

Academic Affairs

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Please note the deadlines and publications for the VPAA Journal:

<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>
December 8	December 15
January 14	January 19
February 9	February 16
March 9	March 16
April 8	April 15
May 6	May 13

The Monthly Journal of the Vice President for Academic Affairs

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It's hard to believe, but we are quickly heading into the holiday season! This term has moved exceptionally fast – and all in all, it's been a great start to another academic year. The new Library / Learning Commons has increased the level of energy and excitement on campus, and the Innovation Lab / Maker Space is like something out of a futuristic movie! (Jennifer Harris has been an incredible addition to the Library faculty.)

And speaking of futuristic I am very pleased to announce that Dr. Lundy Lewis has agreed to extend his Papoutsy Chair in Ethics and Social Responsibility for another year. Lundy has conducted some exciting work, not the least of which is programming socially assisted robots for older persons and mobility-impaired persons. His robots have also been instrumental in providing robot therapy for autistic children. Lundy has used a brain-computer interface for video games that assists individuals with PTSD, ADHD, and other disorders. He published an article in Raymond Matera's Business Partners Magazine, and delivered a Keynote Address at a conference in Greece. Lundy has also developed six educational modules for faculty and staff on various forward-looking technologies and the social/ethical ramifications thereof, including Humanoid Robots, Google Glass, Brain-Computer Interface, and Tele-presence Robots. (Please be sure to review these modules for possible adoption in any number of courses.)

And lastly, while at a conference in Nottingham, England, Lundy used his Tele-Presence Robot to teach a class back on the campus which was featured on WMUR. I want to personally thank Lundy for the incredibly exciting work he continues to conduct, and I want to publicly thank Chris and Mary Papoutsy for their continued support with this very important and very productive chair in Ethics and Social Responsibility.

Patricia A. Lynott

Provost and Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs

It Was Written in the Cards

Submitted by: Alicia Frazier

Meagan Sage, new director for the Office of Student Involvement, had big shoes to fill, after past director, Tiffany Fifer. Not only is Sage filling these shoes, but she has hit the ground running.

Within her first few weeks as director, while attending the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) conference, Sage won the Maureen McDermott and Michelle M. Delaney Staff Programmer Award. Sage described her shock, as she thought the award was not even going to be given out that evening! She has been involved with NACA for many years, starting as an undergraduate student. Sage has served on the national committee since 2003, this year acting as the Volunteer Development Coordinator. Next year's conference, Sage has the honor of serving as the conference chairman while representing Southern New Hampshire University!

Before coming to SNHU Sage has previous experience at Bryant University as an Assistant and Associate Director in Student Activities and also Johnson and Wales University as an Associate Director of Student Involvement and Leadership. Sage describes first finding her passion for higher education when she was an involved student on a variety of programming boards. Since then, working as a professional within student involvement has felt like a natural fit.

Sage received her English Literature degree with a minor in Communications from Roger Williams University in RI, and her Master of Science in Educational Leadership with a concentration in Student Development in Higher Education from Central Connecticut State.



Meagan Sage in her new office in the Office of Student Involvement
Photo Credit: Alicia Frazier

A characteristic of most higher education institutions, especially in student involvement, is that life is fast paced, making it hard to transition to sometimes. When talking about her transition to SNHU, Sage could not be happier and describes the process as smooth and comfortable. "Everyone here at SNHU has been so welcoming. Everyone is friendly and made me feel very at home," says Sage. However, one challenge is simply learning the unique culture and workings of the university. To do this, she is taking a step back, looking at the bigger picture, and learning how to grow. When it comes to specifically the Office of Student Involvement, Sage is taking the same approach.

"From what I have seen, this office is doing a lot of great things. For me, this is a time to look at what we have been doing, how we've been doing it, and if it make sense to keep doing it. Then, what can we do new."

Due to the mentorship from Dean Heather Lorenz, the support to stay involved with NACA, and the director role itself, Sage talks about how professionally, SNHU will be a place for her to grow. She feels ...Continued pg. 3

Alumni Spotlight

Submitted by: Alumni Office

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Ray McNulty

By Deb Wilcox,
Special Assistant to the Provost

Ray McNulty calls himself a “disruptor” and it is easy to see he has settled in the right place to work his disruptive talents! He sees SNHU as a university that is beginning to transform itself, unlike many colleges and universities that get established and are heavy on their tradition. McNulty says the world of learning is rapidly changing and there are lots of forward thinking people here.

