

Monthly Report to the Faculty from Provost Julie Bernier
November 7, 2007

My report to the faculty for November 7th was presented orally at the faculty meeting and is printed below:

October has been a busy month:

- There are three new Taskforces: P&T, Internationalization, and Credit Models are well underway.
- The new Planning, Budgeting Leadership Group (PBLG) is developing its process. The strategic plan is out for final comment, and Scott Mantie and Linda Dauer are meeting with academic departments to go over the new planning/budgeting process. The deadline for budgetary plans is January 31st.
- The General Education Committee is working on assessment.
- Faculty Welfare is looking at a number of issues including its role on campus.
- The Governance Taskforce continues to refine committees and structures and the new Steering Committee is refining its process and role.

Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Studies (UGS) - Search

It's time to think about next year, in particular, what to do about the position of AVP for undergraduate studies. You'll recall that two years ago Daniel Moore stepped in to UGS to fill my role while I worked on development of the Frost School of Continuing and Professional Studies. Last year and this year, David Zehr has filled the position. Now it's time to search for a permanent replacement. To that end, I'd like to begin the search process, but first, **I'd like to hear from you.** Specifically I'd like to hear from you about whether you think we should conduct an external or internal search. I'd like to ask the Steering Committee to develop the Administrator Selection Committee in the next few weeks, so if you have thoughts about the search, **please contact me in the next week or so.**

Research Advisory Council/Faculty Research Development Grants

I have established a Research Advisory Council and we had our first meeting last week. This Council is chaired by Mark Okrant. Among a number of issues the group will be looking at, I've charged them with developing the criteria for the new **Faculty Research Development Grants.** Applications will be accepted at the end of this semester for next fall. Awards will be up to \$10,000 and may be used to fund equipment, student support, travel to conduct research, or release time.

Last week I spoke at the Frost Faculty Center on a number of challenges facing higher education in general as well as the challenges and opportunities unique to our campus. At the faculty meeting this week, I shared some of my comments from that session. (See attached pdf of the PowerPoint)

Topics covered included:

PSU as an evolving institution: challenges and opportunities

- Growth of institution

- Overview of expansion of programs and initiatives over the last 10 years (13 new departments/offices/centers in academic affairs alone)
- Challenges/ Initiatives for the year
 - Faculty resources
 - Administrative structure
 - Workload
 - Professional development increases
 - Adjunct pay scale
- A conversation about a number of issues contributing to the shortage of General Education courses.

NEWS FROM ACADEMIC AFFAIRS **Departments and Faculty**

Center for Rural Partnerships:

- **Thad Guldbrandsen** recently was one of three panelists discussing *The State of Things* on North Carolina Public Radio's *The State of Things* (WUNC), with 47,000 listeners. The topic of discussion was globalization and democracy in North Carolina.

- **Guldbrandsen and the Center for Rural Partnerships:**

Secured funding from the US Forest Service to conduct a feasibility study for converting PSU's co-gen plant from fossil fuels to sustainably-harvested woody biomass from local forests. Currently working with the President's Commission on Environmental Sustainability to implement feasibility study. Conversion from fossil fuels to a renewable energy source (combined with sustainable forestry) would go a long way in achieving PSU's "carbon neutrality."

Attending the "Two Countries One Forest" conference (Nov 14-17) in Montreal to identify future collaboration between PSU and regional colleagues from Canada and other Northern Forest states

Served as reviewer for *American Ethnologist*

Hosted recent public lectures on NH's rural landscape: "NH Farm Women" panel discussion (co-sponsored by Drerup Gallery and NH Department of Agriculture), "Tour of the Notches" with Bob Cotrell from the Remick Museum

Lectured on NH demographic and economic trends (talk entitled "Where in the World is NH?") for PSU President's Council Heritage Society

Appeared on North Carolina Public Radio's *The State of Things*, with 47,000 regular listeners to discuss globalization and local democracy

Serving on state-wide "fuels to schools" committee to explore use of woody biomass in public schools

Serving on Groveton district heating advisory board to explore using industrial waste heat for Groveton's central business district

College of Graduate Studies:

- **Dennise Maslakowski** participated in a panel presentation at Lakes Region Leadership Program on Tuesday, October 16th.

