Welcome back colleagues. It’s hard to believe the academic year is already beyond the halfway point. The flowers will be in bloom before we know it.

**Faculty Evaluation revisions**

The Promotion Tenure and Evaluation Advisory Group has been working for nearly a year on faculty Roles and Responsibilities and Evaluation sections of the Faculty Handbook.

During Faculty Week, the PT&E Advisory Group held a session to share an early draft of the revisions and to receive feedback from faculty. Subsequent to the session, they made revisions to the document, shared the latest draft with the Department Chairs at the Chair’s Retreat in January and have made an additional round of edits. Later this month, the PT&E will hold two open sessions to hear your feedback and questions on what we hope is a near final version of the handbook sections. The goal of the PT&E Advisory Group is to have a final version to the faculty for endorsement later this semester. With that in mind, we ask all interested faculty to review the document and to provide feedback by attending one of the open sessions or by sending your feedback to one of the PT&E members. The draft will be sent out the week prior to Feb 26th in time for your careful review.

The two open sessions will be held:
- Tuesday Feb. 26th at 7:30 - 9:00 am (coffee and breakfast served) and
- Friday March 1st at 3:00 - 4:30pm (refreshments served)

The PT&E is made up of Robyn Parker, Eric Hoffman, Annette Holba, Barb McCahan, Gail Mears, and Julie Bernier.

**New processes for academic program changes**

The Trustees have been undergoing a governance change process. Pertinent to Academic Affairs is a new committee structure that replaces SAPC and Programs and Services.

SAPC (System Academic Policy Council) is now the Academic Executive Council. Like SAPC, the AEC is made up of the Chief Academic Officers from the four USNH institutions and the Chancellor. Programs and Services, a committee of the Board of Trustees has been replaced with the Educational Excellence Committee (EEC). The EEC is a Trustee committee. EEC meetings are attended by the Trustees who serve on the EEC including all of the student trustees, the Chief Academic Officers, the Chief Student Affairs officers, and the Chancellor.

One additional result of the governance changes is a new process related to the addition of academic programs and program changes.

For example, new majors no longer require formal approval by the Academic Executive Council (formerly SAPC) or by the EEC (formerly Programs and Services). We are required to inform EEC of intended programmatic changes. As a result, a revised process for on campus approval is outlined on

Division of Online and Continuing Studies (DOCS)

The Frost School of Continuing and Professional Studies is officially renamed the Division of Online and Continuing Studies. Students who are “evening” or “online” students are DOCS (formerly Frost) students giving them priority access to evening and online courses. http://online.plymouth.edu has been launched. It remains a work in progress, but already it is better serving our students interested in taking online courses or completing an online degree. An online working group continues regular meetings and is making progress on building the systems and infrastructure to better serve this population.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
Scholarship, awards, and noteworthy service activities

Academic Department News

Art

• Plymouth State University Printmakers exhibited their work at the Prints of the Year Exhibition at Artstream Gallery in Rochester, NH during the month of January. This yearly exhibition brings together and showcases printmakers who live and work in NH. Printmakers Professors Terry Downs and Kimberly Anderson Ritchie were invited to participate in the exhibition. Several printmaking students were also invited by the Printmaking Faculty to participate in the show. Pictured (from left to right): Printmaking Faculty, Students, and Curator at the Opening for the Exhibition -- Students: Noelle Stillman, Kristin Saratte, and Kristin Horan; PSU Faculty Member: Kimberly Anderson Ritchie; Curator and Collector, Parker Potter.

Atmospheric Science and Chemistry

• Marguerite Crowell coordinated and led a workshop on December 13 with Anil Waghe for twelve AP students from Winnisquam Regional High School. The goal of the workshop was to introduce students to a crime scene investigation, from a forensic science perspective. The annual workshop, in its ninth year, included a tour of the PSU campus.

• Marguerite also took part in a water education summit held by the NH Department of Environmental Services on December 14. The summit included thirty organizations from around the state, with the goal of developing a new water education plan for the state.

• Eric Kelsey attended the Eastern Snow and Avalanche Workshop in November and discussed current and future research projects at the Mount Washington Observatory in partnership with PSU.

• Eric also attended the American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting in San Francisco. He presented a poster titled, "Reconstructing Winter North Pacific Sea-Level Pressure Anomalies Over the Past Three Centuries Using a New Calibration Method with the Eclipse and Mt. Logan Ice Cores."
In January, Eric attended the American Meteorological Society Annual Conference in Austin, Texas. He presented a poster titled, "A Surprise in the North Pacific: Results from Applying a New Nonlinear Method for Calibrating Ice Cores."

