



NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELING

NEACAC

NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELING

# NEACAC SUMMER INSTITUTE



Eighty-four new and nearly new guidance counselors and admission counselors met on the campus of the College of the Holy Cross from July 26 - 29, 2004. Faculty and guest speakers shared their expertise on such issues as effective communication, writing recommendations, making the most of travel, the state of college admissions, enrolling a class, case studies from both sides of the desk, and issues around access to name a few.

Many thanks to our fourteen dedicated volunteer faculty and to our guest speakers, which this year included John Mahoney from Boston College, Gary Muenier from Weston High School, Marilee Jones from MIT, Peter Caruso from Boston College, Louisa Martin from Charter Oak College, and Kyle Dodson from Lee Academy Pilot School for their contributions to the week.

And many, many thanks to Institute Chair Raul Fonts from Providence College, whose vision and direction have made this institute a premier opportunity for new professionals to our profession.

Deb Johns, Fairfield University (CT)  
2005 Summer Institute Chair

## HATS OFF!

To **Raul Fonts** and the **Summer Institute Planning Committee** for putting together such a terrific learning experience for new members of the NEACAC community, and to **Bob Bardwell** and **Dan de la Torre** for their outstanding work above and beyond in outreach to counselors and two-year college representatives.

## 2004-2005 GOVERNING BOARD

### Executive Board

President	Brad MacGowan	Newton North HS, MA	bmacgowan@comcast.net	617-559-6349
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### Committee Chairs

Admissions Practices	Rod Skinner	Milton Academy, MA	rod_skinner@milton.edu	617-898-2311
Annual Meeting	John Lintner, Co-Chair Jayson Hodge, Co-Chair	Kent School, CT University of Connecticut, CT	lintnerj@kent-school.edu jayson.hodge@uconn.edu	860-927-6071 860-486-3137
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Member Services	Sheila Nussbaum	William H. Hall High School, CT	sheila_nussbaum@whps.org	860-232-4561
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Professional Development	David Hautanen	Northeastern University, MA	d.hautanen@neu.edu	617-373-5033
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Many Children (And Young Adults) Being Left Behind



"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

At the end of June, Representative Buck McKeon (R-CA), chairman of the House Education Subcommittee on Higher Education, announced that his committee will not be voting on a Higher Education Act reauthorization bill this year. It is clear that this bill (HR 4283) is being tabled so committee members will not have to vote on issues that will make them unpopular with many voters before the elections.

As it stands now, the proposed reauthorization (ironically named the "College Access and Opportunity Act") does nothing to improve college access, which was the clear intent of the first Higher Education Act in 1965. For example, the current bill, if passed, would freeze the maximum Pell Grant (which hasn't been increased for three years) until 2011, and does nothing to address the growing Pell Grant shortfall.

#### Other parts of the bill, as written, would:

1. link extra Pell funds to academic "merit" or participation in a single organization's curricular program (i.e., the "Center for State Scholars" program);
2. include language, which according to NACAC President Keith White (in a letter to the House Education and the Workforce Committee, available at [www.nacac.com/hill.html](http://www.nacac.com/hill.html)), "represents unprecedented micromanagement of institutional affairs in the areas of student evaluation, speech and association, and may, in fact, infringe on an institution's right to its own institutional expression";
3. require colleges to report cost increases beyond a "threshold" to the Secretary of Education, even though increases in tuition and costs are caused primarily by factors that are beyond the colleges' control;
4. add new, restrictive regulations governing the transfer of credit between colleges; and,
5. allow (again according to Keith White's letter) "an unprecedented federal scrutiny of international studies departments at colleges by allowing grant awards to be based on whether an academic program 'advance[s] national interests,' and allow a review board to monitor the activities of academic programs in international affairs," which would "constitute a significant curtailment of academic freedom and first amendment speech rights."

These are examples of legislation in just one bill in one year. Every year, dozens of bills at the federal level and thousands of bills at the state level are passed that affect our students, our institutions, and the future of the country. NEACAC and NACAC must continue to take strong stands on the federal and state issues that affect our students and institutions, and let these stands be known to lawmakers.

