

**NH Department of Education
Division of Higher Education • Higher Education Commission
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May 5, 2014

MEMORANDUM

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

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

Senate Bill 221, legislation that defines the jurisdiction of private postsecondary career schools and relative authority of the board of barbering, cosmetology, and esthetics (to approve certificate level programs), has passed the Senate and is expected to pass the House on May 8th and be forwarded to the Governor for signature. On February 10, 2014, the Commission approved the Administrative Rules for the Office of Career School Licensing (Hedc 300) that provide the specific standards and other procedures to be used in enforcing the revised statute.

House Bill 1377, legislation that would enable career schools to come before the Commission for approval to grant degrees, was voted inexpedient to legislate by the House. Dr. Gustafson had testified in opposition to this bill, citing the fact that the process for approval to grant degrees was already specified in statute and/or rules and at least one career school has obtained authority to offer a two-year degree (InterCoast College and Career School).

House Bill 624, legislation waiving the residency requirement for in-state tuition rates for veterans attending the University System of New Hampshire and the Community College System of New Hampshire, was approved by the Senate and then approved with an amendment by the House. The University System of New Hampshire stated this Bill would impact its revenue in FY 2015 and beyond, and the bill was referred back to the Senate Finance Committee. No Senate action has been taken on the amended bill as of this date, and we will track progress and keep the Commission informed.

REPORT OF OUT-OF-STATE MEETINGS

I met with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (NEASC/CIHE) President Barbara Brittingham and Senior Vice President Pat O'Brien to discuss ways our entities could more efficiently coordinate distribution of NEASC related correspondence to the Commission. The policy of NEASC is to not share any communication with the respective institutions, even if the institutional chief executive officer authorizes such distributions. While they agreed to

review their policy in the case of the Commission, it was my sense we will need to rely on institutions to forward all communications and will not be able to receive these directly from the NEASC.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT/OFFICE ISSUES/OTHER

We continue to recruit for the vacant Program Specialist III position (formerly held by Amy Slattery). This person will phase out the College Access Challenge Grant Program and assist the Director in support of all Division functions, including other federal grants, policy and planning, research and studies, financial aid, veterans state approvals, college and university activity, career school licensing, and support to the State Treasurer's Office for data analysis relating to the UNIQUE programs.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ACTIVITY

The New Hampshire IHE Network: After conferring with the Commission, the New Hampshire Office of the Secretary of State approved the title of New Hampshire IHE Network for a separately incorporated 501(c)3 entity. The Secretary of State was concerned the organization's title may lead some to believe it was a public entity, and we decided that was not likely, especially since the organization has been in place for several years. The IHE Network has existed as a consortium of Teacher Preparation programs that advocate for initial and ongoing professional development for teachers. The 15 members of the New Hampshire IHE Network are listed in the attachment to this report, and include both public and private institutions.

In-State:

Required standard annual reports for institutions were reviewed and filed, and the following provides brief commentary on additional reports that will be due or special circumstances:

American College of History & Legal Studies notified the Commission it was closing at the end of this semester. Access to transcripts for all former and current students will be provided by the College's parent organization, the Massachusetts College of Law. The College is also working on a teach-out plan for the 13 current students

Daniel Webster College has a NEASC Progress Report due in the spring/summer of 2014

Franklin Pierce University has submitted its teach-out plan for the six academic programs closed in January (and noted in the prior Commission report).

Mount Washington College forwarded the required Compliance Report to the Commission on the Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education for the A.S. in Physical Therapist Assistant that was due by February 15, 2014.

New England College has approval to offer the following degrees without a terminal date: Associate, Bachelor, Master of Arts, Master of Education (in area which it already offers a Master of Arts), Master of Science, Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing (Poetry), and Master of Business Administration. It also has approval to offer the Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership through December 31, 2015. The NEASC held a site visit in conjunction with the institution's ten-year comprehensive review on April 13-16, 2014, and I attended as the Commission observer.

