

SPRING 2022

NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE

M A G A Z I N E

THE HEALTHCARE ISSUE



GREETINGS

FROM BRIDGE STREET

Spring has come to New Hampshire, and it is a welcome sight. I take great delight in this time of rebirth and rejuvenation. This spring feels particularly uplifting as, more and more, our campuses in Henniker and Manchester are moving back to a normal way of life. We are grateful to see the COVID variants subsiding and hopeful that soon we will be able to say the pandemic is behind us.

We have much good news to report. The challenges we have faced over the past two years have not slowed our efforts in taking New England College to the next level of growth and success.

We are thrilled about several new developments. One is the launch of our new three-year cooperative Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. This program is like no other in the state, graduating students in three years and putting students in hospital settings (working as licensed nursing assistants) after one year of study. Another new development is the launch of our online programs in South America, offered in Spanish. We have received full accreditation for this project and are partnering with a company in Chile to help us market and launch these programs.

We are also very pleased to announce the establishment of the College's first-ever endowed faculty chair, thanks to the multi-year pledge from a devoted NEC alumnus, Ken Krueger.

We have a comprehensive, five-year strategic plan and are currently finishing the second year of that plan. One might assume that we halted progress on these goals, given the challenges of COVID. I'm proud to report that we are ahead of schedule for and will likely achieve almost all the goals of this ambitious plan. You can read more about some of the programs we're developing in this issue; more will be highlighted in coming issues.

Commencement is around the corner, and I'm happy to report that we will hold this year's ceremony in person on the Henniker campus. We are delighted that our own Governor Chris Sununu will be our speaker and will receive an honorary degree. In addition, former Polish president Lech Wałęsa will be in attendance and will also receive an honorary degree. Mr. Wałęsa is a 1983 Nobel Peace Prize winner.

The hope of peace is held by many as the world watches the people of Ukraine fight for their nation and freedom. New England College is an institution that is dedicated to civic engagement and the principles of democracy, and we remain steadfast in our support of Ukraine as that nation stands against Russia's invasion. Our hearts ache for Ukraine, and we long for a resolution to this conflict.

Now in my 15th year as NEC's president, I continue to be amazed by this dedicated community of learners, educators, and staff and by all we can accomplish when we work together. Thank you for your hard work and commitment to making New England College such a special place.

Warm regards,



Michele D. Perkins, EdD
President



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INSIGHT AND ACTION

By Dr. Michele Perkins
President, New England College



Dr. Michele Perkins, President, NEC

“OUR BSN MODEL PROVIDES A WONDERFUL EXAMPLE OF SEAMLESS COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE ACADEMIC REALM AND THE PROFESSIONAL REALM. I THINK THIS MODEL COULD ESTABLISH A NEW PARADIGM FOR OTHER ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES GOING FORWARD, AND I AM PROUD THAT NEC’S INNOVATIVE SPIRIT PUTS US AT THE FOREFRONT OF THAT POTENTIAL SHIFT.”

One of my favorite qualities about New England College is our steadfast commitment to innovation and moving forward. That commitment led the College’s leadership to include the launch of a bachelor’s-level nursing program in our Strategic Plan that we developed in 2019, even though we had been planning a nursing program since well before then. We recognized that throughout the state, facilities had been plagued by a shortage of clinical positions, particularly nurses, for some time.

Our plan to help alleviate this shortage by launching a nursing program aligned with COVID in a good way, which sounds a little strange to say, because the pandemic amplified the shortage problem. *The Atlantic*¹ has reported that one in five nurses has left the field since the pandemic began, so developing and launching a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) became even more of a strategic priority for NEC.

Launching a new academic program typically involves quite a bit of market research, but we already knew that the field of nursing needed help and that a nursing program would fit very well with the strength of our existing science programs.

You can imagine that launching a clinically based program would face some challenges, and the largest one was the need for clinical facilities. NEC is not in the position to build such a facility that would easily cost tens of millions of dollars. Thankfully, Wayne Lesperance (Provost), Karen Scolforo (Associate Vice President of Enrollment and Program Development), and Angela McPhee-Smith (Associate Dean of Medical Programs) devised an innovative solution that allowed us to move forward. In our new BSN program, students will spend some time in the classroom, but much of their learning will take place at a partner facility—Concord Hospital, to start.

This model offers NEC’s nursing students three advantages over traditional BSN programs:

1. Students become licensed nursing assistants in their first year and then become employees of Concord Hospital for the duration of the program, allowing them to earn as they learn.
2. Students are placed in a clinical setting as soon as the summer of their first year.
3. Students graduate in three years instead of four.

Our partnership with Concord Hospital and innovative program model have garnered the attention of other hospitals in New Hampshire, and even outside of New Hampshire, that would like to work with us. We believe this model can be replicated in any other hospital, but we first want to ensure that our initial program launch is as precise and efficient as possible.

A program that only attracts a small number of students each year is not feasible for NEC, and we are pleased that over 150 students have applied to our BSN program so far. We hope to enroll about 40 of them when classes begin this fall. We also look to hire one more full-time nursing professor and some adjunct faculty to round out this program.

Adding other clinical programs, such as physician’s assistant, would be a natural progression for the future, although we have not yet devised a plan for additional programs. We do know that a large number of NEC graduates go into the medical field, so the interest is there.

Our BSN model provides a wonderful example of seamless collaboration between the academic realm and the professional realm. I think this model could establish a new paradigm for other academic disciplines going forward, and I am proud that NEC’s innovative spirit puts us at the forefront of that potential shift.

1 Ed Yong. “Why Health-Care Workers Are Quitting in Droves.” *The Atlantic*, November 16, 2021. <https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2021/11/the-mass-exodus-of-americas-health-care-workers/620713/>.

BREAKING NEW GROUND IN NURSING

A DEEP DIVE INTO OUR NEW BACHELOR'S
OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM



It is not an exaggeration to say that nurses form the backbone of the modern healthcare system, especially in hospital settings, where nurses provide around-the-clock care for patients. Moreover, these nurses are often asked to take on more and more responsibility as healthcare becomes increasingly complex and the system continues to face staffing shortages.

New England College has long planned to launch a bachelor's-level nursing degree program to prepare students to meet these workplace challenges. That plan becomes a reality for the fall 2022 semester with a three-year cooperative Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN).

DESIGNING AN INNOVATIVE PROGRAM

When Karen Scolforo, Associate Vice President of Enrollment and Program Development, joined NEC in November 2020, her role included developing new academic programs for the College. That process often led to conversations with other organizations across the state to discuss workforce needs. During a conversation with hospital leaders, she learned two key things. One, hospitals in New Hampshire cannot find enough nurses, especially those trained at the bachelor's level, to fill all their open positions. Two, hospitals have established partnerships with other higher education institutions for six- to eight-week clinical rotations. Still, nursing students have not been staying to work in the state's hospitals. Scolforo recognized that NEC needed a way to move bachelor's-level nursing students into the workforce more quickly than traditional academic models. NEC needed an innovative, three-year cooperative model.

