

# Connections

October/November 2011

A Newsletter for the New England College Community



*David P. Currier '72 and President Michele Perkins cut the ceremonial ribbon at the Currier Alumni Center.*

## NEC ALUMNI AND FAMILY WEEKEND 2011

New England College welcomed more than 400 alumni, families, and friends back to campus for a weekend filled with reunion celebrations, athletic games, awards, and family activities. The excitement started Friday with the Alpha Chi Honor Society Induction ceremony and a special reception to honor NEC's Founders Society members. The class of 1961 celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> reunion and the evening ended with the annual NEC Athletic Hall of Fame and Alumni Awards ceremony.

Saturday's rainy weather did not hinder the day's events. Nearly 200 alumni and friends gathered to show their support and enthusiasm as President Perkins and alumnus, David P. Currier '72, cut the ceremonial ribbon, marking the grand opening of the new Currier Alumni Center. Student athletes and alumni showed their NEC spirit at athletic and alumni games, and many people braved the rain to enjoy the afternoon BBQ.

Reunion classes were not the only one's celebrating during Alumni and Family Weekend. The *Henniker Review* commemorated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a reception at the NEC Art Gallery, and WNEC held a live broadcast from the Pub. Alumni, families, and friends enjoyed live music from a local New Hampshire band, Mama Kicks, and had a chance to lace up their skates during the family disco roller skating party in the Arena. The weekend would not have been complete without the festivities held by the Spirit of Henniker Organizational Team (S.H.O.T.) Music on Main Street was back by popular demand and downtown Henniker was overflowing with great food, crafts, games, and of course, music!

To check out photos of the weekend, click [here](#).

### 2011 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

Travis Banga '04, Ice Hockey  
Jamie Jackman '01, Lacrosse  
Joe Mirabile '95, Ice Hockey and Baseball  
1999 – 2000 Men's Lacrosse Team

### 2011 Alumni Award Recipients

Alumni Achievement Award  
Paul Lovejoy '77

William Troy '52 Award  
Austin Kovacs '60

Lee Clement '49 Outstanding  
Alumni Volunteer Award  
Karl (Kipp) Euler '93

Honorary Alumni Award  
Cindi Nadelman



*30<sup>th</sup> Reunion, Class of 1981*



*Al Pilzga '51 (center) and members of SAB Fraternity*



*WNEC alumni*

## CLIMB TO THE TOP: AN INSPIRATIONAL JOURNEY



*Pictured: Meagan and Andrew at a National MS Society 5K race last Thanksgiving (2010).*

Meagan Nesman and Andrew Teixeira are a beautiful, fun, outgoing couple. Meagan is an educational studies student from Rollinsford, New Hampshire, and Andrew is a business student from Grafton, Massachusetts. They met their first year at New England College and have been inseparable ever since.

In May 2010, Meagan was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS), a chronic illness that attacks the central nervous system (brain, spinal cord, and optic nerves.) Since her diagnosis, Meagan has endured regular treatments and the side effects

that go along with them, including the loss of hot/cold sensation in her left hand. She currently travels to York, Maine to receive monthly infusions. Through all of this, Andrew has been by her side - at every appointment, for every infusion, and so much more.

With the love and support of family and friends, they have already raised more than \$5,000 for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and constantly look for the next opportunity to continue their fundraising efforts. They have walked, run, and climbed to raise awareness and money for the Society. Most recently, Andrew and three friends successfully completed "Climb to the Top" in Boston, Massachusetts - a unique event where participants climb 61 flights of stairs to the top of the John Hancock Tower (the tallest building in New England!) Andrew made it to the top in an amazing 14 minutes, 28 seconds. His friend and NEC graduate student Greg Bonitibus finished shortly after him, at 14 minutes, 45 seconds. Meagan hopes to join Andrew and friends next year, adding the "Climb" to her list of accomplishments.



*Pictured: Andrew and friends pose with Meagan at Boston's "Climb to the Top."*

Meagan and Andrew refuse to let this diagnosis keep them down. They are an inspiring young couple with an admirable and optimistic outlook on life in spite of the challenges they have faced. Meagan dreams of one day opening a daycare solely for infants, and Andrew looks forward to wearing a suit and working in a tall building. Best of luck to you Meagan and Andrew!



