator could be given by the reporting student. The TV was confiscated by Public Safety.

Sunday 9/10/06
2:40AM

At the above date and time, Public Safety was called to Washington for a possible medical transport. The RD requested an ambulance be called right away. The student involved in the incident was speaking and alert, he mentioned that he'd consumed 8 beers that night. Tri-Town decided to transport the student.

Sunday 9/10/06
2:35AM

Public Safety was sent to Lot #4 where three subjects were found in a car with a small amount of marijuana and glass pipe, which were confiscated.

Sunday 9/10/06
12:42AM

The main gate reported seeing two subjects loading something from a trunk in Lot #5. After watching them for a few minutes, Public Safety stopped them. Six beers were found in the pockets of one and two bottles of alcoholic

sage in a professional and respectful manner," Winn said.

In an effort to increase the ability for Public Safety officers to stay engaged with the campus community, Winn instituted a bike patrol this year.

"The officers on the bikes have a better opportunity to hold conversations, make eye contact, and acknowledge the students around them. They'll have different uniforms that will be less official looking. We really want to break down the barrier between students and Public

drinks on the other. Nothing else was found in the vehicle.

Saturday 9/9/06
1AM

At the above date and time, Public Safety saw someone rip the screen out of a lounge in Winnisquam. The person took off running and was followed to Cranmore. Public Safety officers knocked on the door but no one would answer. Public Safety entered the apartment and the individual who ripped out the screen was found in the bathroom highly intoxicated with another student. They would not quiet down or cooperate with Public Safety. At one point the perpetrator pushed into one of the officers. Hooksett PD was called in because the two subjects would not cooperate. HPD transported the original offender to his off-campus apartment.

Saturday 9/9/06
12:24AM

Public Safety saw an individual walk into New Castle with two beers in his pocket. The RA stopped him and confiscated two Miller Lights. The individual was found to be an unregistered guest and escorted off-campus.

Thursday 9/6/06
9:45AM

Public Safety and SNHU nurses responded to New Castle for a student that had cut his hand and fainted. It was found he cut the tip of his finger on a razor while reaching into his shower kit. A band aid was applied and the student was fine.

Safety officers," Winn said.

Having a bike patrol on campus will also give officers a faster way to access high traffic locations around campus. The bikes also provide a convenient way to travel between the east and west sides of campus.

Winn said he accomplished all he set out to accomplish during his years with the Manchester Police Department. Public Safety now has the opportunity to use his knowledge and experience to help build a better SNHU.

Clubs

Athletics

Continued from page 3

seems a bit too large for your liking, there is a smaller workout room in the complex with cardio machines as well. There is also an aerobic room with classes including kickboxing, yoga, interval training, and toning. The aerobic room is also home to two ping pong tables.

If you're looking for something a little different there is a racquetball court and also a six lane pool in the athletic complex. Everything is open to you with a student ID.

Now let's move onto the equipment room. This is basically your rent-a-center. The equipment room has soccer balls, basketballs, volleyballs, softballs, baseballs, footballs and medicine balls. They also have all your racquetball equipment, tennis equipment, and ping pong equipment. You may also borrow cross-country skis. This is also where you would get the remote for the small workout room.

Besides just the facilities in the athletic complex, there are also intramural activities every month. Flag Football this month starts. (Rosters are due September 14th) All intramural activities are open to full time students and staff. And don't forget to get your commuter friends onto your roster. Other intramural activities include; tennis tournaments, wally ball, wiffle ball tournaments, basketball seasons and 3v3 tournaments, indoor soccer, kick ball, and volleyball.

There are plenty of things to do in athletics even if you're not on a varsity sport. And don't forget about that, you can always go to a home game for one of our many teams. And if you're looking for hockey games, you can find them right across the river at the Ice Den right behind Target. Look on the SNHU website for all open hours and on the master calendar for other events in the Athletic Complex. And welcome again to SNHU or welcome back!

Annual Investment Competition Kicks Off

Frank Rubino
Managing Editor

Southern New Hampshire University's Economic and Finance Association will hold its annual investment competition from October 23 to April 20. Sign up's were held during Club Day, but there's still an opportunity to sign up in the cafeteria during lunch period. Sign ups will be held the last week of September and the beginning of October.

The cost to enter is \$20 for students and \$30 for staff and faculty. Placing first in the competition will earn you \$500, \$300 for second place, \$100 for third place, and \$50 each for fourth and fifth place. Anyone, regardless of major or position within the University may enter the contest.

