



# State of New Hampshire

GENERAL COURT

CONCORD

## MEMORANDUM

---

---

**DATE:** January 15, 2020

**TO:** Honorable Stephen Shurtleff, Speaker of the House  
Honorable Donna Soucy, President of the Senate  
Honorable Paul C. Smith, House Clerk  
Honorable Tammy L. Wright, Senate Clerk  
Honorable Chris Sununu, Governor  
Michael York, State Librarian

**FROM:** Representative Mel Myler, Chairman

**SUBJECT:** Final Report of the Public Higher Education Study Committee.  
RSA 187-A:28-a (HB 401, Chapter 292:2, Laws of 1995)

---

---

Pursuant to RSA 187-A:28-a (HB 401, Chapter 292:2, Laws of 1995), enclosed please find the Final Report of the Public Higher Education Study Committee.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this report, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I would like to thank those members of the committee who were instrumental in this study. I would also like to acknowledge all those who testified before the committee and assisted the committee in our study.

Enclosures

cc: Members of the Committee

# FINAL REPORT

## Public Higher Education Study Committee.

RSA 187-A:28-a (HB 401, Chapter 292:2, Laws of 1995)

January 15, 2020

Representative Mel Myler, Chairman  
Senator Lou D'Allesandro  
Senator Jay Kahn  
Senator John Reagan  
Representative David Doherty, Clerk  
Representative Mary Heath  
Representative Rick Ladd  
Representative David Luneau

### Committee Charge:

The committee is charged with the following duties pursuant to RSA 187-A: 28-c:

I. The committee shall study, among other things, the following:

- (a) The operation of public higher education.
- (b) The goals and purposes of public higher education.
- (c) The organization of public higher education.
- (d) The size of public higher education.
- (e) The financing of public higher education.

(f) Any other areas which will act as a guide to the legislature and trustees in formulating policies for the future.

(g) The economic effects of student activities on higher education campuses as reported in studies by the university system of New Hampshire and municipalities. The committee shall study possible solutions and recommend legislation. Possible solutions for the committee to study include payments to the municipalities by institutions of higher education in lieu of taxes; additional fees or assessments; and any other remedy suggested by the municipalities affected by higher education campuses.

I-a. In addition to the duties set forth in paragraph I, the committee shall study the feasibility of granting state franchise rights to the providers of on-line education courses which may include but is not limited to, the institutions of the university system of New Hampshire and the regional community-technical college system. The committee may consult with any individual or organization with information or expertise relevant to this aspect of the committee's duties.

II. The committee shall act as liaison between the university system, the regional community-technical colleges, the general court, and the public to promote better understanding and communications between public higher education, the general court, and the public.

III. The committee shall hold at least 4 meetings per year to be called by the chairperson.

### **Process and Procedures:**

The committee organized on Tuesday, August 27th. As established by statute, the committee chair for the 2019-2020 biennium is the chair of the House Committee on Education, Representative Mel Myler. He appointed Representative David Doherty clerk.

The committee met seven times throughout the study period. The following is a review of each meeting. The minutes are attached with more in depth information.

**August 27:** The committee organized, reviewed statutory responsibilities and past Public Higher Education Study Committee reports, agreed on areas of study for the year, and prepared a meeting schedule.

**September 9:** The committee convened at the USNH System Office in Concord and heard from public safety and Title IX experts on topics related to campus security and student safety.

**September 23:** The committee convened on the UNH campus in Durham and heard from speakers about university technology transfer, the UNH Entrepreneurship Center, business engagement, and research.

**October 7:** Representatives of USNH and CCSNH shared information about academic programs, enrollment trends, and online program delivery.

**October 21:** The committee convened at NHTI in Concord to discuss enrollment, retention, financial aid, and dual and concurrent enrollment.

**November 4:** The committee convened on the UNH- Manchester campus. Speakers representing USNH and CCSNH discussed capital planning and foundation development.

**November 19:** The committee heard presentations from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation and CCSNH about the 65 by 25 initiative. The committee also reviewed a draft final report and made revisions.

## Findings:

After thorough study and discussion, the committee finds as follows:

