In this last edition of the Journal for AY15, I want to end the year with statistics I shared at the Closure meeting. University College faculty had a truly productive year. Collectively they published three books; seven book chapters; seven book reviews, and; thirty-two journal articles. They presented at seventy-seven regional and national conferences, and were awarded 16 grants. And of course, the achievement that just makes me so incredibly proud….Dr. Charlotte Broaden and Dr. Paul Barresi were both awarded Fulbright scholarships! What an incredible year for UC academics. And what a successful year for SNHU Athletics. Please remember to root for the SNHU softball team when they host Adelphi University in the NCAA East Super Regional at Penmen Field on May 15 and 16. The NCAA East Super Regional is a best-of-three series and the winner will advance to the NCAA Division II College World Series in Oklahoma City. Go Coach Deb!!

Commencement on Saturday May 9th was a resounding success - all three of them! Many thanks to Heather Lorenz and the entire crew who made everything work so flawlessly.

As you know, President LeBlanc is moonlighting in DC these days, and in his spare time he is also serving as the 2015 New Business Models department author and editor for EDUCAUSE Review. (We are fairly certain he can function on one hour of sleep each night!) I thought you might find one of his more recent articles particularly interesting and so I am including the link. http://www.educause.edu/ero/article/higher-education-20-and-next-few-hundred-years-or-how-create-new-higher-education-ecosystem. Paul carved out some time to come speak at Senate last week, and I can tell you, it is eye-opening to hear his best thinking on the “new ecosystem” shaping today’s higher education landscape.

I want to take a moment to say good-bye and thank you, to someone who has been instrumental in shaping the academic composition of the Provost’s office in University College. Deb Wilcox officially retires next month after giving thirty-five years of dedicated service to New Hampshire College and Southern New Hampshire University. Deb has been a friend and mentor to so many of us - we will miss her counsel, wisdom, and humor. Best of luck Deb, as you begin this next exciting chapter in your life.

Lastly, I’m extremely excited about the fall class. Our enrollment numbers have certainly defied the odds. In fact, "defying the odds" is what we will need to do in the coming years as tuition-driven, residential institutions begin to face significant new challenges. We are especially fortunate in two ways; we have the safety net of a truly successful online division, and we are an institution unafraid of adapting to the new ecosystem of higher education. I have no doubt University College will continue to defy the odds!

Have a great summer everyone.
This year has brought much exciting research and publishing to the university by faculty and students in UC with the School of Education as a prime example. Dr. Lynn Murray-Chandler has been doing very interesting work with some of her students and local colleagues in The Inquiry Scholars Collaborative of Southern New Hampshire. Basically select SED students are doing undergraduate research to improve student learning.

The collaborative is comprised of undergraduate students and faculty from Franklin Pierce University (FPU) and Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU)—all of whom are focused on student-driven inquiry in support of institution-wide assessment. In essence they are training selected undergraduate students in the methodologies applied by institutional researchers and scientists alike. The inherent value of training undergraduate students to conduct institution-wide inquiry projects, particularly on student learning in the First Year Experience, Health Sciences, and Education, is two-fold. Not only do the students performing these inquiry projects become stronger researchers, the collaborating universities benefit from using student input to improve student learning.

The SNHU scholars have presented at SNHU Undergraduate Research Day and at the New England Educational Research Organization. They attended the NCTM Annual Conference in Boston this spring as well.

The background for the work of the collaborative began at FPU in 2012 when Dr. Chandler worked with colleagues Thomas Bennett, M.D. and Zan Goncalves, Ph.D. They developed an intentional approach to teaching first-year students two learning outcomes from the AAC&U VALUE rubrics – Information Literacy (IL) and Inquiry and Analysis (IA). This work included best practices such as collaborating with librarians, time for self-reflection and peer feedback, and group-based deliberative democracy approaches.

Undergraduate research has also been named a high impact practice by AAC&U. Murray-Chandler and her colleagues believe the collaborative is unique because it not only involves undergraduate students as researchers studying student learning, but it also intentionally builds in a network approach where scholars are developed alongside peers at other institutions. Students can thus discuss their research, brainstorm and share their experiences with others going through similar academic processes.

**Goals of the Inquiry Scholars Collaborative of Southern New Hampshire**

- Assessment of student learning by Inquiry Scholars.
- Development of enhanced inquiry, analysis, information literacy skills for Inquiry Scholars.
- Increased participation in community service for Inquiry Scholars through presenting science inquiry projects to local community including local educators.
- Opportunities for educators in primary and secondary schools to learn about new pedagogies and the methods for assessment.
- Improvement of inquiry skills as a result of data driven revision of curriculum for students at all levels of education.

