
Subject: Your NEACAC 50th Celebration Newsletter is here!



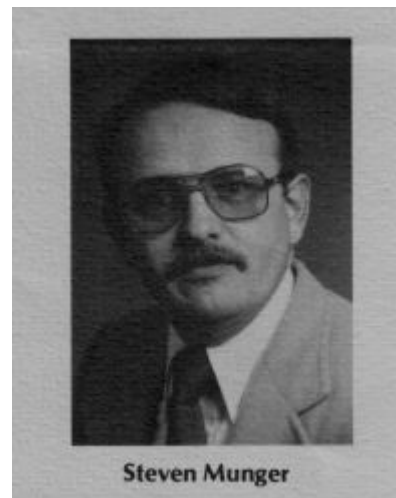
Your Monthly News & Updates

As NEACAC celebrates its 50th anniversary, we will issue a dedicated eBlast in the middle of each month. Take a look each month as we write about our history and celebrate people of NEACAC who have inspired fellow members.

NEACAC colleagues

Steve Munger:

Member of NEACAC since 1970. Worked in college admission counseling at Bard College, Worcester Academy, John Cooper School and Bridgton Academy. Since I was made an Honorary Member of NEACAC when I left Worcester Academy in 1988 to become Upper School Head at Saint Andrew's School in Florida, I have been a member of the association and have remained close to the profession even into retirement. When I returned to New England as the Academic Dean at Bridgton Academy, I returned to active membership in the association. NEACAC was for me much more than a professional organization; NEACAC became the source of lifelong friends with whom I have shared countless experiences over five decades. I came to realize that NEACAC provided me a place in my life where I could go to share ideas, thoughts, feelings, opinions, and lots of jokes with fellow



Steven Munger

professionals who understood what I did in my office every day, not something very many institutional colleagues understood or appreciated at any school where I worked.

Funny though it may sound, NEACAC became like a family for me. My children, now all grown with families of their own, knew many of the founders of NEACAC, those who served on Governing Boards with me during my most active years in the 70's and 80's, like aunts and uncles who often visited our residence hall apartment at Worcester Academy after board meetings which were often held at WA because of its central location in the region. NEACAC friends share Christmas cards and family newsletters, even in our retirement years. I know that I am looking forward to attending NEACAC's 50th with the same enthusiasm I felt for my college reunion, because the event will give me a chance to see once again a lot of people who have been extremely important in my life. There will be a lot of hugs, a few tears, and gales of laughter!

Gail Roycroft:

Member since NEACAC's inception in 1966; Guidance Counselor at Marshfield High School (MA) 1965-2001 "Oh the company I keep". I used these words when presented with the Distinguished Service Award in May 1981 by dear friend and mentor Steve Munger. Yes, it was a very proud and meaningful moment for me personally but it reflected the remarkable mentor philosophy that permeated NEACAC. Subtly or forcibly I was conned, challenged and supported by the most outstanding "band" of mentors of our profession. They led by example. They led by their care of the "new kids". Being in their company throughout my career and today still was and is totally awesome. Thank you, NEACAC .



Bob Bardwell:



Member of NEACAC since 1995. School Counselor and Director of School Counseling, Monson Public Schools, Monson MA since 1993. My involvement with NEACAC has helped me grow tremendously as a person and as a professional. Volunteering as a committee member, committee chair, Assembly delegate and elected leader has allowed me to work with many hundreds of people I would have never met. If you have volunteered in some way for NEACAC you know what I mean. You get to go outside of your own little world and work with others who share similar interests, passions and ideas. It will forever change your life, your work and your students. I highly recommend it.

My current passion is school counseling leadership and advocacy. Due to my involvement in NEACAC and NACAC I have been fortunate to meet many wonderful colleagues and participate in many professional development opportunities, one being part of the NEACAC delegation to the NACAC Legislative Conference in DC. These opportunities have helped me realize that our profession will not move forward unless school counselors speak up and let the policy makers know just how valuable we are and the impact we have on student success and achievement. I have committed myself to this work because if we don't do a better job someone else will step in and we won't be needed any longer. I currently serve as Team

Lead for the Reach Higher Massachusetts (RHM) initiative, working to help more students graduate from high school and go on to post-secondary training and education. I would not be the person I am today without the opportunities that NEACAC and NACAC provided. For that I will be forever grateful.

