

Academic Affairs

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Coming Next Month!

We will feature an article on Dr. Lundy Lewis, newly selected Papoutsy Chair in Ethics and Social Responsibility for 2013-2015. Don't miss it!

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

Deadline for Submission

April 29

Publication Date

May 3

Dear Colleagues –

As we approach the end of another exciting school year, I invite all of you to spend some time on the UC Strategic Plan Portal. There you can find the most recent updates from the four working groups (Coming of Age; Career Preparation; Retention & Graduation, and; Financial Sustainability). For those of you not able to participate on a working group, there is a place on the portal for you to provide feedback. A first draft of the plan will be presented to the Board at the May meeting, and there will be multiple opportunities for all members of the UC community to provide input through the end of September. The final document will be presented to the Board at the October meeting. My sincere thanks to all members of these working groups, and especially the chairs for their hard work and dedication to this process.

The second annual Undergraduate Research Showcase was another resounding success! I am extremely grateful to all faculty and staff who worked so hard to make this day an incredible opportunity for our students. We are exploring the possibility of publishing an undergraduate research journal to include the proceedings of each showcase. We will be sure to keep you updated on this very exciting initiative.

I am delighted (and quite relieved!) to report that construction of the new Residence Hall is *ahead* of schedule, and we anticipate opening the doors in late August!!

I am extremely proud to announce that Dr. Ravi Pandit, Professor of Hospitality, has been awarded his second Fulbright Scholarship. Ravi will be studying the Scandinavian hospitality and tourism industry in Finland. Congratulations, Dr. Pandit.

I know these past few years have been chaotic at times, and sometimes very challenging, but when I read this Globe article (sent to me by a full time faculty member), it affirmed that the very difficult decisions we have made over the years have largely been right on the money. We are so fortunate to enjoy full classrooms and a vibrant University culture - a culture not realized by many of our peers. The foresight and determination of our President, and the skill and hard work of our colleagues in COCE, are major contributors to our current success. But the willingness and courage of the faculty at SNHU to "row against the mainstream" is a key factor in every success we currently enjoy.

<http://www.bostonglobe.com/magazine/2013/04/13/are-small-private-colleges-trouble/ndIYSWVGFAUjYVVWkqnjK/story.html>

Lastly – our warmest congratulations to Heather Lorenz, Dean of Students, on the birth of her third child, a little girl who as of this writing has yet to be named!! Heather . . . maybe baby number three will actually get you to slow down a bit!! We miss you, but enjoy this wonderful time with your new little bundle!

Patricia A. Lynott

Provost and Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs

Congratulations to Jason Bellipanni

Congratulations to Jason Bellipanni for publishing his collection of short stories, *Slippery Devils*. It has taken Jason over a period of fifteen years to write and many of the stories have appeared in literary journals, university composition texts, and international anthologies. Jason's book has been catching attention from authors and newspapers which led him to get interviewed by the Union Leaders. Praise for *Slippery Devils* include Patrick McCabe, author of the Booker nominated novels *The Dead School*, and *The Butcher Boy*, "*The Last Elf-Mite* most definitely did surprise me, like some skewed but ordinary Harold Pinter domestic episode eccentrically reworked by Isaac Asimov. I found it courageous and fastidious and unflinching in its courage. A writer well worth watching, I feel."

Erin Davies, "Retiring" Editor of the VPAA Journal

Submitted by: Deborah Wilcox, Special Assistant to the Provost

Ask Erin Davies what she likes to do for fun and you might be surprised by her answer: "I like talking about writing with my friends. We also talk about our post-graduate plans and how we will stay in touch." Erin does get away from writing and the university some of the time when playing with her 14 month old puppy – a Portuguese water dog!

Erin is a Creative Writing major in her third year at SNHU. She will be graduating in May and continuing on to our MFA program this summer. She knew for a long time that she wanted to be a writer and applied to seven schools with Creative Writing majors, although Roger Williams and SNHU were her top choices. She visited SNHU on an Accepted Students Day and met Dr. Andrew Martino and Prof. Diane Les Becquets. According to Erin they gave such engaging presentations and were so much more invested in students than other schools she visited that SNHU became her top choice in no time. She knew coming in she would aim to complete her B.A. in 3 years and apply to go right on to the MFA program. She applied to the University Honors Program and was accepted after an interview with then Director Prof. Fred Lord. She loves Honors and is so glad she made that choice.

