The beginning of the AY16 academic year is off to a resounding start. We welcomed the largest incoming, on-campus class in our history; 801 freshmen and 259 transfer students. We have, of course, lost some of those students – not common during the first few weeks of school. In the October Newsletter, I will be able to give you the official “melt” numbers for this incoming class. And although we have heard of several students being stricken with “home-sickness,” we have had very few serious student problems thus far. Convocation was well attended. Our guest speaker, Sally Kohn (a CNN contributor and columnist for the Daily Beast), was very well received by students, and she gave a truly inspiring presentation.

As most of you know, we welcomed our new VPAA, Dr. Michael Evans in July. Michael has hit the ground running, and he is genuinely excited to be at SNHU. He says the energy here is palpable and that he and his wife Joanna, have been very warmly received by the entire SNHU community. It is with great sadness however, that we are bidding farewell to Jennifer Ligenza, our University Registrar. Jennifer is relocating to Colorado but for the best of reasons – Jennifer is going to be married in the next few months to former SNHU employee, David Eby. I know I speak for all of us when I say we wish them both every happiness in the world. Jennifer leaves us in good hands though, as Deanna Bechard will be taking over the role of University Registrar. Congratulations, Deanna!

I want to acknowledge Professor Lundy Lewis, our current Papoutsy Chair. Lundy’s continued work on robot therapy for children with autism, and the use of robots for assisting the elderly, took him to Scandinavia this summer where he gave presentations at Copenhagen Business Academy, the University of Southern Denmark, and the American College of Norway. Continued pg. 2...
Continued from page 1...Both Dr. Lewis and Professor Pam Cohen of the Mathematics Department have had their paper, "A Humanoid Robot Teaches Numbers by Playing an Interactive Game," accepted to the 28th Annual International Conference on Technology in Collegiate Mathematics in Atlanta, GA. Lundy will be stepping down from the Papoutsy Chair at the conclusion of this academic year. In the coming weeks, Dr. Evans will be putting out the call for the next Christos and Mary Papoutsy Distinguished Chair in Ethics and Social Responsibility. I cannot stress what an incredible opportunity the Papoutsy Chair has proven to be for our selected faculty. I encourage all eligible SNHU faculty to apply for the three-year appointment that will become available effective AY17.

Lastly, I want to do a quick shout-out to Professor Betsy Gunzelmann of the Psychology Department. As some of you may know, Betsy underwent unexpected surgery a few weeks ago, but she is well on her way to recovery and we look forward to her return to the classroom. No sooner does her latest book get published, Developing Safer Schools and Communities for our Children: the Interdisciplinary Responsibility of our Time, by Rowan and Littlefield, and Betsy winds up in the hospital. Wow. What some authors won't do to get a little attention! (We miss you Betsy. Get better soon!)

Career Expo Expecting Largest Employer Numbers
Alumni Office and Career Development

The Career Expo will be held Wednesday Oct. 7, 2015 from 2:00-5:00 p.m. in the Athletic Center. Join us as we welcome 115+ employers to learn more about the companies that partner with SNHU. Career Expo has gone to a waitlist for employer registrations, and the list keep growing! Employers are eager to recruit SNHU students, as many recruiting seasons start now for May graduates.

Employers will be on campus to talk about their programs and services as well as recruit for internships and jobs. A partial list of participants includes: BAE Systems, Fidelity Investments, City Year, Nordstrom, Omni Hotels and Resorts, Target, Comcast, PC Connection, Concord Hospital, CVS Health, Families in Transition, NH State Police, Axis Communications, and WMUR.

This event is open to all students and alumni. Professional dress is required. Students should be prepared to introduce themselves and bring several résumés to distribute.

To view a list of the employers attending or to receive more information on this event, please log into your SNHU Recruit account.

Here are other upcoming events...

