

## this issue

Note from the VPAA	P.1
CDC's "Career Corner" pt.1	P.2
Retirees	P.2
CDC's "Career Corner" pt.2	P.3
Regional Honors Conference	P.3
Undergraduate Research Day	P.4
Michael Cottingham and NASSM	P.4
Sustainable Development at Universities	P.4
Accessible Course Material	P.5
The Tuning Project	P.5
New SNHU Babies	P.5



Congratulations to Dr. Michael Cottingham, Assistant Professor of Sport Management, for successfully defending his dissertation at the University of Southern Mississippi on April 18<sup>th</sup>. His dissertation is titled "The Development, Validation, and Application of the Motivation Scale of Disability Sport Consumption (MSDSC)."

As I prepared to write this final "Notes from the VPAA" column for AY2012-13, I went back to review some of the items and issues I addressed earlier in the year. In September I thanked Heather Lorenz and the entire Student Affairs staff for their attention and dedication to all of our students. Who could have imagined that just a few months later that incredible staff would be handling one of the most difficult situations we have ever faced as an institution – the loss of a student. Losing Jamie Lee caused such anguish and pain across campus, but I think it also caused this freshmen class to bond in a way that will unite them forever. In that issue we also announced how President LeBlanc was selected to receive the NEBHE "New Hampshire State Merit Award" for his commitment to improving access to higher education. I had the privilege to see Paul receive that award in Boston several months later, and I was reminded of how lucky we are to have a President that is one of the most eloquent (and seriously *funny*) public speakers in all of higher ed!! In January I said good-bye to Mary Heath and hello to Mark McQuillan who has done such an incredible job of filing some very big shoes in the School of Education. I announced the creation of the task force that will soon be delivering a formal proposal to the President for an on-campus early childhood center; a center that will also provide child care services to the children of SNHU faculty and staff. (Thank you *so much* everyone!) And in almost every issue of the *VPAA Journal* this year, I mentioned our ten-year NEASC reaccreditation visit; the incredible work involved in preparing it; the important problems and accomplishments it revealed; the migraines it caused! So it is only fitting that I close this last column citing from the formal letter we received from the Commission on April 9<sup>th</sup>. I think these two particular statements exemplify the many significant accomplishments we have achieved as a University:

*We commend SNHU for its preparation of a thoughtful and candid self-study that . . . clearly demonstrates that the institution has a keen awareness and understanding of the challenges and opportunities higher education will face in the future . . . SNHU's visionary leadership, committed faculty, staff, and trustees are commended for their student-centered philosophy that places the academic achievement of students at the forefront regardless of the course delivery format chosen.*

Patricia A. Lynott

Provost and Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs

## Retirees

Congratulations to SNHU's 2012 Faculty Retirees:

Eleanor Dunfey-Freiberger  
University Professor of  
Ethics and Civic  
Engagement  
Office of Academic Affairs,  
1984

Fran Kelly  
Associate Professor of  
TESOL  
Institute for Language  
Education, School of Arts &  
Sciences, 1992

Ausra Kubilius  
Professor of English  
School of Arts & Sciences,  
1973

Paul Schneiderman  
Professor of Finance  
School of Business, 1976

Susan Schragle-Law  
Professor of Organizational  
Leadership  
School of Business, 1988

Chris Toy  
Professor of Mathematics  
School of Arts & Sciences,  
1971

Walter Zimmermann  
Professor of Psychology  
School of Arts & Sciences,  
1968

We heartily thank Eleanor, Fran, Ausra, Paul, Susan, Chris, and Walter for their combined 232 years of service to SNHU and our students! We wish them all the best in the next exciting phase of their lives.

## Career Development Center's "Career Corner" pt.1

Submitted by: Christiana Amesquita, Outreach Coordinator, Career Development Center

The Career Development Center has been bursting with vibrancy and nervous energy from students on the brink of their dreams. Many of our students will be starting a new internship, a new job or a new journey and we wish them a job well done!

### NHCUC JOB FAIR

In recent weeks, the CDC has hosted several events to help our students prepare for life after college. As an affiliate of NHCUC, staff from the office attended the NHCUC Job Fair held on April 4<sup>th</sup> at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester, NH. Over 60 employers attended this high-energy event [http://www.nhcuc.org/pdfs/employ\\_dir.pdf](http://www.nhcuc.org/pdfs/employ_dir.pdf). It was great to see so many SNHU students and alumni networking with prospective employers.