McNulty came to SNHU in July 2014 after a distinguished career in education beginning with 18 years in K-12 education, 2 years as the Commissioner of Education for the State of Vermont, a year as a Senior Fellow at the Gates Foundation followed by many years with the International Center for Leadership in Education, and capped off with time as the

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Veterans Networking Dinner

Among the many events SNHU hosts this month to honor the servicemen and servicewomen in our community, the Veterans Networking Dinner is an incredibly valuable resource for students seeking career development opportunities. Beth Prieto, executive director of the Dorothy S. Rogers Career Development Center, said the dinner is “a starting point for students to connect with alumni and community members for career advice and internships.”

On Monday, November 10, more than 20 students met with alumni, faculty, and staff veterans in The Quill for a highly productive networking session. In fact, two students have already reported back on leads for internships.

Special thanks to the following alumni veterans for enriching the SNHU student experience: Tony Matos '93M (Altos Marketing); John McCullough '14 (Elite Construction); Jason Ericksen '95 (Johnson & Johnson); James Margeson IV '13 (NH State Approving Agency for Veterans Education); Sean Heichlinger '14 (NH Department of Safety School Readiness Program); Jeremy Erb '14 (SNHU-COCE); Brian McLaughlin '88 (Granite Group Benefits).

Business Indicator Series

The final session of the 2014 series is an after-hours networking event at The Quill (Tuesday, November 18, at 5:30 p.m.), featuring a brief ‘State of the University’ address by President LeBlanc. Kindly RSVP online (alumni.snhu.edu/bis) or by contacting the Office of Alumni Relations at alumni@snhu.edu or 603.645.9799.

Build Your Alumni Volunteer Network

If you are interested in learning more about bringing alumni into your classroom or programs to build opportunities for students, please contact Sara Telfer, assistant director of Alumni Relations & Programs (s.telfer@snhu.edu or 603.644.3165).

Continued from pg. 2...the innovative atmosphere of the university will allow her to be creative. Sage says working at SNHU and with such a great group of people is really the next step in her career.

“Seeing all the awesome things that are coming out of this university, it makes you proud to be a staff member here, even though I have only been here a few weeks. To say I am working at a university that is so innovative and paving the way, is a really exciting thing.”

When asked, “what is one fun fact the faculty and staff may not know about you,” Sage said, “I am certified to do reiki and I have taken classes on and can read tarot cards!”

Sage’s future and success at SNHU is undoubtedly bright, but don’t take my word for it, it was written in the cards.

Career Development Highlights November

Submitted by: Career Development

This fall, employers and alumni have played a critical role in the career development program by providing students with the opportunity to explore career paths and interview for open roles. Please continue to encourage your students to attend events and sign up for interviews for which they are qualified – we rely on all of you to help us spread the word!

November Highlights:

SNHU 303 Mock Interviews

This month, we continued our partnership with the SNHU 303 classes, hosting Mock Interviews. This program started in October and continues through November 20th. Each week employers have volunteered to come to campus and conduct mock interviews with students enrolled in SNHU 303. Each interview lasts roughly 30 minutes and gives students the opportunity to learn what an employer might ask during an interview and receive important feedback to ensure their success.

Veterans Dinner

To kick off Veterans week, the Career Development Center is partnering with Veteran Support Services to offer a networking dinner on Monday, November 10th. Student Veterans have been invited to attend a workshop on networking followed by dinner in the Quill. Guests will include Alumni Veterans representing a variety of firms including BAE Systems, Red Sky Alliance, Johnson & Johnson, Able Ebenezer Brewing Company, and Service Master-Elite.

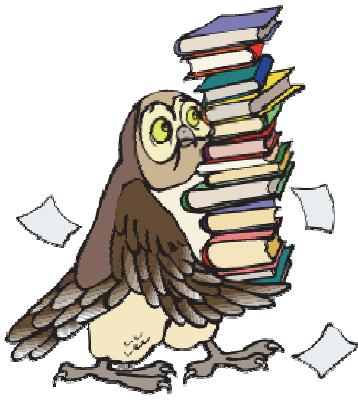
Coca Cola & Fidelity Site Tours

Students have been invited to learn more about companies and see their operations first hand as part of our off campus site tours. Please keep in mind that students must pre-register for these opportunities in SNHU Recruit. The first site tour will take place on November 14th at the Coca-Cola Bottling Facility in Londonderry, NH. Students will meet with the Director of Capabilities to get an overview of the company, structure, sales, marketing, and production. Sales and Marketing students will break out to talk to the Director of Sales while two other groups will tour the facility.