In addition, individual members of NEACAC and NACAC can make their opinions known to lawmakers on their own or through NACAC's online Legislative Action Center [available at <http://econstituent.votenet.com/nacac> and through the Government Relations page of the NACAC website]. The Legislative Action Center gives members a quick, easy, and effective way to let their legislators know that we support students and their education. Our colleagues, friends, and families can also use this resource to make their voices heard; you don't have to be a NACAC or NEACAC member to use the Legislative Action Center. A well-written letter is available to send. You can add your own section, if you wish, or just input your name and address and send as is.

#### Messages currently available for sending include:

**Support GEAR UP!** Let Congress know you support early college awareness and GEAR UP as elected officials consider budget for education programs.

**Rescue the Pell Grant!** Congress is poised to freeze the Pell grant at its current level until 2011. Take action and tell Congress to stop neglecting student aid.

**Help Immigrant Students Achieve the American Dream!** Urge Congress to pass the bipartisan Student Adjustment Act (HR 1684) and DREAM Act (S 1545) to help tens of thousands of students achieve the American dream.

**Massachusetts citizens!** Use the Legislative Action Center to contact state legislators and urge them to reject Governor Romney's MCAS-based scholarship plan. This plan, as it stands now, would direct publicly-funded scholarships away from those who need it the most.

We are fortunate to have an active Government Relations Committee in NEACAC, as well as active and involved people on the NACAC staff and on NACAC's Government Relations Committee. We are the experts on college admissions issues, and we see the effects of federal and state laws and policies on students and the educational system. As organizations and as individual citizens, let's make our voices heard.

Brad MacGowan, Newton North High School (MA)

## PLANS UNDERWAY FOR SUMMER INSTITUTE II

The success of the NEACAC Summer Institute for school counselors and admissions counselors who are new to the field has been well documented. Amidst the yearly applications for attendees have been requests from experienced counselors to attend. However, NEACAC currently does not provide a professional development opportunity for the experienced counselor. Thus, a proposal to create an Advanced Secondary School Counselor Summer Institute (ASSCSI) was presented to the Governing Board. Board approval of this proposal led to the first step - a survey of our membership to determine a structure, focus, and format. This initial institute will focus on the needs of the experienced secondary school counselor and independent college counselor. The needs of the middle management admissions counselor may be addressed in the future.

The next step is to put together a committee that will serve as a planning committee and faculty for the program that is scheduled for summer 2005. Bob Bardwell of Monson High School (MA) and Sheila Nussbaum of Hall High School (West Hartford, CT) will serve as co-chairs for the committee. We hope to have our committee together for an initial meeting in November. Please see below for details.

### Now Recruiting Staff for Advanced Secondary School Counselor Summer Institute

Tentative date: July 12-14, 2005

The Advanced Secondary School Counselor Summer Institute (ASSCSI) will be held on a New England college campus, either July 12-14, 2005 or July 19-21, 2005 (Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday). Member survey results indicate a strong interest in a program that would offer renewal and rejuvenation, the opportunity to share resources with colleagues, a keynote speaker, and small group discussion. This will differ from the current NEACAC Summer Institute both in content and format.

Institutions will be invited to bid on the program and would be encouraged to offer air-conditioned suite style living quarters. Participants would arrive for the welcoming session at 1 p.m. on Tuesday and depart at noon on Thursday. The number of participants would be limited to 40 secondary school counselors.

Nine faculty members will be chosen from the secondary school counselor and college admission membership and will represent both public and private institutions. The nine will fill the roles of six small group facilitators and three additional planning committee members, one of which will be a member of the host institution. S/he will serve as the on-site chair.

#### Topics likely to be covered:

We hope that faculty will have input on the development of the program and compelling topics to offer experienced high school and independent college counselors. Topics such as:

- Technology
- Alternatives to College
- Personalizing the College Search
- Legal & Ethical Issues
- Financial Aid
- Trends in Admissions Testing - the New SAT
- Sharing Resources

#### Meeting schedule:

**Committee members will be expected to attend a minimum of four planning meetings tentatively scheduled for November, February, March, and June. These will be planned in conjunction with other NEACAC Governing Board meetings or other events. The committee members must also be available from July 11 - 14.**

If you're interested in serving on the planning committee/faculty, click on "Forms and Documents" at [www.neacac.org](http://www.neacac.org) for an application.

**The NEACAC Professional Development Committee** is responsible for providing professional development opportunities for the New England college counseling community in addition to the Annual Conference and Summer Institute. Program planning for the 2004-2005 academic year is in progress. If there is specific programming you would like to see offered by the NEACAC Professional Development Committee, or if you are interested in becoming a member of the committee, please contact David Hautanen, chair, at [d.hautanen@neu.edu](mailto:d.hautanen@neu.edu) or 617-373-5416.