...Continued pg. 6
On May 6th the Career Development Center sponsored an appreciation luncheon for employers who provided internship opportunities for students throughout the year. Faculty, staff, and students attended the event to thank the employers for helping students gain professional experience in preparation for their future careers.

The panel consisted of two students who shared their experiences with the audience. This provided employers with an appreciation for the positive outcomes achieved through internship experiences as well as how they supported students in preparation for the next steps in their job search. This lunch served to thank employers for the impact they made in our student’s lives providing them with opportunities that complement their academic preparation with hands on work experience. Student panelists include Kevin Baumgartner and Martin Foley.

Kevin Baumgartner ’16, is a Marketing major who spent his spring semester working with Smuttynose Brewing Company under Renee Thomas, where he learned the day-to-day operations of the sales department to include some collaboration with public relations and social media. Kevin also participated in the internship course with Professor Pat Spirou throughout the semester.

Sport Management student, Martin Foley ’15, completed an internship on the SNHU campus with Athletics. Martin worked with Associate Director of Athletics Tom Wilkins and was able to gain a better understanding of athletic communications and marketing divisions of the athletic department. Professor Doug Blais serves as the internship instructor for all of the Sport Management students enrolled in the internship course.

Internship employer supervisors are enjoying lunch and conversation with Faculty and Career Development Staff.
For the first time in SNHU history the research projects of 4 SNHU undergraduate students were accepted for presentation at the 2015 NCUR (National Conference of Undergraduate Research) which was held at Eastern Washington University in Cheney, WA from April 15 through 18. The impressive tone of the conference was perceived by the SNHU contingency upon arrival at the Spokane Airport where the SNHU students found themselves checking into the conference immediately in front of a group of senior cadets from the U.S. Military Academy West Point. NCUR is the largest conference of undergraduate student research presentations in the U.S.

Presenting posters were Patrick Tobin and Nathan Richard, seniors in the 3 Year Honors Program in Business, on their research pertaining to “Consumers’ Perceptions of QR Codes” (mentored by Dr. Karen Stone) and Alexa Perrotti, senior majoring in Justice Studies, on her research project completed in conjunction with her mentor, Dr. Lundy Lewis, on “Robot Therapy for Autistic Children.” Presenting verbally was Jaclyn Voon Huei Chuah, senior majoring in Organizational Leadership, on her research entitled “Workplace Diversity” (mentored by Dr. Lowell Matthews).

Outside of presenting, the students, accompanied by Dr. Lundy Lewis (Papoutsy Chair of Ethics), Dr. Karen Stone (Prof. of Marketing), and Kyle Viator (Director of the 3 Year Honors Degree Program in Business), learned about other students’ research interests as well as their quality of research work and presentation skills. Although the accepted research presentations do not compete with each other at NCUR, the SNHU students’ research exemplified excellence in their quality of research as well as in their presentation skills.

To sum up the experience Jaclyn Chuah said, “It was definitely a great experience being able to present my research to students nationwide. We all were able to share different perspectives on our research and the way we each went about it. This was truly a great opportunity to learn from.”

The VPAA and the Undergraduate Research Program generously supported this opportunity for the SNHU students.
Renowned Researcher, Dr. Robert K. Yin, Visits School of Education!

Submitted by: Nancy Charron

Dr. Robert K. Yin, internationally recognized as an expert in case study design and author of the textbook, Case Study Research: Design and Methods, visited SNHU Friday, May 8. Nancy Charron and Kim Lindley-Soucy design their Case Study I course (EDU 924) around this text, and they and their classes have Skyped with Dr. Yin in 2014 and 2015. Dr. Yin is President of COSMOS Corporation, an applied research and social science firm based in Bethesda, MD. COSMOS has successfully completed hundreds of projects for federal, state, and local agencies, as well as private foundations. Dr. Yin has assisted numerous other research groups, helping train their field teams as well as design research studies. Recent engagements have been with the United Nations Development Programme and the University of Copenhagen, where he has provided guidance to doctoral students. Dr. Yin holds the position of distinguished scholar-in-residence at American University’s School of International Service (Washington, DC). Earlier, he served as visiting scholar at the Research and Methodology Division of the U.S. Government Accountability Office. Dr. Yin has authored nearly 100 journal articles and books.

