"Our ability to reach unity in diversity will be the beauty and the test of our civilization."

Mahatma Gandhi
April hath put a spirit of youth in everything.

(Sonnet XCVIII)
William Shakespeare
We entered 2016 with great energy and fanfare by hosting the New Hampshire Primary Student Convention, an event New England College offers every four years to bring the New Hampshire primary experience directly to students from all over the country. This year we had over 500 high school and college students, ten presidential candidates, dozens of informational sessions, and expert panels that provided students with three days of extraordinary access.

The media coverage was like nothing we had ever seen before: ABC, CBS, *New York Times*, CNN, NPR, *The Hill*, and many others filmed “live shots,” interviewed attendees, and brought positive national attention to our College and our commitment to civic engagement.

We also had the pleasure of hosting presidential candidates at our Henniker and Concord locations. From Donald Trump, Jeb Bush, and Bernie Sanders to John Kasich, Hillary Clinton, and Ted Cruz, every major candidate campaigning in the NH Presidential Primary was hosted by an NEC Town Hall event. Our faculty integrated this civic engagement into their classwork and students enjoyed interacting with all the candidates.

Other key highlights I’m proud to share:

A new program, the Master of Science in Computer Information Systems, was launched in the fall and has already attracted over 120 students from India. This is an incredible new arena for us and we are thrilled to welcome our new students.

TIME Magazine recently reported that New England College ranks in the top 25 nationally for growth in student diversity. We are #10 among private institutions on that list and enjoy 35% diversity among our incoming undergraduate students. This provides a rich multi-cultural environment for our students who are seeing the value and competitive advantages of such broad experiences.

Students and faculty recently returned from Belize as part of a Tropical Marine Biology course. Exploration and lab work of organisms found in the coral reefs were cross-referenced with classroom work, providing another great example of experiential learning!

Even though we are a small college, we are a microcosm of many cultures, backgrounds, experiences and viewpoints. I cannot think of a better environment in which to study and grow. Thank you for your interest, loyalty, and enthusiasm.

Sincerely,

Michele Perkins, EdD
President
MARCH 22-APRIL 22 | Noah Kroese, Saturday: Illustration Selections from Saturday and Contemporary Political Cartoons | Chester Gallery | Free and open to all. Visit nec.edu or call 603.428.2363

APRIL 14-16 AT 7:30 PM | APRIL 17 AT 3:00 PM | The Dining Room by A.R. Gurney | NEC’s Mainstage Theatre | For tickets call 603.428.2382 or email nectheatre@nec.edu

MAY 3-14 | Annual Seniors Art Exhibition | Chester Gallery | Free and open to all. Visit nec.edu or call 603.428.2363

MAY 6-7 AT 7:30 PM | The Annual Movement Concert | NEC’s Mainstage Theatre | For tickets call 603.428.2382 or email nectheatre@nec.edu.

MAY 14 AT 11:00 AM | 69th NEC Commencement Ceremony | Simon Green | Visit nec.edu/commencement

JUNE 3-4 AT 7:30 PM | A Staged Reading of In Cold Blood by Truman Capote | Presented by The Open Door Theatre at NEC’s Mainstage Theatre | For tickets call 603.428.2382 or email nectheatre@nec.edu

JUNE 3 | 29th Annual New England College Golf Classic | Noon Check-In, 1:00 PM shotgun start | Stonebridge Country Club, Goffstown, NH | Register online at alumni.nec.edu/golf

JUNE 23, 24, 27, 28 | Summer Institute for Educators | Annual professional development program | NEC campus, Henniker, NH | Visit nec.edu/sie

JULY 14-17 AT 7:30 PM | Hamlet by William Shakespeare | Presented by The Open Door Theatre at NEC’s Mainstage Theatre | For tickets call 603.428.2382 or email nectheatre@nec.edu

SEPTEMBER 16-18 AT 7:30 PM | Hamlet by William Shakespeare | Encore performances. Presented by The Open Door Theatre at NEC’s Mainstage Theatre | For tickets call 603.428.2382 or email nectheatre@nec.edu

SEPTEMBER 30-OCTOBER 2 | Fall Festival 2016 | This year we are celebrating class years ending in 6 and 1. The newest Golden Pilgrims, the Class of 1966, will be recognized at a special luncheon on Saturday, October 1 | For more information or to register email alumni@nec.edu

OCTOBER 1 | John Lyons Center Dedication Ceremony and Tours | John Lyons Center | Details to come!

Watch your inbox for Alumni @ New Hampshire Fisher Cats Information this spring.

Not getting our emails? Please send an email to alumni@nec.edu.

Join fellow Alumni online at alumni.nec.edu/registernow. It’s your portal to news, events, and information. Register to search the alumni directory, update your contact information, submit a class note, and email your friends and classmates.
A TRIUMPH OF Diversity

Our Diverse Campus

New England College is attracting an increasingly diverse range of students from all over the country. Located in a state where 94% of the population is white, nearly 35% of New England College’s incoming undergraduate students identify themselves as students of color.

