



CONNECTIONS

The Voice of the President's Commissions on the Status of Women, the Status of People of Color, and the Status of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Issues

Many Faces, One Mission

by Nesli Orhon



Selina Taylor, Class of 2007, giving John Laymon, class of 1973, an alumni pin

INCLUSION was the theme stated on the cream-colored mugs placed at each of the dinner settings at the first annual banquet to honor the university's commitment to excellence through diversity. The slogan for the diversity banquet was, not only on the mugs nestled among the gracefully set dining tables, but was included on programs, banners, and the photographic history illustrating the commitment to inclusion at UNH.

For one night, Huddleston Hall Ballroom was filled with music, elegant dining and the voices of over 180 students, alumni, faculty, staff and community members, dedicated to inclusion and diversity in the UNH community. The evening was a chance to reflect on the growth of diversity at the university. Speeches delivered by then President Ann Weaver Hart, Provost Bruce Mallory and Vice Provost for Diversity Wanda Mitchell were focused on the current status of diversity.

"This is a celebration to show that diversity is not restrained by location or time but by our own restrictions," said the Vice Provost.

The Vice Provost has been one of the leaders of the committee working to incorporate the September 2005 Diversity Plan, moving UNH forward to a more diverse and inclusive community.

The Plan involves engaging students in learning more about such differences as race, ethnicity, sex, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, religious belief, ability, and economic background.

The banquet speakers reminded attendees that the plan commits us to better prepare students in an appreciation of people with backgrounds other than their own. It is the hope that students will leave the university better equipped to solve critical social problems.

Provost Bruce Mallory was awarded the President's Award for Excellence through Diversity for his commitment for diversity, not only in his work for inclusion at UNH, but in the outside community as well.

Chair of the Program Planning Committee, JerriAnne Boggis, recognized the collective work of the people in the room as demonstration of faith in, and support for an inclusive learning community at UNH. She also recognized recipients of awards presented by the GLBT Commission, The Kidder Fund, The Social Justice Awards Committee of the Diversity Team and the Women's Commission.

In an evening of speeches focusing on the present and the future, the video *Many Faces, One Mission: Inclusion* offered historical perspectives and expectations. The video was introduced by President's Commissions Educational Program Coordinator Sylvia Foster and Program Assistant Janice Pierson. The film illustrated the involvement in initiatives crucial to improving the academic and social experiences of living, studying and working at UNH. "These voices represent the strong work of many individuals and groups," said Foster.

A photographic history allowed viewers to track diversity back to 1890,



Renai Mason, Class of 2006; JerriAnne Boggis, newly appointed Diversity Education Coordinator in the Office of the Vice Provost; Selina Taylor, Class of 2007; Jen Vasquez, Class of 2006

when Lucy Swallow and Delia Brown became the first women students admitted here. Many individuals were highlighted as coming forward to change the face of the UNH community. In 1968 Dr. Lester Fisher was appointed as the

One Mission, continued on page 4

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Q & A

with **Donna Marie Sorrentino**

Last spring, Donna Marie Sorrentino was appointed to direct the UNH Office of Affirmative Action and Equity, which oversees the University's compliance efforts with affirmative action, Title IX, disability laws and regulations, equal employment laws, and campus initiatives aimed at creating a diverse, welcoming and equitable campus. Her words about her work and her life appear in the following interview.

Where were you raised? How has that affected your choice of being so involved in diversity/equity/affirmative action?

Watertown, Massachusetts, suburb of Boston, MA in a neighborhood within walking distance of the banks of the Charles River. The town was ethnically diverse with families from Armenia, Turkey, Greece, Italia, Ireland, and Ecuador, to name a few. It was quite natural to find myself learning as much as I could of their native languages, having opportunities with them and their families to learn to cook and bake a variety of ethnic foods as well as celebrating in their holidays and traditions. A tragic side, however, was the ridicule, admonishment and physical harm I witnessed—for no reason—but because of gender, nationality, color, religion, sexual orientation or ability.

Was there a person/experience in your childhood who encouraged your involvement?

Several, actually. My parents started my journey. They reminded me to pause and reflect in all my doings so that I would make a conscious decision to keep the path clear for others who also may wish to seek opportunity for growth. My folks shared equally in all aspects of the raising of their children and taught by action, and not just words alone, about lessons of compassion, civility and acceptance of all differences.