- 1) Campus safety officials at institutions statewide are working to keep our colleges and universities safe for students, faculty, staff, and neighbors. The committee heard from leaders representing UNH, Keene State College, Plymouth State University, and the Community College System of New Hampshire (CCSNH). All campuses have layered emergency planning and preparedness procedures that address ‘All Hazards.’ Physical security and access involves: campus and community police presence, campus service officer patrols, building access control (card readers at UNH), master key system, CCTV cameras in designated buildings and on campuses, and alarm systems (fire, burglary, panic, and trouble). Institutional alert systems are coordinated with Homeland Security and campus security/ police communications are tied into State Police. While concerns manifest differently among the institutions, there was common focus on security measures necessary to prevent or suppress active shooter events, improve physical security and manage access, and address crises related to mental health and substance abuse. The institutions acknowledged the necessity of effective communication with local police and emergency services, but some had concerns that campus safety officials need more tools to address threats on campus in a way that aligns with campus culture.
- 2) State colleges and universities are also taking seriously sexual harassment and sexual assault. State institutions have built robust systems for training staff and students, accepting disclosures, and responding to disclosures. Additionally, staff support victims by connecting them with crisis centers and/ or law enforcement, providing protective measures on campus, and offering academic and emotional support.
- 3) State institutions are working to foster relationships with the business community in a variety of ways.
  - a. The UNH Entrepreneurship Center is a forum for students to bring ideas and receive the mentorship and resources necessary to form a business plan. Students can earn funds to put toward their student loans by participating in events, and student entrepreneurs can compete for prizes and internships. Local startups rent office space in the center and enrich the culture of innovation and mentorship there.
  - b. Adjacent to the UNH Entrepreneurship center is the University of New Hampshire InterOperability Laboratory (IOL). The IOL attracts numerous technology companies from around the globe which use the independent lab to test networking and data communications products. The IOL is staffed by over 120 students, exposing them to state of the art technology and uniquely equipping them with skills to enter the technology industry as they complete their degree programs. The IOL has introduced leading tech firms to the University of New

Hampshire for over thirty years, and one measure of its success for the businesses it serves and the students who work there is its 99% job placement rate—including many matches made even before graduation day.

- c. Statewide, community colleges are embracing the *community* in their names by equipping their students with skills in demand locally. Some examples among many include Lakes Region Community College, which identifies opportunities for its students to meet the needs of the region in the healthcare field. Great Bay Community College partners with local corporations to provide customized training opportunities and ensure college programs complement companies' growth strategies. And system-wide, the community colleges are building apprenticeship pathways in partnership with the business community.
  - d. Granite State College takes a similar approach in meeting the employee training needs of local businesses. GSC works with companies to identify existing gaps and propose solutions. The college assesses employee training and offers team learning and customized online education.
  - e. At UNH-Manchester, the university's relationship with the Advanced Regenerative Manufacturing Institute (ARMI) exposes students to world class minds, technology, and innovative firms. UNH has developed and recently received the certificate of occupancy for their new BioFAB engineering space on the sixth floor of the former Pandora Mill building that now houses UNH Manchester. This space will provide start-up companies with incubator space to develop new biological products as part of this emerging technology sector.
  - f. Plymouth State University and Keene State College are also focused on strengthening the pipeline from college to work. Experiential learning and apprenticeship opportunities are key for preparing students. Building college and local employer partnerships provides feedback about workforce and business trend needs that colleges can better use to develop career competencies and new degrees and skill credentials.
  - g. The committee was provided examples of how universities and colleges are aligning business, science, and nursing programs of study with emerging economic and market driven needs and priorities. The "cluster" program at Plymouth State provides evidence that students in non-science, nursing, or business-oriented programs are similarly required to participate in college to work preparation research activities utilizing subject content and successful, interactive communication "soft skills."
- 4) The committee was pleased to learn about the research activity taking place at UNH, Plymouth State University, Keene State College, and NHTI.
- a. UNH has earned the R1 Carnegie Classification, a distinction identifying doctoral universities with the highest research activity.

- b. Research is a visible part of the university culture and takes center stage when over 2,000 undergraduates participate in the annual Undergraduate Research Conference—the largest of its kind nationwide. The university also has a history of accomplishment and ongoing study in space and weather science, seafloor mapping, and data and networking, among other areas.
  - c. Research at Plymouth State University is inspired by its home region. Students and faculty gather data for the Ski Area Economic Report and conduct research in snowpack sensing. The institution is also developing a foreign direct investment tool called MaiaGrowth.
  - d. Keene State values the research experience for its generation of new knowledge, but also for its impact on student researchers. Students who participate in research have a higher level of intellectual agency, greater technical and practical skills, and exhibit workforce readiness.
  - e. NHTI also sees the positive impact of research participation on students. There, honors classes are anchored in research projects that stretch student learning and experience.
- 5) AT UNH, the product of university research often extends beyond scholarship, and the university is managing its intellectual property and knowledge exchange effectively.
- a. Between FY 13 and FY 19, the university filed 31 trademarks and 115 patents. In the same period, the university was issued 34 patents.
  - b. Between FY 15 and FY 19, the university received \$4.53 million in licensing revenue.
  - c. The university calculates that over the past 25 years, with a **total** of \$8 million in state investment, the NH Innovation Research Center generated over \$1 billion in return to the state and over 1,000 new jobs.
  - d. Over the past five years, UNH was in the top 10 of all universities nationwide in the total number of licenses signed.
  - e. UNH Innovation has a goal of creating the Innovation Neighborhood with the aim of generating \$1 billion in economic impact for New Hampshire over ten years. The Innovation Neighborhood would be home to business partnerships and new industries that would provide early opportunities for student engagement.
- 6) The Community College System is nimble and constantly reflects on how to meet the needs of students by preparing them for current workforce demands. CCSNH is accessible to all through its open enrollment policy and offers an affordable education

that sets graduates on a pathway to work or further education. In addition to its close relationships with local industry, CCSNH member institutions form close relationships with area high schools through dual enrollment and running start programs. Not only do these programs give students a head start accumulating college credits, they raise awareness of the community colleges and of the benefits gained through attending career and workforce pathway programs. Students who enroll in these programs have higher graduation rates and lower costs.

