



# Plymouth State UNIVERSITY

**Monthly Report to the Faculty**  
**Provost Julie Bernier**  
**April 2, 2008**

## **Credit Model Taskforce**

At the meeting today the Credit Model Taskforce will lead a discussion on whether to pursue a change to a 4-credit system. This is an important discussion for our campus. I hope you will attend and participate in this discussion.

## **Associate Vice President (AVP) for Undergraduate Studies**

The Search Committee for the AVP has been elected and will meet before the end of the semester to review the position description and timeline for search in early fall. The composition of the committee is as follows:

### **Faculty**

Elizabeth Cox  
Cathie Leblanc  
Linda Levy  
Dan Moore  
Marianne True

### **PAT's**

David Berona  
Joyce Larson

### **OS**

Brenda Clayton  
Student  
To be named

## **Vice Provost (faculty fellow)**

At our last meeting I announced the creation of a Vice Provost position to be filled by a faculty fellow. Below is a copy of the position description. Any faculty member interested in learning more about this position should contact me in the next few weeks. An appointment will be made and announced at the May faculty meeting.

### **Position Description – Faculty Fellow position (must be a tenured faculty member)**

- Reporting to the Provost, the Vice Provost will provide creative and strategic leadership in Academic Affairs and will represent the Provost and VPAA in her absence.
- The Vice Provost will:
  - oversee campus-wide assessment;
  - revise the program review process to incorporate program and student outcomes assessment;
  - play an active role in hiring and pre-tenure review process of all new faculty (classroom observations, pre-tenure meeting/evaluation);
  - manage and develop an Academic Affairs Awards Programs including distinguished awards, external awards programs, (Fulbright, Rhodes, Mitchell, etc.), and faculty professional development program;

- play a leadership role in expanding opportunities for international education through creative outreach and partnerships,
- The Vice Provost will serve on the Extended Cabinet and the Provost's Academic Strategy Council
- During the fall semester 2008, the Vice Provost will oversee the College of University Studies program for "deciding students" during the sabbatical of the Dean of the Academic Experience.

The Vice Provost must be able to maintain collaborative and productive relationships with colleagues, students, and members of the wider community. The candidate will:

- possess superior leadership skills;
- articulate and support a vision for educational innovation ensuring that PSU provides well-educated graduates at the baccalaureate and advanced levels;
- support the University's role in extending to the larger community partnership opportunities;
- be dedicated to supporting and promoting excellence in faculty teaching and scholarship;
- possess successful experience with accreditation processes.

### **Right to Know Law.**

We are receiving more and more requests for information under the public Right to Know Law. A request from the Manchester Union Leader for all state and University System employee salaries a few months ago was one such example. One month ago we received a request from "Pick a Prof" for course grades for last semester. The University System General Counsel confirmed that we had to comply and last week we reluctantly provided the information to the group. It appears the PickAProf.com provides the data to students on their website for a fee.

UNH has been providing this information for some time. Keene and Plymouth were asked for the first time this semester.

### **Chancellor's ICE (Innovation, Creativity, Entrepreneurship) funding**

Two ICE projects were recently funded by the Chancellor's office.

#### **Course Redesign**

The National Center for Academic Transformation (NCAT) out of RPI and lead by Carol Twigg are leading a project to assist colleges and faculty "redesign" courses with the primary goal to improve learning, and secondarily to increase efficiency, and reduce the cost of instruction.

A PSU team made up of **Stacey Curdie, Trent Boggess, Sam Brickley, Scott Coykendall, Amy Ueland, Kerry Yurewicz, Kathleen Norris, and Dean Nancy Betchart** attended the National Center for Academic Transformation conference on course redesign in Orlando, FL during spring break. The ICE funding will help support faculty work in redesigning a course using NCAT's principles. More to come during faculty week.

#### **EcoHouse – 1 High St**

This project will be lead by **Brian Eisenhauer, Bill Crangle and Steve Whitman.**

The **mission** of the PSU Eco-House is to demonstrate environmentally sustainable technology in a residential setting, to provide hands-on experiential learning opportunities to Plymouth State University students and the surrounding region, to collect and disseminate information about sustainability, and to help others live in more sustainable ways. To achieve its mission the PSU

Eco-House will:

- Provide a home to involve students in a "green renovation" and installation of renewable energy systems
- Provide a location for workshops, seminars, demonstrations of how the average single family home can be retrofitted locally for sustainable design
- Create a living laboratory for students and faculty to conduct experiments with sustainable design, alternative energy sources, and other technologies and ways of living.
- Provide a location for Environmental Science students to "educate" the public by providing tours of the house and monitoring its energy use.
- Create a "home" and enhance sense of identity for PSU students involved in environmental programs
- Serve as a facility that could be used by PSU to house visiting faculty, new faculty searching for a home, or be available for housing for graduate students that qualify.