Other mentors are: my 84-year old friend, patients I've treated while working in rehab, acute and chronic care facilities and hospitals; children who are Blind and Deaf whom I played with as a child and later in life worked for as advocate; friends... and colleagues who empower.

When you were younger did you want to teach? at a university?

Throughout my life I seem to have taken on "teaching" roles...on matters of health, wellness, the importance of recreation, disabling conditions, advocacy, civil rights and social justice. Being an athlete and outdoor enthusiast, I took great pleasure in teaching ice hockey, skate skiing, swimming and art/activities, such as pottery...Never thought I would have an opportunity to teach at a university. The experience is a privilege and an honor, and I continue to teach in the School of Health and Human Services.

What weaknesses do you hope to improve at UNH pertaining to diversity/equity?

I believe there are key topics that press our community today (and will continue to in the future) that require us to have further dialogue and awareness, including free speech on campus, determining under what circumstances does the university have a legitimate purpose for restricting speech, and how the university defines appropriate and permissible behavior. We must begin to engage in conversation about these topics so as to dialogue around how they intersect (and conflict) with university policies



Donna Marie Sorrentino, Director of Affirmative Action is joined by Jonathan Harris, Associate Director of Major Gifts at the UNH Foundation, and John Seavey, Professor of Health Management and Policy. (photo by Jennifer Hill)

that promote a nondiscriminatory environment.

Do you enjoy being director? What are some of your favorite aspects of the job?

I am enjoying my new role as Director of AA&E. Most rewarding is working in a university setting having the ability to collaborate among such bright, introspective and provocative, thinking faculty, staff and students as I seek resolution on matters that impede progress toward equity, inclusion and fairness. My day is never dull, because it's the people and their circumstances in relation to the mission and values of this university that makes my work most interesting, challenging and rewarding.

Keeping a focus on faculty and staff searches is an essential on-going goal of this work. My monitoring the consequences of employment practices and whether those practices result in a diverse applicant pool is critical toward the success of diverse hiring as well as to foster an improved, inclusive campus climate. I take seriously and conduct prudent analysis of university policies, procedures and protocols, to assure they work so as to impact system-wide changes in both action and attitude that result in less discriminatory harassment and in greater acceptance and equity for all.

I'm so very lucky to be in this position as Director of AA&E charged to do such fascinating work among gifted colleagues and students.

Connections is a publication of the President's Commissions. This issue is produced by English journalism student Nesli Orhon, and educational program coordinator Sylvia Foster. Graphic design is by Jane Harper.

Commission on the Status of People of Color



The President's Commission on the Status of People of Color (CSPC) is committed to ensuring the wellbeing of people of color at the University of New Hampshire. We join colleagues across campus to promote one of the central objectives of the University's Academic Plan, to create a diverse and inclusive University community. The members of the Commission work with other organizations, individuals, offices, departments, and

administrative groups at both UNH campuses promoting racial and ethnic diversity, and education through cultural programs and curriculum.

Recent CSPC projects have included advocating for the continuation of selected faculty positions in diverse fields; working with Admissions and Financial Aid Offices to monitor the recruitment and retention of students of color; advocating for the recruitment and retention of faculty of color; co-sponsoring a promotion and tenure workshop for under-represented faculty groups; joining with the Black Student Union to host a speak-out on hate incidents and hate crimes; pushing for the development of protocols for reporting and responding to

hate incidents and hate-based crimes on campus; exploring mechanisms to monitor the classroom climate; hosting receptions for interested faculty and staff across disciplines to discuss CSPC goals and accomplishments; and contributing to the New England Center for Inclusive Teaching (NECIT), a Ford Foundation semester-long faculty development seminar that supports inclusive teaching and learning, newly introduced as the Inclusive Teaching Forum.

The Commission is pleased to welcome Jay Green, new Multicultural Program Coordinator at the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs. He will be planning and coordinating OMSA programs and events to support and

educate our community.

The Commission for the Status of People of Color intends to continue with many of these projects and to promote new initiatives through education, assessment, advocacy, and activism. This year the Commission is particularly excited about plans to strengthen collaborative work with student organizations, committees, and constituencies. We would like to expand our educational programs as well. We encourage your participation and support. Please feel free to contact us with concerns or enthusiasms at 862-1058 or through our web site at <http://www.unh.edu/cspc/>.

