

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

May 8, 2018

To: Members of the Higher Education Commission

From: Michael Seidel
Director

Subject: Director's Report

REPORT OF OUT-OF-STATE MEETINGS

No attendance at out-of-state meetings since February 13, 2018.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT/OFFICE ISSUES/OTHER

James A. Margeson IV, Administrator for the Veterans Education Services and the Office of Career School Licensing, departed his position on March 29, 2018. We are actively recruiting for his replacement.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ACTIVITY

In-State Colleges and Universities:

The **American University of Madaba** submitted its 2017 Annual Report on March 1, 2018, as required. The report provided an update on enrollment, faculty, programs, and finances, as well as progress made on four recommendations resulting from the Commission's site visit in 2017. The Commission awaits receipt of AUM's Eligibility Report to the NEASC, as this is an important step toward Candidacy. Dr. Gustafson's review of the annual report and recommendation for action is listed as an agenda item.

Colby-Sawyer College has submitted a Substantive Change request to NEASC to introduce the College's first master's level degree, a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN). The College has had a baccalaureate nursing program since 1981 and its BS in Nursing and RN to BSN are accredited by CCNE. The NH Higher Education Commission approved the MSN program in April, 2016 and the College had a CCNE review of the MSN in February, 2018. The CCNE visit was observed by the Commission. The NEASC Substantive Change visit was scheduled for April 11-12, 2018. The Commission will receive the final reports from CCNE and NEASC when they are complete. The Commission can then make a decision regarding program approval beyond December 31, 2018 to align with the CCNE and the NEASC approval dates.

The owner of the former **Daniel Webster College** property has yet to decide on a name and the U.S representatives are waiting for clear direction regarding the naming and usage of the property. The owner should be visiting the site in May and is expected to clarify his intentions at that time.

The Commission is in receipt of a letter from the U.S. Department of Education, Federal Student Aid, informing us that **Franklin Pierce University's** Application for Approval to Participate in Federal Student Financial Aid Programs was determined by the Secretary of Education to satisfy the definition of an eligible institution under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

Franklin Pierce University has informed the Commission that it plans to start a master's degree in nursing with the title "Accelerated Master's Entry to Nursing Practice." Currently, Franklin Pierce University offers two degree programs in nursing via online instruction, and both are accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). The audience and delivery for the proposed MSN program is quite different. The audience is those who already hold a bachelor's degree in another discipline and are preparing for a second career or seeking a career change into nursing. This will be a full-time 15 month RN licensure program with most of the instruction being face-to-face, and graduates would sit for the NCLEX-RN national nursing licensure examination. The New Hampshire Board of Nursing as well as the ACEN will evaluate the program for approval/accreditation. The Commission will be informed of the outcomes of these reviews.

We received verification that the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), formerly the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, continued accreditation to **St. Joseph School of Nursing** and scheduled the next evaluation visit for the Fall 2025.

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

The NEASC conducted an Initial Accreditation Comprehensive Evaluation visit to **Northeast Catholic College** on April 8-11, 2017 for the Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies. The Commission had an observer at the NEASC visit and reported that the review was quite positive, although enrollment and financial challenges remain. The Commission will receive the NEASC report when it is completed later this spring, and will learn of NEASC's decision regarding accreditation in the fall of 2018. Our Commission approval expires December 31, 2018. The item will be placed on the October 9, 2018 agenda.

The NEASC conducted a focused evaluation visit to the **New Hampshire Institute of Art** on May 6-8, 2018 to review enrollment and financial information. The Commission will receive the NEASC report when it is completed later this spring, and will learn of any NEASC action in the fall of 2018.

Out-of-State Colleges and Universities:

Signum University has applied to utilize the name Signum University and to issue a Master of Arts in Language and Literature in the State of New Hampshire. This is an online program only, currently incorporated in the State of Delaware. We are in the process of putting together an evaluation team but we may not be able to do so until September 2018.