### **WEBCT, Blackboard, Moodle, Epsilen- What's the future of course management at PSU?**

An e-Learning Assessment team was formed out of the Technology Advisory Group (TAG) and the Office of Teaching and Learning Technologies to examine our future choice of online course management software. Please look for a message from John Martin who will be sending out a survey to faculty and students. Information gathered will help examine current usage patterns and needs and will be used to shape the future of our online learning environment. I encourage you to participate in this survey and future conversations about online practices and e-learning tools.

### **Why Plymouth Rocks**

**New Hampshire Magazine recently featured the town of Plymouth.**

"A lively college town set amidst nature at its most serene and situated in the geographic center of the state, Plymouth is a destination with something for everyone.

Plymouth bills itself as the "Heart of New Hampshire's Lakes and Mountains," but that's not altogether true. It's more a scenic way station with lots to offer in terms of dining, lodging, shopping and — thanks in large part to a state university — culture, entertainment .....

To read the entire article, click here

<http://www.nh.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080401/NHM01/848253698/-1/NHM0101>

## **NEWS FROM ACADEMIC AFFAIRS** **Departments and Faculty**

### **Art Department**

- **Anita Dillman**, Adjunct faculty, presented the four-part March workshop, "Introduction to Stone Lithography," at the Two Rivers Printmaking Studio in White River Junction, Vermont. Participants from Vermont and New Hampshire learned the history of a fine arts process developed in the 18<sup>th</sup> century in Germany, and gained hands-on experience in how to draw, etch, and print a litho stone.
- Franklin Pierce Law Center in Concord, NH purchased a triptych (original block prints) by Art Professor **Annette Mitchell** for their permanent collection. The work was selected from the current What's New in New Hampshire Printmaking show (January 7-March 28, 2008).

- During his sabbatical this semester, **Dick Hunnewell** has been conducting research on the history of murals and developing a new course on Mesoamerican culture's influence on the post revolutionary murals of Diego Rivera, Jose Clemente Orozco, and David Alfaro Siqueiros. Dick has recently returned from a trip to New Mexico, Texas, and Mexico. In El Paso he examined and photographed murals in several educational and civic buildings by such artists as Tom Lea, Carlos Flores, Carlos Callejo, and John Valadez. Additionally, Dick interviewed four artists/muralists/arts educators -- Maria Natividad, Gabriel Gaytan, Esteban Salazar, and Jesus Alvarado – discussing the nature, causes, and issues embraced by Chicano/Chicana arts. Traveling to Mexico, he visited Teotihuacan and Aztec foundations around the *Templo Mayor* in Mexico City. Completing this leg of his research, Dick photographed the stunning, monumental mural cycles by Rivera, Orozco, and Siqueiros in the National Preparatory School, Secretariat of Public Education, National Palace, and Museum of Fine Arts in Mexico City.
- **Tom Driscoll** will be in a four-person show featuring abstract painting entitled “Synesthesia” at the Sulloway and Hollis Gallery in Concord. The exhibit opens Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup> from 5-7.
- **Bill Haust** has been accepted by The College Board to participate in the annual Advanced Placement Studio Art Exam assessment in Louisville, Kentucky. The AP Studio Art exam allows gifted high school students to submit portfolios for review and acceptance for college credit. Bill also completed a three day Grant Institute Professional Grant Proposal Writing training in Burlington, VT through The GRant INstitute in Los Angeles.

#### Business Department

- **Duncan McDougall** has been awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for the 2008-09 academic year, to teach, and to help with curricular development, in the business programs at Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

#### Center for the Environment

- **Steve Kahl** and MS graduate student, **Adam Baumann**, co-authored an article that was published in *Lakeline* in the winter issue. The article was titled, “Maine High Elevation Lakes: Indicator Watersheds for Detecting Environmental Trends.”

