

**NH Department of Education
Division of Educator Support and Higher Education • Higher Education Commission
101 Pleasant Street
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October 9, 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.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT/OFFICE ISSUES/OTHER

On June 21, 2018, Jeffrey S. Newman joined the Division as our new Administrator for the Veterans Education Services and the Office of Career School Licensing. Jeff will work to expand educational opportunities for veterans and their dependents.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ACTIVITY

In-State Colleges and Universities:

The **American University of Madaba** has submitted a request for two new degrees – a Bachelor of Arts in Design and Visual Communication and a Bachelor of Arts in Human Resources Management. The University is currently authorized to grant the following degrees until December 31, 2019:

- Bachelor of Science
 - Civil Engineering
 - Electrical Engineering
 - Mechanical Engineering
 - Biology and Biotechnology
 - Chemistry
 - Physics and Materials Science
 - Medical Laboratories
 - Nutrition and Dietetics
 - Pharmacy
 - Computer Science
 - Architecture

- Bachelor of Arts
 - Accounting

- Business Administration
- Marketing
- Risk Management
- Graphic Design
- Arabic Language and Literature
- English Language and Literature
- Translation
- Interior Design
- Banking and Finance

An Annual Report is due by March 1, 2019 updating institutional progress, including:

- The progress on attaining Candidacy status with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, including the provision for copies of all correspondence and reports to/from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. Copies of these documents shall be provided to the Commission as they are submitted or received throughout the year.
- Progress on implementing student government organizations at the University.

An administrative review will be held in the near future for these two new degrees.

Hellenic American University submitted a copy of its Lease Agreement with 436 AMHERST, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company, 50 Salem Street, Lynnfield, MA for the premises located at 505 Amherst Street, Nashua, NH 03063. The term of the lease shall be for a period of thirty-seven (37) months beginning on August 1, 2018 and ending on August 31, 2021 for 9,146 square feet.

St. Joseph School of Nursing forwarded a letter from the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges informing them their Commission voted to grant Renewal of Accreditation for a period of three (3) years going forward from July 2017 or 2020.

To align with industry standards and in keeping with its mission, **Southern New Hampshire University** changed the degree name of the Master of Science in Public Health to a Master of Public Health.

New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) Activity:

The U.S. Department of Education has officially transferred the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) federal recognition to a new corporation, the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE), effective August 1, 2018. It now meets the federal requirement that it be “separate and independent” of any other organization and is the regional accreditor for the six New England states.

The NECHE conducted a Comprehensive Evaluation site visit to **Southern New Hampshire University** on September 23 – 26, 2018 with Dr. Sue Ann Huseman, past president of the University of Maine at Farmington, Monmouth College (Illinois), University of Maine at Machias, and the former Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, University of Maine System serving as the Higher Education Commission observer.

From the observer's perspective, the University is a world class institution uniquely positioned to carry out its high-minded mission of providing top quality support and education to students for whom college is not a guarantee and to do so regardless of the students' circumstances. The passionate commitment of everyone she met to this mission and to the students they serve was inspiring, and the enthusiasm and praise of students for the quality of support and education they receive and its transformative impact on their lives was heartwarming. She had not encountered an institution of higher education with a greater commitment to providing students access to quality education and supporting learner success, and believes that the University's commitment to and capacity for data generation and analysis to improve student support and student learning is unparalleled.

All Higher Education Commission standards were met and results will be heard at the NECHE November 15-16, 2018 meeting.

Out-of-State Colleges and Universities:

MCPHS University forwarded materials from the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education on the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy.

Easton Education – Canada – has requested information on how to operate in New Hampshire and offer baccalaureate and master level programs. This is a private, for profit institution.

Florence University of the Arts (FUA) – Florence, Italy, has asked and received information regarding the process for establishing itself in New Hampshire. FUA was established in 1997, and has over 3,000 students from 40 countries. FUA “was organized since its inception along the lines of a US-style higher education institution with instruction in English language”.

Holy Spirit University of Kaslik (USEK) – Jounieh, Lebanon – The provost, Dr. Georges Yahchouchi, contacted our office regarding the possibility of incorporation in New Hampshire as a foreign based university. They are a private Catholic higher education institution founded by the Lebanese Maronite Order (LMO) in 1938. It is a multilingual institution, French and English speaking, that officially adopted the American-style education in 2015. There were over 7,000 students enrolled last year and 875 faculty members.