*TIME Magazine* recently studied changes in undergraduate student diversity on campuses throughout the country. Among the top 25 schools who have seen the largest increases in diversity, *TIME Magazine* reports that New England College ranked 21st. “New England College is dedicated to fostering an open, welcoming, and inclusive community,” said New England College President, Dr. Michele Perkins. “*TIME Magazine’s* analysis highlights our long-term commitment to the importance and value of a diverse campus.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DIVERSITY: DEMOGRAPHIC COMPARISONS</th>
<th>New England College On-Campus Population</th>
<th>New Hampshire Population*</th>
<th>USA Population*</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Indian or Alaskan Native</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
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<td>1.5%</td>
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<td>3.3%</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian Pacific Island</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
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<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or More Races</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Diversity</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*United States Census Bureau, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

z: Population too small to be measurable. United States Census Bureau, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)
Greetings,

It is with much excitement that I take this opportunity to introduce myself and share some information about the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. I am a higher education administrator who is committed to the total development of all students. As a first-generation college graduate and native of Kansas City, Missouri, I have learned to appreciate the support that is offered and needed when attempting to pursue a post-secondary education.

Missouri Western State University is where I earned my bachelor’s degree and became aware of my voice to advocate for others. I continued my education and completed a master’s degree at Webster University, which provided me with a deeper understanding of perseverance and better prepared me for my professional career. Prior to joining New England College in January, I served as the Director of Intercultural Leadership at The College of Saint Rose in Albany, New York.

In an effort to expand the institution’s commitment to diversity, New England College established the Office of Diversity and Inclusion in January 2016. Our office is dedicated to providing intentional programs to increase awareness as well as encouraging individual and collective advocacy. Working together, we will assist in creating a supportive and inclusive campus environment.

I welcome the opportunity to partner with all members of the community and invite you to join us for the Fall Open House which will be held September 30, 2016. I can be reached at diversity@nec.edu if you would like to speak directly about our efforts.

See you soon!

Lai-Monté L. Hunter, MA
Director of Diversity and Inclusion
New England College
Perspectives on Diversity Growth at New England College

Academic program flexibility, personal connections with faculty, and the College’s signature hands-on learning philosophy have always been a draw for students. For the past several years, diversity has steadily trended upward. Three years ago the diversity of the incoming undergraduate class was approximately 22% and today it is nearly 35%.

“Our students are receiving an outstanding education,” said President Perkins. “The growth in diversity enhances our students’ intellectual development and widens their experience. The College’s liberal arts curriculum is further enriched by diverse groups learning together. Students are focusing on obtaining skills and experiences that prepare them for their future career success in a global society.”

“I love it here,” said Anthony Boame, an African American junior studying Pre-Law and Creative Writing. “I grew up in Worcester, Massachusetts, and didn’t know how I was going to like a small town college. I quickly discovered that it is a special place. Not only is the campus beautiful, but the people are amazing. It has been a great fit ever since I arrived.” Kendra Lisenby, an African American senior from Boston, agrees. “New England College has absolutely transformed me. In addition to the academics, I am a senior class officer and supervisor for NEC’s student phone-a-thon. There’s an open and friendly culture here that’s distinctive. I’m not surprised more and more people of color are choosing New England College.”

Theresa Hernandez, a graduate student and Graduate Assistant at the College’s Office of Student Development, says “As an Afro-Hispanic graduate student, the environment at New England College is one where I can ask questions, make mistakes, be innovative, and feel welcomed. Being a part of this community has allowed me to flourish and explore my identity in ways that have never been available to me.” Theresa adds, “While I am relatively new to campus, I have helped with inaugural programming for cultural heritage month celebrations including Black History Month and Hispanic Heritage Month. Being a part of these celebrations has increased my determination to be more involved as an activist for social justice, and to increase awareness for Hispanic and Latina/o people and students.”

“It is true we deliver academic excellence at a beautiful school,” said Mike Taberski, New England College’s Dean of Students, “but I believe it’s the attitude and inner passion of students that make the New England College experience so personally meaningful. In terms of supporting diversity growth, every day our students are helping us think about the kinds of programs and resources they need to stay engaged. As student needs change — whether it be academically, socially, or culturally — we’re ready to make their experience transformative. It’s the New England College way!”
Acting New York State Supreme Court Justice and alumnus W. Franc Perry, III ‘83 is happy to learn of the College’s diversity growth, but he isn’t surprised. “When I attended New England College I was one of a few African Americans, but I was made to feel welcome just like everyone else. The whole point of the school has always been to experience new information and different points of reference in a supportive environment. It’s satisfying to know that more young students are discovering the gem that is New England College.”

In January, New England College began its seventieth year with a reflection on its history and a celebration of diversity at its annual Founders Day ceremony. Judge Perry gave an inspiring address and was awarded an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws.