#### College of Graduate Studies

- **Blake Allen**, director of the Pakistani Educational Leadership Institute, reports that the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, has continued funding the institute through 2010. Additional activities will be facilitated by Pakistan partner Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi. The 2008 Institute will be held in July. Leaders from Pakistan's public and private/public education sectors hail from the Sindh, the Punjab, Kashmir, the North West Frontier, and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas. PSU's eighty PELI alumni have shared their training with over 100,000 colleagues, since the program's inception in 2004.
- In Environmental Science and Policy department news, **Dr. Warren Tomkiewicz** participated in a three-day workshop at UMass-Amherst involving new Geoscience Tools in Teaching: Visualizations, models, and online data.
- **Barbara Wirth** is the speaker for the Newfound Regional High School “College for Every Student” Kickoff Assembly and has been appointed Vice President of the North Country for New Hampshire Business Education Association.
- **Leo P. Corriveau**, Executive Director of the CAGS Program, presented a workshop on parent engagement at the NHASP's Mid-winter Conference for Assistant Principals. In addition, Mt. Prospect Academy recently elected him to the Board of Trustees.
- TIGER (Theatre Integrating Guidance, Education and Responsibility), sponsored by the College of Graduate Studies Integrated Arts and Counselor Education programs has been invited to

perform at the National Drama International Conference in Durham, England this April. **Dr. Trish Lindberg**, Artistic Director, will be giving a presentation following the performance.

- **Kathleen Norris** has been named to the Board of the Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire.
- In conjunction with PSU's launch of the new Historic Preservation Certification Program, **Stacey Yap** and the Heritage Studies department are presenting the NH Preservation Alliance Conference, April 11 – 12 at Plymouth State. The New Hampshire Preservation Alliance's conference *Preserving Community Character* will focus on community engagement and preservation planning. Attendees will hear about and discuss the links between sustainability, economy and historic preservation; saving community landmarks; best practices for managing change; partnerships for protecting natural and historic resources; public history projects; communication and fundraising strategies; and much more. Participants will hear from experts, learning through case studies, join interactive discussions, share ideas in small groups and tour local historic preservation projects. It will be two days filled with practical information, networking opportunities and useful take-home resources for public history and preservation projects in the community and in the classroom. Details about the conference and registration forms will be posted on the Alliance Web site, [www.nhpreservation.org](http://www.nhpreservation.org) or for more information about this event, contact Stacey Yap at [stacey@plymouth.edu](mailto:stacey@plymouth.edu)

#### **Communication and Media Studies Department**

- **Kylo-Patrick Hart's** essay "Keeping the Intelligent Woman 'In Her Place' within the Patriarchal Social Order: Containing the Unruliness of Genius Brenda Chenoweth on 'Six Feet Under' " was published in "Common Sense: Intelligence as Presented on Popular Television," edited by Lisa Holderman. Kylo also presented the paper "Almost 'Normal': Challenging Normative Adolescent Sexuality in Contemporary Cinema" at the 2008 joint conference of the National Popular Culture and American Culture Associations.
- **Annette Holba's** article "A Response to Phatic Communication: Inviting Dialogic Potential" was published in the "Florida Communication Journal," and her essay "Revisiting Cicero in Higher Education: Cultivating Citizenship Skills through Collegiate Debate Programs" was published in "Speaker and Gavel."

#### **Department of Atmospheric and Chemical Sciences** (was CEAPS)

- **Eric Hoffman** was invited to and attended the Meteorology/Math Curriculum Foundations II Workshop, sponsored the Mathematical Association of America, and hosted by the Mathematics and Meteorology faculty at Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, IN. Eric also presented a talk to the leadership group meeting at the Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) about his research with students, regarding weather and power outages and recent weather events and possible trends.
- **Jim Koermer** gave several presentations on "Measuring Weather" to all fourth grade students of the Barron School in Salem, NH. He also presented a session on strange jobs in meteorology for a teacher workshop at the Christ McAuliffe Planetarium.
- On Tuesday, March 25th, **Sally Jean Jensen**, NASA Solar System Ambassador, gave a presentation in the Mark Sylvestre Planetarium entitled "Native Americans' View of the Sky". Every seat was filled, and the program was very well received.
- **Dennis Machnik**, director of the planetarium and faculty member at PSU, followed up Sally's presentation with a sky show using the Digitalis Alpha Digital Star Projector. Many people stayed over 2 hours, and a couple for over 3. The following night, Dennis presented a program entitled "Medieval Astronomy" at 7 PM. He took the portable planetarium on the road to Bane Middle School in Cranston, RI and gave 14 programs to over 300 students, worked with Science

Olympiad students and gave a Professional Development Program to about 20 teachers. One of the programs was attended by a RI State Dept of Education representative.