### BUSINESS ETIQUETTE DINNER

This year's Business Etiquette Dinner took place on April 5<sup>th</sup> in the Hospitality Center. Our very own Andrea Bard, communications faculty and etiquette specialist, presented a fascinating, fun and informative program. Alumni Ann Lally, President of Salem Cooperative Bank '79 and '95; Michael Warendra, Project Manager at Triad Associates '02; and Meghan Delesandro, VP of Publishing for Alloy Media & Marketing '00 picked up a few tips as they networked with students.



### WORKING IN THE USA

To provide valuable and informative opportunities for our International community, the CDC and ISS hosted the "Working in the USA-OPT and Beyond Workshop" on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Students met Immigration Manager, Robin Vermette of Orr & Reno, P.A to learn about employment and Visa options.



(See next page)

### WORKING IN THE USA (cont.)

On April 18<sup>th</sup>, ISS, ISA and the CDC hosted the annual International Alumni Panel. SNHU alumni panelists Estaban Lopez of Ecuador '01 and '05; Zelma X. Echeverria of Ecuador '01; Mary Wambui of Kenya '05; and Jing Li of China '05 shared inspirational stories about their careers and accomplishments. The evening served as a great opportunity for students to ask questions and for the panelists to share valuable advice and tips on finding employment in the USA.

### JOB AND INTERNSHIP POSTINGS

The CDC has been developing new ways to expand our services and outreach, including social media strategies and a job/internship posting campaign. As new positions come in every day, we highlight a few that we consider excellent opportunities for student and alumni. We then share these positions with the community on our Facebook (/SNHUCareerDevelopment) and Twitter (@SNHUCareerCtr) pages with the hash tag **#Spotlight**. Throughout the summer we will develop the means to take this initiative one step further. We are creating an email system where opportunities will be sent weekly to the inboxes of our faculty and staff to share with students. We encourage you to keep an eye out for emails as we continue to develop this initiative.

### FAREWELL TO CHANCE

Sadly, our last announcement is saying farewell to one of our own. Associate Director, Chance Clutter, is leaving SNHU at the end of May to take on a new position in his home state as a career counselor at the University of Kansas. "It is a very bittersweet moment for me," said Chance. "After 5+ years at SNHU, I've had the pleasure of working with a lot of great students, faculty, and staff and that is what I will miss most of all." Please join us in wishing Chance the best of luck in his new adventure! If you would like to stay in touch with Chance, you can find him on LinkedIn.



### Regional Honors Conference

Every year the National Collegiate Honors Council hosts both a national and regional conference. This is a time when Honors students present the research that they have been working on. Dr. Andrew Martino, the director of SNHU's four year Honors program, encourages his seniors to submit to the North East Regional Honors Conference. The University Honors Program at SNHU is committed to increasing our presence at the regional Honors conference. Last year we had two students present their work, and this year we had three: Nicole Escobar, Danielle Dalton, and Nicole Faille! Both years saw our students stand out from the rest in scholarly content and overall professionalism. Each of them presented their 401 projects at the conference in Baltimore, Maryland. We would like to congratulate the seniors not only for their presentations at the conference, but for their contributions to the Honors Program.



## Michael Cottingham and NASSM

Congratulations to Michael Cottingham for his recognition in the North American Society for Sports Management. NASSM is an organization that supports and assists professionals who work in the field of sport, leisure and recreation. Also, NASSM's purpose is "to promote, stimulate, and encourage study, research, scholarly writing, and professional development in the area of sport management - both theoretical and applied aspects." Cottingham is both a member of NASSM and a professor here at SNHU.

NASSM writes a wonderful piece about Cottingham saying that he "is paving the way for a very bright future within sport management academia. Although Cottingham is only in his first year as a faculty member, he has been working diligently to develop his line of research and expertise in the area of disability sport marketing and sponsorship. To date, Cottingham has published 4 articles with 3 currently under review. Additionally, he has presented a total of 25 academic presentations, procured 4 externally funded grants, as well as served as the Key Note Speaker at the University of Central Arkansas Disability Sport and Leisure Disability Expo."

For the entire article on Michael Cottingham, please see the sixth page of the NASSM April Newsletter: [http://www.nassm.com/files/newsletter\\_15\\_3.pdf](http://www.nassm.com/files/newsletter_15_3.pdf).

## Undergraduate Research Day

Undergraduate Research Day was a success! Nearly two hundred students and faculty attended, supporting the students. The afternoon opened with three panels, each with three or four speakers. The forty students were divided into groups of related projects, each being assessed by the judges in the rooms. After the first set of panelists presented, there was a short break while the second round of students prepared themselves.

