

Monthly Report to the Faculty
Provost Julie Bernier
May 2011

Distinguished Teacher Awards today!

Please join us today as we announce the Distinguished Teacher, Distinguished Graduate Teacher, and Distinguished Adjunct Teacher for 2011. The announcements will be made at the end of the meeting. Because the faculty have a very full agenda, I hope you can arrange your schedule and plan to stay through the meeting to celebrate your 2011 Distinguished colleagues.

Student Scholarship

Congratulations to the all the students and their faculty mentors for the VERY successful research presentations on Friday afternoon and the Showcase of Student Success on Saturday. These were impressive events! There is indeed a great deal happening at PSU! In the last week: "The Seagull," "Transitions," student chapter Habitat for Humanity Night of Celebration, CoBA Chili Cook-off, Earth Jam, PSU Symphonic Band, Danny Brevik's senior recital, the BFA exhibition, Poetry Slam, Community Engaged Research projects... and more. Congratulations to all.

Accreditation review

Yesterday the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) conducted an exit interview after spending two days meeting with faculty, coordinators, and students in the Art Department. The visiting team was excellent and had many accolades for the quality of student work and the commitment of the faculty to student success. The department will begin to review recommendations made and await the final report later this summer. Congratulations to all that worked on the self-study.

Convocation, Commencement Ceremonies and Orientation

Faculty members please mark your calendars for the following dates and activities. Attendance and participation in convocation, commencement and June orientation is an expectation for all full-time faculty members.

May 14 Graduate Commencement begins 10:00 am- faculty robing at 9:00 am at the PE Center

May 20 Convocation begins 4:00 pm- faculty robing at 3:30 at the PE Center

May 21 Undergraduate Commencement begins 10:00 am- for those that wish to march from campus, meet at 8:45 at the HUB, all others may begin robing at 9:00 am at the PE Center

Orientation

- Session A – **June 5 & 6** (Sunday & Monday)
- Session T – **June 10** (Friday) for transfer and part-time students
- Session B – **June 12 & 13** (Sunday & Monday)
- Session C – **June 15 & 16** (Wednesday & Thursday)
- Session D – **June 19 & 20** (Sunday & Monday) *not available to reserve until 5/23/11*

Orienting our students, helping them choose their classes and having them spend time with faculty are important aspects of welcoming new students to our campus and to your programs. Your role is critical and required. In order to properly staff Orientation sessions, each department/program determines the number of faculty required based on the typical number of new students entering the department. ALL faculty are expected to participate in this important activity. For most departments it will mean each faculty member must participate in one or two sessions. Department Chairs will share with you the needs and expectations for your department. Please plan accordingly and be prepared to participate to meet your department's needs.

NEWS FROM ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Art

- **Philip Inwood** presented his abstract oils on wood panels at an exhibit at the Green + Blue Gallery in Stowe, VT from April 9th through April 30th. greenandbluegallery@gmail.com Phil's work can also be viewed on his website: <http://philipinwood.com/links.php?187601>
- **Catherine S. Amidon** has recently had an article published: *Textile and Mid-Century Fiber Art: A Movement of a Transitional Mode?* *TISSAGE (MĒ)TISSAGE: Regards croisés sur le tissu dans l'art du XIXe au XXIe, siècles*, (2011) l'Université de Dijon – CNRS
- **Jason Swift** exhibited 1) recent sculptures in the exhibition "Of House and Home" at The Whole Gallery in Baltimore, MD in February, and 2) recent artwork in the show "Piece of Mind" at the Elga Wimmer Gallery in New York, NY in May. He was also the keynote speaker at the 2011 Arts Alive conference at the Belknap Mill in Laconia, NH. His keynote address was titled "Recapturing Sensory Learning."