"I launched a similar model when I worked at a previous institution, and I fostered the design process at NEC," Scolforo stated. "Our three-year model offers a complementary approach by combining classroom learning on our Henniker campus and immersive clinical experiences at Concord Hospital, our inaugural partner hospital."

"I launched a similar model when I worked at a previous institution, and I fostered the design process at NEC," Scolforo stated. "Our three-year model offers a complementary approach by combining classroom learning on our Henniker campus and immersive clinical experiences at Concord Hospital, our inaugural partner hospital."

Scolforo explained how this innovative model works. Students begin the program by attending their first two trimesters of classes. They then become employees of Concord Hospital, working 36 hours a week as licensed nursing assistants (LNA) during a 14-week immersive clinical experience. For the duration of the BSN program, students will toggle between the classroom and clinical environments. This approach allows students to apply what they have learned immediately, advance their skills, and graduate faster.

For its part, Concord Hospital knows that NEC's nursing students will provide a year-round workforce. First-year students will work at the hospital during the summer, second-year students in the spring, and third-year students in the fall.

"By the time students graduate, they will have worked in the hospital for three years," Scolforo pointed out. "They will have formed connections and become acclimated to the hospital's culture."



Scolforo also learned in her conversations with hospital leaders that it typically takes nine months for a new nurse to become acclimated to the culture. As a result, BSN students who spend three years working at Concord Hospital will be more likely to stay as full-time employees when they graduate, helping reduce staffing shortages.

ADDRESSING THE NURSING SHORTAGE

A former critical care nurse, Dr. Angela McPhee-Smith, DNP, RN—Associate Dean of Nursing and Health Professions and Associate Professor of Nursing—has witnessed the nursing shortage for over 22 years as a nurse. From an academic perspective, the shortage, she says, in part stems from entrance-to-graduation taking four to five years and programs capping enrollment due to limited access to clinical placements and availability of clinical faculty. There is also a scarcity of qualified nurse educators due to the need to hold a terminal degree in nursing while often being paid less than their students in practice environments.

“By design, NEC’s innovative three-year cooperative BSN helps overcome some of the hurdles to getting students into nursing programs and then out into clinical settings more efficiently,” stated McPhee-Smith. “In our program, students will graduate in less than three years. As a true academic-practice partnership, NEC and our practice partners will share in the responsibility of educating nurses to address the complexities of the 21st-century healthcare delivery system.”

In addition to the academic barriers she sees, McPhee-Smith notes that high retirement rates among nurses also cause staffing shortages. In New Hampshire, the average age of nurses is 46 or older, which has come down from a previous average age of 55. As a result, nursing schools cannot keep up with the demand caused by older nurse populations heading into retirement. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic has moved RN job vacancy rates in New Hampshire from 12.8% in 2019 to nearly 24% in 2022.

McPhee-Smith also points out that the nursing field struggles with high turnover rates in the first year of employment. In traditional nursing programs, students move from one six- to eight-week clinical placement to another. When they graduate, they either move away or accept a position in a hospital from their clinical placements. However, because students spent so little time at each placement, they never became part of the organization or culture. As a result, they may not have gained a realistic expectation of the clinical setting, leading to shellshock.

NEC built the first-year nursing experience into its BSN program. Students must be LNAs before the first immersive hospital experience during the summer of their first year in the program. As LNA employees of Concord Hospital, these first-year students are also introduced into the nursing workforce. Students will have an immediate impact on workforce needs; understand the hospital’s policies and procedures; work in different departments; and over their three years at the hospital, gain a solid understanding of what it means to be a nurse, resulting in less turnover due to shellshock.

FOCUSING ON STUDENT SUCCESS

As with all its students, NEC wants to help its nursing students find success in the classroom and beyond. That starts with competitive scholarships that have been designed for this specific program.

Admitted students will be placed into cohorts and move through the program together. “Research shows that students in a cohort tend to be highly successful and supportive of each other and have a much better overall experience,” Scolforo commented.

The College is also considering the addition of nursing-specific housing so that students can live and learn with others who understand the need to be professional and focused.

And, of course, there is the liberal arts component. “This program combines

elements of the nursing diploma program, like teaching hospitals used to offer, with a liberal arts education,” Scolforo stated. “It’s a beautiful match that gives students the skillset to become excellent nurses and nurse leaders who are ready to hit the ground running as soon as they graduate.”

The liberal arts curriculum, Scolforo and McPhee-Smith agree, is critical to the program. Critical thinking, problem-solving, thinking on their feet—these are the soft skills nurses need that a liberal arts education provides.

OPENING MORE DOORS FOR NURSES

McPhee-Smith notes that as more and more hospitals want bachelor’s-level nurses, many nurses with a diploma or associate degree are going back to school. As a result, BSN-educated nurses focus more on evidence-based practice and leadership. They learn to identify a problem, look at the evidence, work at effecting change, and test hypotheses. This process leads to better patient outcomes.

A BSN also opens up more professional opportunities for nurses. Those who pursue their BSN receive more public and mental health training and are more prepared for leadership and management roles. For example, they can work with the Veterans Administration, which only hires BSNs and above; go into the military as officers; or be better positioned for higher education paths like nurse practitioner or nurse anesthetist.

FORMING TRUE PARTNERSHIPS

The process of creating NEC’s new BSN program has been marked by collaboration and partnership. “This model evolved through our conversations with NEC’s leadership and their openness to making modifications along the way,” Scolforo stated. “The model morphed again through our conversations with Concord Hospital. This program is a true representation of partnership, and I think we’re all really proud of that.”

NEC and Concord Hospital will collaborate, as leaders from both organizations will serve on the BSN admission council. McPhee-Smith; Patricia Corbett (NEC’s Dean of Undergraduate Programs); Erin Collins, RN (Vice President of Nursing at Concord Hospital); and Patrick Boyle (Chief Human Resources Officer at Concord Hospital) will interview applicants and determine cohort assignments each year.

“This program will build confidence in students because they will be learning at the bedside in their first year, working alongside other healthcare professionals, and building on their LNA skills,” Scolforo added. “Because this is a high-demand program, we are in the process of talking with several other hospital systems. There is potential to replicate this program and model beyond our state and region. I believe we will have a lot of partners.”

POST-LICENSURE ONLINE RN TO BSN

NEC’s online RN-to-BSN program gives registered nurses the opportunity to take their nursing careers to the next level.

Our program provides RNs with the next-level knowledge that is needed to navigate an increasingly complex healthcare system. This post-licensure program addresses areas such as leadership, evidence-based practice, legal and ethical issues, community health, and diversity—all while being delivered in a convenient and flexible online model, perfect for working professionals.

Earning a BSN broadens nurses’ knowledge base and prepares them for a wider variety of professional opportunities or advanced nursing degrees such as nurse practitioner, nurse anesthetist, or nurse educator.