Kathi Moody:

Member of NEACAC since 1992. Worked in college admission counseling at the University of New Hampshire (1992-97) and at Lynnfield High School from 1998 on.

A favorite memory of my time as a NEACAC member is the day I got a call from Bob Bardwell asking me to consider serving as his Vice President. I had gotten to know Bob through committee work and presenting with him at NACAC and I had always admired his commitment to the profession (and still do!) I knew this opportunity would be such a wonderful way to give back to NEACAC so I took him up on his offer. Thankfully the members voted me in! When I sat down to process my decision, I was admittedly a bit nervous. I wasn't entirely sure I knew "enough" to serve in this role. Bob was so supportive and encouraging every step of the way and that year turned out to be one of the most rewarding professional experiences of my career.

Anyone who knows Bob can attest to the fact that he truly embodies all of the best qualities in a school counselor. I'm honored to know him as a colleague and a friend and I'm so grateful he gave me the opportunity to serve with him.



Jon Westover:

Member of NEACAC since 2005. Works in admission counseling since 1998, at Alfred University, The College of Saint Rose, University of Massachusetts at Amherst. My route to getting involved in NEACAC was a little non-traditional. When I became a member of NEACAC in 2005 I was serving as a NACAC Governmental Relations Committee member. After the 2005 national conference in Tampa I was asked to chair the GRAC committee. During my two years as the committee chair I would do capitol hill visits with members of the NEACAC delegation, this was my introduction to NEACAC. When my term on the national committee ended, I was asked to chair NEACAC's GRAC committee (usually committee chairs have been committee members previously).



In addition to my role as a committee chair, I have worn a few other NEACAC hats. As a political science major, serving as an Assembly Delegate was an incredible thrill, one I get to repeat as I move through the presidential cycle. As a delegate, you get to serve as the voice for NEACAC at the national level. The body considers changes to the SPGP. It has always struck me as to what may be a hot topic in New England can draw little attention from other places across the country.

Prior to being elected President-elect I served NEACAC as our Treasurer. While this may not sound like the most appealing role, it really opens your eyes to all that NEACAC does in

a year. Between writing checks for college fairs, or reimbursing committee members for meetings, you get a true sense of all that we as an organization accomplishes.

Best tips for new members of NEACAC - get involved, but don't get discouraged! I would continue to raise your hand and volunteer to serve. Not only is the service rewarding, the friendships you develop are lifelong!

NEACAC's Story: 1966-1971

Getting Started

The first glimmer of a possible New England regional ACAC group was a postcard survey in May of 1965. On September 28, 1965, a memo from Van Halsey, then at Amherst College, to New England members of ACAC* announced a very positive response to the survey, and ACAC members from New England met that fall at the national ACAC conference in Denver to discuss it. At that first organizational meeting, Van was asked to chair a committee to explore the possibilities of forming a regional group in New England.

The committee met throughout the year, and proposed several projects that a New England regional group might launch:

1. The sponsorship of one- or two-day workshops for counselors and admission officers in various New England areas on the problems of college admission, transcripts, tests, transitions and transfer directed specifically at rural and urban school districts.
2. The publication of material on financial aid for students including state and federal funds available for New England area colleges.
3. A coordinated scheduling of college day and night programs in New England through a central recorder."

In June, 1966, he wrote to all non-member schools and college counseling offices in the New England area seeking opinions about the possible formation of a New England regional Association of College Admissions Counselors. Of 993 non-ACAC members, 575 responded by September. 470 schools supported the formation of a New England ACAC, with 11 dissenting, and 92 colleges approved, with 2 nays. Based on this survey and earlier research, the committee planned to submit a proposal that NEACAC be approved as a regional association at the National ACAC Meeting on October 7th. To that purpose, a constitution had been drafted with the help of the National Office in Chicago and the Great Plains Association, and was sent to all New England schools and colleges for study. New England ACAC members would meet at 8:00 over breakfast to vote on the committee's proposal and discuss the constitution; the general meeting would be at 10:00.

October 7, 1966. Washington DC. NEACAC is officially born!