Atmospheric Sciences and Chemistry

- **Jim Koermer** has been appointed to the organizing committee of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) Interactive Information Processing Systems (IIPS) Conference, the largest conference held annually in conjunction with the AMS Annual Meeting.
- On April 7th and 14th **Dennis Machnik** traveled to Milton, NH to conduct planetarium shows. A total of 15 presentations to over 350 children K through 5th grade were given. On the 5th of May he will be taking the portable planetarium to Thornton Elementary, and in June, over 3 weeks to approximately 1500 children at locations across the state.

Biological Science

- **Fred Prince** has two publications (May/June): an article in the *New Hampshire Wildlife Journal* on brook trout, and an article in *Gray's Sporting Journal* entitled "Old Yard Sales of New England."
- **Larry Spencer** recently reviewed two books- Dubinsky and Stambler's "Coral Reefs: An Ecosystem in Transition." The second, Frank Ryan's "The Mystery of Metamorphosis: A scientific detective story," for *Choice*, a publication of the American Library Association. **Larry** was also reappointed for a three year term on the River Management Advisory Council (part of the NH DES River Management and Protection Program). He represents the NH Association of Conservation Commissions on the RMAC.
- Undergraduate biology students **Jacquelyn Huckins** and **Christopher Wilk** presented their research at the Eastern New England Biological Conference in Boston on April 9th with their faculty mentor **Kerry Yurewicz**. Huckins, Jacquelyn, David Neils, and Kerry Yurewicz: "Assessing the water quality of New Hampshire streams using macroinvertebrates as bioindicators," and Wilk, Christopher and Kerry Yurewicz, Effects of salt concentration on the behavior of three freshwater animal species. " Plymouth State is one of more than 50 member schools in a consortium that sponsors this annual undergraduate research conference; this year's conference included more than 60 posters and oral presentations by students from New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.
- **Chris Chabot** received two grants totaling \$12,000 from the National Sciences Foundation Division of Integrative Organismal Systems: a Supplemental REU (Research Experience for Undergraduate) grant and an RAHSS (Research Assistantship for High School Students). These grants will be used to support undergraduates and high school students this summer at PSU and at the Jackson Estuarine Lab at UNH.

Center for the Environment

- CFE and the Squam Lakes Association (SLA) are partnering on a new project on the carrying capacity of the Squam Lakes. Graduate student **Andrew Veilleux** and interim director **Brian**

Eisenhauer will be working with SLA and NH Department of Environmental Services to expand recent work done at UNH on classifying areas of the Squam Lakes into recreational use categories and develop a more refined system that identifies the limits of acceptable change for users of the lake and present management options.

- **Lisa Doner**, Research Assistant Professor, and **Christina Maki**, MS Candidate in Environmental Science & Policy, spoke on April 20 at the New Hampshire Arc Users Group Meeting. Their presentation title was "Tracking Geochemical Sources in an Iceland Watershed."
- Over the past three summers, CFE has sponsored the Hubbard Brook Research Experience for Undergraduates at Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest. Assistant professor **Mark Green** recently co-authored a poster with one of last summer's REU students, **Jenna Zukswert**. The poster, titled "Exploring relationships between soil physics and root distribution in two diverse watersheds," was presented at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in Ithaca, NY on April 1st.
- CFE participated in a recent partnership meeting with the White Mountain National Forest. The meeting explored areas where PSU and WMNF have worked together in the past and where we can focus our efforts in the future. The meeting ended with the official signing of a new agreement between PSU and the WMNF. **June Hammond Rowan** co-facilitated the meeting.
- **Brian Eisenhauer** spoke to the UNH Water Resource Group on April 15 on "The role of social science in watershed planning to protect water quality." The talk reviewed the need for social data to be integrated in watershed planning and presented several benefits of doing so for the effectiveness of watershed plans based on comparative research from watershed planning projects in New Hampshire and Illinois.