NEC WELCOMES NEW ASSOCIATE DEAN OF NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Dr. Angela D. McPhee-Smith became the Associate Dean of Nursing and Health Professions and Associate Professor of Nursing in July 2021. Over her 22 year career, her clinical experience includes the emergency department, post-anesthesia care, patient logistics, transfer center, and education. Dr. McPhee-Smith transitioned to higher education in 2014 as a full-time faculty member. At her previous institution, she served as Assistant Dean of Nursing. She has a passion for nursing and nursing students. Dr. McPhee-Smith also enjoys curriculum development and has written graduate and undergraduate nursing education programs.

Dr. McPhee-Smith grew up on an Air Force base in North Dakota. After settling in the Northeast, she earned her Associate of Science in Nursing from SUNY-Adirondack in 2000, her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from SUNY-Empire State College in 2012, and her Doctorate of Nursing Practice with a focus in Executive Nursing Leadership from Capella University in 2017. In 2018, she completed a post-graduate certificate in Nursing Education.

At NEC, Dr. McPhee-Smith has helped develop the College’s new Bachelor of Science in Nursing program and has created the program’s curriculum that combines classroom learning and immersive clinical experiences.

CHANGEMAKERS //

ALUMNI IN HEALTHCARE WHO RISE ABOVE
AND REACH BEYOND



Images from left: Dr. Michele Perkins; Dr. Michael J. Michaels '89; Dr. Alexa Golden '13; Dr. Angela McPhee-Smith, DNP, RN

PRESIDENT'S SPEAKER SERIES // ALUMNI IN CLINICAL HEALTHCARE

On November 3, the President's Speaker Series returned to its in-person format. The well-attended event took place in the Rosamond Page Putnam Center for the Performing Arts on the Henniker campus. President Dr. Michele Perkins and Dr. Angela McPhee-Smith, Associate Dean for Nursing and Health Professions, welcomed two New England College alumni for a discussion of clinical healthcare.

Dr. Michael J. Michaels '89 is a urologist at the Lahey Institute of Urology in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Dr. Alexa Golden '13 is an emergency medicine resident at UPMC Harrisburg in Pennsylvania.

Their conversation highlighted how well NEC can prepare students for careers in healthcare.

You can watch this event at youtube.com/newenglandcollegehenniker

KAYLA LAWLOR

**BIOLOGY '15 // DOCTOR OF
VETERINARY MEDICINE
NORTH CAROLINA**

It's kind of a cliché to say that I have always wanted to work with animals, but it's true. After my first or second year at NEC, I realized that with my grades, I could actually do it.

I graduated with my biology degree and started applying to vet schools. I applied to 16 schools because each one has so many applicants that it is hard to get in. Being accepted is some portion luck, some portion good grades, and some portion being a well-rounded applicant. NEC prepared me for that process a lot more than I realized at first. I was able to do a lot of things at NEC and be successful, from managing academics and basketball to participating in the Summer Undergraduate Research Program. I had really good teachers and support, particularly in the Science department. I think big universities are great, but students can get lost in that environment. I did not get lost at NEC.

After all those vet school applications, I was accepted into the veterinary medicine program at the University of Florida. I was excited because I'm originally from Cocoa Beach, Florida. I worked at a clinic after vet school, but practice ownership was always my goal. After a year at my previous clinic, I knew I was ready for the next step of opening my own practice.

I opened Big Bear Veterinary Clinic in Hayesville, North Carolina, in 2020. I can practice medicine and operate my practice the way I want. We are a mixed-animal practice, so we go out to rural area two days a week to

treat large animals and stay in clinic three days a week to treat domestic animals. We also do all the emergency care for our patients, rather than sending them to an emergency clinic.

Being a vet is hard work, and I face a lot of challenges, especially financial. I graduated vet school with \$260,000 in loans. Now with my own practice, I have about \$1 million in debt. It's daunting, but I love what I do.

There are always those cases that make you happy to work in veterinary medicine. Recently, a little cat came in with a temperature that was down in the 80s. His temperature was so low it would not even register on the thermometer. He was covered in urine, and his owners had no idea what had happened. I thought for sure he was not going to make it. Three days later, though, he was back to normal and is doing great. Animals are amazing with what they can get through and live with.

I have always loved animals and love giving them a voice. It's not always rainbows and butterflies, but I love being able to help them when they cannot help themselves. It isn't pretty to talk about—humane euthanasia—but helping the animal and the owner through that is so important. We don't want animals to be in pain and suffer. At the end of the day, the animal and the person attached to it are the most important things. I'm most passionate about that care.

My practice is expanding, and I'm engaged and expecting my first child. Life is busy but it's good.



IZHAR MBARANI

HEALTH SCIENCES '17 //
GEISEL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE,
DARTMOUTH COLLEGE
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Growing up in Nairobi, Kenya, I observed the effects of social determinants of health. People living in specific regions of the city had poor access to medical care and, thus, poor outcomes just because of where they lived. I saw malaria, HIV, and other deadly diseases, which caused a lot of children to become orphaned. I met some of these children at the orphanage where my father taught. Ever since then, when I was 10 or 11 years old, I thought that a career in medicine would allow me to make an impact.

As I grew up, I did not know how I could achieve that goal. When I moved to the United States, I began looking for mentors who could help me navigate this complex path. I have connected with mentors who have helped confirm that medicine is the right path for me.

I arrived in New Hampshire in 2008—in the middle of a snowstorm—and began eighth grade. When I was ready to look at colleges, I specifically looked for schools that offered affordable applications. NEC was one of those schools, and they offered a good scholarship. At the new-student orientation, all of us incoming students were introduced to advisors. I was paired with Professor Jim Newcomb (Biology and Health Science), and from that point on, I knew NEC was the right choice. He was and continues to be a great mentor for me.

In my senior year at NEC, I realized that it would be quite challenging to maintain my class schedule, especially with difficult classes like organic chemistry, while trying to also interview at medical schools. I chose to focus on my classes and then take a gap year. During that year, I worked at Catholic Medical Center in Manchester, which helped pay my travel expenses for interviewing at different medical schools. I started medical school at Dartmouth College in the fall of 2018, and I graduate in May 2022.

My next step is to head to Michigan Medicine, the University of Michigan teaching hospital, for a year in general surgery. I'm grateful for this opportunity to focus on caring for surgical patients.

The United States is unique in that it offers so many opportunities and ways to overcome challenges. Medical school is challenging, but it would have been more so in Kenya. Just being accepted into a program there would have been harder because Kenya offers so few of these opportunities, and I'm not sure that the education would have been the same quality as what I have experienced at NEC and Dartmouth.

I feel privileged to be able to pursue this dream in the United States. My decision to pursue a career in medicine has been affirmed over and over throughout medical school. Medicine combines science and connection with other people, and I cannot think of any other career field that combines these two so elegantly.



