September, 2009

MONTHLY
JOURNAL OF THE
VICE PRESIDENT
FOR

# **Academic Affairs**

### New Academic Building Opens

The new academic building, located across from the main campus, opened on July 16. The School of Community Economic Development and the Vice President for Academic Affairs offices moved into their new locations just in time for the new academic year.

The modern, "eco-green" building is environmentally and student friendly with motion sensored lights through out the building and climate controlled classes and offices.

The multi-purpose classroom can be partioned into two separate rooms. The open learning common area will allow students a relaxing atmosphere to study, read, or meet in study groups while sitting in a brightly lit glass walled space in front of a fireplace. A café and coffee shop will also be located in the new building

The official opening of the new academic building will be held at 11 am on Tuesday, September 8, beginning with a ribbon cutting by President LeBlanc. A barbeque will follow. All are welcome to attend.

#### Scholarship + Service = Significance

By Eleanor Dunfey-Freiburger The Civic Engagement/Service Learning initiative at SNHU continues this academic year having already involved approximately 15 faculty, 250+ students, and 18 non-profit organizations since its 2007 pilot year.

This semester our programs include the following and will be available for viewing on the web:

**Dr. Barbara Jacoby**, Sept. 23, *Partnerships: Transforming the University and the Community* **Dr. Elizabeth Lynn**, Oct. 20,

The Reflective Practitioner

**Dr. Donna Killian Duffy**, Nov. 18, *The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*.

These programs are meant as introductions to those who want to learn more about the pedagogy.

(See the corresponding document attached to the Sept. VPAA newsletter for more info.)



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#### Message from the VPAA ~ Dr. Patricia A. Lynott

It is with great excitement that I announce the first edition of the "Monthly Journal of the Vice President for Academic Affairs." Beginning this month, the Office of Academic Affairs will publish a monthly newsletter as a means of keeping the SNHU academic area informed of important announcements and upcoming events, and updating you on policy changes and committee decisions. The Newsletter will serve as a central, broadly distributed information resource on all matters academic.

Additionally, each month I plan to answer a Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) about academic matters submitted by an SNHU student. Also included will be a monthly open forum for faculty to discuss topics of interest and to offer insight into campus items. Another item I am excited to include will be the Opinion/Letters to the Editor column that I encourage faculty to contribute to.

The Newsletter will also be an avenue to share both personal and professional aspects of one's life, allowing us to keep up with each other even if we don't see colleagues on a regular basis. I encourage you to share your information including articles, papers and books you have published, presentations and conferences you will be attending and any news from your personal life you wish to share.

To submit items, comments, photos and articles to the Newsletter please email them to Lydia Chiang (<u>l.chiang@snhu.edu</u>) the editor of the newsletter, or to the VPAA email address (<u>vpaa@snhu.edu</u>).

I look forward to a successful academic year and your participation in the journal.

#### News from the Faculty Center for Innovation and Excellence in Teaching

By Eleanor Dunfey-Freiburger

What a productive inaugural year for the Center under Dr. Sarah Strout's leadership. Thank you! One of the tangible results of the Center's work, thus far, is the Faculty Guide Book. Compiled by Sara Wilson the Guide is a response to many requests from colleagues. The "Thumb Drive Faculty Guide" will be distributed by advisory board members at their respective School meetings on Tues. Sept. 8.

Be sure to check yours to see if you have a drive with the free coupon on it. Also, look for the helpful list of University acronyms. We will be looking to update the Guide and welcome assistance and information for the next iteration.

One of the key initiatives from of the Center for this academic year will be "TECH and TALK!"

1) Technology Training: Workshops with Aaron Flint and his staff are being scheduled. 2) Collaboration: Continued opportunities for faculty to learn from and socialize with one another are a priority. Informal conversations over lunch will be starting in early October, beginning with ways we can understand the many cultures of students in our classes. Plans for a mentoring program and other gatherings are in the works, as well. Please contact us with any ideas and suggestions.

Formal programming continues with innovation and excellence in mind:a) Faculty Scholars – Information available in Faculty Guide and on Opening Day. b) Conference Travel/Grant opportunities – Applications available in Faculty Center and c) Program Series focusing on Assessment and Scholarship/Research -- to be circulated online.

