

this issue

News from the Provost	P.1
Institutional Research (IR) Portal	P.2
UCC Updates	P.2
Meet Dr. Vanessa Rocco	P.2
Alumni Spotlight	P.3
APC Updates	P.3
CDC's "Career Corner"	P.4
Congratulations	P.4
SNHU's New Study Abroad Program	P.5
Congratulations	P.5



Please note the new deadlines for submitting to the VPAA Journal:

Deadline for Submission

March 11
April 5
April 29

Publication Date

March 15
April 15
May 3

Dear Colleagues-

It's hard to believe that we are almost half way through the semester. I want to share some exciting news, and share some new initiatives in University College.

Congratulations to the Southern New Hampshire University Culinary Team on winning the "New Hampshire State Championship". This is the fourth consecutive win for the team. Congratulations to Chef Stefan Ryll and his student team, and best of luck in Verona, NY for the North East Regional Competition!

Beginning in the fall of 2013, the School of Education will require all freshman Education majors to take a battery of tests in reading, writing, and mathematics to assess what their strengths and weaknesses are in these core subjects. Based on the results of this assessment, students will be directed to enroll in various courses of action tailored to address any weaknesses they might have in these areas. These efforts will not only contribute to increased retention, but will also help students be successful on the national examinations (PRAXIS) they must pass in order to be licensed to teach. The School of Education faculty are making a commitment to the success of students that hope to become teachers in New Hampshire and beyond.

Finally, the Institutional Research (IR) staff has been working diligently to improve the quality, usefulness, and access to data that drives decisions in University College. Within the past few months, IR has launched a page on mySNHU which makes a variety of reports available to the university community. Topics include admissions, metrics enrollment by program, faculty teaching assignments, room utilization, and student success. Also, in preparation for the UCC strategic planning process, undergraduate student assistants including 3Year Honors freshman Melissa Hebert, have assembled a tremendous amount of external resources like CIRP survey results, the Delta Cost Project, and links to professional associations by subject area. All of this information is being reviewed by the strategic planning work groups as part of their deliberations.

Thank you everyone for your dedication and hard work.

Patricia A. Lynott

Provost and Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs

University Curriculum
Committee (UCC)

As we are moving forward with a new way to update the course catalog, we have been able to extend the deadline for final proposals for the next catalog year. In recent years, in order for any changes to curriculum to be made in the course catalog, proposals needed to be to the UCC by the December meeting. The new deadline will be the UCC February meeting. This means any changes you would like to see made in the 2013-2014 course catalog need to be approved by your school's curriculum committee and deans.

Institutional Research (IR) Portal

There is an exciting new addition, on mySNHU, called the Institutional Research (IR) Portal. The IR Portal is a place where faculty and staff can have access to high level information, like teaching loads; teaching history; enrollment by program; and when and where classes meet. There is also high level student information, broken down by majors and academic year. The IR Portal updates daily, allowing for current information.

In addition to data reports, the IR Portal contains published works and presentations, including those from Opening Days and Closure. We encourage all faculty and staff to check out this new page. The Portal is found under the Institutional Research tab on the Academic Affairs page (see link below).

<https://my.snhu.edu/Offices/AcademicAffairs/InstitutionalResearch/Pages/default.aspx>

If a faculty member would like a report created, simply contact Tom Beraldi (t.beraldi@snhu.edu) for assistance.

Meet Dr. Vanessa Rocco!

The Provost Office would like to welcome Fine Arts and Humanities' newest Professor, Vanessa Rocco, to the School of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Rocco received her B.A. from American University, where she was trained as an art historian and museum curator. Right out of her undergraduate studies, she was given a fellowship in Venice, at the Guggenheim. For three months, Dr. Rocco lived in a historic city while working with Modern Art. During her time as a curator, she was concerned with what people were going to take away from the exhibits. She found passion in the "educational" aspect and her goal was to make sure that people were learning something from her shows.