MACKENZIE GLASHOW

BIOLOGY '13 // MSN, RN,
MEDSURG-BC, CNL
RHODE ISLAND

As a nurse, you treat all patients the same, but there are some you connect with more than others. In my first year as a registered nurse, I was caring for a patient in the intensive care unit. He and I shared similar interests and connected right away. He knew I was brand new to nursing and did not make me feel inferior due to my limited experience. He would often say “You can do this” and allowed me to take my time inserting IVs or administering medication. He had a confidence in me that I did not have in myself at the time. He used to sing to me; he was so sweet and cared so much about me, when I was there to care for him. As his illness progressed, I would sit with him and hold his hand, even though just three months prior we had been strangers. He showed me that I can build relationships with patients in just a short period of time. I still hold this patient close to my heart.

Today, I work with patients in a 74-bed hospital in Providence, where I serve as a Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL). I started my nursing career as a medical-surgical telemetry nurse. Within a couple of years, I advanced into the CNL role. In this role, I educate patients and staff to ensure we are providing evidence-based care and help bring new technology to the bedside so that we can offer the best and safest care for our patients. As my role has developed, I have expanded my work to include three inpatient units: a medical-surgical telemetry unit, a stepdown unit, and the COVID unit.

As a CNL, I serve as the bridge between the clinical and the administrative sides of nursing. I get the best of both worlds, and I am happy with that balance because I always want to stay knowledgeable and be a resource for nurses. I maintain the intricacies of clinical information by volunteering for the American Nurses Credentialing Center and help write and revise the Medical-Surgical Board Certification exam.

What I love about nursing is seeing an immediate impact in a patient's life. I can sit and hold a patient's hand and make them feel better; that simple act is unbelievably valuable. Our patients cannot have visitors right now, so nurses become their family and closest human connection. The patients that we care for are often older and some are in end-of-life care. That is a difficult stage of care, but it is an honor to be able to help patients feel comfortable and at peace as they pass. To be a voice and an advocate for patients is an incredible gift.

Being a nurse during a pandemic is a challenge I never thought I would face. We have had to adapt and push ourselves more than ever before. As the CNL, I was tasked with orienting all new nursing staff who were hired at the beginning of the pandemic, and I continue to do this today. I ensure everyone working on the inpatient units, regardless of their scope, feels confident in the care they are providing and are competent in the skills they perform. Finding the perfect fit in our hospital can be tricky, as our patient population is different than many other facilities. We serve veterans. Caring for

veterans requires a unique skillset and understanding of various events that have occurred in the past. This allows us to anticipate challenges and mitigate concerns for our veterans. For example, our Vietnam veterans often present with unique diagnoses that challenge nurses to be knowledgeable in all aspects of their disease. For our few remaining World War II veterans, certain sounds from our equipment can be quite startling to them and cause unexpected reactions. Understanding that background plays an integral role in the patient experience, and being able to anticipate these challenges helps provide optimal outcomes.

The healthcare industry definitely needs more nurses. Young nurses—in age or experience in the field—are always amazing. They bring so much energy and desire to improve clinical healthcare. I am so excited that New England College is launching a nursing program to get more nurses into clinical settings. I don't know any other nurses in Rhode Island who went to NEC, but I hope that changes as a result of this program.

I found my calling in nursing, but it was a winding path to get there. Part of why I chose NEC was because it has been an important place for my family. My parents met at NEC, and my older sister

was already a student there when my twin and I started at NEC. My mom and sister became teachers, and I had always thought that would be my path as well. I started as an education major, but even in my freshman year, I felt like something was missing. The beauty of attending a liberal arts college was that I could take any class I wanted. I took classes in multiple disciplines and found that biology was the one that really challenged me, and I liked the future possibilities that biology offered.

After graduation, I had no intention of becoming a nurse. I pursued a career in biomedical research, but I lost touch with how my work was benefiting others. I then went into cancer clinical research, which allowed me to meet patients participating in clinical trials. That was when I realized I wanted to help care for people and become a nurse. I earned my Master of Science in Nursing from the University of New Hampshire and have never looked back.

Sometimes I wish that NEC had a nursing program when I was there. I do not believe, however, that I would have followed that path when I was in college. My path was unique and full of unexpected turns, but I know that I am where I am today because of all the different stops on my journey.





ATHLETICS UPDATE



Images: Men's soccer won their 2021 conference championship (center). Men's cross country won their 2021 conference championship (inset).

TITLES FOR MEN'S ATHLETICS

Over the course of this academic year, Men's Soccer and Men's Cross Country won their conference championships in the fall of 2021. Congratulations to these student-athletes!

NEC TOGETHER CAMPAIGN

NEC's Athletics Department participated in the fourth annual NCAA Inclusion Week in October to promote awareness and education of the importance of inclusive environments in college sports. The week included three theme days: "My Voice, My Platform" on October 19; "Championing Change" on October 20; and "Belonging Is..." on October 21.

To coincide with Inclusion Week, the Athletics Department launched its NEC Athletics TOGETHER campaign to celebrate what makes each member of its department and teams unique. "Sports have always had the power to bring people together and that's exactly how we want athletics at NEC to be," states Dave DeCew, Director of Athletics. "It is imperative that we respect and value each person, regardless of race, religion, sexual orientation, or any other uniqueness."

TOGETHER encourages everyone involved with athletics at NEC—from coaches to athletes—to intentionally learn, grow, and engage with others. Doing so betters each person, NEC's athletic teams, the Athletics Department, and the community beyond NEC. Throughout Inclusion Week, the Athletics Department staff distributed TOGETHER wristbands and stickers that reflect the values of this ongoing campaign.

ATHLETICS COMPLEX FUNDRAISING CONTINUES

NEC is pleased to announce its second \$500,000 gift this fiscal year to the athletics complex fundraising initiative. The new commitment comes from Lex Scourby '75, current Chair of the NEC Board of Trustees. His gift represents the sixth overall gift of \$100,000 or more to the project. The total of all gifts and pledges to the project now exceeds \$8.6 million against a working goal of \$18 million.

"NEC has been a special place for many of us, and I am pleased to support this strategic priority for the Henniker campus, the entire NEC community, and the future of the college," Scourby stated.

The centerpiece of the athletics complex project is the construction of a new gymnasium for basketball, volleyball, and student fitness. The project also includes the construction of new office space for coaches and renovations to both Bridges Gymnasium and the Field House.

The athletics complex marks the third strategic capital project over the last ten years. NEC is deeply grateful for Scourby's enduring leadership and support of this project and the two previous projects, the Rosamond Page Putnam Center for the Performing Arts and the John Lyons Center.

GENEROSITY & SPIRIT

A LEGACY BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Professor Michael Wireman's 25 years of teaching and a gift that will last for years to come

New England College shares many stories of students who have found their place here and have felt NEC's impact long after they graduate. But this is the story of Professor Michael Wireman. He retired from teaching sociology and anthropology at NEC about 25 years ago, and he carried NEC with him the rest of his life, even when dementia took hold and robbed him of many of his memories.