On November 20th the Career Development Center will visit Fidelity Investments in Merrimack, NH. Fidelity recently announced that they will be increasing their hiring and have offered to host SNHU for a site visit. This trip will introduce students to Fidelity and highlight the wide variety of financial and customer service roles they offer. All students are welcome, but this trip is great for students in OL, Communications, Marketing, English, Finance, Mathematics and Economics.

*Pre-registration required

Date	Time	Event	Location
11/6/14	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Mock Interviews*	Hospitality Salons
11/10/14	5:00 - 8:00 PM	Veterans' Dinner*	The Quill Restaurant
11/12/14	6:00 - 8:00 PM	Career Connections: Demystifying Employment Agencies	Hospitality Salons A & B
11/13/14	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Mock Interviews*	Hospitality Salons
11/14/14	12:30-4:30 PM	Coca-Cola Company Visit*	Londonderry, NH location
11/18/14	6:00-8:00 PM	Cultural Awareness and Business Success	Hospitality Salons
11/18/14	6:00 - 7:00 PM	Fidelity Information Session*	ACC 1st Floor Learning Commons
11/20/14	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Mock Interviews*	Hospitality Salons
11/20/14	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Fidelity Investments Trip*	Merrimack, NH location
11/20/14	6:00 - 7:30 PM	Game Design Internship Night	ACC 105B



CONGRATULATIONS EMMA!

Emma LeBlanc's Masters thesis on Sharia Law in Rebel Occupied Syria won the Durham Prize for the best Anthropology thesis at Oxford. It also won the "Society for the Anthropology" 2014 Prize for best student thesis on religion. (It sure wasn't a windy day when the apple fell from that tree....!)

Continued from pg. 3...Chief Learning Officer at the all online Penn Foster Education. He holds a B.S. in Education from Bridgewater (MA) State College, a M.Ed. in Administration from Johnson (VT) State College, a C.A.G.S. in Administration and Planning from the Univ. of Vermont, and was a charter graduate of the AASA National Superintendents Academy. McNulty is also sought after worldwide as a speaker, is widely published and has a recent book entitled *It's Not Us Against Them — Creating the Schools We Need*, published in 2009 by the International Center.

When asked what has been his biggest challenge so far at SNHU McNulty responded: "Sitting in meetings and hearing all the abbreviations! Everything has its own initials." This is true in every business, but higher education has a whole new set and then SNHU and its committees have their own besides. Having said that however, he says a high point is how helpful everyone is. McNulty says the support of his fellow Deans has been great and they are always willing to stop and explain yet another acronym!

Another challenge is that a year has SNHU has 56 weeks! The plus side McNulty sees to that however is that SNHU is a place where people are supportive of ideas and movement. The cry is always "Let's do it, or at least try." McNulty loves the mix of faculty, staff and students after working in an online environment. The campus is always abuzz and the students have been very pleasant and exciting.

When asked about a turning point in his own education McNulty tells a heartwarming story. He grew up in inner city Boston and assumed his future would be the shipyard (like his father) or the military until he met his 8th grade English Language Arts teacher. This man took an interest in all his students, but especially inspired McNulty. This is the point where he realized he too wanted to make that kind of difference in students' lives and futures.

Given how hard he works I asked McNulty if there is another, more relaxed side of him. Oh yes! He says he and his wife are very focused on the outdoors. They love to ski and golf. They have a house on the Cape and can be found walking their dog on the beach or enjoying time with their 8 grandchildren!

What are McNulty's views of the future of SNHU and the School of Education? He says we know we can be better. We need to be expanding teacher training. The schools of the future need multiple delivery models with competency based programs that are more personalized. McNulty says we do not want to be training teachers for schools of the past. We learn with our students for what teaching and learning in the 21st century is all about.

In a typical semester there are roughly 125 to 150 English as a Second Language (ESL), 200 to 250 international undergraduate day students, and 500-600 international graduate students on campus. However, these numbers change so frequently that it can be challenging to track and the international population at Southern New Hampshire University brings more to campus than just a number.

Dawn Sedutto, Director of International Student Services, and Deborah Donnelly, International Student Advisor, have been working with international students for many years. According to Sedutto, the top three countries represented on campus are China, Saudi Arabia, and India, most of the undergraduate students on campus being from Saudi Arabia. Overall the trend of the international student population on campus has correlated with the national international student population in the sense that they are both increasing. With this continuous increase, faculty and staff can expect more international students in their classes. The goal for the International Admissions Office is to increase the typical number of international undergraduate students from between 200-250 to 300 students.