Dr. Rocco earned her Master's in Philosophy and her Ph.D. in Art History from City University of New York. During graduate school, Dr. Rocco had the opportunity to teach and it left its mark. She was a full-time curator at the International Center of Photography in New York, and she began teaching on the side. The ache for teaching grew to the point where Dr. Rocco wanted to switch to a full time teaching position and be a curator on the side. She found that her deepest passion lay in the fields of teaching and research. Starting in 2007, Dr. Rocco taught both undergraduate and graduate students at Pratt Institute, an art college in Brooklyn. Her switch from curating to teaching allowed her the time to co-write a book, titled *The New Woman International: Representations in Photography and Film from the 1870s through the 1960s*, thus reinforcing her choice to teach.

This past year, Dr. Rocco entered the SNHU community, moving her family from New York City to New Hampshire. She noticed two stark differences as she began teaching with us: the faculty and the students. "SNHU is growing and open to new ideas," Dr. Rocco says. The "vibrancy" of the faculty and students has added to her positive experience. "The faculty *wants* to work together" and they are open to new classes for Dr. Rocco to teach, like a Film History course. As for the students, Dr. Rocco is teaching a completely different group of students at SNHU. "They're younger than my undergraduates at Pratt" and they're not necessarily predisposed to art, "giving me an opportunity to introduce them to new things."

Dr. Rocco is enjoying the task of trying to make Art History more relevant to their everyday lives. Her goal is to make Art History to matter to her students. She tries to get her students "riled up about it" because "you need to get excited to make it matter." She enjoys that her students are engaged and looking to apply their knowledge. Art History is "so much more than pretty landscapes," Dr. Rocco says, it is "visual culture," and we live in an "image saturated environment." She does "the film and photo thing," helping her students develop a "critical stance towards visual culture."

"History informs the present and we need to learn from it." – Dr. Vanessa Rocco

Alumni Spotlight: Active Alumni, Vibrant Campus

Submitted by: The Office of Institutional Advancement

Are you looking for ways to enrich your students' classroom experience? The SNHU Alumni Association and the Alumni Relations office are proud to work with faculty, staff, and student organizations to bring alumni home to campus as guest speakers, panelists, mentors, career advisors, and more. Neil Donahue '82 is a great example of how alumni in the classroom can strengthen a student's experience.

Neil says he was an average student in high school, an all-around average kid who found himself during his time at New Hampshire College. When he graduated with a degree in Hospitality Management in 1982, Neil already had a job lined up with Marriott, thanks to on-campus recruiting opportunities lined up by the school. For the last thirty years, Neil has never been without a job, and he attributes that to our institution, to the school that gave him so much.

Now, Neil serves as Vice President on the Alumni Association Board of Directors, and he is the alumni representative to the Board of Trustees. In addition to his work helping to shape the alumni experience and the future of the school, he also speaks several times a month in classes for Hospitality and Marketing, and he sits on the recertification board for the Hospitality program.

Giving back to current SNHU students and to the university itself is important to Neil. "I have kids and I see what challenges they face as they go through college and try to find jobs," he says. "I'm fortunate to be in contract food services management, a segment of the hospitality industry that provides a normal lifestyle and a healthy income compared to the more traditional route of hotels and restaurants, which can have long, hectic hours." He says that in spite of the draws of contract food services management, however, many people have never heard of it. He feels a duty to share with current students some of the many opportunities out there, bringing a bit of the real world into the classroom to complement textbook learning.

Neil's work has brought him closer to students, and closer to the Board of Trustees guiding SNHU through the modern education landscape. "This is a well-respected institution within the field of education, and I love that we've stayed true to our roots of serving students and helping them find their path," he says.

If you are interested in learning more about bringing alumni into your classroom to build opportunities for students (or, if you are looking to expand your contact list of alumni), please contact Kristi Durette, director of Alumni Relations (k.durette@snhu.edu or 603.645.9780).