Oduduwa University – Nigeria – has requested information on how to seek approval to operate in New Hampshire. It has incorporated “Our Saviors University” in Wilmington, DE so that Oduduwa University can trade as “Our Saviors University”; that is the certificate that will be issued shall be that of Oduduwa University in Nigeria and not a US certificate. They wish to open a Concord office.

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:

- **Boston University** (Boston, MA), accredited by the NEASC, was approved to offer the following degrees until June 30, 2020:
 - Master of Social Work

- Entry Level Occupational Therapy Doctorate
- Doctor of Physical Therapy
- **California State University**, Northridge (Northridge, CA), accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, was approved to offer the following degrees until June 30, 2020:
 - Master of Science in Communicative Disorders
 - Master of Social Work
 - Master of Public Health
- **Northeastern University** (Boston, MA), accredited by the NEASC, was approved to offer the following degrees until June 30, 2020:
 - Master of Science in Nursing
 - Master of Science in Nursing Anesthesia
 - Master of Science/Master of Business Administration in Nursing Administration
 - Master of Science in Physician Assistant
 - Master of Science in College Student Development & Counseling
 - Master of Science in Counseling Psychology
 - Doctor of Physical Therapy
- **Pepperdine University** (Los Angeles, CA), accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, was approved to offer the following degrees until June 30, 2020:
 - Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology with an Emphasis in Marriage and Family Therapy
 - Master of Science in Behavioral Psychology
- **South University** (Pittsburgh, PA), accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, was approved to offer the following degrees until June 30, 2020:
 - Associate of Science in Paralegal Studies
 - Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies
 - RN to Master of Science in Nursing (Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner)
 - RN to Master of Science in Nursing (Family Nurse Practitioner)
 - RN to Master of Science in Nursing (Nurse Administrator)
 - RN to Master of Science in Nursing (Nurse Educator)
 - RN to Master of Science in Nursing (Nursing Informatics)
 - Master of Science in Nursing (Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner)
 - Master of Science in Nursing (Family Nurse Practitioner)
 - Master of Science in Nursing (Nurse Administrator)
 - Master of Science in Nursing (Nurse Educator)
 - Master of Science in Nursing (Nursing Informatics)
 - Post Graduate Certificate in Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
 - Post Graduate Certificate in Family Nurse Practitioner
 - Post Graduate Certificate in Nurse Administrator
 - Post Graduate Certificate in Nurse Educator
 - Post Graduate Certificate in Nursing Informatics
 - Doctor of Nursing Practice
 - Doctor of Ministry
 - Master of Public Health
 - Doctor of Pharmacy
 - Master of Medical Science in Anesthesia Science

- Master of Science in Physician Assistant
 - Bachelor of Business Administration
 - Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Management
 - Bachelor of Science in Information Technology
 - Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
 - Bachelor of Science in Behavioral Sciences
 - Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice
 - Master of Science in Information Systems
 - Doctor of Business Administration
- **University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences** (St. Augustine, FL), accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, was approved to offer the Master of Science in Nursing until June 30, 2020.
- **Walden University** (Minneapolis, MN), accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, was approved to offer the following degrees until June 30, 2020:
 - M.S. in Clinical Psychology
 - M.S. in Forensic Psychology
 - M.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling
 - M.S. in School Counseling
 - M.S. in Addiction Counseling
 - M.S. in Marriage, Couple and Family Counseling
 - Bachelor of Social Work
 - Master of Social Work
 - Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision
 - Doctor of Nurse Practice
 - M.S. in Nursing (Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner)
 - M.S. in Nursing (Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner)
 - M.S. in Nursing (Nursing Education)
 - M.S. in Nursing (Family Nurse Practitioner)
 - M.S. in Nursing (Leadership and Management)
 - M.S. in Nursing (Nursing Informatics)
 - M.S. in Nursing (Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner)
 - Master of Public Health
 - B.S. in Elementary Education
 - M.S. in Education (Educational Leadership and Administration – Principal Preparation)
 - Ed.S. in Educational Leadership and Administration (Principal Preparation Program)
 - Master of Arts in Teaching (Special Education K-21)
 - M.S. in Education (Specialization in Reading and Literacy with a Reading K-12 Endorsement)

CLOSED SCHOOL TRANSCRIPTS

From July 1, 2018 until September 28, 2018 (FY 2019), **720** college/university transcripts and **21** career school transcripts were processed, generating a total of **\$14,740**. During the same period in the prior year (FY 2018), a total of **736** college/university transcripts and **14** career school transcripts were processed, generating a total of **\$15,000**.

