

Item No. 16

May 14, 2019 Commission Meeting

Director's Report

REPORT OF OUT-OF-STATE MEETINGS

No attendance at any out-of-state meetings.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT/OFFICE ISSUES/OTHER

No developments to report.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ACTIVITY

In-State Colleges and Universities:

Daniel Webster College: We have not received any additional formal information from representatives of the Daniel Webster College property.

Rivier University: We have been informed that the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs granted accreditation for a ten year period. A status report is due in February 2021 with a full quality assurance report due February 2023. Its reaffirmation self-study is due in 2029.

St. Joseph School of Nursing: We are in receipt of a letter from the U.S. Department of Education, Federal Student Aid, informing us that the College'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.

Signum University: SB:138 was unanimously approved by the Senate Education Committee and the full Senate. However, the House Education Committee voted to retain the bill until January 2020. At this point Signum University is approved to continue to offer courses, but not approved to issue degrees.

Out-of-State Colleges and Universities:

New England Culinary Institute: We have received no additional information from the Institute regarding their potential establishment in New Hampshire since our initial visit.

South University: A for-profit university located in Pittsburgh, PA went out of business. They were approved to offer 31 degrees that required an internship/clinical/practicum in NH. This translates into a loss of \$15,500 in revenue every two years.

International Colleges and Universities:

American University of Madaba: We are in receipt of the required Annual Report. The report was

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reviewed. A site visit is tentatively scheduled for the week of June 24, 2019 to ascertain the materials in the report are accurate. Also, to look at seventeen existing programs, along with a request to consider three new programs:

- Bachelor of Science in Data Science
- Bachelor of Arts in Visual Communications
- Bachelor of Arts in Human Resources Management

The institution notified us that it no longer offers the following degrees:

- Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering – note: the remaining two students will graduate at the end of the summer of 2019
- Bachelor of Science in Chemistry
- Bachelor of Science in Physics and Materials Science
- Bachelor of Arts in Arabic Language and Literature

The review of their programs will be on the October 8, 2019 Commission agenda.

Florence University of Art: We are in receipt of a written plan to establish operations in New Hampshire and be granted approval to offer the following degrees:

- Associate of Arts in Communication and Interactive Digital Media
- Associate of Arts in Fashion Design, Merchandising, and Media
- Associate of Arts in Hospitality Management
- Associate of Arts in Food, Wine, and Wellness Studies
- Bachelor of Arts in Cultural Studies, Concentrations in Fine Arts and Art History
- Bachelor of Arts in Digital Publishing and Communication, Concentrations in Digital Media, Visual Communications, and E-Publishing
- Bachelor of Arts in Food and Wine Studies, Concentrations in Culinary Arts and Enology
- Bachelor of Arts in Hospitality Management

We are in the process of developing a review team and we are setting a date for the site visit and review.

Hellenic American University: It was denied its application to participate in NC-SARA because NC-SARA is restricted to institutions with home states in the United States.

It is also requesting permission to add two additional degrees (Associate of Science in Aviation and a Master of Science in Masters in Sales Management).

CLOSED SCHOOL TRANSCRIPTS

From July 1, 2018 until April 30, 2019 (FY 2019), **2,313** college/university transcripts and **66** career school transcripts were processed, generating a total of **\$47,580**. During the same period in the prior year (FY 2018), a total of **2,031** college/university transcripts and **50** career school transcripts were processed, generating a total of **\$41,620**.

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RESEARCH AND STUDIES

Submitted by Jan Fiderio

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

The State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) State Higher Education Finance Survey was completed.

Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Program Support

Jan Fiderio attended the 2018 IPEDS Coordinator Workshop and State Data Conference training on April 29 - May 2 in Washington, D.C. in the role as the State of New Hampshire's official IPEDS Coordinator.

The Spring IPEDS survey deadlines – April 10 for all NH nonprofit colleges and career schools and April 24 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

Last year, amendments to the surety indemnification clause, RSA 188-G:3, and the NH Code of Administrative Rules, Hedc 300, took effect. Activity this past quarter indicates that schools need continued assistance with understanding the changes that were implemented. The required licensure items, disclosures, and indemnification coverage amount are among the questions received by the Office of Career School Licensing. Guidelines for each inquiry are near completion, and the assistance that these new documents will provide to schools will be invaluable.

Below are some of the other activities that were conducted by the Office of Career School Licensing team.

