

**NH Department of Education
Division of Higher Education • Higher Education Commission
101 Pleasant Street
Concord, NH 03301 (603) 271-0257**

February 2, 2016

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Higher Education Commission
From: Edward R. MacKay, Director
Subject: Director's Report

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

Given it is a non-budget Legislative session, there are typically fewer bills with a potentially substantive impact and this pattern holds for 2016. The primary bills being tracked by the Division are as follows:

House Continuing Resolution 12 urges support of the 65x25 initiative in New Hampshire. Sponsor: Representative Wayne Burton (attachment)

H.B. 1551 would establish a John and Molly Stark scholarship program, providing half in-state tuition grants for qualified residents for up to three years and with a potential cost of up to \$25 million annually when fully implemented. Sponsors: Representatives Wayne Burton, Mary Gile, Mel Myler (attachment)

S.B. 314 would revise the process for selection of the two career school representatives to the Higher Education Commission by simply replacing the old name with the new name for the career association (American Council for Professional Education and Training). Sponsors: Senators Nancy Stiles, Molly Kelly, David Watters, John Reagan, Representatives Kenneth Weyler, Mary Gile, James Grenier (attachment)

S.B. 408 would provide \$50,000 in funding for a three-year pilot of the children's savings account program. Sponsors: Senators Kevin Avar, Lou D'Allesandro, Molly Kelly, David Watters; Representatives Kenneth Weyler, Mary Gile, Rick Ladd, Donald LeBrun (attachment)

REPORT OF OUT-OF-STATE MEETINGS

In the role of Director, there was out-of-state travel for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges work session to review proposed changes to accreditation standards (October 1); New England Council annual dinner (October 22); New England Children's Savings Account Consortium Meeting (October 29); and New England Association of Schools and Colleges Annual Meeting (December 9).

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ACTIVITY

In-State Colleges and Universities:

Southern New Hampshire University forwarded its Compliance Report to the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, along with its Annual Report for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing and the Master of Science in Nursing.

Upper Valley Graduate School of Education forwarded its report on teacher preparation programs submitted to the NH Department of Education, Council for Teacher Education. The Council accepted the report and continuing approval was granted by the State Board of Education through August 31, 2022. Before expiration of the institution's approval on June 30, 2016 for the Master of Arts in Teaching and the Master of Education in School Leadership, the Commission will conduct an abbreviated site visit to the Upper Valley Educators Institute to assess the ongoing progress and development of these master's programs.

The following in-state institutions forwarded required annual reports:

New Hampshire Institute of Art for all of its degrees.

St. Joseph School of Nursing for its Associate of Science in Nursing.

Per revised Hedc 406.02, N.H. Code of Administrative Rules, annual and/or other reports shall be reviewed by the Director, who shall report compliance to the Commission. The above reports were received, read, and accepted.

New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC) Activity:

Colby-Sawyer College forwarded the Division a copy of the letter from the New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC) informing them of the action for continuing approval taken at the September 25, 2015 meeting. A progress report is due in Fall 2018; an interim (fifth-year) report is due for consideration in Fall 2020; and the next comprehensive evaluation is scheduled for Spring 2025.

New England College forwarded the Division a copy of the Annual Report on Finance and Enrollment due and filed with the NEASC by December 1, 2015.

The New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC) conducted a comprehensive visit to **Northeast Catholic College** on November 8-11, 2015. Richard Gustafson attended as an observer. No issues were identified that warrant Commission attention. Higher Education Commission approval expires June 30, 2016 and consideration of continued licensure will be placed on the May 3, 2016 agenda.

The New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC) conducted a focused evaluation visit to **The Thomas More College of Liberal Arts** on October 26-27, 2015. Richard Gustafson attended as an observer. No issues were identified that warrant Commission attention. A comprehensive visit has been scheduled for the Fall, 2016. It is anticipated the Commission will have an observer present at that visit, which will inform a recommendation to the Commission on continued approval.

Upcoming NEASC Activity:

- **Daniel Webster College** – Comprehensive Evaluation in November 2016
- **New Hampshire Institute of Art** – Comprehensive Evaluation April 3-6, 2016
- **The Thomas More College of Liberal Arts** – Comprehensive Evaluation in Fall 2016

Out-of-State Colleges and Universities:

The following out-of-state institutions forwarded required annual reports:

- **Antioch University New England**
- **Cornell University**
- **Lesley University**
- **MCPHS University**
- **Pratt Institute**
- **Springfield College**

Per revised Hedc 406.02, N.H. Code of Administrative Rules, annual and/or other reports shall be reviewed by the Director, who shall report compliance to the Commission. The above reports were received, read, and accepted.

Administrative approval was granted to the following institutions from non-National Council - State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA) states to operate in New Hampshire and offer online degrees that require a practicum/internship/clinical:

Georgetown University's School of Continuing Studies (Washington, DC) is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, and was approved to offer the Master of Professional Studies in Sports Industry Management until June 30, 2017.