Neil Donahue '82 (right, pictured with Nick Therrien '98 at the 2010 Alumni Hockey Day post-game reception) is an active alumnus, serving on the Alumni Board and speaking on campus several times a month.

Academic Policy Committee (APC)

Two important academic policies that were passed this academic year are the **Graduate Certificate Requirements** and the **Graduate Degree Requirements**.

The **Graduate Certificate Requirements** policy was approved on January 21, 2013, and is currently in effect. The policy states that students seeking to complete the PCMH Certificate Program (note: this is a change to page 45 in the 2012-13 UG Catalog) must earn 22, complete a 100 hour practicum and one approved 300-hour pass/fail internship. The student must earn a cumulative GPA (CGPA) of at least 3.0 and no more than one grade of "C" or "C+" may apply toward certificate completion. Students must complete the program within four calendar years of acceptance. Successful completion of a Certificate Program (note: This is a change to page 57 in the 2012-13 UG Catalog) requires that the student earn a cumulative GPA (CGPA) of at least 3.0; no more than one grade of "C" or "C+" may apply toward program completion.

The Graduate Degree Requirements policy was approved on January 21, 2013, and is currently in effect. The policy states that in order to qualify for a graduate degree, a student must complete the prescribed courses and required credit hours of his or her current program(s) of study and earn a minimum cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 3.0, with no more than two grades of "C" or "C+."

Congratulations

We would like to congratulate Benjamin Nugent for his newly published novel, *Good Kids*. *Good Kids* was released on January 29, 2013 and is already receiving serious attention. Oprah named the novel seventh on her sixteen must-read books for January and Nugent has been balancing book tours and teaching.

Even more recently, on February 2, Nugent was published in the Opinion section of the New York Times with his article titled, "Upside of Distraction." In this article he discusses the writing process, praising the inevitable distractions of life.

For the full article, see the link below:

<http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/02/02/upside-of-distraction/?ref=opinion>

Career Development Center's "Career Corner"

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

We're ready for February!

The month of February is an exciting time for the Career Development Center as many valuable events for students and alumni will take shape and come to fruition.

Culinary Career Fair

Kicking off this month will be our first-ever "[Culinary Career Fair](#)" for Culinary Arts students in the Hospitality Center Salons. The Culinary Program and our office have worked in conjunction to recruit outstanding employers like Aramark, Great NH Restaurants Inc., Labelle Winery, the Sagamore and many others. Students will have the opportunity to network with employers who are looking to hire for internships, summer employment and professional positions post-graduation. Employers will enjoy the culinary artistry of our students by dining in *The Quill*, compliments of the Culinary Program.

Tuesday, February 19th, 1 – 3 p.m.



Career Points

In partnership with the Office of Institutional Advancement, the Student Athletic Advisory Committee and the Career Development Center, this year's "[Career Points](#)" in the Academic Center, will be an interactive experience for student athletes.

Students will mix and mingle with peers, alumni and staff, as they navigate through activities that will build and strengthen their skills including, how to deliver a great elevator speech, the importance of informational interviews, how to network, being mindful of your personal and professional online brand, the value of internships and the benefits of using LinkedIn.

Monday, February 25th, 5:45 -7:30 p.m.



Internship and Employer Fair

This semester's "Internship and Employer Fair" in the Dining Center Banquet Hall, will house an exceptional list of employers from nonprofit to for-profit for all current students. This will be a fantastic opportunity especially for those seeking to participate in an internship, as employers will be on campus to promote their openings for the spring and summer. Many employers will also be promoting full-time positions as well and we encourage all students to log into [SNHU Recruit](#) through MySNHU to research their positions and company.

Thursday, February 28th, 2-3 p.m.



