

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

October 3, 2013

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Members of the Higher Education Commission  
**From:** Richard A. Gustafson, Director  
**Subject:** Director's Report

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT/OFFICE ISSUES/OTHER**

As most of you know, it is my intent to step aside as the Director of the Division of Higher Education – Higher Education Commission on or about January 1, 2014.

In preparation for this transition and in discussions with Chairman Galligan and Commissioner Barry, we would begin the process of identifying my successor by posting and advertising the position in October and screening applications in late October or early November. Following the screening process, we, with the participation of two or three commissioners, would interview finalists, as would Commissioner Barry. The intent would be to identify a candidate for Commissioner Barry to recommend to the Governor and Council in December.

**LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY**

I have met with Senator Stiles and she has agreed to be our prime sponsor for our legislative initiatives in higher education and career schools.

Final outcome of 2013 Legislative Session -

S.B. 4 – establishing a scholarship program for New Hampshire residents to attend any New Hampshire public postsecondary education institution. [aka MOOSE Program] Laid on Table by the Senate Finance Committee.

S.B. 18 – conferring degree-granting authority to the American University of Madaba. Signed by the governor – effective 5-28-13.

S.B. 134 – relative to the division of higher education and the higher education commission. Signed by the governor - effective June 28, 2013.

S.B. 162 – repealing the student tuition guaranty fund and making provisions for the disbursement of remaining funds. Signed by the governor – effective 6-30-13.

H.B. 519 – requiring the division of higher education to develop a policy on academic credit for a student’s military occupation, military training, coursework, and experience. Signed by the governor – effective 8-3-13. Chairman Galligan and I have had discussions with Chancellor’s Gittell and Leach regarding their respective Boards adopting the Joint Statement on the Transfer and Award of Credit developed by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers, the American Council on Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation as being responsive to the intent of this law. The Higher Education Commission does not have jurisdiction over CCSNH or USNH institutions and, thus, cannot adopt a transfer policy that would apply to them.

### **REPORT OF OUT-OF-STATE MEETINGS**

None to report in this reporting period.

### **COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ACTIVITY**

Activity surrounding the **State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA)** continues to evolve. The \$2.3 million Lumina Foundation grant is in place and Dr. Marshall Hill, the former Executive Director of the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, has taken on the position of Executive Director of the National Council for SARA. The Council is now being populated. NEBHE continues to be involved and I will have more to report on this at our October meeting as the fall NEBHE Board meeting will be held on September 26 – 27, 2013.

#### In-State

**Daniel Webster College’s** accreditation with the Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI) for the Aviation, Air Traffic Management and Aviation Management programs expired July 31, 2013. Daniel Webster College fulfilled its responsibilities to its students during the program teach-out. The College has closed out its aviation program with the AABI and let accreditation for Air Traffic Management and Aviation Management lapse. They continue with these two programs, but without AABI accreditation. Their intent is to revamp curriculums in both programs with the hire of a new dean, and then consider approaching the AABI for accreditation for “new” programs.

We received notification from **Franklin Pierce University** that it has relocated some of its campuses in recent months. Its Concord, NH operations were shifted to Manchester, NH. No academic programs were closed, stopped or compromised in any way due to the move. Campuses are now located in Rindge, West Lebanon, Manchester, Portsmouth and Goodyear, Arizona.

On April 24, 2013, the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) reaffirmed accreditation to the **Mount Washington College** for its Associate of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant Program until fall 2022, with a Compliance Report due by February 15, 2014. The Mount Washington College has terminal approval to offer this program, but is subject to continued approval by the CAPTE. Copies of materials to/from the CAPTE must be forwarded to the Commission.

We received notification from the **Mount Washington College** that it will be closing its continuing education campuses in Portsmouth and Concord, NH. We are in receipt of its “Teach—Out Plan and Agreement” submitted to the NEASC.

We are in receipt of a required New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) report from **New England College** on the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree in Educational Leadership.

We received notification from **Rivier University** that the NEASC voted to grant continued accreditation with the next comprehensive evaluation scheduled for fall 2022. A site visit to assess implementation of the Doctor of Psychology is scheduled for spring 2015; an Annual Report of Finance and Enrollment is due by December 1, 2013 for consideration in the spring of 2014; a fifth year interim report is due in the fall of 2017.

We received notification from **St. Joseph School of Nursing** that it received continuing accreditation from the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC) for a period of five (5) years or through July 2017.

We received notification from **Southern New Hampshire University** that the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education will be visiting on January 13-15, 2014 for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Science in Nursing. Commission approval for these degrees expires June 31, 2016; therefore, a representative of the Commission will observe at this visit.