Robert Macieski, *Co-chair*
Chanda Corbett, *Co-chair*

Commission on the Status of GLBT Issues



The mission of the UNH President's Commission on the Status of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Issues is to facilitate the development of a university community that is equitable and inclusive of all sexual orientations and gender identities or expressions through advocacy, education, assessment and activism.

This year, the Commission on the Status of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Issues will continue to support inquiries into how the commission can better communicate with other organizations and departments on campus starting with revamping/reconstituting Safe Zones both to raise awareness

of glbtq issues and to enlarge the network of support, particularly for students and for those coming out. We planned a logo contest for Safe Zones. The winner of the contest was announced at the UNH National Coming Out Day, October 11.

The other focus area, which overlaps with Safe Zones, is our work with student athletes and those in fraternities and sororities to assure that there are safe areas for students who wish to be athletes/greeks—and be true to their sexual identities.

We are pleased to welcome Ellen Semran as the new LGBTQ Coordinator at the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs (OMSA). She will be planning and coordinating OMSA programs and events that serve our LGBTQ and allied community.

We are also pleased to introduce Stephen Henry as the new Chair of a student organization providing social

Women's Commission Update



The President's Commission on the Status of Women focuses on the promotion of equality and opportunity for women in all areas of the UNH community. The commission collects information on various aspects of women's life on campus, develops policies to further the commission's goals, supports educational programming, promotes

networking among relevant groups and organizations, reports its findings, and recommends policies to the president.

This year the Women's Commission will work with the Violence Against Women Committee on issues raised through studies on unwanted sexual experience and intimate partner abuse. The commission will also continue to develop comprehensive policies on childcare and lactation, as well as work with other groups on campus promoting educational programs on a variety of women's issues.

Andrea Ange, *Vice Chair*
Eleanor M. Hight, *Chair*

and educational resources called the Alliance. Located in the MUB, they work to create a friendly and open community for GLBTQ students and allies, through programs raising awareness on campus.

We invite readers to visit our website for resources and information on recent commission projects at <http://www.unh.edu/glb/>

Judy Spiller, *Co-chair*
Robin Hackett, *Co-chair*

Awards Given at Community Event

The first week of April each year brings together 200 community members in a tradition of celebration at the GLBT Pancake Breakfast. The breakfast offers attendees a morning of recognition of heroes and a time for inspiration and laughter. It is a time for honoring the community of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, family, and friends.

This year, President Hart and Co-Chairs of the GLBT Commission, Robin Hackett and Judy Spiller presented awards to those showing outstanding efforts at fostering understanding and advancing opportunities for those people whose sexual orientation, gender identity or expression differ from the majority in our culture. The 2006 Kidder Awardees were as follows: Kinesiology Department faculty member Heather Barber; graduate student Heather Fauteux; undergraduate student Annie Medeiros; and the Financial Aid Office staff.

Pink Triangle Awards were given to the community's heroes and leaders who have contributed to building a more equitable and inclusive campus. Winners of the Pink Triangle Awards were community member Mo Baxley; Theater Department faculty member David J. Kaye; Affirmative Action Director Donna Marie Sorrentino; Counseling Staff member Joe Olenik; student Blaine Butler; and student Meghann McCluskey.

The audience heard from honored Guest, Mo Baxley, Executive Director of the NH Freedom to Marry Coalition and Keynote Rev. Pat Bumgardner, Senior Pastor of the New York City Metropolitan Community Church, who delivered a message on the right of freedom to reclaim a place in communities of faith. "We need to fight until all of our relationships are equally recognized and protected," said Baumgardner.

"We are seeking to have a universal civil right recognized. And we are asking people to see the connection between queer rights and immigration rights; between a just and fair wage for all of us and childcare for all the people who hold down two jobs." She reminded her audience of the lower rate of military exclusion of gays during this war time.

She also reminded her audience that 48.2% of African American males do not have—and cannot find a job. Bumgardner told her audience, "It is easier for a white man with a prison



Heather Barber, winner of the Faculty Kidder Award



Co-Chair Judy Spiller presenting an award to faculty member David J. Kaye for his contributions to a more equitable and inclusive campus.

record to get a job than a black man with a degree."

She concluded by saying, "You, as individuals, put a face on what people need, what this country needs. Tell your legislators your needs."