The contest is run through a web site called Stocktrak. www.stocktrak.com, provides global portfolio simulations. When you sign up for the contest, you're given an account on the website that holds \$500,000 worth of play money. You can invest the money and try to make the money grow over the six-month period.

The website does all the calculations, and shows you

the profit or loss for each investment. Anything from stocks, bonds, options, futures, futures options, international stocks, mutual funds, and spots can be traded. It's just like having an account with an online brokerage, except this is only a simulation. Anybody that's interested in investing, finance, the stock market, and making more money will want to sign up for this contest.

At the end of the trading day on April 20, 2007, whoever has the most money in their account wins the competition and the \$500 prize. The website provides rankings of all the competitors so you can see how you're doing in comparison to everyone else throughout the competition.

There are certain rules and limitations to what you can and can't do while participating in the contest. For example, there's a limit of trades one can make, and no more than a certain amount of money may be invested in one stock. The information is all available on the website.

Last year, 45 people participated in the competition, and the top prize went to Garrett Hamilton with a portfolio value of \$2,068,372.02. That

was a profit of \$1,568,372.02 from the original \$500,000, or a 313.67 percent return. Competition was very intense however, as a close second place went to myself, Frank Rubino, with a portfolio value of \$2,041,780.57. That was a \$1,541,780.57 profit, and a 308.36 percent return.

When you're not using real money, there is no risk, and therefore it's a lot easier to make huge profits. However, it's just as easy to lose the money all at once. Just like in a game of poker, if you're not playing for money then you're more likely to make huge bets. You take the risk of losing all of your chips, or winning everyone else's. When you're playing for money, you tend to be more careful and bet more conservatively.

So, if you are looking to learn more about investing and the stock market, or you're an experienced trader looking to have some fun, sign up for the investment competition. The contest is run by the Economic and Finance Association on campus. Information and details about the competition are subject to change before the contest begins.

International Students Association Gears up for a Great Year

This fall has been a great start for the International Students Association (ISA). Formerly known as ACE, the International Students Association has expanded its role on campus. Not only is the International Students Association a cultural organization, its now increasingly involved with international and domestic student integration and all of the aspects regarding International student life.

This September saw the advent of the International student pick-up service. The ISA picked up International students at the airport. Students were arriving from different corners of the world, and the ISA was there to help ease the transition for new International students. During orientation week, ISA hosted a "Fusion Night," which was a reception for all new International Students and an opportunity for them to mix with domestic students, make friends, play games

while enjoying food and music.

The Student Ambassadors also took part in the event. The combined effort of the two groups contributed to the success of Fusion Night.

All of these events would not have been possible without the great support from the Student Affairs Office and the International Office. The two offices played key roles in planning and facilitating all the events and programs thus far.

"It is truly touching when new International students express their appreciation on receiving a warm welcome at Southern New Hampshire University," commented John Rodriguez, treasurer for the International Students Association.

The year looks exciting for ISA, as they are already planning a trip to the White Mountains of New Hampshire in late September and intend to continue bringing out the cultural diversity on our campus.

Upcoming Home Sports Action

Sept. 13
Women's Soccer vs. St. Anselm College – 4pm

Sept. 16
Men's Tennis vs. Le Moyne College – 10am
Baseball vs. University of New Hampshire – 12pm

Sept. 17
Softball Tournament : Bentley College, Stonehill College, and Merrimack College – Begins at 9am

Sept. 19
Men's Tennis vs. Assumption College – 4pm

Sept. 20
Men's Soccer vs. University of New Haven – 4pm

Women's Soccer vs. Bryant University – 7pm

Sept. 22
Women's Tennis vs. Bryant University – 4pm

Sept. 23
Men's Soccer vs. Southern Connecticut State University – 7pm

Sept. 26
Volleyball vs. Bryant University – 7pm
Women's Soccer vs. UMass Lowell – 7pm

Oct. 1
Softball vs. St. Michael's College – 1pm
Volleyball vs. St. Anselm

College – 1pm

Oct. 2
Baseball vs. Merrimack College – 4pm

Oct. 4
Women's Soccer vs. Southern Connecticut State University – 7pm

Oct. 7
Women's Soccer vs. Stonehill College – 1pm
Women's Tennis vs. The College of Saint Rose – 3pm

Oct. 11
Men's Soccer vs. St. Michael's College – 4pm

Student Government

President's Welcome

Hello SNHUers

I am Ken Lewis Gayle, your Student Government President, I would like to welcome you all back to our tiny community. This year SGA has a host of new initiatives in store for you, in our concerted effort to make SNHU a better place for you. This page is one of the new initiatives we hope you will enjoy. Every month, through this medium, we will attempt to give you a snapshot of the SNHU community. We will keep you abreast of major policy changes regarding student life and academics. We will inform you of the exciting activities of our numerous clubs and organizations as well as recognize their efforts and achievements. We will provide you with a financial report explaining where and how much of your student

activity fees are being spent, with the hope that you too will join one of our over fifty clubs and organizations and use the over half of a million dollars that SGA has allocated to all student-run associations. But perhaps most importantly we will attempt to answer your concerns and issues and welcome your ideas and suggestions.

