

With the one-year anniversary of my joining the University of New England fast-approaching, I have been prompted to reflect on what my first year on the job has taught me about our community and what makes it so special. The one thing I keep coming back to is the depth of our commitment, across the board, to putting students first. On so many occasions, I have witnessed interactions between our faculty members and students or members of our professional staff and students that have made me very proud to be a Nor'easter. My colleagues embrace the responsibility of educating and guiding our students with such diligence, care, and affection that our students can't help but respond by committing themselves with matching dedication to and passion for their work.

It is fitting then, that the theme of this issue of the UNE Magazine is "students first." In the pages to follow, you will learn more about the unique learning experiences our students enjoy and also about the organizations, programs, and recreational activities that combine to create a one-of-a-kind atmosphere for intellectual and personal growth.

You will learn, as well, about our newest building, the Danielle N. Ripich Commons, which has provided our students, and all of us, with a visually stunning place to gather, swap ideas, share meals, and otherwise strengthen the strong bonds that already unite us on the Biddeford Campus. As the story and photos inside detail, this revolutionary facility was not only designed for students but by them as well. Students had a hand in shaping the building's finer points, such as the furniture they helped to select, and also its larger points, such as the solar panels and bird-safe glass they insisted on including to minimize the building's environmental footprint.

In addition, this issue of the UNE Magazine details some of the services and support systems enjoyed by our graduate students on the Portland Campus, and it has a special section on diversity at UNE, which profiles student leaders working to ensure our community is welcoming and inclusive for everyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or political ideology.

I hope you enjoy learning more about the work we are doing to position students for success during their time with us and in the lives that await them upon graduation. The opportunity to educate these thoughtful, hardworking, compassionate young people is the pleasure of a lifetime for us, and I hope our enthusiasm bleeds through the pages that follow.

Sincerely,



JAMES D. HERBERT, PH.D. | PRESIDENT



UNE Presidents James Herbert and Danielle Ripich at the dedication ceremony of the Danielle N. Ripich Commons, March 9, 2018

# UNE

MAGAZINE

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Office of Communications

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Ellen Beaulieu

**MAGAZINE STAFF**

**Chief Editor**  
Philip Shelley

**Contributing Editors**  
Jennie Aranovitch  
Sarah Wissler

**Art Director**  
Marine Miller

**Graphic Designer and Illustrator**  
Meghan Grammer

**Photographer**  
Holly Haywood

**CONTRIBUTORS**

**Writers**  
Angela Coulombe  
Roberta (Bobby) Gray  
Cally Gurley  
Amy Haile  
Jared Hall  
Victoria Nguyen

**Photographers**  
Angela Coulombe  
Jeff Scher

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Contact the UNE Communications Office,  
716 Stevens Ave., Portland, ME 04103,  
pshelley1@une.edu

For address changes,  
contact mmanning6@une.edu

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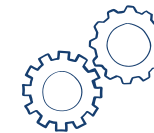
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# Putting Students First

## Shaping the Student Experience at UNE

by Philip Shelley



**“We are here because of the students, period.”**

— James Herbert

James Herbert, the president of the University of New England, knows exactly where students fit into his conception of institutional stewardship: they are the nucleus around which the entire university revolves.

“My overarching philosophy,” says Herbert, “is that we are here because of the students, period. So, in everything we do and in every decision we make, it always comes down to the same question: ‘Will this have a positive impact on the UNE student experience?’”

The student experience starts with a strong pedagogical foundation, and for Herbert, that means ensuring that UNE’s academic programs provide students with ample opportunities in three interconnected learning areas: *discipline-based content*, which is the subject-area knowledge and skills associated with a given course or program; *habits of mind*, such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and quantitative literacy, that turn students into passionate lifelong learners and give them professional flexibility; and *essential career and life skills*, which are the interpersonal and social competencies that prepare students to deal with office politics, write resumes, converse with strangers, and generally feel at ease as adult members of society.

“Some of that knowledge comes via the classroom,” says Herbert, “but it’s important

that students receive all three kinds of knowledge through experiential opportunities as well: things like faculty-directed research, internships, community service, civic engagement, and athletics. UNE has a tremendously rich network of relationships and connections with businesses and community groups throughout Maine and across New England, so this is an area where we really excel.”

**“In everything we do and in every decision we make, it always comes down to the same question: ‘Will this have a positive impact on the UNE student experience?’”**

— James Herbert

The idea is to get students out into the world, where they can put their knowledge to work in a variety of professional and organizational contexts. It's an approach that has always been fundamental to UNE's health professions programs, which require students to pursue rotations and internships at various clinical sites as part of their professional training. But more and more, it's becoming a crucial component of UNE's non-health professions programs in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) as well.

Says Herbert, "Currently, around 80 percent of our CAS students do some kind of credit-bearing internship. I would like to see that, ideally, increase to 100 percent, and I would like to see those experiences enhanced so that as we continue to develop new internship opportunities, they are ever more tightly aligned with students' academic interests and programs."

**“Our students study abroad at five times the national average.”**

**— James D. Herbert**

Another key area of experiential focus is in providing students with a global perspective and opportunities to study overseas. "Our students study abroad at five times the national average," says Herbert. "We have strong study-abroad partnerships in France, Spain, and Iceland,

which are our primary partnerships, but we also have opportunities for students to study abroad in many other places."

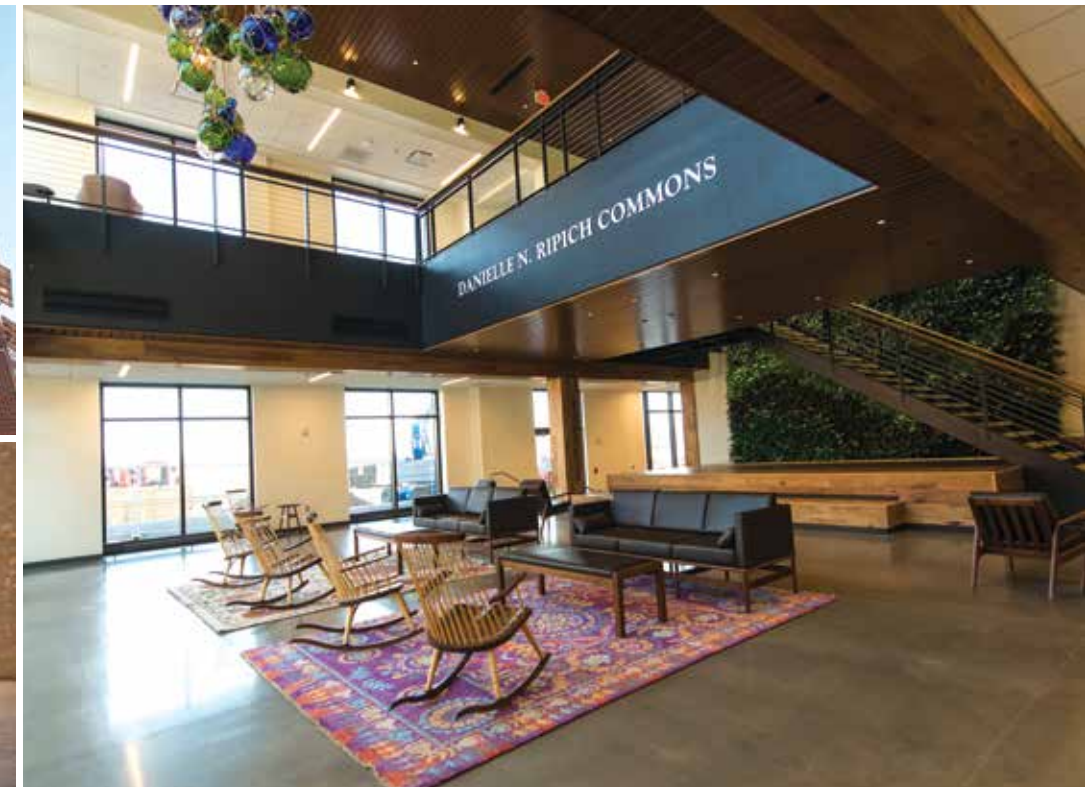
UNE has its own jewel of a campus in Tangier, Morocco, which affords students a uniquely immersive cross-cultural educational experience in a sophisticated port city which sits at the crossroads of continents and cultures. "We didn't build that campus in Morocco just to have a pretty building in Tangier," says Herbert. "That campus is there to provide a singular educational experience for our students. It's something they literally cannot get anywhere else. Every year we've had more and more students taking advantage of that opportunity, and for the first time, next fall, we're likely to be over capacity. We're working on developing some home-stays, because our dorms now are going to be full."

Building projects, such as the Tangier Campus, are a very concrete manifestation of UNE's investment in the student experience, and UNE has made a series of major infrastructure investments in recent years, including the opening of Innovation Hall on the Portland Campus, and the new Sokokis residence complex and the Harold Alford Forum on the Biddeford Campus. "The Forum is an amazing athletic arena that houses world-class facilities for varsity sports and also allows our students to engage in intramural and club sports," says Herbert.

**No building stands as a more impressive structural symbol of UNE's commitment to its students' experience than the brand-new centerpiece of the Biddeford Campus, the Danielle N. Ripich Commons.**

Perhaps no building stands as a more impressive structural symbol of UNE's commitment to its students' experience than the brand-new centerpiece of the Biddeford Campus, the Danielle N. Ripich Commons, which opened in early 2018 and was an instant success. Says Herbert, "It was breathtaking how quickly the students embraced it. Within a week of the opening, when you walked through, it looked like the students had been there forever. They're using it all the time."

The three-story Commons was developed to serve as a centralized hub for students, offering space for socializing, entertaining, dining, and accessing support services. The first floor boasts a wrap-around patio, a sunken living room, a game room, televisions, and a pub that serves beer and food. The second floor, connected to the university's library via a glassed-in footbridge, is dedicated to student support services, with onsite tutoring at the Student Academic Success Center, academic advising, career counseling, a study-abroad kiosk, and an internship office. There



*Clockwise from top left: The Danielle N. Ripich Commons exterior with footbridge; The Commons interior with the "living wall"; Students from the UNE Morocco Campus on a field trip to Rabat.*



Clockwise from top left: Hope Dubois (Environmental Studies and Global Studies, '21) tends to a hatchling as part of the Mosquito Control Project on the Biddeford Campus; Closeup of the bird-safe glass used in the Ripich Commons exterior; Melissa Rosa (Marine Sciences, '18), president of the Undergraduate Student Government (USG); Members of the USG clown around for the camera.

are multiple meeting rooms, including a separate lounge area for College of Osteopathic Medicine students, a large, comfortable study area with fireplaces and multiple seating options, and a video projection system for lectures and special events. The third floor houses the new dining room, featuring a gigantic Mongolian grill, which has built-in lasers that monitor the grill temperature and adjust the exhaust fan accordingly.

The high-tech grill is just one aspect of what is truly a state-of-the-art, green building. Designed in accordance with the highest standards of environmentally friendly construction, the Commons was built using regionally sourced materials as well as materials with high recycled content. As the result of efforts by students in Associate Professor Noah Perlut's Introduction to Environmental Studies course, the building sports solar panels that are capable of providing enough energy to power the campus' electric car charging station. Other sustainability features include a special storm water runoff system to diminish environmental impact; ultra-high efficiency mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, including an energy recovery unit; a fully automated, daylight harvesting lighting system; a living green wall, potentially to be incorporated into UNE's Edible Campus Initiative; and an innovative dishwasher system that reduces water consumption and captures all compostable food scraps.

The apex of the building's environmentally conscious design is the bird-safe glass that adorns the entire riverfront façade of the building and both sides of the glass bridge. The special glass, which uses technology to refract surface reflectivity, thereby alerting birds to its presence, was installed through the dedicated efforts of a coalition that included members of the university's Environmental Council and UNE's environmentally conscious students, who recognized the building's estuarial location as a key migration stopover point for many avian species.

Melissa Rosa, a senior Marine Sciences major from New Haven, Connecticut, and the president of the Undergraduate Student Government (USG), sees the installation of the bird-safe glass as a prime example of the UNE administration's responsiveness to student concerns. "The Environmental Council brought that to us, and our Student Services Committee took it on. They submitted the proposal, which made its way to [then] President Ripich, who kind of took it under her wing — no pun intended. It's a huge accomplishment for students, and it all grows out of that petition culture: just knowing

**"I think students know that the student government can be a vehicle for real, substantive change."**

— Melissa Rosa

that we can do this, we can bring this up, and it's what the students want. That's the motto, right? I think students know that the student government can be a vehicle for real, substantive change, and this is a very good example of that."

Perhaps the building's most conspicuous architectural feature is its light tower, designed to evoke the lighthouse icon in UNE's university seal. The tower features a custom-fabricated replica Fresnel lens — the type used for centuries in working lighthouses. The lens was made possible through a generous gift from Arthur P. Girard and his family.

**"This is going to really enhance students' ability to get to support and increase utilization because everything is consolidated in one place."**

— James D. Herbert

"The building is spectacular," says Herbert. "The views from the second and third floors overlooking the Saco River are the best views on campus. The sunsets are spectacular."

Associate Provost Dennis Leighton was charged with coordinating the student services that populate the second floor, which he hopes students will come to recognize as a one-stop shop

for accessing virtually any kind of support — from finances to academics to careers. “We’re hoping that, over time, the culture will develop so that every student at UNE will know that if they have a question about anything, this is always the best place to start,” says Leighton. “The first thing you see when you enter the building is the Student Solutions Desk, and the desk person is trained to either solve the problem right there or point you in the right direction.” Agrees Herbert, “This is going to really enhance students’ ability to get to support and increase utilization because everything is consolidated in one place.”

**“We’re not going to attract and retain many students unless we provide them with a really good quality of life.”**

— James D. Herbert

“Of course,” says Herbert, “We could have the best facilities, the best academic programs, and the best experiential training, but we’re not going to attract and retain many students unless we provide them with a really good quality of life.”

“Thankfully,” Herbert continues, “that’s something that I think UNE does very, very well. My wife, Lynn, and I have both taught at a number of universities, but we have never met

students who are, on the whole — and I know there are exceptions — as enthusiastic and happy with their experience.” When asked why that might be so, Herbert responds, “Well, we’re not known as a party school. And I’m not saying there aren’t parties; of course, there are parties. We like to have fun. But I think our students have found other ways of engaging with the world and with each other that lead to a deeper sense of happiness and fulfillment.”

Some of those ways are consistent with Maine and “the way life should be,” in that UNE students tend to embrace the outdoors year-round. Students can sign out all manner of recreational equipment, from surfboards and wetsuits to snowshoes and cross-country skis. “People in Maine don’t sit around and complain about the winter and then wait around to enjoy the beautiful weather,” observes Herbert, who, it should be noted, came to UNE from Drexel University — in relatively balmy Philadelphia. “They get out. They go snowshoeing. They go skiing. They go hiking. They embrace the winter. You don’t see our students standing around complaining about it being cold. Instead, they put on their Bean Boots, and they go.”

The Activities Programming Board (APB) is the student-run organization responsible for most of the event programming on the Biddeford Campus. Jordan Campagnone, a senior Biology and Secondary Education major from Johnston,

**“Our goal is to give students something to do every weekend.”**

— Jordan Campagnone

Rhode Island, and the second-year president of the APB, says, “Our goal is to give students something to do every weekend — we get hypnotists, comedians, people from American Idol, from America’s got Talent.” She says bingo nights are especially popular. “We have a \$2,000 budget, so we can go crazy with the prizes. The best prize is usually a TV, but we’ve given away an Alexa, Fitbits, iPads, and a lot of bookstore prizes.”

The two biggest events are the spring concert and an annual semi-formal, which is held at a surprise off-campus location. Students are bussed to the event and don’t know the destination until they arrive. “We’ve done that for the past two years,” says Campagnone, “and it’s really exciting. We’ve done the Marriott in Portland, the Seasons in Portland...” And this year? “I can’t disclose that yet!”

The theme of the spring concert is based on a student survey, and the bill features a popular headliner and a smaller-name opening act. Ty Dolla, the 2017 headliner, attracted almost 1,500 students. “Not the big, big names, but they are definitely well known,” says Campagnone, who regularly attends regional conferences where she



Clockwise from left: Jordan Campagnone (Biology and Secondary Education, '18), president of the Activities Programming Board (APB); APB volunteers suit up to work the 2016 UNE Spring Concert; Hip hop artist Ty Dolla headlines the 2017 Spring Concert; Big-prize bingo nights are consistently popular; The “paint party” dance brought some color to the 2018 winter event season.



L-R: Students enjoy the view in the new Student Academic Success Center in the Ripich Commons; The USG in session with Jennifer DeBurro, M.Ed., assistant vice president for Student Affairs (pictured with her adorable baby!).

and her fellow APB officers can compare notes with student activities groups from other schools. And what has she found? “We’re actually right up there with some of the higher-level universities,” she says. “It’s kind of surprising. Most of it is dependent on budget: what are you able to put on? Considering that other universities have much larger budgets, we are doing quite well with the quality of our programming, the event spaces we have, and the way we’re able to get the word out to students.”

APB funds are allocated from the USG, through the \$300 UNE student activity fee, of which the APB gets the largest lump sum of any student group — almost \$250,000 total. So, in addition to providing a diverse slate of on-campus entertainment, the APB also provides its members with some experience in high-stakes event promotion. “We learn about budgeting and negotiating contracts and dealing with booking agencies,” says Campagnone. “Those are things you don’t typically get in a college experience. Being able to talk to a contractor and just having those professional, mature skills to put on a successful show.”

Jennifer DeBurro, the assistant vice president for Student Affairs, says, “When it comes to the organizations and programs that we have on campus, we empower our students to do a lot of the planning. Our students are driving those. I think that is part of the strength of it, that it’s your peers who are making these things happen.”

**“We’re big enough that we have world-class programs: we have the technology, we have faculty with expertise who are really at the top of their game, academically. But we’re small enough that we still have that intimate, caring kind of personal touch.”**

— James D. Herbert

UNE has been very diligent about maintaining the uniquely empowering and supportive culture it inherited from its smaller predecessor institutions, St. Francis College, Westbrook College, and the New England College of Osteopathic Medicine, even as it has expanded its reach and influence across the region and the globe. “We’re at a Goldilocks size and mentality,” says Herbert. “We’re big enough that we have world-class programs: we have the technology, we have faculty with expertise who are really at the top of their game, academically. But we’re small enough that we still have that intimate, caring kind of personal touch. Students have told me, for example, that they have emailed a faculty member at, say, 11 o’clock at night, about a question with their homework, not expecting to get an answer until the next day, if they’re lucky. But, in fact, they get an answer that evening, at midnight.”

And it’s not just the faculty at UNE who go out of their way for students. “I am so impressed with our professional staff — from the housing folks to the advisors to the folks who work in the cafeteria and dining services,” says Herbert. “The approach is very student-centric across the board. There’s a sense of genuine helpfulness across all the campuses, in the lunch room, in the gym, in the libraries, and in the offices. I think it creates this very supportive sense of community. Students really pick up on that vibe.”

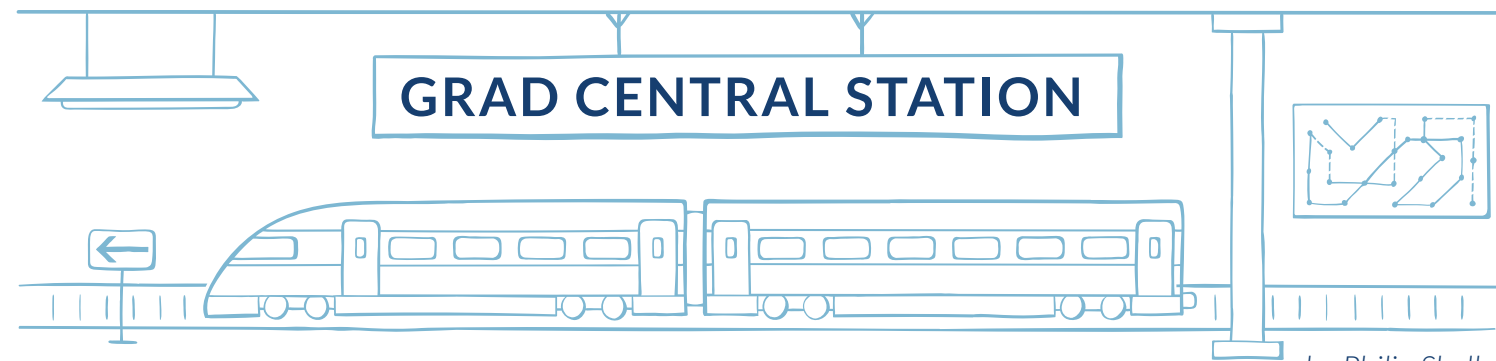
“I think,” says DeBurro, “what we try and do, is we just try and be true to who we are. We are a medium-sized institution. There isn’t a mall two miles away. We’re not going to have fraternities for you, and we’re not going to have hundreds of thousands of people showing up for a major event. That’s not who we are. UNE is a tightknit, caring community, and we work hard for our students. That’s the most important thing to us: the students. Maybe I’m biased, and I don’t want to suggest that at other institutions that’s not the case. But it feels different here — special. Our students’ success is of central importance, and I think we try to honor that in everything we do, every encounter, every moment of every day.”

