

**Monthly Report to the Faculty**  
**Provost Julie Bernier**  
**March 4, 2009**

**Nominations for Distinguished Teaching Awards**

It is my pleasure to provide information about this year's Distinguished Teacher nomination process. We have three distinguished teaching awards: for full-time faculty, The Distinguished Teaching Award, for part-time faculty, The Distinguished Adjunct Teaching Award, and for graduate teaching, the Distinguished Graduate Teaching Award. I encourage you to be a part of this year's selection process by nominating a worthy colleague. Links can be found below. Please note the **APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>** deadlines.

For the Distinguished Teaching Award: deadline- **no later than April 1<sup>st</sup>**  
<http://www.plymouth.edu/webapp/survey/fillsurvey.php?sid=182>

For the Distinguished Adjunct Teaching Award: deadline- **no later than April 1<sup>st</sup>**  
<http://www.plymouth.edu/webapp/survey/fillsurvey.php?sid=186>

For the Distinguished Graduate Teaching Award: deadline- **no later than April 1<sup>st</sup>**  
[http://www.plymouth.edu/graduate/dgta\\_form.html](http://www.plymouth.edu/graduate/dgta_form.html)

The PSU Distinguished Teaching Awards are our highest form of recognition for the excellent teaching that our faculty, both full- and part-time, provide for our students every day. I thank you for your thoughtful responses to this request for nominations.

**Excellence in Service and Scholarship Awards**

The call for nominations for the Excellence in Service and Distinguished Scholarship Awards will be announced shortly. Please be thinking about deserving nominees.

**Dennise Maslakowski Graduate Scholarship**

I am pleased to announce that the Dennise Maslakowski Graduate Scholarship has received over \$20,000 in gifts and pledges. The first Scholarship, in the amount of \$1000, will be awarded in April. The nomination form is available at  
[http://www.plymouth.edu/graduate/documents/scholarship\\_dm.pdf](http://www.plymouth.edu/graduate/documents/scholarship_dm.pdf)

**News from Academic Affairs**

**Center for the Environment**

- **Patrick Bourgeron** gave a presentation to Harvard Forest at Harvard University, "Dynamics of coupled natural and human systems in the Colorado Front wildland/urban interface."

**Center for Rural Partnerships**

- **Frances Belcher & Thad Guldbrandsen** have been collaborating with colleagues from U Maine Fort Kent, U Maine Farmington, White Mountains Community College, Lyndon State College, Sterling College, and Paul Smith's College to establish the Northern Forest Higher Education Resource Network (NFHERN). Fran sent out NFHERN's first newsletter on February 20, 2009.
- **Thad Guldbrandsen** and **June Hammond Rowan** (Center for the Environment) facilitated the final public meeting for the Berlin Master Planning process on February 11, 2009.

- **Ben Amsden** and **Mark Okrant** (Social Science) hosted an agritourism workshop at the annual Farm & Forest Expo on February 6, 2009. Attended by over 70 people, this workshop was one of the highlights of this year's Farm & Forest Expo.
- **Ben Amsden** was appointed to the Board of Directors of AHEAD (Affordable Housing Education and Development) a non-profit housing and community development organization located in Littleton.

#### College of Graduate Studies

- **Leo Sandy** published "Promoting Parent Involvement in Assessment: Putting Parents First," in the Winter Issue of *NHASP Protocol*, the official publication of The New Hampshire Association of School Psychologists. He has also been designated as an associate editor for *The International Journal of Diversity in Organizations, Communities and Nations*.
- Starting Winter term, the College began using its enlarged space at **2 Pillsbury Street** in Concord. Twenty-three courses were offered there in winter, and 39 will be offered in the spring term.
- The Department of Counselor Education and School Psychology has announced the hire of a new faculty member, Karen Hall. Currently at University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Hall will join the department in September.
- In March Prof. **Trent Boggess**, of the Business Department, will travel to the city of Cluj (Romania) to work with officials at University Babeş-Bolyai (UBB) on plans to enroll an international cohort of students into PSU's MBA program. American and Romanian students will participate in online class work, with instruction provided by both PSU and UBB faculty members.
- **Kathleen Norris**, Director of Admissions and Assessment for the College of Graduate Studies, presented an invited talk entitled "Creating and Using Effective Formative Assessments" at the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Conference, sponsored by the New Hampshire School Administrators Association and held at the Grappone Center in Concord.