Both speakers, well-known advocates for social justice, reminded the audience that the LGBTQI community is not seeking some kind of special exception – only acceptance and mutual respect.

Many Faces, *continued from page 1*

first African American professor. It took another 14 years for Dr. Evelyn Handler to be hired as the first female president. It was another decade before diversity obtained more notice at the university. However, the creation of the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, providing personal-social support for students of color, set the pace for change on campus. OMSA later expanded to include support and development of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender educational programs. The history covered the past several years in which the university has developed strategic plans and actions to incorporate diversity and inclusion. The Faculty Senate's Diversity Statement, the

University's Commitment to Diversity Statement and UNH's Diversity Plan have all been results of UNH's movement towards change.

While the banquet was a chance to celebrate achievements, people were also reminded of how much hard work and commitment lies ahead.

"I was the first African American engineering major to graduate in 1973. And I am the last African American engineering student to have graduated. We need more support for our young people. I trust that you and I can see to it that the support is there for them when they need it," said guest speaker John Laymon.

Professor of Health Management and Policy John Seavey remarked, "The event celebrated how far the University has come in terms of valuing diversity."

"It should definitely become a UNH tradition," said graduate student Renai Mason.

Next year's celebration is on the calendar for May 5.

Endowed funds honoring UNH's commitment to diversity have been established through the generosity of many private donors over the years. To receive more information or to make a gift, contact the UNH Foundation at (800) 738-7426.

calendar of events

Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Waysmeet Center, 15 Mill Road, Durham

UNH is Knitting afghans for Afghans

Help send hand-made goods to a war-torn country. Learn to knit. Materials available at the meeting. Contact: 862.1058.

FMI <http://www.afghansforAfghans.org>

Meets twice a month, Noon - 1 p.m., MUB 338/340

Working Moms @ UNH An informal lunchtime get-together

Meeting dates are on website <http://pubpages.unh.edu/~jdg3>. Contact: jennifer.scully@unh.edu

Mondays, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m., MUB Theater I

Film and Discussion Series: Eating Concerns and Body Image Have Your Cake...And Eat It Too!

Visit the web at http://www.unh.edu/health-services/events/pdf/fall06_film-series.pdf: http://www.unh.edu/health-services/events/pdf/fall06_film-series.pdf

Nov. 7, 6-7:30 p.m., MUB 334-336

Take Action: Giving Voice

A teaching-sharing workshop, focusing on speaking up and speaking out about the things that matter most to you. Contact: 862.2050

Nov. 8, 4 p.m., MUB Theater II

Predator of the Day: Shifting Constructions of Male Predators and "Threats" to "Our" Women

Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz focuses on women, Jews, violence, resistance, racialization and anti-racism. Contact: 862.4356

Nov. 15, Dec. 13, Jan. 31, Feb. 28, Mar. 28, Apr. 25, May 16, Noon - 1 p.m., MUB 338/340

Colleagues Lunch

Faculty and staff of color, GLBT faculty and staff, and social justice allies gather. Contact: chanda.corbett@unh.edu

Nov. 15, 6-7:30 p.m., MUB 338-340

National Transgender Day of Remembrance at UNH

Nationally celebrated on Nov. 20th each year, The Transgender Day of Remembrance memorializes those who have been killed due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice. One person per month dies due to transgender-based hate or prejudice. Contact: 862.2050 or visit us on the web at <http://www.unh.edu/omsa/>

Nov. 17, Dec. 15, Jan. 19, Feb. 16, Mar. 16, Apr. 20, May 18, 6 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 20 Madbury Road, Durham

International Women's Club

Contact: 862.1058

Nov. 29 & 30, Dec. 1, 2 & 3, 7 p.m., UNH Hennessy Theatre

X Factor

A collection of one-act plays about women on topics of loss and isolation and society's push for physical perfection. Parental discretion advised. Contact: MUB Ticket Office 862.2290

Nov. 30, 12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m., MUB Theatre I

World AIDS Day Film and Discussion

Contact: 862.2850

SAVE THE DATES!

January 17 - February 1

MLK Celebration 2007: Creating Justice: From Poverty to Empowerment

Jan. 17

Candlelight Vigil / Procession

In commemoration of civil rights activists. Unveiling of a photographic exhibit on poverty in NH to follow.