- 7) Granite State College's online program delivery meets the needs of working adults, including a substantial number of active duty military. Their programs are competency-based, awarding credit for prior learning in numerous settings.
- 8) The University System is producing quality graduates who complete their programs in a timely manner and go on to have high rates of employment. However, demographic and economic conditions mean stiff competition in the northeast region for students. Only 39% of college-going NH high school graduates attend NH colleges compared to neighboring Vermont at 46%, Massachusetts at 57%, and Maine at 60%. These states are competing not only to attract their own high school graduates, but also New Hampshire's. Maine and Massachusetts offer in-state tuition matches for out-of-state students; a very competitive marketing strategy. UMaine's Flagship Match Scholarship Program, for example, "guarantee[s] that incoming, academically qualified students from selected states will pay the same tuition and fee rate as their home state's flagship institution."<sup>1</sup> Therefore, a NH resident would pay the same tuition to attend UMaine as UNH-- \$15,520 as opposed to paying the UMaine out-of-state tuition in the amount of \$29,310. Meanwhile, in-state Maine tuition is \$9,000.<sup>2</sup>
- 9) Affordability and financial aid are important issues facing students, parents, institutions of higher education, state legislatures, and the federal government. Due to an infusion of funds through the recent state budget process, the University System will freeze tuition for next year. The Community College System also announced a two-year tuition freeze recently. Ensuring year-over-year affordability is key to retaining students along with academic support and transition assistance for transfer students. Other important initiatives for affordability include the availability of department scholarships, aid through the university and community college foundations, and the Granite Guarantee. The Granite Guarantee covers the cost of tuition for up to four years for New Hampshire residents who are eligible for federal Pell Grants.
- 10) While it is vital to make higher education affordable and accessible, the committee recognizes the tension that exists between affordability and rising cost pressures that colleges and universities face unrelated to academics. These cost drivers include, but are not limited to: technology necessary to meet the demands of institutional, state, and

---

<sup>1</sup> The University of Maine, *UMaine Flagship Match Scholarship Program 2019-2020 for First-Year Students*, last accessed Nov. 20, 2019, <https://go.umaine.edu/apply/scholarships-3/flagship-match-first-year/>.

<sup>2</sup> The University of Maine, *Costs at UMaine*, last accessed Nov. 20, 2019, <https://umaine.edu/stuaid/aid-basics/costs-at-umaine/>.

federal data collection and reporting along with classroom technology and digital security; counseling for students; campus security; career development resources; utilities costs; deferred physical plant maintenance; food and dining costs; and healthcare costs.

- 11) The University System projects \$467 million in capital spending over the next five years. These improvements include a mix of construction and renovation of academic buildings and residence halls. Concerns were identified relating to the University System's ability to issue bonds only for those capital projects involving academic buildings.
- 12) In recognition of our rapidly evolving economy and growing demand for a more skilled workforce, the state has set a goal that 65% of adults will hold a post-secondary credential, ranging from certificates to advanced degrees, by 2025. For the past several decades, the state has relied on in-migration to fuel its educated workforce. That strategy is no longer effective. This presents an opportunity to examine the state's approach, which may involve reconsidering how education is funded.
- 13) If New Hampshire is to meet projected labor economic needs, our state needs at least 65% of working-age residents to have a postsecondary credential of economic value by the year 2025. At present, 53% of working-age adults in NH have a postsecondary credential. The Community College System of NH (CCSNH) and the University System of NH (USNH) along with aligned organizations such as the NH Charitable Foundation and Stay Work Play NH, are pursuing objectives aimed at closing this gap. Today, for every two job postings requiring an associate degree or higher there is one job seeker, and for every one job posting requiring less education there are two seekers. CCSNH is central to NH reaching this structural economic goal due to its proportion of students who are NH residents, its proportion who are adult learners, the retention of its graduates in the state, and its program array which focuses on associate degree and certificate offerings that build credentials into NH's workforce in an efficient and timely manner. CCSNH also provides through-put of a significant proportion of its graduates into USNH institutions, creating lower-cost pathways for baccalaureate degree attainment.
- 14) Other noteworthy initiatives are underway around the state with the aim of connecting marginalized communities with skills and educational opportunities:
  - a. Some employers are active with corrections populations, not only preparing them for the world of work, but providing employment opportunities upon release.
  - b. Many businesses are also making a concerted effort to create recovery-friendly workplaces, assisting people battling addiction to find meaningful work.
  - c. Great Bay Community College has partnered with the Portsmouth Housing Authority to reach resident high school seniors and assist them in accessing the community college. The outreach program doubled its participation rate from



year one to year two and found that its presence in the community was valuable not only in reaching high school seniors, but also adults looking for more marketable skills.