Dean Ray McNulty, Associate Dean Margaret Ford, Kim Lindley-Soucy, and Nancy Charron were honored to meet, eat lunch, and give Dr. Yin a campus tour of SNHU and share the SNHU culture!
SNHU’s New Destination Imagination Team Competes!

Submitted by: Alicia Frazier

New School of Education faculty member, Lynn Murray-Chandler, is the force behind the construction of SNHU’s first Destination Imagination team! Students across campus were invited to be a member of the team. Many students and faculty are becoming involved as the team competes at the Global Finals Competition held at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville May 20-23. Below are pieces from a questions and answer from Murray-Chandler about the team, the competition, and the hopefully new tradition starting at SNHU!

How was the team first created and why was it first created?

I am a new faculty member who coached a Middle School Destination Imagination team for the Jaffrey-Rindge School District while I was a professor at Franklin Pierce University. I saw the amazing ways children creatively solved the same problems and knew that this was a powerful program that would help produce children who can be involved in more STEM learning opportunities. When I arrived on campus, I spoke with Dean Ray McNulty, who approved the team and helped me to secure funding.

...Continued pg. 7

Continued from pg. 2...Learning Outcomes for Inquiry Scholars Collaborative of Southern New Hampshire

- Develop and refine measurable scientific, inquiry, questions that address student learning.
- Write a proposal that satisfies the Institutional Review Board of their respective institutions.
- Determine credible sources that inform their research.
- Run focus groups to “dig deeper” into data collected.
- Collect and analyze data.
- Report findings.
- State limitations and suggest further studies.

SNHU’s project this year was to improve the preparation of elementary education majors. Inquiry Scholars were asked to determine if math content courses and math pedagogical courses prepare elementary education majors to pass both the math section of the Praxis II exam and feel confident in teaching math during student teaching. Students Gregory Jain and Molly Coyne designed a measurable question, collected and analyzed data, and presented the highlights of their preliminary findings at Undergraduate Research Day and at NEERO. Dr. Murray-Chandler shared how the scholars improved as researchers while Dr. Denise Benner (SED) and Dr. Megan Paddack (Math Dept., SAS) presented their perspectives on utilizing the results of the Inquiry Scholars findings.

This sounds like only a first step toward more exciting student and faculty research at SNHU! Other disciplines could certainly expand on the collaborative’s work so seek out Dr. Murray-Chandler and her colleagues and see how you might become involved next year!
Continued from pg. 6...I decided to create a University-Level DI team at SNHU because I wanted teacher candidates to participate in an experience that would help them understand innovative ways to improve student learning. By participating in this experience, teacher candidates get first-hand experience problem-solving and collaborating, and they also get to see how children in grades 3-12 creatively solve the same problems. I also thought it would be advantageous for SNHU to have a team because most DI kids have been in DI for many years, and continuing to "Do DI" in college may be a powerful recruiting opportunity for the school. Over 16,000 children compete in the Global Competition each year.

2. Who is on the team?
The team is called the SNHU Man Group. The team is comprised of Education majors Alyssa Balboni, junior; Jacqui Capobianco, sophomore, Gregory Jain, sophomore; Katie Leonard, freshman, and Gregory McHale, graduate student. Also on the team are Katie Smith, a sophomore IT major, and Kelsey Adie, who just graduated from Culinary. The team is managed by me and culinary major/ freshman Stephanie LeSpina. She was on a DI team throughout her public school experience, and her team in Lynnfield, MA took first place at the Global Competition last year.

3. How were these team members selected?
Because the program is new, I advertised on the portal. Students from across campus are able to participate, even if they aren't Education majors. DI doesn't allow teams to be larger than seven members. Fortunately, that is how many people were able to make the commitment. They already "showcased" at the State Competition. This means they had the opportunity to complete the Instant and Team Challenges at the NH State Competition, but because there weren't any other University Level teams, they automatically moved on to the Global Competition. For grades 3-12, there are state regional competitions (NH has four regional competitions) and then they have a State Competition. Only a fraction of the Elementary and Secondary teams get to attend the global competition. SNHU Man Group performed in March at Winnacunnet High School in Hampton, NH.

4. What will they be presenting at the competition?
There are seven team challenges to choose from. One challenge is technical, one is scientific, one is structural, one is improvisation, one is fine arts, one is service-learning, one is designed for young learners in grades K-2. The SNHU Man Group reviewed the challenges and decided that they would try Improv this year because they are a new team, and they thought this challenge was a good one to start with. The challenge is called "Improvised Games." They are given one minute to plan a two-minute improv skit that utilizes four different elements-- an improv game, a performance task, a setting, and a problem. They have to do this three times. They are judged on their ability to plan and work as a team. They are also scored on their creativity and ability to perform.