**College of Business Administration**

- Comments from Warren Mason's presentation at the University of Texas-Austin were recently quoted in the [London] Times Literary Supplement - Learned Journals review. Originally published the in Fall 2012 issue of The Mailer Review entitled "Why Mailer and Jones Matter," they were part of his formal presentation & panel discussion on the writings of WWII authors.

**Communication and Media Studies**

- Warren Mason recently had a profile published about two World War II U.S. Marine Corps veterans who attacked "Red Beach" in the 1st Wave of the island assault of Iwo Jima in February 1945. Entitled "One Beach -- First Wave: Two Marines," it was published in The Black Sands, the official national publication of the Iwo Jima Association of America, of which he is an Associate Member.

**Counselor Education and School Psychology**


**Early Childhood Studies**

- Pat Cantor and Mary Cornish represented Plymouth State University at a two-day meeting of the Coos Coalition for Young Children and Families on January 10 and 11 in Whitefield, NH. The Coos Coalition includes representatives from agencies providing mental health, health, family support, early intervention, and early care and education services for Coos children ages birth through six and their families, as well as White Mountains Community College and Plymouth State University. With support from the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund and facilitation by Dr. Taniesha Woods of the National Center for Children in Poverty, the Coos Coalition is developing a comprehensive plan to promote optimal development for young children and their families in Coos by focusing on strategies that support and build healthy social and emotional development. Coalition members will then work together to implement the goals and strategies in the plan.
- Pat Cantor and Mary Cornish offered two full-day Professional Development Institutes on January 15 and 16 for twenty-three early childhood teachers and directors from eight early care
and education programs in Coos County. This was the latest offering in an ongoing series of professional development opportunities, including on-site consultation for teachers and directors, that Pat and Mary have been providing in Coos County as part of their five-year grant from the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund to promote higher quality early care and education in the North Country. Over the last two years, participants have focused on Integrating Play in the Curriculum, and Pat and Mary have provided materials and introduced evidence-based strategies to support children’s development through playful learning and exploration.

- On January 25, the Early Childhood Studies Department sponsored the second of a series of cross-sector professional development opportunities, "Strong Families, Happy Children: Building Competencies in Early Childhood and Family Mental Health." The half-day event was organized by the Lower Grafton Community Council, which includes representatives from the Whole Village Family Resource Center, Lakes Region Community Services, the Lakes Region United Way, Genesis Behavioral Health, and Mary Cornish and Pat Cantor from the Early Childhood Studies Department. PSU and the Lakes Region United Way provided resources and support for the event, which drew thirty area professionals from the fields of early care and education, mental health, family support, health care, and early intervention. Several PSU undergraduate and graduate students attended, as did teachers from the Center for Young Children and Families. The final event in the series will be held on April 5 at PSU.

- Pat Cantor received a Children’s Champion Award at Early Learning NH’s December 2012 Celebration of Excellence, for her work as co-chair of the Workforce and Professional Development Committee for the NH Early Childhood Advisory Council. This is the third year that Pat has been recognized as a NH Children’s Champion.

Educational Leadership, Learn and Curriculum

- Cheryl Baker was just appointed to the steering committee to plan the Statewide Conference for Educators sponsored by the NHDOE and held at Keene State College in July. The institute will focus on: Data Collection and Use, Common Core and Standards-based instruction, Teacher and Leader Effectiveness and Evaluation (Danielson Framework), and the Future of Learning

Elementary Education and Childhood Studies

- Gerry Buteau and Jim Stiles have made a number of presentations:
  - “Where I’m From: Exploring aspects of self, culture, and community through poetry" for the New Hampshire Council for the Social Studies in October;
  - "The Power of Reader's Theater" for the New England Reading Association Conference in November; and
  - "A Place Called Home: Using intercultural literature to explore the dynamics of living, growing, and learning in a strange new land" for the National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention in Las Vegas in November.

- Jim Stiles began a two-year term as President of the Children's Literature Assembly of the National Council of Teachers of English and continues service on the United States Board on Books for Young People.

- Alison Wenhart was recently elected as a member of the National Council of Social Studies Awards Committee. This elected position is charged with collaborating with other members of the board to develop policies and procedures associated with the awards given to members associated with the Council. Wenhart attended the Council’s November meeting in Seattle, Washington, where the agenda focused on ways in which awards strengthen the validity of the
social studies content area in the eyes of the community. Several proposals are currently under consideration.