**Recommendations and Suggested Proposed Legislation:**

- 1) In response to concerns raised by campus safety officials regarding their ability to act on reported threats; including threats of self-harm, suicide, and violence, among others, a legislative service request (LSR) has been filed titled “relative to emergency threat protection orders for individuals at post secondary educational institutions.” The LSR will be introduced as a bill in the 2020 legislative session with the purpose of establishing a procedure for issuing an emergency threat protection order against an individual at a post-secondary educational institution, who poses an immediate risk of harm to themselves or others involving a firearm.
- 2) The committee recommends the legislature reconsider the conditions under which the University System is authorized to bond capital projects.
- 3) Continue to support CCSNH in their efforts to make community college services more accessible to students who work full-time.
- 4) Consider legislation to provide seed capital to companies that license UNH research.
- 5) Consider legislation that will help to reduce student debt and promote workforce development in New Hampshire.
- 6) Consider lower cost models for 2-and 4-year degree programs
- 7) Expand and strengthen focus on connecting marginalized populations with postsecondary education to support family and workforce resiliency.
- 8) The committee recommends that the University System and Community College System place additional emphasis toward marketing career pathway programming and making research-associated options available throughout the systems to encourage and increase New Hampshire’s high school students and parents to remain in NH for post-secondary education.
- 9) Consider requiring completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as a graduation requirement.
- 10) In keeping with and in support of NH’s goal of 65 by 25, the committee recommends that the University System consider the following:

- a. Streamline the university/ college application process in which the in-state applicant can apply for consideration by UNH, Plymouth State University, Keene State College, and Granite State College by checking the appropriate boxes (a savings in application fees, etc.).
  - b. Phasing in a course identification system in which certain basic requirement courses taken at any NH university/ college campus are automatically transferable to another NH campus.
- 11) Finally, the Public Higher Education Study Committee should continue to meet regularly to monitor progress toward the state's 65 by 25 goal.

Respectfully Submitted,

Representative Mel Myler, Chairman

**Public Higher Education Study Committee**

**August 27, 2019**

**Rm. 207 LOB**

**Present: Chairman Myler, Sen. Reagan, Sen. D'Allesandro, Sen. Kahn, Rep. Luneau, Rep. Ladd, Rep. Doherty**

**Absent: Rep. Heath**

**Chairman Myler called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.**

**Sen. Reagan moved to accept the agenda. Rep. Luneau seconded. Passed unanimously.**

**Chairman Myler appointed Rep. Doherty clerk. Accepted without objection.**

**Chairman Myler talked about items we might consider and distributed the report from the last study committee. A list of bills from the last session was also distributed.**

**Rep. Luneau suggested that we try to get a better understanding of research work being done at UNH and their support of the business community. He suggested a presentation that might take place at the Durham campus.**

**Sen. D'Allesandro suggested reaching out to the university system and industry to explore their synergistic relationship, e.g. their use of the library.**

**Rep. Ladd suggested we look at how the university system is marketing research experiences to incoming freshmen and parents.**

**Rep. Doherty suggested looking further at affordability of the four-year schools and community colleges.**

**Rep. Luneau spoke about how the two years schools look good economically compared to the four year schools but that some students are leaving the state because of high costs.**

**Sen. D'Allesandro suggested that we look at schools promoting financial aid opportunities such as the Granite State Scholarship Program and develop relationships with professional schools out-of-state similar to the New England Regional Program.**

**Rep. Ladd talked about the decline in K-12 students and wondered if specialized programs such as nursing could continue to be offered at many campuses, looking at cost even at UNH Law, capital projects like campus housing, and financial problems at KSC.**

**Rep. Luneau cited the UNH Law on-line program.**

**Sen. D'Allesandro said that UNH Law had lost it's identity in the transition form Franklin Pierce Law.**

**Rep. Ladd discussed the common application within the university system.**

**Sen. Kahn talked about financial assistance and the impact on institutions, the large debt of NH students, looking at enrollment levels across the state, tuition freezes, and articulation agreements.**

**Rep. Ladd discussed audits of the community college system.**

**Cathy Provencher , Vice Chancellor, said that there are internal audits on a regular basis.**

**Rep. Ladd suggested looking at the concussion policies at UNH and other schools, suggested a common system-wide policy.**

**Chairman Myler said we should look at all student safety issues.**

**Sen. Kahn suggested we look at Title IX issues and the fact that the Higher Education Act is failing to move through Congress and that the Secretary of Education has to fill the holes.**

**Cathy Provnecher cited infrastructure reporting on Title IX.**

**Rep. Ladd suggested looking at demographic changes on academic programs and the impact on instruction and buildings.**

**Chairman Myler indicated we needed a report issued by Jan. 15, 2020 and suggested we develop a schedule of meetings, places to meet, and topics for meetings.**

**Discussion resulted in a schedule that has been put together by Jennifer Foor and distributed to the committee.**

**Chairman Myler adjourned the meeting at 11:00 AM.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Rep. David Doherty  
Clerk**

