

Plymouth State week

News and Information for the Plymouth State Campus Community

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January 31 – February 6, 2005



Point of View

by Donald P. Wharton

State Funding and the Next Five Years

Many of you will recall the unprecedented System-wide effort four years ago to win legislative approval of the KEEP-NH plan for funding USNH capital projects. USNH capital planning is done on a rolling six-year timeframe rather than a single biennium, allowing the institutions to lock into planning and construction prices and other cost savings on major capital projects. Thanks to the support of key legislators and the extraordinary advocacy efforts of faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends, an appropriation for KEEP was passed by the New Hampshire Legislature in July 2001.

Phase I of KEEP was funded with \$100 million for capital projects on the USNH campuses. Plymouth State received \$16.5 million of that to fund the renovation and construction of Boyd Science Center. The University System is now looking at Phase II of KEEP, the next \$100 million for 2006 – 2011.

It is vitally important that we obtain the balance of KEEP funding from the Legislature. Major PSU capital priorities detailed in our master plan are based on anticipation of those funds. These projects include \$650,000 for the planning phase of the proposed PE Center renovations, and \$3.4 million for campus infrastructure such as steam and communication lines, and utility upgrades within some buildings.

Planning funds are especially important, as they are the basis for our future legislative requests for construction dollars. For Plymouth State, that means more than \$50 million over the next several years for the renovation and expansion of the PE Center, including an ice rink and new natatorium.

Maintaining the balance of KEEP funding through Phase II will be a challenge for all of us. The budget environment in New Hampshire is constrained, and

legislators will have to work hard to stretch severely limited funds across many state institutions and agencies. Just as Plymouth State allocates precious budget resources to those programs and projects which best serve our mission, so too will legislators carefully evaluate the destination of sparse state dollars.

It is especially important now to keep the great work of Plymouth State University before our alumni, community, friends and lawmakers. From partnerships with schools, businesses and agencies, to resource sharing to student, faculty and staff volunteerism, our many valuable contributions to the quality of life and the fiscal health of the state make KEEP a truly worthy investment in the future of New Hampshire and its citizens.

Morgridge Family Opportunity Scholarships Established

Funded by \$1 million gift to PSU

President Wharton has announced a \$1 million gift to the University by John and Carrie Morgridge to fund four-year scholarships for high-achieving, low-income students from New Hampshire. Mr. Morgridge is a 1985 PSU graduate.

"This extraordinary act of generosity by John and Carrie Morgridge," said President Wharton, "will make a dramatic difference for many future PSU students who might otherwise not have the means to attend the University. The Morgridge gift is creative educational leadership at its finest—a profound commitment to the University and the academic lives of our students."

The new scholarships will require academic achievement and demonstrated financial need; in addition preference will be given to PSU students from Belknap, Carroll, Coos and Grafton counties and/or those who are the first in their family to attend college.

"John and Carrie are rightly very excited about the positive influence of their gift," President Wharton commented. "It couldn't have come at a better time for Plymouth State University students and their families. We can all be very grateful to the Morgridges for their exceptional foresight, leadership, and commitment."

"Across the U.S. today financial access to higher education is a critical issue," says President Wharton. "Federal financial aid such as Pell Grants go to the neediest qualifying applicants, but a Pell Grant for a low-income student doesn't come close to covering the cost of their college education. The Morgridge Family Opportunity Scholarships will help reduce the amount of additional cash or loan burden students have to assume to achieve their higher education goals."

Plymouth State People in the News

Plymouth State Welcomes:

Jeanne Sanders (OS): administrative assistant II – Pakistani Project.

Shaughn Piper (OS), formerly of HPER, is now the administrative assistant in Biological Sciences and the Center for the Environment.

Luminous Layers: Recent Work by **Annette Mitchell** (Art) is on display at Holderness School's Edwards Gallery until February 25. The gallery is open weekdays from 8 to 4. For further information contact Kathryn Field at 536-1257. **Annette's** new DVD and video about the foam printing process have been released. More information is available at www.foamiswheretheartis.com.