The **University of New Hampshire School of Law** integration process continues to be considered by the American Bar Association’s (ABA) Accreditation Committee and is proceeding as planned. The School will be attending an ABA meeting in late September and filing additional paperwork with the NEASC in mid-October for consideration at the NEASC annual meeting in November. The Higher Education Commission will receive copies of all these materials. The completion of the integration process is still scheduled for January 1, 2014.

The NEASC has scheduled the following activity:

Agenda for November 21 – 22, 2013 Meeting:

- Hellenic American University (for initial accreditation)
- College of Saint Mary Magdalen (candidacy)
- Thomas More College of Liberal Arts

New England College – Site Visit - April 13-16, 2014

Out-of-State

We received notification from **Lesley University** that it changed the title of its M.Ed. Technology in Education to M.Ed. Educational Technology in order to meet the terminology used by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

In the May 16, 2013 Director’s Report, it was reported that the **MCPHS University** requested approval from the Accreditation Review Commission on the Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) for approval to expand the number of students matriculating into its School of Physician Assistant Studies – Manchester/Worcester. This request was to increase the class size from the currently approved 30, to a

maximum of 70, to total 100 students per class at each site, effective January of 2014. A letter was forwarded to ARC-PA on June 5, 2013 withdrawing this request.

We received notification from the **MCPHS University** that the ARC-PA implemented changes to its processes by which it reviews programs. The next validation review, formerly the comprehensive review, was changed from September 2014 to September 2017. The MCPHS University has approval to offer the Master of Physician Assistant Studies without a terminal date, but with the requirement that all materials to/from the ARC-PA be forwarded to the Commission.

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

**American College of Education** – Indianapolis, IN – accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools – the following degrees until June 30, 2017:

- Master of Education in Educational Leadership
- Master of Arts in Teaching – Elementary
- Master of Arts in Teaching – Secondary
- Transition to Teaching in Elementary Education Certificate
- Transition to Teaching in Secondary Education Certificate

**Eastern Kentucky University** – Richmond, Kentucky – accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools – the following degrees until June 30, 2017:

- Master of Science in Nursing
- Doctor of Nursing
- Doctor of Occupational Therapy

**Goodwin College** – East Hartford, CT – accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges – A.S. in Histology and RN to BSN until June 30, 2017.

**Kaplan University** – Davenport, IA – accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools – the following degrees until June 30, 2017:

- Associate of Applied Science in Health Information Technology
- Associate of Applied Science in Medical Assisting
- Associate of Applied Science in Medical Office Management
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
- Bachelor of Science in Information Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Master of Science in Higher Education – Student Affairs Specialization
- Master of Science in Legal Studies
- Master of Science in Nursing
- Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner Certificate
- Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate
- Nurse Administrator Graduate Certificate
- Nurse Educator Graduate Certificate
- Nurse Informatics Graduate Certificate
- Juris Doctor
- Executive Juris Doctor

**Simmons College, School of Nursing & Health Sciences** – Boston, MA – accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges – Master of Science in Nursing until June 30, 2017.

**Saint Francis University**, Loretto, PA – accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education – Master of Physician Assistant Sciences until June 30, 2017.

**University of Southern California's Rossier School of Education** – Los Angeles, CA – accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges - approval to operate in New Hampshire and offer the Master of Arts in Teaching until June 30, 2017.

**Worcester Polytechnic Institute** - Worcester, MA - accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges – the following credit-bearing closed courses to employees of BAE Systems, located in Nashua, NH until June 30, 2015:

- Graduate Certificate in Systems Engineering
- Graduate Certificate in Electrical and Computer Engineering

#### Closed School Transcripts

FY 2014 - as of August 31, 2013, we have processed 150 college/university transcripts @ \$20.00 = \$3,000.00 and 22 career school transcripts @ \$10.00 = \$220.00

FY 2013 - as of August 31, 2012, we processed 136 college/university transcripts @ \$20.00 = \$2720.00 and 41 career school transcripts @ \$10.00 = \$410.00

**COLLEGE ACCESS CHALLENGE GRANT**

**Submitted by Amy Slattery**

We have now received official communications from the US Department of Education that our request for a waiver of MOE requirements for our College Access Challenge Grant (CACG) has been denied. While we are disappointed with this decision, we have always known that our waiver request was not likely to be successful, given the experience of the CACG in other states that faced the same budget challenges as New Hampshire. The decision was based solely on the state general fund support related to higher education and financial aid.

Given this state of affairs, the grant partners' contractual obligations to the state for services provided will, for the most part, lapse as of September 1, 2013. The NH Department of Education, as the official designee by the USDE for the CACG program, will have responsibility for reporting on CACG activities and financials.

We were told that New Hampshire is welcome and encouraged to re-apply for the fifth year of funding in 2014 and we anticipate the Division will move forward with an attempt to re-secure funds for our worthwhile projects. However, without any significant change in general funds available for higher education, our chances for success are minimal.