**Public Higher Education Study Committee**

**September 9, 2019  
USNH System Office  
5 Chenell Drive; Third Floor  
Concord, NH**

**Present: Sen. Reagan, Sen. Kahn, Rep. Luneau, Rep. Ladd, Rep. Heath, Rep. Doherty**

**Absent: Rep. Myler, Sen. D'Allesandro**

**Guests: Paul Dean – UNH Asst. VP for Public Safety and Risk Management**

**Jeanne Herrick - CCSNH General Counsel**

**Janette Wiggett – PSU Title IX Coordinator**

**Steve Temperino - PSU Director of Public Safety and Emergency Planning**

**Kevin Williams – KSC Interim Director of Campus Safety**

**Karyl Roberts Martin, Esq. - USNH Associate General Counsel**

**Ronald Rogers – USNH General Counsel**

**Bill Thomas – CCSNH Director of Risk Management and Title IX Coordinator**

**Mark Rubinstein – President, Granite State College**

**Pat Waldvogel – Special Assistant to the Chancellor**

- **Rep. Luneau, temporary chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00.**
- **Todd Leach, Chancellor of the University System of NH welcomed us to the facility and gave a short history of the facilities that have housed the offices.**
- **Sen. Reagan moved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Seconded by Sen. Kahn and unanimously approved.**
- **Paul Dean made a slide and verbal presentation entitled “Understanding Campus Safety at Higher Education Institutions” which explained the complexities of providing services to colleges and universities nationwide and specifically at UNH Durham. All present received a written outline of the presentation. There were numerous comments and questions and individuals representing other campuses in the system discussed the topics relevant to their institutions. Particularly, there was information about the similarities and differences at other system campuses. Kevin Williams of KSC, Ronald Rogers speaking for PSU, Mark Rubinstein of GSC, and Jeanne Herrick of the Community Colleges weighed in. It was an informative and engaging conversation.**

- **Janette Wiggett, PSU Title IX Coordinator made a slide and verbal presentation about Title IX throughout the University System. Areas that were discussed were: Training, Outreach and Education that takes place on all the campuses of the system. Students, parents, and employees are involved covering all aspects of campus life. Many of the tools used were discussed. Also covered were support services and legal regulations. Again, there were many questions and answers and lively discussion.**

**Next meeting Monday, September 23, 2019, 10:00 AM at UNH Innovation, 21 Madbury Rd. Suite 100, Durham, NH 03824**

**The meeting adjourned at 3:45.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Rep. David Doherty**

**Clerk**

## **Public Higher Education Study Committee**

**September 23, 2019  
UNH Innovation  
21 Madbury Rd.  
Durham, NH**

**Present: Rep. Myler, Rep. Luneau, Rep. Ladd, Rep. Heath, Rep. Doherty**

**Absent: Sen. D'Allesandro, Sen. Kahn, Sen. Reagan**

**Chairman Myler called the meeting to order at 10:12 AM.**

**Rep. Luneau made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 9, 2019 meeting. Rep. Ladd seconded. Passed unanimously.**

**We were welcomed by Todd Leach, Chancellor USNH and Wayne Jones, Provost, UNH.**

**1. Marc Sedam, Associate Vice Provost for Innovation and New Ventures, Managing Director of UNHInnovation, and Chair-elect of AUTM made a presentation on University Technology Transfer. Along with a Power Point presentation he explained how ideas are developed by both students and faculty, how UNH gets innovation out into the market and into the world, gave examples of innovations and patents developed at UNH (ex. NASA, Half Acre Beekeeping, You Scheduler), and the signature programs that fund these enterprises.**

**2. Heather MacNeill, Program Manager of the UNH Peter T. Paul Entrepreneurship Center and Jeff Lapak, Director, UNH IOL discussed and gave a PP overview of the UNH InterOperability Laboratory where the work is done. The Lab consists of 20-25 full time staff and about 100 students ranging from high school to graduate school who work in a state-of-the-art 28,000 square foot lab. They described the range of activity, the type of research, and the security features of the lab. Committee members took a physical tour of the lab and observed the equipment and students and staff working.**

**3. The Committee had a working lunch during a Business Engagement Panel. Members of the panel were:**

**Larissa Baia, President, Lakes Regional Community College**

**Sean Clancy, Associate Vice President, Great Bay Community College**

**Mike Decelle, Dean, UNH Manchester**

**Beth Dorion, Director of DOE and College Access Programs, CCSNH**

**Marc Eichenberger, Director of Corporate Engagement, UNHInnovation**

**Rachel French, Business Partnerships Manager, Plymouth State University**

**Katie Gaebel, Associate Director of Career Development, Plymouth State University**

**Daniel Henderson, Director of Corporate Partnerships and Strategic Initiatives, Keene State College**

**The panel described various aspect of state-wide and regional workforce pipelines(LRCC), corporate partnerships and customized training (GBCC), workforce initiatives (UNHM), apprentice pathways in partnerships with NH employers (CCSNH), harnessing the power of UNH (UNH corporate Engagement), Granite State College Learning Solutions (GSC), economic Vitality in the I93 corridor (PSU) and innovative partnerships with CCSNH institutions and CTEs (KSC).**