Wireman passed away September 25, 2021, but his legacy at NEC goes beyond the classroom. He bequeathed just under \$287,000 to NEC and requested that all memorials be made to NEC's Office of Advancement.

"He was a planner," his niece Natalie states. "He had written notes years and years before about where he wanted his money to go when he died. He wanted to help students go to college or for NEC to use the money in a way it sees fit." Wireman originally attended the University of Edinburgh, where

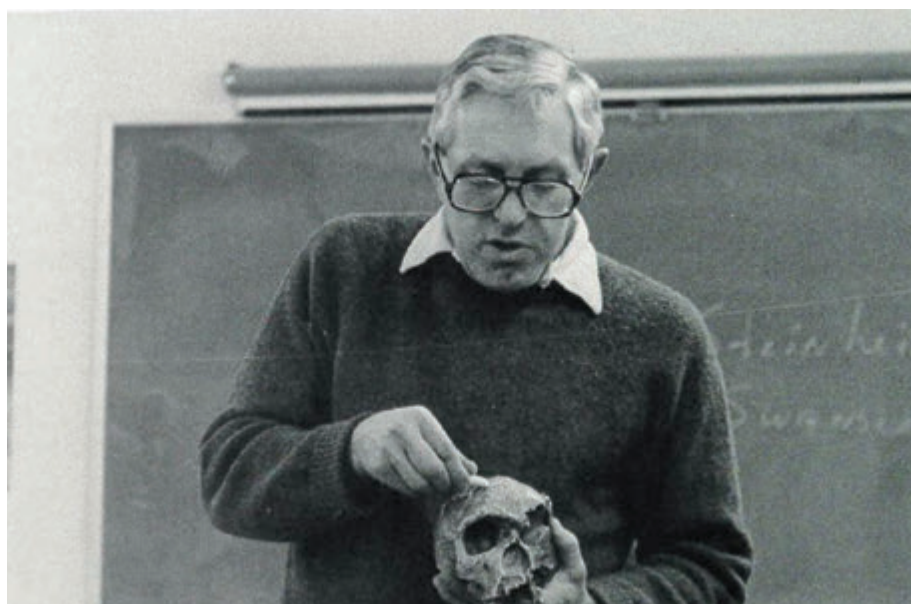
he majored in economics. He then transferred to the University of Chicago and changed his major to anthropology. Wireman applied for a teaching position at NEC, Natalie believes, after he relocated to Bradford, New Hampshire, to serve as the caretaker of an historic home where he lived his entire NEC career.

Wireman joined the faculty of NEC in the fall of 1970. Teaching sociology and anthropology allowed him to combine his love of world travel, people, and cultures. He once went on a dig with famed paleoanthropologist Mary Leakey and lived in a Newfoundland fishing village while studying its inhabitants. At NEC, he led a Study Away trip to Africa (he and a student crashed a Jeep into a ravine, and thankfully, neither was hurt). He also formed very strong connections with his

students, some of whom became lifelong friends of his. One of his former students lives in Maine, and the two stayed in touch until the very end of Wireman's life. After retiring from NEC in August 1995, Wireman moved to a large old home on Virginia's Eastern Shore.

Wireman moved into an assisted living facility when he began to struggle with dementia. Even then, Natalie states, his time at NEC remained very vivid and played a major role in his life. He often referred to the lounge as "student hall" and the other residents as students.

The smile in Natalie's voice is evident as she shares these memories. "Uncle Michael was able to reach his students in a special way. It was never a job for him. He absolutely loved what he did at NEC."



SITTING PRETTY

Kenneth Krueger '66 makes a \$2 million gift to establish NEC's first endowed faculty chair

On behalf of himself and his late wife, Andrea, Krueger's generous gift to NEC's endowment establishes the K. H. Wm. and Andrea Krueger Endowed Faculty Chair in Business Administration with a focus on accounting.

His gift reflects NEC's commitment to experiential learning through quality teaching, reaffirms NEC's strength as an institution, and raises NEC's prestige and reputation. The College looks forward to welcoming a new faculty member for this distinguished position this fall.

Kenneth Krueger arrived at NEC as a young man from Kings Park, New York, a far cry from small-town New Hampshire. He pledged Sigma Phi Delta—living in the fraternity house, serving as treasurer, and running the kitchen.

Krueger majored in business with a focus on accounting. Though he describes himself as having been a "gentleman 'C' student," he credits his professors with his success at NEC. "Most of my professors were practicing accountants, so I benefited

from their hands-on experience. And my summer jobs throughout college were also wonderful experiences."

After graduating from NEC, Krueger was drafted and went to infantry officer candidate school at Fort Benning, Georgia. He served as an infantry officer in the central highlands during the Vietnam War in 1968–1969.

Krueger became a certified public accountant (CPA) in December 1973. He began his career at a smaller accounting firm that grew to be a national firm. In 1979, he branched out on his own and continues to serve some of his original clients.

"Accounting is a great profession, and NEC gave me the foundation to become a CPA

and do well financially," Krueger states. "I hope this gift will afford the opportunity for another generation of students to learn from professors like I had and find their own success."

The Kruegers traveled extensively: They visited every continent, except Antarctica, and over 60 countries. They also established the KH Wm and Andrea Krueger Foundation to support the arts, environmental organizations, and local charities.

Krueger and Andrea married later in life and did not have children of their own but felt led to leave part of their legacy to NEC.



CLASS NOTES

1949

Milan Knight '49 is still going strong at almost 95, according to his daughter, **Joy Knight-Hale '75**. Milan is one of the oldest living NEC alumni and graduated in one of the College's first graduating classes. Milan was featured in an alumni spotlight in the Fall 2020 issue of *New England College Magazine*, available at nec.edu/magazine. If there are other alumni from the class of 1949, please reach out to NEC Alumni Relations.



1953

Robert Dodge '53 retired from his position as a civil engineer with the NH Dept. of Transportation in 1988. He is enjoying retirement in Venice, Fla. Robert has been a Rotary Club member in both Keene, N.H., and Venice, Fla., for the past 27 years.

1959

Richard A. Mehrman, PE '59 is enjoying semi-retirement with his wife, Maureen, and three grandchildren. Richard has a small

engineering private practice in River Edge, N.J. **Jim Capron '59** retired after selling his company, Composite Panels of Indiana. He lives in Indianapolis, Ind., and keeps busy with his two children and two grandchildren. Jim's wife passed away in 2018.

1963

Tom Kiely '63 was able to get together with fellow class members two times in the last year in York Beach, Maine, and the Outer Banks, S.C. This photo was taken in Maine with **Al Sellers '63**, **Pat Cabey Reardon '65**, **Bev Bradley McClave '65**, **Rik McClave '63**, **Alan Goldfarb '64**, **Larr Flynn '63**, and **Mary Lou Brindisi '65**, along with their spouses and friends.