### Department of Biological Sciences

- **Michele Pruyn** and **Len Reitsma** co-authored posters at The 32nd Annual Meeting of the New England Association of Environmental Biologists: March 26 - 28, 2008, hosted by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. The posters: A proposal to remediate lead contamination from NH soils using common garden plants. **Jordan Christ, Lauren Moulis** and **Michele L. Pruyn**; and Canada Warbler breeding ecology in young forest stands compared to a red maple (*Acer rubrum*) swamp. **Marissa Goodnow, Mike Hallworth, and Len Reitsma**
- **Len Reitsma** and collaborators **Michael Hallworth** (Len's first MS student), **Amy Ueland, Erik Anderson, J. Daniel Lambert**, Leonard Reitsma, including **Mike Hallworth**, recently had a manuscript ("Habitat Selection and Site Fidelity of the Canada Warbler *Wilsonia Canadensis* in Central New Hampshire") accepted in the journal *Auk*. Two additional authors include graduates of the MEd in Environmental Science degree program at PSU: **Erik Anderson** and **Amy Ueland**. Amy is also the Biology Department Technical Specialist. The paper will appear in the October 2008 issue.

### Education Department

- On March 5th **Marcel Lebrun** facilitated a school district meeting with Franklin School District to create an ongoing school improvement plan. The plan will involve 3 years of staff development and professional partnership in the areas of Best Practices for educators and Positive Behavior Interventions and support at the elementary level. On March 7th he presented Targeted Approaches for Students at Risk to teachers from 18 schools; 75 educators attended here at PSU.
- **Leo Sandy** has recently published a book review of *Great Peacemakers: True Stories from Around the World* for the Peace and Justice Studies Association Newsletter, *The Chronicle*.

### Environmental Science and Policy Department

- **Warren Tomkiewicz** and three graduate students in the MS in Science Education program (**Tom White**, Belmont Middle School, **Ann LaCroix**, Merrimack Middle School, and **Jason Lacroix**, Laconia HS) gave a poster session and a PowerPoint discussion on "Science Inquiry-based Instruction and Student Understanding" during Teacher As Researcher Day at the National Science Teachers Association Annual Convention in Boston on March 28.

### Health and Human Performance Department

- **Barbara McCahan** coordinated a special "Let's Dance!" workshop for the Inter-Lakes Senior Center in Meredith on March 12<sup>th</sup> implemented by the 19 students in her Rhythm and Dance Fundamentals class. Simple line, folk and square dances were demonstrated and taught to a group of older adult workshop participants. Planning and conducting this workshop was the capstone for the course which is specifically designed for PE teacher preparation. Barbara McCahan and colleague **Deborah John** were instrumental in a recent grant award to the Inter-Lakes Senior Center from the NH Department of Health and Human Services – Bureau of Elder and Adult Services. The grant is funding an evidence-based program providing ongoing dance activity sessions with instruction for older adults in Meredith and the surrounding area beginning in April. PSU students have been invited by the Center to assist with the program as a community service activity.

- **Mardie Burckes-Miller** served her 10<sup>th</sup> year as Volunteer Coordinator of National Eating Disorders Awareness Week (Love Your Body Week) in the Plymouth area by hosting a week of activities including a theater performance, seminars, body fair and a Project U fashion show. Health Education majors were responsible for many activities as class projects. She also presented two sessions at the Eastern District Association of American Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Regional Conference in Rhode Island in March. The first session was “Authentic Learning in Community and Worksite and Community Health Promotion.” Five Health Education majors co-presented with Mardie (Anton, C., Hibbard, D. Kebler, K., Mixon, J., Siegel, C.). Mardie’s activities related to eating disorders have earned her election as a Fellow of the Academy of Eating Disorders, an international organization which is dedicated to “excellence in research, treatment and prevention of eating disorders.”
- **Lynn Johnson** presented a session at the Eastern District Association of American Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance at their annual convention in Newport, RI on Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. The session was titled: “Using Standards-Based Student-Assessment to Enhance Instruction in Physical Education: Grades K-12.” Also, at the convention she was elected as the President-Elect of the Eastern District Association (EDA). EDA is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest association in AAHPERD and is comprised of 12 eastern states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

