

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

October 6, 2015

MEMORANDUM

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

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

With passage of a budget, the Division is able to process full payments such as the annual membership fee for the New England Board of Higher Education. The budget also provides General Fund support for Jan Fiderio's research and policy studies full-time position and for a full-time position with responsibility for closed school transcripts, collection and certification relating to former state financial aid loan programs, and business office support.

There have been more than 700 Legislative Service Requests filed for potential bills that would be considered in the upcoming legislative session, and while none to date have been identified as having a material impact on the Division or Commission, review will be continuing as specific language is added.

REPORT OF OUT-OF-STATE MEETINGS

The New England Board of Higher Education held its semi-annual meeting on September 24-25, 2015, and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges held a meeting on October 1st to review possible changes in accreditation standards and procedures.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT/OFFICE ISSUES/OTHER

Kerry Schmidt resigned as the Program Assistant II for the Veterans Education Services Office on August 22, 2015. The search process resulted in the hiring of RuthAnn Amell, who currently serves as a Family Services Specialist in DHHS.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ACTIVITY

In-State Colleges and Universities:

Daniel Webster College notified the Division that it is working with the New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC) on addressing questions relating to three accreditation standards – *Planning and Evaluation*, *Financial Resources*, and *Organization and Governance*. Richard Gustafson is assisting the College with the preparation of its "show-cause report."

Mount Washington College notified the Division that it will officially close its doors on April 15, 2016. Several members of the Division staff are working with the College on its teach-out plan.

The **New Hampshire Institute of Art (NHIA)** notified the Division that it has changed its existing relationship with the **Hellenic American University**. Now that the Hellenic American University has gained independent accreditation by the NEASC, the New Hampshire Institute of Art will be ending any other formal associations, effective December 31, 2015 so that both schools can better focus on achieving their respective institutional goals. The NHIA will continue to maintain its successful arrangement with the Hellenic American University in which each summer it sends a number of its students to Athens as part of its Study Abroad Program and hopes to expand the program in the future.

The **St. Joseph School of Nursing** notified the Division that it closed its satellite campus in East Swanzey, NH due to low enrollment. The last class graduated on December 19, 2014 and no students are currently enrolled at the site.

Southern New Hampshire University proudly announced the construction of a new center on campus that will reflect the university's priority of creating a lifecycle of success and engagement. The Gustafson Center, named for President Emeritus Richard Gustafson, will house Undergraduate Admissions, the Dorothy S. Rogers Career Development Center, and the Office of Alumni Engagement. Dr. Gustafson served as the institution's fourth president, from 1987 until 2003. Thanks to his vision and guidance, academic quality became a top priority, the campus grew tremendously, and distance learning (the precursor to the College of Online and Continuing Education) was introduced. The institution was approved for university status and changed its name from New Hampshire College to Southern New Hampshire University. Groundbreaking is set for December 2015 and construction is expected to be completed in about a year.

Upcoming NEASC Activity:

Hellenic American University – Interim Report due Fall 2015
Mount Washington College – Comprehensive Evaluation October 4-7, 2015
Thomas More College – Focused Evaluation November, 2015
Northeast Catholic College – Biennial Evaluation visit November 8-11, 2015

Out-of-State Colleges and Universities:

Springfield College notified us that the name of its school offering degree programs in Manchester changed its name from the **School of Human Services** to the **School of Professional and Continuing Studies** effective July 1, 2015.

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

Bradley University (Peoria, IL) – Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, approved to offer the following degrees until June 30, 2017:

- Doctor of Nursing Practice with Leadership
- Doctor of Nursing Practice Family Nurse Practitioner
- Master of Science in Nursing – Family Nurse Practitioner

- Master of Science in Nursing RN-MSN in Nursing Administration
- Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate
- Master of Arts in Counseling – Two specialty tracks: Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Professional School Counseling

The Catholic University of America (Washington, DC) – Accredited by Middle States Commission on Higher Education, approved to offer the following degrees until June 30, 2017:

- Master of Science in Nursing/Family Nurse Practitioner
- Doctor of Nursing Practice

Central Michigan University (Mount Pleasant, MI) – Accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, approved to offer the following degrees until June 30, 2017:

- Undergraduate Certificate in Social Media
- Graduate Certificate in College Teaching
- Master of Arts in Education with Concentration in Curriculum and Instruction
- Master of Arts in School Principalship with Emphasis in Charter School Leadership and Emphasis in Site-Based Leadership
- Master of Arts in Teacher Leadership
- Master of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics
- Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership

Herzing University (Menomonee Falls, WI) – Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, approved to offer the following degrees until June 30, 2017:

- Post-Master’s Certificate Primary Care in Family Nurse Practitioner
- Post-Master’s Certificate in Nursing Education

Kaplan University (Davenport, IA) – Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, approved to offer the following degrees until June 30, 2017:

- Master of Science in Psychology (Specializations in Addictions, Applied Behavior Analysis & Industrial Organizational Psychology)
- Graduate Certificate in Addictions
- Graduate Certificate in Industrial/Organizational
- Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis
- Master of Public Health
- Medical Assistant Certificate
- Executive Leader Graduate Certificate

Marywood University (Scranton, PA) – Accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, approved to offer the Physician Assistant Program until June 30, 2017.