President's Reception at SNHU Homecoming 2015
Saturday, Oct. 16 at 4:00-5:15 p.m. in Library Learning Commons Promenade. President Paul LeBlanc and the SNHU Alumni Association invite you to a celebration of the many ways our students, families, faculty, staff, and alumni contribute to the SNHU community, with special recognition to the Class of 2016 and the alumni volunteers who enrich the SNHU experience and help guide students to success.

The Alumni Association will also recognize this year’s recipients of the Alumni Awards: Robert A Freese ’89-Alumni Hall of Fame Award, Tiffany (Lyon) Fifer ’00 ’02G-Distinguished Service Award, and Rachel (Kuzmick) Comstock ’10 G and Ryan Comstock ’12G-Young Alumni Award.

Learn more and register for events online at alumni.snhu.edu/homecoming.

The Power of the SNHU Alumni Network – Alumni Volunteers
Are you interested in leveraging the power of the SNHU alumni network to create opportunities for your students? We can help! Contact the Dorothy S. Rogers Career Development Center (careerdevelopment@snhu.edu or 603.645.9793) or the Office of Alumni Engagement (alumni@snhu.edu or 603.645.9799) to learn more about bringing alumni volunteers to your class.
Continued from page 1...Now, Dr. Evans has found himself learning the habits of a new community, here at SNHU.

Dr. Evans received his bachelor's degree at Bowden College in Maine, double majoring in English and Philosophy. He then received his masters and PhD in folklore at Indiana University. With this degree he as studied native groups around the world, examining how they express their culture through media. Most recently, he was the Provost and VPAA of Unity College and has made his way to SNHU.

"Its spirit of innovation." says Evans, when asked about what initially drew him to SNHU. He continued with adding, "Everyone here is comfortable asking profound questions, such as what the structure of education ought to be." Although he was a journalist for 15 years, education has always been a passion for Evans, specifically being able to teach and form shared experiences with his students through out of class projects. A highlight example being when he spent 10 days with students in the Australian Outback, studying the culture of the Aboriginal people.

Forming connections with students, faculty and staff is one of Evans’s main goals for this school year. When asked about his transition to SNHU so far, he said, “Unbelievable! Everyone has been out of their way welcoming, helpful, and friendly. It has far exceeded my expectations.” His goals to return this welcome and form connections are by making sure he makes his job interactive with faculty. He does not want to be behind his desk always doing paper work and policies. As far as student connections, he hopes to teach once he settles in to his role as VPAA and has already reached out to the school paper, the Penmen Press, about volunteering his time and many years of journalistic experience.

In addition, he hopes to better define the coming of age experience at SNHU. Evans is already starting to have conversations with the deans on campus about how we can make our culture an even more safe environment to grow and make mistakes. In addition, to look at how we can increase the harmony between curricular, in class experience, and co-curricular, outside class experience.

Outside experience for Evans includes a lot of traveling, sailing, and he always enjoys writing and reading. He is currently working on writing his sixth book. When asked about the best thing he did and college and the one thing he wish he did, Evans said, “I love that I had a sense of adventure and took time to travel. This is harder to do when you settle down and have kids. As far as what I wish I did, I wish I worried less. I tended to be more self conscious than I am now, so be less self conscious and know that no one is perfect.”

Spreading this message to students and impacting the SNHU community is not as much a goal, but a lifestyle. Evans concluded with, “This is not just a place I work, but a community to invest myself in.”

A Stage of Your Own
Alicia Frazier

As each school year comes to a close, much deserved attention is placed upon the new graduates of SNHU. As they cross the stage, the next adventure in their life begins. For many faculty and staff, they too begin their next adventure at the end of each school year. Continued page 7...

Continued from page 1...
Dr. Greg Randolph and Dr. Michael Tasto presented two papers that both received “Best Paper” awards at Global Business Research Symposium on May 28, 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey. Tasto’s paper is titled, “Classroom Response Systems for Economics and Finance Courses” and Randolph’s paper is: “Using Media to Teach Economics and Finance Courses”

Although separate works, both papers are collaborative works, as Randolph and Tasto being co-authors on each paper. It is also very exciting to announce that both papers have been accepted for publication in the “The Review of Business”.