After graduating from New England College, Judge Perry became the youngest member, as well as the first African American, to join the College’s Board of Trustees. After a sabbatical leave from private practice to earn a Masters of Divinity degree, he was elected as a Judge of the Civil Court of the State of New York where he presided over Custody, Visitation, and Family Offense Cases. Recently, he was appointed Acting Supreme Court Justice of the State of New York.

“Judge Perry embodies both the mission and the spirit of New England College,” says President Perkins. “He is the ideal role model for our students in that he has achieved tremendous professional success, dedicated his life to public service, and continues to embrace the arts and humanities. Franc is the true product of a liberal arts education and is a perfect example of a life well lived.”
**CHALLENGE**

Liberal Arts | Athletics | Engaged Learning | Innovation | Scholarships

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**Ray Apy ’89**

*Supporting Athletics*

Ray is a former student-athlete at NEC and knows that athletics is not just about winning. It is about lifelong friendships, lessons in teamwork, and learning to overcome obstacles. Join this challenge to support one of NEC’s many teams!

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**Dan DeMeo ’81**

*Supporting Liberal Arts*

Dan believes in the power of a liberal arts education. Critical thinking, strong writing skills, and engagement in community develop the whole student. Join this challenge to support faculty development, student clubs, and mentoring programs.

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[alumni.nec.edu/100KChallenge](alumni.nec.edu/100KChallenge)
New England College Announces The $100,000 Challenge!
Five leadership donors are challenging you to make a difference for NEC students by participating today.

- Each Challenge Leader pledged a $10,000 matching gift to one of five crucial impact areas to support NEC.
- When you make a gift to any of the five areas, your gift will be matched one to one, DOUBLING your gift!
- You can give to one area, or all areas—**you decide what impact you will make.**
- The challenge runs until **JUNE 30TH** with a $100,000 goal.

Your support makes all the difference to our NEC students so please join our Challenge Leaders with a gift today. Visit [alumni.nec.edu/100KChallenge](http://alumni.nec.edu/100KChallenge) to support your impact area challenge!

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**Debbie Spring Reed ’60**
**Supporting Scholarships**

Debbie was given access to an NEC education through a local scholarship and believes strongly in helping students obtain a college education. Over 95% of NEC students receive scholarship assistance. Join this challenge to support student scholarships and make NEC possible for every student admitted.

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**Kevin Kelly ’78**
**Supporting Innovation**

Kevin strongly supports the many ways NEC is innovating learning – from expanding online learning options to cutting edge classroom technology, and creating market forward majors like our sales management program. Join this challenge to support these pioneering educational endeavors.

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**Dr. Michele Perkins**
**Supporting Engaged Learning**

In her tenth year as President, Michele has helped make engaged learning an integral part of NEC. Join this challenge to support student educational travel to places like Belize and Kenya, civic engagement programs, and our Experiential Wednesdays.
Leaning against the podium, Spencer Marzouk ’12 is at ease, but the audience anticipates an inspirational intensity. Energetic and articulate, Spencer goes on to speak about his New England College journey and the importance of leadership before a full house in the Simon Great Room. Just four years after graduation, this beaming young man has launched a career that embraces community service, nonprofit innovation, and business. His core message to students: “Dive into opportunities you see and have the courage to start something.”

Choosing New England College as his starting point came from the feeling of “fit” and the support of family, friends, and New England College Men’s Basketball Coach Charlie Mason. As Coach Mason remembers, “When Spencer walked into a room, he radiated optimism and camaraderie. The environment was perfect for him.” Spencer excelled at NEC. He captained the men’s basketball team, served as class president, and earned his BS in Business Management graduating magna cum laude. “I was a good – but not great – student from a big high school,” shares Spencer. “New England College offered amazing opportunities and I was able to be myself and develop a plan to become successful. The liberal arts foundation and unique connection with faculty gave me a diverse education that has had a direct impact on my career.”

**GIVING BACK**

During Spencer’s junior year he decided to dedicate at least two years to active citizenship. “I had become interested in education reform and addressing inequalities in our educational systems, and I wanted to do something to help young people get off to a good start in their lives.” So Spencer applied for, and was accepted by, Teach for America and taught middle school near the birthplace of the civil rights movement outside Montgomery, Alabama.

What he found was “extensive multi-generational poverty, unspoken, but very real, racial segregation, and a classroom situation with a revolving door for students. I had talented students with no resources. They graduated completely unprepared for college or a job. As a teacher, it was difficult to make a lasting difference.”

Remembering the impact it had on his own education, Spencer envisioned a series of out-of-classroom experiences that would expose students to the bigger world. He wanted students to connect with real-world mentors and see opportunities, and he hoped to help students prepare for SATs and employment.