The Pennsylvania State University (University Park, PA) – Accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, approved to offer the following degrees until June 30, 2017:

- A.S. in Human Development & Family Studies
- A.S. in Turfgrass Management
- B.S. in Human Development & Family Studies
- M.Ed. in Educational Leadership
- D.N.P. in Nursing Practice

- B.S. in Turfgrass Science
- R.N. to B.S. in Nursing
- M.H.A. in Health Policy & Administration
- M.P.A. in Public Administration
- M.S.N. in Nursing

Post University (Philadelphia, PA) – Accredited by the New England Association of Schools & Colleges, approved to offer the following degrees until June 30, 2017:

- A.S. in Early Childhood Education
- B.S. in Child Studies
- B.S. in Human Services (including Alcohol & Drug Counseling Certificate)
- M.S. in Human Services
- B.S. in Sports Management

Quinnipiac University (Hamden, CT) – Accredited by the New England Association of Schools & Colleges, approved to offer the Program Assistant Program until June 30, 2017.

Simmons College (Boston, MA) – Accredited by the New England Association of Schools & Colleges, approved to offer the Master of Science in Library and Information Science until June 30, 2017

Union Institute & University (Cincinnati, OH) – Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, approved to offer the following degrees until June 30, 2017:

- Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology

University of Southern Maine (Portland, ME) – Accredited by the New England Association of Schools & Colleges, approved to offer the following degrees until June 30, 2017:

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Master of Science in Nursing – Family Nurse Practitioner
- Master of Science in Nursing – Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Closed School Transcripts:

FY 2015: As of September 30, 2015, we have processed 195 college/university transcripts and 13 career school transcripts, generating a total of \$4,160.00.

FY 2014: As of September 30, 2014, we processed 217 college/university transcripts and 32 career school transcripts, generating a total of \$4,980.00.

COLLEGE ACCESS CHALLENGE GRANT (CACG)

Submitted by Jan Fiderio

This quarter was filled with College Access Challenge Grant (CACG) activity. The CACG Annual Performance Report was written, approved, and submitted to the U.S. Department of Education. In addition, the June/July CACG expense reports and the supplementary invoices were submitted, which closed out the grant. All CACG program funds are now expended. The last of the CACG funds supported the New Hampshire Scholars initiative and the second year of the “I Am College Bound, I Applied”

initiative to encourage high school seniors to apply to college and in particular, students eligible for the free and reduced lunch program. Thanks to the grant, overall services, both to NH students and NH educational professionals were enhanced and the specific CACG projects often created additional successful programs and services where none existed.

RESEARCH AND STUDIES

Submitted by Jan Fiderio

A variety of research and studies projects were completed this quarter including an update of the Research and Studies web pages (see attachment). The web pages now contain data from the National Student Clearinghouse on NH student attainment rates and National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) data on the number and types of NH college and university degrees granted, enrollment, distance education statistics, student housing information, and overall characteristics.

Collaborating with Kimberly Kenneally, Research and Studies also completed a survey of NH's 79 Licensed Career Schools. Overall, our survey and licensing data show that nearly 19,000 students were enrolled in New Hampshire's licensed career schools in the last calendar year. (See the Office of Career School Office write-up below for more details.)

In addition, completion of the annual NCHEMS survey provides a baseline for New Hampshire's effort toward establishment and achievement of a goal on postsecondary education degree and high quality credential attainment for the state's workforce. The NH Coalition for Business & Education approved attainment by 65% of the workforce by 2025 as its overarching goal, and is mobilizing leaders from the business, education and philanthropic sectors to develop and implement attainment strategies.

Please review "**Director's Report: Summer/Fall 2015 Research and News**" for a recap of newsworthy articles and reports (see attachment). Issues being highlighted for this report include:

- Rethinking Credentialing
- New Student Loan Default Research, and
- NH College Costs.

IPEDS (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System) PROGRAM SUPPORT

Submitted by Jan Fiderio

A June 8, 2015 IPEDS training in Boston provided useful information on using the Collection Level Data Center and College Navigator to run reports and analyze data. This training has proven valuable in recent months. NH institutions are now in the process of completing the IPEDS fall surveys on Institutional Characteristics, Completions, and 12-month Enrollment. The keyholder deadline for these surveys is October 14. New Hampshire IPEDS keyholders and coordinators can now look to the Division's Research and Studies web pages to find a variety of links and details to help with their IPEDS responsibilities, as well as the current IPEDS data collection schedule.