In addition, Randolph and Tasto received the “Don Pitti Outstanding Service Award” for creating/designing the Conference Website and Online Journal associated with the conference.

In August Ed Brillant, game design professor, Steve Boucher, SNHU Marketing Office, and Tracy Dow, graphic design professor, took a group of SNHU students to the Bank of NH Pavilion for Gamestock. Gamestock is a game design contest featuring SNHU students.

The fans attending the Brad Paisley concert had the opportunity to visit a booth and test out the games created by SNHU students. This was an opportunity for students to gain real life experience, receive feedback, and explain the creative process that went into their creations.

The winner was voted for online and by an industry expert. In the end, Team Massive Hawk (Jeremy Moore, James Cowin, Mustapha Price and Sarah Deleppo) was named the winner with Team Surf (Patrick Ryan, Connor Hughes, Maggie Ferguson and Olivia Hasham) being named runner-up.

This is the second summer in a row SNHU has taken a group of students to the Bank of NH Pavilion to showcase work. Last year’s competition was the "Rock Star Photographer" contest. According to Dow, “Emma Womack and her staff at the Bank of NH Pavilion not only work hard to provide our students with a real-world experience they will never forget, but they also treat our students like family.”

Psychology Student to Published Author

Dr. Peter Frost and five UC SNHU students and one alumni, Bridgette Casey, Kaydee Griffin, Luis Raymundo, Ryan Carrigan and Christopher Farrell, received word this summer that their latest research project will be published in The Journal of General Psychology. This research explores how confirmation bias can influence memory and recollection of where it came from (in this case, whether social media posts were from friends or strangers). The journal only accepts research that addresses more than one area of specialization and thus reaches a fairly wide readership. This is great experience and wonderful exposure for students entering the field of psychology.

Psychology Students take a Seriously Fun Volunteer Trip

It started with a thought: how can we get those students who are interested in psychotherapy a more immersive clinical experience? As undergraduates, they cannot have their own clients. They cannot really shadow a psychotherapist (it tends to interfere a bit with the intimacy of therapy when a college student is peering over the shoulder of a clinician). There are role plays, but those are, by definition, inauthentic.

One of my first real experiences working in the mental health field was as an undergraduate intern at a children’s hospice in London. The job requirements were fairly simple: play with kids facing life-threatening illness. In practice, the work I did there was physically and emotionally exhausting, but it was ultimately a transformational experience. We did not conduct psychotherapy per se, but their was definitely something deeply therapeutic about the dynamic. To be able to sit with a child, connect with them, and recognize...
Continued from page 4...both the help you could provide and the inherent limitations of what you could offer, is exactly the sort of skill and life experience required in becoming a mental health clinician.

This internship, in addition to my work for six summers as a camp counselor for kids with emotional and behavioral difficulties, laid the experiential foundation I had for becoming a clinical psychologist. How could we create such opportunities for psychology students at SNHU? Enter Google: “Children camp” + “serious illness.” The first result was for a consortium of camps known collectively as the Serious Fun Network.

There are over thirty camps and programs worldwide that are part of the Serious Fun Network. They each subscribe to the theory of “therapeutic recreation”, wherein personal transformation can be achieved through pushing your physical and emotional limits, all through adventure and play. Or, as the founder of the first Serious Fun camp, actor Paul Newman, put it, “kick back and raise a little hell.”

Barretstown Camp resides on picturesque castle grounds less than an hour from Dublin, Ireland. They serve children and families affected by serious illnesses such as cancer and autoimmune disease. They recruit volunteers (called “Caras”) to work at the camp for each of their six summer sessions. My goal was to bring four SNHU students over as a pilot study to see whether an experience such as this would have the kind of impact like the one that I remembered from my own college years. These students, Alicia Frazier, Brian Hannigan, Katelyn Walker, and Elizabeth Worth were recommended by faculty in the psychology department and were selected to work at Barretstown after going through the camp’s own application and interview process.