After the oral presentations came the poster presentations, held above the dining hall. The students lined the room, presenting and answering question to the different faculty members who passed by. Meanwhile, the judges were making rounds, figuring out which students should be awarded the gift cards. The judges were looking at three specific categories: originality, scholarship, and presentation and style.

"All of the presentations were excellent," said Dr. Patty Lynott. The students who contributed did a wonderful job; unfortunately only three people could be awarded the prizes. The winners in each category gave wonderful presentations. For originality, Suman Lama and Brenna Gailinas won with their poster presentation on Robotic Transformations in a Two-Dimensional World. For scholarship, Jeff Himmelwright won with his oral presentation titled Beyond the BRIC: Looking to Africa for Opportunity. And for presentation and style, Danielle Dalton won with her oral presentation called Google Me: Exploring the Cognitive and Social Impacts of Increased Internet Use on the Digital Generation. All of the students were applauded for their wonderful presentations. Given the great success of this event, we are encouraged to make Undergraduate Research Day an annual experience at SNHU.

## Sustainable Development at Universities

Submitted by: Paul A. Barresi, Professor of Political Science and Environmental Law

Paul Barresi, Professor of Political Science and Environmental Law in the School of Arts and Sciences, will co-present a paper in June at the World Symposium on Sustainable Development at Universities, an officially designated parallel event to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The paper summarizes the proposals of the Roundtable On Environmental Systems and Sustainability, an ongoing, inclusive collaboration of university faculty and administrators, independent scholars, and environmental practitioners from throughout North America who are committed to developing and implementing a comprehensive, supradisciplinary approach to producing graduates of environmental programs with the knowledge, skills, and experiences necessary to respond effectively to the urgent, pervasive sustainability challenges that exist at the human-nature interface. Since its inception in March 2009, the Roundtable has sought to develop consensus-based pedagogical proposals for use in program development and as a potential template for program recognition. SNHU's School of Arts and Sciences hosted the Roundtable's fifth meeting on the Manchester campus in June 2010. SNHU's B.A. in Environmental Management is based on important aspects of the Roundtable's work. An account of that work at an earlier stage of its development was published last year as a chapter in the thirty-second volume of the longest-running book series on sustainability education and communication. The Rio paper will be published as a chapter in the thirty-third volume, which is in press.

## Accessible Course Materials

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, as Amended (ADAAA), academic materials must be available in an accessible format if needed by a student with a documented disability. For students with vision impairments (totally blind or low vision/ legally blind) and students who have print/reading disabilities, textbooks need to be available in accessible (electronic) format to be used with screen/ document reader technology. The Office of Disability Services (ODS) converts textbooks to accessible format as needed, a process that can take 15-20 hours for each textbook. If the chosen textbook(s) changes shortly before a class starts, or is added once the course has started, and ODS is not notified of such a change, there may not be sufficient time to convert it to an accessible format, and thus the student will not have equal access to the course material.

Likewise, for students who are totally deaf or hearing impaired, media must be in a format that is accessible. When using DVD's, YouTube, podcasts, etc. in a class, the material needs to be captioned, transcribed or translated by a CART provider (Communication Access Real Time captioning). ODS is requesting that while syllabi are being created, and/or if media is added during the semester, please be cognizant that media needs to be accessible to students with disabilities, and that making inaccessible materials accessible takes time to process.

Please contact anyone in ODS if you need assistance. Hyla Jaffe, Liz Henley, and Dennis Green: 603-645-9630 or email.

## New SNHU Babies!

Sarah Stearns, in Academic Advising, gave birth to a sweet baby boy. Graham Frazier Stearns was born at 7:08 pm on March 29. He weighed in at 8 lbs 12 oz, and was 20 inches.



Dr. Michael Hendery and his wife had a beautiful baby girl. Amelie Lauren Hendery was born at 9:30pm on February 23rd at Wentworth Douglass Hospital in Dover. She weighed in at 6lbs 11oz, and was approximately 19.5 inches.

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## The Tuning Project

We would like to congratulate Kenneth Nivison for his accepted proposal and his upcoming participation in the American Historical Association's Tuning Project. The Tuning Project, sponsored by the AHA and funded by a grant from the Lumina Foundation, will enable SNHU to align the history program and our courses with a wide range of programs from across the country. The program is the first-ever attempt to articulate the common goals of the history major and to harmonize assessment targets. The first meeting will be held in June. For further reading, please see the link below. <http://www.historians.org/projects/tuning/>