Overall we would like you to know that as your representatives it is our desire to render your SNHU experience as pleasurable as possible. So please feel free to stop by the SGA office or contact me (okendo.lewisgayle@snhu.edu) or any other member of the Executive Board with your concerns and suggestions.

Sincerely,
Okendo Lewis Gayle
SGA President,

Vice President's Welcome

Hello and welcome back from summer break! We have a very exciting year approaching, full of change and new opportunities! The main focuses of this year's House of Reps meetings are the three C's: Communication, Community, and Collaboration. Our meetings will be designed to utilize the immense amount of brainpower and leadership qualities present in the House of Reps. Expect to be out of your seats and working with a few other clubs this year. The

first meeting will be September 20th at 5:00 pm in the Hospitality Salons and will continue the first Wednesday of every month. Meetings are open house, meaning anyone is welcomed and at least one representative from your club must be present. Look forward to seeing you there!

Please feel free to email me at Samuel.peret@snhu.edu

Sam Peret
Samuel.peret@snhu.edu

Secretary's Welcome

I hope everyone had an exciting summer! I would like to give a brief summary of the new programs, which will be initiated in The Observer. From this point on, there will be a summary of the "Comments & Suggestion (C&S) Box" responses. These boxes will be located throughout campus in Residence Halls and the Student Center and will be available for students to place their Comments & Suggestions to the University. The Senator of the Month will also be mentioned in the Observer along with the accomplishments and reason

for the selection of this senator. Another program, which will be initiated this year, will be "SGA on the Road" in which locations for end of the month SGA meetings will be announced. These meetings will be held in the conference rooms of different Residence Halls around the university. I look forward to our monthly reporting and your responses to our new programs. Please feel free to contact me at Cynthia.ronses@snhu.edu

Cindy Ronses
Cynthia.ronses@snhu.edu

Treasurer's Welcome

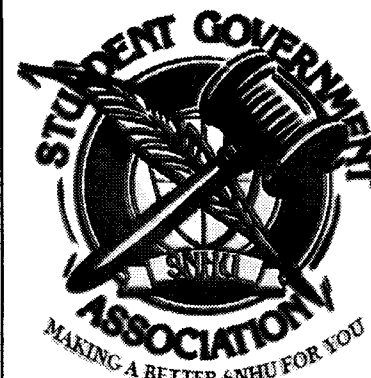
Hi, my name is Vijay KailaschandJain and I will be serving as the SGA Treasurer for the school year 2006-2007. As you all know SGA made some changes to the budget process at the end of last year. The theory of Zero Based Allocation, (ZBA), came out from last year when nothing seemed to work while allocating the budgets for clubs and organization.

Our main goal for this year is to present a better system and make the budget allocation process simple, fair and as cost effective as possible by providing clubs and organizations full control leading towards their destiny. In this column I will also give you up current details on all student activity funds allocated and how much money

has been spent and so forth on a timely manner. This year 2006-2007 total allocation of student activity fees for clubs and organization is \$525,000.

I am also very much excited to introduce a lot of new things during the course of the year in helping clubs and organizations run more smoothly and efficiently. The first would be Club Incentive Programs. Clubs and Organizations will be rewarded for their outstanding accomplishments in creating a greater sense of community for all the students. I would also encourage and help clubs and organizations in drafting their budgets for new events and tips on managing accounts. I hope to make this year enjoyable for you and SGA too! So let's join together to make "A Better SNHU for You"!

Vijay KailaschandJain
vijay@snhu.edu



Executive Officer's Welcome

Welcome back students, teachers, staff and all other members of the SNHU community. I am Tony Carr, SGA's Executive Officer. I look forward to representing your thoughts and opinions to the best of my ability this year. One of the ways I will be doing that is by sitting in as an ex-officio member of nearly all SGA and University committees that serve a unique purpose. Below is a list of these committees. Some of them are closed doors, but most encourage participation by members of the SNHU community. If you would like a description of a committee or are curious as to when their next meeting is, feel free to e-mail me at Anthony.carr@snhu.edu.