RESEARCH AND STUDIES

Submitted by Jan Fiderio

Research and Studies related activities completed this quarter include:

- Communication with all institution presidents who receive UNIQUE Annual Allocation Program (UAAP) and UNIQUE Endowment Allocation Program (UEAP) monies in preparation for the report of funds received and distributed.
- Continued compilation of data to be used in an updated “Status of Higher Education in New Hampshire” report.
- Continued complaint response and coordination. The Division received five complaints since July. Three have been resolved and two remain open.
- Reviewed the New England Secondary School Consortium, soon to be released, Common Data Project report.

Please review “Director’s Report: Fall 2018 Research and News” for a recap of newsworthy articles and reports this month (attachment).

Top issues this quarter:

- Student Debt
- Micro credentials
- UNH to Accept Chinese Gaokao Entrance Exams

Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Program Support:

Continued support for all NH institutions that submit IPEDS data. The current IPEDS collection cycle closes on October 17, 2018. The surveys to be completed include: Institutional Characteristics, Completions, and 12-month Enrollment. Steady progress is being made by the institutions.

OFFICE OF CAREER SCHOOL LICENSING

Submitted by Shireen Meskoob

The Office of Career School Licensing (OCSL) team updated the proposed rules with input from Office of Legislative Services the proposed NH Code of Administrative Rules. Currently, comments provided by OLS are helping to shape the language and content of Hedc 300. The proposed rules are in the process of final approval.

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

Completed and approved site visits for the following schools:

- American Red Cross
- Boatwise, Inc.
- Harmony Healthcare Institute

The following schools have successfully renewed their license:

- American Red Cross Medical Careers Training School
- Animal Behavior College, Inc.
- Boatwise, LLC
- Boston Bartenders School of America

- C1M Photography, LLC
- EPTAC
- FLIR Infrared Training Center
- Holistic Academy of Natural Disciplines
- HYSLOP & Associates
- John Mason Institute
- LNA Health Careers
- Master Bartender School
- Microdesk
- New Horizons Computer Learning Center
- NTI Organic lawn Care Institute
- NH Institute of Therapeutic Arts
- Ramsay Media LLC
- SolutionsIQ, Inc.
- StoneMakers Academy
- Thomas Institute of Hypnotherapy
- Whole Pet Grooming Academy, The

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

- Concord Hospital Surgical Technology Program
- Sig Sauer
- Tenet

The following schools are in the process of closure:

- Seacoast Career Schools
- Seacoast Center for Education

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 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 institutes of higher learning, high schools, non-college degree programs and certificates, on-the-job training and apprenticeships. This includes traditional college study and workforce development programs. Currently, there are approximately 6,000 veterans and dependents in New Hampshire involved in various programs and courses of study subject to the GI Bill®.

Below are some of the activities the VES team accomplished from June 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018:

- Approved and completed the Fiscal Year 19 Cooperative Agreement base year contract with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to authorize and fund VES office and activities in New Hampshire.

- Received training on the current status of the law and implementation of the Forever GI Bill® - Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act.
- Worked with New Hampshire Military Leadership Team and New Hampshire National Guard Scholarship Committee to discuss status of statewide veterans programs, initiatives, and dispersal of funds.
- Facilitated an audit by The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs officials reviewing our operations and providing best practices for successful operations.
- Conducted **eleven new facility site** visits including: Freel and Son Electric LLC, Rines Electric LLC, DMG MORI, JP Carter. Wolfeboro Municipal Electric Department, the police departments of the towns of Lee, Hanover and Haverhill, Unique System Skills LLC and Laird Institute of Spa Therapy.
- Approved **four apprenticeship programs** for the GI Bill®: Freel and Son Electric LLC, Rines Electric LLC, DMG MORI, JP Carter and Wolfeboro Municipal Electric Department.
- Approved **three on-the job training programs** for the GI Bill®: Lee Police Department, Hanover Police Department and Haverhill Police Department.
- Approved **two new schools for the GI Bill®**: Unique System Skills LLC and Laird Institute of Spa Therapy.
- Attended the annual National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA) conference in Anaheim, CA , joined the NASAA Flight Committee due to growing flight programs in New Hampshire.
- Reduced stored current and out-of-date hard copy files by one third
- Revised and updated letter templates and forms to comply with VA standards.

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

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

SB 358 Relative to reorganization of the department of education. Signed by the Governor on 6/25/18, Chapter 0315; Effective 8/24/18. Our division name is now Division of Educator Support and Higher Education and now includes oversight and approval of public and private institutions' teacher preparation programs and educator credentialing and educator credentialing.

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