**“Our students’ success is of central importance, and I think we try to honor that in everything we do, every encounter, every moment of every day.”**

— Jennifer DeBurro



Ray Handy, M.S., CAGS, assistant dean of Student Affairs (center), helps Megan Samuelson (Occupational Therapy, '19) (left) and Priya Katwala (CDM, '18) (right) hand out coffee and donuts on the Portland Campus during exam week.



by Philip Shelley

Due to several quirks of geography and institutional history, UNE's graduate and professional student community (with a few exceptions, such as the Marine Sciences master's program and the College of Osteopathic Medicine) is centralized on UNE's Portland Campus. For Ray Handy, the associate dean of Student Affairs, this uncommon arrangement gives UNE graduate and professional students a distinct advantage. "We have a number of other institutions that look at us with envy because we have most of our graduate programs here on a single campus that, with only a couple of exceptions — Nursing and third- and

**The services and the culture of this campus are customized to the graduate and professional student population. This community is set up for them.** — Ray Handy

fourth-year Dental Hygiene students, whom we consider to be in the professional phase of their program — has no undergraduate programs," says Handy. "So, UNE graduate students aren't getting the leftover support and services of undergrads. The services and the culture of this campus are customized to the graduate and professional student population. This community is set up for them."

Handy elaborates, "Nationally, the focus is on undergraduates. It's not on graduate students. The research is just not out there on graduate students and the impacts of support programs. One thing we do know is that graduate students are higher users of services and support programs than undergraduates, and typically, you might not think that." That's because, in many cases, balancing a rigorous graduate program with the routine obligations of adult life (marriage, families,

aging parents, mortgages, student debt) brings a formidable set of challenges that traditional undergraduates don't typically have to face.

Kaitlyn Hall, a third-year Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D.) student, and the president of UNE's Graduate and Professional Students Association (GAPSA) for the 2017-2018 school year, also attended UNE as an undergraduate, and armed with her dual perspective, she is candid about the ways in which graduate students require different kinds of support, services, and student governance than their undergraduate counterparts. "Grad students not only have the stress of getting through their programs," says Hall, "but many are also providing for their families. Some have to work multiple jobs while going to school and worrying about increased student loan debt. I'm not saying that the undergrad students aren't stressed, but it's a different dynamic."

**“They’ve been really good at giving us services like Stress Relief Week and different things like that,” says Hall. “So, they’re definitely aware of what their students need.”**

— Kaitlyn Hall

Thankfully, she sees the Portland Campus and Graduate and Professional Student Affairs support staff as being well attuned to the graduate student mindset. “They’ve been really good at giving us services like Stress Relief Week and different things like that,” says Hall. “So, they’re definitely aware of what their students need.”

In terms of event programming, there are regular features, such as bingo lunches (very popular) in the dining hall and GAPSA-sponsored Night on the Town gatherings at local foodie hotspots, but generally, for graduate students, student activities are less about fun and games and more about professional development and community service. “Ninety percent of the student organizations here are professionally based and tied to a national organization,” says Handy. “It gives our students a variety of opportunities for leadership, not only on campus but regionally and nationally as well.”

Further advantages derive from the fact that all of the programs in Portland are related to the

health professions. This programmatic alignment has helped UNE achieve a position of national leadership in the practice of interprofessional education (IPE), wherein schools train students from different health care disciplines to work collaboratively as part of integrated teams. Although the idea of interprofessional collaboration is rooted in academic and therapeutic principles, it informs every aspect of UNE’s Portland Campus culture: from social life and special events, to the graduate student government, to community and professional outreach. Says Handy, “Most of the things that we do are geared towards that interprofessional idea and getting students to interact together. They know everyone here is going to be their colleague one day, including the faculty.”

Bonni Boles, a first-year Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) student from Colorado and the GAPSA senator representing the Physical Therapy program, says, “There’s so much value in getting to interact with people who are in other fields but in a similar genre of schools because we’re all health professions. I don’t see how IPE could not inform my practice; at this point, I know too much about those other professions to not include them in the future.”

That IPE collaborative spirit is also the driver behind countless outreach programs, which combine real-world clinical experience, complex social interaction, and invaluable community

service in ways that are difficult to tease apart. “There’s an IPE immersion program in the summer that takes three medical students, three dental students, and three pharmacy students, and they go into a rural community for two weeks. Last year they went to Aroostook County,” says Hall, giving an example. “They go into schools and nursing homes, and they are able to speak to community members who may not have regular access to health care providers. It makes you proud to come from a school that’s supporting you in that way and giving back to the community.”

**“It makes you proud to come from a school that’s supporting you in that way and giving back to the community.”**

— Bonni Boles

“It is all kind of intertwined,” says Handy, “and I think it reflects what we’ve tried to build here through our office [Graduate and Professional Student Affairs] and through GAPSA, the student government association. Part of the GAPSA mission is interprofessional, and many of the things they do with the grants and the other types of allocations involve pulling folks together and taking them out of their individual programs. It’s really about the community development aspect: the connectedness to the institution and the connectedness to the community outside the institution. I think those are the key things.”



*Clockwise from left:* Kaitlyn Hall (CDM, '19), president of UNE’s Graduate and Professional Student Association (GAPSA); Service dogs help soothe harried grad students during Stress Week activities; Bingo is a popular lunchtime attraction at the Nor’easter Café; The Ice Cream Social was a highlight of Student Appreciation Week.



L-R: Caroline Watts (CDM, '19), student trustee on the UNE Board of Trustees; Bonni Boles (Physical Therapy, '20)

"GAPSA is great because it's such a small council," says Boles, "and each member has a real say and a real opportunity to be heard. It feels like the university actually respects us, and it's not just, 'You can be part of the student council and it'll be nice for you to play at that.' Many things that we said should be done are actually getting done, and it's fantastic."

Asked to give an idea of a typical GAPSA accomplishment, Boles replies, "It can be something as simple as getting plastic cutlery put out by the microwaves in Parker Pavilion, which we did, and people are happy with that. Or something bigger and more complex, like asking for a new crosswalk, where we are actually contacting the city, and getting them to paint a new crosswalk at a place where people are frequently dodging around the slow but persistent traffic on Forest Ave."

**“They want you to really engage and tell them about the student experience, so they understand that perspective. I think it shows how much they value student opinion.”**

**— Caroline Watts**

For Kaitlyn Hall, her year at the helm of the graduate student government has been eye-opening. "GAPSA showed me the political side of how initiatives are pushed forward and the different hoops you have to jump through. But it's really humbling to be able to be that voice of the student body and let them know that the administration really is listening to us and we do have a voice. It's great to be that outlet."

Third-year D.M.D. student Caroline Watts, the student trustee on the UNE Board of Trustees for the Portland Campus (there is a student trustee for the Biddeford Campus as well), echoes Hall in affirming that when students speak, the institution is listening. "This isn't just a position where they want you to sit back and be a fly on the wall," says Watts, who hails from Roswell, Georgia. "They want you to really engage and tell them about the student experience, so they understand that perspective. I think it shows how much they value student opinion."

Of course, it took Watts a little time to find her voice as a trustee, making her tenure on the board an invaluable learning experience. "The first time you go in there, it's very intimidating," says Watts. "You're in this room full of people who are very well-respected, all kinds of movers and shakers within our community. You go, and you sit down at this huge, long table with the president of the University, and the provost,

and all these people that you have a lot of respect for." But, Watts says, her fellow board members wasted no time in showing her the ropes and encouraging her to speak up. "Dr. Kenneally and Dr. Heer have been great in encouraging me to participate in discussions and share my thoughts. They have both been so generous in mentorship and have offered to let me shadow them in their dental practices."

Watts notes a significant difference between her past involvement in student government and her involvement as a trustee. "The board is not really there for immediate change, but more for the greater long-term good of the university," says Watts. "The things that they're looking at are so different than what you're looking at on a student government level."

The board is eager to hear about what students are doing on campus, and Watts is required to give a "Student Trustee Report" at every board meeting. Says Watts, "I actually stand up and say, 'Here's what's happening in PT; or, this is the outreach that Pharmacy is doing; or, these are the interprofessional things that all the different colleges on the Portland Campus are up to.' I think that's great because it keeps us all connected to what the main purpose of the Board is, and that's to support the student experience."

UNE celebrated its 183rd Commencement on May 19 at the Cross Insurance Arena in Portland. More than 1,800 students received degrees and certificates. Catherine A. Sanderson, the Manwell Family Professor of Life Sciences at Amherst College in Amherst, Massachusetts, served as the Commencement speaker and encouraged the graduates to search for the positive lessons that come from life's misfortunes.

James Herbert, Ph.D., expressed that the ceremony, the first UNE Commencement at which he served as UNE president, held special meaning for him. "I can honestly say that the best part of my job over the past year has been the opportunity to spend time with you, the UNE students," he said.



# SPECIAL SECTION ON DIVERSITY AT UNE

When James Herbert assumed the office of the presidency at the University of New England on July 1, 2017, one of his first official acts was to ask the UNE Office of Communications to produce a #YouAreWelcomeHere video.

The #YouAreWelcomeHere movement began at Temple University in November 2016 and has since grown to include over 300 participating colleges and universities, all of which have contributed videos and held movement-related events. The aim of the campaign, according to the #YouAreWelcomeHere website, is to send “a message from U.S. higher education to international students around the world ... to affirm that our institutions are diverse, friendly, safe and committed to student development.” Following President Herbert’s directive, UNE created an infectiously joyful video, with the enthusiastic participation of students, professional staff, and faculty, explicitly affirming a welcoming culture of inclusion and diversity across our campuses. By requesting the video, Herbert was signaling that promoting a culture of diversity and inclusion would be high on his list of institutional priorities.

So, what exactly is “diversity”? Although the word gets thrown around a lot these days in institutional contexts and the concept is sometimes watered down to the point of meaninglessness, at its best, diversity means promoting a culture of inclusion: bringing together people from different racial and ethnic

backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender expressions, economic circumstances, cultural contexts, age groups, and physical abilities, or fostering academic discourse from across a broad ideological spectrum. (Of course, when you look within any one of these groupings, you will also find a wealth of diversity.)



**“We work with students who haven’t necessarily had access, historically, to institutions of higher education: students of color, LGBTQ students, students who are trans-spectrum, students who are of multiple faiths, of no faith.... But mainly, we are here to support students and help them learn from each other.”**

— Richard Anderson-Martinez

Richard Anderson-Martinez is UNE’s director for Intercultural Student Engagement, the office within Student Affairs responsible for supporting traditionally underrepresented students. Explains Anderson-Martinez, “We work with students who haven’t necessarily had access, historically, to institutions of higher education: students of color, LGBTQ students, students who are trans-spectrum, students who are of multiple faiths, of no faith. To some degree we work around women’s rights as that fits in certain program areas. But mainly, we are here to support students and help them learn from each other.”

When asked to give an assessment of UNE’s current diversity and inclusion efforts, Anderson-Martinez reports, “UNE is doing pretty well in

terms of access to conversations around gender and sexuality. Southern Maine is really inclusive for LGBTQ folks. There is a lot of policy and things that handle that. So, we’re really good at the gender and sexuality piece. Where we can do some additional work is around race and ethnicity, especially among undergraduates.”

Over the past ten years, the percentage of students of color on the Biddeford Campus has remained steady at around seven percent, which, while comparable to the general demographic makeup of Northern New England, is not where UNE wants to be. “I would definitely like to see us have a more diverse campus in terms of racial and ethnic background,” says Herbert. “For a start, I would like to see our numbers reflect something closer to Portland, which has the highest racial and ethnic diversity in the state. It’s about providing access, yes; but it’s also about bringing together people from different kinds of backgrounds, which enhances everyone’s experience — educationally, socially, in countless ways.”

Although there is no single foolproof method for increasing racial and ethnic diversity, efforts are being made to step up UNE recruitment efforts with HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) and minoritized communities, and Herbert is talking with donors about creating more scholarship opportunities targeted at students from underrepresented groups. “It’s

also very important,” says Herbert, “that we continue to talk openly about this, continue to pay attention to it, and continue to move forward in a mindful, thoughtful way. We have to intentionally celebrate our diversity and celebrate the fact that we’re such a welcoming community.”

**“It’s about bringing together people from different kinds of backgrounds, which enhances everyone’s experience — educationally, socially, in countless ways.”**

— James D. Herbert

In recent years, the Office of Intercultural Student Engagement has made good progress in creating administrative pathways and advising student groups, such as the Cultural Council (which is composed of diversity-focused student organizations), that have helped give voice, visibility, and a sense of community to traditionally underrepresented students at UNE. There’s still a lot of work to do, but Anderson-Martinez applauds the direction in which the president seems to be moving. “I think he’s very clued in to the idea that we need to do something,” he says. “He may not know exactly what that is at this point, but you don’t have to know everything all at once. And I certainly think he is going to do right by students. He seems to be very apt to listen to them.”

Of course, fostering inclusion is a two-way street, and one thing Anderson-Martinez points to with pride is the number of white students who attend meetings of UNitEd, the multicultural student group, or straight students who attend meetings of Alliance, the LGBTQ-oriented student club.

**“Diversity, inclusion, and access are concepts that don’t belong to anyone, and it’s not really our office that should be doing this alone.”**

— Richard Anderson-Martinez

“The way that we’re focusing on diversity most is by educating the students that are here,” says Anderson-Martinez. “In addition to supporting traditionally underrepresented students, we’re also working with the majority students. We’re teaching white students how to better work with diverse communities. We’re working with straight folks to better understand queer and trans people. One of my favorite parts of the job is watching those ‘aha’ moments in people who, in a lot of ways, are social gatekeepers, who maintain institutions, when they say, ‘Okay, I’ll step aside for a moment. I’ll make space for you too.’ Like, ‘There’s more room at the table than I thought.’ I like that part.”

“Diversity, inclusion, and access are concepts that don’t belong to anyone, and it’s not really our office that should be doing this alone,” continues Anderson-Martinez. “Nor are we. There are many people tackling these issues and having these conversations all across UNE, but it needs to happen at all levels and in all places to fully change the culture. UNE cares a lot. There are good values here and a commitment to diversity, from the employees as well as from the students. I think we’re just looking for the structures to make that happen at a larger scale.”

#### CAPTIONS

*Below: Charlene Carruthers, M.S.W. the national director of the Black Youth Project 100 (center), after delivering the keynote address for UNE’s 2016 Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, with Richard Anderson-Martinez (left) and Erica Rousseau, M.A., UNE’s associate director of Intercultural Student Engagement (right)*



## SPECIAL SECTION ON DIVERSITY AT UNE

## LILAH QUINN – ALLIANCE

BY JENNIE ARANOVITCH



Lilah Quinn '18 describes herself in her high school days as “a shy kid.” One would never have guessed.

Quinn, a Psychology major and Mental Health Rehabilitation minor, is the outgoing and vivacious president of Alliance, UNE's LGBTQA student club, and she has a lot to say — about UNE, about the queer student experience, and about acceptance by both self and community.

After serving as Alliance's treasurer in her sophomore year and head of public relations as a junior, Quinn took the reins this year while simultaneously serving as the president of UNE's Cultural Council.

In describing UNE's LGBTQA club, Quinn says, “It is so much more than a gay-straight alliance. It's all sexual identities; it's all gender identities; it's all racial groups and ethnicities; everyone is open and everyone is welcome.” And in so saying, Quinn, clearly, is not just paying lip service to an idyllic notion of inclusivity. Indeed, it is more than evident that many of the things Alliance does that make her most proud are the events it holds to successfully build bridges between UNE's LGBTQ community and the University's straight students. By hosting fun and popular events in

the month of “Gaypril,” like the annual Drag Pageant (and a Drag Trivia night in preparation for the occasion) as well as the annual Drag Show (complete with a professional drag queen), Alliance reaches beyond the 10 to 15 students who show up for an average weekly meeting in an effort to expose the UNE community, as a whole, to queer culture, with the hope of strengthening mutual understanding and respect on campus.

UNE gets high marks when it comes to being a welcoming place for LGBTQ students, according to Quinn. She feels that queer students are accepted on campus, and she appreciates the willingness of straight students to express their curiosity in a positive way. “For National Coming Out Day, we gave out pieces of rainbow cake in the Campus Center, and people were really cool,” she recollects. “They stopped and asked about the club.”

At the Nearly Naked mile, a body positivity event in which participants run through campus in various states of undress (though with minimal coverage required), Quinn always gets positive vibes from surprised onlookers. “Some people cheer along. Some people walk up and are like, ‘What is this?’ Students will be coming out of



the gym, and they'll be like, ‘Yeah, I'll take an extra lap!’ and they join right in,” she laughs. “It's really a time when everybody can just be in the body that they're in and just celebrate one another. It's a really great event, and I feel like it touches people when they do it.”

While Quinn expresses her belief that “UNE would benefit from having more queer classes,” she feels that the University's recent creation of gender-neutral bathrooms and its allowance of non-legal names on UNE Identification cards (to allow expression of gender identity) are steps in the right direction.

She acknowledges, though, that even in a welcoming university community, queer students still often face inner struggles and familial turmoil, and Alliance, she says, can be a source of support. “In the past week, I've said ‘I'm queer’ in class twice, and it's so taboo for me because, you know, people can sing that they're straight every day, but to say that you're queer in a group of your peers is nerve-wracking,” she confides. “But I feel that at this school, you can do that and not fear backlash. I feel really fortunate to be at UNE where Alliance's main goal is to make people feel comfortable with the sexuality they are. And so I feel like our campus is a safe space.”

“It's a no-judgment zone,” she says of the University. “Everyone is welcome. It sounds cliché, but it is the truth.”

So what happened to that shy kid in high school? “With Alliance, I'm really able to be who I am wholeheartedly,” says Quinn. “I feel like, through Alliance, I grew to really accept every facet of myself.”

## CAPTIONS

Above: UNE Students stand for equality on the wall of the Campus Center.

## SPECIAL SECTION ON DIVERSITY AT UNE

## HAJRA CHAND – UNitEd

BY JENNIE ARANOVITCH



One of Hajra Chand's earliest memories from when she, at the age of 8, moved to Maine from New Jersey with her family is a recollection of her elementary school teacher taking her over to the classroom sink to try to wash the henna from her hands, thinking it was ink from an orange Magic Marker.

Chand '19, a Medical Biology major with plans to go into optometry, is the president of UNitEd, UNE's multicultural club. A Muslim of Indian ethnicity, Chand recognizes that people in many parts of the state of Maine simply have not experienced enough interaction with those of backgrounds different from their own to react to them in an informed manner — something she wants to combat with UNitEd. "When you live in Maine...a lot of times you find that you don't really know a lot about cultures or different people and their backgrounds and where they come from, and I feel like coming to a space like UNitEd, where everyone is just so different in so many ways, gives you a space where you can really talk about things," she explains.

But Chand is quick to point out that "differing backgrounds" encompasses so much more than just race or religion. "Diversity has a very broad definition," she says. "You're not just talking

about ethnicity or culture; you're talking about people's ideas, their backgrounds... because even in one culture, you can have such a diversity of thought, religion, and beliefs; and so really, the focus of UNitEd is to try to broadcast that. Through UNitEd, I want to showcase that diversity isn't just the color of your skin, where you come from, who you identify as; it's a lot of things, and I want to make sure those receive focus."

Her head scarf, she finds, can be a conversation starter for curious students who attend UNitEd meetings. "I feel like UNitEd is kind of a safe space where students can feel OK to discuss with one another certain issues that maybe they would be too shy to discuss in other situations," she says. "A student might be really curious about my head scarf, but they don't know how to go about asking. In UNitEd, they can feel comfortable inquiring about that."

After becoming the president of UNitEd in the fall of 2017, Chand has thought long and hard about the direction in which she wants to take the club. "I'm trying to shift UNitEd's focus," she says, noting that in earlier years, the group's main goal was to host activities that were, at their core, "fun." While Chand wants to keep the element of fun in UNitEd's programming, she wants to



focus on "reaching out to students and doing things beneficial to UNE and its community."

"I want to make UNitEd more educational," she explains. And thus far, her plans have been a success. During her first semester as president-in-training, she helped the outgoing president organize an event at which UNE students who had studied abroad gave presentations about their experiences. Once president, she arranged a showing of a documentary about the Mexican holiday el Día de los Muertos and planned a Taste the World event at which students discussed different cultures while dining at various local ethnic restaurants. In the spring semester, she coordinated the 2018 annual Culture Fest, bringing together people from a variety of cultures to share their traditions and experiences, including a classical Indian dance performance and food from around the world. Chand also organizes transportation for UNE students to attend cultural celebrations in Portland, but she hopes to add more and more events on campus. And holding on-campus events means making

sure to invite the right people. "If you're going to have a cultural celebration, it's important to bring that culture on campus," she emphasizes.