#### Music, Theatre and Dance Department

- The **Chamber Singers** and Professor **Dan Perkins** presented a workshop and concert about their Vietnam tour at the Moultonborough Academy on February 1<sup>st</sup>. They also hosted an exchange workshop and concert with the concert choir from St. Michael’s College (Burlington, VT) on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Perkins and student assistant **Jennifer Cooper** (senior) attended the regional ACDA convention in Hartford, CT in February.
- **Gary Corcoran** recently served as an adjudicator/clinician at the Queen City Music Festival held at Manchester Memorial High School. He also appeared as a guest conductor at Essex High School in Vermont and Pennichuck Middle School in Nashua.
- **Elizabeth Cox** served as the casting consultant for the Papermill Theatre/North Country Center for the Arts at the New England Theatre Conference in Natick, MA. She also served as an adjudicator for the NH Education Theatre Guild at the regional theatre competition held at Oyster River High School in Durham, NH. Beth has also been busy coordinating the New Hampshire Professional Theatre Association auditions and interviews for productions taking place this summer and fall. This event, planned in partnership with PSU and the NH Department of Cultural Resources, will be held at the Silver Center on April 5<sup>th</sup> with 18 companies scheduled to attend and see students currently attending NH colleges or universities. Beth was also the Associate Editor for *The Players’ Journal, 2008* (just released by the Acting Focus Group, Association of Theatre in Higher Education), a publication regarding the art of acting.
- **Jonathan Santore** has signed publication contracts for two of his compositions with Alliance Music Publishers, Inc. of Houston. One of the works, *House Song to the East*, was commissioned by **Dan Perkins** and the **PSU Chamber Singers** for their 1996 tour of England. In addition, his article about a scene from Alban Berg’s opera *Wozzeck* was published in the music analysis journal *in theory only*, TWELVE YEARS after its initial acceptance!

#### Social Science Department

- **Katherine Donahue** (Anthropology/Social Science) has had a review article, "Anthropology of Religion", accepted for publication in the online Encyclopedia of Life Support Systems (EOLSS). The EOLSS was developed in partnership with the UNESCO Division for Science Policy and Sustainable Development.

- **Katherine Donahue, Brian Eisenhauer, and Brian Gagnon** (graduate student, Environmental Science & Policy) have had a poster on "Human Dimensions of Marine Protected Areas in and Near New Hampshire Waters" accepted for presentation at the International Symposium on Society and Resource Management, UVM, Burlington, VT, in June, 2008. Their research was funded by a NH Sea Grant.
- **Marcia Schmidt Blaine** presented a paper titled "'A Woman That Keeps Good Orders': Licensing and Female Tavern Keepers" at the annual conference of the Organization of American Historians in New York City on March 29, 2008. Also, Marcia's "Creating a Nation" classes have written articles for the *Clock* titled "This Day in History." The articles began appearing in late February and will appear each week during the semester.
- **Robert Heiner** has received a grant from the Marion and Jasper Whiting Foundation which will allow him to continue his research on criminal justice policies and philosophies in other countries.
- **Dave Switzer** (Professor Emeritus of History) attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> North East Florida Symposium on Maritime Archaeology in March. He was a featured speaker regarding a Revolutionary "time capsule," the privateer *Defence* which was sunk during the ill-fated Penobscot Expedition in 1779. During a six-year nautical archaeology campaign the "time capsule" yielded many artifacts that provided some of the first glimpses of life and work at sea of the common American seaman of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Important, too, was the information gained with regard to the methods by which the shipwright built the privateer in Beverly MA – information that hitherto had escaped the research of maritime historians.

#### Social Work Department

- **Stephen Gorin** attended a full-day NASW Publications Committee meeting in Washington, DC as Editor-in-Chief of Health & Social Work.
- **Scott Meyer** presented a workshop, "Effective Strategies to Promote Project Sustainability", at the American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences conference, Las Vegas, NV
- **Cynthia Moniz** was nominated by the NASW national Nominations & Leadership Identification Committee to run for the position of Region I (New England) Representative (2008-2011), National Nominations Committee; the national election occurs in April/May. Cynthia also participated in the annual Association of Social Work Program Directors meeting in Destin, FL.
- **Nine students** from the Social Work Club spent spring break in Corpus Christi, TX working on a Habitat for Humanity project. They are presenting a picture video and discussion about their experience in the HUB (3/31).
- **Helen O'Brien** was interviewed by the Public News Service for comment on a new report titled "Foster Care in NH: Fund Prevention, Not More Placements".