Center for Rural Partnerships

- The **Center for Rural Partnerships** and the **Institute for New Hampshire Studies** hosted a forum-style showcase of regionally-engaged student research and service projects on May 3, in Heritage Commons. This semester's roster of excellent learning opportunities included two projects from the Community Research Experience course (team taught by **Mark Okrant** and **Thaddeus Gulbrandsen**) and three by interns and student assistants at the Center for Rural Partnerships. Each of the projects involved collaboration with one or more off-campus partners and the body of work includes strong common threads among the pool of projects, forming a cohesive whole that reflects the hard work, creativity, and scholarship of the students. The result was a win-win-win relationship for the students, the university, and the off-campus partners.
 - *Maximizing Community Benefits from Large Infrastructure Projects* presented by:
 - **Katie Beairsto** '11 (Environmental Planning)
 - **Dean Williams** '11 (Environmental Planning)
 - *Heritage Tourism in Crawford Notch* presented by:
 - **Rachelle Lyons** '11 (Childhood Studies)
 - **Nathan Pasquale** '11 (Tourism Management & Policy)
 - *Social Media, Education, and the Weeks Act Centennial* presented by:
 - **Nicole DeGrandpre** '11 (Communications & Media Studies)
 - **Kelly Rice** '11 (Communications & Media Studies)
 - *Community Energy Planning for the 21st Century* presented by
 - **Thomas Evans** (MS candidate, Environmental Science & Policy)
 - *Assessing and Communicating About University Engagement* presented by
 - **James Boynton** '13 (Sociology)
 - **Kaleb Hart** '11 (Interdisciplinary Studies)
 - **Christopher Lauria** '11 (Communications & Media Studies)
- **Ben Amsden** gave a research presentation, "Examining Alternative Transportation in the White Mountain National Forest," at the [Northeast Recreation Research Symposium](#) in Bolton Landing, NY. The presentation was co-authored by **Thad Gulbrandsen**, **Brian Eisenhauer**, and

partners from the Appalachian Mountain Club and the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center.

- **Fran Belcher** was appointed to the Board of Trustees of [NAMI-NH](#), the New Hampshire branch of the national grassroots of and for individuals, their families, and friends affected by mental illness. NAMI-NH is recognized within the larger organization for its exemplary leadership and effectiveness.
- **Fran** has also worked in partnership with the [Leahy Center for Rural Students at Lyndon State College](#) to conduct a national environmental scan of programs focused on rural student access to higher education. The project was a step toward preparing joint proposals to the New England Board of Higher Education and other funders to address the academic and socio-economic interests of rural students across the Northern Forest. Notable among the findings was the news that multi-institution collaborations focused on building access and resilience are scarce, which highlights the importance of the growing Northern Forest Higher Education Resource Network (NFHERN), scheduled to hold this year's annual meeting at the [2nd Summit for the Northern Forest](#), in May.
- **Fran** is a member of the regional planning team comprising [Northern Human Services](#), [Dartmouth Center for Aging](#), and the [Endowment for Health](#), whose tele-mental health services project was picked to apply for funding to develop and conduct a regional pilot program that will deliver mental health screenings and case management sessions to isolated and/or homebound senior citizens in northern New Hampshire.
- **Fran** completed a multi-session strategic planning and implementation effort with [North Country Health Consortium's Rural Health Workforce Development Team](#). The objective was to build a more effective system of managing clinical preceptor sites for students from allied health programs at White Mountains Community College, Franklin Pierce University, **Plymouth State University**, and Dartmouth Medical School. Also participating were numerous residential and outpatient community health centers from northern NH.

Communication and Media Studies

- **Annette Holba** attended the Eastern Communication Association (ECA) annual convention in Arlington, VA where she 1) taught a short course entitled "Gender and Power: Teaching Communicative Understandings of Women's Leadership," 2) participated in a roundtable discussion entitled "Perspectives and Approaches to Teaching Philosophy of Communication," 3) presented a competitive paper in a top papers panel entitled "Leisure, Listening, and Civility: The Importance of Taking Time with Yourself," and 4) presented a paper entitled: "Moving Leisure from a Philosophy to a Lived Action: Leisure and Family Relationships/Roles." Annette also participated in the Undergraduate Scholar's Conference hosted by the ECA where a PSU Communication and Media Studies student, **David Stewart**, presented a paper entitled "The Pulp of a Clockwork Orange."
- **Cathie LeBlanc's** article, "Social Media Games and the Performance of Self," has been published in the collection *Videogame Studies: Concepts, Cultures and Communication*.