Sacred Heart University (Fairfield, CT) is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and was approved to offer the following degrees until June 30, 2017:

- Registered Nurse Bachelor of Science
- Master of Nursing – Clinical Nurse Leader
- Master of Nursing – Patient Care Services Administration
- Master of Nursing – Nursing Education
- Master of Applied Psychology – Industrial-Organization Psychology
- Master of Applied Psychology – Community Psychology
- Master of Applied Psychology – General Applied Psychology

Simmons College (Boston, MA) is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and was approved to offer the Master of Social Work until June 30, 2017.

University of Southern California, School of Social Work (Los Angeles, CA) is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, and was approved to offer the Master of Social Work until June 30, 2017.

CLOSED SCHOOL TRANSCRIPTS AND FINANCIAL AID

For the first six months of FY 2016, **320** college/university transcripts and **27** career school transcripts, were processed and generated a total of **\$6,940**.

For the first six months of FY 2015, **382** college/university transcripts and **68** career school transcripts, were processed and generated a total of **\$9,000**.

Effort continues to close out all forgivable loans made through former state programs designed to encourage enrollment and subsequent employment in NH in fields such as nursing and selected teaching areas. More than one hundred loans are in the process of being resolved; often with confirmation the individual has completed the required service to warrant closure of the file.

RESEARCH AND STUDIES

Submitted by Jan Fiderio

Research and studies completed this quarter include:

- A position paper on NH DOE longitudinal data warehouse recommendations for the IHE/DOE Data Reporting team.
- A NH student migration report using recently released 2014 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)/National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) data. (See attachment for details on where Fall 2014, first-time students went to college or career school.)
- Assistance and analysis in coordinated effort to enable NH to join the Federal FAFSA Completion Initiative.
- The UNIQUE Annual Allocation Program (UAAP) and UNIQUE Endowment Allocation Program (UEAP) report by institution.
- The NC-SARA complaint report. (Once again NH NC-SARA institutions had no complaints lodged against them.)
- Coordination and submittal of the annual State Higher Education Executive Officers association State Higher Education Finance (SHEF), Grapevine, and salary surveys. The Grapevine survey showed NH still ranked poorly for state appropriations. Here are the ten states that will provide the **least** amount of state monies in FY 16:

Vermont	FY 16	\$90,800,014
New Hampshire		\$133,738,047
Rhode Island		\$179,639,520
South Dakota		\$224,466,366
Delaware		\$230,005,700
Montana		\$249,277,353
Maine		\$285,418,014
Alaska		\$361,313,700
Idaho		\$419,045,700
Wyoming		\$419,149,337
Source: 2016 Preliminary Grapevine data		

Please review “**Director’s Report: Winter 2016 Research and News**” for a recap of newsworthy articles and reports (attachment). Issues being highlighted for this report include:

- A call for year-round Pell grants
- Student loan debt
- Coding boot camps and alternative higher education partnerships

Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) PROGRAM SUPPORT

Submitted by Jan Fiderio

New Hampshire, Title IV-eligible, higher education institutions are now in the process of submitting and completing their winter IPEDS surveys. The surveys, due on February 10, cover: Student Financial Aid, Graduation Rates, 200% Graduation Rates, Admissions, and Outcome Measures. Preliminary survey data is expected to be available in the IPEDS Data Center by mid-September.

IPEDS State Data Conference: While last year’s IPEDS conference was cancelled, this year’s conference is tentatively scheduled for April 25 through 27. The location is yet to be determined.

OFFICE OF CAREER SCHOOL LICENSING

Submitted by Kimberly J. Kenneally

The Office of Career School Licensing presently authorizes 74 licensed career schools, and is currently engaged in reviewing two new additional schools: Dale Carnegie and Maverick Technical Institute. The Maverick Technical Institute provides instruction on the installment of technical sound systems.

Hearts and Minds, LLC closed their Licensing Nurse Assistant Program as of December 27, 2015. All students completed the program and the school is working through the closing process.

The Office of Career School Licensing and Arvigo Institute, LLC, are engaged in a discussion on the proper N.H. Code of Administrative Rules interpretation of the licensing fee calculation.

Please direct any questions regarding these activities to Kimberly Kenneally at (603) 271-6443 or e-mail kimberly.kenneally@doe.nh.gov.

VETERANS EDUCATION SERVICES

Submitted by James A. Margeson IV

The Veterans Education Services team continues to grow the program, and hopes to continue to do so. Below are some of the activities that were conducted by the team from October 2015 through January 2016.

- Conducted **5** Compliance Visits
- Approved **62** new programs
- Disapproved **16** programs
- Conducted **2** NH SCO Training & Planning Committee meetings

- Hosted NH School Certifying Officials Conference at the Puritan Backroom 11/4/15 & 11/5/15
- Attended VA Flight Programs webinars & conference calls
- Attended Veterans Annual Stand-Down at Harbor Homes, Nashua, NH

Please direct any questions regarding these activities to James Margeson at (603) 271-8508 or by e-mail to James.MargesonIV@doe.nh.gov.