#### Computer Science and Technology Department

- **Zhizhang Shen** had two papers published: **Shen, Z.**, and Qiu, K., "An explicit formula of the surface area for the star graph and a Proof of its correctness," *Congressus Numerantium* (Proc. of the Thirty-Ninth Southeastern International Conference On Combinatorics, Graph Theory and Computing (CGTC39), Boca Raton, FL, March 3-7, 2008), 192 (December 2008) 115-127; and Cheng, E., Qiu, K., and **Shen, Z.**, "A short note on the surface area of star graphs," *Parallel Processing Letters*, 19.1 (2009) 19-22.

#### Education Department

- In December **Gerard Buteau** and **Marianne True** presented at the TASH conference in Nashville, Tennessee. Their presentation, "Advocacy in Practice: Students and Chronic Illness," focused on the role advocacy can play in positively influencing the student's school experience and provided program participants with advocacy strategies for students who are chronically ill and their families so that they may participate in meaningful ways within the context of the school community.
- In January **Gerard Buteau** shared his sabbatical experience with legislators as part of the New Hampshire Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development's meeting with policymakers on school improvement. Dr. Buteau's work with PSU graduates in their primary

grade classrooms at Bakersville Elementary School in Manchester, New Hampshire, was lauded by Commissioner of Education Lyonel Tracy and Deputy Commissioner Mary Heath.

- “Differentiating Instructional Strategies to Support English Language Learners,” an article written by **Marianne True** and **Gerard Buteau**, was recently published in the current journal of the New England Reading Association.

#### Health and Human Performance Department

- **Liesl Lindley** and **Ali Serrani** ('09) participated in the Athletic Training Hit the Hill Day in Washington, DC where they met with representatives of New Hampshire's legislators (Paul Hodes, Carol Shea-Porter, Judd Gregg, and Jeanne Shaheen). Their charge was to help them understand and provide evidence to encourage their support of H.R. 1137, the Athletic Trainers' Equal Access to Medicare Act of 2009. In preparation for this event, Ali attended the iLead Conference where she learned about leadership and the communication skills necessary to talk with our legislators.
- At the most recent Eastern District Association of the American Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Convention in Lancaster, PA, February 3-7, 2009, the Health and Human Performance Department was very well represented. **Louise McCormack** received the Honor Award which is the highest honor bestowed by the Eastern District Association. Louise was recognized for her years of service and many contributions to the profession. **Irene Cucina** and **Lynn Johnson** are past recipients of the EDA Honor Award.
- Also at the convention, **Irene Cucina** was reelected as the Eastern District Association Representative to American Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Board of Governors; **Barbara McCahan** was elected the Vice President Elect for Physical Activity and Recreation; and **Lynn Johnson** moved from President-Elect to President. As a result of these elections, Plymouth State University and the Health and Human Performance Department is the most represented University in the governance of the Eastern District.
- **Mardie Burckes-Miller**, just finished coordinating the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Love your Body Week for the campus and community.

#### Lamson Library

- **Publications**  
**David A. Beronä:**  
"Preface" to *An Abraham Lincoln Tribute: featuring woodcuts by Charles Turzak*. Dover Publication, 2009; "Introduction" to Lynd Ward's *Vertigo: A Novel in Woodcuts*. Dover Publication, 2009; and A French edition of *Wordless Books: The Original Graphic Novels (Roman Graphique. Des Origines aux Annees)* was published by Editions de La Martiniere
- **Conference, Presentations, and Workshop Attendance**  
**David A. Beronä**  
Judge for the 2009 Juried Print Show, *Momenta III*, running through March 31, 2009 at Two Rivers Printmaking Studio, White River Junction, Vermont.