In January, Chand established an on-campus Muslim Students' Association (MSA), of which she is president. Its first official meeting was in March, and she also worked on events with the UNE College of Osteopathic Medicine Muslim Students' Association, including an event that brought in three professors — a Muslim, Jew, and Christian — to speak to medical students and health sciences undergrads about how to respectfully treat patients of different religions. Additionally, Chand has worked with the UNE COM MSA and the UNE administration to make Halal food available in the dining room, and to establish a reflection room in the Ripich Commons, which can be utilized by students of all faiths and beliefs.

"I feel like UNE is one of those campuses where, really, we overlook differences and we have a common aim," says Chand. "A lot of times, our

similarity is our major, but UNE's core curriculum forces us to go outside of our field. So, in a certain way, UNE's curriculum makes us interact with students we normally wouldn't."

"I think UNE does a really good job of bridging the gap between people, but there are still certain things that students are curious about,"



she notes, "and UNitEd and the MSA are both places where students can come to learn." And with students like Chand on college campuses taking the lead in teaching about cultural sensitivity to those who want to learn, it is all the less likely that the henna on the hands of the next generation will be mistaken for ink doodles from an orange marker.

## CAPTIONS

From left: UNE students at a candlelight "Vigil For Hope," held March 1, 2018, and organized by UNitEd; UNitEd's first "Taste the World" dinner, held in September 2017 at Babylon, an Iraqi and Middle Eastern restaurant in Portland.



## SPECIAL SECTION ON DIVERSITY AT UNE

## ALLISON SYMONDS AND LACEY DURKEE — WGS CLUB

BY PHILIP SHELLEY



Allison Symonds and Lacey Durkee, the co-presidents of UNE's Women's and Gender Studies (WGS) Club, agree that their club was on life-support until the lead-up to the Women's March in January 2017, as events in the outside world re-catalyzed the sense of political awareness among students at UNE.

Explains Allison, "When the Women's March in Boston came up, we both really wanted to go, and we knew a few students who also really wanted to go. So, we started having meetings again to plan for that, and we kind of self-appointed ourselves as presidents because there wasn't really a club anymore."

The newly reconstituted WGS Club transported 10 people to Boston for the historic protest, in a van provided by UNE, and returned to Biddeford energized. "That definitely sparked our new club," says Allison, "and we got involved again in USG [the Undergraduate Student Government], and we grew from there."

Although both women are UNE seniors, psychology majors, and from small towns in Northern New England — Allison from Bristol, New Hampshire, and Lacey from Belfast, Maine — their interest in feminism and related issues developed along different paths.

"I actually grew up in a family that was very open to feminism and very liberal," says Lacey, "even though I came from a pretty rural area. So, when I came to UNE I was actually surprised, given that female students are such a majority here, that there wasn't a stronger feminism presence. I was shocked when I would meet or talk to a lot of different women, and they would say, 'I wouldn't identify as a feminist'; or, 'I don't think that's an issue that needs to be talked about here.' That really took me aback."

"For me it's kind of the opposite," says Allison. "I grew up in a pretty rural area — very, very small, and pretty conservative. So, coming here, I was shocked at how many feminists there were and how differing their perspectives were. Julie Peterson [an associate professor of psychology, the academic program director for Women's and Gender Studies, and the WGS Club's faculty advisor] was actually one of the first people to really spark my interest in feminism. Honestly, I was shocked at how many other people were interested in it, coming from such a small area where no one even said the word 'feminism.' I wasn't even sure what it meant before I came here."

The resurgent club has been very active in the past year, sponsoring events on campus, collaborating with other student groups, and participating in

local political action campaigns. One popular recurring event is the irresistibly titled "Professors Talk Sex," a panel discussion in which UNE professors from different disciplines give their perspectives on sex. The club also co-sponsored (with SHAG — the new student-led Sexual Health Advocacy Group) a showing of the documentary "The Hunting Ground," about sexual assault on college campuses, with UNE's Title IX Coordinator Angela Shambarger, M.Ed., leading a post-screening discussion. Another highlight was the WGS-hosted edition of UNE's weekly Thursday Night Trivia Contest, with WGS-themed questions and prizes. In April the club threw the "Advocacy Through Education Cookout & Social," a festive gathering held on the Alford Center for Health Sciences lawn, featuring area speakers, musicians, and writers who are focused on WGS-related topics. Perhaps their most satisfying success came after canvassing in Biddeford in support of a bill that would expand Medicaid coverage. Lacey says, "It was really good experience for the club to get involved with some political action, and we hope to do more of it in the future."

Although both Allison and Lacey are graduating in the spring (2018), they have been diligent in ensuring that they leave the club in capable



hands. "We have a vice president, Mackenzie Deveau, who is junior right now, and Kristin Macek, also a junior, is our communications editor," says Allison. "They're going to take the reins after we graduate. We are working with McKenzie to show her how to plan events and organize, since organizing is such a big piece of it, so that she's ready to take over next semester."

"We have a lot of momentum now," she continues. "We've done so much in one year. It's exciting, but I have so much faith and so much excitement for

the people who are coming up — McKenzie, Kristen, all the others who are involved — so I think it's only going to continue to grow and thrive."

## CAPTIONS

Left page: Lacey Durkee and Allison Symonds hold signs at the Boston Women's March, January 2017.

Above: WGS Club members at the Boston Women's March

## SPECIAL SECTION ON DIVERSITY AT UNE

## ABIGAIL LAGASSE — INTERN WITH SEN. SUSAN COLLINS

BY PHILIP SHELLEY



*One important but sometimes overlooked type of diversity is ideological diversity. For various reasons, college campuses are typically fairly liberal environments, and we wondered what it is like to be a conservative student at a predominantly liberal institution. We discovered that currently there are no registered conservative student groups at UNE, and within our currently polarized political climate, it was challenging even to find a self-identified conservative student who would talk to us on the record. Thankfully, that's when we were introduced to Abigail Lagasse.*

Abigail Lagasse, Class of '18, is a political science major from St. David, Maine, way up near the Canadian border. She also considers herself a conservative — that is, depending on how you define the word.

“These terms get thrown around a lot,” says Abigail, “but for me, being a conservative means, first off, believing in personal responsibility. That's something that was taught to me my whole life, when I was growing up, very consistently: just taking responsibility for your actions; if you want something, you're going to work for it, and you're going to earn it. I also support a smaller government that stays out of my business, and a strong military, and less taxes, and more money

in my own pocket. Values like that are what steered me towards being conservative.”

Part of the reason Abigail goes to such lengths to clarify her definition is an understandable wariness about being misjudged, especially on campus. “I think that's what a lot of conservatives on campus are afraid of — being labelled,” she explains. “Because obviously we know that we're in the ideological minority. And a lot of times, you say you're conservative or you say you're Republican, and right away you're labelled as a racist and a homophobe and a horrible human being.”

And to be 100% clear...? “Of course, I'm not,” she answers, laughing. “I believe that love is love, and people should be able to marry whomever they want. So, I'm very open to everything like that. I guess I'm more fiscally conservative, if you want to put it that way.”

Abigail reports that she had some issues making her way against the political grain in certain classes. “I have had difficulty with professors who will try to talk about current events,” she says. “I've expressed my more conservative views on events a few times and been singled out and kind of heckled about it in class.”

True to her beliefs, Abigail dealt with the situation directly, and happily, establishing a respectful two-way dialogue helped to turn the situation around. “I went to the professor in that class,” she says, “and I said, ‘This needs to stop! We had a conversation. He understood, and it's fine now. So, I think that's where my taking personal responsibility comes into play. I knew what I had to do, and I did it. That's just how I deal with things.’”

Abigail's outspoken presence in the Political Science department has paid off in another way, with an internship in the Portland office of Maine's Republican Senator, Susan Collins. “I got the job through the Political Science department at UNE,” she says. “I think it was the only place I applied to actually, and they were looking for interns, and so they took me on. Usually it's just for one semester, but luckily, I don't know, they liked me or something, and they've kept me on throughout the rest of my college career.”

The intern's job is to help run the office, which is focused on constituent service. Abigail fields requests, comments, and constituents' feedback on current events and helps connect constituents with federal agencies. “It's a lot of casework,”



she says. “Most of it is confidential, so I can't go into a lot of detail, but that's basically what we do.” When asked if she considers Senator Collins a role model, Abigail says, “Right now she's working across the aisle to get things done. She's bipartisan, she's for the people, and she's trying to get people to work together for the good of all of us. We really need that in politics right now. I feel like the senator's in a league of her own. She's quite the woman.”

Abigail would like to see a few modest changes at UNE. “I think that we should hire some conservative faculty,” she says. “You know, at least even it out a little bit to get some different viewpoints. I also think inviting conservative speakers to campus now and again wouldn't be a

bad idea. I know it might raise some hell, but I think it's important to include all sides of a story.”

As for her own future, Abigail is thinking about law school and, just maybe, somewhere down the road, politics. But first, she plans to accompany her husband August Mendoza, a former UNE student who is currently serving in an airborne division in the Army, to his next assignment, and she has plans to work for a non-profit or on a political campaign.

## CAPTIONS

Above: Abigail Lagasse with U.S. Senator Susan Collins

## SPECIAL SECTION ON DIVERSITY AT UNE

## EMILY CERTO AND KARA HECKER – INTERVARSITY

BY JENNIE ARANOVITCH



There was little in Kara Hecker's childhood, growing up in Harrison Township, Michigan, to make her question how to practice her faith. She grew up in a predominantly Lutheran community and was enrolled in a Lutheran school system from the time she was a preschooler through her graduation from high school. To Kara, a Class of '18 Athletic Training major who serves as co-president of UNE's chapter of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, the difference was palpable when she arrived at the University of New England as a freshman.

"It's definitely a very interesting switch going from a Christian-based education system in Michigan to college at UNE here in New England," she says. For the first time, Kara, who was accustomed to sharing the same belief system with the majority of people around her, obtained first-hand experience of religious diversity. As a result, she not only learned about different perspectives but also grew in her own faith. "When I came here to UNE – and it would not have mattered what college I went to – my faith got tested," she says, explaining that she found herself wondering how she would pursue her faith in the new setting of a college campus.

"It's definitely hard to know how much you're going to put your faith into practice when you

come to college, but I think that's when you really see yourself grow," she shares. "Because it is uncomfortable — that beginning, that experience of feeling it all out, but it definitely causes a lot of growth in character."

Given the strength of her Christian background, Kara chose to remain active in her faith, and finding a support system at UNE was high on her list of priorities. She joined EDGE (Every Day Grace Exceeds), the precursor to the UNE InterVarsity chapter, and by the end of her freshman year, she had joined forces with her friend (and soccer teammate) Emily Certo (Medical Biology, '18, UNE COM, '22), from Buffalo, New York, and the two of them became co-presidents of InterVarsity.

The two co-presidents played an integral role in transforming the group into an official InterVarsity chapter, one of more than 1,000 at colleges and universities across the nation. While neither Kara nor Emily wants to take credit for the growth of the chapter — which was a collective effort — they say they are genuinely proud to have been a part of the club during an era of expansion that saw the number of active members rise from five to around 20.

The club meets for an hour each week and holds a Sunday service complete with a band, food, and an outside speaker once a month. Being part of a national organization allows the club to enjoy retreats and trips with members of other New England chapters. During spring break, they travel to an out-of-state city – this year, Baton Rouge, Louisiana – where they partner with a community service organization, such as Habitat for Humanity or Rebuilding Together, to perform volunteer work. In the fall, they enjoy a long weekend at an InterVarsity camp in New Hampshire. There is also an annual retreat held at the end of each school year, where members can go to learn leadership skills.

"Our primary goal on campus is to engage with students and proclaim the love of Christ," says Kara. "We can be found doing daily acts of kindness: such as passing out flowers on Valentine's Day, giving out hot chocolate and cookies during finals week, and other small but meaningful engagements." Adds Emily, "It's not a huge effect that we have on campus, but we try to just do little things to make other students smile and kind of make their day."

According to Kara, the club members belong to a wide range of denominations and include Catholics, Protestants, and many who consider



themselves non-denominational. And, in fact, one does not need to be Christian at all in order to join. "Anyone can come," she says. "We actually love it when people who aren't of the same faith come and ask questions because I think we all really learn a lot from that." Last summer, an InterVarsity open forum event on campus, where students could come to ask questions about religion, was successful in bringing about 50 students together.

The topic of how to pursue one's faith on a college campus is one that comes up a lot at InterVarsity meetings, says Kara. "Emily and I have a passion for educating and demonstrating to people in our generation that spirituality is defined in many ways and that this is the time in our lives to explore it. Throughout our college years, we twenty-somethings are impressionable; we're exposed to the struggles of undergraduate life, under constant pressure to move on in higher education, and bombarded with expectations around choosing a sound profession."

Indeed, it seems the ultimate objective of InterVarsity is to connect students with like-minded peers so all can draw strength from that collective show of faith. "It is critical to surround yourself with those who will lift you up and help guide you through times of tribulation and new challenges such as those we all face in college," says Emily. "It has been a humbling and growth-filled four years for both of us, and we pray that UNE continues to grow as a welcoming community for all believers, and rediscovers some of the Christian roots it was built on."

## CAPTIONS

*Left page:* Emily and Kara at the St. Francis Heritage Plaza on the Biddeford Campus. Emily: "It was always our intention to reengage with those roots and bring some of those spiritual resources back to the students."

*Above:* Emily and Kara in the Art Gallery at the Ketchum Library, with fellow InterVarsity members Julie Plummer (Health, Wellness, and Occupational Studies, '20) and Thomas Morin (Medical Biology, '18).

More than 200 guests attended the Experience UNE: President's Annual Celebration event on Thursday, June 14, 2018. During the reception in Innovation Hall on the Portland Campus, guests took part in a variety of interactive exhibits demonstrating the academic and student life experiences at UNE. President Herbert provided an overview of the year to guests, and Associate Professor of Biomedical Sciences Meghan May, Ph.D., presented on her research. This annual event celebrates the generosity of those who invested in the University of New England during the past year, and it celebrates the many new and existing partnerships that the University has with community members.





**CAPTIONS**

*Page 36*  
President Herbert and Trustee John Chang, D.O. '84.

*Page 37*  
Monica Girard '89 and her sister Andréa Girard test out a virtual reality experience designed to foster empathy in students who will be health care providers to patients with dementia. (L-R: Monica Girard '89, Beth Dyer, Jennifer Dew '18, Andréa Girard)

*Page 38*  
Dr. Lynn Brandsma and her husband, President Herbert, pose with Gregg Paulhus '79, president of the UNE-SFC Alumni Council, and Alumni Council member Joe Valenza '68.

*Page 39*  
UNE Trustee Gary Locarno '70 flips through pieces from the UNE Special Collections with Cathleen Miller, curator of the Maine Women Writers Collection, while UNE Teaching and Research Librarian Bobby Gray shows Trustee Pat Phillips, D.O. '85 more of the collection.



THE PRESIDENT'S LISTENING TOUR

# PRESIDENT HERBERT: ON THE ROAD AGAIN

BY AMY HAILE

*During President Herbert's first year at the University of New England, he made it a priority to engage personally with every segment of the UNE community. So last fall and winter, the president hit the road to meet alumni, parents, and friends on a listening tour across the East Coast. The president hosted events from Maine to New York — although winter weather wreaked havoc on a few scheduled stops — and also reached*



*out via two Facebook Live events. The goal was to introduce himself, share his reflections on UNE, and, most importantly, to listen to the extended UNE family and hear about what UNE means to them.*

**FREEPORT, MAINE**  
November 2

While a hurricane that swept through New England caused events in Bangor and Kennebunkport to be canceled, 30 intrepid Westbrook College and UNE alumni, donors, and friends braved power outages and downed trees to meet President Herbert in Freeport. During the event, alumni expressed pride in the growth of the University along with hope that any additional expansion would be carefully considered. In response, President Herbert described his challenge to faculty and professional staff to determine the things that UNE does best, identify demands that are not being met by other institutions, and focus any future growth in those areas. Conversations involving marine science, osteopathic medicine, nutrition, online courses, and financial literacy reflected the broad connections and interests of the audience.

**PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND**  
November 7

An early morning breakfast at the Hope Club in Providence brought together 17 alumni of St. Francis College, Westbrook College, and UNE, as well as parents of current students, to hear from President Herbert. This mix of people and their experiences led to lively conversation that ranged from UNE's global programs and the labs available on the Morocco Campus to the importance of interprofessional education and experiential learning opportunities. President Herbert's update on the Danielle N. Ripich Commons and its bird-safe glass inspired conversation about environmental issues and, of course, parking.



**PLYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS**  
November 7

A quick trip north, and President Herbert was in Plymouth, Massachusetts. Between meetings and receptions, he and Vice President of Institutional Advancement Bill Chance were able to do a little sightseeing — after all, you can't go to Plymouth and not check out the Rock! Later that evening, an intimate group gathered to share their experiences of UNE. While a prospective student and her father sat with Dorothy Taylor '46, Mary Callahan,



D.O. '92, talked about how important her rural Maine rotation was during her time at UNE. This sparked a discussion on the positive effects UNE is having on rural areas of Maine, where health care providers are in short supply.



**LEXINGTON AND BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS**  
November 8

Another breakfast meeting in Lexington and an evening reception in Boston inspired more conversation ranging from the expansion of the business program to the importance of the Interprofessional Simulation and Innovation Lab for all health care programs. Alumni from the medical school and Westbrook College, and recent UNE graduates spoke with warmth about the sense of community they each found during

their time on campus and the importance of the wide variety of activities for students outside of the classroom. Ioana Panaitiu '15 reflected on her ability to get published as an undergraduate — something she now realizes was very unique. Everyone agreed that the students of UNE are the best ambassadors for the school. Being both extremely hard working and committed to creating a positive college community, they tend to attract like-minded students.

**PORTLAND AND BIDDEFORD, MAINE**  
December 6 and 8

While it's good to get out of town and meet people, it's important to remember the folks back home. So President Herbert hosted two events for UNE's neighbors in Portland and Biddeford. In Portland, the event was held in Innovation Hall, which allowed many neighbors to see the renovated armory building up close for the first time. In Biddeford, guests came to meet President Herbert and cheer on the men's hockey team. A highlight was meeting Casey Starkweather '21, who aspires to be the fourth generation of nurses in her family, along with her mother, Lisa, her grandmother, Dot, who is a neighbor in Biddeford, and Dot's mother.





**SALEM, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
January 11

President Herbert kicked off the New Year in Salem with alumni and parents from southern New Hampshire and northern Massachusetts. Dr. Jim Krebs, M.S. '12, assistant dean in the College of Pharmacy, joined President Herbert on the road and was able to connect with Ryan Warren, Pharm.D. '15, and John and Kathy Scalia, P '21, whose daughter is a pre-pharmacy student. Dr. Krebs shared information about the College of Pharmacy with those assembled. Alumni of the Westbrook College of Health Professions from Nursing and Social Work also shared their experiences.

**HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT**  
March 20

Twenty alumni and parents joined President Herbert in Hartford as a late winter nor'easter tried to foil the UNE Nor'easters event plans. Perhaps it was the weather, but conversation among the attendees centered on the experience of UNE's own Nor'easters, our student-athletes, including the dedication and discipline required to balance academic and athletic commitments, how that discipline helps student-athletes later in life, and how the UNE culture of being a good student and community member is playing out among student-



athletes. A strong contingent of St. Francis College alumni, including Mo Vaughn Fortin '81, P '15, '16 and her husband David Fortin, who are also parents of UNE alumni, shared how the values that underlined their college experience are still evident in the UNE student experience of today.

**NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK**  
March 21

In New York, the nor'easter gained the upper hand, and a smaller than anticipated group braved the weather to join President Herbert, Vice President Chance, marine science professor Dr. Barry Costa-Pierce, and Nursing Program Director Jen Morton '83 at the showroom of Thos. Moser, a Maine-based furniture designer. Among the group was Bonnie Blake, an education doctoral candidate in UNE's online program, who described her dissertation project — a study on highly successful people with dyslexia. Bonnie raved about the quality of UNE's online programs and the support she has received throughout her experience.



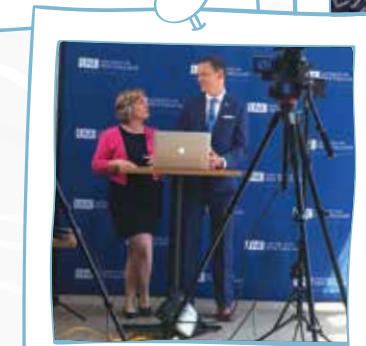
**EVERYWHERE**  
March 28 and April 24

Technology is amazing, and two Facebook Live events gave President Herbert a platform to interact with people across the country as well as to share aspects of UNE they have not been able to experience.

On March 28, President Herbert, along with viewers from Maine to Hawaii, took a behind-the-scenes tour of the Interprofessional Simulation and Innovation Center on UNE's Portland Campus with the center's director, Associate Clinical Professor Dawne-Marie Dunbar '95, P '20. Dunbar described how different colleges and programs use the center, and President Herbert was able to stop and visit with a group of first-year medical students who were experiencing the center for the first time.