**English**

- **Megan Birch** and **Meg Petersen** presented at the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) annual conference in Las Vegas, NV in November. Their workshop was titled: “Teaching RE-search: Using Multiple Perspectives to Assist Students to Relook, Reconsider, and Revise Thinking as Inquiry.”
- **Joe Monninger** published his latest novel, “Margaret from Maine,” in December 2012. Several of his other books have recently been published worldwide: “Wish,” his young adult novel, appeared in France; “The Letters,” another novel, was published in China; “Eternal on the Water” was published in Slovakia. He also appeared in the UNH Author Series Jan. 27th, 2013.

**Lamson Learning Commons**

- The Lamson Learning Commons welcomed eight 8th grade students and their teacher, Carleen Steckert, from Laconia Middle School on January 8. Students received library instruction from Outreach Librarian **Anne Jung** and continued research on their National History Day New Hampshire projects. This is Laconia Middle School’s first visit to the Lamson Learning Commons.
- **Anne** also welcomed forty-eight 8th grade students into the Lamson Learning Commons for a day of research for a science class assignment on January 23. The visit represents the 5th year in an ongoing collaborative project between Anne and Team 8 teachers Kevin Greenler, Gerry Gontarz and Paula Tanner from Plymouth Elementary School.
- **David Beronä** reviewed Allan Holtz’s **American newspaper comics: an encyclopedic reference guide** (Michigan, 2012) for CHOICE, February 2012.

**Language and Linguistics**

- The Department of Languages and Linguistics, in conjunction with the Global Education Office, is pleased to announce a **newly established direct exchange agreement with the Universite Lumiere Lyon 2.** **Katharine Harrington** conducted a site visit in Lyon, France in June and recently hosted her Lyon 2 counterpart, Dr. Vincent Renner (Professor of English), here at PSU. The exchange will be a two-way exchange and both campuses will begin receiving exchange students starting in the 2013-2014 academic year. The Lyon 2 exchange is open to students in any discipline, though geared toward students who have at least some background in French or who are interested in a French language learning experience.

**Mathematics**

- On January 12, **Osama Taani** gave a talk entitled “Using Original Historical Sources in Teaching Mathematics for Pre-Service Elementary and Middle School Teachers” at the MAA session: Mathematics Education II, Joint Mathematics Meetings, San Diego, January 2013.
Music, Theater and Dance

- **Kathleen Arecchi**, as NATS VP for Workshops, created and ran the Winter Workshop Power Performance: Mind, Body, Spirit in San Antonio, TX, January 4-6.
- **Dan Perkins** conducted both the southern and eastern region Connecticut Music Educators Association choral festivals in January. He also led the PSU Chamber Singers on a performance/study tour in Nashville, Tuscaloosa, Memphis, and Little Rock. The ensemble performed and presented workshops in schools and churches, including a performance on the steps of the Capitol in Little Rock as guests of the NAACP on MLK day.
- **Mark Stickney** conducted the Uncanoonuc Mountains Invitation Music Festival Band at Goffstown High School and the Maine Music Educators District 3 High School Honors band in Topsham, Maine.
- With special thanks to **Julie Bernier** and **Eric Hobart**, **Robert Swift** announces the publication (electronic) of “More Teaching Moments: Selected Memories of PSU Faculty,” for which Bob served as compiler and editor. Twenty-two of us have each provided a glimpse of what makes Plymouth State unique.

Social Science

- **John Lennon** gave two lectures on glacial sediments and soil formation, in addition to two hands-on soil identification demonstrations, for the Merrimack County Conservation District’s “Introduction to Soils” Workshop at the Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum on December 18. Their website is [www.merrimackccd.org](http://www.merrimackccd.org).
- **Michael Capsalis** was elected Chairman of the Bridgewater NH Planning Board as well as Town Moderator for a two-year term.
- **David Starbuck** delivered a paper entitled "The Archaeology of Forts and Battlefields" to the Annual Meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology on January 10 in a day-long symposium entitled "The American Experience." This international conference was held at the University of Leicester in England. David was also elected Chair of the New Hampshire State Historical Resources Council on January 28. This is the state board that oversees the NH State Division of Historical Resources and which approves all of the National Register of Historic Places nominations for the State of New Hampshire.