- Curriculum Committee
- Academic Issues and Standards Committee
- Student Disciplinary Review Board
- Student Life Advisory Committee
- Residence Life Advisory Committee
- Traffic Court
- Budget and Finance Committee
- Election Committee
- Safety Committee
- American Disability Act (504)
- Wellness Committee
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Opinion

Academic Integrity Code

Lindsey Asselin
Staff Writer

Integrity. Who has it? What does it mean? What is its role at Southern New Hampshire University? These questions and many more were tackled by a group of students last spring by a class of eight students representing each of the different schools at the university. The class studied the academic integrity policies of various schools as well as academic studies before writing a new policy. The result, a student written policy entitled the Southern New Hampshire University Academic Integrity Code. While the code is still in its early stages and several university groups and individuals still need to approve and amend it. The task the group now faces is to change the culture of SNHU to be receptive to these high standards and maintain those standards.

Maintaining student academic integrity is difficult due to several obstacles. These problems include the definition of academic integrity, student understanding of academic integrity and their rationalization for academic dishonesty, and finally the creation and enforcement of university integrity policies. In order to properly address the issue of academic integrity, we first need to differentiate it from an "Honor Code."

In discussing the integrity of a university and its community, it is important to distinguish the dying concept of an "Honor Code" and the new social movement toward "Academic Integrity." The word choices here may seem inconsequential, yet the connotations of both phrases have a significant impact on their being followed, regulated, and punished. In today's society, integrity is more frequently used than "honor," because "honor" connotes chivalry and the medieval period; whereas 'integrity' is a valued characteristic of individuals today. Therefore, academic integrity should include the actions, or inactions, of students and faculty within a set standard of explicit ethical ideals in relation to the academic world. Actions

that conflict with this integrity include cheating on tests, collaborating on specified individual assignments, plagiarism, the lack of reporting others' academic dishonesty, and the faculty's failure to deter academic dishonesty. All of these ideas must be firmly rooted in the university's ethical ideals and policies, as well as the student and faculty community.

As several of the articles on such topics noted, students' possess a clear understanding of what constitutes academic dishonesty. Many defined it as plagiarism, cheating off of one another or off "hidden" notes, or even working together on an assignment they were told to work on independently. The most prevalent of these was plagiarism, which can be taken from original sources, friends, the Internet, buying papers, and sorority or fraternity paper "file sharing." Yet, despite their clear understanding of what academic integrity is not, they have a harder time defining what it is and their relation to it. Many of the students in the readings were able to rationalize the breakdown of integrity, both in others and themselves, by using Machiavelli's philosophy: the ends justify the means. Due to students' understanding, and in some cases complete disregard, for university "Honor Codes" or "Academic Integrity Policies" they must be central in discussions and the creation or adaptation of integrity policies.

Many of the articles cited examples of students recognizing academic dishonesty yet rationalizing either the act itself or their lack of reporting it with three excuses. The excuse most often cited was the student's feeling of social pressure, or fear of ostracism, which prevented them from reporting academic dishonesty. The second most popular deterrent to reporting dishonesty was the belief that academic dishonesty was a victimless crime. Obviously, it is very difficult to raise objections against this claim because the consequences of academic dishonesty are often indirect. One person's academic dishonesty cannot directly injure an individual, but rather helps dissolve the trusting atmosphere of a com-

munity. Finally, students feel compelled to join in academic dishonesty to remain competitive. This claim, though valid in the eyes of the academically dishonest, is merely an excuse for the individual's laziness. Universities provide their students with numerous resources for academic help; simply by taking advantage of these options, students should be able to remain competitive. Universities can attempt to prevent academic dishonesty with the implementation of an "Honor Code" or "Academic Integrity Policy."

For an integrity policy to function properly, the community, the university, must contribute to its foundations and remain active participants in maintaining academic integrity. Popular deterrents require students, before handing in an exam, to sign a document swearing that the test they are turning in is their own work. Other universities check the identifications of students both before and after the tests. These schools' actions may have deterred student-to-student exam cheating, but that is only one of the many available areas in which students are able and likely to cheat. Plagiarism may be the easiest to detect yet usually has the least punishment. This may be connected with the universities' subconscious agreement with the "victimless crime" of plagiarism. An integrity policy must be created, updated, and enforced vigilantly in order to build a community which continually objects to cheating. The strongest deterrent for academic dishonesty is rarely cited as the specific university's code; rather, personal morals and community ethics have more of an impact on students' academic integrity.

