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 bachelor’s 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 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 Annuit 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.
Corrine Kowpak

Corinne P. Kowpak has served five higher education institutions in the last 40 years. Her career began at the University of Vermont where she served for 17 years, most of which was as the Assistant or Associate Dean of Students. In 1990, Dr. Kowpak became the senior student affairs officer at Springfield College, MA. After eight years, she returned to her native New York to serve as Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Development at York College/City University of New York. In 2000, Dr. Kowpak assumed the role of Vice President for Student Affairs at Keene State College in New Hampshire. She was named Dean of Students at York County Community College in Maine in 2008. She has been an active member of both NASPA and ACPA throughout her career, having served on both national and regional committees and boards.

Currently, Dr. Kowpak teaches the student affairs administration and current issues in higher education courses online for Nova Southeastern University. Her previous teaching experience includes teaching graduate courses in student affairs and higher education at the University of Vermont and Springfield College. In June of 2014, an ACPA publication, Working with Student at Community Colleges: Contemporary Strategies for Bridging Theory, Research and Practice was published. Dr. Kowpak co-authored the chapter on College Readiness and the Open Door Mission. Her current scholarly interests include persistence and retention of community college students as well as student affairs work on community college campuses.

Dr. Kowpak was a first generation college student who earned her B.A. in physical education at Hunter College/City University of New York and completed a Master of Education in College Student Personnel Services and Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at the University of Vermont.

Corrine teaches **Higher Education Organization and Administration.**

Kathy Obear

Dr. Kathy Obear, President, ALLIANCE FOR CHANGE Consulting (www.drkathyobear.com), has over 25 years experience as a trainer and organizational development consultant specializing in creating inclusion, team and organizational effectiveness, conflict resolution, and change management.

Earlier in her career Kathy worked in Student Affairs at several colleges, including Colorado State University where she coordinated leadership development and educational programming. Since starting her consulting business in 1987, Dr. Obear has given speeches, facilitated training sessions, and consulted to top leaders at hundreds of universities across the United States and internationally designed to increase the passion, competence, and commitment to create inclusive, socially just environments for all members of the organization.
Kathy is a Founder of The Social Justice Institute, a five-day intensive professional development program for social justice educators and practitioners focusing on dynamics of race and racism (www.sjti.org). For two decades she has trained staff and faculty to respond more effectively when they feel “triggered” during difficult dialogues about issues of diversity, equity and inclusion.

Kathy completed a doctorate in Social Justice Education from The University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She was honored in 2011 by ACPA, the American College Personnel Association, as a Diamond Honoree.

Kathy teaches **Multicultural Competence**

**Laura Pantano**
Laura Pantano has served as the Dean of Student Engagement at New England College since 2012 and oversees the management of Campus Safety, Residential Life and Housing, Student Conduct, Student Involvement, and the Wellness Center. Prior to her arrival, she served as the Assistant Vice President of Student Engagement and Success at the newly created Texas A&M University-San Antonio. As Assistant Vice President she was charged with the establishment and development of the new university’s Student Affairs Division, which included career services, counseling, disability support services, and student activities. Laura has 15 years of professional experience in student involvement, Greek life, leadership, residential life, and student conduct. She has a Master of Science in College Student Personnel from Western Illinois University and a Bachelor of Arts from St. Mary’s University in Texas. Laura is currently completing a Doctor of Education degree in Educational Leadership at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Laura teaches **Practicum I and II**.

**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 **Advising and Helping College Students**.
Roger Ward

Roger Ward is the chief accountability officer (CAO), vice president of academic affairs, and vice dean of the Graduate School at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB). As CAO, Ward is the focal point of coordination for UMB’s accountability, 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 vice president of academic affairs and vice dean of the Graduate School, Ward assumes primary responsibility for day-to-day operations of the Office of Academic Affairs (OAA). The OAA includes the Graduate School, Campus Life Services, the Health Sciences and Human Services Library, the Research Integrity Office, and the Geriatrics and Gerontology Education and Research program. The OAA is also the point of contact with the University System of Maryland (USM) and, through USM, other regulatory and legislative bodies on issues related to faculty affairs, student affairs, and academic policy.

In June 2012, Ward was named UMB’s first chief accountability officer before his subsequent promotion in October 2013. He joined UMB in March 2009 as the associate vice president for academic affairs. In that role he supported the former vice president for academic affairs in her role as chief academic affairs officer. He served as chief academic officer and interim dean of the Graduate School during the 2011-2012 academic year while the search for a permanent replacement was conducted.

Before coming to UMB, Ward 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.

Ward holds an associates 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 doctor of law degree from New York Law School, and a doctor of education degree in higher education management from the University of Pennsylvania.

He has been teaching onsite, online, and in a blended environment since 2004 and has 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.