On April 24, viewers were treated to a tour of the new Danielle N. Ripich Commons on UNE's Biddeford Campus, which includes a living wall, a lounge area, student study areas and resource offices on the second floor, and, of course, the dining hall, with its expansive view of the Saco River.

Reflecting on his journeys, President Herbert said, "I loved meeting people across the country who have experienced the University in different ways. The most important impression I have come back with is that regardless of generation, campus, or college, the common thread that connected all parts of UNE is the sense of community that is created on campus from students, faculty, and professional staff. That value is the soul of the University, and we will continue to nurture it going forward."





### JOSHUA HAMILTON OF RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE IS NEW UNE PROVOST

Following a rigorous national search, Joshua Hamilton, Ph.D., was named UNE's new provost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs. Hamilton comes to UNE from Rhode Island College (RIC), where he served as provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

Prior to RIC, Hamilton served as the dean of the Swenson College of Science and Engineering at the University of Minnesota Duluth (UMD) and as senior scientist and chief academic and scientific officer of the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL) in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. Prior to MBL, he spent over two decades at Dartmouth College and Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, rising in the ranks from postdoctoral research fellow to professor of pharmacology and toxicology.

"I am humbled by this appointment and eagerly anticipate being a part of the vitality of the UNE," said Hamilton. "I've been intrigued by this institution for several years, and the prospect of helping to write the next chapter of discovery and innovation in UNE's history under President Herbert's new leadership and vision will be a true honor."



### UNE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY STUDENTS TRAVEL TO CAPITOL HILL

Chosen from a nationwide pool of applicants, Samantha Shannon (COP '18) and Tori Cavanaugh (COP '19), were selected to represent the UNE College of Pharmacy at the 2018 National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) RxImpact Day. Held March 7 and 8, 2018, the event took place in Washington, D.C.

Shannon and Cavanaugh met with legislators to advocate for HR 592/S109, the Pharmacy and Medically Underserved Areas Enhancement Act. Currently, 226 sponsors in the House of Representatives and 45 sponsors in the Senate support this legislation that increases access to pharmacist services. By supporting this legislation, pharmacists are taking a stand for better health care and advancing the profession of pharmacy to provider status.

"Advocacy for our patients and our profession is important because it's the intersection of professionalism and citizenship," said Kenneth McCall, B.S.Pharm., Pharm.D., CGP, associate professor and residency director in the College of Pharmacy. "This experience enables students to expand their own personal viewpoints through interactions with legislators and legislative staff and to better articulate the value that a pharmacist provides to the health of society."



### UNE COLLEGE OF DENTAL MEDICINE STUDENT FEATURED IN 'MANCHESTER JOURNAL'

Nicholas Guy (CDM '18) has been spotlighted for his recent externship at Battenkill Valley Health Center (BVHC) in Arlington, Vermont. As reported by the *Manchester Journal*, Guy is concluding his three-month training at BVHC, where he studied under Stephen Phillips, D.D.S., adjunct assistant professor in the College of Dental Medicine.

"You get to see it all, and the unique thing about coming to a community health center like this is that we have medical right across the hall," Guy explained. "You really get those interprofessional workings, which are a little different than going to a stand-alone private dental practice. It almost becomes a one-stop-shop for the community."

Guy was enthusiastic about his experience, saying "That's kind of a mission for my school, trying to get dentists into rural underserved communities. It's an experience like no other; you really become the community's dentist. I think anyone would be lucky to come back and serve the greater Arlington community."

*Photo courtesy of Battenkill Valley Health Center*



### '207' PROFILES UNE'S KAILEY WORTHINGTON AND HER SERVICE DOG IN TRAINING, CADILLAC

For first-year Master of Science in Occupational Therapy student Kailey Worthington, hands-on education in her field extends far beyond the classroom. That's because in addition to being a full-time student, Worthington is also raising Cadillac, a service dog, through Canine Companions for Independence, a nonprofit organization that provides assistance dogs free of charge to recipients.

At UNE, Cadillac, a black lab, has become an integral part of Worthington's day, accompanying her to classes and to her fieldwork program. "My actual fieldwork for this semester is outpatient pediatrics," she said. "It has two facility service dogs, so I am just looking to learn more on how that works."

Kristin Winston, Ph.D., OTR/L, program director and associate professor for the Occupational Therapy Department in UNE's Westbrook College of Health Professions, notes, "I think he's shaping the future of her career but also the rest of the class and the rest of the students who are exposed."

"He makes everybody's mood go up," said Worthington. "Sometimes people will stop me before we have exams and say, 'Can I pet him for a little bit? I just need some Cadillac time.'"



### UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND RECEIVES 2017 DIGITAL LEARNING INNOVATION AWARD

The University of New England recently received the 2017 Online Learning Consortium (OLC) Digital Learning Innovation (DLI) Award in the Faculty-Led Team category. The UNE team, headed by Kash Dutta, M.S., senior lecturer in biology, the team's presenter, won the recognition for the creation of a blended curriculum, using McGraw Hill's Connect courseware and SmartBook/LearnSmart, Anatomy and Physiology Revealed, and Physiology Interactive Lab Simulations to improve student learning outcomes and retention in a large restructured gateway Anatomy and Physiology course for Allied Health majors.

The DLI Award program, funded by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Postsecondary Success Program, recognizes exemplary higher education faculty-led teams and institutions for advancing student success through the adoption of digital courseware in undergraduate programs. This year's awards were presented on November 16 during the OLC Accelerate conference, held in Orlando.

The OLC is a collaborative community of higher education leaders and innovators, dedicated to advancing quality digital teaching and learning experiences designed to reach and engage the modern learner.

*Image courtesy of Online Learning Consortium*



### UNE PRESIDENT JAMES HERBERT ATTENDS ARCTIC CIRCLE ASSEMBLY

For the third consecutive year, the University of New England sent representatives to the Arctic Circle Assembly, the preeminent international forum for Arctic cooperation and sustainable development. Held in Reykjavik, Iceland, from October 11 to 15, the assembly gathered more than 2,000 participants, including a 50-person delegation from Maine. Representing UNE were President James Herbert, Ph.D.; Anouar Majid, Ph.D., vice president for Global Affairs and the director of the Center for Global Humanities; Barry Costa-Pierce, Ph.D., chair and Henry L. & Grace Doherty Professor of Marine Sciences and director of UNE's Center for Excellence in the Marine Sciences; and Holly Parker, M.Ed., innovation research strategist.

The assembly, which is designed to increase dialogue about the Arctic region and strengthen the international focus on the future of the Arctic, drew heads of state, law makers, scientists, non-profit and business leaders, administrators at institutions of higher education, indigenous representatives, activists, and environmentalists from many countries.

Herbert sees many similarities between Maine and the Arctic nations. "Culturally, we have many things in common and face similar challenges," he explained. "We have relatively small populations; we're environmentally conscious; we share similar climates; and we have tourism industries that are environment-focused. We also have major fishery and aquaculture industries. So, we'll face many of the same issues as climate change progresses."





### C-SPAN FEATURES UNE AS PART OF "CITIES TOUR" SERIES

C-SPAN featured two segments about the University of New England as part of its "Cities Tour" series about Portland, Maine. The tour travels to various cities around the nation, interviewing local historians, politicians and authors.

One segment highlighted the Maine Women Writers Collection at UNE, which preserves the writings of Maine Women who have achieved literary recognition, as well as unpublished works such as journals and diaries. Jennifer Tuttle, Ph.D., director of the collection, displayed a number of notable works including journals from Eleanor Hamlin of Portland from the 1940s, arctic explorer Josephine Diebitsch Peary, and letters between Sarah Orne Jewett and Annie Fields.

C-SPAN also featured Elizabeth De Wolfe, Ph.D., professor of History, director of the Liberal Studies Program, and affiliated faculty in the Women's and Gender Studies Program. De Wolfe discussed her book *Shaking the Faith*, which shares the story of former Shaker Mary Marshall Dyer's 50-year campaign to denounce the Shaker religion and win back the custody of her children.



### UNE STUDENT GROUP'S WORK CULMINATES WITH UNVEILING OF CAMP KETCHA'S SOLAR PANELS

On January 27, Camp Ketcha, a Scarborough non-profit serving the southern Maine community with programs in youth development, family enrichment and summer day camping, held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the commissioning of its newly installed solar panels — an addition to the facility that was made possible, in part, by the efforts of a University of New England undergraduate student group.

The students, guided by Associate Professor Noah Perlut, Ph.D., of UNE's Department of Environmental Studies, and spearheaded by student-lead Hanna Sihler, a junior double-majoring in oceanography and biophysics, composed a Solar Ambassador team that worked with the non-profit RE-volv to raise more than \$35,000 for the panels.

According to Sihler, the solar panels will "increase the ecological and financial sustainability of Camp Ketcha, enable children and community members to see hands-on the power of solar and renewable energy and will hopefully inspire them to continue with the growth of renewable energy."



### U.S. DOE AWARDS UNE \$1,321,039 TO DEVELOP NEW TECHNOLOGIES FOR SEAWEED PRODUCTION

The United States Department of Energy (DOE) announced that the University of New England was awarded a three-year, nationally competitive research grant for \$1,321,039 from DOE's Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E). DOE awardees are part of a new program called "Macroalgae Research Inspiring Novel Energy Resources (MARINER)" that aims to develop the tools to enable the United States to become a leading producer of macroalgae, or seaweed.

The UNE team will develop a high level, fine-tuned 3D modeling tool to simulate hydrodynamic-induced mechanical stresses that seaweed farms face in the open ocean. Their model will be capable of simulating hectare-sized farms, which would speed up the engineering, testing and permitting process for new, large scale, seaweed farming systems.

"With this grant, UNE will become a center of expertise, practice, and partnerships for developing Maine's seaweed and sea vegetable economy offshore," said Professor Barry Costa-Pierce, Ph.D., director of UNE's Center for Excellence in the Marine Sciences. "DOE's investment in UNE will support partnerships with researchers and businesses in nations throughout the Atlantic Ocean, developing Maine as a global leader in research and development in aquaculture, especially in the expanding seaweed bioproducts and food economies."



### IMMERSIVE GERIATRICS RESEARCH LEADS TO RECOGNITION FOR UNE MEDICAL STUDENTS

Two students from the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine have been recognized for their geriatrics research. They participated in the Learning by Living 48 Hour Hospice Home Immersion Project, in which second-year medical students spend two full days living and providing care at the Gosnell Memorial Hospice House for terminally ill patients.

The *SciFed Journal of Geriatrics and Palliative Care* published an article authored by students William Brown and Sonia Marcello and Professor and Director of Geriatrics and Research in the UNE College of Osteopathic Medicine Marilyn Gugliucci, Ph.D. The article, titled, "Patient-Centered Care: Medical Students Engagement Through Immersion Learning," demonstrates how this experiential learning project helps medical students learn vital communication skills that allow practitioners to understand the needs of their patients, skills they might otherwise not learn through their medical training.

The American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents published Brown's firsthand account of his experience in its newsletter, "The Pulse." He wrote, "This immersion experience has completely changed the way I plan to practice medicine when I graduate. I will try to take a step back from all of the science and try to remember the lessons of compassion that I learned during my time in the hospice home."



### UNE'S MEG WEBSTER PUBLISHED IN 'HUFFPOST'

Meg Webster of UNE's School of Social Work has written an article for *HuffPost* titled "Escaping Forced Marriage in the DRC to Pursue a Dream: Portrait of a Young Immigrant Congolese Woman."

Webster interviewed "Asha," a young woman who fled from her home in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). When she was 18, a group of family leaders came to Asha's home and informed her that she was to marry a 55-year-old man whom she had never met. Though Congolese law states that both parties must consent to being married, human rights groups report that this rule is rarely enforced. "You don't have a choice, really," Asha said. "If you try to refuse, that's when the consequences come..."

Asha, who had begun her university studies in the DRC, worked with her parents to obtain a visa to the United States where she could continue taking college courses. She currently lives in Portland and is enrolled in a pre-engineering program. "Success is a must for me," says Asha. "I don't have room to fail."

*Image courtesy of Anna Donlan, Digital Art Director of Texas Monthly*



### UNE RANKED TOP OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL SCHOOL FOR PRIMARY CARE BY U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT

*U.S. News and World Report* has named the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine the top osteopathic medical school for primary care among medical schools across the country.

*U.S. News* ranked eight osteopathic medical schools in its annual list of best medical schools for primary care. The rankings are determined using the number of students entering primary care specialties upon graduation, as well as surveys from medical schools, test scores and average GPA.

"More than sixty percent of our graduates practice in primary care," said UNE COM Dean Jane Carreiro, D.O. "We train doctors who care for the whole patient, work to promote overall health and work well in teams with other health professionals. These are skills that lend themselves perfectly to primary care practice, and I am thrilled UNE COM is gaining a national reputation as a provider of exceptional primary care doctors."

The University of New England welcomed David Roux, chairman of the Jackson Laboratory, as the speaker at the eleventh annual Paul D. Merrill Business Ethics Lecture, which was held on May 2 in Innovation Hall. Roux presented "Social Trauma: Technology Tsunamis and Other Dangerous Consequences of Higher Education." Prior to his lecture, Roux had the opportunity to tour both campuses, meeting faculty and students at the Pickus Center for Biomedical Research, the Makerspace, the Harold Alford Forum, and the Interprofessional Simulation and Innovation Center.

CAPTIONS

Page 48  
David Roux delivers the eleventh annual Paul D. Merrill Business Ethics Lecture.

Page 49  
David Roux, seated with UNE President James Herbert, at a luncheon held before the lecture on the first floor of the Danielle N. Ripich Commons.





The UNE field hockey team celebrates its fourth consecutive CCC title.

## NOR'EASTER NEWS

BY CURT SMYTH

While the University of New England varsity athletics program has elevated itself to a regional power in recent years, the 2017-18 academic year will likely go down as the most successful in school history.

The fall sports season opened the year with three championships, courtesy of the women's cross country, field hockey, and rugby teams. For the women's cross country and field hockey squads, it continued a run that few peers have enjoyed. Women's cross country has earned six consecutive Commonwealth Coast Conference (CCC) titles, while field hockey has claimed four straight CCC championships and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Division III Championship in each of those seasons. In just its second season of varsity play, the women's rugby team won the National Intercollegiate Rugby Association (NIRA) Tier 2 Championship by walloping Bowdoin College, 57-14, in the title match.

The run of success continued right into the winter sports season, highlighted by the performance of the women's basketball and men's ice hockey programs. For the Nor'easters' women's basketball team, it was the sixth straight conference championship and seventh consecutive appearance in the NCAA Division

III Championship. In keeping with recent custom, UNE caught fire come tournament time, winning its three CCC Championship tilts by an average margin of more than 15 points. Men's ice hockey reached as high as fourth in the national polls while winning a school-record 20 contests. The Nor'easters advanced to the CCC Tournament championship game for the second consecutive season and earned an at-large bid into the NCAA Division III Championship.

In addition to their many athletic accomplishments, UNE student-athletes continued to make their mark in the community as "Nor'easter Neighbors" as well. The 11th Annual Lax-4-Life Fall Invitational raised nearly \$4,000 for the Barbara Bush Children's Hospital at Maine Medical Center, pushing the event's fundraising total to nearly \$30,000 since its inception. Other community engagement events included the annual Sweetheart Dance at Atria Kennebunk and the UNE-based York County Special Olympics Swim Meet, to name a few.

Whether it is winning championships or serving the community, the University of New England Nor'easters continue to tackle all they do with the force that their nickname symbolizes.



CAPTIONS

Above, top to bottom: For the sixth straight year, the women's cross country team captured a conference championship; The Harold Alford Forum served as a venue for the NCAA Division III Men's Ice Hockey Championship when the national-ranked Nor'easters hosted Colby; In just its second season as a varsity program, the UNE women's rugby team won the National Intercollegiate Rugby Association Tier 2 Championship.

# PUTTING THE “STUDENT” IN THE PHRASE “STUDENT-ATHLETE”

BY JARED HALL



*The NCAA Division III philosophy statement emphasizes that the overall quality of a student-athlete's educational experience is of the highest priority and that the environment in which athletics activities are conducted is an integral part of that educational experience. Student-athletes at UNE balance many things: classes, labs, studying, practices and competitions, community engagement, and, in some cases, work, to mention a few.*

*Jared Hall '19 is a shining example of what it takes to be a student-athlete. The Applied Exercise Science major from North Andover, Massachusetts, is a member of the Nor'easters' lacrosse team in addition to being a resident assistant and working two or three shifts a week as a member of the event support team in the Harold Alford Forum.*

*Here is Jared's timeline for Monday, March 19, 2018 — a typical day in the life of a UNE student-athlete:*

**8 a.m.**

I wake up and prepare for what is likely to be a 16-hour day. It's my second night of sleep back on the UNE campus since the Nor'easters' returned from our annual spring break trip, which this year took us to Baltimore.

**8:29 a.m.**

I meet up with some friends and teammates for breakfast in the Ripich Commons.

**9:30 a.m.**

The first of three classes gets underway. I open the day in the Harold Alford Forum with Kinesiology and Biomechanics. My classmates and I review the last exam we took, listen to a few student presentations, and finish with a lecture by Clinical Professor Wayne Lamarre, M.Ed., LAT, ATC.

**10:47 a.m.**

I walk from the Alford Forum to Marcil Hall for my 11 a.m. Sports and Exercise Psychology class with Associate Clinical Professor Katie Hawke, M.S. The class starts with some team-building exercises, followed by a lecture from Professor Hawke.

**12:20 p.m.**

I head back to the Alford Forum for lunch — today I'm going for a burrito bowl at the ever-popular Alford Forum grill.



**12:49 p.m.**

A break in my schedule means it's time to catch up on some homework. During the lacrosse season, I often use this period of “free time” to either receive some treatment in the athletic training room or work on my stick skills inside the Alford Forum.

**2 p.m.**

My final class of the day, Research Methods with Associate Clinical Professor Shireen Rahman, Ed.D., ATC, CISSN. Professor Rahman lectures on the basics of writing a literature review.

**3:20 p.m.**

I hurry from class to the locker room downstairs to change for lacrosse practice. Due to a rescheduled game for the UNE women, the team spends only 30-40 minutes on the field before heading back into the Alford Forum for more



offensive drills and stick work before a pre-game scouting report. We are set to face Bowdoin College tomorrow.

**6:04 p.m.**

Back to the Ripich Commons for dinner with teammates. We are all definitely enjoying the new and different menu options offered in the University's new dining space.

**7:10 p.m.**

I do some work finalizing my resume and cover letter and complete my application for a summer strength and conditioning internship.

**7:50 p.m.**

More studying and reviewing lecture materials in preparation for an upcoming Psychology of Sport and Exercise exam.



**9:20 p.m.**

The other resident assistants and I attend our weekly staff meeting. Many items are discussed, including building updates, upcoming programming, and critical issues in the residence halls with which staff and students are dealing.

**10:37 p.m.**

The RA staff meeting ends, and I head to my residence hall.

**10:45 p.m.**

I work on door tags for residents and complete a motivational bulletin board.

**11:39 p.m.**

Time to brush my teeth and spend maybe 10-15 minutes catching up on social media before calling it a day.

Please email your news and photos to [alumni@une.edu](mailto:alumni@une.edu), post on UNE Connect at [www.alumni.une.edu](http://www.alumni.une.edu), or mail to the UNE Office of Alumni Advancement, 716 Stevens Avenue, Portland, ME 04103.

College of Osteopathic Medicine news should be emailed to [RSAS@une.edu](mailto:RSAS@une.edu).

CLASS

Notes

CLASS NOTES EDITOR: AMY HAILE  
PLEASE LIMIT SUBMISSIONS  
TO 75 WORDS OR LESS.  
SUBMISSIONS MAY BE EDITED  
FOR LENGTH AND CLARITY.

## 1938

**Phyllis Mason Rafferty** writes, "I just want you to know that on April 13, 2018 I will be 100 years old. I am active, such as getting up & dressed 'about' every day. I live with my daughter, Mary Ellen Brown, and she gets all the meals and my laundry, etc. I still play bingo — going tonight with Mary Ellen on our golf cart. I also have a son, Jay. He is 72 years old and lives in Daytona Beach. He visits us on holidays."

## 1942

**Maryjane Swett Choate's** daughter writes, "My mother is in a care facility across the street. She just had a hip replacement in December, so she is moving faster and keeping people in her area laughing with her lighthearted spirit. She is still using her greatest gifts, humor and a light heart. She is a year without cigarettes!"