Photo Credit: <http://ows.edb.utexas.edu>

Sedutto and Donnelly also expressed the benefits and challenges of having international students in classrooms. “The positive influences certainly include the exposure to different world views and different points of view. We have students come from 65 to 70 different countries. Being a small school in NH where many of our students haven’t necessarily traveled overseas, they have this chance to broaden their horizons,” says Donnelly. She described the benefit as mutual, as international students also get to learn from American students. The challenge in this is bridging the gap between these two different populations. Sedutto said this is where professors can play a critical role by making sure they foster this communication within their classrooms.

Professor James Duffy said, “I have always loved having international students in my classes. Their presence makes discussions of Sociology that much more connected to real world diversity.”

With many advantages, Sedutto said, “the biggest and most obvious challenge is language skills. Not all of our international students are perfectly fluent in English. Just because a student has passed the English as a Second Language program doesn’t mean they have no language deficiencies, and that can clearly be a challenge for the student, faculty member, and other classmates.” One point both Sedutto and Donnelly wanted faculty to know is that even though international students may have these challenges, this does not mean they should be held to a different standard than domestic students when it comes academic situations such as plagiarism. “It is really important to make specific announcements and at the start of class to state what the expectations are. Then it is really helpful to repeat those expectations. It is not enough on the first day of class to say this is what plagiarism means and state the rules for citing sources, but to repeat that message as they go along in class. This can be really helpful because understanding the concept and hearing the words is very different than understanding and internalizing what it means and practicing this. That takes time to learn,” says Sedutto. Professors will be supported by their Deans and can always come to The International Admissions Office with questions. To assist students and faculty, there are also many services they can receive help from. They have pronunciation workshops, the Thanksgiving Host Program, the Cousins Program, etc. ...Continued pg. 7

Its a Bird, Its a Plane, Its Dr. Lundy Lewis's Drone!

Submitted by: Alicia Frazier

Dr. Lundy Lewis, Papoutsy Chair in Ethics and Social Responsibility, seems to be starting off the school year the best way he knows how, enthusiastically and knee deep in projects! This being his second year as chairman, Lewis has many projects continuing from last year along with new ways to increase the social and ethical awareness on campus.

The first project is running the next set of trials with the robot therapy, which he started last year. Last year he worked with Nancy Charron, from the School of Education, and ran trials between a humanoid robot and a six year old autistic boy named Edgar. Their goal was to see if the interaction Edgar learned would then be transferable to real human social interactions. Their results were successful. To continue this, Dr. Lewis is continuing to work with Professor Charron and more trials are being run, this time on two children diagnosed with autism and one with cerebral palsy. Trials began in the first week of October and will run for eight weeks.

"I talk with the therapist and the parents and come up with a design of robot behaviors such that the child interacts with the robot. The child picks up social skills during the interaction and then once the child learns the skills, we make an attempt to transfer those skills to real human beings," says Dr. Lewis. "[This year] It is more scientific in the sense that we are videoing the sessions so we can study them afterwards."

Another focus Dr. Lewis has for the new year is to increase campus awareness of the ethical issue associated with technology. First, he plans to bring in another high profiled speaker for another university-wide presentation, last year's speaker being Dean Kamen. He also created the Papoutsy Lecture Series in Business Ethics. Each semester he plans to bring in successful SNHU alums who have also dealt with ethical situations and moral dilemmas in business. Lastly, he established six educational modules on various technologies, which he has offered to professors on campus to come in and present to their classes. These topics include Humanoid robots, Tele-presence robots – the Double, Educational mini-robots – Romo, Drones, Neuro-feedback systems, and Technology, ethics, and responsible engagement of the future. Dr. Lewis also plans on adding modules this year, one being on Google Glass.

Each module seems to connect back to another project Dr. Lewis himself is pursuing. One that faculty and staff may see around campus is his work on drones. His goal is to "use drones to raise awareness on the issue of privacy", says Dr. Lewis. One possibility may be flying his drone around campus and then having students, faculty, and staff fill out a survey about reaction towards this. Look out and look up for the many projects Dr. Lewis has flying around campus this year!