**MOVING FORWARD**

Acting on his vision, Spencer founded The Mission Possible Initiative (TMPI), an educational non-profit organization that aims to address resource issues impacting a student’s achievement outside of the classroom, such as access, mentorship, and pathways to opportunities. In its inaugural year, Spencer raised $26,000 and took 15 students to New York City. For many students, it was the first time they had ever travelled beyond their county. Students visited popular landmarks, Fortune 500 companies, and the New York Stock Exchange.
TMPI, now in its fourth year, has grown significantly. It has impacted students in low-income schools throughout Alabama, the Washington DC, and the Maryland regions, all of whom have seen significant gains in academic achievement and access to opportunities.

THINKING BIG

Spencer’s efforts have been recognized by some of America’s top business and educational leaders. His ambition and drive have led to TMPI working with organizations such as Goldman Sachs, American Express, Delta Airlines, Disney, Sony Records, and the National Basketball Association. High profile leaders have joined the organization’s advisory board including Robin Roberts (TV Personality and Host of Good Morning America), Tom Corson (President and COO of RCA records), and Peter Costa (Governor of the New York Stock Exchange).

The CEO of Tupperware Brands and Chairman of The Boys & Girls Club of America, Rick Goings, and his wife Susan, learned of Spencer’s work, noted the importance of his liberal arts experience, and offered to provide guidance that could help build the program. Goings was so impressed with Spencer’s wisdom, work ethic, and positive attitude that he offered him an opportunity to be mentored by Tupperware’s executive team.

“The opportunity with Tupperware has been exciting!” says Spencer. “I am so fortunate to be mentored by Mr. Goings and the leadership team of a successful, publically-traded company with an iconic global brand. New England College has made a difference in the early stages of my professional journey. The school’s educational environment allowed me to be exposed to a broad mix of perspectives, which have proven essential to entering the global workforce.”

DEVELOPING LEADERSHIP

While at New England College, Spencer was awarded the Ty Boyd ’77 Memorial Scholarship, named in honor of NEC student William “Ty” Boyd and endowed by family and friends. The Ty Boyd Scholarship is awarded annually to students enrolled at NEC who qualify for financial aid and exhibit leadership in both academic and extracurricular activities.

“I was honored to have been a recipient of the Ty Boyd Scholarship. It has truly assisted in the trajectory of my life and I am grateful for the opportunity. My experience at New England College has clearly shaped who I am today and the pathways I have been granted.”

As Spencer wraps up his presentation to students, basketball metaphors come easily. He concludes his story by urging everyone: “The ball’s in your court. Now go get it!”

For more information on Spencer’s organizations, go to teachforamerica.org, themissionpossibleinitiative.org, and Tupperware.com.
High Energy Experiential Learning at the NH Primary Student Convention

Hands-On Civic Engagement at NEC-Hosted Event Attracts Hundreds from Across the Country

“This is amazing! I can’t believe we get to meet presidential candidates face-to-face,” said a college student from Louisiana, shortly after taking a selfie with presidential candidate John Kasich. “These are people we only see on TV.” Kasich had just concluded a Town Hall meeting at the NH Primary Student Convention, held January 4-6 at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester, NH.

Led by New England College Professors Wayne Lesperance, Inez McDermott, Jim Walsh, and over 30 NEC student ambassadors, the Convention brought candidates, campaign staffers, journalists, and issue advocacy groups together with over 500 college and high school students from 35 states across the country.

Ten presidential candidates participated in town hall meetings, including Bernie Sanders, Chris Christie, Howard Dean as surrogate for Hillary Clinton, John Kasich, Martin O’Malley, Carly Fiorina, Rand Paul, Jim Gilmore, and Ben Carson. The Q&A sessions featured thoughtful, hard-hitting questions from students, ranging from national security and climate change to immigration policy and funding for Planned Parenthood.

In addition, students enjoyed nearly 20 breakout sessions covering a wide range of topics, from the Second Amendment and veterans issues to bird-dogging, campaign finance reform, and drug reform policy.

Students were excited to see extensive media coverage up close and personal. National media such as ABC, CBS, *New York Times*, CNN, *Huffington Post*, and *The Hill* covered the Convention as well as regional and international media. *CBS Morning News* reporter, Major Garrett, reported live from the Convention and then spoke with students and posed for photos.

It was a high energy, life-altering three days for students. “It’s encouraging to see so many students engaged in the process,” said Lesperance. “The Convention is a memorable hands-on learning experience that reflects New England College’s mission and our approach to learning.”
Noteworthy Faculty and Student Accomplishments

**NEC Students Publish Scientific Research.** For the past five years, NEC has participated in The New Hampshire IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (NH-INBRE). NH-INBRE is a collaborative partnership among several New Hampshire colleges designed to expand biomedical research capacity and training in the state. Recently, a new five-year $18.1 million grant from the National Institutes of Health was awarded to continue the successful program. According to NEC’s Associate Dean of Natural and Social Sciences and Professor of Biology, Dr. Debra Dunlop, “NEC’s participation in NH-INBRE, led by Dr. James Newcomb, Associate Professor of Biology, has resulted in three significant scientific papers and seven New England College undergraduate students becoming published scientific authors. This is a great accomplishment and a wonderful example of our commitment to experiential learning.”