**Mildred Ashmead Schlesinger** writes, "It's my pleasure to catch up with some of my '42 classmates with a phone call. **Nancy Wiswall Erne** and I went to our 75th Reunion in June. Beautiful weather and new women to meet. I toured the dental building with a group

of gals. It was an eye opener (mouth opener) for me, but the gals who were hygienists asked lots of questions! Nancy celebrated her 96th with a little party. We talked about still driving — do we or don't we want to. I always enjoy touching base with **Valerie Power McLean** — lives alone but daughter is nearby, and she still drives to the store! **Marcea Ashborn Morgan** lives in her family home, still active and moving fast! Trying to keep out of trouble! Still active in the hospital auxiliary — over 1000 hours. Left a message for **Mary Jane Swett Choate's** daughter- Mary Jane is in a retirement place and happy. **Barbara Knight Locke** and I had a nice visit. She goes out to lunch every day with friends. Her daughter was visiting her from Minneapolis, her son is in Virginia. She doesn't drive. We compared notes on eyes — she has dry macular, and is still active in her church. Had a long chat with **Joanie Fowler Hughes** in Wyoming. Joan and I enjoyed catching up on family, health, and living in a retirement dwelling. She is upbeat and sounded good. As for me — I'm still enjoying living with other people in my age category. A woman teaching me canasta and poker is 101! My oldest child is in San Francisco, son #2 lives 1/2 mile away and helps me with the

computer and my new iPhone! Daughter is 15 minutes away and has me for dinner Sunday nights — we go to the quilt shop and plays. Six widows from my church get together every 5-6 weeks for Sunday brunch, wine and news. We now meet in my apartment and take turns hosting main course, etc., including wine! Celebrated my 95th in May, everyone was there except granddaughter in California. Still bake cookies for one great grandson and two grandsons in college. Still driving but not enjoying it. Keep well and enjoy things!"

## 1943

**Louisa Keay MacPherson** writes, "I'm still alive, but at 93, I don't do much travelling!"

**Elsa Lofgren Millhouse** writes, "Living in Burlington, VT near my daughter. I was in the Navy 1944-1946, married in 1948. Corporate transfers to Niagara Falls; Detroit; Los Altos, CA; Chicago; New York; Canada; and Florida. Now play bridge, read & belong to a health club. Have two daughters & four grandchildren. Live alone and still drive locally."

**Charlotte Richards Morse** writes, "It was fun to see the classmates of 1943 pictured on the flashback reminder of our 75th Reunion in June. We were all residents of Houlton Hall and those in the front row, L to R, were **Helen Goddard, Louise Kerr, Jane Shannon, Charlotte Root**, and house mother Phyllis Reid. Others included **Pauline Spencer, Helen Richardson, Beverly Robinson, Elaine Patterson, Louise Parker, Helen Gahm** and so many more. There are some who have fond memories of happy days at Westbrook Jr. College and would like to be present in June but can't for many reasons. Even so I am sure there will be a recognition of the class of 1943 at our 75th for the years of support from so many of you. It is a milestone time and how I wish I could be there! My very best wishes to you all."

## 1946

**Lydia Backer LaFleur** writes, "I hope that alumni will read my blog on which I write about my experiences in aging (I hope with some humor). My website is [stillupright.wordpress.com](http://stillupright.wordpress.com)"



**Ruth Woodward Winde** submitted photos of the class of 1978 graduates: Rebecca Woodward, Lauren Riley, Cindy Roy and Michelle Koss; Sally York and Rebecca Woodward; 1977 Michele Koss, Rebecca Woodward, Lauren Riley and Joni McNutt in Proctor hallway.



**Ruth Stiles Hazelton** writes, "**Rachel Purdy Haggerty** in Phoenix, AZ and I speak often. We are both still in our own homes. Somedays we wonder for how much longer but hate thinking of having to leave. Best wishes to all our other alumni."

## 1948

**Jane E. Baldwin** writes, "After I retired from Maine Medical Center 27 years ago, my husband and I retired to Mexico to the San Miguel de Allende where we built a house. We divided our time in the summer between Maine and traveling the world hiking and climbing in the mountains. A few years ago we sold both of our homes and are now living in a retirement community in Falmouth with our cat Speckle."



**Thelma Hubbard Libby** writes, "Hello classmates of 1948! Hope you plan to be on campus to celebrate our 70th! Where did the years go? I plan to return from Arizona for the event in June."

**Betty Marston** keeps in touch — one of the '48 originals. See you in June."

**Miriam Lamb Warwick** writes, "On August 23 I will be 90 years old. It is hard to imagine that many years have gone by. I am fortunate to be able to continue to winter in Florida and summer in New Hampshire. Life has been kind. My four children are a blessing as well as my ten grandchildren and 3 great grandsons. All are doing well. I am always sorry to hear when a classmate moves on, but at our ages we are lucky to still enjoy life. I could rave on about my family, but this would make a too long message. So my best to you all. My years at Westbrook were special."

## 1949

**D. Ann Caspar** writes, "As of present I am in rehab at Mountain View Community in Ossipee, NH, with a broken knee. It requires 4-6 weeks of healing — no surgery. Will be very glad to get back to my own home at Taylor Community in Wolfboro! Met a woman here who graduated from Westbrook in 1947."

**Carol McNealus Jaffe** writes, "Wonderful to get a call from my Westbrook roommate **Carolyn (Carolois) Mitchell Gage** in October. All 7 kids are well as am I — their kids too. I still play tennis a lot in FL and in VT in the summer."

**Julia Bean Lundwall** writes, "I am currently residing in a senior living facility, Atria/Harborhill in East Greenwich, RI. I would love to hear from my classmates from Westbrook — Class of '49."

## 1952

**Joanne Owen Bingham** writes, "Bing and I are now living at Oceanview in Falmouth, a retirement community with many nice features. We have a 2 bedroom apartment, and the 2nd bedroom is my quilt shop. There are many activities here- we go to gym class 3 morning a week, we sing in the chorus. I belong to a quilt group here plus a women's discussion group. There are some wonderful people here, and we seem to meet someone new every week. I am also still playing bells at Woodfords Church in Portland (30 years of ringing!). I belong to a local chapter of DAR, so manage to keep very busy. You probably know that I went to UMaine in Orono after Westbrook, and ended up a teacher, plus numerous other jobs along the way. My best wishes to the rest of my class."

**Gloria Gendron Chase** writes, "I was inducted into the Amesbury, MA Athletic Hall of Fame this past September."

**Berdine Tracy McCord** writes, "Got to visit **Marion Merritt Buchmann** in June. She was my freshman roommate in Goddard Hall and a long time friend. I am also in touch with **Mary Stroud Redman**. She was instrumental in introducing me to my future husband. Had 60 wonderful years with him. He passed away January 7, 2013."

## 1954

**Patricia Libby Hassett** writes, "Alive and well and still living in Dennis, MA by the shores of Cape Cod Bay. Am blessed with good health. The mind, well, I know you understand! The keys, the classes, the password codes, oi oi. So many classmates have passed, **Fran Crosby** most recently. Is **Joan Thomas Fritz** still out there? Have all shared so many good times at Goddard and Houghton."

## 1955

**Jean Farnham Henshaw** writes, "In September I took a tour of chateaus, vineyards, and gardens of Loire Valley, France. It was a beautiful tour with interesting morning and afternoon excursions. I am presently in Naples, FL enjoying my winter away from cold, snowy Vermont. An email received

from **Ann Houghton Hunt** who said she was on a 3 week R&R near Punta Garda, FL. Ann is eager to see the WJC alumni news and notes in a separate publication. I've been in touch with **Kit Roach Greco '56**. She loves living in Portland, OR and has no interest in traveling any more. We did have fun together in Europe in '58."

**Louella Carnes Hoffman** writes, "Doing well for eight decades of wear and tear. Still keeping in touch with **Joan Bagley Della Torre** and **Sally Given**. Four year old grandchild and 2 great grandchildren are a source of delight, watching their personalities develop and also keep me active. Last couple of years' highlights were Upper Mississippi paddle wheels (wonderful river tour and small town stops) and beyond fabulous Moroccan trip. Motto: just go! I also participate in National Womens Health Initiative for 24 years and in the Harvard Aging Brain Study. Love to hear from anyone in Boston or to get together in Maine (why wait for 2020?)."

**Ann Houghton Hunt** writes, "Mal and I just returned home from three wonderful, restful weeks in Florida. Not too much news to report since our last newsletter. I am finding it more difficult

to care for Mal (a stroke survivor of almost 12 years), so have increased the hours of help I have for him. We still manage to get out and about here in Williamsburg. I remain active in our church, play golf when I can find a partner, and am in three bridge clubs. We are planning a cruise to the Panama Canal in December with our two children and their spouses, something I have wanted to do for many years. I emailed **Betty Lester Poole** after the horrible hurricanes in the Florida Keys. They were just heading south from Maine, but she had heard that the damage to their place was not too bad. I sure hope that turned out to be true. I am still missing **Joan Mahoney Miles**, who passed away a few years ago. She, **Judy Campbell Pinney**, **Virginia Richards Andrew** and I were roommates in Boston after graduation. I just called Judy, and she is pretty much confined to her home in Cumberland Foreside with COPD. Ah, those cigarettes we loved to smoke back then. She has family and friends surrounding her with help and love, and is taking each day at a time. I hope we get a lot of news submitted from our class to continue our record of having the most responses."

## 1956

**Marilyn Pearson Bickford** writes, “I have been involved with alumni since my graduation. My husband passed in 2012. I have 3 grandkids, all in college. I go to Englewood, FL in winters with my new beau. Think of my classmates often.”

**Maureen Callahan Kravchuk** writes, “I haven’t written in many years. We still live in Newburyport, Mass and have two grandchildren. Alex, our oldest, is a freshman at UNE. He loves it & has just finished a great season as a member of the Nor’easters’ basketball team. I’ve been looking for that Westbrook sweatshirt!!! I’m still best friends with **Nancy Hovey, Nancy Grundman & Karlene Pettengill**. 61 years & counting!”

**Jane Auth Sampson** writes, “It has been a long time with little to no news from me. It has been almost 10 years since Tom passed and I still miss him, but my life is good. My children are all in their 50s, one almost 60. My granddaughters have grown into beautiful people both inside and out. Myra, the youngest, got married a year ago in

January and graduated from college last May. Ashley graduated from college in 2011, worked for several years then joined the Air Force when she was 27. She was trained in Texas, then sent to a base in Florida and then sent to a base in Alaska. She is a warm weather girl, so this was a bit of getting used to the weather change. Would love to hear from classmates — I don’t use a computer but snail mail works.”

## 1957

**Jean Skillins Rhodes** writes, “In 2009, doctors removed a hemangioblastoma from my brain, followed by rehab/PT. Have been doing well since, but our travels were curtailed for awhile. So, after about 9 years absence from Maine, we went to see some of my favorite spots this past summer. It was wonderful to be there, especially to see my 98 year old cousin. (She passed away three days after we left!) Hope that wasn’t our last trip to Maine, but at our age, you never know!”

## 1958

**Sandra Putnam Brown** writes, “Bob and I celebrated 60 years of marriage in December. I am still working 2 or 3 days a week at Jeremiah’s in Ogunquit, Maine. We raised five children and I am enjoying the growth of 17 grandchildren and four great grandchildren in my ‘golden years’. Looking forward to seeing my classmates at Reunion in June 2018.”

**Barbara Mae O’Leary ’58, ’78** writes, “See you all at the Reunion on June 15th and 16th.”

**Shirley Bailey Owen** writes, “Still in Southborough and in good health. Four grandchildren — 1 great grandson. After 30+ years of boating we sold our boat this year — too much for 80 year olds to take care of. Going to be a very different summer — we’ll have to travel! Can’t wait for Reunion — 60 years! Hope for a good turnout.”

**Martha Gilson Wishart** writes, “I keep busy running a thrift shop in town (lots of good ‘stuff’). My oldest daughter, Amy (55) is a paralegal with her own business outside of Seattle, WA. Todd (54) is a project consultant in NYC. He and his wife and son Tyler (14) live in Pound Ridge, NY. Tyler was chosen to play in a hockey tournament in Prague last August. I was able to join them for their trip. Heather (51) lives in Gloucester with her husband and son Jack. Jack graduates from high school in June and received early acceptance to Wentworth Institute of Technology. He and I leave the day after graduation for Italy — sorry to miss Reunion.”

## 1959

**Evelyn Swanson Strom** writes, “I enjoyed going to Alumni Weekend 2017 at Westbrook College campus and connecting with **Judy Hall Hawkes** and others from classes ’42 and ’47.”

## 1960



**Elizabeth Clarke Flaherty** writes, “In August a group from the class met in Newburyport, MA for lunch. We had a great time reminiscing and catching up. This seems to be turning into an annual summer event and all are welcome!”



**Carol A. Fredriksen ’60, ’87** writes, “Trip of a lifetime was a safari in Kenya and Tanzania last November. It was wonderful to see the big five in their environment and to become familiar with new animals. I recommend this trip to all.”

**Priscilla Morrison McGarry** writes, “Time marches on and the days seem to go way too quickly but life is good! I get together with **Liz Clark Flaherty** and **Trudy DeRice DiFilippo** once a month at Starbucks. Our gab sessions go on for over two hours but we do have a lot of laughs and enjoy our shared memories. WJC holds a special place in our hearts and we take part in events going on there whenever possible.”

**Carol Vaughan Reams** writes, “On 8/25, 2017 the hurricane hit Houston, TX where 12” of water flooded my daughter’s home. It has been a nightmare. Since August 30th, they have been living in a 2 room apartment above a garage and hope to move into their home by March 30th. I went to New Boston, NH in June, 2017 for my granddaughter’s high school graduation which was lovely. In October I went on a Riverboat cruise up the Mississippi River which was a delightful trip. I will be going to Houston in April for my grandson’s birthday. Can’t wait to see their home! In June I’ll take a trip to visit Amish country in Nappanee, IN. I go to the ‘Y’ 4 times a week, play lots of

bridge, attend a weekly Bible study, active in church activities, am social chairman of the patio homes where I live, usher at KY Center, and do the bus stop twice a week to get the 3 grandchildren. I am blessed to be able to do all of these things.”

**Frankie Brackley Tolman** writes, “I continue to paint and to teach painting. I have several exhibits coming up this year including a retrospective show at the Joffrey (NH) Civic Center October 5th through October 17th 2018. My work can be seen at [www.frankiebrackleytolman.com](http://www.frankiebrackleytolman.com). I am also working on a memoir of my childhood. I and my husband, Harvey, live in Nelson, NH.”

**Linda L. Whitney** writes, “We are still enjoying retirement. Still in our home we bought when we married 55 years ago. Visit our children and grandchildren often in CT and PA.”

## 1962

**Barbara Wood Bretas** writes, “I was one of the returning members of the class of ’62 for our 55th Reunion. I stayed a few days in Salisbury Beach with **Sue MacDonald Baskin** and then the two of us drove to Westbrook. We also went to Topsham to visit **Jane Bean Welch**’s mom who turned 100 years old. We had a great time visiting with old classmates and eating lobster at the dinner. I still own a self storage business so I keep my brain working. I’m working three days a week. I also travel to Fairbanks, AK two times a year to visit my daughter and two grandchildren and New York to visit my son and his two kids. I’m very lucky.”

**Madeline Frustaci Coppinger** writes, “It was wonderful to see so many classmates in June at the Reunion. I have to say we are a good looking bunch! During most of 2017 I was adjusting to my new station in life— that of being a widow. Thanks to great kids and caring friends, I am doing fine. My days are spent in volunteer work, working on my scrapbooks, attending a once-a-week bible study and my monthly dinner group. In October I traveled to central Europe with Margaret, my older daughter. What a blessing that trip was! I am presently

planning a short trip to Edinburgh to visit a grandson who is taking a semester abroad. My youngest, Erin, will accompany me and help keep me upright during our time away. In November, we welcomed a new grandbaby — Chloe Francis. She is my son, Mike's, first and the light of my life. How wonderful to have her in Rutland! All the others are far away. Speaking of far away, my son, Sean, is in Alexandria, Egypt, for a couple years. Perhaps I will get a chance to visit and enjoy a glass of wine on one of them in the near future! Be well, dear friends."

**Caryl VR Dearing** writes, "I am living on Martha's Vineyard since 2010. My husband is a retired architect and two of our three children live in MA. Our son Alex and his wife have two boys, live in Needham, MA. He is a substance abuse physician with BU and Boston Medical; daughter Melissa is married and lives on the island and is a massage therapist; daughter Juliet lives in Monterey, CA. Both Jim and I are quite active with golf and tennis. We are also volunteers with our town and the island art center. I also am a mahjong player (American) and continue to knit keeping up to date with new things going on in the

industry. I am on the Alumnae Board of my boarding school. We also travel going into Canada and Alaska. For years we scuba dived all over the world, but are now snorkeling. We have been with the humpback whales which was fabulous — what a treat."

**Roxann Gallant Meehan** writes, "Our class Reunion last year was delightful. It was nice to see new faces among our faithful. As impressive as our Westbrook College campus is, it still has that hometown feel. Lets all plan to come for our 60th. Our Westbrook campus is impressive and a 'jewel' amidst the City of Portland. My husband, Joe, and I continue to enjoy our retirement wintering in Florida and vacationing in Prince Edward Island."

**Donna Smith Weigold** writes, "I have been married 52 years, and worked in retail for 55 years as a decorator and designer, specializing in color concepts for the home. I have two sons and four grandsons. My golfer husband won the Connecticut state amateur in 1972. After WJC, I went on to Keene State, and earned a BS degree in education and taught high school English for two years. Silver gray hair — like so many of us. Still enjoy doing my shorthand and typing — thanks to WJC."

## 1963

**Carol MacLaughlin Combes** writes, "Ed and I are still lucky to be wintering in Daytona Beach and summering in Raymond, ME. We live in International RV Park Oct-Apr — a very active park. This year we played the Frenchman's children in 'South Pacific.' Son Michael, wife Nikki, grandchildren Owen & Kia are in Windham. During the summer of 2017, the WJC girls had lunch at The Egg and I and dessert at **Diana Flaherty's**."

**Marilyn Stiles Faulkner** writes, "I am sorry I will not be attending the 55th Reunion in June. Have plans for a once-in-a-lifetime Viking River cruise! I am always happy to support the Class of '63 and am so glad for my time at Westbrook. It was just right for me — the two-year experience, the friends made, and best of all, learning how to budget time and use it to my advantage. That was priceless! I have been retired for four years, leaving the innkeeping business at The Williams Inn in Williamstown MA and selling the inn to Williams College. My husband, Carl, retired as well and we are just happy to be home and doing all those things we never had time to get to before. Travel is a little part of it, but we have no

intentions to move since our children and grandchildren live within 45 minutes of us. We see the four grandchildren often and are an active part of their lives. I am always glad to read the class notes when they come and hope to learn what you all are up to at this stage in your lives. Have a great Reunion!!"

**Donna Rowe Fowlie '63, '85** writes, "This June will mark our 55th Reunion from WJC. I hope you have your calendars marked for June 15-16 to be with us to catch up where we are in our life's journey. So many changes to our alma mater through the years and I am proud to be part of the history of this school. Please gather up your memories and plan on a great weekend in the Portland area with friends and/or family members. Remember to send in a video clip or picture for our viewing pleasure on Saturday at our class meeting. Facebook has made it possible to stay connected with many of you. If you have ideas, suggestions for our Reunion, please do not hesitate to contact me. **Nancy McDowell Nichols** and I will be driving up to Reunion together in June. We both live in Ellijay, GA — who would have ever thought we'd end up in the same town! I hear

that **Sharon Pellegrini Mertzel** plans to enjoy some time in Daytona Beach in March, trying to sharpen up her golf game. **Vicki Ward Randall** was back in Ft. Myers this winter, sorry I didn't get to see her when I was down there. Hope to see you in June on campus!"

**Nancy McDowell Nichols** writes, "Living in the north Georgia mountains near the Tennessee and North Carolina borders. Built a home next to our son and son-in-law. We do not miss the Atlanta traffic. I get to see **Donna Rowe Fowlie** often as we live in the same town. We enjoy traveling — celebrated our 50th in November of 2016 in Italy with son Scott, son-in-law Mark, and daughter Karen. Two grandchildren who live in the Bahamas, but attend college in Ontario, Canada. Spend about 4 months at our camp in Princeton, ME in the summer. A great place to spend time with family and friends."

**Susan Walton Rego** writes, "Jack and I have purchased a second home here in Palm Harbor, FL. Now we have our cottage on the water where we keep our boat and also new home 3 miles inland. I guess we can call that Hotel Rego now as all grand children and grandchildren are grown and visit often. I also think of it as our 'go to' safe place for hurricane! Just before the new year we welcomed our third great grandchild, William Austin Washburn, who joins his sister Vanessa Washburn, now one and a half years old, and cousin Madison Nelson, almost 4 years. Our combined families make us a super Brady Bunch. Enjoying life every day and especially love having no snow to wake up to! Hope you all have a fantastic Reunion."

**Linda Siller Theodore** writes, "As we approach another milestone in our lives, we look to celebrate our 55th Reunion with happiness. I am grateful for where I am in life and this year I plan to nourish my whole self and do more of the things that I enjoy; eating healthy, being active and fulfilling my creative spirit has been an ongoing journey. Each day I look forward to this happiness and a day doesn't go by when jewelry designing doesn't fit into my day. When I think of

the many challenges the students attending UNE face, I hope they appreciate these great educational programs that will prepare them to meet their career dreams upon graduation. Good luck to all."