On Campus Recruiting with Geico (interviews by appointment only) **Wednesday, February 27th**

Geico will be on campus with exciting opportunities to apply for their Supervisor Leadership Program for the Motor Overseas Agency Team. This is an entry-level, management training program in which candidates will gain comprehensive knowledge on Geico Insurance Agency. All students and alumni must apply and upload their resume in [SNHU Recruit](#) by 4 p.m., February 15th. Candidates chosen for interviews will be contacted with further instruction.

On Campus Recruiting with Tech Pinnacles (interviews by appointment only) **Friday, March 1st**

Tech Pinnacles is a leading technology company that offers full service technology for Fortune 1000 companies. Students and alumni have the opportunity to apply and upload their resume to be considered for an interview for the following positions, [Computer Engineer](#), [IT Recruiter](#) and [Quality Assurance \(QA\) Engineer/Lead](#) in SNHU Recruit by 4 p.m., February 22nd. Candidates chosen for interviews will be contacted with further instruction.

Updates to Drop-in Hours

Career Development Center would like to announce that apart from walk-in hours, students are welcome to stop by during drop-in hours at our office in Merrimack Hall. Drop-in hours will take place every Monday, Thursday and Friday from 1-3 p.m.

As events near, we encourage students and alumni to be prepared! Appointments can also be scheduled at our new number 603.645.9793 or for general questions, please email careerdevelopment@snhu.edu.



SNHU's New Study Abroad Program

Submitted by: *Stefano Parenti, Director of Study Abroad/Exchange Programs*

Seven months ago my family and I, looking for a “big change,” moved from Rome, Italy to New Hampshire. We really like our new life here, but the journey is far from over. We are still learning how to adapt with the small, daily obstacles, and these changes have become part of our lives. I believe that the “*fil rouge*” (journey and change) are linked – every journey comes with life challenges. As the director of the Study Abroad Program at SNHU, the “*fil rouge*” is essential for our students who are looking to spending a term abroad.

For the past nine years, I worked as the Managing Director for an Italian school, where I had the opportunity to start two new study abroad programs. Now, at SNHU, I'm working on the “other side of the field.” We are in the process of reforming the previous studying abroad model to ensure that our students have a unique experience overseas. In the future, we want to advise our students, from day one, so they will have the necessary information to study abroad. With the collaboration of the faculty and staff, we plan on expanding the cultural approach to going abroad, because it's more than just a destination. It's a life changing opportunity.

We are working on obtaining a handful of partnerships that will guarantee connections between our Study Abroad Program and SNHU's general education proposal. We are working out the kinks with SNHU's preapproved courses, the program's format that encourages students to expose themselves to the local culture, and the financial sustainability. While we are looking to move from a “big distribution system” to a “local boutique,” we still want to allow for the sharing ideas and the development of free thought. Studying abroad should be a time for our students, to “dip a toe in the water” of the real world; to take charge of their responsibilities; to develop their own opinions; and to make their own choices.



The Monthly Journal of the Vice President for Academic Affairs

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Congratulations

We would like to congratulate Robert Seidman, Steven Painchaud, and the late Dr. Marty Bradley for their mention in the *Canadian Journal of Higher Education*. Professor Michael L. Skolnik, Department of Theory and Policy Studies, The Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto, praised Seidman and Painchaud's book, titled *Saving Higher Education*, saying:

“While the central focus of the book is on the three-year baccalaureate degree, one of its major strengths is a highly focused, research-based discussion of innovative approaches to curriculum and program design. These innovations, such as competency-driven curricula, collaborative learning, and course management systems, hold promise for improving both efficiency and quality. For example, applying the technique shown in the book for identifying duplication among courses and treating curriculum as an interconnected system for facilitating the attainment of program competencies could likely bring significant benefits for many postsecondary institutions and their students. Owing to the strength of such contributions, this book would be of value not just to those who may be interested in the adoption of three-year baccalaureate degrees, but to others with broader interests in the reform of education in universities and colleges.”

For the full article, see the link below: <http://cupe3902.org/guardian/?p=314>