*Pictured: Meagan's and Andrew's family members pose before a walk for MS in Portsmouth, NH this past spring.*

To learn more about multiple sclerosis, visit [www.nationalmssociety.org](http://www.nationalmssociety.org).

## NEC SGPS HOSTS ED.D. INFO SESSIONS

The New England College School of Graduate and Professional Studies hosts two upcoming information sessions for those interested in finding out more about the College's new doctoral program in education. The information sessions include an overview of the curriculum and a student panel followed by an opportunity to meet faculty and program participants.

Saturday, November 12, 2011  
11:00 a.m.  
Simon Center

Saturday, February 11, 2012  
11:00 a.m.  
CEI Building

Visit [www.nec.edu/sgps](http://www.nec.edu/sgps) for details.

## LIBRARY HOURS AND GENERAL ACCESS COMPUTER LABS

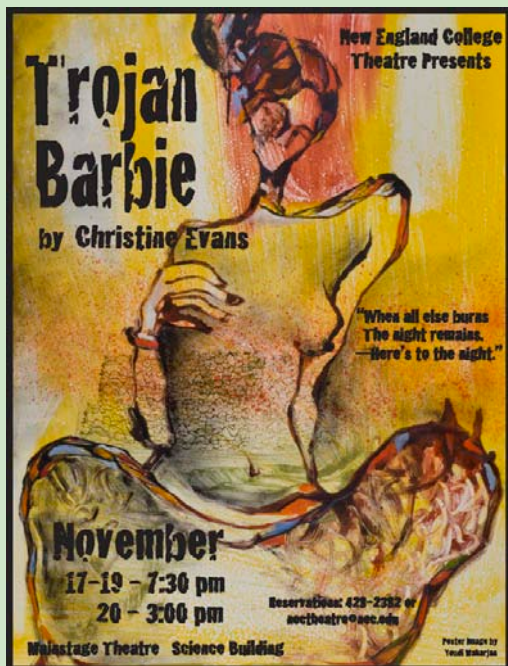
The Library opens at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays and remains open through 8:00 p.m. on Fridays. Saturday hours are 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

General access computer labs are available to NEC students in the following locations (*hours of operation vary by individual spaces*):

Library  
Pathways  
Spaulding Writing Lab  
Science Building 113A and 113B



# THE NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE PRESENTS CHRISTINE EVANS' *TROJAN BARBIE*



Poster image by NEC alumnus Youdi Maharjan '08

The New England College Department of Theatre presents *Trojan Barbie*, written by playwright Christine Evans and directed by Alex Picard, Assistant Professor of Theatre. Performances will be held in the Mainstage Theatre in the Science Building on Thursday, November 17, Friday, November 18, and Saturday, November 19 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, November 20 at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, and \$7 for students, faculty, staff, and seniors, and may be reserved at [nectheatre@nec.edu](mailto:nectheatre@nec.edu) or by calling the box office at 603-428-2382.

Lotte Jones owns a doll repair shop. While on vacation in modern-day Troy, Lotte suddenly finds herself in the midst of an attack and is held captive in a detention camp during the Trojan War. Once freed and back to her present, "normal" life, Lotte is visited by Hecuba, one of the women she spent time with in the ancient detention camp. Hecuba mistakes dolls in Jones' shop for the bodies of her murdered children and is on a mission for revenge.

*Trojan Barbie* held its world premiere at the American Repertory Theatre (A.R.T.) in Cambridge, Massachusetts in 2009 and, according to the website, "is an epic war story with a most unlikely heroine, who always looks on the bright side even as past and present collide about her." Christine Evans portrays it as "a modern car-crash encounter with Euripides' *Trojan Women*."

Christine Evans is originally from Australia and came to the United States in 2000. She holds an MFA in playwriting and a Ph.D. in theatre and performance studies from Brown University, and currently lectures at Harvard University. She has received numerous awards for her work, including the 2009 Playwrights Theatre "Plays for the 21st Century" Award, and a Fulbright Award in Visual and Performing Arts.