Erin wrote a lot in her sophomore and junior years of high school, before the pressures of senior year. She admits however to doing her best writing, even now, when she should be doing other homework! She has found this last year at SNHU to be particularly stressful as a University Honors student with the pressure of writing her HON 401 thesis. Unlike our preconceptions of how students study nowadays Erin says she writes best in quiet places like the Library and her room, and says the Academic Affairs suite is the best!

Another challenge this year for Erin has been a Screenwriting class with Prof. Steve Bogart. She has been writing a Zombie apocalypse screenplay with her friends, which definitely distracts her from her HON 401 writing! They played Humans vs. Zombies on campus recently and Erin reports it was "Awesome!"

Erin took over as editor of the VPAA Journal in March two years ago with the unexpected departure of our previous editor. She jumped right in and has been outstanding ever since. She even recruited her own replacement this year and mentored new editor Jessica Sayers until Jess was able to step in on her own. (Thank you both!) Erin is an only child from Arlington, MA. She freely admits to enjoying talking with her parents and spending time with them! She will be applying for jobs in the Arlington area and living at home while working on her MFA.

Erin's career aspirations? Ultimately she would like to support herself as an author. In the meantime she hopes to find work at a publishing house, not as an editor, but as a publicist perhaps. She thinks that work involving book covers and marketing would be really interesting.

Erin already feels bittersweet about graduating. She will be glad to give up homework, but will definitely miss running into student friends, faculty, and the staff in Academic Affairs. Congratulations Erin on your successful time at SNHU and all the best to you in the future!

Dr. Ravi Pandit Awarded Fulbright

Submitted by: Deborah Wilcox, Special Assistant to the Provost

Our sincere congratulations go out to Dr. Ravi Pandit, Professor of Hospitality Business in the School of Business on receiving a Fulbright award! Dr. Pandit will be a visiting Fulbright Scholar to the Hospitality and Tourism program at HAAGA-HELIA University in Helsinki, Finland from August-December 2013. He will be teaching graduate and undergraduate courses in hospitality and tourism and pursuing research agendas in collaboration with the faculty. Their research will be focused on the hospitality and tourism industry in Finland and Scandinavia. Dr. Pandit will also be facilitating faculty development and curriculum review and assessment.

This is Dr. Pandit's second Fulbright award. He was awarded a Fulbright grant in 2006 as a visiting scholar to the Republic of Maldives, an island nation in the Indian Ocean where he taught and developed a four year degree program for the Maldives College of Higher Education.

Dr. Pandit holds a Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University and an M.S. from Rochester (NY) Institute of Technology. He earned a graduate certificate in Accounting from SNHU and is a Certified Hospitality Educator (CHE) from the Educational Institute of the American Hotel and Motel Association. Dr. Pandit came to SNHU as an Assistant Professor in 1999, was promoted to Associate Professor in 2003 and full Professor in 2008. He serves as Chair of the Hospitality Business Department and teaches a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses, some of which he developed. In addition to his Fulbright teaching in the Maldives Dr. Pandit taught in Malaysia, Canada, Greece, and Dubai. For many years he has served variously as Program Coordinator, Chair, and Director of our Bachelor of Applied Science in Hospitality Administration (BASHA) program.

Dr. Pandit has an outstanding record of publications in refereed and non-refereed journals and conference proceedings as well as many presentations. This year he has had three symposia presentations accepted. In July he will be presenting at the CHRIE (International Council on Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional Education) annual conference. His presentations are: "Popularity of Events Management as a Major in Hospitality Education," "Decision Fatigue/Hotel Managers," and "The Three P's of Crisis Management Related to Hospitality Facilities." At the same conference he will be conducting faculty development workshops on "Teaching with Multimedia and Hypermedia Tools" and "Integrating the Internet into the Curriculum."

