

**NH Department of Education  
Division of Higher Education • Higher Education Commission  
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December 13, 2012

**MEMORANDUM**

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

**Commission Wide**

**Staff Development/Office Issues/Other**

At the November 21<sup>st</sup> State Board of Education meeting, the NH Institutions of Higher Education Network presented their position paper for strengthening and enhancing teacher education programs. NH is the only state in which all higher education educator preparation programs have committed themselves to membership in a consortium with the intention of working collaboratively with each other and the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education unanimously voted to endorse this Position Statement which can be found at [www.education.nh.gov/spotlight/ihe/index.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/spotlight/ihe/index.htm)

Talks continue regarding legislation to place the Private Postsecondary Career Schools under the NH Department of Employment Security (DES). Senator Nancy Stiles is the major sponsor for this legislation. Should legislation be enacted, the DES might choose to contract with the NH Council for Professional Education to do the school licensure, subject to the approval of a newly formed Career School Commission.

**Report of Out-of-State Meetings**

On Wednesday, November 7, 2012, I attended the New England Board of Higher Education's New England Participation in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) conversation held at the Harvard Club of Boston. For those interested, more information can be found at [www.nebhe.org/sara](http://www.nebhe.org/sara) where you will find a link to the PowerPoint presentations and related information. There will be considerable activity in this arena during the first half of 2013, so I will be tracking this closely.

## **College and University Activity**

### **In-State**

The NEASC conducted a focused visit at **Daniel Webster College** on November 11-13, 2012 and we await results. We received the required Fifth-Year Interim Report to the NEASC, dated September 28, 2012. The NEASC Evaluation Report is due January 22, 2013 with a NEASC Commission review in the spring of 2013.

The NEASC conducted a comprehensive evaluation at **Hellenic American University** in Athens, Greece from November 11-14, 2012. Kathryn Dodge, Dodge Advisory Group, observed this evaluation for the Commission. The Hellenic American University is approved to offer the A.S. in General Engineering and A.S. in Hospitality Management through December 31, 2013. It is also approved to offer the following degrees through June 30, 2013:

- Associate of Science in Enterprise Network Administration
- Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature
- Bachelor of Music with concentrations in Music Performance, and Music Theory and Composition
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, without major, and with majors in Finance, Marketing and Information Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Information Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Psychology
- Master of Science in Psychology with Concentration in Clinical Psychology
- Master of Business Administration, including Professional Master of Business Administration
- Master of Science in Information Technology
- Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics
- Master of Arts in Translation
- Master of Arts in Conference Interpreting
- Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics with concentrations in Discourse in English Language Teaching, Testing, or Translation/Interpreting.

A site visit may be scheduled in the spring of 2013, but we will await the outcome of the NEASC process before deciding on the timing of the Commission's next visit to the HAU..

We received notification from **Hesser College** that the Board of Trustees voted to suspend enrollment in two academic programs due to declining student demand. Effective November 1, 2012, the College no longer accepted applications for the Associate in Early Childhood Education and the Massage Therapy Diploma. The College will continue to offer courses in these programs as long as current students are continuously enrolled and making progress toward graduation. Most students will not be affected by this action and will graduate on schedule. This decision impacts approximately 5% of the College's student population. There are 39 total students (25 active, 14 inactive) in the Massage Therapy (MSTH) Program and approximately 122 total students (78 active, 44 inactive) in the Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program.

**Hesser College** provided required materials from/to the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) regarding its Associate of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant. The report represented the views of the on-site review team and was prepared after careful study of the program's

Self-Study Report and information received and materials reviewed during the August 19-22, 2012 site visit. Also provided was the “Comments from the Institution on the Candidacy Visit Report.” The CAPTE advised us that accreditation is set to expire on June 30, 2013 and the program will be revised at the CAPTE’s spring 2013 meeting for consideration of an additional 5 or 10 year grant of accreditation. The program was reviewed at the fall meeting to ensure compliance with CAPTE requirements and, upon review, the program was deemed to be compliant with the relevant criteria.

The NEASC held a comprehensive evaluation at **Rivier College** from November 11-14, 2012. We received its required “Report of Substantive Change” to the NEASC in its intent to offer a Doctor of Psychology. We await results.

At the May 10, 2012 meeting, the Commission voted to extend degree-granting authority to **St. Joseph School of Nursing** for the Associate of Science in Nursing through July 31, 2013, with approval to be extended through July 31, 2017 if the results of the fall 2012 accreditation review by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) results in full accreditation or continued accreditation candidacy status. This approval was with the condition that copies of all correspondence to and from the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC), the N.H. Board of Nursing, and the NLNAC be forwarded to the Commission. Additionally, the Commission would be invited to attend any site visit(s) and participation as an observer at site visit(s) would be determined upon receipt and review of correspondence.

We received the NLNAC “Site Visitor’s Report” for the site visit held October 23-25, 2012, recommending accreditation with the next review in five (5) years. This is the first of three steps and we await the final decision.

We have also been advised by the executive director that they await reports from the ACCSC. We will place this item on our March 14, 2013 meeting.

The NEASC has scheduled the following activity:

The College of Saint Mary Magdalen – Candidate – April 14-17, 2013  
Thomas More College of Liberal Arts – Focused Evaluation – March 10-12, 2013

Out-of-State

We received notification from the **Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences** that its Doctor of Pharmacy was accredited through June 30, 2016 by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE). The ACPE has requested a written interim report be submitted no later than October 15, 2013 that addresses issues identified in its Focused Evaluation Team Report. The Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences has terminal approval to offer the Doctor of Pharmacy, but approval is aligned with the ACPE. The Commission must receive all materials to/from the ACPE.