#### Faculty Center Advisory Board, 2009-2010

School of Business: Aysun Ficici, Andy Lynch, Greg Randolph, School of Liberal Arts: Michele Goldsmith, Silvia Spence, Sarah Strout, School of Education: Cathy Stavenger, Shapiro Library: Brooke Ratto, College of Online and Continuing Education: Brandi Hoyt-Biagiotti, Member At-Large: Sara Wilson, Representative for Adjuncts: Liz Henley, Director: Eleanor Dunfey-Freiburger.

# Hello & Welcome By Lydia Chiang

Hello and welcome to the Monthly Journal of the VPAA.

Every year we begin the semester with some new and exciting events on campus. We have beautiful landscaping, bright hallways and freshly painted classrooms. This year we are welcoming the semester with a beautiful new academic building filled with state of the art classrooms, new lounge areas, extra large conference rooms and a spacious patio area. We're also introducing the Monthly Journal of the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Starting with the inaugural issue in September the electronic journal will be by, for and about the SNHU academic community. Think of this as an open forum for the academic community to share information, discuss and debate issues, and keep everyone up-to-date about professional and personal information. Regular columns such as "The Message from the VPAA", Personal News, and Academic Events will be included. Academic Updates will include all information regarding new policies, decisions and announcements. Faculty and staff written commentaries and articles will also be a regular feature, as well as letters to the editor. Student questions and comments regarding academic issues will also be included.

All faculty and academic staff are asked to contribute to the newsletter. All contributions are due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please submit photos you wish to share and don't forget to include names of individuals included and locations. Also send along any publications, presentations, awards, and announcements both on the professional and personal level.

This newsletter is for and about you and it will be a great success with your input. Let's have a great academic year.

#### New Faculty for the 2009 Academic Year

#### **School of Business**

 Carroll Piper, Visiting Instructor of Accounting

#### **School of Education**

Mary Westwater, Visiting Lecturer

#### **School of Liberal Arts**

- Joseph Corbin, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies
- Susan D'Agostino, Assistant Professor of Mathematics
- Amy Fortier, Visiting Assistant Professor of Humanities & Fine Arts
- Fred Lord, Assistant Professor of Rhetoric, Composition & Creative Writing, Director of the Honors Program
- Kenneth Nivison, Assistant Professor of History
- Megan Paddack, Assistant Professor of Mathematics

#### **Shapiro Library**

- Carlos Pearman, Visiting Lecturer, Reference Librarian
- Alice Platt, Digital Initiatives Librarian
- Brooke Ratto, Instructor, Reference, Periodicals Librarian

#### **Culinary Program - COCE**

• Stefan Ryll, Instructor



Comfy, welcoming and relaxing chairs in front of the fireplace in the learning common area



The Faculty Center for Innovation & Excellence in Teaching

The Vice President for Academic Affairs

New
Faculty
Reception

Friday,
September 11, 2009
4:30 to 6:00 pm
New Academic Building Lobby

#### **Schedule Management Team Jumps into Action**

By Ellen Griffin

The Schedule Management Team (SMT), was created to oversee the coordination of the university's course schedules. As a means to help facilitate student academic planning, the SMT will coordinate with the schools to publish reliable 18-month schedules. Our traditional-age students and transfer students increasingly need to plan around work and commuter schedules. Nontraditional students select courses from a variety of delivery modes and locations, thus a clear and stable schedule is critical.

The Schedule Management Team's oversight of the university schedule will ensure quality course experiences for students and faculty by maximizing all available resources and offering courses where there will be a proven demand for them.

The Schedule Management team is chaired by Ellend Griffin, dean of COCE. Representatives from across the university include Brandi Biagiotti (COCE), Scott Durand, (M&SR), Pat Gerard (SofB), Carey Glines (Advising Office), Karen Goodman (COCE), Nicholas Hunt Bull (SLA), Woullard Lett (SED), Amy MacDonald (COCE), Rick Ouellette (Registrar), Judy Timney (SED), and Jennifer Varney (COCE).

A copy of the Schedule Mangement Policy is attached to the September Academic Affairs Journal. Also attached is a schedule change checklist.

#### School of Education Prepares for October Accreditation Visit

By Mary Heath

In preparation for its upcoming accreditation visit the School of Education completed a six month long intensive self-assessment of its professional preparation programs. The extensive report was submitted to the NH Department of Education on August 28<sup>th</sup>.