Dr. Pandit is also an active member of many visiting accrediting teams for the Accreditation Commission for Programs in Hospitality Administration (ACPHA).

Best wishes Ravi!

Academic Policy Committee (APC) pt.1

There were two important academic policies that were passed this academic year, **Academic Progression in Nursing-Undergraduate Programs** and **Academic Progression in Nursing- Graduate Programs**.

The **Academic Progression in Nursing-Undergraduate Programs** was approved on December 26, 2012 and is currently in effect. The grading system for the department of nursing requires students completing an undergraduate nursing program must earn a minimum of a "B-" grade in all nursing courses. As long as they meet all other requirements of their program, undergraduate nursing students may be able to count grades below a "B-" in courses which are not specifically in nursing. There are also academic warnings and probation for nursing students. Given the different academic requirements of the nursing program, a distinct system of academic warnings and "probation" will be established for this program. A detailed set of initial procedures and policies was submitted to APC and approved—this will be updated and improved over time, consistent with ongoing student need and existing SNHU policy.

Academic Policy
Committee (APC) pt.2

The **Academic Progression in Nursing- Graduate Programs** was approved on December 26, 2012. The grading system for the department of nursing requires students completing a graduate nursing program must earn a minimum of a “B-” grade in all nursing courses. Grades below a “B-” in nursing courses cannot be counted towards a graduate degree in nursing. There are also academic warnings and probations for graduate students. Given the different academic requirements of the nursing program, a distinct system of academic warnings and “probation” will be established for this program. A detailed set of initial procedures and policies was submitted to APC and approved—this will be updated and improved over time, consistent with ongoing student need and existing SNHU policies. The Nursing Program will communicate its policies, in detail, to all its students.

Alumni Spotlight: Active Alumni, Vibrant Campus

Alumni Volunteer Recognition

Submitted by: The Office of Institutional Advancement

What do alumni volunteers add to the student experience at Southern New Hampshire University?

SNHU alumni contribute their time, expertise, and connections by speaking in classrooms or on webinars; mentoring students in academic and professional pursuits; hiring interns and graduates; moderating discussions on the lively LinkedIn group [SNHU Community](#); attending networking opportunities and mingling with students; and volunteering at events year-round, all for the sake of helping SNHU students to graduate as networked, confident, employable professionals.

We’re celebrating National Volunteer Week from April 21-27, 2013, and we invite our faculty and staff to [take a brief survey](#) on alumni engagement in your classes, programs and organizations. Your input helps us spotlight alumni who have shown uncommon dedication to their alma mater and the greater SNHU community. At Homecoming 2013 (October 18-20), we will honor some of our most dedicated alumni volunteers at the President’s Reception.

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



The 2013 International Alumni Panel on March 20 brought six alumni home to campus to connect with current international students about living and working in the U.S. after graduation.

MEET MARLIN NABORS

The Provost Office would like to welcome Marlin Nabors from Students Affairs. Marlin received his B.S from Central Michigan University where he was trained in Journalism and Sociology. Marlin said a memorable turning point in his education happened at his undergraduate school with one of his professors, Dr. Mowrey. Dr. Mowrey was a “transformative” professor who encouraged intellectual curiosity and gave students the skills to “discern and evaluate information.” With the experience that Dr. Mowrey gave to him, Marlin “quickly became interested in the idea of how to encourage development, self-reflection and intellectual curiosity in others.”

Marlin then went on to receive his Master’s Degree from Syracuse University in Cultural Foundations of Education. Marlin has done a lot with his degrees before coming to SNHU. He has worked in Higher Education for twelve years and has worked in six states stretched across the country from Kansas to Massachusetts. Marlin said that he has worked for mostly private universities, ranging from small to large.

When asked why he wanted to come to SNHU Marlin responded, saying SNHU is a “university with constant momentum,” he knows that “work culture, motivation and innovation are all positively impacted when an environment is willing to consider itself.” Marlin also added that SNHU is an environment that “appreciates positive change” and wants to be a part of it.

The Monthly Journal of the Vice President for Academic Affairs

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