1964

Charles Conole '64 retired from Health Care Administration in 2012 where he was CEO of two hospitals and five primary care clinics. He worked on various healthcare projects in northern New York until 2020. Today, he stays active attending Syracuse University football and basketball games. Chuck's wife passed away August 1, 2021. They met while Chuck was attending graduate school at Xavier University. **Allan S. Karan '64** first explored Mt. Washington as a hiker and skier in 1959. He and

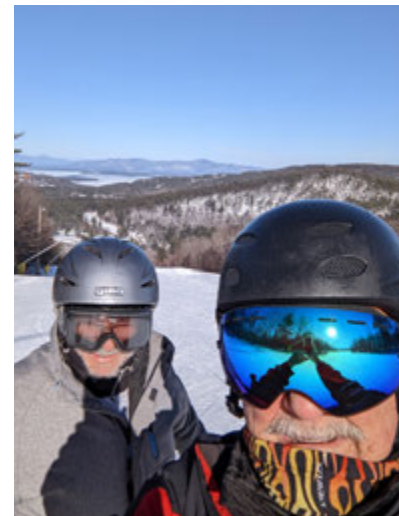
his wife, Lynne, have been coming back ever since, even amidst the pandemic. **Alan Goldfarb '64** retired this year from driving a limo. He has been on tours all over the world. Alan is looking forward to seeing fellow classmates at upcoming reunions. **Elizabeth Luckhurst Bicking '64** is long retired from Sea World in Aurora, Ohio, where she taught Marine Science and Biology. After living in Ohio for 40 years, she and her husband, William, recently moved to New Holland, Pa.

1970

John and Susan Samenfeld '70 are enjoying retirement in Venice, Fla., during the winter and in Weare, N.H., in the summer. They keep active and enjoy seeing classmates when they are able. **Peter Fagley '70** recently retired from the US Department of Homeland Security, having worked for TSA, FEMA, and the US Coast Guard Auxiliary. He continues to work for the Auxiliary through the Prevention Department—Northern New England Sector, First Coast Guard District, Northern Region.

1972

Gene Fox '72 and classmate **Mark Peterson '72** enjoyed skiing together this winter at Gunstock Mountain Resort in N.H. On clear days, they were able to see both Lake Winnepesaukee and Mt. Washington 45 miles away. *(Image on opposite page).*



1974

Dana Bascom '74 has been living in New London, N.H., selling prepress software to newspapers, and enjoys spending summers in Greensboro, Vt. He loves skiing, golf, sailing, and hiking, among other sports. He is pictured with **Mark Martin '74**. **Robert Berrick '74** retired as a physician's assistant in Emergency Medicine and Primary Care. He is living in Ticonderoga, N.Y., misses his years at NEC, and is always happy to hear from classmates. **Augustine David '74** is part of Augie David International Ministries, where they reach almost 80 nations raising leaders. He has been the author of multiple books and president of GLA Connection, LLC.



1975

Jim Hayes '75 met up with **Ian Wood '75** (left) in front of the Douglas N. Everett Arena in Concord, N.H. They played their first ice hockey game there 50 years ago for Coach Leo Callahan. **Joy Knight-Hale '75** retired in 2021 after 47 years as an echocardiographer. She is now taking care of her mother and looking forward to traveling the world. **Laurie Kempf '75** is a retired Southwest Airlines supervisor after an 18-year career at Manchester-Boston Regional Airport. She remained in N.H. after graduation and lives in Manchester. Laurie is the proud mother of three and grandmother to four. **Richard Jablow '75** has two children and is retired as an emergency medicine physician. He currently lives in Maine and Calif.



1977

Cathy Furlong '77 has retired from a 41-year career as a professor at Notre Dame College and NHTI. In retirement, she serves on several non-profit boards, including President at Penacook Community Center, Chair of the GoodLife Programs and

Activities at Centennial Senior Center, Education Chair for both the Franklin Pierce Brigade and the Abbot-Downing Historical Society, and Director for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central New Hampshire. Cathy also enjoys reading, hiking, cross-country skiing, and road-tripping with her husband, Allan.

1979

Jamie Noyes '79 and **Clarke Smith '79** both live in Marblehead, Mass., and **Mike Dann '79** lives near Buffalo, N.Y. Recently Mike was in Boston visiting family and decided to make a quick stop to visit Jamie, and Clarke joined in for lunch on Jamie's boat. Mike is retired but staying busy with a woodworking shop, and Jamie is working as a manufacturer's representative. Their kids are all grown up and still enjoying life in the Northeast. Clarke works for Trident Marine Managers, Inc. as the Director of Underwriting. Clarke is a member of the Board of Trustees at NEC and is Chairman of the Ted Hood Regatta held annually in Marblehead.



1980

Pete Grzybinski '80 and his wife, Annette, celebrated the marriage of

their daughter Sarah to Brady Bajema at Lake Winnepesaukee in October. **Andy Hoar '80** and **Elaine (Harding) Hoar '81** have both retired from their service in higher education. They are proud grandparents and building their own timber frame home in Vt.



1981
Astrid Williams '81 and **Dyan Goodwin '82** have been best friends since their first meeting at the NEC equestrian team signup in 1978. While enjoying a fun round of golf with two fellow alumni at NEC's 33rd Alumni Golf Tournament in October, they determined that each wanted to make a gift to the College. Astrid and Dyan decided they would team up to fund the naming of the box office in NEC's new Putnam Center for the Performing Arts. **David Smith '81** recently joined GrayMatter Systems, serving as Director of Strategic Relationships. He also continues to be an avid gravel cyclist.



1982
Tim Arnold '82 is living in Bentonville, Ark., with his wife, Laurie, and two children, Tim and Leah. Tim works for Newell Brands in the Food Division, as a National Account Manager on the Walmart Team. He is still an avid runner, competing in 5K, 10K, and half marathons throughout the year.

1984
Fred Pockette '84 has been a youth basketball coach for the past 45 years. He has worked with players from third grade up to junior varsity. Fred is also a skills instructor working with players to improve their game. Currently, Fred is the coach of both seventh- and eighth-grade boys at Otter Valley Union High School (Vt.), where he was elected to their Athletic Hall of Fame. While at NEC, Fred kept the book for the basketball team. **Jimmy Miller '84** went to Kenya in February for two weeks to distribute and set up Sawyer water filters for orphanages, schools, and churches through his non-profit, Pure Water for Africa, Inc. The Sawyer PointOne filters will not allow any bacteria to flow through, and all you do is backwash the filter to clean it.



1985
Anne Marie Merline '85 was promoted to Master Teacher in the University Honors Program (UHP) at Colorado State University. Hired in 2002, her new duties include overseeing the UHP oral communications requirement and coordinating all sections of the senior honors thesis. She is living the dream in Fort Collins, Colo., with her 22-year-old son who is graduating this year from Lewis & Clark College with a degree in history.

1986
Kitty Robertson '86 got together with other NEC alumni living in the N.Y., N.J., and Conn., tri-state area. Gathered were **Suzette (Hannon) Rowe '86**, **Kimberly (Melling) Mirelli '86**, **Susan (Richard) Habberstad '86**, and **Tia (Gotthelf) Obering '86**.



