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Our hearts go out to Jane Yerrington, Senior Administrative Assistant to the Provost, on the very unexpected loss of her beloved sister, Lisa Shea on October 24, 2011.

Last week we were asked by our colleagues at the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire to meet with the Minister of Education from Sri Lanka. Members of Sri Lanka's Ministry of Higher Education were here under the auspices of the Department of State's "International Visitor Leadership Program." They wanted to meet with us to learn more about our system of accreditation in the United States. Nicholas Hunt-Bull provided the most poignant description of how and why we accredit our colleges and universities in this country. That meeting reminded me about the real *purpose* of accreditation. When I put aside the "controlled madness" I have been experiencing these past few weeks in preparation for our ten-year accreditation visit (Chief Academic Officers are *required* to be neurotic about such visits), I reminded myself that accreditation is, first and foremost, about *continuous improvement*. It's about providing evidence to our peers and to the public that our mission is truly reflected in our programs, and policies, and services. Accreditation is about self-reflection and self-improvement. If you think about it, we have been engaged in the "accreditation process" for some time. As an institution, we actually began the systematic process of self-analysis in 2007, when we started work on the *2008-2012 University Strategic Plan*. In Academic Affairs, we continued that self-analysis while completing our *2010-2013 Strategic Plan for Academic Affairs*. And that self-reflection was required when the Culinary Department renewed its ACF accreditation, and the School of Business its ACBSP accreditation. As I review the Self-Study (for the *umpteenth* time), and continue to drive my staff (and my boss) crazy about the tiniest of details, I am going to try and take comfort in the fact that, by and large – we really do take continuous improvement very seriously at SNHU.

Patricia A. Lynott

Provost and Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs

Notes

Dean Karen Erickson: Council of Europe

Dr. Karen Erickson, Dean of Arts and Sciences, was invited by the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) to join the U.S. delegation to a Council of Europe symposium held in Oslo, Norway this summer. Organized by the Council in cooperation with the International Association of Universities, the symposium focused on "Reimagining Democratic Societies: A New Era of Personal and Social Responsibility." Close to 300 international participants discussed the significance of education in emergent as well as sustainable democracies. Leaders in higher education and government raised issues surrounding the role of education in building democracy and also the role of democracy in promoting education. Is higher education constrained by the fact that the university is inherently not a democratic institution? Is democracy inadequate to meeting demands for social justice, economic stability, and political access? A general consensus concluded that there is no substitute for an educated citizenry as the basis for improving society and fostering the common good. Little agreement emerged, however, on the kinds of higher education initiatives needed to achieve these goals. Dr. Erickson will hold a roundtable at SNHU early next semester on the final report from the Oslo conference.

Career Development Center's Career Corner pt.1

Submitted by: Renee Renaud, Outreach Coordinator and Contributing Writer

New Digs:

At last, the Career Development Center has settled into our new location in Chocorua Hall. Students have been finding us without any issues (it may have something to do with the giant arrows in sidewalk chalk, pointing everyone in our direction). We invite anyone to stop in and say hello, and if you don't know where Chocorua Hall is, all the more reason to find out!

Career & Internship Expo:

We are pleased to promote the 2011 Career & Internship Expo, taking place on November 9th in the banquet facility of the Dining Center from 11am-3pm. The registrations are coming in steadily and a complete list of employers in attendance is available for viewing in SNHU Recruit. The list will also be compiled and presented via our marketing efforts. Whether or not students are ready... (cont. on next page)

Career Development Center's Career Corner pt.2

Submitted by: Renee Renaud, Outreach Coordinator and Contributing Writer

Notes

...to secure an internship or are in job search mode, please encourage them to attend. What better way to facilitate career exploration than positioning students to speak to employers.

The Career & Internship Expo is open to all students and alumni. We are once again expecting a success, as last year over 180 students and alumni attended, along with 56 representatives from 39 different companies. Following this event, analytics and final attendance numbers will be available for review and added to the next issue of the VPAA journal.

Employers on Campus:

We are once again hosting Employer Resume Reviews and Employer Mock Interviews to help students prepare for the Career & Internship Expo. Both events are scheduled to take place in the Academic Center:

Employer Resume Reviews — November 1st from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Resumes are reviewed on a first come/first served, walk-in basis.

Employer Mock Interviews — November 2nd from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Students must register for a ½ hour session through SNHU Recruit.

Analytics for these events will also be shared in the next issue of the VPAA newsletter.

Tuesday Table Talks:

If you have had the opportunity to eat lunch in the Dining Center on Tuesdays, you may have noticed a variety of employers on-site speaking to students about their companies. So far, we are fortunate to have hosted Putnam Investments and Sol Amor Hospice. We look forward to hosting Fidelity Investments, Baker Newman Noyes, Kohl's, and City Year. Once a month on Wednesdays, you'll see our regular visitor - Verizon Wireless. Representatives are here to promote visibility of their companies, to answer any questions students may have regarding employment opportunities, and some companies are on campus actively recruiting. We will continue to post updates on which companies will be on campus via our media outlets, and will provide data regarding these efforts in upcoming issues as well.

Notes

Faculty Senate Information

Faculty Senate Upcoming Meetings

November 16, 2011

December 21, 2011

HOS 202 (Boardroom) 2-3:15 pm

Anyone from the university community is welcome at any Senate meeting.

2011-2012 Officers

Ken Nivison, President, k.nivison@snhu.edu

Cathy Stavenger, Vice-President, c.stavenger@snhu.edu

Karin Caruso, Secretary, k.caruso@snhu.edu

Highlights of the October meeting will appear in the November VPAA Journal!

Thinking of Submitting?

Greetings SNHU Colleagues,

Are you thinking of submitting to the VPAA Journal? As you can see, this month was very scarce in terms of submissions. If there is anything you would like the academic SNHU community members to know about, please send it my way (erin.davies@snhu.edu) and it will be published in the Journal. The deadline for submitting is the fifteenth of every month—with a little leeway.

We would love to hear from all of you!

Thank you so much,

Erin Davies

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