**4. The committee heard from a Research Panel consisting of:**

**Joe Boyer, Director of Research, Plymouth State University**

**Nancy Fey-Yensan Executive Director, Research and Graduate Studies, Keene State College**

**Brad Kinsey, Professor, director of the Center for Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Innovation and Director of NH BioMade, University of New Hampshire**

**Kevin Short, Professor, University of New Hampshire**

**John Tsavalas, Associate Professor, University of New Hampshire**

**Gretchen Mullen-Sawocki, President, New Hampshire Technical Institute**

**The panel discussed the importance of University research. The range of research,, the fact that UNH is one of only four R1 research institutions in New England, the UNH research portfolio, and the role of students in research. Cited particularly were efforts in space science, ocean mapping, earth and the environment, data and networking, and Arctic science. Also cited was how UNH research enhances STEM education and the partnerships of state research. Information on research at other state institutions, PSU, KSC, and NHTI was also presented.**

**The committee concluded that there was a substantial amount of information transmitted to the Committee and is extremely grateful to all of the participants for their time and effort in putting together an outstanding program.**

**The committee adjourned at 3:20 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Rep. David Doherty**

**Clerk**



**Public Higher Education Study Committee**  
**Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**October 7, 2019**  
**LOB 207**

Present: Rep. Myler, Luneau, Heath, Ladd, Sen. Reagan, Kahn  
Absent: Doherty, D' Allesandro

Chairman Myler called the meeting to order at 10:15 AM.

Acceptance of September 23, 2019 minutes: Moved Heath/ Luneau CARRIED

**Meeting purpose:** The purpose of the session was to review academic programs at USNH and CCSNH along with enrollment trends and online delivery strategies. Sen. Khan also wanted to review the status of the "65 by 25" program.

**Chancellor Todd Leach** of USNH started to session. He emphasized the following:

- USNH is the largest provider of an educated workforce.
- Largest provider of STEM graduates.
- Largest provider of teachers.
- Has an annual economic impact of over \$2b.
- Over \$2m in tuition waivers for National Guard students.
- The most efficient public system in the northeast.
- There is a decline in the student market. Only 39% of NH high school grads attend NH colleges as compared to 42% CT, 46% VT, 54% RI, 57% MA, 60% ME.
- 60% of graduates leave the state. More internships are needed to impact decisions to stay in the state.
- There is competition with neighboring states for tuition matches.
- There are weekly meetings with the system's colleges presidents and provost to coordinate programming efforts.
- The system has the highest graduation rates with lowest loan default which indicate the high percentage of graduates being employed.

**Chancellor Ross Gittell** of CCSNH next provided the following information:

- CCSNH has a major focus on access, affordability and alignment with economic opportunity and labor market needs. A two year tuition freeze will help students.
- A major academic focus is to implement the 65 by 25 goal
- The quality of CCSNH programs directly relate to the transferability of students to the USNH programs.
- 95% of graduates have a positive job placement.
- There is a strong relationship with high schools with their dual enrollment and running start programs.
- Working closely with local industries is critical to their program development.
- Two-thirds of their students work while going to school.

- CCSNH is a major skill provider in the state.
- With the exception of our state to the south, NH has the highest median income in the country and CCSNH is a contributor to this ranking.
- There is a common app for all their seven campuses.
- Transfer to USNH campuses is smooth and the collaboration is positive.

The committee heard from a panel focused on academic programs. On the panel was: Larissa Baia, President LRCC; Brian Bicknell, VP Academic Affairs MCC; Wayne Jones, Provost UNH; Robin Dorff, Provost PSU.

**President Baia / Brian Bicknell:**

- A goal is to get high school students engaged early in college via dual enrollment/running start programs.
- There are a number of pathways for students to engage in higher education.
- They have created numerous apprenticeship programs to provide learning and work experience.
- These programs work with businesses like: Electrical Tech, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, IBES/Eversource.

**Robin Dorff:**

They have developed a Career in 3-D Model – Discover, Develop, Distinguish.

- Discovery – tools to explore interest, skills, and values.
- Develop – gain experience through job shadowing, internships, research
- Distinguish – articulate your value, strength to employers/grad programs; communicate knowledge of industry and employer trends

**Wayne Jones:**

- The goal is to transform a student’s life and success.
- Students return to school by a rate of 86% based on their first year, national average is 50%
- Although there is a close relationship with state business and industry, they go beyond industry needs.
- There is growing health care emphasis resulting state budget allocation – much appreciated.
- Campus to business is key through student internships that build a pathway to success. 78% of students participate in internship programs.
- Graduates – 95% are either working or in grad school.
- The UNH Law school has grown to 350 students and ranks 5<sup>th</sup> national in intellectual property programs.

**Online Program Delivery**

Scott Stanley, Provost Granite State College; Susan Huard, President MCC; Stephen Freeborn, Instructor LRCC

- Online enrollment continues to grow
- Provides flexibility for students and compliments in class activity.
- The program is competency based.