For this inaugural trip, I did not go as a faculty member, but as a volunteer myself. We were each assigned to work in a cottage with about a dozen children, ages 11-14 from all across Europe, several of whom did not speak English. We were the only volunteers that came in from the United States. Despite the language and cultural differences (or perhaps, because of them) the ethos at Barretstown was one of community, possibility, and healing. Activities at the camp included horse riding, zip-lining, drama and music. Really, these activities were conduits to the true therapeutic possibility for these children: to extend your comfort zone, take risks, and feel the security of a loving environment as you did so.

In speaking with each of the students from SNHU that went to Barretstown, I am convinced that the experience we shared was transformational. I witnessed these students immerse themselves in the therapeutic environment that this camp offered, and each could tell a dozen stories about specific kids with whom they connected. We talked about the difficulty in creating such bonds with these children and then leaving them behind. We each hoped that we had left a mark, that our time and energy helped the campers feel less defined by their illnesses for a week. We each realized that the imprint we received at Barretstown was one that would last a lifetime. For more information on the camp, check out www.barretstown.org.

Professor Dr. Hendery and junior Brian Hannigan sit in the Med Shed waiting for the campers.

Photo Credit: Alicia Frazier
Continued from page 5...to be survived rather than an opportunity to thrive.

We could argue with the editors of The Penmen Press all we want, but I believe that students are credible judges of their classrooms. They know quality teaching when they are in its presence. And, although most are unfamiliar with the art of curriculum design, they do know when they are the beneficiaries of solid educational engineering. They also know when things aren’t right, which brings me back to SNHU 101.

More than twenty five years ago, in response to burgeoning trends in higher education to support the changing demographics and academic skill sets of our nation’s college students, Southern New Hampshire University implemented a first-year seminar on our campus. So, while the author of Surviving SNHU 101 – and More is correct: SNHU 101 isn’t terribly “original,” it’s important to know that our first-year seminar does occupy a venerable place in our school’s history as well as a respectable place in our country’s academic traditions.

In fact, our first-year seminar says a lot about who we are as an institution of higher education, not only in terms of SNHU’s place on a spectrum of college selectivity, but in terms of our culture of innovation. We were fairly early adopters of the first-year seminar, and in terms of our essentially student-centered vision of meeting students “where they are”, we have much to be proud of in the longevity of SNHU 101 at Southern New Hampshire University.

On the other hand, the editors of The Penmen Press have a valid point: There is work to be done to make SNHU 101: Transition to College a great first-year seminar.

The good news is that we have listened to the SNHU community and made initial steps to improve the curriculum, culture, and experience of SNHU 101. This past summer, a self-selected group of thirty two people, comprised of SNHU staff and faculty, as well as one student and one alumnus, launched an initiative to redesign SNHU101, both in light of our national peers’ recommendations for high impact practices and with a renewed focus on our institutional mission and goals. The Redesign Team signed up for a lot of work…but it was only the beginning.

The earliest result of our summer labors is that our SNHU 101 pilot will take its first test run this fall. Twelve intrepid instructors have signed on to test the new course, seventeen sections of which are running concurrently with other iterations of SNHU Experience this semester. (I’m proud to say that I am teaching two of the “pilot” sections, bracing myself for the inevitable highs and lows of newness and discovery!)

The plan of the pilot instructors (and other members of the Redesign Team) is to teach, test, and talk our way through the first semester of the new curriculum, meeting every four weeks and keeping weekly notes on our lesson plans. We will work for two semesters to evaluate our work and then make adjustments to the class next summer before presenting the syllabus to the General Education Committee and to the University College Curriculum Committee.