N.H. Institute of Art had a substantive change review by the NEASC regarding its establishment of a Master of Arts in Art Education and Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative Writing, merger with Sharon Arts Center, and implementation of a low residency MFA. The National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) also conducted a site visit in conjunction with the NEASC with a focus on the MFA programs in Visual Arts and Photography. The accreditors noted the need for a comprehensive strategic plan that addresses the merger and updated enrollment forecasts, both reported to be in progress by the Institute.

Southern New Hampshire University had a Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) site visit to review the new RN to BSN in Nursing and Master of Science in Nursing programs. The observer for the Commission was Dr. Sharon George, Dean of Nursing at Saint Anselm College. The evaluation was focused on accreditation standards relating to congruence with the institutional mission, adequacy of resources, curriculum and teaching, and student and faculty outcomes. Dr. George concluded SNHU is meeting the standards but there are some compliance issues that need to be addressed, and recommends the Commission defer approval until the final CCNE report/decision can be reviewed. Commission approval for the programs does not expire until December 31, 2016, or until CCNE acts, whichever comes first. A specific recommendation will be forthcoming to the Commission as soon as possible, and no later than December 31, 2016.

In addition, the Commission has received an inquiry from a private postsecondary school in New Hampshire regarding the process to obtain approval to award a postsecondary degree. And, as noted previously, Florence University of the Arts submitted an “intent to file” document to operate in New Hampshire, and has indicated it will soon submit an Evaluation Plan. Upon review of the plan the Director will appoint an evaluation team to travel to Italy and prepare a report for consideration by the Commission, possibly for the October meeting.

NEASC Activity:

Except as noted above, no additional scheduled site visits for the remainder of 2014.

Out-of-State:

Administrative approval was granted to the following institutions to operate in New Hampshire and offer online degrees that require a practicum/internship/clinical:

Indiana State University (Terre Haute, IN) – Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools for the following degrees until June 30, 2017:

- B.S. in Criminology & Criminal Justice
- B.S. in Human Resource Development
- B.S. in Nursing (LPN/LVN to BS)
- B.S. in Nursing (RN to BS)
- M.S. in Human Resource Development
- M.S. in Nursing (Family Nurse Practitioner)
- M.S. in Nursing (Nursing Education)
- M.S. in Nursing (Nursing Administration)
- M.S. in Health Sciences (Public Health)
- M.S. in Student Affairs & Higher Education

- M.S. in Sport Management
- DNP in Nursing
- Post-Master’s Certificate - Family Nurse Practitioner
- Post-Master’s Certificate - Nursing Education

South University (Pittsburgh, PA) – Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools for the Master of Public Health until June 30, 2017.

University of Southern Maine (Lewiston, ME) – Accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges for the Master of Occupational Therapy until June 30, 2017.

Closed School Transcripts:

FY 2014: As of April 30, 2014, we have processed **589** college/university transcripts @ \$20.00 = **\$11,780.00** and **93** career school transcripts @ \$20.00 = **\$1,240.00**.

FY 2013: As of April 30, 2013, we processed **548** college/university transcripts @ \$20.00 = **\$10,960.00** and **136** career school transcripts @ \$10.00 = **\$1,360.00**.

Please Note: Per the N.H. Code of Administrative Rules, Hedc 300, Office of Career School Licensing, the fee per transcript was increased from \$10.00 to \$20.00 on February 10, 2014.

COLLEGE ACCESS CHALLENGE GRANT (CACG)

Submitted by Director Ed MacKay

The CACG continues to wind down, with the last remaining active grants being the NH Scholars Program (managed by the NHCUC) and the Mathematics Learning Communities (managed by the CCSNH). Closing out of the Diversity Initiative, managed by Campus Compact for the NHCUC, revealed some transactions had not been properly recorded several years ago and both organizations worked cooperatively to resolve discrepancies.