- 80% students are NH residents; 92% are working.
- One in seven students are in the military.
- Approximately 3,000 are engaged in programs, or about 1300 per semester.

We ran out of time to complete the agenda. Consequently: The next agenda will cover:

1. Enrollment Trends
2. Retention Trends
3. Financial Aide
4. Dual/concurrent enrollment

The next meeting will be held on October 21, 2019 at NHTI

The committee adjourned at 12:30.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rep. Mel Myler

**Public Higher Education Study Committee**

**October 21, 2019  
New Hampshire Technical Institute  
Little Hall  
Concord, NH**

**Present: Rep. Myler, Rep. Luneau, Rep. Heath, Rep. Doherty, Sen. D'Allesandro, Sen. Kahn, Sen. Reagan**

**Absent: Rep. Ladd**

**From 10:00 – 11:15, the members of the committee were taken on a tour of four programs, led by President Mullen-Sawicki and a student: Nursing, Dental, IT, and Robotics and Automation Engineering. At each stop we were greeted and provided information by a member of the faculty and a student, It was an informative and helpful tour.**

**The meeting was called to order by Chairman Myler at 11:15.**

**A motion by Rep. Luneau to approve the minutes of the October, 7 meeting was made and seconded by Rep. Heath. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Chancellor Todd Leach welcomed us to NHTI. Chancellor Leach presented an overview of enrollment across the University system. He reported that fewer students graduating from high school has affected enrollment, but that the system is able to freeze tuition next year because of the higher education budget recently passed and signed into law. The in-state/ out-of-state ratio at UNH is 40/ 60 and 68 per cent of graduates from state institutions remain and work in NH. A panel consisting of Charles Ansell from CCSNH, President Charles Lloyd of White Mountain Community College, MB Lufkin from KSC, and Tara Payne from GSC presented information on enrollment in the community college system, GSC, and four-year colleges. Differences in the student populations of each category were discussed. Many statistics were presented and there was special significance placed on topics such as: attaining the goal of 65 by 25, Running Start and concurrent enrollment, student advising, technology services to help students succeed, and principles of performance dialog.**

**During a working lunch we heard from a panel on student retention, consisting of Charles Ansell from CCSNH and Marcia Schmidt Blaine from PSC. Topics discussed were: how the system works to retain students through financial aid, tracking students who transfer or do not return after a semester, getting students help in courses, particularly math, GPS strategies, offering transfer support, and emphasizing enrollment management. A chart that included institutional data on retention for UNH, the four-year colleges, and GSC was presented. The CCSNH information was also presented in a separate chart.**

**The next panel was focused on financial aid across the system. The presenters were Joel Carstens from UNH, Charles Ansell from CCSNH, and President Alfred Williams of River Valley**

**Community College. Changes in the financial aid system over the years was discussed, including the fact that students and parents can begin the process much earlier than in past years, information on grants, loans, and work-study was presented. Other topics discussed were food banks for hungry students, the cost of tuition and the average amount of financial aid received by students. Also discussed was the difficulty of students declaring independent status.**

**The final panel was made up of Beth Dorian from CCSNH and Dan Reagan from UNH-M. They talked more in-depth about dual and concurrent enrollment and the number of students engaged in Running Start. Also presented was information on a pilot program that UNH-M has started with Pinkerton Academy and the potential programs that will be made available to other public schools in the Manchester area.**

**In summary, the Committee is grateful to all the presenters who not only spent time with the committee and answered many questions, but also for the in-depth information in the slide presentations that were shared. We appreciate all their time and hard work. And thanks to NHTI for hosting us.**

**Respectfully submitted**

**Rep, David Doherty**

**Clerk**

## **Public Higher Education Study Committee**

**November 4, 2019  
UNH Manchester  
88 Commercial St.  
Manchester, NH**

**Present: Rep. Myler, Rep. Luneau, Rep. Heath, Rep. Ladd, Rep. Doherty, Sen. D'Allesandro, Sen. Kahn**

**Absent: Sen. Reagan**

**Prior to the meeting, the Committee and guests were given a tour, concentrated on the new sixth floor of the university by Mike Decelle, Dean, UNH-M. The sixth floor will house new start-ups and is a state-of the art facility.**

**Chairman Myler called the meeting to order at 10:35 AM.**

**A motion to approve the agenda was passed unanimously.**

**A motion was made by Rep. Heath and seconded by Rep. Luneau to approve the minutes of the October 21 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.**

**The first presentation on USNH Capital Planning and Foundation Development was made by Cathy Provencher, Vice Chancellor for Financial Affairs and Treasurer and Debbie Dutton, Vice President, University Advancement and President, UNH Foundation.**

**Cathy distributed a slide show entitled "Capital Planning and Process Discussion" In it was highlighted information on the USNH Facilities, Capital Funding Sources, Capital Portfolio, Needs and Funding Sources, Statutory Authority for Debt Issuance (there was a recommendation that the law be changed to allow issuing debt for academic space), USNH Capital Plan Summary, which projected about \$467 million into capital assets over the next 5 years. There were a number of questions from members of the committee for clarification, including how the individual institutions handle their capital needs.**