Administrative Approvals for Online Programs:

Administrative approval is granted to institutions within states that are not members of the National Council – State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA) or have elected to not participate through NC-SARA to operate in New Hampshire and offer online degrees that require a practicum/internship/clinical. These institutions are as follows:

Chamberlain University (Downers Grove, IL), accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (formerly North Central Association of Colleges & Schools), was approved to offer the following until June 30, 2020:

- RN to BSN Degree Completion
- Master of Science in Nursing
- Graduate Certificate in Nursing Education
- Graduate Certificate in Nursing Informatics
- Doctor of Nursing Practice

Northern Essex Community College (Haverhill, MA), accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, was approved to offer the Associate of Science in Respiratory Care and the Associate of Science in Criminal Justice until June 30, 2020.

CLOSED SCHOOL TRANSCRIPTS

From July 1, 2017 until April 30, 2018 (FY 2018), **2,031** college/university transcripts and **50** career school transcripts were processed, generating a total of **\$41,620**. During the same period in the prior year (FY 2017), a total of **1,928** college/university transcripts and **56** career school transcripts were processed, generating a total of **\$39,680**.

RESEARCH AND STUDIES

Submitted by Jan Fiderio

The Division received no complaints regarding the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA) member institutions from mid-January through May.

Revision of the State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) State Higher Education Finance Survey was completed.

Research and studies related activities this quarter will be distributed at the May 8th meeting.

Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Program Support

Attended the 2018 IPEDS Coordinator Workshop and State Data Conference training on May 1-3 in Washington, D.C. in the role as the State of New Hampshire's official IPEDS Coordinator.

The NH Department of Education, Division of Higher Education hosted three IPEDS workshops, free of charge, to NH higher education institutions that submit IPEDS data to the Federal government. These trainings were the first ever IPEDS workshops to be held in NH. The sessions were led by experienced trainers from the Institution of Institutional Research. Training expenses were paid for by the National Center for Educational Statistics, while lunch and snacks were provided by the NH Department of Education, Division of Higher Education. All three sessions were very well attended with college IR professionals coming from as far as Dartmouth and Berlin. Most attendees had never had any IPEDS training due to the cost of travel.

Workshop Details:

- **Best Practices Training** - This workshop provided intermediate-level key holder training, and was specifically designed for individuals who have led IPEDS data submissions at their institutions for at least one full reporting cycle. **Attendance:** 23 individuals attended this

training: 2 from NH 4-year public institutions, 7 from NH 2-year public institutions, 12 were from NH private non-profit institutions, and 2 from career schools.

- **IPEDS Student Financial Aid** - This workshop provided foundational training for completing the IPEDS Student Financial Aid Survey using an integrated approach to managing, storing, and extracting financial aid data required for survey completion. **Attendance:** 20 individuals attended this training: 3 from NH 4-year public institutions, 6 from NH 2-year public institutions, 8 from NH private non-profit institutions, and 3 from career schools.
- **IPEDS Data and Benchmarking: Supporting Decision Making and Institutional Effectiveness** - This workshop introduces the fundamentals of benchmarking as a measure of institutional effectiveness. It is designed for individuals with little to no experience in benchmarking studies. **Attendance:** 21 individuals attended this training: 2 from NH 4-year public institutions, 7 from NH 2-year public institutions, and 12 from NH private non-profit institutions.

The Spring IPEDS survey deadlines – April 11 for all NH nonprofit colleges and career schools and April 25 for all NH public 4-year and 2-year institutions were met by all. The surveys completed included: Fall Enrollment, Finance, Human Resources, and Academic Libraries. All institutions completed the surveys by the second deadline.

OFFICE OF CAREER SCHOOL LICENSING

Submitted by Shireen Meskoob

The Office of Career School Licensing (OCSL) team continues to collaborate in fine tuning the proposed NH Code of Administrative Rules, Heds 300, as the rules make their way throughout the multiple stages of approval in the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules.

Below are some of the other activities that were conducted by the OCSL team:

- The welcoming of a new school, Age of Montessori (AoM), an out-of-state school based in Bozeman, Montana that trains and certifies Montessori teachers online and in-person. The AoM partners with Little Tree Education, a childcare center and Montessori school located in Madbury, NH, in bringing internship and residency programs to AoM students.
- The closing of a student complaint at The North Eastern Institute of Whole Health in regard to refunds, electives, and class schedule.
- The opening of an investigation of a student complaint at The New Hampshire School of Mechanical Trades in regard to radio advertisements and program cost.
- The registration of the following tradenames with the Secretary of State: Visible Edge Institute and Animal Behavior College, Inc.
- A completed and approved site visit in Boscawen, NH for seminars offered by The Arvigo Institute.