- 52 students based in Shanghai, China are currently enrolled in graduate courses, with another group to begin in December. **Kathleen Norris** recently traveled to the Shanghai American School and taught two sections of Research Design to 32 students distributed across two campuses in Shanghai.
- **Dennise Maslakowski** and **Cheryl Baker** are working with Teachscape and SERESC to offer classroom walkthrough training state-wide. Classroom walkthrough training is designed to help administrators and teachers collaborate on improving instruction for all students. **Cheryl Baker** is currently working with the Manchester School District, a district in need of improvement, to assist with aligning school initiatives with student achievement.
- **Cheryl Baker** presented at the NCES Professional Development Day in Whitefield: 21st Century Tools in the Classroom. The College of Graduate Studies exhibited at the NHSAA conference: Best Practices Conference on Education for all Children at the Grappone Center in Concord, and the NH ASCD conference: Navigating a continuum of interaction.
- **Kim Williams** has been developing plans for a Center for School-Based Research with David Hyerle. Using research-based practice and an assessment template, the Center would be designed to work with schools in need of improvement in the state of NH.
- **Leo Corriveau** has been appointed to the New Hampshire School Board Association Scholarship committee. The committee awards scholarships to deserving high school seniors.

Communication and Media Studies:

- In early October, the **Department of Communication and Media Studies** hosted two international conferences on the PSU campus: (1) the African and African-American Popular Culture Conference and (2) the Film, Television and the 1960s Conference. These two events attracted participants from nine countries (including Austria, Finland, France, Nigeria, Taiwan, and Turkey) and eighteen states.
- The **Department of Communication and Media Studies** presented its 2007 Distinguished Communicator Award to actor/director/writer Ernest Thompson, best known for his Oscar-winning screenplay “On Golden Pond,” as part of an on-campus celebration of excellence. Members of the department’s Lambda Pi Eta honor society were also inducted at this event.
- The **Department of Communication and Media Studies** co-sponsored (with PACE) the on-campus screening of the 1922 silent vampire film “Nosferatu,” with a live soundtrack performed by the Devil Music Ensemble.
- Robert Frost Speech and Debate Society: **Annette Holba** has recently taken over as advisor to the Robert Frost Speech and Debate Society. They recently competed in a debate tournament at St. Anselm's, competing against Emerson College, Monroe College, St. Anselm College, Ithaca College, Bristol Community College, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Maine, Lafayette College, Suffolk University, Bridgewater State College, Binghamton University, Western Kentucky, Ohio State and Old Dominion. PSU won the Novice Division AND came in fourth place (among both Novice and Varsity divisions), out of all of the schools that participated, for points - all five novice debaters scored significantly high in speaker points to rank 4th. Congratulations to the RF Speech and Debate Society and Annette Holba!

The Debate Society will be offering one workshop each semester for the Grafton County 4-H Club as coaches to the county youth participating in public speaking competitions. (The idea behind this is to promote citizenship experience through this service-learning component of debate). In addition, they will be mentoring the Gorham Middle/High School debate team. The Gorham students shadowed our debaters and St. A.'s and they plan to work with them as they prepare for their "town hall" debates in the spring.

Criminal Justice:

- **Stephanie Halter, Scott Meyer and Danielle McDonald** conducted a follow up training with the Belknap County Citizens Council on Children and Families. This training was geared towards helping the 4 restorative justice agencies with querying the database developed by Halter, Meyer, and McDonald. These queries will allow them to use the data they collect to continue or acquire new funding for their juvenile justice programs.
- Hon. James E. Duggan, Associate Justice of the NH Supreme Court, lectured to students in Peter Brunette's CJ2040 - Criminal Adjudication class, Jeff Nelson's CJDI1020 - Individual and the Law class, and other Criminal Justice students about the role of defense counsel and the appellate court system.
- Criminal Justice students taking **Stephanie Halter's** "Family Violence Across the Lifespan" class displayed their public awareness messages in October to promote awareness of domestic violence on campus.
- **David Mackey** was appointed by the Governor to the State Advisory Group on Juvenile Justice. David also presented "Surveillance in the Post 9-11 World" at the Dunbarton Public Library, Barrington Public Library, Tilton School, and the Madbury Public Library. The program is sponsored by the New Hampshire Humanities Council and was also part of The Big Read: New Hampshire reads Fahrenheit 451.
- Five members of the **Criminal Justice Club** participated in the Footrace for the Fallen on October 14th. It is a 5K road race to honor law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.

Education:

- **Mike Fischler** was the kick-off speaker for the "Educational Lecture Series: Circle of Grace: Who are our neighbors. A series of living together in diversity." His topic was focused on understanding the process of adjusting to new cultures. The lecture/workshop took place on Monday, October 22, at the Congregational Church in Laconia.
- **Marcel Lebrun** presented on "Functional Behavior Assessment Process and Procedures" as professional development to 60 teachers in the Andover school district. He also presented on "Understanding Behavior Support Plans" to the Hill School as part of their professional development series.