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

- **The Pennsylvania State University** – University Park, PA – accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education – the following degrees until June 30, 2015:
  - Graduate Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis

- B.S. in Business
  - M.E. in Earth Sciences
  - M.E. in Educational Leadership – Teacher Leadership
  - Post baccalaureate Certificate in Educational Technology Integration
  - B.A. in Energy and Sustainability Policy
  - A.S. in Human Development and Family Studies
  - A.S. in Information Sciences and Technology
  - B.S. in Information Sciences and Technology
  - M.A.S. in Applied Statistics
  - M.G.I.S. in Geographic Information Systems
  - M.P.A. in Master of Public Administration
  - R.N. to B.S. in Nursing
  - B.S. in Turfgrass
- **Saint Joseph’s College of Maine**, Standish, ME – accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges – Bachelor of Science in Nursing until June 30, 2015. They also have approval for the Master of Science in Education and the Master of Science in Nursing until June 30, 2015.
  - **University of Northern Colorado**, Greeley, Colorado – accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools - Bachelor of Science in Dietetics and the Master of Arts in Speech-Language Pathology.

Closed School Transcripts

As of November 30, 2012 (FY 2013), we have processed 258 college/university transcripts @ \$20.00 = \$5,160; and 67 career school transcripts @ \$10.00 = \$670

**College Access Challenge Grant**  
**Submitted by Amy Slattery**

College Access Challenge Grant Program (CACGP) work continues to progress and is now in its third year of funding by the U.S. Department of Education. Grant partners convene monthly to discuss project status updates and collaborative efforts.

Highlights of the CACGP sponsored activities this fall included: the New Hampshire College and University Council's four regional college access conventions, access and success workshops presented by Campus Compact for New Hampshire, 900 school programs scheduled for college outreach by NHHEAF's Center for College Planning, a promotional marketing video and materials released by the CCSNH's Mathematics Learning Communities and E-Transcript progress by USNH.

The New Hampshire Department of Education will continue to work with the congressional delegation, state officials, the new governor and the legislature on the MOE requirements and a potential waiver request in 2013.

***Research and Studies***

**Submitted by Amy Slattery**

See attached *Recent Research Studies and Articles*

In addition, be reminded that our standard data reports remain available on the New Hampshire Department of Education website ([www.education.nh.gov/highered](http://www.education.nh.gov/highered)).

## ***Financial Aid***

### **Submitted by Amy Slattery**

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

Throughout the fall, the Division collaborated 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 tuition/fees and resident enrollment at participating institutions, annual scholarship allocation and endowment fund disbursements.

RSA 187-A:20-b, Tuition Waiver for Children in State Foster Care or Guardianship,

I. An eligible individual who enrolls full-time in a program leading to a certificate, associate, or bachelor degree at any public postsecondary institution within the state that is approved by the department of education, division of higher education, shall not be required to pay tuition or fees for attendance at such institution.

II. In this section, an eligible individual is a person who is less than 23 years of age and who is or was:

(a) In state foster care for the immediate 6-month period prior to his or her 18th birthday;

(b) In state guardianship or custody at the time of his or her 18th birthday;

(c) Adopted while in state guardianship or adopted from the care, custody, and control of the department following a surrender of parental rights; or

(d) In an out-of-home placement under the supervision of the division for juvenile justice services at the time of his or her 17th birthday.

III. (a) Eligible individuals interested in a tuition waiver shall annually apply to the division of higher education on a form provided by the division of higher education and within the deadlines established by the division of higher education. No more than 20 tuition waivers per year shall be granted. The department of education shall adopt rules, pursuant to RSA 541-A, relative to the development of eligibility criteria designed to give the children with the greatest financial need first priority in the tuition waiver program, the creation of an application form, application deadlines, and provisions for continuing eligibility which require continued full-time enrollment as provided in this section and maintaining satisfactory academic progress as defined by the institution.

**(b) Beginning November 1, 2008, and no later than November 1 each year thereafter, the division of children, youth, and families shall submit a report to the health and human services oversight committee, established in RSA 126-A:13, and the house children and family law committee, or their successor committees, detailing the status of the tuition waiver program.**

If anyone is interested in receiving this report, please e-mail [amy.slattery@doe.nh.gov](mailto:amy.slattery@doe.nh.gov)

### **Career School Licensing**

**Submitted by Kimberly Kenneally**

The Career School Licensing function continues as required of RSA 188-G:1-10, bringing unlicensed schools into compliance, reviewing renewal applications, and investigating complaints.

- Career School Licensing has moved back under the Division of Higher Education, Higher Education Commission.
  
- We are in the process of licensing three new schools in New Hampshire;
  - The first is OLK12, LLC, 25 Lowell Street, Manchester, NH. They wish to fully customize and support administrators, professionals, teachers, staff, and students with on-line learning tools.
  
  - Second is the Goodwill Industries of Northern New England, Augusta, Maine; they desire to teach over 3000 students Retail and Custodial skill training in New Hampshire.
  
  - Third is the International Institute of New England in Manchester, NH. This would be a vocational class for Agricultural Market Managers.
  
- As of December 7, 2012 Career School Licensing has eighty one (81) licensed schools.



**Veterans Education Services**

Clif Burdette passed away on Tuesday, December 4, 2012 after a long illness. The staff grieves his loss and has begun to work with his colleagues in New Hampshire and Maine to maintain services to campus certifying officials. The Division has also begun working with Human Resources to seek a replacement in the weeks ahead.