**Two Newly Published Books!** Gavin W. Henning, PhD, Program Director of the Doctor in Education and the Master of Science in Higher Education Administration programs and Associate Professor of Higher Education has co-edited *Coordinating Student Affairs Divisional Assessment: A Practical Guide,* and co-authored *Student Affairs Assessment: Theory to Practice.*

**NEC Students First to Launch “Carbon Endowment.”** Kevin Martin, MBA, Associate Dean of Management and Assistant Professor of Business Administration led students in the Sustainable Enterprise and Innovation class to Kenya to help local farmers and investigate sustainable economic development. The “Carbon Endowment” concept is the result of students uniting around a singular vision of carbon neutrality. Students built a business plan and mapped operational details for a program that will generate a carbon credit “endowment” (or savings account) for the College. The program will also reduce carbon and produce short- and long-term environmental benefits.

**Student Team Presentation at National Convention.** Three New England College students presented research findings at the annual convention of the Association for Psychological Science (APS) in New York City. Siana Botts, Lawrence Greene, and Gabrielle Naimie presented their research study entitled, “More than a Category: Ethnic Belonging Correlates with Self-Esteem, Meaning and Morality,” with Dr. Heather Frasier Chabot, New England College Professor of Psychology. Their presentation was based on data that were collected as part of a Research Methods course taught by Chabot.
Industry Leader Focuses on Sustainable Business Practices

Shortly after speaking with students in a business class taught by Assistant Professor of Business Administration Kevin Martin, alumnus Ray Apy ’89 shakes his head and smiles.

“Coming out of high school, I was fairly shy. When I came to New England College, I had this feeling it would be a good fit… and I was right. My teachers were patient and supportive, and I became more and more confident. I learned how to communicate and build my writing skills, and I also developed analytical skills and learned how to question things.”

Ray Apy ’89 Builds a Winning

No longer shy, Ray Apy is the successful President and CEO of a $105 million company. Annese & Associates, Inc. is a technology company focused on infrastructure, collaboration, data center management, and cyber security. This includes voice, video, and web meeting technology, as well as computer centers and cloud based services. Their primary markets are education, healthcare, commercial, and government.

Ray reflects on his career progression – a favorite topic for students. “I got my BA in Environmental Studies at New England College and went on to earn a Masters in Environmental Science and Policy. I was the second engineer hired at Annese and I discovered that I not only knew the systems part of the business, but I enjoyed the sales side too.” Success in sales paved the way to sales management and then to senior management. In 2008, the company’s founder retired and Ray became the new leader.

Building a Sustainable Business

While in graduate school, Ray’s thesis was on building sustainable businesses and creating a triple bottom line. “Triple bottom line” refers to an approach that balances profits with recognizing the value of people and the importance of the environment. Together, the triple bottom line has the potential to create long-term sustainable business success.

Ray takes great pride in the company’s relationship with its 130 employees. “From a sustainable business perspective, we are very people focused. We pay 100% healthcare coverage, match our 401K at 6%, offer profit sharing, professional development opportunities, and an array of other benefits. The result is a positive work culture and very low employee turnover.”
According to Ray, caring for employees brings two benefits to his company’s bottom line. “First, employee turnover is incredibly expensive and disruptive. Low turnover saves money and makes us more productive. Second, our focus on people is directly related to customer satisfaction and the excellent long-term relationships we have with our customers. When we take care of our people, they take care of our customers.”

From an environmental point of view, Ray’s company continues to innovate and adapt technology to help their customers be more productive and less wasteful. Innovations such as tele-medicine and videoconferencing improves his clients’ delivery of services and decreases required travel, which reduces the carbon footprint.

“Triple Bottom Line” Business

The Winning Spirit of NEC Rugby

Ray was a valued teammate on New England College’s rugby team. “I played wing and loved it. Rugby helped me understand the value of teamwork and developing a winning spirit.” Ray says the winning spirit he developed here has translated into the business world as a strong ethical focus on employee and customer care. “A winning spirit is absolutely critical to have. For me, a winning spirit is the determination to succeed and being able to sustain that success today, the next day, and the day after that.”

For students at New England College, Ray emphasizes active participation and building communication skills. “Engage in opportunities as much as possible and learn how to communicate effectively. The ability to tell a story is incredibly powerful, and you need to develop a vibrant personality that can connect with people. What companies are really looking for today are strong communications skills.”

Returning to Henniker and interacting with students prompts Ray to reflect with a final sentiment: “A small college was the right environment for me. I would have been lost at a big school. I wouldn’t trade my NEC experience for anything and I love coming back here.”
New England College women’s soccer finished their 2015 campaign with an overall record of 10-11-1 and a North Atlantic Conference (NAC) record of 5-4-0. The Pilgrims advanced to the NAC Championship game for the first time in school history, upsetting top-seeded Castleton State University in the semifinals.