Jan. 28, 4 p.m. Durham Community Church, Main Street

MLK Spiritual Celebration

Jan. 31, 7 p.m., PCAC Johnson Theatre

Keynote Address: Carlos Muñoz

Distinguished Latino scholar, expert on the issues of ethnic and racial politics, multiculturalism, immigration, and affirmative action.

Dec. 6, 12 - 2 p.m., MUB Strafford Room
Spirituality Café

Exploring a variety of religious and spiritual practices. Ask questions. Visit the traditions. Contact: 862.1058

Dec. 6, 8 p.m., MUB Granite State Room
Naked Truth: Advertising's Image of Women

Pioneer on work of the image of women in advertising, Dr. Kilbourne uses incisive wit and irony in exploring the relationship of media images to societal problems. Contact: 862.1586. <http://www.unhmub.com>

February 1, Noon - 2 p.m. MUB Strafford Room
Poverty and Social Justice - An educational panel discussion

Contact: 862.0693

March 28, Noon - 1:30 p.m., MUB Strafford Room

Women's Commission Annual Awards Celebration Luncheon

March 28, 7 p.m. MUB Strafford Room
Women's History Month Keynote speaker Donna Freitas, author of *Save the Date: A Spirituality of Dating, Love, Dinner, and the Divine*.

April 11, 8 - 10 a.m., Holloway Commons
GLBT Pancake Breakfast, Kidder and Pink Triangle Awards Ceremony



African chiefs from Accra, the capital of Ghana, in Western Africa, toured New Hampshire and visited UNH last fall. Chief Adu-Ampoma II and Chief Kwame Taki I are partners in the Portsmouth-Greater Accra Sister City Connection. A group tour will visit Ghana in January. Students, faculty and staff are invited to join the tour. For more information, contact Black Heritage Partnerships, 603-862-3520 or <mailto:vc@unh.edu>

Women's Commission Awardees

Four women were honored for their work on equity and inclusion at the 22nd Annual Women's Commission Awards Ceremony in April 2006. Women's Commission Awards were presented to people who had made outstanding contributions to promoting equity, advancing the status of women, and serving as role models for women on campus including making a difference with individuals, organizations, programs and policies.



Former President Ann Weaver Hart (center) with recipients of the 2006 Women's Commission Awards on April 25, 2006. Winners are (from left) Sarah Miles, Student Award; Meghann McCluskey, Joyce Gibbs Award; Judy Spiller, Stephanie Thomas Staff Award; and Toni Bisconti, Faculty Award.

The Stephanie Thomas Award was given to Judy Spiller, Associate Provost of Academic Achievement and Support and co-chair of the President's Commission on the Status of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Issues.

The Student Award was presented to Sarah Miles, SHARPP volunteer, member of SAGE (Students Advocating Gender Equity), and a founding member of the grassroots feminist organization, the Women's Union.

The Faculty Award was given to Toni Bisconti, former co-chair of the President's Commission on the Status of GLBT Issues, 2004 – 2005.

The Joyce Gibbs Award was presented to Meghann McCluskey, student political organizer on campus and in the surrounding community around issues concerning women, gender, and sexual orientation.

Please visit the Women's Commission web site for the full report: <http://www.unh.edu/womens-commission/>

campus resources

Affirmative Action and Equity Office

▶ 305 Thompson Hall ▶ 862.2930
▶ www.unh.edu/affirmativeaction

Community Black Heritage Partnership

For faculty, staff and students of color.
Contact: valerie.cunningham@unh.edu

Participating organizations:

Black Heritage Trail

Contact: pbhtrail@aol.com

Seacoast African American Cultural Center (SAACC)

Contact: vernislack@aol.com

Portsmouth-Accra Sister city Connection

Contact: LizDoucette@atlanticmedia.com

Blues Bank Collective (BBC)

Contact: www.bluesbankcollective.org or
email: alan.chase@unh.edu

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

Contact: seacoastnaacp.com or email:
naacpnhseacoast@aol.com

FMI: African American Studies Office

▶ 862.3753 ▶ afam.minor@unh.edu

Counseling Center

Emergency assistance available 24 hours.
▶ Schofield House ▶ 862.2090 ▶ <http://www.unhcc.unh.edu/>