Dr. Lundy Lewis with autistic therapy robot.
Photo Credit: Dr. Lundy Lewis

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According to Lori DecConinck, Director of the Learning Center, programs include the International Student (ELL) Writing Tutoring and Conversational English. "In conjunction with the Institute for Language Education, we offer 17 hours of tutoring especially targeted to our international population. The tutoring is done by graduates or currently enrolled students in the Teaching English as a Foreign Language program or Professor Emeritus Don Sieker." In addition, "If a professor has a student struggling with either written or spoken English, he/she should refer the student to these programs and/or contact Selina Marcille, Writing Tutoring Coordinator at ext. 2086," says DeConinck.

"I have always found the Office of International Student Services to be completely supportive of our goals in the classroom, willing to intervene in the occasional difficulty that comes about. Their offices are always buzzing with a United Nations of students who comfortably gather and fill the halls with more languages that I can keep track of. If you find time, stop by Belknap and soak in the diversity," says Duffy.

The Learning Center Implements Peer Educator Development Initiative

Submitted by: The Learning Center Staff

A majority of offices on the SNHU campus and SNHU students enjoy the mutual benefits of work study/university paid positions. Student workers also receive something of added value through their employment on campus that is often overlooked; the experiences that the students have and skills the student develops in work study or university paid positions are invaluable post-matriculation.

This fall, The Learning Center (TLC) implemented a Peer Educator Development Initiative. The Peer Educator Development Initiative is an effort to go above and beyond to assist its 80+ student workers utilizing and showcasing those often hidden skills to help the student achieve their individual career or other future goals. The Peer Educator Development Initiative will consist of opportunities for advancement beyond the traditional Peer Educator roles with the creation of a Lead Tutor role, as well as workshops focused on professional development and more.

One of the first workshops offered to students was a private resumé writing and interview prep session hosted by TLC and facilitated by The Career Development Center (CDC). CDC staff worked with Peer Educators to create an optimal description of their Learning Center work experience for their resúms. This workshop also allowed Peer Educators to answer mock interview questions about their Learning Center experience.

An additional component planned for the spring semester is the creation of a “Lead Tutor” position for the math, business, and writing disciplines. Students working in a lead tutor capacity, as the name implies, will take a lead role in mentoring new tutors during walk-in tutoring sessions, and take on added responsibilities. TLC Graduate Assistants will conduct informational sessions about the role and responsibilities of a Learning Center Graduate Assistant position, for Peer Educators that may be interested in pursuing a Master’s degree. The Graduate Assistants will also provide an overview of Graduate Assistant and Research Assistant roles at other institutions. Selina Marcille, Writing Tutoring Coordinator, has also extended an offer to assist with outlining personal statements for Peer Educators that may be interested in attending graduate school. Lastly, TLC is partnering with the CDC to examine whether Peer Educator trainings and employment duties might qualify as a pre-professional certification.

TLC staff is excited to continue moving forward with the Peer Educator Development Initiative to give their Peer Educators an additional avenue to develop workplace-relevant skills and experience to support the Peer Educators as they prepare to see themselves succeed after graduating from SNHU.

**I need your help!...Send in photos of yourself
or colleagues for:**



Upcoming Events from The Center for Teaching and Learning!

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Wednesday, November 5 (3:30-4:30pm) Tegrity Workshop

This workshop will introduce you to the Tegrity lecture capture system. You will learn how to record videos and become familiar with the faculty and student functions. RSVP to instructionalsupport@snhu.edu.

Wednesday, November 19 (12:30-1:30pm) 20-Minute Mentor Lunch Chat

How can I use discussion to facilitate learning? Casual conversation and discussion following the 20-Minute Mentor video covering the outlined topic. This is the final 20-Minute Mentor Lunch chat this semester. Please bring your own lunch and RSVP to ctl@snhu.edu.

Wednesday, December 3 (3:30-4:30pm) CoursEval Workshop

In this workshop you will be introduced to CoursEval, how to enable the Bb link, post an announcement for students, and view historical evaluation data. RSVP to instructionalsupport@snhu.edu.

Friday, December 5 (3:30-4:30pm) Faculty Research Day Roundtable

This roundtable discussion will give faculty a chance to ask questions and learn more about the second annual Faculty Research Day scheduled for April 7th, 2015. The call for papers and presentations will also be available to faculty at this session. Location for this session is TBD. Please RSVP to ctl@snhu.edu.



Right: Matt Petersons

Below: Asad Hardwick



They get excited
about homecoming!



They take selfies!

Above: Kathleen Bohlig

Below: Gavin Telfer



They sometimes get
on the wrong bus!



They love their students!