The visiting team, which is comprised of a 15 Pre-K to 12 grade practitioners from across the state will be on campus from October 18 to 21. The review team will be located in the Hospitality Center rooms salon A and B.

Dean Mary Heath has a welcoming reception for the accreditation team scheduled for the evening of Sunday October 18.

Several people across the campus areas may be called upon to participate in interviews and discussions. You cooperation will be truly appreciated. For more details please see the letter from Mary Heath attached to the September issue of the Academic Affairs Journal and included in the Opening Day packets

### News from Instructional Support for the 2009 Academic Year

By Aaron Flint

All software in the classrooms has not changed since last year. Faculty and staff have access to a couple of programs to purchase software for their personal use. Everyone can see the details by going to Instructional Support's blog and clicking the "Software Purchase Programs" link. Software available for purchase includes: Microsoft Office 2007 Enterprise Edition, Microsoft Office 2008 for Mac, Windows XP Professional, Windows Vista, coming soon – Windows 7. Several Adobe products are also available, including Acrobat, Creative Suite, Photoshop, and more.

Please remember that the Instructional Support's Blog is where all faculty and staff can connect to for any updates on new teaching tools. The blog is accessible at <a href="http://is.snhu.edu">http://is.snhu.edu</a>. All faculty and staff are encouraged to subscribe in order to have the latest information.

#### The Monthly Journal of the Vice President for Academic Affairs

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#### **Academic Calendars**

Fall 2009	
Semester/Term Begin	
Term 1/ CE, Online	31-Aug
Term 1A/ ESL	8-Sep
Undergraduate Day, Transitional Bridge Program	9-Sep
Undergraduate Day Add/Drop Ends	15-Sep
Graduate on campus	21-Sep
Undergraduate Day Roster Verifications	25-Sep
Mid-Term Holiday (Day school only)	12-Oct
Mid-Term Grades Due in PenPal (Day school only)	30-Oct
Terms Ends	
CE, Online	25-Oct
ESL	30-Oct
Semester/Term Begin	
Term 2/ CE, Online	26-Oct
Term 1B/ ESL	2-Nov
Undergraduate Day Last Day to Withdraw	13-Nov
Thanksgiving Recess	
CE, Online	Nov 26-27
Undergraduate Day, Transitional Bridge Program	Nov 25–27
Graduate on campus	Nov 23-28
Terms Ends	
Graduate on campus	12-Dec
Final Exams Day	Dec 14–18
Term 1B/ ESL	18-Dec
Term 2/ CE, Online	20-Dec
Last day to Enter Grades into PenPal	22-Dec



#### **A Personal Note**

# New pets welcomed this summer!



Ali Poore enjoying a cool drink.

#### Congratulations!

To the Poore Family and their new dog Ali, named for the great humanitarian and human rights advocate Muhammad Ali. He is a rescue dog from the great state of Mississippi.

Dash posing for the camera .

#### Congratulations

To Diana Polley, and her new dog Dashiell "Dash" Henry Polley, a four months old soft-coated wheaten terrier.

## New faculty member's family visits from Germany

The family of new Culinary faculty member, Stefan Ryll had a chance to visit SNHU in August. Stefan's sister Marina and brothers Ralf and Bodo, from Berlin, Germany also enjoyed a visit to SNHU and the newly named "Quill" restaurant in the hospitality building. Some of the souvenirs they took back with them included Quill logo shirts and promises to advertise in Berlin.



The family of Stefan Ryll, Bodo, Ralf and Marina visit the Quill during the summer

# **Culinary Chef to Judge Cook Off**



Desmond Keefe, seen here with Martin Yan, from the TV show Yan Can Cook, will be a judge in the first ever Hood New England Dairy Cook Off in Portland, Maine on Nov. 1.

# Best Wishes for the new Academic Year from Patty Lynott and the staff of the VPAA Office



Standing: Jane Yerrington, Lydia Chiang, Debbie Wilcox, Polly St. Hilaire, Eleanor Dunfey-Freiburger, Ron Biron, Pat Thompson, Christina Banks. Seated: Dick Erskine, Patty Lynott, Connie Hebert