Computer Science

- **Christian Roberson** presented his paper, "Aligning Generations to Improve Retention in Introductory Computing Courses," at the Sixteenth Annual Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges Northeastern Conference in Springfield, MA on April 15th.
- On April 15th **Christian** coached the PSU programming team consisting of **Kris Reynolds**, **Wayne Roswell**, and **Trevor Suarez** at the Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges — Northeastern Region's 2011 Programming Contest, held at Western New England University. This year the team came in 9th place overall in a field of 36 teams and defeated teams from a variety of schools.

Counselor Education & School Psychology

- **Leo Sandy** presented on "Perspectives on Intimacy" at The 7th Annual Workshop on Picking Up The Pieces After Divorce and Separation at St. Joseph's Church in Belmont, N.H., on April 9. At the same event, Assistant Professor of Counselor Education **K. Hridaya Hall** presented sessions entitled "Finding Peace in Challenging Times: Tools for Self Care" and "Finding Meaning in Changing Relationships: Exploring Our Paths."

Education

- Nearly 500 early childhood educators from across the state and Northern New England attended the New Hampshire Association for the Education of Young Children (NHAEYC) Conference at PSU on April 9 and 10. Over 30 sessions were offered, including sessions by PSU early childhood faculty and Child Development and Family Center teachers. Early Childhood students volunteered at the conference in exchange for a reduced admission fee and numerous early childhood alumni also came to the event. **Clarissa M. Uttley** served as the site liaison for this conference. At this conference, Clarissa presented "*It's a zoo in here! Animals in the early childhood classroom.*" This presentation also included undergraduate student **Denise J. Colcord** and was attended by 25 early childhood professionals and several current and former students.
- **Christie Sweeney**, co-coordinator of the educational leadership graduate program, has a new publication: "Adapting the K-W-L Reading Strategy to Foster Experiential Learning for Pre-service Teachers," (Vol XIV, p. 39) of *The New Hampshire Journal of Education*.
- **Marcel Lebrun** presented at Conway School District's elementary schools Core Child Study Teams on April 10th. The topic of the training was "Using Evidence Based Practices for Children at Risk."
- **Mary Cornish and Pat Cantor** presented "Play at the Heart of the Curriculum" to 40 Coos County early childhood professionals as part of the New Hampshire Association for the Education of Young Children at PSU on April 9. This was also the first event in a multi-year professional development project that Drs. Cornish and Cantor will be working on with Coos County early childhood professionals, as part of a grant from the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund of the NH Charitable Foundation. In the coming months, the project will include on-site coaching and follow up with participating early childhood teachers, a day-long institute in the North Country, and support for programs and teachers to implement play-based learning. Approximately half of the early childhood teachers and directors in Coos and representatives from 11 of 15 early childhood programs in Coos were represented at this inaugural event.
- **Mary Cornish and Pat Cantor** presented "The Impact of Screen Media on Infants and Toddlers" on April 20 at Plymouth Elementary School as part of a series of parent and caregiver workshops sponsored by the Whole Village Family Resource Center.

English

- **Paul Rogalus'** short story "Trans" is appearing in the April 2011 issue of "ABYSS & APEX." His flash fiction, "Transformer Man," appeared in WIERDYEAR in March.

Global Education Office (GEO)

- **Brett Lucas**, a student worker with GEO, received the PSU Student Employee of the Year award. Brett was hired by GEO in spring 2005 upon his return from his semester in Ireland through our Freshman Abroad Program. For the past two years, he has been a peer advisor where he assists other students in exploring study abroad opportunities.
- The **annual passport processing day** was a success. Over 140 University and Greater Plymouth community members applied for passports. The Department of State staff claimed that it was the largest outreach event in which they had ever participated.
- **Jess Morel** participated in an ELS-hosted student recruitment tour in China. Following the tour, she joined Peng-Khuan Chong in Malaysia where they visited high schools and universities to recruit students and develop exchange partnerships.