Marcel was also the keynote speaker for the annual social event of the New Hampshire Council for Exceptional Children; he presented on student depression and how schools can address this issue.

- **Irene Mosedale** was the invited speaker for the September meeting of the Ammonoosuc Valley Retired Teacher's Association. She was asked to speak about the North Country Teacher Certification Program. About 40 retired teachers attended. More than half had attended PSC/PSU. Irene was also asked to present about the NCTCP to the Neil and

Louise Tillotson Learning Community at the Mountain View Grand in Whitefield. A new cohort group for the NCTCP is currently being recruited. Their program will begin in the fall of 2008.

- **Royce Robertson** presented "Design on a Dime" to the Association of Computer Technology Educators at their annual conference in Augusta, ME, as well as "Look Mom, No Binder" to the Connecticut Educational Computing Association at their annual conference in Hartford, CT. He also presented the Phi Delta Kappa - WalMart New Hampshire Teacher of the Year Award to Patrick Moeschen, Music Teacher, during a reception at Woodbury Middle School in Salem.

English:

- "Sid and Walt," a script by **Paul Rogalus**, has won the WILDsound Screenplay Festival's Short Screenplay Contest, and will be given a staged reading on Wednesday, November 21st at the National Film Board Theatre, in Toronto.
- **Meg Petersen** gave a number of presentations in October: "NECAP and NWP: A Trial Marriage" with Patricia McGonagall and Jennifer Cook at the Annual Conference of the New England Association of Teachers of English, "Circles of Meaning" with PSU graduate students Rebecca Alosa, Jyoti Demian, Jeannette Regis, and Meredith Vickery at the Literacies for All Bi-annual Composition Conference at the University of New Hampshire, "Writing for a Better World" at the 1st Annual Staff Development Conference "Conversations in a Changing World," at the Sant Bani School.
- In October, **Robin DeRosa** presented her New Hampshire Humanities Council program "Witches, Pop Culture, and the Past" at historical societies in Alton and North Conway. This semester, Robin's students from "The F Word: Feminism in the U.S" are doing service learning projects with area organizations, including Voices Against Violence, the Concord Feminist Health Center, the Pemi Youth Center, the Circle Program, and the Women's Rural Entrepreneurial Network.
- Two professional actors, trained by Royal Shakespeare Company alumni and certificate graduates of the prestigious Royal Academy of Dramatic Art's Performing Shakespeare Course (both in London), who are the Founding Artistic Director and Executive Manager of the NY Times and Boston Globe lauded Shakespeare in the Valley, visited **Karolyn Kinane's** Shakespeare class and lead a workshop on reading, acting and directing Shakespeare. This visit was particularly timely since the Theater department performed *A Midsummer Night's Dream* just weeks later (Karolyn's students attended and performed in that performance). Workshopping among professional performers, students, and academics enhanced the course experience as students saw practical application for course-content and learned to approach and interpret material from a variety of perspectives.

Frost School:

- Reminder: The deadline for students to submit commercials to the **Frost School "Be on TV" Commercial Competition** is approaching (Monday, November 19th). We would like the faculty to remind their students about this competition and the 1st and 2nd place cash prizes for the best 15 and 30 second commercials. Submissions will be put up on YouTube so the campus community can provide input before the panel of judges determines the finalists. The event will culminate with a gala event to view the finalist

and announce the winners. This is a great opportunity for students to express their creativity and develop their professional portfolios. Please encourage your students to participate. Details and guidelines at www.plymouth.edu/frost/about/

Lamson Library:

- **October Publications:**

David A. Beronä

“Run, Bong-Gu, Run!” by Byun Byung-Jun. *Rain Taxi*, 12:3 (Fall, 2007): 43.

“Strange as This Weather Has Been,” by Ann Pancake. *Library Journal*, 132:15 (September 15, 2007): 51-53.

“Beautiful Children,” by Charles Bock. *Library Journal*, 132:16 (October 1, 2007): 56.

- **Conference, Presentations, and Workshop Attendance:**

Elaine S. Allard

“Surveys & Focus Groups – The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly.” October 12, 2007. October Conference. Dartmouth College. Hanover, NH. Conference offered practical advice and techniques on using a variety of assessment tools.

JoAnn Guilmett

“Consortium of College and University Media Center,” annual conference, October 18–22, 2007, Gainesville, Fla. Presented “Finding Common Ground at Plymouth State University.” Attended as well as presented.

Anne Kulig

Recorded testimonial for New Hampshire Public Radio; identified on-air as both a Plymouth resident and librarian at Plymouth State University during the annual fall membership drive for NHPR. (Recorded testimonial)

Presented a workshop on how to make a successful conference presentation to the student music educators association from the Music and Theater Department.