Leading the way for the Pilgrims was NAC First Team All-Conference selection Caroline Mols (Verona, NJ). Senior defender Mols earned first team honors for her third consecutive year. Mols started all 21 games for the Pilgrims this season and anchored a Pilgrim defense that recorded 10 wins, including four shutouts, and a goals against average of 1.51.

The midfield junior duo of Jessica Barnum (Hartland, VT) and Rachel Thomas (Raleigh, NC) earned NAC Second Team All-Conference. Barnum started all 21 games for the Pilgrims and dished out three assists, while Thomas also started all 21 games and led the team with seven assists to go along with two goals.

Rounding out the all-conference honors was senior defender Katie Hatch (Old Orchard Beach, ME). Hatch was named NAC Second Team All-Conference working with Mols to help the defense record 10 wins, including four shutouts, and a goals against average of 1.51.
MEN’S SOCCER

New England College men’s soccer finished their 2015 season with an overall record of 12-8-1 and a NAC record of 5-4-0. The Pilgrims avenged last season’s post-season loss to Husson College beating the Eagles in penalty kicks in the opening round of the playoffs before falling to Thomas College in the semifinals.

Leading the way for the Pilgrims was NAC First Team All-Conference honoree Michael Skarbelis (North Andover, MA). Sophomore forward Skarbelis played in all 21 games and led the NAC and the Pilgrims in scoring, finishing the season with 19 goals, including five game-winners, and five assists.

Earning NAC Second Team All-Conference accolades were juniors Ronsard Masamba (Haverhill, MA) and Rizy Misiri (Concord, NH). Masamba finished second on the team in scoring with a total of 33 points, including 13 goals and a team-high seven assists. Misiri was instrumental at the midfield position this year starting all 21 games and notching four goals while dishing out seven assists.
NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE field hockey finished their season with an overall record of 2-17.

Leading the way for the Pilgrims was Cody Kent (Rye, NH) who earned NAC All-Conference honors. Kent was an instrumental piece of the Pilgrim midfield, starting 15 of the 18 games and finishing with two goals and two assists. In addition to Kent’s honors, senior defender Amy Belanger (Whitefield, NH) was named to the NAC Sportsmanship Team.

WOMEN’S CROSS COUNTRY

New England College women’s cross country runner Abby Shafer (Egg Harbor Township, NJ) earned NAC Runner of the Year for the third straight season and was named NAC First Team All-Conference finishing the NAC Cross Country Championship in first place with a 5K time of 20:07. Shafer competed in the NCAA Regional and qualified for the NCAA National Championship where she finished 143rd with a 6K time of 22:37.

Joining Shafer on the NAC First Team was junior Allison Granata (Norwalk, CT) who finished the NAC Championship meet in fourth place with a time of 21:52.

FIELD HOCKEY

New England College field hockey finished their season with an overall record of 2-17.

Leading the way for the Pilgrims was Cody Kent (Rye, NH) who earned NAC All-Conference honors. Kent was an instrumental piece of the Pilgrim midfield, starting 15 of the 18 games and finishing with two goals and two assists. In addition to Kent’s honors, senior defender Amy Belanger (Whitefield, NH) was named to the NAC Sportsmanship Team.
**INTRODUCING PILGRIMS**

**ATHLETIC DIRECTOR LOU IZZI**

This past fall, Louis Izzi, Jr. joined NEC as its new Director of Athletics. Izzi comes to NEC from Johnson & Wales University in Providence, RI. He began and built the men’s ice hockey program and was named New England Hockey Writers Coach of the Year in 2001. Izzi served as JWU’s Assistant Athletic Director for over 16 years.

Student-athletes are an important part of the NEC community: over 30% of our on-campus students participate in a NCAA or club sport. Lou brings a high level of knowledge to the College, from coaching and mentoring coaches, to developing academic support systems for athletes.

New England College is thrilled to have Lou leading Pilgrim Athletics.

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**MEN’S CROSS COUNTRY**

On men’s cross country, junior Scott Shaw (Norfolk, CT) garnered NAC First Team All-Conference honors with his third place finish in the NAC Championship. Shaw finished the 8K course in a time of 27:28. Teammate Korey Hunt (Franklin, MA) earned NAC Second Team All-Conference accolades finishing 15th overall with a time of 28:43.

Scott Shaw

JUNIOR
JOHN LYONS CENTER CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

An essential piece of NEC’s historic Bridge to the Future capital campaign, the John Lyons Center construction is past the halfway mark and on schedule to welcome students beginning this fall.

The exterior is fully enclosed, interior walls are completely framed, and electrical, plumbing, and sheetrock work is well underway. As crews work through the cold and snow of our New England winter, the porches have taken shape and installation of clapboard siding has begun.

“It is so inspiring to see the building take shape and to think about the high-quality learning environment that students will soon enjoy here on a daily basis,” said President Michele Perkins. “We are enormously thankful to alumni and friends for their continuing and generous support to make this building a reality.”