1987
Christian Macdonald and **Jane Baker '87** reside in Weare, N.H. Chris has a business called MacDaddy Guitars and is an accomplished luthier creating amazing guitars that are works of art that can create even more art when they are played. **Eric O'Brien '87** is founder and president of O'Brien Commercial Properties, Inc. **Anna-Marie DiPasquale '87** received the Bob Silva Award from

the Concord School District as recognition for her outstanding service to Concord students.

1988
Ariane (Maclean) Trimuschat '88 moved back to the States from London last summer with her husband, Marc, and daughter, Olivia. They have settled in Westport, Conn. **Amy Pikarsky '88** and **Lori Johnston '88** opened Little Dipper Farm in Brooklyn, Conn. During the pandemic, Lori, her wife, Amy, and a friend decided to purchase a farm with the goal of building a regenerative farm that would also serve as a holistic retreat center with educational programming and events. At Little Dipper, they have horses and will soon have chickens and goats, a restaurant, tourist center, ranger station, glamping, and amazing produce and flowers. **John Devaney '88** (below) visited Arundel in 2018 and reports that not much has changed, besides the pub that is now an equipment shed. He was able to hold a virtual reunion with alumni **David Woodside '88**, **David Tille '89**, **Mike Mailloux '89**, **Ben Payson '90**, **Megan Lanese '90**, and **Kipp Euler '93**.



1989
John H. Mitchell '89 has been leading disaster response activities around

the globe for decades. He is currently on temporary-duty assignment in Baton Rouge, La., as Director of the state's Shelter Housing Program. John's career so far has been challenging, gratifying, and tiring, but he is reminded that NEC prepared him for a life of service to his community.

1990
Randall Simonds '90 is an author, entrepreneur, and artist with two daughters.

1992
Marc Richardson '92 just celebrated his 29th year working for the Boy Scouts of America, where he works with local-chapter CEOs on strategy, human resources, and legal matters in Ind., Mich., and Ohio. This past year, Marc enjoyed being a mentor to NEC Soccer freshmen. He also loves spending time with his wife and four adult children.

1996
Brent Bell G'96 is a professor of Outdoor Leadership and Management at the University of New Hampshire. He is married and has a son, Holden. Brent's UNH office is covered in NEC Adventure Bound posters. **Janine Brooks-Schilders '96** retired from the US Air Force after 24 years of service as a Medical Service Corp Officer. Her duty stations included Kirtland AFB in N.M., Spangdahlem AB in Germany, Scott AFB in Ill., and Lackland AFB in Texas. Janine's retiring rank was Lieutenant Colonel.

1997
Jason Kompf '97 is a general contractor in Colo., completing projects for high-end clients.

1998
Holly (Wyble) Beck '98 works for New Mexico WIC as a Lactation Manager. She has started multiple projects including two blogs (one with her son) about food and a podcast about relationships and dating.

1999
Robert Harmon '99 has spent countless days hiking, biking, climbing, and skiing in the Rocky Mountains of Colo., the Appalachian and White Mountains in New England, and now the Blue Ridge Mountains. He is the owner-operator and founder of Elk Mountain Motors in Asheville, N.C., which specializes in performance European, domestic, Asian, and vintage automobiles.

2000
Dana (Unger) Vargas '00 G'05 and her husband have recently relocated from Los Angeles to Portland, Ore., where Dana hosts a horror podcast called "The Horror Files." She also is a contributor and Retro Review writer for the horror website MacabreDaily.com. She recently had the honor of interviewing horror icon Elvira on her new biography, as well as attending 2021 LA Comic Con as a press correspondent.

2002
Dacre Bush '02 has been working as a web development manager since

graduating. He also started his own business called Toytally Rad Creations, LLC, creating collectible action figures based on biblical characters.

2004

Heather Barto G'04 recently opened her own business, Health Advocacy Solutions, LLC, in Concord, N.H. She advocates for patients and their families to receive the very best healthcare experiences, helps them understand their care plans and resolve insurance or billing issues, and coaches them to become organized planners of their healthcare.

2006

Sarah Robinson '06 is the co-chair for the Manchester, N.H. NAACP Education Committee. She was recently appointed as the Education Justice Campaign Director for Granite State Progress after several years with Reaching Higher NH.

2008

Kim Ruhlig (Kowalczyk) '08 is living in Florida with her spouse, four children, and two foster children. **Steven Riel '08** published *Edgemere*, a collection of poetry. *The Boston Sunday Globe* wrote, “His lines and images rainbow off the page, bright, sharp, and self-aware.”

2009

Sujoy Hajra '09 was promoted to Managing Director at Deloitte Consulting LLP. There, he designs digital finance platforms. **Douglas Piccinnini '09** recently joined River Avenue Digital (RAD) as Digital Content Writer. His latest

collection of poems, *A Western Sky*, is forthcoming with Greying Ghost Press. His writing has recently appeared in *Denver Quarterly*, *Colorado Review*, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Prelude*, *Tupelo Quarterly*, and *Volt*. He and his wife, Tara, live and work in the Delaware River Valley.

2010

Sara (Crane) Persechino '10 was hired as the Campaigns and Communications Director at Planned Parenthood of Northern New England and Planned Parenthood New Hampshire Action Fund. Additionally, she has been recognized for her professional and volunteer contributions by *The Union Leader*, which named her a member of the 40 Under 40 Class of 2022. **Yu Yin '10** currently lives and works in Burlington, Ontario, Canada. **Joe Castelot '10 G'14** welcomed his second child in 2021 and graduated from Northeastern University with a doctoral degree in Education.

2011

Emily and Ryan Kuchta von Uffel '11 were married June 5, 2021 at St. Catherine of Siena in Greenwich. They now reside in Rowayton, Conn. They are still friends with NEC graduates, many of whom were in the wedding. NEC alumni who attended include: **Diana Lynas Myers '12**, **Matt Myers '13**, **Matt Carey '12**, **Maddy Scheck Cahill '11**, **Sean Cahill '09**, former faculty **Philip Huckins**, **Phil DiFalco '12**, and **Sam Freihofner '13**. **Meghan (O'Shaughnessy) Mezquita '10** shared a photo from her wedding with fellow

alumni. From the back left: **Audra (Cyr) Labrie '09**, **Dee (Brayton) Wrye '09**, **Mark Ehl '10**, **Jeff Armando '10**, **Joel Booker '10**, and **Brian Mini '10**. From the front left: **Amy Searle '10**, **Meghan (O'Shaughnessy) Mezquita '10**, and **Alexandria Sacco '09**. Meghan says that NEC gave her some of the best friends that she still has today—being in each other's weddings, watching their families grow, and continuing to celebrate milestones together. **Meg Jenkins G'11** is celebrating her 28th year at Gilford High School (N.H.) as the school nurse. She is active in the New Hampshire School Nurses' Association, Gilford Got Lunch, and the Lakes Region Community College Nursing Program.