## MOVEMBER: MEN'S HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Toby Delamore is a senior and resident advisor at New England College. Originally from New Zealand, he came to NEC to play lacrosse and earn a degree. He is studying sport and recreation management with a minor in business. Last year, Toby brought the idea of MOvember to campus, one that originated in Australia and that Toby was familiar with from home.



"Many events promote women's health, but not many promote men's health," states Toby. MOvember does just that. Participating men ("Mo Bros") grow moustaches throughout the month of November, raising awareness and funds for cancers affecting men. According to the MOvember website, more than 64,500 U.S. Mo Bros and Mo Sistas raised \$7.5 million. Toby hopes to have more than 100 NEC students join "NEC MO Bros" this year.

For more information or to register, visit <http://us.movember.com> (team name: NEC MO BROS). Toby is happy to answer questions as well - email him at [tdelamore08@nec.edu](mailto:tdelamore08@nec.edu).

## LOCAL BUSINESSES OFFER DISCOUNTS FOR NEC STUDENTS

The Office of Student Financial Services wants to make sure NEC students are aware of discounts and promotions available to them at local businesses - just show your NEC ID!

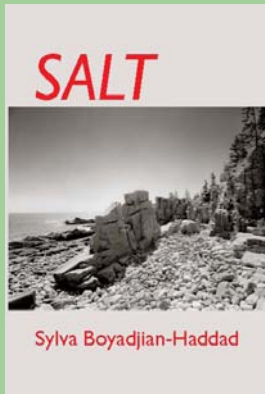
Participating businesses include:

- Charter Coffee House
- Daniel's Restaurant and Pub
- Danny's Automotive
- Gin Gin Restaurant and Lounge
- Henniker Pharmacy
- Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum (Warner)
- NEC Art Gallery
- Pats Peak
- Red River Theatre (Concord)
- Sonny's Main Street Pizza
- The Vintage Sparrow Thrift shop
- Western Avenue Pizzeria
- Yankee Shears

Pick up a *Local Student Discount brochure* from the Office of Student Financial Services for details.

## TWO NEC PROFESSORS PUBLISHED

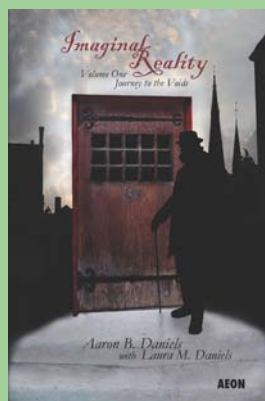
New England College professors Sylva Boyadjian-Haddad (English and comparative literature) and Aaron Daniels (psychology) have something very exciting in common. They were both recently published and have works available to the world wide audience!



*Salt* is a chapbook written by Professor Sylva Boyadjian-Haddad and published by Finishing Line Press. It is a compilation of poems, some old, and some new. The book draws its title from one of the poems in the collection and represents a recurring theme found throughout. "Salt is the stuff of life," states Sylva, "Amniotic fluid has the same consistency as that of seawater, we cry salty tears, our food taste better with salt, etc." Sylva is inspired by everything around her - people, places, things. Her work "focuses on memory as it confronts and informs the present...and is the sum total of my experiences and thoughts."

*Salt* received Third Honorable Mention in New Women's Voices series in 2010. Sylva joins Poet Laureate Andrew Periale (co-founder of Perry Alley Theater and co-founding editor of *Puppetry International Magazine*) for a reading Wednesday, November 16 at Gibson's Bookstore in Concord, New Hampshire. The event begins at 7:00 p.m., is sponsored by The Poetry Society of New Hampshire and is free and open to the public. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

*Imaginal Reality, Volume One: Journey to the Voids* is Professor Aaron Daniels' first book, a collaborative four-year journey he and his wife traveled together. After three complete re-writes, it was recently published by *Aeon Books*. Professor Daniels explains, "We have traditions of magical ritual from around the globe throughout history. But we also find our imaginations ignited by all these fantastical portrayals of magic from Harry Potter to Harry Dresden. From television's 'Supernatural' to all of our Superheroes. Moreover, so many of us feel drawn to have our lives animated by something we often call 'magical'--whether in romance, a meaningful job, or travel. The book speaks to all of these senses of this elusive, illusive term 'magic'.