Casey Bisson

Guest lectured two days for Metasebia Woldemariam's Intro to Media and Cultural Studies (two sections: CM2770.01 and CM2770.02). Oct 4: introduction to publishing on the web, and Oct 9: fundamentals of video editing. Guest lectured.

Appeared in a Chronicle of Higher Education story about the future of libraries from the perspective of eight librarians working to shape it.

Presented at a PSU Heritage Society event, Manchester NH.

Presented Scriblio at Internet Librarian, Monterey, California.

Presented Scriblio for the New Hampshire Library Association's fall conference, Plymouth NH.

Music, Theatre and Dance:

- **Dan Perkins** conducted high school workshops at Philips Exeter Academy, Manchester Memorial, and Manchester West on 10/22/07.
- **Gary Corcoran** has been invited to be the Guest Conductor at the Four State Band Festival, which is held annually on the campus of Pittsburg State University in Kansas. Corcoran actually originated this particular festival while serving as Pittsburg State's Director of Bands from 1972-1990. The selected high school students participating in the festival bank will be from Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Missouri. Corcoran will

also conduct the Pittsburg State University Wind Ensemble during his appearance. The University invited Corcoran to conduct the Kansas concert to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Four State Band Festival.

- **Rik Pfenninger** has licensed 7 of his most recent compositions to Prolific Arts Inc. located in Dallas Texas.
- **Robert Swift** has had his article, “Your Attention, Please,” accepted for publication in the music education periodicals of four New England states: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Maine.

Psychology:

- **John Kulig** and Christina Brown, Psychology major, Class of 2007, attended the New England Psychological Association Conference at Western Connecticut State University in Danbury, Connecticut on October 20th. They presented a research poster entitled: “False Uniqueness Effects for Nicknames.”
- **David Zehr** has accepted an invitation to join the editorial board for the Journal of Social, Evolutionary, and Cultural Psychology, a new on-line journal.
- **Paul Fedorchak** presented a workshop entitled “Double-Blind Testing of Everyday Claims” at the New Hampshire Science Teachers Association (NHSTA) conference at the Attitash Grand Summit Hotel and Conference Center in Bartlett, NH.

Social Science:

- **Marcia Schmidt-Blaine** gave two presentations last month: “My family was a mixture of nations: Captivity, the Individual, and Identity along the New England Frontier,” at the Northeast American Society of Eighteenth-Century Studies at Hanover, NH AND “Runaway Wives: When Colonial Marriages Failed” for the NH Humanities Council.
- The First Coast Maritime Archaeology Project Lecture Series featured **Dave Switzer** giving a presentation hosted by the Lighthouse Archaeological Program and the St. Augustine Lighthouse and Museum, “The Early Days of Nautical Archaeology at work in three locations: the Bay of Fundy, Cypress, and Turkey.”
- David Starbuck (Anthropology and Sociology) was re-elected Vice-Chair of the New Hampshire State Historical Resources Council at its Quarterly Board Meeting in Concord on October 29. David also presented two papers at the Annual Meeting of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology on October 27 in Buffalo, New York. In connection with Archaeology Month in New Hampshire (October), David also hosted a series of Wednesday evening public lectures here at Plymouth State.

Social Work:

- **Scott Meyer** is collaborating with **Stephanie Halter** and **Danielle MacDonald** of the Criminal Justice Department for a second year grant project to provide technical assistance and training regarding data base models to enhance efficacy of the juvenile justice system in Belknap county. They are working with the Belknap County Citizens Council for Children and Families. Scott also served as moderator for the Parents Weekend workshop conducted by the Counseling and Human Relations Center in efforts to help support parents in adjusting to having their adult children in college. The workshop included a panel of students and staff of the Counseling Center. In collaboration with Stephanie Halter, he completed submission of reports on the

evaluation of outcomes for after school programs for youth at three different sites in New Hampshire. These evaluations are conducted in collaboration with Stephanie Halter of the Criminal Justice Dept. They evaluate programs funded by the USDA Children, Youth and Families at Risk, the DOE 21st Century Community Learning Center and the HHS Drug Free Communities grant funds. The sites they evaluated were in Hillsboro County (3 sites), Rockingham County, and the Hinsdale School District.

- **Chris Gagne**, multi-talented administrative assistant for the Social Work and Criminal Justice Departments, performed with Peter Yarrow of Peter Paul and Mary for a private education function in New Orleans, LA on Oct. 21. Yarrow, founder of “Operation Respect: Don’t Laugh at Me”, was the keynote speaker.