There are plenty of ways to add your name and create a legacy in this building. Call Morgan Smith at 603.428.2296 to discuss.
The beginning of each New Year brings with it the opportunity for change and renewal. For New England College, this means rolling out a new structure for alumni involvement in 2016, one that provides better connectivity, communication, and cooperation between the college and its former students. For me, as Alumni Association President, it means working with the staff in Alumni Relations to jumpstart the Alumni Volunteer Network, a new initiative for 2016, and I need your help as we launch our first program – Admissions Volunteering.

First, let me back up a bit to explain. As you may have heard, a lot has been happening at New England College as it begins its 70th year. We recently welcomed one of the largest and most diverse incoming classes in the college’s history. Fundraising is at an all-time high, with more than $5 million raised in the last fiscal year. Construction of the John Lyons Center is on schedule and will welcome students in the fall. Renovations to the residence halls are ongoing, and the college’s future state-of-the-art theatre, the Rosamond Page Putnam Center for the Performing Arts, is in the design phase.

In other words, it’s an exciting time to be a part of the New England College community. I think this feeling of excitement may be one of the reasons why last October we had the biggest turnout for Alumni Weekend (now called Fall Festival) that we’ve had in more than a decade. I know we can make this year’s event even better, and I’d like to see us beat last year’s turnout of 350 new and returning alumni.

The best way to achieve this goal, of course, is to encourage more alumni to get involved. And this is where you come in. Depending on your interest, there are many ways to support the college – working with admissions, attending/planning networking events, getting involved in event planning, and doing some fundraising.

One way to make a significant impact right now, however, is to help with admissions by calling prospective students, answering their questions, and sharing your excitement and experiences. Applications for the class of 2020 are coming in, and we believe that having alumni call potential Pilgrims who live nearby can make a difference in encouraging their enrollment.

I hope you will consider joining me in making support of New England College a priority in 2016. You can volunteer for any of the initiatives listed above by filling out the volunteer interest form at alumni.nec.edu/beengaged, or calling Alumni Relations at 603.428.2398. Please let me know if you have any questions at alumnipres@nec.edu.

Best,

Louis Pakula ’85
Alumni Association President
Lacrosse Alumnus
Class Notes

1950
Elmer Brown, Ed Duggan, Elizabeth Henderson, Bob and Anne Abrams, and Dick and Marcia Keller enjoyed their time on campus during their 65th class reunion (pictured with NEC President Michele Perkins).

1954
Tom Howard and his daughter, Carolyn, enjoyed catching up with classmates at the Golden Pilgrim Luncheon during Fall Festival (pictured with NEC President Michele Perkins).

1955
Raymond and Doris Sands joined August “Auggie” Vettorino for a walk down memory lane in October.

1958
Dan DaCosta joined his fellow Golden Pilgrim Society members for lunch in the Sayce Lounge during Fall Festival.

1959
Richard and Maureen Mehrman caught up with NEC and the Golden Pilgrims at the annual Golden Pilgrim Society Luncheon during Fall Festival.

1960
Joe and Beth Carpinteri, Dave Robinson, Paul Van Wagenen, and Richard and Nancy Keough celebrated their 55th reunion this fall (pictured with NEC President Michele Perkins).

1965
Don Emerson (not pictured), Alfred Prudhomme, and Bob Seaman (pictured with NEC President Michele Perkins) were welcomed into the Golden Pilgrim Society during Fall Festival weekend.

1970
Rosemary Blair, Peter and Norma Carter, Warren Eigen, Charles and Elizabeth Greif, Dennis Howland, Charles Meany, Harold Messenger, Walter and Diana Norris, and Blithe Reed enjoyed a 45th class reunion dinner at the Colby Hill Inn during Fall Festival. They hope to see more classmates and friends at their 50th!

1973
Steven P. Marini recently published his fourth novel Schmuel’s Journey. The book follows a young man, Sam Miller, from Auschwitz in 1944 to Henniker, NH, in 1974. Sam can’t escape the Holocaust, even in Henniker after 30 years. Steve hopes to do a signing at NEC during Fall Festival.

1979
Phil Elphand congratulates his eldest grandson on being named captain of the Liverpool, NY High School Football Team, and on his upcoming 2016 high school graduation.

1985
Many thanks to Louis Pakula, alumni association president, for coordinating a grandmasters men’s lacrosse alumni gathering including classmates James Trase ’86, Jay Kulick, Dan Lynch, Jonny Kayser ’86, Bryan Olin ’86, Skip Whitaker ’86, Rob Daziel ’86, Chip Sullivan ’86 and Tim Thompson.
1986
Rob Daziel, Jonny Kayser, Bryan Olin, Chip Sullivan, James Trase, Skip Whitaker - see 1985

1994
Karin Ashton and David Wilkinson '97 have two children, Charlie and Ella. Karin is the Community Relations Coordinator at the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and David works for North Branch Construction. They live in Contoocook.