2012

Melissa (Bart) Spano '12 and her partner had their first child. He was born at 26.5 weeks and has been in the NICU for three months. He is doing extremely well, and they are expecting him home soon. (Image on opposite page).



2014

Miranda Murphy '14 has recently accepted a Talent Acquisition position at Catholic Medical Center in Manchester, N.H. It has been a challenging and rewarding role during these unprecedented times. Miranda is engaged to be married August 2022 and will have NEC alumni in her bridal party.

2015

Hailey Calabro '15 moved to St. Louis, Mo., last year to become the Executive Director of the St. Augustine Wellston Center, a nonprofit food pantry and thrift store dedicated to helping the low-income, underprivileged North County area. **Sarah Vita '15** is a teacher at an early learning center in New Jersey.

2016

Antonio Higgins '16 formed his own graphic design company in Marietta, Ga., focusing on brand identity, logos, packaging, motion graphics, and video engineering. He has also published three books, *The Secret Successful Heist*, *Follow the Laughter*, and *Job Scammers: The Job Seeker's Guide*. Antonio was featured in a *Shoutout Atlanta* article

in December 2021. **Megan Darrigo G'16** is working as the Coordinator of Student Access at the University of New England. Megan wanted to be able to help students get equal education as she was able to when attending NEC. **Keith M. Cross '16** received his MBA from Fitchburg State University in December 2019.

2018

Gerry Ema Gilmor '18 lives in Pontiac, Ill., where she takes care of her legally blind husband, babysits a special needs two-year-old, and works as a bookkeeper for two companies.

2020

Tom White '20 accepted a position as the Executive Director of the Superior Amateur Hockey Association in Superior, Wis. He lives in the Twin Ports area of Duluth, Minn./Superior, Wis., with his wife, Ashley, and daughter, Ripley, where they enjoy all that the north shore of Lake Superior has to offer. **Ashley Diamond '20** published their first children's book titled *More Than You Know*. It is a story about the unconditional love that a mother feels for her child. Ashley wanted to create a book, filled with love and positivity, that brown children could see themselves in and relate to when written by someone who looks like them. **Jennifer Bertrand '20** was published in *Exceptional Parent Magazine* on the topic of disability employment. The article highlighted how entrepreneurship can create meaningful employment opportunities for working-age adults

who experience intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). It also detailed how parents, educators, and other support providers can help an individual with I/DD launch an enterprise. **Michaela Wattendorf '20** currently works at Quest Diagnostics in the molecular biology lab doing PCR results of COVID tests. She is in her second semester of graduate school at Rhode Island College for her master's in biology. Michaela is engaged to be married October 2022. She and her fiancé recently got a puppy named Darwin. **Nikki Fordey G'20** is a disabled social worker and practices in Phoenix, Ariz., where she splits time among group facilitation at a behavioral health hospital; private practice via telehealth with individual clients; and demanding change in policies at the local, state, and federal levels. She is also writing a chapter on public policy for a social work educational textbook titled *Social Work Practice and the Disability Community: An Intersectional Anti-Oppressive Approach*.



2021

Mariah Olmstead '21 moved to South Korea to teach English, but the pandemic led her back to the States where she works full time as a content writer for a translation company. Living and working in Boston is cold but beautiful, as there are many places to explore. **Sadie Lynne Depta Gdian '21** was accepted to the University of Florida for their Health Education and Behavior master's program. After she receives her degree, she plans to apply to a doctoral program in public health, health science, or health psychology. Sadie hopes to become an education advocate and promoter of public health and mental health reform with a primary goal of teaching at the university level. Sadie had a baby girl named Ireland Victoria on August 28, 2021. **Kayla Ramsay '21** is training to become a vet technician and starting the process of joining the Air Force as an officer. Kayla plays rugby with a local team that hopes to win their league championship and make it to nationals.

IN MEMORIAM

1950s

Wendell L. Pollock '50
Carolyn Herrick Hruniak '53
Gary Emerson '56
Joseph Bourgoine '58
Donita J. Holdner Holjes '58

1960s

Andrew McEvoy, Jr. '64
Jon Craig Shibles '67
Susan Raymond Murray '68
Dexter P. Nerney '69

1970s

Paul Scott '73
Jeanne Bonenfant Descoteaux '76
Dorothy B. Kuentzler Artz '77

1980s

Charles Kirschenbaum '80
Noreen T. Mooney Dominguez '81
S. David O'Connor '81
Hamid R. Zohdi '81
David A. Cobleigh '83
Lucie Orme Whitty '84
Helena Saunders Riney '85
Peter Hopkins '89

1990s

Keith L. Silver '90
Daniel Gelinas '92

2000s

Robert N. Bennett '00, G'08
Julie A. Green '07, G'16

Former Faculty, Former Trustees, and Friends

- Mary V Bell, former trustee
- Inez Buck, wife of former trustee and alumnus Roy Buck '49
- Patricia Clement, wife of Trustee Emeritus Joe Clement
- R. Bruce Elliot, Professor Emeritus of Accounting
- Dr. Lyman G. Gilmore, Professor Emeritus of Education, creator and director of the Writing Center
- Betsy C. Mclsaac, former trustee
- Rev. Mark F. Strickland, honorary degree '57
- Michael S. Wireman P'98, Associate Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Anthropology

A VISION COMES TO LIFE

On September 22, 2021, New England College hosted a dedication ceremony and luncheon in the lobby of the Rosamond Page Putnam Center for the Performing Arts on the Henniker campus. Attendees included members of NEC's leadership team, members of the Putnam family, and leadership donors to the College.

This portrait of Rosamond Page Putnam—commissioned and owned by NEC and painted by Institute of Art and Design professor Patrick McCay—was unveiled during the ceremony. McCay spoke with the Putnam family before creating the portrait, which is based largely on black and white photographs provided by the family.

NEC and the Putnam family have enjoyed a 60-plus-year relationship, and the family's generous \$3 million gift made the Putnam Center possible. Rosamond was an aspiring actress before World War II. Although she left the stage to focus on her six children, she was a lifelong supporter of the arts, culture, and community.

Rosamond's legacy lives on, in part, through New England College. McCay's artwork hangs in the lobby of the Putnam Center and serves as a visual reminder to everyone of Rosamond's belief in the power of the arts to bring communities together.

JOIN US FOR THE 2022–2023 SEASON OF PERFORMANCES IN THE PUTNAM CENTER! VISIT [NEC.EDU/PUTNAM](https://www.nec.edu/putnam) FOR MORE DETAILS.



Images from top: Professor Patrick McCay's portrait of Rosamond Page Putnam, "Reflections," oil on canvas; Luncheon for the opening of the Putnam Center for the Performing Arts



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DOERS
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FALL FESTIVAL SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendar for Fall Festival 2022, September 30–October 2. This annual event is a highlight for alumni, parents, students, and friends of NEC. Connect with the Office of Advancement for more details or visit alumni.nec.edu/fallfestival2022.