Building a supportive community, with strong ethical beliefs and policies about academic honesty, is the biggest contribution a university can make in order to deter students from dishonesty. Such a community would foster the creation of strong moral values about academic honesty, as well as encourage discussion and an understanding of academic integrity. The likelihood

See Page 7 **Integrity**

Save Your Money!

Frank Rubino
Managing Editor

According to the September 2005 issue of Money magazine, 23 percent of college students owe more than \$3,000 on their credit cards, 67 percent don't know how to budget, and 28 percent can't balance a checkbook. That's pretty sad!

Everyone, especially young college students, need to have basic personal finance skills and knowledge. You need to know exactly what's going on with your money, how much you need to save, and how your money's being spent. This is very important because your money determines what lifestyle you have, and your future will depend on how much money you have. Most college students have loans to pay, and most will have expenses and bills to pay when they get out of college, and without money you can't do anything. So it makes sense to have a lot of money saved.

Americans are currently spending more than they save. According to "Why Can't Americans Save a Dime?", an MSN Money article by Marilyn Gardner, in 1981 people saved an average of 11 percent of their income and owed 4 percent of their income on credit cards. By 2000, the average savings rate

fell below zero, and credit card debt had gone up to 12 percent of people's income. Part of the problem is that credit cards have generally replaced cash, and are used more liberally than cash. People have the mentality that if you want to buy something you can just hand a piece of plastic to the cashier instead of having to give up cash. Credit cards need to be treated the same way as cash. A credit card does not mean you have more money. It just means that the money you already have you don't have to carry around with you. So, don't spend money that you don't have. Never have a balance on your credit card because then you have to pay interest on the balance and it will take you even longer to pay it back. Also, don't get hit with charges for doing careless things such as going over your credit limit or not paying at least the minimum balance on time. Not only will you have to pay fees, but your credit score will suffer, and that will have you paying higher interest rates on mortgages and other loans.

It's more important to save your money than to spend it on useless things that you don't need. Wealth isn't measured by the amount of money you

See Page 8 **Money**

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Opinion

Have You Seen My Stapler?

Jordan Lake
Staff Writer

So either you've made it to campus in one piece or you picked up the pieces once you got here; whether you're new, returning, a transfer or your sister used this article to wrap up her contraband votive candle, now's the time to indulge in some SNHU/College tips.

- Budgeting the book-to-laundry-money ratio will be the bane of your existence.
- Radiator grilled cheese doesn't work.
- If SwEeTMommaDiggy-Dog14665 screen names make you forget who's who, keep a conversion hard-copy in your desk drawer.
- Add a new Buddy list specifically for this year's cast.
- A good guy/girl friend that doesn't want to kiss you is still one of your most valuable assets.
- Set the alarm on your phone. 'Cause when your roommate accidentally unplugs your alarm clock in the middle of the night, your punctual professors won't care if that 10X10' square you call home doesn't have adequate wiring.
- Always leave for class with enough time to forget something and go back.
- Floss.
- Learn to crap in public restrooms—there's no such thing as good timing.
- You will say something stupid in class and the probability that you'll ever forget what you said, is less likely than being really awesome at any bathroom small-talk.
- Febreeze like it's your job; then thank me later.
- In order to succeed at college, being tired less than all the time is a little unrealistic.
- Wendy's late-night really does save lives.
- Facebook.
- Laundry day will never come. Have more socks and drawers than you've ever thought possible or deemed necessary.
- Always use the person's name when you're talking to them. While this sits true in any circumstance, it is particularly true on campus—the cramped quarters of academia nearly ensures your impeccable social skills will be recognized.

- Improvise. From cleaning up coffee spills with notebook paper to (my favorite) eye-liner on a post-it note you'll feel proud at your independence.
- Indicate the most trivial piece of information in a convo or lecture and memorize it. Then, at the first possible instance, refer that portion of material. You may only get one chance to bring it up, so don't hesitate to do so.
- You probably won't lose your footing inside the Student Center if you come across a yellow, wet-floor marker; however there isn't enough traction in New Hampshire to prevent your flip-flops from betraying your swagger on a rain soaked yellow parking lot line.
- And last but not least, go out right now and buy yourself a stapler. I regrettably must shatter your annual assumption that with all the stapling potential surrounding this school, a stapler at SNHU is still a difficult item to come by.