OFFICE OF CAREER SCHOOL LICENSING

Submitted by Kimberly J. Kenneally

In May, Janet Fiderio and I sent an enrollment survey to all 79 of New Hampshire's then licensed career schools. The response was overwhelming with 70% of schools replying. We are pleased to report that 11,192 individuals completed a career-school certificate or certification in 2014 and our state's licensed

career schools offered almost 380 certificate or certification programs. Overall, our survey and licensing data show that nearly 19,000 students were enrolled in New Hampshire's licensed career schools in the last calendar year, a figure often underestimated or omitted when describing the state's postsecondary education programs.

In addition to enrollment and certification questions, the survey also included questions about how our career schools support GI Bill Benefit programs, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), and the New Hampshire Health Profession Opportunity Project (HPOP). We learned that twenty career schools accepted GI Bill benefits and 324 veterans received career school certifications/certificates in the past year. Eighteen of the survey respondents offered WIOA-approved programs with 332 people receiving WIOA program support. Two hundred ninety-four people completed WIOA approved certificates or certifications. Thirteen of the survey career-school respondents were approved by HPOP and supported 205 HPOP students. One hundred fifty students completed a certificate or certification with HPOP support.

The Office of Career School Licensing now has seventy eight (78) licensed career schools, and is engaged in a major project to scan and digitize current and historical records to minimize office and archival space requirements.

Also, ATI Computer Training of Rochester closed on July 29, 2015, and the office is reviewing material from a potential new school, Solutions IQ, with headquarters in Seattle, WA.

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 Veterans Education Services team from May 2015 through September 2015.

- Conducted **5** Compliance Visits
- Approved **42** new programs
- Disapproved **11** programs
- Conducted **3** NH SCO Training & Planning Committee meetings
- Attended VA Flight Programs webinars & conference calls
- Attended the 2015 NASAA Summer Training & Business Meeting (in Indianapolis, IN)

The University System of New Hampshire and the Community College System of New Hampshire approved policies with the Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act 2014 Section 702, effective as of June 2015.

This is a bill passed by Congress stating that all public colleges and universities must waive residential requirements for Chapter 33 Post 9/11 GI Bill eligible veterans and dependents, thereby enabling all eligible individuals to be charged only the in-state tuition rate.

Statistical report February 2015 through July 2015:

The following payment amounts are based on what entities have reported to the Veterans Education Services, and include all 29 colleges and universities, and 35 careers schools approved under the GI Bill.

\$23,914,134 was the amount approximately paid out by the VA for tuition and fees from Chapter 33, Chapter 33T & 31 (Note: there is a housing allowance also with Chapter 33, Chapter 33T & Chapter 31)
\$127,916 minimum paid out by the VA from Chapter 30 (*this is paid directly to the student*)
\$78,386 minimum paid out by the VA from Chapter 35 (*this is paid directly to the student*)
\$16,607 minimum paid out by the VA from Chapter 1606 (*this is paid directly to the student*)
\$3,777 minimum paid out by the VA from Chapter 35 (*this is paid directly to the student*)
In summary, **\$24,140,822** was the minimum paid out by the VA for VA students for tuition and fee stipends from February 2015 through July 2015.

For all facilities combined (including non-educational entities such as apprentice and OJT sites), the following numbers of students were provided benefits:

- 3,952 = Post 9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33)
- 376 = Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits that have been transferred to a dependent (Chapter 33 T)
- 298 = Montgomery GI Bill- Active Duty (Chapter 30)
- 468 = VA Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Chapter 31)
- 308 = Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 35)
- 181= Montgomery GI Bill- Selected Reserve (Chapter 1606)
- 22 = Reserve Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 1607)

This represents a total of **4,921 veterans** and **684 dependents**.

The breakout for Colleges and Universities:

- 3,628 = Post 9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33)
- 368 = Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits that have been transferred to a dependent (Chapter 33 T)
- 294 = Montgomery GI Bill- Active Duty (Chapter 30)
- 462 = VA Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Chapter 31)
- 302 = Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 35)
- 180= Montgomery GI Bill- Selected Reserve (Chapter 1606)
- 22 = Reserve Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 1607)

This represents a total of **4,586 veterans and 670 dependents**, with a total of nearly \$19 million in payments to the colleges and universities.

The breakout for Career Schools:

- 324 = Post 9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33)
- 8 = Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits that have been transferred to a dependent (Chapter 33 T)
- 4 = Montgomery GI Bill- Active Duty (Chapter 30)
- 6 = VA Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Chapter 31)
- 6 = Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 35)
- 1= Montgomery GI Bill- Selected Reserve (Chapter 1606)
- 0 = Reserve Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 1607)

This represents a total of **335 veterans and 14 dependents**, with a total of roughly \$5 million in payments to the schools.

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