Professor Daniels' second volume, *Imaginal Reality: Volume 2: Voidcraft* will be available December 1, 2011. The New England College Knowledge, Growth, and Action Collegium and Gallery will host a "Book Bash" Friday, October 28 at the NEC Gallery - a book reading, signing, and celebration in honor of Professor Daniels' work. The event takes place from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and is free and open to the public. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

President Michele Perkins welcomed the President's Advisory Board\* to Cogswell House for their fall meeting at the beginning of the month. She also joined the College in welcoming gubernatorial candidate Ovide Lamontagne and presidential candidate Michele Bachmann to campus for Town Hall meetings.



President Perkins addressed the 2011 New Hampshire College & University Council's (NHCUC) Fall Counselor Tour Group, hosted by the Office of Admission, at their breakfast on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

In preparation for the November 12<sup>th</sup> Board of Trustees fall meeting, President Perkins will preside over trustee committee meetings including Infrastructure, Development, Enrollment, Audit, Academic Affairs, and the Executive Committee.

*\*The President's Advisory Board membership and focus is listed in the About NEC section of the New England College website.*

## NEC STAFF MEMBER RECEIVES DEDICATION & SERVICE AWARD



During Alumni and Family Weekend 2011 at New England College, Dan Freese, Academic Technologist, was presented with a trophy honoring his "extraordinary service and dedication to WNEC-FM." Dan has been involved with the radio station since 1988, starting as news director and more recently advising and helping rebuild the studio.

## CAREER AND LIFE PLANNING AT NEC

The Office of Career and Life Planning (CLP) helps students:

- **develop career and life plans** consistent with their skills, interests, values and personal characteristics;
- **acquire skills** by engaging in internships, service activities, and study away;
- **demonstrate the results** of their experiences in and out of the classroom and effectively present themselves;
- and **make connections** in the world of work and further study.

CLP offers various seminars throughout the academic year.

Upcoming offerings include:

**November 7** How to Put Your Leadership Experience on a Resume

**November 14** The Graduate School Search

**November 21** Careers in Communications

**December 5** Summer Jobs

For more information, contact Gene Durkee, Director of Career and Life Planning, at [edurkee@nec.edu](mailto:edurkee@nec.edu) or 603-428-2358.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Admission Open House

October 22, 10:00 a.m.

### Ed.D. Information Session

November 12, 11:00 a.m. (*Simon Center*)

### Pre-Registration for Spring 2012

November 14 through 16

### Thanksgiving Break

November 23 through 27

- *Residence Halls close November 22 at 7:00 p.m. and re-open November 27 at 8:00 a.m.*
- *NEC offices close at noon November 23 and resume normal business hours November 28.*

## NEC RENEGADES

Members of the NEC community joined the 1,000+ participants in the Renegade Playground Challenge in Loudon on October 8. The Challenge is a twist on the traditional 5K - an "off-road" obstacle course that has participants going over, under, and through uncharted terrain, including oversized tires, concrete barriers, mud pits, monkey bars, and even a school bus! For details, visit [www.renegadeplayground.com](http://www.renegadeplayground.com).



*Above: Lecturer Nicole Laflamme cheered on some of her students participating in the Challenge.*



*Above and right: Anna Metzger and Jennifer Lovelace (a.k.a. the "Mud Mavens") before and after the Challenge.*

## SHUTTLE SERVICES FOR NEC STUDENTS

NEC offers free shuttle services to/from the Concord Bus Station and Manchester-Boston Regional Airport for holiday breaks. Please reserve your spot in advance by emailing [bcraig@nec.edu](mailto:bcraig@nec.edu).

The shuttle leaves from the Simon Center at the following times for upcoming break:

### Thanksgiving Break

Tuesday, November 22:

9:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 27:

1:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., and 9:00 p.m.



  
**New England  
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*ConNEctions is produced by the Office of Public Information at New England College. For details, contact Kate Cusick at [kcusick@nec.edu](mailto:kcusick@nec.edu).*