In the end, I believe the trick will be simply to stick with it. If we don’t abandon our little pilot during this year long trial period, or try to push it towards a false sense of completion (Remember George Bush’s infamous “mission accomplished”), but rather commit to its improvement through greater focus on assessment and through ever expanding circles of collaborative partnerships, I know we can have a great course in SNHU 101! And eventually, in SNHU 202, and 303, and 404!

Armed with a collective mindset of growth and persistence, it’s important to remind ourselves that we are simply making a start in a recursive practice of commitment, reflection, focus, and revision. Along the way we need to remind ourselves that as both process and product, the work we are doing on the SNHU Experience stands to benefit everyone at SNHU (faculty, staff, students, alumni, and others)! A rising tide floats all boats, and so it will be with SNHU 101.

As we gather the courage to assess our pilot curriculum and to capture the evolving perceptions of our community, I hope that you will join us in reshaping the way, the means, and the reputation of SNHU 101 on our campus! After all, we share an obligation to meet all of our students where they are and to greet them with high expectations, co-curricular enrichment, institutional integrity, and a quality academic program, including that of our first-year seminar: SNHU 101: Transition to College.

If you have questions about SNHU Experience or have ideas about expanding our collaborative partnerships, please be in touch with me! I’m passionate about this project and looking forward to working with anyone and everyone who seeks a role or even just a word!
Continued from page 3...Although the stage may be slightly smaller, their achievements are just as large. One in particular belongs to Robert Seidman, newly retired SNHU Professor.

Seidman has been apart of our SNHU family for the past 33 year. In this time, he has taught undergraduate and graduate courses in Computer Information Technology. He has also played an active role in the creation and then sustainability of SNHU’s Three Year Honors Program. For his work, he was the only retired UC faculty member to be granted Emeritus Status by the Board of Trustees this year past school year.

When asked about this honor, Seidman replied, “To achieve Emeritus status is a great honor for me. But, the opportunity to touch so many students’ lives is an even greater honor. There is a certain satisfaction and joy in being an influential part of their intellectual growth and emotional maturation. Teaching is a noble profession and has been an enduring passion of mine for as long as I can remember. The opportunity SNHU afforded me to mix teaching, research, and publishing has been a gift that I trust I have been able to repay.”

Teaching. Something that is much easier said than done. For Seidman, teaching his students is some of his fondest memories and are ones that he will take with him as he begins his next adventure. He said one of his most guiding principles is, “to teach is to learn.” He continues, “It is in the spirit of teaching and in the spirit of helping to provide deserving students with equal access to the gifts of a higher education, that I commend these books to you: http://bit.ly/SeidmanVPAAJrnl.”

Congratulations Robert Seidman on this distinguished honor and to the many other SNHU faculty and staff who walked across their own stage this past school year. As we begin the new school year, best of luck to all faculty and staff. For those who know that this year will be their last at SNHU, enjoy it and be looking for us in the crowd in May as you walk across a stage of your own.

New SNHU Website: Keeping up with Who We Are

“Its like building a house”, said Gregg Mazzola, VP of Enrollment Management and Marketing, when explaining the process of designing, constructing, and implementing the new SNHU website. Both Mazzola and Heather MacDonald, Account Director of Marketing and Communications, agreed there were so many moving parts to this project that it replicated a real life construction site. Minus the hard hats, there were blue prints, goals to be met by deadline, and the challenge of working collaboratively and succinctly to one common vision. This vision, to provide a systematically efficient and better functioning website, while accurately representing the identity and student experience of SNHU.

Plans for the new website have been in the pipeline for 3 years, but officially went into construction 1 ½ years ago, says MacDonald. At this time, a larger team was put together and put to work. The project team comprised of: MacDonald as Web Advisor Chair and Account Director, Curtis Kimball as Assistant VP of Web Design, Elizabeth Hayward as Project Manager, Greg Coffman and Derek Rousseau as Web Developers, Rosa McCann as Content Manager, Sabrina Debold as the assisting student worker, John Lucey and Gerard Ross from the Search Engine Optimization (SEO) team, and finally the UC Advisory Committee members. This UC team consisted of Gregg Mazzola, Scott Tierno from Student Affairs, Kathy Growney as Dean of the University Library, Micheline Anstey from the School of Business, Audrey Rogers from the School of Education, and Tracy Dow from the School of Arts and Sciences.