The following 18 schools have successfully renewed their license and have received their letter and license:

- All Dogs, Inc.
- Arvigo Institute, The
- CALCampus
- CompuMaster
- SKillPath
- National Seminars
- Durkee Personnel
- Hands On Technology Transfer
- HR FoodSafe
- IMAGINiT Technologies
- Lamprey Health Care
- Master Bartender
- NTI Organic Lawn Care Institute
- New Hampshire School of Mechanical Trades, The
- ONLC Training Center

- PESI
- Unique System Skills
- Visible Edge

The following 20 schools have submitted their application for license renewal. The applications are currently under review by the OCSL.

- HRB Tax Group
- NBI
- Boston Bartending School
- Seacoast Career School
- Animal Behavior College
- Solutions IQ
- American Red Cross
- CAD
- CALCampus
- Clinical Career Training
- Cross Cultural Communication Institute
- EPTAC
- FLIR
- HYSLOP
- John Mason
- North Eastern Institute of Whole Health
- Seacoast Center for Education
- The Whole Pet Grooming Academy
- Vyne
- Northeast Dental

The following four schools have submitted incomplete applications for their license renewal prior to the expiration of their licenses. They are operating without a license. We are working to rectify the situation.

- Performance Training Associates
- MedTalk
- Sig Sauer
- Tenet

Please direct any questions regarding these activities to Shireen Meskoob at (603) 271-6443 or by e-mail to Shireen.Meskoob@doe.nh.gov.

VETERANS EDUCATION SERVICES
Submitted by RuthAnn Campbell

The Veterans Education Services team continues to expand the educational opportunities for veterans and their dependents, and is committed to continuing to do so. Below are some of the activities conducted by the team from February 1, 2018 through April 30, 2018.

- National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA) conference calls
- New Hampshire Military Leadership Team
- U.S. Veterans Administration conference calls
- U.S. Veterans Administration Webinars
- Met with U.S. Veterans Administration
- Met with the New Hampshire State Apprenticeship Committee
- Conducted six VA compliance Visits.
- Assisted and approved Barnstead Police Department with an application for an On-the-Job Training Program.
- Assisted and approved Antrim Police Department with application for an On-the-Job Training Program.
- Assisted Lee Police Department with application for an On-the-Job Training Program.
- Assisted and approved JCR Construction with application for an Apprenticeship program.
- Assisted Freel & Sons Electric with application for new Apprenticeship Program.

Attended the 2018 National Association of State Approving Agencies Mid-Winter Training & Business Meeting in Washington DC February 10-14, 2018.

Met with Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) March 7, 2018. Topic: New Flight Program

- Plan to start a new flight program in June 2018
- First cohort will have 30 students
- Expect 150 students per year within 5 years
- Will be part of SNHU's comprehensive NEASC review in September 2018.

Completed Compliance Visits:

- Plymouth State University: February 27, 2018
- NTI Organic Lawn Care Institute: March 2, 2018
- Saint Anselm College: March 23, 2018
- MCPHS University: March 27, 2018
- St. Joseph School of Nursing: March 21, 2018

Planned Compliance Visits:

- The NH School of Mechanical Trades
- Nashua Fire Department
- Great Bay Community College

Please direct any questions regarding these activities to RuthAnn Campbell at (603) 271-7861 or by e-mail to ruthann.campbell@doe.nh.gov

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

HB 609 Establishing a student career and college investment program and making an appropriation thereof. House Finance Committee – Interim Study

HB 1100 Establishing a commission to review and evaluate workforce and job training in New Hampshire. House – Passed/Adopted with an Amendment; Senate – Ought to Pass with an Amendment

SB 358 Relative to reorganization of the department of education. Senate – Passed/Adopted with an Amendment; House – Ought to Pass with an Amendment

SB 361 Relative to dual and concurrent enrollment agreements between high schools and colleges and universities. Inexpedient to Legislate

SB 442 Relative to surety indemnification requirements for private postsecondary career schools. Senate – Passed/Adopted with an Amendment; House – Passed/Adopted

For further information on any bill, the link to N.H. General Court is as follows: http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_status/quick_search.html