#### Mathematics Department

- **Dana Ernst** presented a poster session: "A diagrammatic representation of an affine C Temperley--Lieb algebra" at Project NEXt-Young Mathematicians Network Poster Session Joint Mathematics Meeting 2009 January 5, 2009. He also presented "On an open problem of the symmetric group" at the Keene State College Math Seminar, February 27, 2009.

- **John Donovan** has been appointed by the President of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics to be the new editor of the *Mathematics Teacher* starting in June.
- **Brian Beaudrie** is presenting “The Impact of Online Assessment on Grades in Distance Education Mathematics Courses” at the Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education conference in Charleston, SC on March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2009 and has a full paper with the same title published in the conference proceedings.
- **Barbara Boschmans** and PSU graduate student **Leal Rivanis** are presenting “Preservice Elementary Teachers’ Experience with The Math Forum’s Virtual Fieldwork Sequence in a Mathematics Methods Course” at the Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education conference in Charleston, SC on March 5<sup>th</sup> 2009 and have a short paper with the same title published in the conference proceedings.

#### Music, Theatre and Dance Department

- **Dr. Gary Corcoran** was the guest conductor the 2009 Rhode Island Junior All-State Band in Providence, February 6-8.
- **Elizabeth Cox** coordinated the New Hampshire Professional Theatre Association auditions held in the Silver Center on February 21, 2009. Eighteen theatre companies from around the state attended the day-long process seeing 94 individuals for auditions and interviews for summer stock and full-time work.
- **Carleen Graff** just returned from a performance at Illinois State University where she gave a lecture/recital on George Crumb's piano music. She performed several selections from “Makrokosmos” as well as a new work from 2002 “Eine kleine Mitternachtmusik”, based on Thelonius Monk’s “Round Midnight.” She also gave a master class for graduate and undergraduate students, and was interviewed on public radio from the University of Illinois. She will be giving a similar lecture/recital on March 7 for the PSU Contemporary Piano Festival.
- **Amanda McLaughlin Munton '00**, adjunct in music, is one of 12 young National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) voice teachers who have been selected from a nationwide applicant pool to participate in the prestigious NATS Intern Program to be held at Shorter College in June, all expenses paid. Interns will hone their voice teaching skills under the supervision of four master voice teachers for a period of two weeks.
- **Dan Perkins** presented a series of workshops at public schools in Whitefield, NH with the Hanover Chamber Orchestra principals as part of an outreach project funded partially by the Center for Rural Partnerships. He also presented a workshop in the Silver Center for the Arts with the Lebanon, NH High School Chamber Singers.

#### Psychology Department

- **Joel Funk** gave a presentation, “Two Alternatives to Ken Wilber's Transpersonal Model of Development,” at the semiannual Lifwynn Foundation for Social Research meeting in Vancouver, BC.

#### Social Work Department

- **Stephen Gorin** published "Long Time Coming: Are We on the Brink of Universal Health Care Coverage?" in *Health & Social Work*, (February 2009), 34(1). He is also a member of a newly formed Social Insurance Working Group (SIWG) consisting of leading national experts on social insurance and attended a founding meeting for the group in Washington, DC in January.

- **Stephen Gorin** and **Cynthia Moniz** attended the Presidential Inaugural Ceremonies in January as guests of Senator Shaheen. They also participated in meetings and celebrations sponsored by SWIG and the Health Policy Advisory Committee and Doctors for Obama.
- **Scott Meyer** conducted a field instructors' workshop in January in preparation for our spring Social Work Practicum. Scott also served as Associate Editor for the current volume of the *International Journal of Diversity in Organizations, Communities and Nations*.
- **Cynthia Moniz** brought 15 students from 2 social work classes to the "Every Child Matters" one-day conference held in Concord on Feb. 17.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie N. Bernier, Provost/VPAA