**Calling all NEACAC  
Two-Year College Members:  
your invitation is in the mail!**

Annual Fall Meeting,  
Wednesday, September 22, 2004  
12:30-3:30 P.M.\*

*\*After the NEACAC College Fair*

Featured Discussions: International Students and Retention Issues.

North Cafeteria  
Arthur Haley Complex/Administration Building  
Mount Wachusett Community College  
Gardner, Massachusetts

# EDITOR'S CORNER

Greetings!

Notice anything new about this month's edition of the NEACAC Newsletter? NEACAC's new logo is up and running and can be seen on the front cover of the Newsletter!

On another note, we neglected to include Linda Shapiro's participation on NACAC's Ad Hoc Committee on Assembly Structure in the last issue. Linda joins Bob Bardwell, Ronn Beck, Peter Caruso, Daniel de la Torre, Judith Dobai, Cary Einhaus, Katie Fretwell, Sherri Geller, and Kim Johnston in representing NEACAC on NACAC national committees. Hats off to all!

And lastly, below I've included a write-up on WACAC's inaugural summer counselor institute - not because I think NEACAC needs to know what WACAC is doing these days, but because it is my hope that you will follow my lead and report back to the NEACAC community on interesting admission-related experiences that come your way. As many of you know, I am a graduate of not only the higher education program at Boston College but also the college counseling program offered by UCLA Extension and visit and report on schools around New England for a consortium of fellow UCLA program graduates, many of whom have large caseloads, small budgets, and don't get out much... As a result, when encouraged to attend this institute, I jumped at the opportunity to finally meet some of my former classmates and check out schools in a section of the country I rarely visit. In addition to the fifteen schools visited with the CSI, I somehow found the time to visit an additional nine schools - and check out the Getty Museum, Malibu, the canals at Venice, the new Gehry-designed Disney Center, the La Brea Tar Pits, and the Huntington Library (thanks to Ronn for the excellent suggestion)! I even found a pretty neat mystery bookstore in Westwood, near UCLA. Needless to say, I'm still recuperating, but it was worth it!

## Stepping Outside the Box

California? L.A.? Did she really have to ask? When a friend from the Gunn High School in Palo Alto contacted me this spring to see if I'd like to attend the WACAC inaugural Counselor Summer Institute - the CSI:LA, I jumped at the chance to visit schools in California and the opportunity to meet, in person, friends and former classmates from the UCLA Ext. online college counseling program.

So, on July 10, I was among approximately 30 participants who convened at Occidental College in Los Angeles for six packed days of professional development and college touring - and I mean packed. Upon arrival we were presented with two-inch binders brimming with reading materials; and, immediately after settling into our dorm rooms, the week's activities began with a reception and dinner at Oxy President Ted Mitchell's home, where we had the opportunity to meet with current WACAC President Linda Conti and other members of the WACAC Governing Board in a relaxed, social setting.

Pati Piniero-Goodenberger of Oxy, Penny Sommers of the LAUSD, Elaine Berman of the Wildwood School, and Arman Davtyan of Oxy did an outstanding job planning and hosting the week. The Institute was kicked off with a panel discussion on the changing student population and how to address their needs, featuring Rebecca Trounson, writer for the L.A. Times, who acted as moderator; Jim Montoya of The College Board; Sue Wilber, UC director of undergraduate programs; and Arnaldo Rodriguez, vice president of Admission and Financial Aid at Pitzer. Over the course of the week, we toured fifteen schools, beginning with a tour of our host institution on Sunday. For those of you who have never visited Oxy, it is located in Eagle Rock, California, part of L.A. County and very near Pasadena, and was the school used as a backdrop for the "90210" kids when they went off to college.

Monday found us visiting UCLA, where we heard presentations on counseling would-be fine arts majors and upcoming changes to NCAA athletic recruitment regulations; Santa Monica College, where we learned more about California's exceptional community college to four-year track; Otis College of Art & Design, where we heard more about programs and job opportunities for fine arts majors; and Loyola Marymount University,

where we had dinner and heard a presentation on Division I athletics.