The Division would like to personally thank each of the participating organizations for all their efforts in support of the CACG objectives. Each project has made a positive impact on thousands of New Hampshire students and their families for decades to come.

**RESEARCH AND STUDIES**

**Submitted by Amy Slattery**

Attached

**FINANCIAL AID**

**Submitted by Amy Slattery**

Tuition/fee waivers have been granted to 21 eligible students by New Hampshire public institutions for the 2012-2013 Tuition Waivers for Foster Children. As a result of legislative changes, this program will now be managed through a cooperative effort with the University System of New Hampshire, the Community College System of New Hampshire, and the Division of Children, Youth and Families. The Division staff worked to ensure a smooth transition for students and institutions alike with assistance in the completion of the process for the academic year.

To date, six students are eligible for the Scholarship for Orphans of Veterans. There is a \$10,000.00 annual budget available for the program.

The Division continues to receive and collect repayment monies to the Workforce Incentive Program, Veterinary/Medical/Optomeric Program, and Paul Douglas Teacher Program.

The Division is working with the New Hampshire Treasurer's Office in collecting and reporting data on behalf of the New Hampshire College Tuition Savings Plan Advisory Commission. The data include New Hampshire resident enrollment at participating institutions, annual scholarship allocation, endowment fund disbursements and other IPEDS specific information, in order for the Advisory Commission to be informed with its decisions on funding allocations.

**Career School Licensing**  
**Submitted by Kimberly Kenneally**

The Career School Licensing function continues its performance as required by RSA 188-G:1-10.

As of September 25, 2013:

- Currently there are eighty five (85) licensed career schools in the State of New Hampshire.
- Fourteen (14) renewal applications are waiting for review.
- As defined in Senate Bill 162, the process to repeal the Student Tuition Guaranty Fund has been achieved and the method to disburse the funds to all schools that participated from 2005 through July of 2013 is in motion.
- We are continuing to update the Hedc 300 Rules to comply with all state guidelines.



## **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 in the next federal fiscal year. Below are some of the activities that were conducted by the Veterans Education Services team from May 2013 to September 2013.

### **On the Job Training (OJT) & Apprenticeships:**

- *BASiX Automation Integrators*- 1 Apprenticeship approved
- *A Plus Alarms & Entertainment Systems*- 1 Apprenticeship approved
- *Derry PD*- 1 OJT approved
- *Farmington PD*- 1 OJT approved
- *Manchester Sheet Metal; JTC Local 17*- Compliance visit
- *New York Life*- Compliance visit
- *PlaneSense & Atlas Aircraft Center*- 2 OJT approved
- *Manchester PD*- 3 OJT approved
- *Berlin Federal Prison*- 5 OJT approved
- *Londonderry PD*- 1 OJT approved

### **Career Schools:**

- *North Eastern Institute of Whole Health*- Compliance visit
- *Visible Edge, INC*- Site visit
- *Laconia Adult Education*- Site visit, Assist with enrollment packet
- *Portsmouth Beauty School, INC*- Compliance visit
- *Paul Mitchell the School Portsmouth*- Site Visit, help with school name change (formerly Portsmouth Beauty School, Inc.)
- *Seacoast Career School*- Compliance visit
- *New England EMS Institute*- Compliance Visit
- *Stonemakers Academy*- Compliance visit
- *Empire Beauty School, Hooksett*- Compliance visit
- *Empire Beauty School, Laconia*- Compliance visit
- *Empire Beauty School, Portsmouth*- Compliance visit
- *Empire Beauty School, Somersworth*- Compliance visit
- *InterCoast Career Institute*- 2 Program approvals
- *Natural Technologies, INC*- Site Visit, help complete facility approval packet
- *LNA Health Careers, LLC*- Compliance visit
- *New Horizons*- Program approvals
- *VTEC*- Program approvals

### **Colleges & Universities**

- *UNH Durham*- Compliance visit
- *SNHU*- Compliance visit, Program approvals
- *Nashua Community College*- Site visit, Program approvals
- *Great Bay Community College*- Site visit
- *Granite State College*- Program approvals
- *Franklin Pierce University*- Program approvals

**Orientations & Conferences:**

- VA New Hire Orientation (at the Togus VA, Augusta, ME)
- Eastern Region Monthly Conference Calls
- Massachusetts SCO Conference
- NASAA Summer Conference
- Mandatory Sexual Harassment Training

**Outreach:**

- VetCenter; Manchester, NH
- VA Medical Center; Manchester, NH
- Hero to Hire Job Fair; Portsmouth, NH
- Veterans Resource Fair; UNH Manchester, Manchester, NH
- Veterans' Stand-Down Harbor Homes; Nashua, NH

If you have any questions regarding these activities please contact me at (603)271-8508 or by email at [James.MargesonIV@doe.nh.gov](mailto:James.MargesonIV@doe.nh.gov).