Social Work

- **Stephen Gorin** and **Cynthia Moniz** attended Governor Hassan's Inauguration as invited guests.
- **Steve** chaired meetings of the State Committee on Aging in December and January, and participated in several Steering Committee meetings of the Center on Aging & Community Living, UNH.
- **Steve** also participated in a meeting of the CSWE Council on Leadership Development to select this year's scholarship awardees (social work faculty) for Harvard and Bryn Mawr leadership institutes.
- **Scott Meyer** conducted a training session in January, “Strategies to Enhance BSW Student Learning in Field Agencies” for the program's field instructors.
Career Services

- Jim Kuras participated in a NE Regional Trends Webinar with the Collegiate Employment Research Institute (CERI) at the University of Michigan discussing the Northeast region. Snippets from the data show that “The college labor market will remain competitive, but job expansion will mitigate somewhat the problems students have finding work related to their area of study.” “The opportunities are out there for graduates who know where they want to go, know how to get there and, because of their preliminary work on career goals, have built a network of professional relationships (especially with alumni), they can tap for assistance with their job search.”

Center for Rural Partnerships

- The Center for Rural Partnerships has been awarded an anonymous gift to conduct the Haverhill Civic Engagement Project. This two phase, 21-month project will begin immediately and will include stakeholder listening sessions and an undergraduate course focused on civic engagement and deliberative dialogue. The CRP would like to thank Sally Holland, Barbara Adams and Kit Otto of the Advancement Office for their invaluable assistance in securing this award.
- The Center has also received funding from the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture to study the capacity of meat processors. This two-year project will consist of a survey of processors and a series of focus groups designed to gauge interest in state certification efforts.
- Ben Amsden was appointed by Food Solutions New England to serve on their regional Network Design Team. The purpose of the team is to determine the scope and structures necessary for New England to produce a majority of clean, fair, just and accessible food for all New Englanders by 2060.
- Ben was also appointed by NE SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education) to serve as a reviewer for the Sustainable Community Grant Program. These grants support community organizations making direct connections between community revitalization and farming.
- The CRP welcomes Jaimie Crawford as a part-time Research Associate. She will be helping the Center create content and communications that share and celebrate the collaborative work of our partners. The CRP also welcomes student workers Jackie Aiello and Sean McGlynn. Finally, the CRP offers best wishes to Zack Lacroix, who is leaving PSU for a full-time position with NHHEAF.
- Ben Amsden participated in a panel discussion on “Careers in the Outdoors” that was held at Gorham and Colebrook high schools. The panel discussion was part of the AMC’s Outdoor Career Exploration Series designed to keep young people working in Coos County.
- Ben also conducted a workshop on regional tourism marketing at the Northern Forest Tourism Conference held at the Highland Center in Crawford Notch.
- The New Hampshire Wood Energy Support Team has appointed Ben to serve with them. The team consists of agencies, organizations, and businesses interested in maintaining and expanding the use of wood energy in New Hampshire.
- Ben, along with Dan Lee (COBA) and Mark Okrant (the Institute for New Hampshire Studies), submitted a report to the Department of Travel and Tourism Development describing their biennial study of New Hampshire’s “conversion rate” (the percentage of people making inquiries who actually visited New Hampshire).
- A book chapter co-authored by Ben Amsden (with Rich Stedman of Cornell University and Linda Kruger of the USFS) was published this month in Stewart, Williams, and Kruger (eds) “Place Based Conservation: Perspectives from the Social Sciences.”
Center for the Environment

- This fall the Center for the Environment coordinated with the NH Department of Environmental Services on a **new partnership agreement** that addresses mutual areas of interest and opportunities for collaboration. DES Commissioner Tom Burack visited PSU on January 28 at which time he and President Sara Jayne Steen signed the agreement. Following the signing ceremony, Commissioner Burack met with CFE faculty and students to discuss environmental issues on the state horizon, legislative initiatives, student internships and workplace development, and interests in furthering STEM initiatives.

- CFE is pleased to announce that due to the generosity of Joe and Gail White, two White Fellowships have been awarded this year, to **Jamie Sydoriak** and **Lily Zahor**. Jamie is interested in maintaining or improving privately-owned grasslands with the goal of stabilizing bird populations that use them. Her work will focus on bird surveys and developing landowner outreach materials about the background, science and management of maintaining grasslands for bird habitat. Lily Zahor is studying tree ecological physiology. Her research for her thesis will focus on effects of calcium depleted soils from acid rain on tree productivity in the White Mountain National Forest. The fellowship supports graduate students in Environmental Science and Policy whose work helps address environmental issues of concern in New Hampshire.