**Priscilla Wells** writes, "Another lifestyle change for me — I am living in Florida in a retirement community in Lake Wales, and I am single. My volunteering includes a garden tour guide at Bok Tower Gardens, as well as a volunteer at Winterhaven Theater."

**Suzin Garfield Zimble** writes, "Looking forward to our 55th class Reunion. Where did 5 years go! One grandson married a lovely girl from France. Only 9 more boys and 1 granddaughter to go. Still in Boca Raton, FL for the winter and back to the Cape in May. Truly appreciate every day. The past 5 years and 5 surgeries later, a lot to appreciate. Have not traveled much but can't wait to be in Portland and see everyone. Had back surgery last October and just starting to get back to golf — maybe sometime over the Reunion weekend, so bring your clubs. All in all the family is healthy and happy. What could be better than that. See you in June."

## 1964

**Sally Thomas Chagnon** writes, "Retired from Rapides Regional Medical Center 5/2018 as a lab assistant/phlebotomist. Volunteering: Sacred Heart of Jesus Church; Shepherds Pie, Inc. Daughter: Virginia S. Levi — Supervisor/OT, Louisiana Special Education. Benjamin Levi — Teacher. Ryan Levi — Alexandria, LA — police officer. Eric Levi — Junior at Oral Roberts University. Son: Thomas G. Cushman — Owner, Maine Custom Woodlands in Durham, ME. Joseph Cushman — Sr. Mechanic at Maine Custom Woodlands. Benjamin Cushman — Jr in College. Grace Cushman — Sr. at Freeport High School."

**Beverly Law Clark** writes, "I'm loving retirement with traveling, time spent with grandchildren and volunteering. I spend the summers on Lake Winnepesaukee and would love to connect with those who are up that way."



**Francis X. Coyne** writes, “My daughter, Jennifer Coyne, graduated in 1998 with a degree in Physical Therapy and is a PT at Southern Maine Medical Center. Her husband, Jeffrey Kurkul, graduated from UNE in 2000 and is a registered nurse in York, Maine. They live in Dayton, Maine.”

**Raymond A. Deleo** writes, “Marge and I would like to express our appreciation for the wonderful class Reunion for the Class of 1964. We enjoy retirement. Just returned from 25 days in Italy. Mom is going to turn 101 years old in Feb: still feisty!”

**Daryl Linskey Geer** writes, “It is hard to believe that I will be 75 in April! It seems like only yesterday that I celebrated my 21st birthday with my ‘roomie’ **Jo Irving Verrill** (our birthdays were on the same day: 4/9/43) while I was a student at WJC. Even though I have a variety of ailments, I manage to continually be ‘on the go.’ I have done a fair amount of traveling recently: took my 1st Road Scholar trip in August 2017: Asheville to Nashville, spent a weekend in New York City at the end of September and went with Sr. College at USM(OLLI) to Scotland & Great Britain in November. On Jan 20, 2018 I had an emergency appendectomy

which, fortunately, did not rupture. A week to the day of my surgery, I was back to ushering at Merrill Auditorium for a spectacular performance of trumpeter Chris Botti and friends! Thank goodness the appendicitis did not occur while I was traveling. My next trip is to Greece in May 2018. Living in Portland, I am on the Westbrook campus of UNE quite often. I use their library, attend events at the Art Gallery and also go to a variety of lectures on campus. We can all be very proud of how well UNE is doing.”

**Marlene A. Gilden** writes, “Last February, my husband Bob had a glaucoma operation so my trip to Laos was canceled. We did go to Delaware and New York City in July seeing relatives and taking in many sights in New York. Among them were: Governors Island where we took a surrey bike ride, Roosevelt Island, the botanical gardens and the Russian Tea Room. Coincidentally, our granddaughters and their parents were also visiting New York from San Francisco, so we got to be tourists with them. We love spending time in our garden and are fortunate living in the Bay area, where we have vegetables all year round! We are now harvesting lettuce, kale and mustard greens. In a few

months we will have fava beans and will plant tomatoes, cucumbers and string beans! By the time this is printed, I will have returned from a three week trip in Morocco!”

**Colette Styffe Lankau** writes, “My husband, Walt and I have been married for over 53 years and are now living on Cape Cod and Nantucket. Our Nantucket experience is a new ‘adventure’ for us. Walt has joined the staff of the Land Bank and works as controller for the Miacomet Golf Club. We are now year round residents, traveling by ferry twice a week between our two locations. We love it!”

**Judith Belyea Larsen** writes, “Last year Hugh and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary. We enjoyed a trip to Eastern Europe and spent a weekend on the beach in Watsonville, CA with our children, their spouses, six grandchildren, and niece and her family. We have much to be thankful for!”

**Deborah Schofield Reed** writes, “2017 was a good year for us, despite the usual challenges of our age. We enjoyed what has turned out to be our annual rental in Florida for March and April and visits with family along the way to and fro. We had a fun time with **Nancy Lebel** and husband Ernie, as well as **Joan Kinney Dole** while in Florida. Then a great time at the inauguration of the new UNE president before our visit this summer with Nancy and Ernie at their delightful home in Maine. We had a special last minute overnight visit with **Sybil Nye Erdman** and her husband Dick, as well as a nice afternoon with **Ellie Koppang Batchelder** and her husband Ken. Great to be able to spend time with old friends from our Westbrook days. Our four married children and their families are all doing well. We have had a good time attending our eleven grandchildren’s many events either in person or via the internet, and seeing them excel in their chosen activities. This year we will see our second grandchild graduate from high school in June, and enter into the services of the Navy, while our oldest grandchild finishes his second year at SMCC majoring in plumbing. The others are busy planning their summer activities as I write this. Hoping all is well with the rest of our class. My best to all.”

**Martha Wentworth Sanborn** writes, “My husband and I spend our summers in Maine now at a cottage built by Dave’s uncle in 1929! It’s a perfect place to get away from hot summers in Maryland! While in Maine last summer **Becky Spencer Svenson, Connie McComb Keon, Linda Lundgren Orosky** and I met in Cornish, Maine for lunch! We sat and talked and laughed and reminisced for a couple of hours then went for ice cream cones!”

## 1965

**Gerald F. Pope** writes, “Hope all is well with everyone. Good memories. Take Care. God Bless.”

## 1966

**Linda L. Fucci ’66, ’68** writes, “2017 has been an eventful year. I finally retired July 31st! I had two wonderful trips with friends from Westbrook. Santa Fe in May and then in September a river cruise in France with **Jackie Gribbon**. I usher at the Boston Opera House and very happy to be serving on the Westbrook College Alumni Board of Directors.”

**Jacqueline A. Gribbon** writes, “Spent a week in France in September with **Linda Fucci** on a river cruise. Hope to spend some time in Maine this year.”

**James F. Inslee** writes, “The short version: Wow! All the best to everyone at UNE. You deserve kudos extreme. Happy prosperous new year!”

**James L. Pierce** writes, “At our 50th SFC Reunion last October a group of alumni returnees were sitting at a picnic table beneath the large tent on the old tennis courts out towards the point. The day was sunny and had a crisp Maine autumn feel as a Homecoming should along the Pool Road. It was good to shake hands and say hello after so many years. One man wore a snappy tan three-piece suit, brown leather shoes, and a white shirt and a sporty tie. His ample hair was as white as a wave and flowed over his extended beard, exposing only his warm blue eyes and a soft smile. It was the only suit under the tent. And I hadn’t a clue who he was, sitting there smiling. ‘Okay, who the hell are you,’ I asked, extending my hand-shake and smiling back at him. ‘**Dave Walsh**,’ he said. ‘Nice to see you, Jim.’ Somewhere deep in my memory I recalled one of the funniest things that

happened to me at St. Francis College. In the lobby of what is now Decary Hall and then St. Francis Hall, hung a student bulletin board where various notices were pinned to the cork. The largest group on campus in the early 1960s was the Connecticut Club and they would post a notice of their monthly meeting. Then the Massachusetts Club would follow with their monthly notice, and the Metropolitan Club, those students from New York City, Long Island, and New Jersey would follow suit with their announcement of their upcoming gathering. One mid-February late afternoon as the snow was falling out the front entrance doors I notice a solitary note on the board. It announced that ‘The annual meeting of the Bar Harbor Club would be held next

Thursday at Doc’s Tavern downtown Biddeford.’ I later learned there was only one member of The Bar Harbor Club! ‘Good to see you too, Dave.’ He was surprised I recalled the note he posted in the lobby, and he very much enjoyed that recollection! We talked for more than a half hour about our careers and families and our special times along time ago. I am saddened by the fact that he has died. Lucens et, brothers.”

**Charon Mathews Sellers** writes, “Dave and I celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary this year in June. My 72nd birthday is in the spring and are headed to Holly Springs, NC for a week with two grandkids Sophia 11 and Jake 7, then Easter week we head to Fort Mill, SC to visit oldest grandson Ethan age 12! Genealogy still keeps me busy as well as my DAR chapter in Topsham-Brunswick. Dave is still golfing and volunteering two days a week at Habitat for Humanity. Doing more wheelchair ramps to keep people in their own homes.”

## 1968

**Bernard L. A. Ayotte** writes, “I termed out after 8 years in the Maine State Legislature 3 years ago. I keep active in my church. St. Francis gave me a great background.”

**Lorraine Woodman Tosti** writes, "Ron and I have been living on Cape Cod for 20 years and loving it. I'm still working as an administrator at a pulmonary physicians office but only two days a week now. I also enjoy bookclub, travels and jewelry making. Ron tutors part time and makes furniture. My son Cory and my darling grandson Dylan, who is five, live in Reading, MA. Life is good!"



**Joseph J. Valenza**, PhD writes, "The St. Francis Class of 1968 met during Reunion Weekend in 2017 to plan for the upcoming 50th Reunion. All members of SFC '68 are encouraged to be on campus for your 50th Reunion this year!"

## 1970

**Carolyn Allen Blunt** writes, "I raised a daughter and son and now have five grandchildren. I retired from banking in 2016 and now manage a sporting camp in Rangeley, ME with my husband John."

**Mary Mitchell Carter** writes, "Happily retired since June — should have done it years ago! Time to travel, read, create, and explore this area for new possibilities. I am a member of Just Us Chickens — a co-op art gallery on Route 1 in Kittery. If you're in the area stop in — worth the trip!"

**Caryn D. Ferris** writes, "I have been fully retired for over a year and I am loving the time that I have spent traveling. Last year I toured Italy for a second time and Ireland. This year I am looking forward to a cruise in the Greek islands in late April. This trip will be through Road Scholar. I just returned to Nokomis, FL for an extended visit. It is a beautiful place and my sister and I look forward to seeing returning visitors to this area. It is time for the class of '70 high school reunions. I am on the committee and we have been able to contact many of our former classmates. The 40th was a 3 day event and we are doing the same this year. Only two more years until our 50th WJC Reunion. I hope that we can get a good turnout. Still living in Farmington, CT. Best wishes to all."

**Frederick R. Scheithe** writes, "My wife Jeanne and I are in and our eighth year of retirement after teaching middle school for 33 and 39 years respectively. I am completing my 34th year of coaching middle school girls basketball and still having fun. Finished our regular season with a 17-1 record after losing our first game of the season."

**Susanne Hamilton Wilson** writes, "I live in Falmouth, ME with husband Bruce. Celebrated 45 years of marriage in December 2017. Retired from teaching middle school after 25 years. I enjoy golf, traveling and boating and spending time with our daughter and her family. Two grandchildren, grandson going to high school in September and granddaughter going to college in the fall."

## 1971



**George M. Kudlacik** writes, "Four members from the Class of '71 spent a marathon day at UNE on January 20th watching the UNE Nor'easters win both the men and women's basketball and hockey games. It was a great time as we also had the opportunity to dine at the new dining hall in the Commons. We encourage every one to come to a game as the facilities and teams are the best. Attending from the Class of '71 were **Bo LeLacheur**, **Ron Dubuque**, **Tim Lenehan** and **George Kudlacik**. Special thanks to the UNE Dance team for the picture and Bree Lenehan (photographer)."

## 1972

**Edgar F. Byrns III** writes, "I am not dead yet."

**Gregory L. Cameron** writes, "Entering my 68th year. Still working at my business in Greenwich, CT."

**Gail Jacob Eldredge** writes, "Terry is practicing retirement, our son Thadd has taken over the business. I am still working through the transition to assist my daughter in law. Once their children are a little older, I will join Terry in retirement."

**Jean Waitt McPheters** writes, "I have retired and rediscovered my enjoyment of sewing. I also love to garden, but certainly have a lot to learn. **Althea Lazarus Coussoule** has 5 grandchildren. I got to "borrow" them for fun activities, sports, parties and dance recitals. Recently, I began volunteering at Wentworth-Douglass Hospital in Dover, NH. Once again, I will write grant applications for their community dental center. This is the facility that I managed the project to build in 2005. It will be 13 years old in June 2018. We live in Rochester, NH again, if classmates want to visit."

**John D. Roberts** writes, "After 20 years at the Maine Turnpike and almost 50 years of land surveying, I am joining the ranks of the retired. I will finally listen to my parents and not play in traffic any more. "

**Janet Balicki Spearance** writes, "Retired kindergarten teacher (30 years). Now enjoying time with five grandchildren, traveling with spouse Don. Moving to Cape Cod this fall. Still in touch with Linnell Hall friends **Peggy O'Toole Filoramo**, **Brenda Martin Erikson**, **Gail Jacobs Eldredge** and **Jean Waitt McPheters**. I love biking, cruising, watercolor painting, and spending time in North Carolina with two daughters. It is with sadness I submit news that my mother, **Janet LoBello Balicki '44**, passed away in September 2016 at age 91, after a happy and full life. She was a medical secretary, widowed at age 42, raised five children, ten grandchildren and five great grandchildren, who loved and adored their 'Grammy.' Janet enjoyed visiting the Westbrook campus in recent years."

## 1973

**Vicki L. Martin** writes, "I am living in Shelburne, Massachusetts and still working full time as a dental hygienist."

**Irene Ferland Theriault** writes, "Retired from clinical practice, volunteer dental director SPAA Coast Volunteers in Medicine Dental Clinic. PA husband recently retired and volunteers in medical clinic. Welcomed new granddaughter, Caroline (2) and Logan (5) grandson. Enjoy traveling and the Florida weather."

## 1974

**Roanne Becker Fortin** writes, "Married since November 1975 to Joe Fortin — 42 years. 3 Sons, Jeff, age 35; Russ, 34; Greg, 29. All married. Grandmother of William, age 3 1/2 and another grandson due May of 2018. Retired from Lincoln Academy; Newcastle, ME as an Administrative Assistant in Special Education in 2014 when Joe took early retirement. Enjoy fixing up our house, traveling and reading and grandchildren. Have a cottage on Darnmariscotta Lake and love to entertain there."

**Jean Miles McKenna** writes, "My husband of 37 years and I own and operate a mom & pop shop in Littleton, NH called The Coffee Pot Restaurant. We are open 7 days a week and on the internet! We have a son, Spencer, who is a chef in Washington, DC. Come visit!"

**Kathryn Pearson O'Brien** writes, "I retired from my full-time newspaper editor's position in November of 2016, but have since returned to work part-time as a freelancer for the same newspaper, the Tri-Town Transcript. My husband, Rich, retired in January and we took a Caribbean cruise in February to celebrate. We also travel to Houston a 2-3 times a year to visit my daughter and her family including granddaughter Amalia. And we keep busy taking care of our grandson, Jordan, who was born on Thanksgiving Day 2017 and lives near our home in Boxford, MA. I often get together with **Debbi Boland Baletsa** and occasionally with **Nancy Emerson Esty**."

**Beverly Thompson Wilkinson** writes, "2017 was a year of health challenges for me. The biggest motivator was my daughter's wedding which happily took place in September 2017, with her father and I walking her down the aisle. Retirement is now in order for 2018 with many fond memories of 40+ years in the nursing profession! My college roommate **Sara Veneziano Sylvester** continues to stay in touch as we often think about our Proctor Hall buddies, wondering what everyone is doing these days! 2019 brings our 45th college Reunion; wonder how many will take the plunge to reacquaint on the ole Westbrook campus next June?!"

## 1975

**Margaret P. DiBiase** writes, "I enjoy living in the Highland Lakes and Palm Harbor, FL where I have good friends and many adventures. I continued my education at the University of Maine where I received my Bachelors and Masters degrees. I taught in Westbrook, Maine for approximately seven years. I enjoy traveling and I keep very active."

**Jill Baker Kelly, RDH** writes, "I'm in the fifth year of my independent dental hygiene practice — it is great! I am also volunteering at a free dental clinic and loving it! There is so much need for oral health care in our state. In my spare time I enjoy our 5 grandchildren, ages 0-6."



**Joni Hardwick Maliszewski** writes, "Greetings from Nashville, TN! I have just officially retired my Dental Hygiene license and I'm asking myself where the time has gone! The important thing is I know where I'm going and that's to Louisville as much as possible where my grandson Roman lives! He's our one and only for now and Lance and I are enjoying him so much! Still love traveling, Predators hockey, and seeing my WC friends wherever possible! Door is always open so come on down to visit except in the summer — too hot!"

**Susan McKeough** writes, "Hi to all SFC alumni. Peace and love to all."

**Robin Jane Solvang** writes, "I live and work in New York City. I have a farm upstate for weekends. I am a dental hygienist and an artist."

**Andrea Guyot Twombly** writes, "I finally went back to school to finish my bachelor's degree and was the oldest person in my graduating class at Providence College in May of 2014. Since then I have continued to run my family business with my brother, but I also started writing fiction, and have published three Christmas stories, all set in Maine. My publisher is Annie Acorn Publishing of Silver Spring, Maryland. All of these stories are available for e-readers, or in print through Christmas Treasures, published by Annie Acorn. In 2015, I published 'Christmas at the Inn' and within three months it was at #112 on Amazon overall and ranked number 1 in all three of its sub-categories. In 2016, I published 'Mildred Sauer's Christmas Gift', and it has sold steadily since publication. In 2017, I published 'Amey's Rocker' based on a true story. Amey is my mother, who is a 1938 graduate of Westbrook Junior College (Amey Field Guyot). I am donating

a portion of the proceeds from this story to the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation, directed for Schizophrenia research. Currently, I am working on a novel, which is a sequel to 'Christmas at the Inn'. The publisher has asked for a series, so off and writing I go! I think of my Westbrook friends often and wish them well."

## 1977



**Margit Bergquist Tracey** with her granddaughter and future Nor'easter Anora!

## 1978



**Kathryn J. Bascom-Rich '78, '84** writes, "Wow, 40 years since we graduated. I am looking forward to hopefully seeing as many of you as possible at Reunion this year. Jon and I have come full circle. We started out meeting at Westbrook College through a mutual friend. 20 years in Maine and then off to Texas for 10 years. Back to my home town for the next 7 and then in March of 2016, we

were fortunate enough for me to land a new job with my old company. I have been back with Cardinal Health going on 2 years. We bought a house in Westbrook just down the street a bit from our original neighborhood and we are lucky enough to only live about 4 miles from our daughter and granddaughter. Jon is fully retired and I am counting the years before I can! While we have experienced many ups and downs, as I am sure everyone has, all in all, life has been good to us. We are thankful to be in good health and near family. Pictures of Jon and I back in the day, and my birthday last year."



**Nancy Batal-Sholler** writes, "40 years! At last year's writing I shared that I had reunited with classmates, **Lois Dodd-Reuter** and **Gayle Freer-Morico** back in 2014. We have managed to continue our annual mini gathering of Brookies each year since. June 2017 had us celebrating at the lovely new home of recently retired **Lois Dodd-Reuter** and Lyle in Maryland. Our gatherings have stretched from one night to four-day weekends. So much to share. We are excited to share that we have made firm contact with **Sherrie Damon** and she will be traveling from Oregon to join us June 2018. The four of us will be

gathering at our Maine home in preparation to attend the 40th Westbrook College Reunion. We await our official invitations. David and I recently retired and are currently wintering in Sunny Florida. **Lois Dodd-Reuter** has just become a first-time grandmother and loving every minute. **Gayle Freer-Morico** recently traveled to Florida with her lovely daughter, Michelle in celebration of Gayle's Birthday that may no longer be in the 50's. **Sherrie Damon** is a mystery to us at this time. This will be our first face to face interaction with her in 40 years. Hope she's ready for us. We hope to reconnect with many of you at the Reunion and find out about your 40 year journey."

**Ronald Burns** writes, "The recent death of my wife, Judith, after a long illness is such a painful hardship to bear as I try to rebuild a life without her in it. As some understand, one copes and struggles with routine daily living and adjustments to ongoing necessities; but with the knowledge and certainty that my wife would want me to continue to go on to find peace, happiness and fulfillment in life until we are again reunited as one."