Advice for Freshmen

Dan Smith
Staff Writer

What troubles the average freshman? Well from experience I would say everything. They are all wondering what their classes are going to be like, how they are going to make friends and what ever happened to mommy's little wakeup call. Well, I can certainly answer some of those questions.

The problem with being a college freshman is that no matter how well connected you are, you feel alone and vulnerable when you get here. There is one thing that should comfort you and most certainly comforted me. All of the incoming freshmen are in the same boat. They are all in a new and scary environment. It is easy to make new friends when you have something in common. Finding someone you can connect with is as simple as asking, "So what's your major?" or "I saw you in my last class, what did you think of the professor?" Friends are all over the place and remember one thing, you don't have to become best friends with your roommate.

I find that another big issue for freshmen is the uncertainty of their new roommate. Assuming that all of the freshmen have roommates, you all at least know their names. Most freshmen try to be best friends with their roommates right off. That is unnecessary. You just need to be yourself and let your roommate know where you stand and find out where they stand. If you happen to become great friends that's awesome, My roommate is a great guy and we get along very well, as a matter of fact he and I have many of the same inter-

ests, but I didn't talk to him all summer. So remember its not hard to make friends when you all share a common situation.

As for your classes, no one can tell you for sure what a class is or is not going to be like. It is up to you to figure it out on your own. A lot of upperclassmen will tell you which teachers are easier or which teachers are nice and which are tough graders, but ultimately it is up to you to figure out the professors for yourself and decide whether or not you will ever take a class with them again. So remember even if one person had a bad experience in a class it does not mean you will!

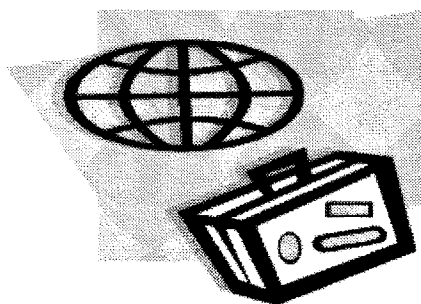
In most cases mommy does not go to SNHU, so you have to find your own way of waking up in the morning. My suggestion is a really loud alarm clock and a really understanding roommate. Last year I had the worst time getting up for my seven am classes so I set my alarm to go off three time each time getting much louder. Luckily it worked and my roommate did not kill me. Another way of getting up is to have something to do, like coffee ready to pop into the microfridge or a quick re-study for a test. If you have something to do, you will be more awake for your classes and be more likely to be on time. Now I am not suggesting that you leave your homework 'till the morning of, but it won't hurt to look over those notes one more time!

So basically this whole college thing can be a really over whelming experience and very challenging. But it is not impossible and there are many people on campus who can help if any of my hints fail or just don't work for you. ➔

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Integrity

Continued from page 6

of a student rationalizing academic dishonesty within such a community would greatly diminish due to this common understanding. The integrity policy would have to be routinely and strictly enforced, in order to maintain the community's attitude and serve as a constant reminder of the aca-

demic integrity the community expects of each of its members.

Money

Continued from page 6

spend, it's by the amount of money you have. Take two people that both make the same amount of money. One of them spends all their money on things like an expensive car, a large house, clothes and jewelry, expensive vacations, but also has credit card debt, loans to pay back, mortgage payments they can't afford, and no money in the bank. The other person only spends about half as much as the first, but also has a savings account, a retirement account, stocks and investments, insurance, and doesn't have any debt whatsoever. Which person is wealthier?

Another reason to save is that you need to have enough money saved for retirement. Now, if you're a college student you're probably reading this thinking "Retirement! Why do I have to worry about that now? It'll be another forty years until I retire." Well, if you're getting a paycheck, whether it's from part or full time work, than you need to be saving for retirement. If you wait until you're in your thirties and forties it's much more difficult to save because time is no longer on your side. There's less time left until you retire. Also, personal savings is the key to a solid retirement fund, not outside sources such as Social Security. Nowadays, Social Security benefits usually amount to between \$18,000 and \$22,000 a year, and that's really not a lot to live comfortably off of. The benefits are expected to be cut even more because there are so many people entering retirement and collecting benefits, and less people working and paying for benefits. People are retiring earlier, living longer, and more people than ever are going to be entering retirement at around the same time. It's going to be increasingly difficult for the economy to support so many non-working people for so long. You need to have extra money saved that you can tap into after you retire.

So, keep track of your money and your finances, use credit cards wisely and save more than you spend. Plan early on for retirement and it should lead to more wealth in the future. Just like you would diet and exercise to create a healthier physical condition, you need to monitor and save to create a healthier financial situation.

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