Crystal Finebrock (Financial Aid) presented at the New Hampshire Association of Financial Aid Administrators annual conference in December. Her talk, "Today's College Student," covered what financial aid administrators can do to help students understand the financial challenges they face, student loan and credit card statistics, and Web-based tools. She also spoke at financial aid sessions in the PSU Community Education Program as well as at Kennett High School, Moultonboro Academy and Interlakes High School.

Cynthia Moniz (Social Work) was interviewed for a feature article, "Health and Mental Health Service Barriers Affect Many: Disparities Keeping Care out of Reach" for the October edition of the *National Association of Social Workers (NASW) News*. Health disparities is one of four imperatives for the profession that is expected to emerge from the Social Work Congress planned for March 2005.

June Schlabach (Financial Aid) presented a high school financial aid information session January 5 at Newfound High School.

Sue Tucker (Art) has a ceramic sculpture in the biennial exhibition of the New Hampshire Potters Guild, at Gallery 205, Concord, January 28 - March 18.

Technical Advisory Group (TAG): Campus Update

By Dwight Fischer, chief information officer

The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) covered a lot of ground in the fall semester. The following highlights are explained in more depth in Campus Announcements in *myPlymouth* at <http://my.plymouth.edu/cp/home/loginf>.

TAG sub-groups were charged in the following areas:

- Standards: Recommendations are being developed that identify hardware, operating systems and software that will be centrally supported by ITS.
- Allocations: The committee received more than \$700,000 in requests for new and upgraded technology. Recommendations on how to spend the pool of \$420,000 are due to TAG in February.
- Security: Reviewing security threats, good practice and policy.
- ITCC: The work of this group continues from last year. ITCC is reviewing best practices, policy, support issues and the mechanics of good online instruction.

Topics discussed by TAG this year:

- Rollout of wireless computing on campus: The HUB and Lamson Library now have complete wireless coverage. ITS plans for extended rollout in upcoming years.
- Retirement of central support for Mac computers: In an effort to standardize, and control support and software costs, central support for Apple Macintosh computers will be eliminated after June 2006. Some exceptions, where a compelling case is established, were made. Future support costs will be borne by departments.
- LanDesk (remote desktop management): A new utility is being used by ITS staff to manage computers remotely. Upgrades, security updates and diagnosis enhancements have been installed on all administrative and lab cluster computers.
- Use of allemp e-mail: With an average of three allemp messages per day through the fall semester, some question whether to leave the list unmoderated.
- Laptop requirement for students? Should we continue to fund support and replacements for 39 computer clusters when 95 percent of our students bring computers? Should we require a specific laptop for all students?
- Information commons: The library and ITS are discussing collaboration around melding Help Desk, multimedia and academic technology support in Lamson.



Plymouth State University and Whole Village Family Resource Center recently established a partnership that will provide free counseling services to the community, while enabling PSU graduate counseling majors to gain valuable clinical experience. The clinic will be staffed by core faculty of the Counselor Education program and by counselors-in-training. The center will provide space for the clinic, which will serve as a training facility for students during their 100-hour practicum. L – R are Rev. B. W. (Pete) Woodward, a tri-president of Whole Village; President Don Wharton; Kate Ransom, director of Brian's House in the Village; Gary Goodnough, coordinator of school counseling in the Plymouth State M.Ed. program and Gail Mears, clinic director and coordinator of the M.Ed. mental health counseling concentration. Prospective clients may call 536-3720 ext.108 to make an appointment. Clinic hours are Tuesday – Thursday, noon to 8 p.m.

Hot Summer Conference Season Ahead

PSU facilities are increasingly in demand by both internal and external groups. Twenty-one programs have already been scheduled for the summer, and more are expected. As a regional university, working with and supporting the community is part of the institution's overall mission, and a specific goal of our Community Outreach programs. As articulated in the PSU Conferences Services vision statement, the University plays a key role in fostering community involvement and engagement in University culture, and by actively promoting PSU as a venue for conferences we make the University accessible to the community at multiple levels: future enrollment, attendance at other University events and cultivating donors. To maximize usage, accommodate as many requests as possible and coordinate resources, a new procedure has been put in place to handle all requests from external groups. Chris Mongeon, director of conference services, is the primary contact with support coming from Heidi Pettigrew, community education assistant, and other support staff.