**Rebecca Woodward Kaufman, D.M.D.** writes, "I am looking forward to our 40th Reunion. I have attended every Reunion except the 20th, that was the year my son Isaac was born. I loved my time at Westbrook and loved my Dental Hygiene major. I especially loved the sisterhood of Proctor Hall. I was from Auburn, ME and went back there to practice — splitting my time between 2 offices, one being my childhood dentist. I practiced there for 8 years — the last 2 years while getting my BA at Bates College. My childhood dentist was on the board of Dental Examiners and encouraged me to apply to Dental School, so off to UCONN School of Dental Medicine I went 1986-1990. I met my future husband there my second day...we have a wonderful

practice in Westerly, RI with 10 employees currently. When Adam and I first started in practice we had the chance to be Dental Hygiene instructors at URI — both in the classroom and clinic for 2 years. January marked my 27th year in private practice and I really enjoy it, I work 5 days a week. At Westbrook, Perry was my art teacher and when I went to Bates all my electives were in art. Currently, I teach watercolor at an artist's cooperative in Westerly. My husband Adam started the lacrosse league in our town and roped me right into coaching girls lacrosse. This will be my 8th year and having raised a boy it is very interesting hanging out with 25 10-14 year olds girls each spring. Our son is currently a sophomore at Georgia Tech in Atlanta so it is pretty quiet at home but we have had the chance to learn a new city when we visit him. Over the years I have remained close to **Lauren Riley Roy** successfully catching up at the Yankee Dental Conference in Boston, times that I get back to Maine, or when her girls were college shopping over the years. Now with more time I have also had the fortune to see **Sally York** more than just at Reunions. I am so glad **Joni McNutt** makes it to Reunions and brings her awesome photo albums! Some class mates have even become

patients, **Leslie Targgart '79** travels from the Cape to see me, I am so fortunate. But let's face it — Facebook has really helped us all stay in better touch between Reunions and **Kathy Bascom-Rich** also deserves a lot of credit too. I have enclosed a picture of me wearing my Westbrook College lab coat. I still wear it when I travel to the local nursing homes. It is 42 years old and still looks like new. I hope that I get to see more of my Dental Hygiene Class at this Reunion. My only regret is by not returning home to Maine after Dental School. I probably missed out on working with Lauren Riley. Nearly every day I wish we were working side-by-side — what fun we would have!"

**Nancy L. Marstaller** writes, "Hello classmates! This year I retired after 23 years of teaching mostly middle school children. What a ride! I moved from nursing to teaching after years as a community health nurse, realizing I like the teaching part best. Now I'm devoting my energies into art, working in collage, watercolor, and printmaking. My husband and I continue to maintain a section of the Appalachian Trail and look forward to more time for hiking. We are lucky to have our grown children live nearby. I always look forward to hearing news of others."

## 1980



**David L. Greenlaw** writes, "Graduation 1980, fast forward 38 years to 2018. Still in Portland, still married (41 years now), and now retired with (32) years with USPS. Add three new joys to my life, that of three grandsons, a set of twins, plus another, all 25 months and born within two weeks of each other. What a life changing, eye opening adventure. I wouldn't have it any other way. A challenging adventure as we go to Disney World in September 2018. Cheers everyone!"

## 1982

**Nancy J. Crocker** writes, "I am still enjoying the hours of my new career as an ed tech. I enjoyed seeing my classmates at the Reunion last June looking forward to the 40th in 2022. I have a grand daughter. She was born New Year's Day. Her brothers stayed with me and as always I love being with them."



**Louise Haines Maxfield** writes, "I had a wonderful 35th class Reunion with these folks! I hope we will have many more for the 40th. I married my amazing husband Tim on October 1, 2016. Through him came a beautiful daughter and grandson. My daughter Morgan is still living in Florida and is currently challenged with some major health issues. I am active in my church in South Portland, Maine and faith is very important to my husband and me."

## 1984

**Lisa A. Daigle-Vinsel** writes, "**Paul Vinsel, D.O.** and I have relocated back to Maine after 30+ years away. Very happy to be back here. If you're in the Bath/Brunswick area, let's go out for a beer!"

## 1986

**Timothy Burnham** recently graduated from the seventh class of the Nebraska Water Leaders Academy, a one-year program that provides leadership training and educates participants about the vital role rivers, streams and aquifers play in the economic sustainability of the state. Tim is an environmental health scientist with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Drinking Water and Environmental Health in Grand Island, Nebraska.

## 1988



**Cynthia Dubois Cote** writes, "In 2006, I took a leap of faith and decided to get licensed in real estate after working in the corporate world for 25 years. It's been one of the best decisions I ever made. I am running a very successful team out of Saco, Maine with Keller Williams Realty. We consistently rank in the top 100 agents every year and we absolutely love assisting consumers sell and buy homes. My husband and I will be celebrating 30 years of marriage this summer. Last year, our daughter was married in beautiful Bar Harbor, Maine. We feel so blessed to be living in the great State of Maine with most of our families around us."

**Mark T. Melanson** and **Cindy Wilber Melanson** write, "Cindy and I are retired from the U.S. Public Health Service. We are enjoying spending time with our granddaughter. I won the 50-54 division of the state time trial cycling championships."

## 1990

**Susan P. Raschal, D.O.** writes, "Married 24 years to Kelly Davis. Three sons: Joshua 23, JP, and Jacob 20. Covenant Allergy & Asthma Care, a faith based allergy and asthma practice established in 2009, serving Chattanooga area for 9 years!!"

## 1993

**Jill P. Cote Bosa** has been appointed chief operating officer of Wingate Healthcare, a Needham, MA-based operator of short-term rehab, post-acute care and long-term care in skilled nursing centers and assisted and independent living communities in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New York.

1994

In 2017, **Julie Osgood '94, '95** earned her doctorate in public health and a concentration in health leadership from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill's Gillings School of Global Public Health. In June, she and her husband Dr. David Bachman, moved to the Greater Seattle, Washington area. Julie currently works at the University of Washington Health System, Valley Medical Center as Vice President of the Ambulatory Network. Julie and David have enjoyed many new hiking and kayaking adventures in the Pacific Northwest with their black lab, Rosie."

1995

ACMC Health has awarded **David A. Newcomer, D.O.** its 2016 ACMC Physician Excellence Award. Newcomer is an internal medicine physician and joined Affiliated Community Medical Centers in 1998.

2002

Community Health Center of Cape Cod has promoted **Kristy L. Brown, D.O.** to Associate Medical Director for Quality Improvement. Dr. Brown will continue her role as a primary care provider, and her expanded responsibilities include reviewing and analyzing organizational quality improvement data and working closely with teams to identify opportunities, best practices and spread improvement.

**Karl Liebermann, D.O.** writes, "Jennifer Liebermann, BSN, and I opened Acorn Health Services in Northborough, Massachusetts. The independent practice provides family medicine, osteopathic manipulation and addiction medicine."

2004

**Joshua A. Tuck, D.O.** writes, "I am a board-certified orthopedic surgeon (Sports Medicine Specialist) practicing at LECOM Health in Erie, PA."

2006

**Brady C. Alosa** writes, "My most important work these days is being the mother to Charles Alosa, who turned 2 in October. I'm taking my liberal arts degree and applying for nursing school, as well."

**Jodie L. Hermann, D.O.** writes, "Jodie Hermann, D.O., has officially started as the new chair of UNE's Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM) Department."

2007



**Matthew F. Lopresti, D.O.** has been named Chief Surgeon of Leonard Hair Transplant Associates, which specializes in the practice of medical and hair restoration surgery. Dr. Lopresti joined the practice as an associate surgeon in 2013.

**Kayleigh J. McCauley** has been promoted to the position of Associate Dean of Students at Lewis and Clark University.

**Amanda G. Querry, D.O.** writes, "Since getting out of the Navy in 2016, I enjoyed my 1st full year at Eastern Maine Medical Center, and love getting to teach 3rd year UNECOM students who rotate through OBGYN. We are excited to raise our 5 and 3 year olds here in the great state of Maine!"

2010

Steward Medical Group announced that general surgeon **Brett J. Matthews, D.O.** has joined the medical staff and is accepting new patients at Steward General Surgery which has offices in North Andover, Haverhill and Salem, New Hampshire.

2011

**Mark S. Umphrey II, D.O. '11, M.P.H. '13** and his wife just had their second child, a girl.

2012

**David J. Cormier, D.O.** is currently a fellow at the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts as part of the hospital's joint Sports Medicine Fellowship with the Harvard Medical School Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

Mount Desert Island Hospital hired **Katherine L. Gassman, D.O.** to its Lisa Stewart Women's Health Center and Cadillac Family Practice. Gassman is a board-certified family medicine physician specializing in both family medicine and obstetrics.

2013

UNE's environmental studies chair Rick Peterson, **Emily M. Campbell** and Kenyan colleagues published on gully rehabilitation trusts in western Kenya.

**David Stuckey, D.O.** announces the grand opening of Pioneer Valley Osteopathy, PLLC, a recently established medical practice specializing in Cranial Osteopathy and Metabolic, Nutritional and Functional Medicine.

"The Southern Maine Community College (SMCC) Athletics Department has announced the hiring of **Ethan Wells** as Head Women's Soccer Coach effective Nov. 29. Wells will continue his role as Assistant Director of Athletics at the college."

2014



**Arwen K. Christian, D.O.** married Richard Millstein, D.O. in Cape Cod, MA.

2016

United Way of York County announced that **Sarah E. Hoover** joined the organization as a part-time community impact associate focused on volunteer engagement."

2017

**Tara L. Ryan** writes, "Since graduating from the traditional BSN program at UNE in 2017, I have passed the dreaded NCLEX and have started my journey as an RN! I am currently a new grad resident in the Critical Care Academy at Palmetto Health in Columbia, South Carolina."

# IN MEMORIAM

**1940**

**Jean Eldridge Fowler**  
Westbrook Junior College  
February 2, 2018

**1944**

**Claire Foster Lambert**  
Westbrook Junior College  
December 22, 2017

**1949**

**Gladys Peck Bowley**  
Westbrook Junior College  
November 17, 2017

**1950**

**Beverly Andrews Clough**  
Westbrook Junior College  
November 25, 2017

**1951**

**Elizabeth Ek Johnson**  
Westbrook Junior College  
February 9, 2018

**1954**

**Gloria Grafton Fitzgerald**  
Westbrook Junior College  
December 25, 2017

**1956**

**Barbara Carney Doherty**  
Westbrook Junior College  
August 9, 2016

**1957**

**Margaret Eustis Lewis**  
Westbrook Junior College  
October 19, 2017

**1941**

**Patricia Benoit Quinlan**  
Westbrook Junior College  
October 11, 2016

**1949**

**Patricia Tibbetts Connell**  
Westbrook Junior College  
October 11, 2017

**1953**

**Rev. Clement D. Thibodeau**  
St. Francis College  
October 1, 2017

**H. Lawrence Durant**  
St. Francis College  
October 22, 2017

**1958**

**Elsie Colton Loring**  
Westbrook Junior College  
December 1, 2016

**Beverly Putnam Boynton**  
Westbrook Junior College  
October 25, 2017

**Doris Robinson Towne**  
Westbrook Junior College  
January 5, 2018

**Ruth Anderson Peterson**  
Westbrook Junior College  
January 24, 2018

**1955**

**Carol Ann Hall Raymond**  
Westbrook Junior College  
January 24, 2018

**Marilyn Farnsworth Ballard**  
Westbrook Junior College  
March 3, 2018

**1943**

**Marcia Miller Yanofsky**  
Westbrook Junior College  
May 15, 2016

**1949**

**Doris Robinson Towne**  
Westbrook Junior College  
January 5, 2018

**1953**

**Nancy Letourneau Davis**  
Westbrook Junior College  
July 1, 2013

**Carol Ann Hall Raymond**  
Westbrook Junior College  
January 24, 2018

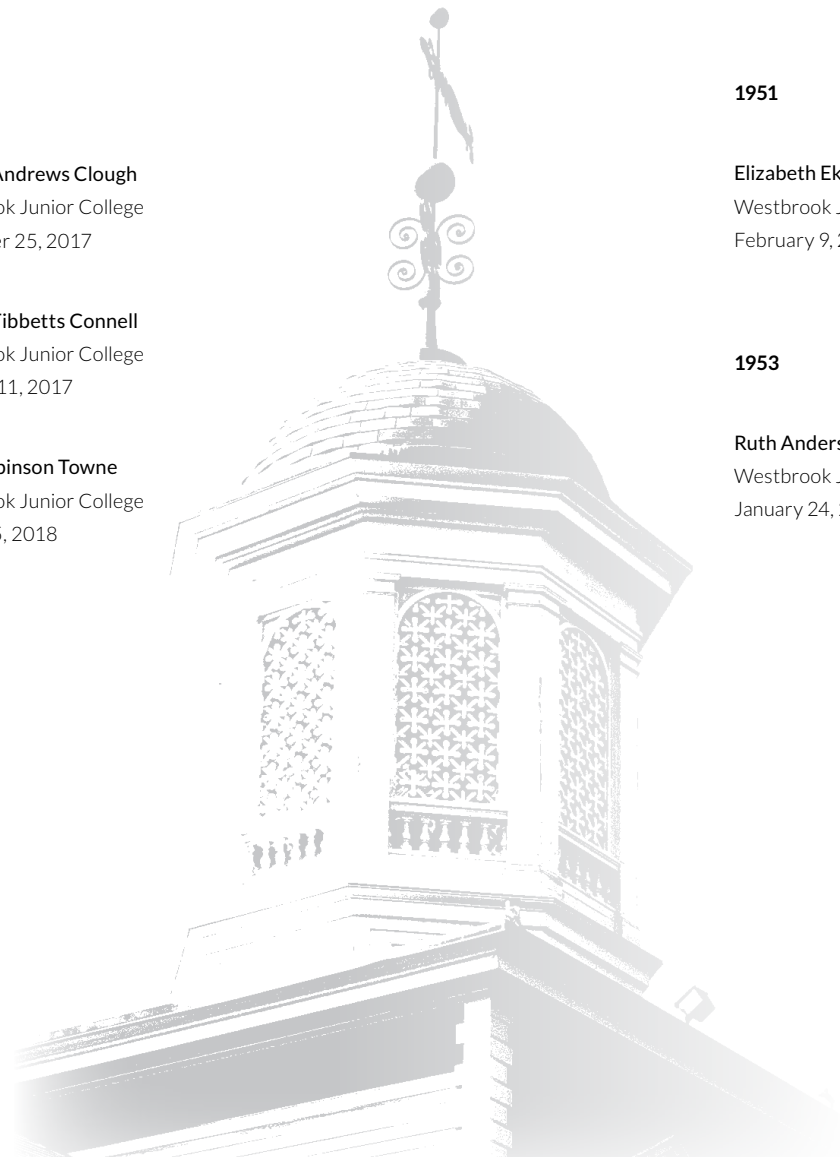
**1960**

**Marion E. "Midge" Jenkins**  
Westbrook Junior College  
January 7, 2018

**Joan Mequier Lamson**  
Westbrook Junior College  
November 10, 2016

**Carol Ann Hall Raymond**  
Westbrook Junior College  
January 24, 2018

**Richard "Dick" Wyse**  
St. Francis College  
October 11, 2017



# IN MEMORIAM

**1961**

**Robin Wills Scott**  
Westbrook Junior College  
January 13, 2018

**Julie Sinclair Sellick**

Westbrook Junior College  
September 9, 2017

**Sherma Spires Summers**

Westbrook Junior College  
December 26, 2017

**1964**

**Gloria Nolin Tewhey**  
Westbrook Junior College  
September 29, 2017

**1965**

**Marcia Peck Griswold**  
Westbrook Junior College  
November 16, 2017

**Patricia M. Walsh**

Westbrook Junior College  
November 17, 2017

**1966**

**Alan A. Mariani**  
St. Francis College  
September 17, 2017

**David Norman Walsh**

St. Francis College  
October 20, 2017

**1969**

**Elizabeth Carter Warren**  
Westbrook Junior College  
September 17, 2017

**1970**

**David Lawrence McCarthy**  
St. Francis College  
February 9, 2018

**1971**

**James P. Ryan**  
St. Francis College  
December 10, 2017

**1972**

**Rachel Ann Bartlett**  
Westbrook Junior College  
December 6, 2017

**Sharon Gorsuch Hoy**

Westbrook Junior College  
February 15, 2018

**1973**

**Anthony Fiorillo**  
St. Francis College  
September 17, 2017

**Ann K. Girardin**

Westbrook Junior College  
January 1, 2017

**1976**

**Gerald "Jerry" Lee Johnson**  
St. Francis College  
February 1, 2018

**1980**

**Gina Crafts Maon**  
Westbrook College  
September 5, 2017

**1981**

**Joseph H. McAlevey**  
St. Francis College  
February 16, 2018

**2002**

**Deborah A. Burpee, M.S.W.**  
Westbrook College of  
Health Professions  
November 25, 2017

**2005**

**Wendy S. Morton, M.S.Ed.**  
College of Arts and Sciences  
December 6, 2017

**2009**

**Amanda Barton Simpson, M.S.O.T.**  
Westbrook College of  
Health Professions  
December 25, 2017

**FRIENDS**

**Susan Jane Hillman**  
University of New England  
September 22, 2017

**Robert E. Manganello**

University of New England  
November 4, 2017

**Dean Lowell "Meg" Meggison**

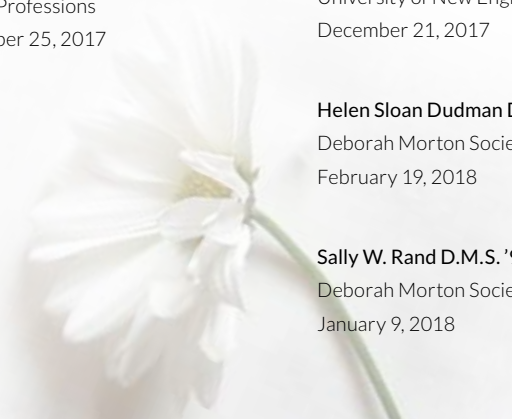
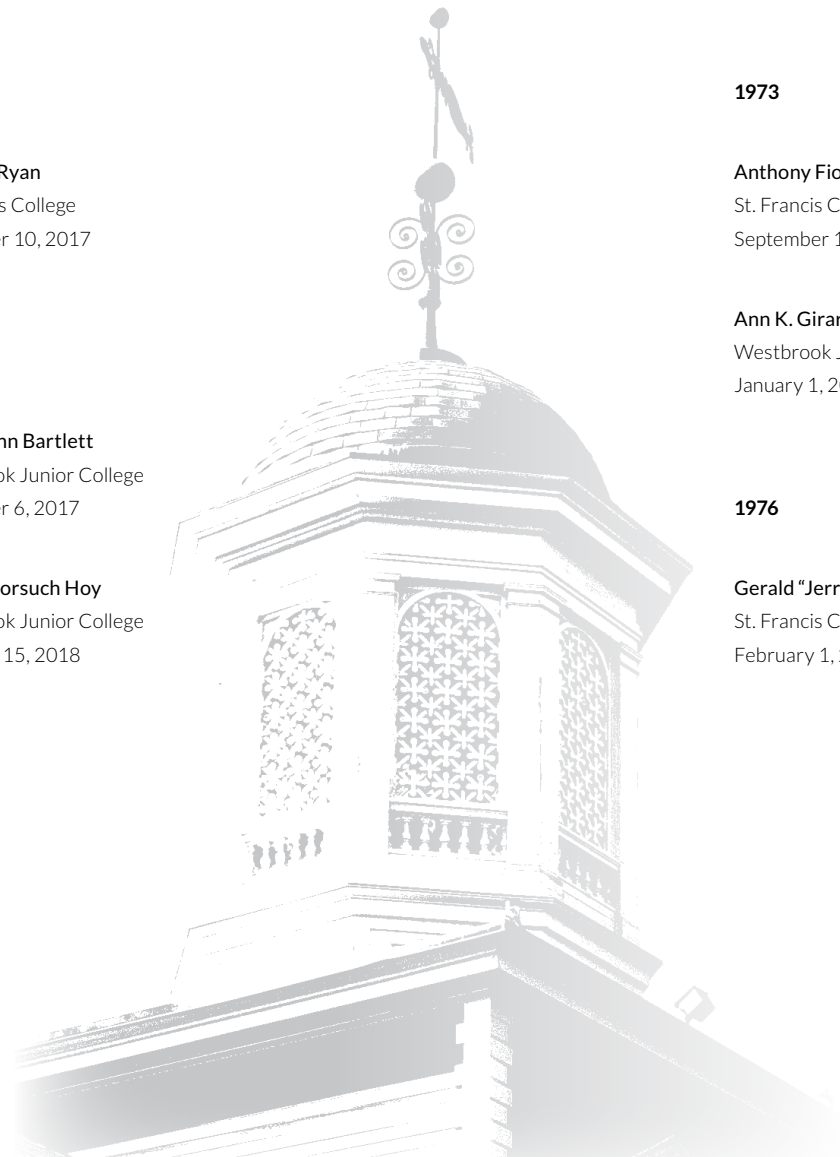
University of New England  
December 21, 2017

**Helen Sloan Dudman D.M.S. '94**

Deborah Morton Society  
February 19, 2018

**Sally W. Rand D.M.S. '96**

Deborah Morton Society  
January 9, 2018



# Remembering SANDRA FEATHERMAN

BY ROBERTA (BOBBY) GRAY



On April 26, 2018, Dr. Sandra Featherman, UNE's fourth president, passed away at the age of 84, following a brief illness. Beloved by alumni of UNE, St. Francis College, and Westbrook College, Dr. Featherman built bridges between the faculty and staff of the Biddeford and Portland campuses to lay the foundation for the forward-looking institution UNE is today. After she stepped down in 2006, following 11 years as president, Dr. Featherman and her husband, Bernard, continued to be strong supporters of the University and frequently attended events on campus. While she will be missed, Sandra Featherman's legacy will live on at the University of New England.