Johanna Rodden decided to leave C.H. Robinson in September 2014 after committing 11 years to the largest third party logistics firm. During her stint as a Senior Sales Executive, she was recognized as one of the Top Sales performers consecutively throughout her career. Johanna’s success and dedication at CHR provided her with a new opportunity as the Director of Sales at IW Financial, Portland, ME.

IW Financial is dedicated to providing Technology and Research data to financial professionals around the world. This promotion and new adventure have opened the doors for professional and personal growth. Johanna is also coaching U16 field hockey players at Seacoast United in Hampton, NH, and AAU basketball for the Rochester Rebels.

1997
David Wilkinson – see 1994

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2006
Casey Greemore – see 2007

2007
Nicholas Kropelin and Casey Greemore '06 were married in August 2014. They recently purchased a house in Merrimack, NH.

2009
Elizabeth Bohn has been studying early childhood education at Manchester Community College and will complete her Early Childhood Professional Certificate program in May.

MFA in Poetry graduate, Douglas Piccinnini, published his first novella, Story Book and his first book of poems, Blood Oboe, in 2015. Blood Oboe was named as one of Publishers Weekly's poetry “Torch Carriers” for fall 2015 and Story Book was a best seller at Small Press Distribution during the months of May and June. Douglas says, “Having finished my undergraduate degree at Rutgers University in 2005 and my MFA at NEC in 2009, the road to publishing my first books involved many failed attempts and false starts. My success, I feel, is built upon passion for the art and determination. That passion and determination were fostered in the learning environment that I experienced while in residency at New England College.”

2013
Jonathan Boxill reports that he has been selected as a pre-qualifier for the Great Britain Olympic Ice Hockey Team. Jonathan currently plays for the Belfast Giants of the Elite Hockey League in the UK.

2015
John Wesley Reed, Jr. reports that since graduating in October 2015, creative juices are flowing towards writing, both as a music journalist and as a composer/arranger. Prior extensive studies in Music Education, Theory, and Composition triggered the desire to return to piano, choral, and jazz composition. With the second anniversary as Article Contributor for All About Jazz, a digital jazz magazine, fans may follow all published articles on Jwreedjrblog.wordpress.com, as well as allaboutjazz.com.

John says that he owes special gratitude to Thomas McGrevey Jr., NEC Professor, and Catherine Ryan, Reference/ILL, for their encouraging support and helping him to receive the Who's Who Among Students In American Universities & Colleges for both 2015 and 2016. “To all of the professors, peers, and advisors who played vital roles in such a rewarding and exciting educational experience, I wish you all the very best in 2016.”

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IN REMEMBRANCE

Nicholas G. Antonas ’59
January 6, 2016, age 83

Mary Lauren “Lolly” Gerlach Bair, attended 2000
August 27, 2015, age 38

Joel P. Bilodeau ’63
July 20, 2015, age 79

Paul F. Carew ’50
January 1, 2016, age 89

Daniel Connolly, Jr., attended 1955-56
December 5, 2015, age 81

Russell Curtis, III ’69
July 20, 2015, age 65

Dennis C. Delay, faculty
December 18, 2015, age 65

Debra Anne Wood Enright ’88
July 6, 2015, age 53

Mary Ann French ’75
November 3, 2015, age 75

Kevin Fowler, student
November 27, 2015, age 61

Arthur H. Howes ’64
July 30, 2015, age 76

Perry L. Huested ’70
August 9, 2015, age 67

Frederick D. Johnson ’72
September 21, 2015, age 66

Jeffrey S. Kantor ’68
July 29, 2015, age 72

Renee E. Leavitt ’03
November 29, 2015, age 60

William G. Lutz ’87
August 29, 2015, age 52

William Miller ’53
July 18, 2015, age 87

Thomas M. O’Donnell, faculty
October 23, 2015, age 87

Ronald A. Philbrick, Sr. ’58
August 18, 2015, age 83

Karen Jones Rima ’74
November 7, 2015, age 62

Warren Arthur Russell ’50
November 14, 2015, age 88

William Jay Smith ’73
August 18, 2015, age 97

Dennis Tabachow ’66
October 12, 2015, age 73

Sarah “Liz” Barker Thomas ’81
November 15, 2015, age 79

Robert Lincoln Thomas ’60
July 6, 2015, age 82

Arthur Robert Thomas
Honorary Degree ’01
December 12, 2015, age 52

Honors United States Military Service
Reconnect with classmates, teammates, and all your friends in the New England College community.

September 30 - October 2, 2016

For more information visit alumni.nec.edu. To register email alumni@nec.edu.
SAVE THE DATE!

John Lyons Center Dedication
October 1, 2016

The new John Lyons Center will be officially dedicated and open for tours during NEC’s Fall Festival weekend. Celebrate the extraordinary career of Professor John Lyons and this remarkable new resource for student learning!