Tuesday morning we heard a presentation on the history and philosophy of financial aid from Georgette Deveres of Claremont McKenna College. Then we were off for lunch at and a tour of USC and dinner and a tour at Whittier College. We were supposed to have a financial aid case study session that evening, but we begged to move it to the next day, pleading exhaustion... Poor Pati - all that planning!

And silly us - little did we know that we would walk over 18,100 steps the following day on our tour of the Claremont Colleges (Pomona, Claremont McKenna, Scripps, Pitzer, and Harvey Mudd), this according to my friend's pedometer. Dinner back at Oxy was followed by the financial aid case study session, where we figured (or tried to figure) and compared family contributions, self-help, and percentage in grants and scholarships for five students at four schools (CACC, State U., Middle, and Hoity-Toity), and a night on the town in OldTown Pasadena. Really, I think there must be a correlation between tired feet and brain power... And as much as I would have liked to go to bed, I was not about to miss out on a night on the town in California, so several of us managed to revive ourselves with ice cream sundaes at Ghirardelli's.

Thursday found the group at a morning presentation on The Role of Technology in Counseling Students, after which we left for lunch and a tour at Mount St. Mary's and later a tour of Cal. State - Northridge, much of which is new since the campus was severely damaged by the L.A. earthquake, where we learned about the various niche programs within the Cal. State system. Mount St. Mary's was recently featured in CBS News article and is a terrific school for young minority women. Role models abound, and it is easy to see why students "blossom" into poised, articulate young women within months of arrival. That evening, dinner was followed by a session on Admission Case Studies, where we read applications and sat in committee, deciding the "fate" of five or six students.

And, last but not least, on Friday we visited Caltech, where we were greeted by Rick Bischoff, recently of the University of Chicago, and had breakfast on the lawn behind the admission office with Rick and the admission staff and several members of the faculty. There's a swimming pool in the yard there (soon to be removed, as Rick has a two-year-old), and I couldn't help but ask if they didn't all jump in to cool off after particularly heated committee sessions... >:-) Not surprisingly, Friday's theme was Counseling Students with Interests in Engineering and the Sciences, and our Caltech visit did not disappoint. It is the first campus I've ever visited with a dorm cat. That "ranks" this school way up there, in my estimation. The cat, who shall remain nameless (as its name is not repeatable in print), holds court in the lounge of the Harry Potter theme dorm and is the sweetest thing, a very soothing presence - particularly important when you consider the pace of study at an institution such as Caltech.

So, *bats off* to Pati, Elaine, Penny, and Arman for planning such a terrific week! WACAC's inaugural "CSI" was an enormous success. I urge any New England counselors, or those considering becoming counselors, to think about researching and attending summer tours and institutes with other regional ACAC's, whenever you can and there's room for you.

Happy travels!

Julia Varriale, Wheaton College (MA)

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Late Fall 2004	October 15
Winter 2005	January 1
Spring 2005	March 15
Summer 2005	June 15
Early Fall 2005	August 15

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# NEACAC FALL 2004 COLLEGE FAIR SCHEDULE

## September

Date	Place	Time
Sunday, 9/19	University of Massachusetts - Dartmouth	2:00 - 4:30 PM
Monday, 9/20	University of New Haven	9:00 - 11:30 AM
Monday, 9/20	Western New England College	7:00 - 9:00 PM
Wednesday, 9/22	Mt. Wachusett Community College	9:00 - 11:30 AM
Thursday, 9/23	Saint Michael's College	7:00 - 9:00 PM
Friday, 9/24	Saint Michael's College	9:00 - 11:30 AM
Sunday, 9/26	University of Southern Maine	2:00 - 4:30 PM
Monday, 9/27	University of Maine	7:00 - 9:00 PM
Tuesday, 9/28	University of Maine	9:00 - 11:30 AM
Thursday, 9/30	University of New Hampshire	7:00 - 9:00 PM

## October

Date	Place	Time
Friday, 10/1	University of New Hampshire	9:00 - 11:30 AM
Sunday, 10/3	Assumption College	1:00 - 4:00 PM
Wednesday, 10/6	Berkshire Community College	9:00 - 11:30 AM
Thursday, 10/7	Southern New Hampshire University	7:00 - 9:00 PM
Friday, 10/8	Southern New Hampshire University	9:00 - 11:30 AM
Sunday, 10/17	Northern Essex Community College	2:00 - 4:30 PM

## SPRING COLLEGE FAIR SCHEDULE

Northern Maine Community College  
Presque Isle, ME

**Tuesday, May 10, 2005, 9 - 11:30 a.m.**

University of Maine at Machias  
Machias, ME

**Wednesday, May 11, 2005, 9 - 11:30 a.m.**

Augusta Civic Center  
Augusta, ME

**Thursday, May 12, 2005, 9 - 11:30 a.m.**

Franklin Pierce College  
Rindge, NH

**Friday, May 13, 2005, 9 - 11:30 a.m.**

Spring College Fair registration will begin on  
January 17, 2005. Log in to [www.neacac.org](http://www.neacac.org)  
to register!

## HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE GEARS UP FOR BUSY YEAR

The Human Relations Committee will be meeting in mid September to plan several events for the upcoming school year. This will be a year of transition as we begin to phase out two programs that we have historically coordinated. At the June Governing Board meeting, it was decided that the Annual Community Service Project will now be organized by the Annual Meeting Planning Committee. Starting in 2006, the Human Relations Committee Award for Excellence in College Admission Counseling will be renamed and selected by the Nominating Committee. The Human Relations Committee will still coordinate the Margaret Addis Memorial Scholarship program as well as outreach to groups that we traditionally have not provided services. We are currently planning a program for rural school counselors in Northern New England in the spring.

Look for the Margaret Addis Memorial Scholarship nomination forms in mid-October with a deadline of early December. We hope to have a great showing at Northeastern for the Annual Meeting & Conference next June.

Please stay tuned for further developments from HRC.

Bob Bardwell, Monson High School (MA)

## NEW MEMBERS

NEACAC welcomes the following new members, recently approved by the Membership Committee:

**Phyllis Tawa**, Independent Counselor (MA), College Match

**Arthur Mullany**, Independent Counselor (RI),  
College Impressions

**Heather Ricker-Gilbert**, Independent Counselor (CT),  
College Gateways

## NEACAC SPEAKERS BUREAU

As you begin planning fall programs and retreats for students, their families, and your staff, please remember the NEACAC Speakers Bureau. Volunteers from both college counseling and admission are available to speak on a variety of topics to help students navigate their way through the admission process or to help your staff gear up and stay energized for the year ahead.

Membership in NEACAC is not required to utilize the Speakers Bureau and outside organizations are welcome. For more information, please contact Kate Sheehan Bellaud, NEACAC School and College Relations chair, at 781-239-5077, or by email at [bellaud@babson.edu](mailto:bellaud@babson.edu).

## WEBSITE QUICK TIP

You can change your randomly assigned username and password by logging in to [www.neacac.org](http://www.neacac.org) with your current login. Next, click "manage membership." Then click "username & password." Lastly, simply follow the instructions on the screen.

# WHAT'S NEWS

**Clarissa Basch** to director of college counseling at Ethel Walker School (CT) from Hampshire College (MA).

**Jessica DiPietro** to school counselor at Conard High School (CT).

**Rick Hutchinson** to college counselor at Fairfield Preparatory School (CT) from Fairfield University.

**James Kapella**, associate dean of admission at Albertus Magnus College (CT), has retired.

**Jessica K. Keimowitz** to assistant director of college counseling/history teacher from Teacher's College master's program and the New Jewish High School.

**Rebecca Kurber** to director of admission at Albertus Magnus College (CT) from associate dean.

**Kristen Newmark** to assistant director of admission at Fairfield University (CT) from Phillips Exeter Academy (NH).

**Karen Pellegrino** to director of admission at Fairfield University (CT) from Fordham University (NY).

**Nilvio Perez** to assistant director of admission at Albertus Magnus College (CT) from University of Bridgeport (CT).

**Sammie T. Robinson** to associate dean of admissions and financial aid at Colby College (ME) from associate director of admissions at George Washington University.

**Rachel Tobie** to admissions counselor at Colby College (ME) from Colby College Class of 2004.

**Jessican Van Duren** to associate director of admission at Albertus Magnus College (CT) from assistant dean of admission.

**Cassandra Velazquez** to associate director of admission at Noble and Greenough School (MA) from College of the Holy Cross (MA).

**Joseph Walsh** to admissions officer at the University of Rhode Island.

*Tell us WHAT'S NEWS,*

*please clip and mail this form to the NEACAC Office or send an email to [communication@neacac.org](mailto:communication@neacac.org)*



Your name and institution \_\_\_\_\_

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Name of Award \_\_\_\_\_

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