We asked UNE Research and Teaching Librarian Roberta (Bobby) Gray, M.L.S., HA '00, to share her memories of President Featherman's arrival, the merger with Westbrook College, and the profound effect it had on the University.

What an impressive legacy she left! The 1996 merger between Westbrook College and the University of New England resulted in the revitalization of the Westbrook College campus and the transformation of UNE into a nationally recognized leader in the education of health care professionals.

When Westbrook College and UNE merged on July 31, 1996, I was a Westbrook College librarian and had been working at Westbrook for 17 years. I'd practically grown up on the campus, too — not as a college student, but as a young girl and teenager. Having spent my childhood and teens in a big, old duplex house between the Armory and the campus, I'd been introduced to the “Westbrook Way” and the “Westbrook Experience” by my parents' neighbors, the Blewetts (the household of former Westbrook Junior College President Edward Y. Blewett, who served from 1958 to 1970, and for whom Blewett Hall is named). In addition, I'd had the privilege of working at the library each Reunion Weekend for those past 17 years, helping to host alums and their spouses. As the summer of 1996 progressed, I was a bit apprehensive about the merger between “my college” and the University of New England. I'd fallen in love with my academic librarian job and my faculty and staff colleagues, and I adored our students and our alums!

Thankfully, President Featherman, too, fell in love with Westbrook.

In 1995, when she accepted the job as president of UNE, then Board Chair P.D. Merrill brought her to Westbrook College to show her around.

He told her that merger discussions had been going on among a select group of trustees from both UNE and Westbrook. That was news to her! She reflected, “As surprised as I was at the prospect of overseeing such a challenge very early in my tenure, I immediately fell in love with Westbrook and could see the potential for creating something unique and wonderful.”

Sandra saw, also, 175 years of higher education and campus history; a caring and friendly faculty and staff; wonderful traditions; alumni involvement; and an Alumni Association whose members were, as she put it, “imbued with personal warmth and soaring imagination.”

She championed service to community and society; she supported the campus Art Gallery and the Maine Women Writers Collection; she respected and re-invigorated traditions, such as the Deborah Morton awards and the Maroon Award; she expanded responsibilities for both faculty and staff and provided opportunities for professional growth; she revitalized the infrastructure and increased the number of students; and she nurtured, enhanced, and personified the “Westbrook Experience” of intimacy, bonding, and intellectual curiosity.



“Together, we can do great things,” Sandra would say, and then she would illustrate that by sharing that Bernard, her husband, is one of those people who, once he has been driven anywhere, can always find his way there again. “Not me,” she'd say. “I am geographically challenged by Maine roads. On the other hand, I can read street maps. Now if you take someone with a good sense of direction who is not a good map reader and someone with no sense of direction who is a very good map reader, together they can do far more than they can alone.”

During Sandra's decade as president and following her visionary leadership, we did do great things, together. Two institutions came together and transformed the University of New England into a thriving and entrepreneurial place that held true to its roots while reaching for the future.

#### CAPTIONS

Sandra Featherman with (clockwise from top left): Ray Handy, assistant dean of Student Affairs, at a Spring Awards ceremony in Ludke Auditorium; current UNE President James Herbert; President George H.W. Bush, at a lobster bake held on the Biddeford Campus site that is now the Bush Center.



## SUPPORTING STUDENT RESEARCH

**BRISTOL SEAFOOD GRANT HELPS PROTECT SOFT-SHELL CLAMS**

BY ANGELA COULOMBE



Wild dug soft-shell clams make up a large part of the local Maine seafood economy but are susceptible to many predators, including green crabs (often seen as the primary culprit), sand worms, and milky ribbon worms.

Though the state's coordinated trapping and removal program has reduced the green crab population in Scarborough, soft-shell clams are still under threat. David Green, the former chair of the Scarborough Shellfish Commission, recently contacted Markus Frederich, Ph.D., professor of Marine Sciences at the UNE Marine Science Center, to report high soft-shell clam mortalities due to the presence of milky ribbon worms in the Scarborough marsh.

To explore different ways of alleviating this problem, UNE researchers, led by Dr. Frederich, proposed a project that would provide a detailed population analysis of milky ribbon worms through the seasons; test different strategies to prevent predation on clams by the worms; investigate stress parameters due to predation in clams and worms in a laboratory setting; and involve local clammers with a targeted community outreach effort, as well as undergraduate and graduate students at UNE.

As lead researcher, Curtis Fahey '19, a retired United States Air Force Technical Sergeant and a first-year graduate student, is focusing on the impacts of native and invasive predators on the soft-shell clam industry. "During my undergrad studies, I worked in an aquaculture center that grew soft-shell clams, which introduced me to estuary ecology and predator/predation interactions," Fahey explains. "Solving a problem that impacts the livelihoods of many in the Scarborough community is a daunting task because these predator/prey interactions have evolved over tens of thousands of years. However, we want to provide the community with as much information as possible to help guide future decisions that pertain to the estuary."

In collaboration with the Scarborough Shellfish Conservation Commission, this research project also includes local clammers who bring their expertise. Nathan Orff '21, a Marine Science undergraduate student, has been digging for clams for years in the Scarborough marsh under a student commercial license and as a lobsterman. "I grew up in Scarborough and obtained a commercial fishing license four years ago," said Orff. "Clam harvesting in Scarborough is a longstanding, historic industry, and the impact milky ribbon worms are having on the industry

is one of the reasons I decided to attend UNE. The very real problems of natural and invasive predation need to be solved in order to save this valuable commercial industry in the state. UNE is committed to research programs that are community-based and address real-life issues."

Both Fahey and Orff are quick to point out the support given their research by Bristol Seafood, a Maine-owned business headquartered in Portland, Maine. "The support that we received from Bristol Seafood has been invaluable to the research we're doing," says Fahey. "Through their generous support, we were able to fund an undergraduate research position, which has helped me to collect data and samples as well as navigate the estuary." Orff echoes Fahey's sentiments, saying, "Bristol Seafood's support has allowed me to purchase high quality tools to go out and conduct research. More importantly, it has allowed me to take time off from clamming and has allowed for the upkeep of a skiff that we take out to do field observations on the water, on the sediments, on the clams, and allows us to collect samples to bring back to the lab."

Jennifer Cyr, vice president of finance at Bristol Seafood, recently met with Fahey and Orff at the UNE College of Arts and Sciences' 19th Annual Spring Research Symposium held on May 4, 2018. "Bristol Seafood was delighted to support UNE's marine science research program and the research being done by Curtis and



Nathan. The health and vitality of Maine's seafood economy is essential to thousands of our residents and supports a longstanding Maine tradition of sustainable fisheries. As conditions in the Gulf of Maine change, we are grateful for the leadership that UNE's marine science program provides in educating students to conduct evidence-based research to understand and protect our precious marine and coastal resources. On behalf of all of us at Bristol, congratulations to the student research teams and the faculty members who are mentoring them."

"The Scarborough marsh is the largest inner tidal estuary in the state of Maine," says Orff, "and it supports about 53 full-time clam harvesters. As a commercial clam harvester, I know the value clamming brings to this close-knit community. It's about preserving this way of life for not only my generation, but generations to come."

## CAPTIONS

*Left page:* Nathan Orff '21, a Scarborough native, is a commercial lobsterman and clam harvester.

*Above:* Orff and Fahey test milky ribbon worms in different sediment types in the UNE marine science laboratory.



On June 15-16, more than 100 Westbrook alumni and friends gathered to celebrate Reunion 2018. Attendees participated in various activities, including a Portland Foodie Tour, a presentation from Occupational Therapy faculty Nancy MacRae, M.S., OTR/L, FAOTA, tours of campus, and the ever-popular annual massages from Shari Falcone '78, owner of A Touch of Health, a massage therapy practice in Winthrop, Maine. At the Alumni Awards Ceremony, President James Herbert joined Westbrook College Alumni Board of Directors President Chris Corbin-Price '83 to confer the following awards: Tower Award of Alumni Achievement (Catherine Flaherty Lamson '78, '04); Heloise E. Withee '40 Alumni Service Award (Gail Barlow Courville '68); Honorary Alumni Award (Elizabeth "Babs" Babbott Conant). View the entire Alumni Awards Ceremony on the University of New England Alumni Facebook page!





CAPTIONS

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The annual Westbrook College Alumni parade

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Honorary Alumni awardee Elizabeth Babbott Conant with President James Herbert and Chris Corbin-Price '83, president, Westbrook College Alumni Board of Directors

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Members of the class of 1968 celebrate their 50th class reunion.

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Jane Baldwin '48 and Thelma Hubbard Libby '48 proudly display a quilt designed by Thelma to commemorate the class of 1948's 55th class reunion.

CELEBRATING ANNE ZILL

# AMBASSADOR IN ETHICS, ADVOCACY, AND THE ARTS

BY CALLY GURLEY AND ANGELA COULOMBE



*Anne Zill, who will retire as director of the Portland Campus Art Gallery this summer, built UNE's art collection into a strong and cohesive collection representing the work of Maine and national artists.*

Best known in Maine art circles as director of the University of New England Art Gallery in Portland, Anne Zill has been a tireless campaigner for, and advocate of, improving the lives of women. She has had an international reach with the many exhibitions she has curated and once stood side-by-side with U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan to celebrate a women's exhibition at the United Nations that she helped to curate. As founder of the nonprofit Center for Ethics in Action at UNE, she has managed to blend her interests over the course of a long and productive career in ethics, advocacy, and the arts.

"I love it when I am able to get the various streams of endeavors in my life working together to complement everything I do," said Zill.

Anne assumed leadership of the University of New England Art Gallery in Portland in 1998, when UNE merged with Westbrook College. Since that time, she has created and collaboratively organized over 200 world-class exhibitions of artwork, including the work of such well-known

artists as John Eide, William Manning, Rebecca Goodale, Abelardo Morell, Alison Hildreth, Joe Guertin, Alice Spencer, Robert Shetterly, Judy Glickman Lauder, Mildred Burrage, John Calvin Stevens, John Muench, and many, many others. Her exhibitions have created visual dialogues and encouraged conversation and debate. Together

**“Anne has been terrific. She has transformed the UNE Art Gallery; her vision and dedication have made the gallery into one of the best small galleries in Maine.”**

— Stephen Halpert

with Stephen K. Halpert, UNE's curator of photography, Anne built UNE's art holdings into a distinct and formidable collection featuring contemporary and historical work by Maine and national artists, photographers, printmakers, and sculptors. She also expanded the recognition and appreciation of this historically significant gallery as a cultural destination in Maine.

“Anne has been terrific. She has transformed the UNE Art Gallery; her vision and dedication



have made the gallery into one of the best small galleries in Maine,” said Stephen Halpert. “Over her 20 years as director of the gallery, the quality and range of exhibitions have been remarkable. Visitors and artists love it, and I could not have been happier working with her.”

A farewell reception to celebrate and honor Anne's 20 years of service to the UNE Portland Campus Art Gallery and UNE community was held on June 21, 2018, in the very gallery to which she helped bring such a fresh perspective.

To make a gift in honor of Anne Zill in support of the Art Gallery visit [alumni.une.edu/annezill](http://alumni.une.edu/annezill)



CAPTIONS

*Opposite page:* Anne Zill

*Clockwise from top left:* Anne Zill, surrounded by family and friends, celebrates her retirement from the position of director of the UNE Art Gallery with a reception held in her honor on June 21, 2018; Zill with UNE Professor Emeritus Stephen K. Halpert, who, as curator, helped build the Gallery's photography collection; Zill at the June reception; Zill and visitors to the John Calvin Stevens exhibition, Portland Campus Art Gallery, April 2015.

## FIRST PERSON

## FROM THE SUPER BOWL TO EXAM WEEK

BY VICTORIA NGUYEN



*Victoria Nguyen, UNE COM '21, grew up in Randolph, Massachusetts, the daughter of two Vietnamese immigrants who met in a refugee camp in the Philippines, were later married in Australia, and finally settled in New England, where Victoria and her brother were born and raised. In 2017, Victoria saw the simultaneous realization of two lifelong dreams, when she was accepted as a student at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine and also tapped to become a New England Patriots cheerleader. While pursuing either path would have taxed the energy and focus of most mere mortals, Victoria spent the past year impressively juggling the two commitments and excelling at both. Which is not to say it was all stress-free. Things got especially frantic when the Pats made it to the Super Bowl — which just happened to fall during exam week! (Most of us do not have to deal with these kinds of conflicts.) We asked Victoria to tell us the story of her remarkable year.*

Since I was a little girl, I had an idea that I wanted to be a doctor. It was mainly in high school, when I started learning more about science and volunteering in hospitals, that I decided to really go for it. At Boston University, I majored in human physiology and minored in psychology and dance, and then I got my master's in medical science at B.U., as well.

I've always liked the whole idea of holistic medicine. On top of all the treatments and technology that we have in medicine, osteopathic medicine focuses on enhancing our body's innate ability to heal. I am attracted to the concepts of osteopathic manipulative medicine and want to have these tools under my belt because I know that they will be an advantage when I start to practice medicine.

I started cheerleading in elementary school, for our Pop Warner football team and started dancing when I was three or four. I continued to pursue dance and cheerleading all the way into college. My older brother loves football — we grew up watching the Patriots together. Cheering for an NFL team has always been a dream in the back of my head.

Around the time that I applied to medical school, I had a gap year, and my mindset was that I was just going to do whatever makes me happy. I was going to apply to whatever would make for a good life experience. In the end, I got accepted onto the Patriots Cheerleading team and into medical school at the same time.

Going into the Patriots, I knew that one thing I really wanted to get out of the experience was

an opportunity to give back to the community. I was aware that The Kraft Group does a lot of philanthropy work, and I knew I would be able to get involved in the community in that way.

One thing I have always really loved about cheerleading, throughout my entire life, is that you're bringing a lot of joy into whatever environment that you're going into. So just being able to meet people and bring them together and facilitate a kind of joyful environment, I think is a skill that I got out of it — being able to make people feel more comfortable and carry on conversations with all types of personalities.

Sometimes people are surprised that I'm a medical student, possibly due to the stereotyped idea of what a cheerleader is supposed to be. But there are several other women on the team who are pursuing STEM [science, technology, engineering, and math] careers, and we've done several events advocating for STEM curriculum at area high schools and elementary schools. Children come up to you, hoping for some free swag, but then you start a conversation, and you tell them, "I'm also going to medical school so I can be a doctor..." It's fun to watch their parents' reactions — sometimes you can see that they're kind of surprised when they hear things like that.

I remember one girl said to her parents, "Oh she's a cheerleader and a doctor, I want to do that too!"

The cheerleading director is very understanding of my commitment to medical school. She knew from the start that this is what I was going to be doing, and she has tried her hardest to find a balance that works for me as well as the team. Because, obviously, I can't miss everything, or what would be the point?

UNE COM has also been extremely accommodating, especially during the Super Bowl, since I would be missing exams if I went. They were very helpful because, honestly, I was freaking out. I didn't know how far in advance I should plan for it, or whether I should wait until we knew for certain that the Patriots were going to the Super Bowl. UNE helped me move my exams around. Not all my professors are Patriots fans, but they seem to be supportive of me, and that's all I can ask for.

Being at the AFC Championship game and standing on the field when the confetti went off was unreal, and going to the Super Bowl was just a whirlwind. We're so fast-paced, we're always doing things one right after another, and the time just flew by.



My Patriots cheerleading season is over, and the audition process is in progress! I'm not trying out again because I know that the second year of medical school is when we prepare for our board exams. It's more time-consuming, and I'm going to need to focus on that more. It was a busy year, to say the least, but I'm glad that I decided to pursue both because you never really know what you can do until you try it. I'm definitely very happy I did it.

## CAPTIONS

*Left page:* Victoria Nguyen on the field at Gillette Stadium

*Above:* Victoria Nguyen studying in the new Ripich Commons

IN THE COMMUNITY

# A NOVEL FRIENDSHIP

BY SARAH WISSLER



For Pat Reny, 90, few things are better than a good mystery novel. Sitting in her cozy room in Biddeford Estates, a nonprofit assisted living community, she flips through the pages of her latest read, a large print book by one of her favorite authors. By her side is second-year osteopathic medical student Greg Carbonella, who has just returned from the library with a stack of new reading material.

Carbonella is a volunteer with the Homebound Delivery program, a book distribution service run by Biddeford's McArthur Public Library. Every two to three weeks, Carbonella visits the library to find books for Reny, which he then brings to Biddeford Estates. A volunteer with the program since the fall of 2017, Carbonella applied as a program participant after seeing a call for volunteers in the library's newsletter. He was then matched with Reny and worked with Biddeford Estates to set up their initial meeting.

"When he first showed up, I honestly didn't know who he was or what he wanted," Reny recalls with a smile. "But then, we started talking, and talking, and talking, and here we are with books."

"We're both comfortable with casual conversation," agrees Carbonella. "She tells me about her kids, I'll talk about my family."

The program has provided Carbonella with another way to strengthen his communication and interpersonal skills, both important attributes for osteopathic physicians. "I look at it as a supplement to what I've learned through UNE's Division of Geriatric Medicine," he explains. "Even though it's not medically-related, it's extra practice talking and interacting, which I'll do in the future with patients."

It's this interaction that McArthur Public Library Director Jeff Cabral wants to generate for more individuals in the greater Biddeford community. "We really want to bring the library to people who can't otherwise get here," he says. "When I first came to McArthur Public Library seven years ago, we didn't have any sort of homebound delivery program. Since Maine is the oldest state, with many aging individuals, and we had a connection to [retirement community] McArthur Home, our organizations began working together to form a partnership."

At first, explains Cabral, volunteers were hard to come by. "So, we ended up just sort of starting on our own with a [Biddeford-Saco-OOB] Courier article a couple of years ago," he recounts. "Now, the number of volunteers exceeds the number of patrons, so we're working to increase the number of participating organizations."



Eventually, we could even extend the delivery program to people's homes; several of our volunteers have expressed interest in doing that."

The variety of options available for program patrons has helped to spur the success of the program. McArthur Public Library belongs to Minerva, a shared library system bringing together nearly 60 diverse libraries from across the state. This network enables volunteers to find just what their patrons are looking for. "We encourage each volunteer to sort of keep a little notebook of what the person has read, what they've liked or didn't like, making sure they don't bring the same book again. We also gather the volunteers together to talk about what's working for them and share knowledge."



Carbonella, the newest volunteer with the program, plans to continue delivering to Pat until his clinical term begins in July. He'll then be moving to Bangor to begin working at a family medicine clinic, treating a wide age range of patients, for the next year.

"I also have a scholarship with the Air Force," continues Carbonella, "so for that, I have to do two one-and-a-half month rotations at bases in the U.S., and I'll do that before I graduate in 2020. Following that, part of the scholarship is the obligation that I'll owe them four years of service as a fully-licensed doctor."

In the meantime, however, Carbonella is excited to continue building his friendship with Pat, one book at a time.

"Volunteering is something I've done my whole life," he says. "Giving just a little can mean a lot to the person on the receiving end."

CAPTIONS

*Opposite page:* Pat Reny and Greg Carbonella

*From left:* Greg looks for books at Biddeford's McArthur Public Library; Greg with Pat Reny in her room at Biddeford Estates.

On June 15, 2018, members of the University of New England Deborah Morton Society gathered on the Portland Campus for the Society's 57th Annual Convocation. Established in 1961, the Deborah Morton Award recognizes Maine women who have distinguished themselves through their careers, public service, and leadership in civic, cultural, or social causes. The society welcomed three new members at this year's event: Anita Stewart, executive and artistic director of Portland Stage; Peggy Rotundo, director of strategic and policy initiatives for the Bates College Harward Center for Community Partnerships; and Danielle Ripich, Ph.D., distinguished president emeritus, University of New England.

CAPTIONS

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The Deborah Morton Society members and platform party make their way to Innovation Hall for the convocation ceremony.

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The 2018 Deborah Morton Society Award recipients pose with members of the UNE Board of Trustees in front of Alumni Hall. L-R: Cynthia Milliken Taylor, Peggy Rotundo, E. "Story" Cleland Landis, Danielle Ripich, Katherine Heer '90, Anita Stewart

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Members of the Deborah Morton Society pose outside Alumni Hall with the 2018 Deborah Morton Society awardees, President James Herbert, and Provost Joshua Hamilton.

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President James Herbert and Danielle Ripich









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