- **Kerry Yurewicz** and **Shannon Rogers** were awarded one-year research seed grants through NH EPSCoR. In collaboration with the Loon Preservation Committee, Kerry will research the food web and loon decline on Squam Lake. Shannon will conduct a research project with students on how New Hampshire citizens value viewsheds.

- **Lisa Doner** taught a winter course on paleoclimatology that involved a partnership with Rumney Ecological Systems. Students in the course collected a long sediment core from the Quincy Bog in Rumney and analyzed the material using paleoecology and paleohydrology techniques. The project will provide a history of the bog and changes it has gone through due to climate. Photos from the sediment coring are posted at [www.quincybog.org/photogallery.htm](http://www.quincybog.org/photogallery.htm).

- **Shannon Rogers** attended a meeting about science cafes in New Hampshire on January 11 with representatives from Dartmouth, UNH, the Concord area science cafe program, and the SEE Science Center in Manchester. An outcome of this meeting was the formation of a NH Science Cafe Coalition, of which Shannon is a member. The group is very interested in seeing cafes in the Plymouth area and will be working to start one soon.

- On January 30, **Joe Boyer** and **Shannon Rogers** attended the “Green Eggs and New Hampshire Breakfast” in Concord. This annual event, sponsored by Conservation NH, addresses environmental policy issues in the state.

- **Joe Boyer** represented CFE at the NH Legislators Brunch on December 14 at PSU.

- Each year CFE hosts the **Science Colloquium Series** on Wednesday afternoons and **Doug Earick** has organized a series of speakers for this spring. The schedule is posted on the [CFE website](http), or contact Doug for more information.

Recent publications by CFE faculty include:


Division of Online and Continuing Studies (DOCS)

- The Frost School is entirely “defrosted” and our new name has emerged – Division of Online and Continuing Studies (DOCS). We are moving forward with plans for implementing the 100% online courses and degree programs by this summer.

Global Education Office

- Twenty-four PSU study abroad students are participating in programs all over the world this spring including Ireland, England, Australia, Spain, Chile, Japan, Argentina, Scotland, and Italy. Daniel is serving as faculty-in-residence, accompanying ten PSU students to Sant’Anna Institute-Sorrento Lingue (SASL) in Sorrento, Italy. Daniel is teaching business classes for the students who have enrolled in their remaining classes with SASL faculty.
- GEO assisted two faculty in leading student trips during winterim. Filiz Otucu, Social Science, led a group of five students to Brasilia, Brazil, where they participated in the Model United Nations Student Organization; Jessica Dutille, CoBA, led nine students to Petersfield, Jamaica for an international service trip and cultural exchange with Amizade Global Service Learning Program.
- Karen Cowles, (Education major, 2014) and past study abroad student in New Zealand at University of Otago, has been selected as a top entrant to the GO ABROAD photo contest, and was selected to be featured on the *GoAbroad Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10151320971814476&set=a.10150663609944476.406641.192597394475&type=1. As of January 25, she was ahead in the polls with 23% of the votes! In her own words, "I believe strongly in including diversity into my classroom...Traveling gives me the opportunity to give students an in-depth insight to different countries around the world." Congrats, Karen!

- We welcomed three exchange students for the spring semester. We have two students studying at PSU from UTAR in Malaysia and one student from University de Austral in Chile. These students participated in a two-day orientation that included cross-cultural awareness, safety, academic protocols, and campus tours. Students enjoyed a welcome party and meeting the returning exchange students and other international students through a variety of activities before classes began.

- Though it was a bit quieter during Winterim in the Center for Global Engagement, there were still students that needed support and services. We collaborated with ELS to provide a series of lunches that included ELS students, international students, and our Global Ambassadors. We are about to begin our programming for spring semester with Language Circles, academic support services, Conversation Partners, and social activities. We will be launching our new World in the Classroom Program in February. This program will connect our international students and returned study abroad students with local classrooms where they can share their international experience and promote global awareness in our community.

University Studies

- On December 7, Audrey Willis (Graduate Student) and Patrick Cate conducted a four-hour long workshop entitled “Beyond the Ooh’s and Aah’s: Combining Learning Theory with Technology to Be Effective, Not Just Cool” at the NACADA Maine State Drive-in hosted by Saint Joseph’s College in Standish, Maine. It was attended by thirty-three faculty and staff advisors from thirteen campuses across Maine. The workshop discussed how to infuse learning theory, developmental theory and motivation in using technology with traditional college age students. Participants left with an action plan that they could then implement on their campus.