FINANCIAL AID

Per RSA 193:19-21, Scholarships for Orphans of Veterans, we distributed \$12,575 to six students as follows:

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>City/Town</u>	<u>Institution</u>
Bernier	Milton	Keene State College
Bolton	Campton	Plymouth State University
Carroll	Claremont	University of New Hampshire
Ledoux	Merrimack	University of New Hampshire
McComb	Concord	University of New Hampshire
Spooner	Laconia	Lakes Region Community College

OFFICE OF CAREER SCHOOL LICENSING

Submitted by Kimberly J. Kenneally

The Office of Career School Licensing continues its function as required by RSA 188-G:1-10 and, in addition to pending passage of SB 221 (noted above), the following highlights related activity as of April 28, 2014:

- The Salter School of Nursing and Allied Health has demonstrated appropriate action in finding ample externship sites or refunds for all qualified students of their Surgical Technology program. The Office of Career School Licensing continues to monitor the activities and provide assistance to students and school director.
- InterCoast Career Institute's Drug and Alcohol/Substance Abuse program remains an ongoing concern. Communication with students and administrators continues as we try to monitor the assurance of available externship sites.
- Currently there are eighty nine (89) licensed career schools in the State of New Hampshire.
- Twenty nine (29) renewal applications have been received and are in the process of being reviewed.
- Two new schools:
 - C1M Photography, Inc in Amherst, NH -Walter Schneckner, Proprietor
 - North East Collaborative School of Dental Assisting, Kingston, NH - Brian Shuman, DMD, Proprietor

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 Veterans Education Services team from February, 2014 to May, 2014.

On the Job Training & Apprenticeships:

- Methuen Construction - New OJT
- NH State Police - Compliance Visit
- Amherst Label - New Program
- Bruce P. Hermenau Plumbing & Heating - Compliance Visit

Career Schools:

- NH Fire & Standards Training - Compliance Visit
- Empire Beauty School - Compliance Visit
- Stonemaker Academy – Compliance Visit
- The Salter School - Compliance Visit
- SIG SAUER Academy - Technical Visit
- InterCoast Career Institute - Technical Visit

Colleges & Universities

- SNHU- Technical Visit
- Mount Washington College - Technical Visit
- Granite State College - Technical Visit
- Daniel Webster - Compliance Visit
- Hellenic American University - Inspection Visit/ New Programs
- Springfield College - Technical Visit

Orientations & Conferences:

- NASAA Mid-Winter Conference
- VBA Education Services Webinar
- Serving Those Who Served @ Granite State College

Outreach:

- Meeting with NH State Apprenticeship Advisory Council
- Meeting with Concord, NH DVOP
- Meeting with Manchester DVOP/LVER
- Meeting with NH National Guard
- VA Medical Center; Manchester, NH

Numbers within the Veterans Education Services

(All numbers within this report are as of a defined time period and are therefore only approximate actual current figures because numbers change on a daily bases.)

Numbers are based on VA students between the dates of March 2013 to April 2014

- Approximately IHL facilities approved = **46 (+1 in the final phase of VA approval)**
- Approximately NCD facilities approved = **49**
- Approximately Apprenticeships approved = **106**
- Approximately OJT facilities approved=**69**
- Approximately High School facilities approved = **78**
- Over **5, 000** programs approved
- In over **107** New Hampshire towns
- Approximate tuition and fees paid by the VA to facilities from *March 2013 through April 2014* = **\$26,816,304** (*This number does not included housing allowances paid to VA Beneficiaries*)
- Approximately **14** schools are enrolled in the Yellow Ribbon Program (*This program is only open to degree-granting facilities*)
- Approximately **24** schools are part of VA “Principle of Excellence” (*This program is only for facilities that offer Federal Financial Aid*)

Numbers listed below do not include high schools

IHL Facilities

(Approximately 5,875 VA Beneficiaries)