Health and Human Performance

- **Irene Cucina** has been chosen as President-elect of the American Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD) AAHPERD is a 20,000 member organization.
- **Christian Bisson** and a student in Adventure Education (**Nick Nelsen**) co-presented a workshop at the 2011 Association for Experiential Education Regional conference in Becket, MA. The title of their workshop was: *Teaching Climbing Anchor System: The Easy Way*. The presentation was inspired by a recent chapter that Bisson wrote in a climbing textbook published by Human Kinetics.
- On Saturday, April 9th the HPER Club held its first annual "Help a Heart" event that raised over \$300 for the American Heart Association. The event coordinator was **Courtney LeCours** ('12), the HPER President. "Help a Heart", which was aligned with the Jump/Hoop Rope for Heart event done in the public schools, was fashioned after the popular "Minute to Win It" television show. There were 7 student teams from organizations and clubs from around campus competing for fun prizes. The culminating event was a team cheer contest judged by **Irene Cucina** and **Courtney O'Clair** (Athletics). Fun was had by all, but more importantly the PSU students who were involved gave of themselves to benefit the important work of the American Heart Association.
- Students and faculty from PSU participated in the 6th annual New Hampshire Athletic Trainers Association Student Symposium on Sunday, April 17th, hosted this year by Colby-Sawyer College. **Kevin Silva** (BS '11) presented on "Emergency Response to a Football Player Following Exertion: A Case Report" and **Austri Silver** (BS '11) presented "Nutritional Fallacies & Disorders in the Athletic Population." In addition to the two student presenters, sophomores **Jonathan Hartman, Dominique Heres, Nicole Rozumek, and Sydney McNair** submitted poster presentations for the symposium. Plymouth State University Students **Chris Thomas** (MS '11), **Alicia Edwards** (MS '11) and **Kevin Silva** (BS '11) were the winning Quiz Bowl Team for the event and brought the championship trophy back to PSU for the 2nd year in a row (and the 3rd win in 6 years).

History and Philosophy

- An essay by **Elizabeth Kennedy Tillar** was published in December 2010: "'Dark Light.'" In Edward Schillebeeckx and Contemporary Theology. Ed. Lieven Boeve, Frederiek Depoortere, and Stephan van Erp. London: T&T Clark, 2010. 142-160. The essay was first presented as a paper at the international symposium "Theology for the 21st Century" at the University of Louvain, Belgium in 2008, applying the thought of Erasmus Prize recipient and Belgian scholar Edward Schillebeeckx (1914-2009) to contemporary issues in philosophical theology and the work of United Nations humanitarian agencies.
- **Elizabeth's** syllabus for a course in film and philosophy/theology was also selected for the Syllabi Project archives of the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, & World Affairs at Georgetown University <http://berkeleycenter.georgetown.edu/>.
- The first faculty exchange with Winchester University brought Dr. **Neil Murphy** to us for a month-long visit from March 27-April 24. The exchange is seen as one which benefits both institutions. The History program faculty have been active in developing this study abroad connection. Neil was quite busy during his time at PSU, meeting with students and faculty, guest lecturing in classes, engaging with and exploring the campus, the town of Plymouth, the state of NH, and venturing into Massachusetts. **Marcia Schmidt-Blaine** left on April 23 for the Winchester University campus for a month to complete this year's exchange.



Languages and Linguistics

- **James Whiting** recently spoke at the Mount Washington Valley

English Language Teachers Association meeting in North Conway. Whiting spoke on using student podcasts to create oral language assessment portfolios.