NEACAC sent its first delegates, including Van Halsey as its first President, to the ACAC National Conference in Minneapolis in October of 1967.

First Steps and Early Issues

At first, as stated in the survey request, NEACAC did "not anticipate the necessity for any large regional meetings." Colleges and high schools met at the annual NEACRAO Reverse College Day, with NEACAC workshops for new counselors planned for the afternoon, and

an Executive Board dinner meeting thereafter. The first workshop of record was held on November 1, 1967.



Seated are the officers of the association: (from left), Harold Collins, *Treasurer*, Director of Admission, University of Vermont; Mary Barre, *Vice President*, Guidance Counselor, Framingham High School, Framingham, Massachusetts; and Van R. Halsey, *President*, Associate Dean of Admission, Amherst College, Amherst, Massachusetts.

Members of the Board of Directors, standing, are: Fred Neuberger, Director of Admission, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont; Milton Lindholm, Director of Admission, Bates College, Lewiston, Maine; Donald Hagerman, Headmaster, Holderness School, Plymouth, New Hampshire; and Myron Hager, Director of Admission, Westbrook Junior College, Portland, Maine.

By 1970, half-day workshops were held in various locations around New England during the month of May. They included four thirty-minute sessions on topics like high school transcripts, the importance and form of recommendations, multiple standards for admission, and were led by experienced admission counselors.

Harry Carroll, then of Colby College, led the discussion on recommendations in 1970 - particularly delicate after the 1968 decision in the Creel vs Brennan case, in Maine, which ruled that "evaluation material submitted by a secondary school in support of an application was not privileged." "Most colleges now have parents and applicants sign a statement on confidentiality of supporting materials as a matter of contract between candidate and college," he wrote in his handout, and noted that some secondary schools also asked parents to sign a statement on the confidential nature of the recommendation. In problem areas, he and legal experts recommended using a *telephone*.

Tina Segalla Grant took "cryptic notes" from a 1991 phone conversation with NACAC: "My notes say that 1968 was the earliest record of a regional NEACAC meeting with 264 voting members in attendance, and 10 voting delegates. NEACAC was the largest S/R in the country" A directory listing the school and college members of NEACAC was first published in January of 1968 and a regular newsletter began to be published in August of that year. The first NEACAC logo appeared on stationery by 1970.

Back in the Day

Steve Munger, who has been generous with his memories and stories, recalls those first years: "NEACAC came into existence as a professional association designed to provide exchange of information, ideas, etc. between schools and colleges. The College Board was in existence at the time, but was strongly influenced by the Ivies and was not seen as a vehicle of communication within the profession." As he notes, the early years of the association were remarkably different from today's environment: no computers, no email, no cell phones, no college ranking lists. "There was, in fact, no profession as we now know it, since the college admission process was just developing into a separate entity within the world of education. ... Regular vs. "Rolling" Admission was a new concept; Early Decision

was a contractual agreement in place at only a small number of highly selective colleges," and there was no Early Action, never mind ED2. The ACT was a relatively new test, little known in New England. The SAT and Achievement Tests (not SAT II, not Subject Tests) were given on the same day in morning and afternoon sessions.

"Actually, NEACAC became the driving force behind creation of a college admission counseling profession. We shaped and developed the common body of knowledge of the profession, putting in place policies and procedures which had not existed before NEACAC founded! Although NEACAC was and is a state/regional organization within the National Association, in the 70's and 80's we were the largest and best organized SR, and our governing board and committees had enormous impact on National."

*ACAC, the Association of College Admissions Counselors began in the Midwest as The College Field Workers in 1937 (renamed The Association of College Representatives that same year and ACAC in March of 1939), and had grown to include 571 colleges and 1007 secondary schools by 1966. In spite of a reluctance to spread beyond the Midwest in its first 20 years, ACAC now included members from all over the United States. By 1950, state affiliates existed in eight Midwestern states and by the mid-60's New York and Pennsylvania had established state affiliates. It is interesting to note that Eugene Wilson of Amherst College served as President of ACAC in 1961, 5 years before NEACAC was established.

New England Association for College Admission Counseling
www.neacac.org (603) 367-3292

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