Completed site visits to the following schools:

- PESI, Inc
- The Whole Pet Grooming Academy
- CNA Now
- The Prelude Institute

Renewed the licenses of the following schools:

- Visible Edge Institute
- PESI, Inc.
- CalCampus
- NTI Organic Lawn Care

Currently reviewing license renewal applications for the following schools:

- MedTalk
- Northeast Collaborative School of Dental Assisting

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- HRB Tax, Inc.
- American Red Cross Medical Careers Training
- Animal Behavior College
- Boston Bartenders
- CAD Technical
- Certstaffix Training
- Clinical Career Training
- EPTAC
- Hyslop and Associates
- John Mason
- Master Bartender
- NBI, Inc
- New Hampshire Institute for Therapeutic Arts
- Solutions IQ
- Holistic Academy of Natural Disciplines, Birthwise
- Concord Hospital Surgical

Processing the closing of the following schools:

- Seacoast Career Schools
- Seacoast Center for Education
- Age of Montessori

Communicating with the following new schools who are/will submit initial licensure applications:

- Heritage Trade School (Plumbing, HVAC, Electric)

Granted Initial License to:

- The Prelude Institute (Cybersecurity)
- CNA Now (Nursing)
- Misty Meadow (Herbology)

Processing applications for the following new schools:

- Angler Artistry (Taxidermy)

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

VETERANS EDUCATION SERVICES

Submitted by Jeffrey S. Newman

Veterans Education Services (VES) is the New Hampshire State Approving Agency that approves all facilities and programs that are subject to funding under the GI Bill®. This includes institutions of higher learning, high schools, non-college degree programs and certificates, on-the-job training and apprenticeships. This includes both traditional college study and workforce development programs. Currently, there are approximately 8,588 veterans and dependents in New Hampshire involved in various programs and courses of study subject to the GI Bill®.

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Below are some of the activities the VES team accomplished from January 31, 2019 through May 1, 2019:

- Worked with New Hampshire Military Leadership Team and New Hampshire National Guard Scholarship Committee to work to improve the status of statewide veterans programs, initiatives, and dispersal of funds;
- Attended liaison meetings with US Department of Labor officials about apprenticeship programs for veterans;
- Conducted 5 new facility site visits including: Waterline Industries, Harry O Electric, Tim Christian Electric and R.M. Cote Electric;
- Conducted 8 Compliance Survey visits to: Granite State College, White Mountain Community College, Great Bay Community College, Lakes Region Community College, Rivier University, University of New Hampshire-Durham campus, Keene State College and SOLO- Stonehearth Open Learning Opportunities;
- Attended National Association of State Approving Agencies mid-winter meeting and training at Arlington, Virginia; and
- Provided 449 program approvals and withdrawals at the request of school certifying officials.

Students Receiving VA Educational Benefits:

IHLs (Institutions of Higher Learning):

- Antioch University of New England: 12
- Colby-Sawyer College: 7
- Dartmouth College: 51
- Tuck School: 17
- Geisel School: 6
- Franklin Pierce University (all campuses): 29
- Granite State College (all campuses): 150
- Great Bay Community College (both campuses): 83
- Keene State College: 58
- Lakes Region Community College: 29
- Manchester Community College: 86
- MCPHS University (formerly Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences): 10
- Nashua Community College: 51
- New England College: 69
- New Hampshire Institute of Art: 6
- NHTI: 114
- Northeast Catholic College: 2
- Plymouth State University: 90
- River Valley Community College: 26
- Rivier University: 39
- Saint Anselm College: 38
- Southern New Hampshire University (all campuses and online): 6,971
- Thomas More College of Liberal Arts: 1

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- UNH (all campuses): 508
- White Mountains Community College: 34

NCDs (Non College Degree schools):

- Continental Academie of Design: 2
- Empire Beauty School (all campuses): 7
- Granite State Emergency MS: 3
- Heavy Construction Academy: 42
- McGregor Institute of EMS: 1
- Michaels School of Hair Design: 1
- NH EMS Institute: 2
- NH School of Barbering: 4
- NH School of Mechanical Trades: 12
- NTI Organic Lawn Care: 4
- Paul Mitchell: 3
- Salter: 4
- St. Joseph School of Nursing: 10
- SOLO/Stonehearth Open Learning Opportunities: 5
- Whole Pet Grooming: 1

Total: 8,588

Note: This information is based on Veterans Benefits Administration RCS Summary for New Hampshire, February, 2019, and is based on enrollments in the Fall of 2018. Current numbers may vary.

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

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

We are actively tracking numerous bills with potential implications for the postsecondary education community. The following lists the most relevant bills:

HB 2 – Governor's Budget, which includes eligibility for the Governor's Scholarship Program.

HB 356 – relative to the retention of certain reports by institutions of higher learning. This legislation reduces the number of years to 50 to retain closed school transcripts.

HB 448 – making technical corrections in the Department of Education. This legislation will remove the American Council for Professional Education and Training (career school consortium) as the recommendation source to the governor for the two career school representatives on the Higher Education Commission. This is due to the Council dissolving.

HB 570 – establishing a commission to study career pathways from full-time service year programs to postsecondary education and employment opportunities in support of New Hampshire's future workforce needs.

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HB 689 – establishing a student career and college investment program and making an appropriation therefor.

HB 730 – relative to funding for the CART program. Transfers administration of the CART provider and sign language interpreter net tuition repayment fund to the Division of Workforce Innovation.

SB 12 – establishing the NH college graduate retention incentive partnership program.

SB 138 – relative to the degree-granting authority of Signum University. (see above)

SB 139 – establishing a committee to study options for lowering student debt.

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