



New England College

School of Graduate and Professional Studies

Master of Science Higher Administration Faculty



Becki Elkins

Becki Elkins is Registrar and Director of Institutional Research & Assessment at Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa. She holds a doctorate in Student Affairs Administration and Research from The University of Iowa, a master's in Higher Education from Iowa State University, and a bachelors in Public Relations from The University of Kansas. She has over 20 years of experience in higher education. Becki's areas of professional administrative experience include residence life, judicial affairs, women's centers, LGBT resource centers, institutional research, assessment, and registrar. Her publications address such topics as student affairs assessment, accreditation, student and academic affairs partnerships, multicultural initiatives, and graduate student

needs. Her professional interests include assessment of student learning, violence awareness and prevention, qualitative research methods, and student success. On a personal note, her interests include spending time with her two teenage sons, biking, reading/writing, and traveling with her family. Becki is the parent of a first-year college student and, as such, is working hard to avoid being labeled a helicopter parent. Becki teaches the Contemporary Issues in Higher Education course.



Gavin Henning

Gavin W. Henning is Associate Professor of Higher Education at New England College where he also directs the Master of Science in Higher Education Administration and the Doctorate of Education programs. Prior to his transition to a full-time faculty position, Gavin spent 20 years in higher education administration with experience in residential life and housing, judicial affairs, alcohol and other drug issues, diversity initiatives, and divisional leadership and specific expertise in student affairs assessment. Gavin's scholarship has been published in professional journals and scholarly magazines and he has been an invited speaker regionally and nationally.

His scholarly interests include student engagement, student success, and assessment and institutional effectiveness. Gavin is a board member for the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS). He has received the *Annuity Coeptis* and Diamond Honoree awards from ACPA for his contributions to student affairs and higher education. Gavin holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Education Leadership and Policy Studies and a Master of Arts degree both from the University of New Hampshire as well as a Master of Arts degree in College and University Administration and a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and Sociology from Michigan State University. Gavin teaches American College Student, Educational Research and Assessment, and Capstone courses.



Janet Lindner

Dr. Janet Lindner is the Associate Vice President for Administration at Yale University, with responsibility for several operational areas and for communications for the university's Human Resources and Administration areas. She has directed Yale's human resources, labor relations, and procurement services and helped develop the University's cooperative labor-management program. Previously, as Chief Administrative Officer for the City of New Haven, Janet supervised the city's operating departments, including police, fire, facilities, public works, parks, human resources, labor relations and procurement. Prior to serving as CAO of New Haven, she worked in the Mayor's Office of the City of New York as Deputy Director of

the city's Labor-Management/Quality of Work Life program and later as Assistant Director of the Mayor's Office of Operations. Janet has earned a master's degree in public administration and a doctorate in higher education. Janet teaches Managing People in Colleges and Universities and Financial Management in Higher Education.



Francis McDonald

Capt. Francis McDonald currently serves as Vice President of Operations at Massachusetts Maritime Academy (MMA) in Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts. In his previous role as Dean of Enrollment Management at MMA, Capt. McDonald led the college through its largest growth period in its 100-year history. Over the time span of five-years, the institution enjoyed a student population explosion of 150%. During that same period, first-year retention rose to 82% and the college's six-year graduation rate climbed five percentage points. Capt. McDonald built a campus-wide retention program that incorporated Student Life, the Corps of Cadets, faculty, and many supporting departments such as Health Services and Athletics. He serves on the college's All College Committee, is a member of the President's Senior Staff and serves as an adjunct instructor for the college's

Masters in Facilities Management program. Outside of the college, Capt. McDonald serves as a member of the Barnstable School Committee (Barnstable, MA) where he lives with his wife and two children. Capt. McDonald completed his Bachelor's degree in Marine Engineering at Massachusetts Maritime Academy, earned his Master's in Management from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and most recently completed his Doctoral degree in Law and Policy at Northeastern University. As testament to his commitment to improving the student experience, Dr. McDonald completed his doctoral dissertation on under-prepared students' success at MMA. Fran teaches Enrollment and Retention.



Eric Ramsey

Eric Ramsey joined Dartmouth College in 2004 as the assistant director of the Collis Center for Student Involvement; transitioning to the associate director in 2006 and the director in 2008. As the current director, Eric is responsible for the Collis Center program - including traditions programming, student governance, student organizations, leadership and late night programming – and the Collis Center facilities management. Eric completed his undergraduate work at University of Arkansas, graduating with a BA in English and his graduate work at University of Texas, Austin with a M.Ed. in Higher Education Administration. After graduation, Eric worked at the University of Southern Indiana in Evansville, Indiana as a Program Advisor for Student Activities. In May of 2011, Eric completed his Doctorate in Education (Ed.D) at the University of Vermont in May of 2011. Eric's research interest is in community development and understanding how students experience community and how it impacts the collegiate experience. Eric teaches Organization and Administration and Student Affairs Administration.



Roger Ward

Dr. Roger Ward is the Chief Accountability Officer (CAO) and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs (AVPAA) at the University of Maryland, Baltimore. As CAO, Dr. Ward is the focal point of coordination for UMB's compliance and enterprise risk management activities and also serves as the University's Accreditation Liaison Officer for the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. As AVPAA, Dr Ward serves as deputy to the Chief Academic and Research Officer and Dean of the Graduate School and oversees the day-to-day operations of the division. Dr. Ward has also served as Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs at the New School in New York City and also held senior administrative positions in the City University of New York system. Dr. Ward holds an associate's degree in data processing/computer programming from Kingsborough Community College, a bachelor's degree in government and a master's in public administration, both from John Jay College of Criminal Justice. He also holds a juris doctor degree from New York Law School, and a doctor of education degree in higher education management from the University of Pennsylvania where his dissertation research focused on the role of faculty in helping colleges and universities support students with mental health problems. Dr. Ward has been teaching onsite, online, and in a blended environment since 2004 and have taught graduate courses in ethics, the history of higher education, leadership and organizational behavior, and legal issues in higher education policy, among others. Dr. Ward teaches Legal Issues in Higher Education.

The Master of Science Higher Education Administration Program at New England College is led by a diverse and talented group of scholar-practitioners. Their work in liberal arts colleges, state universities, Ivy League institutions, and special-focus schools enables students to explore the broad spectrum of higher education in the United States and to understand the implications of contemporary administrative and student issues in varied contexts. With expertise and extensive experience in key functional areas of higher education administration, our faculty members help students apply what they learn in the classroom to the challenges of current practice in the field. The faculty also support students' professional development and networking across the country.