NAME OF FACILITY	NUMBER OF VA STUDENTS
1. Antioch University	19
2. Colby-Sawver College	9
3. Daniel Webster College	37
4. Dartmouth College	35
5. Dartmouth College- Medical School	3
6. Dartmouth College-Tuck School of Business	23
7. Franklin Pierce University- Lebanon	14
8. Franklin Pierce University- Manchester/ Online	21
9. Franklin Pierce University- Rindge	13
10. Franklin Pierce University-Portsmouth	3
11. Granite State College: Main	90
12. Granite State College: Claremont	8
13. Granite State College: Concord	N/A
14. Granite State College: Conway	21
15. Granite State College: Rochester	86
16. Great Bay Community College- Portsmouth	120
17. Great Bay Community College- Rochester	110
18. Keene State College	250
19. Lakes Region Community College	50
20. Lebanon College	8
21. Manchester Community College	179
22. MCPHS University	8
23. Mount Washington College - Manchester	72
24. Mount Washington College - Nashua	17
25. Mount Washington College - Salem	16
26. Nashua Community College	145
27. New England College	107
28. NH Institute of Art	9
29. NHTI. Concord's Community College	147
30. Plymouth State University	121
31. River Valley Community College	66
32. Rivier University	11
33. Saint Anselm College	16
34. Southern NH University: Manchester	594
35. Southern NH University: Nashua	86
36. Southern NH University: Online	2,667
37. Southern NH University: Portsmouth	89
38. Southern NH University: Salem	63
39. Springfield College	2
40. The Thomas More College of Liberal Arts, Inc.	4
41. The College of Saint Mary Magdalen	0
42. University of New Hampshire- Durham	399
43. University of New Hampshire- Manchester	72
44. UNH School of Law (formerly Franklin Pierce Law School)	6
45. Upper Valley Educators Institute	0
46. White Mountain Community College	59

**Hellenic American University is not included; they are in their final phase of VA approval*

NCD Facilities
(Approximately 677 VA Beneficiaries)

NAMES OF FACILITY	NUMBER OF VA STUDENTS
1.Advance Life Support Institute	0
2.Commercial Driving School of NH	8
3.Continental Academy of Hair Design	0
4.Harmony Health Care Institute	1
5.Heavy Construction Academy	288
6.Intercoast Career Institute	4
7.Keene Beauty Academy	1
8.LNA Health Careers	1
9.McGregor Institute of EMS	4
10.Michael's School of Hair Design & Esthetics	3
11.Natural Technology, Inc.	0
12.New England EMS Institute	8
13.New England Institute of Canine Cosmetology	1
14.New England Polygraph Institute	0
15.New England School of Barbering	6
16.New England School of Hair Design	1
17.New Horizons	14
18.NH Police Academy	48
19.North Eastern Institute of Whole Health	1
20.Paul Mitchell School of Portsmouth	1
21.NH Fire Standards and Training	1
22.Red Cross	0
23.Saint Joseph School of Nursing	3
24.SCH Nail Design, Inc., DBA Laird Institute of Spa Therapy	1
25.Seacoast Career Schools	9
26.SIG SAUER Academy	34
27.Stonehearth Open Learning Opportunities	8
28.Stonemaker Academy	219
29.The Salter School of Nursing & Allied Health	10
30.Thomas Institute of Hypnosis	2

**This report only reflects 30 of the 49 VA approved NCD facilities.*

**19 NCD facilities did not respond to the request for enrollments by the Veterans Education Services Office*

OJT & Apprenticeship Facilities
(Approximately 28 VA Beneficiaries)

1.A Plus Alarms	1
2.Bay State Industrial Welding & Fabrication, Inc.	0
3.Boston ARTCC	9
4.Cable's Upholstery Design Studio	0
5.Decco	2
6.Demand Electric, Inc.	0
7.Derry PD	2
8.Drake Electric	0
9.Economy Plumbing & Heating, Inc.	0
10.Ewing Electrical Company, Inc.	0
11.Interstate Electrical Services	0
12.Irish Electric Corp	0
13.Londonderry PD	2
14.Martineau Electric	0
15.Merrimack PD	1
16.Methuen Construction	1
17.Nashua PD	3
18.Natural Technology, Inc.	0
19.New York Life	1
20.NextEra Energy Seabrook	3
21.NH State Police	1
22.Northwestern Mutual	0
23.Piquette & Howard Electric Service Inc.	2
24.Ray's Electric and General Contracting Inc.	0

**This report only reflects 24 of the 175 VA approved OJT & Apprenticeship facilities.*

**151 OJT & Apprenticeship facilities did not respond to the request for enrollments by the Veterans Education Services Office*

If you have any questions regarding these activities please contact me at (603)271-8508 or by e-mail at James.MargesonIV@doe.nh.gov.