They complete a second challenge called the Instant Challenge. They are given a task that usually involves some kind of engineering challenge where they have to solve a problem creatively "on the fly" in a timed situation. They are scored on their creative solution to the problem and the teamwork exemplified by their solution.  Continued pg. 8...
5. *What is the Global Finals Competition?*
Destination Imagination hold an annual Global Finals Competition at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Teams come from all over the world to compete in the same seven challenges. Over 16,000 kids are involved in the Global competitions. Countries like Singapore, Mexico, Poland, Japan send teams who had the same problems that we had in America. This year, there are 1469 teams who will be competing. The University-level is the smallest of the levels, but is growing. Some of the University-level teams are the University of Maryland, Baltimore, James Madison University, Milwaukee School of Engineering, Towson University, NC State to name a few.

6. *What are you most excited about!?*
The SNHU Man Group has worked hard and meet weekly to practice. I can't wait for them to have the opportunity to show off their hard work. I also can't wait for them to see how other teams took on the same challenges. Their minds will be blown! I also know that this experience will make the teacher candidates think about learning in a whole new way, and I can't wait until they become teachers and they utilize these 21st century-skills in their own classrooms!

7. *Is this something that will hopefully continue in the future years?*
Yes, Dean McNulty has already approved a team for next year. We are hoping to grow the program and become a university club. In addition, SNHU will host Instant Combustion, an Instant Challenge workshop for kids in grades K-College in January, 2016.

8. *What has been the biggest challenge getting to this point?*
The biggest challenge is that we are a new team. Getting students together who didn't know each other to act "silly" in front of each other is asking a lot. They have really bonded as a result of this teamwork, and I couldn't be more proud of them.

Although this is the first DI team at SNHU, the university has veteran DI members working at the institution. Content Architect Laura Chase will be returning to the Global Competition as an appraiser. Advisor Jake Oudheusden was an appraiser for the regional and state competitions. Also, along with the DI team, Dr. Lundy Lewis and Bethany Perkins, Director of Admissions, will be attending the competition representing SNHU and recruiting students. Best of luck SNHU Man Team!
Many Thanks and a Sweet Farewell!

Submitted by: Alicia Frazier

35 years. This is amount of time Deb Wilcox, Special Asst. to the Provost, has passionately served the SNHU community. First hired in July 1980 as the Technical Services Librarian in Shapiro Library, she was recruited in August 2007 by Dr. Patty Lynott to become the Associate Dean of the Faculty. When asked about this role, Wilcox said, “As Assoc. Dean of the Faculty I liked to say I was “all faculty, all the time!” I did everything I could to answer questions for faculty, help them understand systems at SNHU, explain the Master Agreement, facilitate the work of academic governance committees, whatever was needed.”

From Assoc. Dean of the Faculty to Special Assistant to the Provost, Deb Wilcox has not only seen the changes and growth at SNHU, but has played an active role in shaping the university. At the 2015 Faculty Retirement Ceremony, Wilcox was recognized by President Paul Leblanc as well as fellow faculty. When asked what she will miss most about SNHU, Wilcox said, “I will really miss the colleagues I have worked so closely with over the years, both as a librarian and in Patty’s office. Even as we grew from NHC to SNHU and then as SNHU expanded so exponentially we have retained that caring and concern for each other. We have the closeness and collegiality of a much smaller institution. I love the fact I was always able to work with people from all over the institution and in every position from Presidents to those who labor so hard behind the scenes. When I took on the role of Associate Dean of the Faculty there were many jokes about going to “the dark side” – becoming an administrator after serving as a faculty librarian. But Paul LeBlanc warned me that I might find the chance to make a difference in higher ed very appealing and satisfying. He was right! And I hope I have made even a small difference in faculty experiences at SNHU the last 8 years and in the work of Academic Affairs.”

After spending this year working with Deb myself, I can attest to the amazing faculty member and person she truly is! I have learned so much and would like to thank her for making this a wonderful and unforgettable year. To list the number of students and faculty you have impacted would be too long and a simple thank you is not enough. I can’t wait to hopefully work together in the future. On behalf of the SNHU community, from the bottom of our hearts, THANK YOU! You will be missed!

Left: Deb Wilcox and her family after the reception. Right: President Paul LeBlanc and Deb Wilcox at the reception!

Submitted By: Michael McMahon and Deb Wilcox