One call to Chris at 535-2719 will do it all. He will handle all aspects of event planning, making the necessary contacts for additional resources and support. As with any conference venue, groups are subject to room charges and fees for facility and equipment use. A signed contract guarantees space and details agreed upon services. PSU faculty and staff looking to reserve space should use the following guidelines in determining whom to call, but are encouraged to call Chris Mongeon directly if they are unsure.

- 1. Undergraduate classes.** These reservations are booked by Matt Burkhart, registrar, at 535-2345.
- 2. Graduate classes.** These reservations are booked by Mike Thevenin at 535-3109.
- 3. Community Education.** These "for credit" institutes and reservations are booked by Heidi Pettigrew at 535-3151.
- 4. Internal groups.** These reservations are booked by Allison Mazur at 535-2247. This category includes PSU student groups and PSU student-sponsored groups that contribute to the quality of life for students at Plymouth State. Departmental groups that are approved by the department head, billed to a departmental budget number and consist solely of PSU faculty, staff and administrators fall under this category as well, as do provost-sponsored academic groups.
- 5. External groups** are booked by Chris Mongeon at 535-2719. External groups are subject to room charges and fees for facility and equipment use. An exemption from fee requests may be submitted to the reservations committee up to 30 days before your event. E-mail your request to cmongeon@plymouth.edu. The committee will review the request and get back to you with their determination within 10 business days.

For information about services, fees and reservations, contact Chris Mongeon.

New Mileage Rate for 2005

Effective January 1, 2005 the standard IRS and USNH mileage reimbursement rate for the use of personal vehicles on USNH business has increased to 40.5 cents per mile. The standard mileage rate for use in computing deductible moving expenses as of January 1, 2005 is 15 cents a mile. Please refer to the mileage chart located on the travel Web page [www.plymouth.edu/travel] for assistance. The page has many estimated distances for New Hampshire and surrounding states.

Clarification on Per Diem Rates (for meals while traveling on University business). Please note the following important changes to the per diem guidelines:

Effective immediately, please use the M & IE rates on the government Web site [www.GSA.gov] as a guideline for the most current rates. USNH has instructed us to use the following percentages when determining partial day rates: 20 percent for breakfast, 25 percent for lunch and 55 percent for dinner. The incidental rates for per diem meals are no longer used.

More information is available in Campus Announcements on the myPlymouth portal and the travel Web page. Mary Ellen Godville, 535-2252, will be happy to answer questions.

News From ...

The World Language Society

The World Language Society invites you to submit recipes for a cookbook fundraiser to coincide with the national recognition of this year as "The Year of Languages" by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages and the U.S. Department of Education. The project will help support a fund for students who study a foreign language at PSU and who would like to participate in a foreign language teacher-led trip abroad. Recipes may be forwarded to MSC 49, Attn. World Language Society. Contact Barbara Lopez-Mayhew at 535-2834 for information.

Art Department

The Art Department is hosting an exhibition of work by students from InterLakes and Gilford elementary schools in the Collins Gallery on the fourth floor of the D&M building through January 30. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday – Friday. The student work was provided by teachers who are working with the Integrated Instructional Model (IIM) research project, under the direction of Cynthia Vasca. All of the works were created in the students' classrooms with their grade-level teachers. The projects represent the IIM interdisciplinary approach to inquiry-based learning.

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Submit by e-mail to: opr@plymouth.edu
or by fax to: 535-2275

Calendar

Monday, January 31

Spring semester classes begin.

Tuesday, February 1

PACE film. *Shark Tale*. 7 and 9:30 p.m.

Hyde Hall 120. Free. Contact: Rodney Ekstrom, 535-2639.

Wednesday, February 2

Faculty meeting. 3:35 p.m. Heritage

Commons. Contact: Gary McCool, 535-2457.