Mathematics

- **Dana Ernst** organized a two-day special session, "Combinatorics of Coxeter groups" at the Spring 2011 Eastern Sectional Meeting of the American Mathematical Society at the College of the Holy Cross on April 9 and 10. During the special session, three undergraduates (**Joseph Cormier, Zach Goldenberg, and Chris Malbon**) from PSU presented the results of their year-long research project directed by Dana.
- On April 16, **Dana Ernst** took a group of ten students to the Hudson River Undergraduate Mathematics Conference, which took place at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, NY. Three undergraduates (**Joseph Cormier, Zach Goldenberg, and Jessica Kelly**) from PSU presented the results of their year-long research project that was directed by Dana.

Music, Theatre and Dance

- **Kathleen Arcchi** has been recognized by the Music Teachers National Association as a "Permanent Professional Certified Teacher of Music in Voice."
- **Carleen Graff** was honored at the Music Teachers National Association National Conference in Milwaukee for her service as the Eastern Division Certification Commissioner. In this role she has administered the MTNA Professional Certification program, which exists to improve the level of professionalism in music teaching. Dr. Graff also adjudicated the solo piano competitions for students in grade 4-12 at the Concord Community Music School on April 2.
- In April, **Elizabeth Cox** presented several selections in American Sign Language from deaf poetry and plays for "Deaf Performance Culture," a course which was offered at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. She also attended a theatrical performance of the premier American Sign Language adaption of "L'Epee" at Gallaudet University, where these same Georgetown students were the voices of the signing deaf actors.
- Beth also was a casting consultant for Papermill Theatre/North Country Center for the Arts' Children's Theatre at the New England Theatre Conference in March.
- **Robert Swift's** organ solo "Go Therefore" has been just published in the May/June issue of *The Organ Portfolio*.

Psychology

- **Angela Kilb's** published [Kilb, A., & Naveh-Benjamin, M. (2011, February 21). The Effects of Pure Pair Repetition on Younger and Older Adults' Associative Memory in the *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*. Available online [doi: 10.1037/a0022525](https://doi.org/10.1037/a0022525)]. Angela and student **Lindsey DePorter** will also be presenting a poster at the New Hampshire Psychological Association Annual Psychology Student Convention. The project is entitled "Can Biases of Poverty Create False Memories of Child Abuse?"

Social Science

- **Bruce Heald** –has 2 books out this month: "White Mountain National Forest and Great North Woods," which are part of the Images of America Series, and "The Mount Washington Cog Railway: Climbing the White Mountains of New Hampshire," published by The History Press.

Social Work

- A meeting of the Social Work Advisory Board was held this month; **Nicole Petrin**, President, Social Work Club, provided a slideshow of the student Habitat for Humanity trip to Indiana during spring break.
- The department is exploring a relationship with a **Social Work program in Kyrgyzstan** as part of a Fulbright-sponsored project underway through a former EdD student. Also, the department's experimental **service learning course to the Dominican Republic** began this month with pre-

travel on-campus sessions; a group of 10-12 students will be staying near Santo Domingo in June.

- **Stephen Gorin** attended a meeting of the State Committee on Aging (SCOA); as a SCOA representative, he also participated in a listening session (in Concord) on the state budget that was sponsored by the NH Dept HHS.
- **Scott Meyer** presented a training session for Field Instructors entitled "Teaching Undergraduate Students About Issues in Termination." Panelists include two of our field instructors Ryan Shirilla, MSW of Mt. Prospect Academy and Kristin Griffin, MSW (one of our alum) from NH Veteran's Home.
- **Cynthia Moniz** is serving as Chair of the Nursing Director Search Committee and Nursing Faculty Search Committee. She and Steve Gorin participated in a discussion of the "Social Security: Myths and Facts" presentation delivered by Nancy Altman, a national expert on Social Security held at the Red River in Concord. The presentation was co-sponsored by NH-NASW.
- **Christine Rine** conducted student interviews with staff from the Laconia office, DCYF to select next year's Child Welfare (IV- E) Educational Tuition Partnership awardees.