**Debbie presented information on fundraising including a summary of fundraising from FY10 through FY18 (noting the growth), the annual cash revenue over the same amount of time, the overall campaign results with the number of donors, the number of new funds created, and the average gift, the market value of the foundation endowed funds, the total achievement and the results of the fundraising officers.**

**The final presentation was on the DDSNH Capital Planning and Foundation Development. Presenters were: Charles Ansell, Chief Operation Officer, Tim Allison, Chief Advancement Officer and Executive Director of the CCSNH Foundation, and Matt Moore, Director of Capital Planning and Development, CCSNH. They presented information on capital accounting and maintenance within the CCSNH, stressing master planning, both system-wide and individually by campus, the capital budget process, and the newly formed foundation to attract gifts from alumni and other sources.**

**There was considerable emphasis by both the USNH and CCSNH of the use of funds toward expanding financial aid to students in both systems.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM.**

**The committee is grateful to all of the participants who attended the meeting and helped the committee understand capital planning and fundraising. We appreciate your involvement in the process.**

**Respectfully submitted**

**Rep. David Doherty**

**Clerk**

**Public Higher Education Study Committee**

**November 19, 2019**

**LOB Rm. 207**

**Present: Chairman Myler, Rep. Luneau, Sen. Reagan, Sen. Kahn, Rep. Heath, Rep. Ladd, Rep. Doherty**

**Absent: Sen. D'Allesandro**

**Chairman Myler called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.**

**Motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting was made by Rep. Luneau, seconded by Rep. Heath. Approved unanimously.**

**Rep. Myler noted the report draft #2 was distributed to the committee With changes by Rep. Ladd highlighted.**

**The first presentation was made by Ross Gittel, Chancellor of the Community College System of New Hampshire and Shannon Reid, Executive Director of Government Affairs and Communication. The topic was the Mew Hampshire 65 by 25 initiative. They presented a slide show with the following topics:**

- **how the CCSNH mission is supported by 65 by 25 and why it is important to reach that goal**
- **difficulties in working toward 65 by 25 ( changing demographics, reduced high school population, full employment)**
- **getting to 65 by 25 through increasing post-secondary matriculation, higher retention rates, using K-16 career pathways, focusing on math readiness**
- **CCSNH represents 34.6 of the undergraduate enrollment in NH (excluding SNHU), most of the students are stat residents, and 90-95% stay in NH – financial awards need to increase 150% by 2025 to move the target from 53% currently to 65%**
- **there needs to be greater emphasis on transfer programs**
- **statistics on workforce size, unemployment, job seekers, and job openings were shared- unemployment and job seekers are much higher for those lacking higher degrees**
- **strategic goals to meet the 65 by 25 goals were outlined -there are five goals and include, among others, have programs that align with K-16 needs, align jobs with education and costs, and include apprenticeships, certificates, and the like to 65 by 25**
- **CCSNH is working with the Department of Employment Security to track graduates.**
- **There is a need to start educational and financial planning in middle school**
- **programs in remediation in both Math and English have raised success rates incrementally**
- **CCSNH is competing with educational institutions in contiguous states with far less tuition rates and far more state funding which makes CCSNH less competitive to populations in border communities**



**The second presentation was made by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation represented by Katie Merrow, Vice-President of Community Impact and Michael Turmelle, Director of Education and Career Initiatives. They presented a slideshow which documented:**

- **the four areas that they are concentrating on – early childhood development, family and youth sports, substance use prevention, and educational pathways**
- **statistics on working age adults in NH with certificates or advanced degrees by percentage and years from 49.8 % in 2007 to 65% in 2025**
- **the high demand industries – healthcare, professional and business, financial services, manufacturing**
- **the Charitable Foundation distributes 6.5 million dollars in scholarships to target populations**
- **there are about 14,000 high school graduates per year, ½ of them go on to post-secondary education and ½ of those complete their educational**
- **we get to 65 by 25 by establishing school to career pathways, increase completion and affordability, up-skill adult workers, attract and retain more students, support the workforce with better housing and transportation**
- **establishing employment partnerships, early college programs, lower tuition for in-state students, and expanding financial beyond tuition (ex. books, child-care expenses, etc)**
- **a discussion ensued about competition from out-of state college and university systems (Maine and Vermont particularly) and the effect on NH students.**

**Finally, Rep. Luneau, acting as temporary chair, led a discussion of further information to be included in the report and the need for the committee to continue meeting in the future. It was noted that the committee was exposed to a great deal of information over the course of the meetings and the value of that information in terms of future legislation. The committee expressed the desire to visit some of the campuses that were not visited this fall. In closing, the committee express appreciation to all of the participants throughout the course of the meetings for the comprehensive nature of the information and the time put into preparation of reports and participation in the meetings.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Rep. David Doherty  
Clerk**