PACE film. *Shark Tale*. 7 and 9:30 p.m.

Hyde Hall 120. Free. Contact: Rodney Ekstrom, 535-2639.

Thursday, February 3

Financial and estate planning seminar.

Planning for the Future—What's Enough and How Do I Get There? Free. For PSU employees, partners and spouses.

4 – 7:30 p.m. Bradford Room of Centre Lodge. Dinner served at 6 p.m.

Sponsored by the Advancement Office. RSVP by January 31. Contact: Barbara Gickas, 535-2212.

Friday, February 4

PAT staff meeting. 8:15 a.m. HUB 119.

Contact: Deb Tobine, 535-2685.

Healthy Hearts. 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Prospect

Dining Hall and Mt. View Snack Bar. Pick up ribbons in honor of National Heart Month. Contact: Carolyn Payne, 535-3047.

Sunday, February 6

Gallery opening reception. *Friends of the Arts Regional High School Exhibition*.

2 p.m. Silver Cultural Arts Center lobby. Free. Contact: Karl Drerup Art Gallery, 535-2614.

Home athletic events

Tuesday, February 1. Women's basketball vs. Newbury. 6 p.m. Foley Gym; men's basketball vs. Bowdoin (make-up). 8 p.m. Foley Gym.

Thursday, February 3. Men's basketball vs. Johnson & Wales. 7 p.m. Foley Gym.

Saturday, February 5. Wrestling vs. Trinity, Springfield, Johnson & Wales. Noon. Foley Gym; men's ice hockey vs. Johnson & Wales. 6 p.m. Waterville Valley ice arena.

Ongoing exhibitions

Contact Karl Drerup Art Gallery, 535-2614.

Through January. *Ananse the Spider Man*. Silver Cultural Arts Center lobby. Art created during the month-long 2005 production by the Educational Theatre Collaborative (ETC).

January 28 – March 19. *Kindred Spirits: Kayiga and Winsom*. Karl Drerup Art Gallery. Opening reception February 9, 4 – 6 p.m.

Winsom and Kayiga are Jamaican-born artists who, though they have known each other since student days in Kingston, have pursued highly individual directions in their art and work in several countries. Each has achieved distinction, yet each has also retained a profound interest in the pervasive presence of spiritual forces in the phenomenal world. The conjunction of their interest in the mystical is seen in their paintings, sculptures and installations.

February 6 – 25. *Friends of the Arts Regional High School Exhibition*.

Silver Cultural Arts Center lobby. This Friends of the Arts juried exhibition honors the imaginative and skillful artworks created by students in secondary schools in central and northern New Hampshire.

News From ...

Admission

Guided tours for prospective students resume February 2. Tours are preceded by a short information session at 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., departing Russell House at 11:15 a.m. and 2:45 p.m. Monday through Friday. The final tours will be held Friday, May 13. Contact David McBride, 535-2438 for information.

Purchasing

Purchasing and other financial policies and procedures are available online at www.plymouth.edu/purchase in a condensed, easy-to-read format—click on “Important Policies and Procedures.” Contact Heather Huckins at 535-2249 or hhuckins@plymouth.edu if you have questions.

President's Commission on Diversity

The President's Commission on Diversity has funds available for individuals or groups who are working on diversity-related projects. If you need funding to mount a program or support your efforts in this area, visit the Commission Web at www.plymouth.edu/diversity and click on “Funding for Diversity Events.” Print and fill out the application and send it to Robin DeRosa at MSC 40. Other information about current projects and priorities is also available on the site.

Center for the Environment

The PSU Center for the Environment is co-sponsor of the 2005 annual meeting of the national Universities Council on Water Resources, to be held July 11-14 in Portland Maine. The conference theme is lake and river restoration. Center director Steve Kahl is the program co-chair, along with Lynne Lewis of Bates College in Maine. The program announcement call for papers is on the Center for the Environment Web page www.plymouth.edu/cfe/.

EAP

Employee Assistance Program

1-800-424-1749