For this team, one of the many goals was to “create a seamless transition to what was to what is”, said Mazzola. In addition, display quality marketing tactics for prospective students, such as clearer and guided layouts to navigating from page to page, update and combine content, and better represent the overall brand of SNHU, says Mazzola and MacDonald.

To accomplish these goals, there was a design phase, content migration period, and then an overall development cycle. Teams and individuals worked independently and together adding their Continued page 8...
Cotinued from page 7...piece to the house when completed and when needed. These pieces could be the foundation, (search engine abilities), the plumbing and wiring (content and key performance indicators), to interior décor (layout and design).

A main focus for the website was the home page, according to Mazzola. With fewer clicks, they wanted anyone coming to the website to be able to easily self-identify themselves with what student they are. Most importantly, demonstrate through written content and photographs, that being this student is not just about earning an education, but an overall impactful experience.

Feedback of the new website has been positive overall! Online using the feedback link, individuals can submit any comments or suggestions to the internal web service team. “The old website was working, but it did not represent who we are and who we want to be”, said Mazzola. Like any good home, it takes proper inspection and maintenance to ensure the care of its family. For now, this is who we are at SNHU and this is well represented through the new website. As we grow, the blue prints, and goals will be re-valuated. But for now, hang your hard hats and with just one click, turn the doorknob to our new home. Welcome.

The Center for Teaching and Learning: Experiential Education Academy

The Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) has identified the Experiential Education Academy (EEA) as an opportunity to support UC faculty across campus in their experiential education efforts. Responses from a 2013-2014 experiential learning survey indicated faculty are interested in learning more about the theory and best practices associated with experiential pedagogy. Additionally, the elements of the Coming of Age initiative (e.g. field trips, pre-professional experiences, service learning, undergraduate research, project-based learning) are directly connected to experiential practices thus the EEA will support these efforts as well as the University’s desire to distinguish our institution in this way.

The EEA is sponsored by the National Society for Experiential Education (NSEE), a nonprofit association established in 1971 that serves as a national resource center for experiential education programs nationwide. The EEA consists of a series of professional workshops leading to a Certificate of Achievement in experiential education. The program is designed to create a common base of knowledge and competence in the field through a curriculum that includes five foundational workshops and one elective workshop (see Appendix A). Participants are not required to complete the entire certificate program in order to apply for the grant.

The CTL has partnered with NSEE to bring EEA workshops to campus in 2015-2016 so that faculty may complete four workshops in the certification program.

CTL Grant Program

In AY15-16 the CTL will offer 20 faculty grants (valued at $780.00 each) to participate in four workshops, two on January 6th and two on May 17th of 2016. Faculty receiving grants are required to attend all four workshops. Additionally, faculty receiving grants will be asked to share the impact of their EEA involvement with the SNHU community.

In subsequent years, the CTL will partner with NSEE to bring EEA workshops to campus such that anyone participating in AY15-16 can complete the certificate (remaining 2 course requirement) and new faculty can participate in the foundational workshops. The CTL’s intent is to provide funding for faculty receiving grants in AY15-16 to complete the final two workshops; however, a review of the grant program will take place each fiscal year to determine the availability of funding.

Additionally, the first 12 faculty to submit grant applications for AY15-16 will receive a free, one-year membership to the National Society for Experiential Education.

Application Process

1. Complete and submit the online application: https://snhu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_bHIaPBcUwQye3Cl.

2. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first served basis until 20 grants are awarded. However, applications must be complete with thought clearly given to the narrative question required.

3. Applications will be peer reviewed by all members of the CTL Advisory Board.

4. Applications will be accepted until October 30.