Diversity Initiatives

▶ 207 Thompson Hall ▶ 862.3290
▶ office.diversity@unh.edu

Diversity Support Coalition

BSU (Black Student Union)
The Alliance (GLBTQ)
UAC (United Asian Coalition)
Mosaico (Latino, Latina)
Hillel (Jewish campus life)
NACA (Native American Cultural Association)
▶ MUB, Room 145 ▶ 862.3550
▶ <http://www.unh.edu/omsa/DSC/DSC.html>

GLBTQQ: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Questioning Community Member Resources for Students

▶ Counseling Center: 862.2090

Office of Health Education and Promotion/Health Services

UNH Health Services, 12 Ballard Street
▶ 862.3823 ▶ www.unh.edu/health-services

Women's Health

UNH Health Services ▶ 862.1806
▶ www.unh.edu/health-services

International Women's Club

▶ Contact: 862.1058

Lactation Space

Dimond Library and the Women's Commission have a lactation room available in Dimond Library. The room is designed for nursing and milk expression.
▶ 862.1512 or 862.1058

OMSA - Office of Multicultural Student Affairs

Provides opportunities to participate in an inclusive community and to explore diversity, injustice and equity.
▶ MUB, Room 327 ▶ 862.0324
▶ www.unh.edu/omsa/

The President's Commissions on Equity and Inclusion

Thompson Hall G14 ▶ 862.1058
▶ www.unh.edu/cspc/ ▶ www.unh.edu/glbtl/
▶ www.unh.edu/womens-commission/

ReportIt

To report an incident of bias. Empower yourself. Educate community leaders on campus climate issues. Change can happen with your help.
▶ www.Reportit.unh.edu

SAGE - Students Advocating Gender Equality

▶ MUB lidkyd@yahoo.com

SHARPP

A safe place to talk about rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment.
Verrette House, Ballard Street
▶ 862.3494 ▶ www.unh.edu/sharpp

Women's Union

A grassroots feminist collective involving advocates in creating positive change.
▶ leo_shoulders@yahoo.com



UAC member Woon Chul Fisher, BSC President Stefanie Hauck, DSC Executive Board Member Jeff Muhl, Alliance President Steve Henry, and Co-Presidents of NACA Jess Scalzi, and Alex Ferland at the fall Unity Reception sponsored by OMSA and allied campus departments and organizations. More than 250 people gathered to renew friendships and to make new friends along with learning about campus and regional resources serving UNH's communities of color.



Paul Matsuda, UNH Professor of English, with his daughter Kana, at the 2006 Unity Reception.

UNITY RECEPTION

UNH Hosts Landmark Conference on the Black Experience in Northern New England

Americans and New Englanders may be surprised to learn that New Hampshire was a major slave smuggling center during the colonial era. Although the issues of race and slavery normally are not associated with Northern New England, the region that includes New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont has a history of black culture that dates back hundreds of years.

On June 23rd and 24th, UNH welcomed scholars and researchers to the conference “Black New England: Life, History, and Community in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont.” Sponsored by The Center for New England Culture at UNH, the event brought together community members, teachers, scholars, researchers and members of local organizations to share their work and insights.

“Black New England” was a landmark event in increasing awareness and sharing information about African American life and history in the region,” said David Watters, director of the Center for New England Culture at UNH, professor of English, and co-editor of *The Encyclopedia of New England*.

Panel presentations covered contemporary civil rights issues, genealogy and family history, race and place, and preservation efforts. James O. Horton, Professor of American Studies and History at George Washington University, presented the keynote address, “Race and Slavery in New England from the American Revolution to Abolition.” According to Horton, slavery was technically legal in New Hampshire for much of the 19th century. Not until 1857 did the state pass an act prohibiting state citizenship based on race. “This is generally taken to signal the legal end of New Hampshire slavery although some historians argue that the institution could have legally survived in the state until the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that abolished slavery nationally in 1865,” said Horton. “The New Hampshire census of 1840 did report the presence of one slave, a drop from a total of three slaves in the state in 1830.

“New Hampshire was a major slave smuggling center in the colonial era. Because it did not impose a slave importation tariff, slaves could be brought to the colony by sea and then smuggled over land into surrounding colonies where the importation of slaves was heavily taxed,” said Horton.

Horton’s most recently published book is *Slavery in the Making of America* (2004).

The conference was co-sponsored by the UNH Office of Black Heritage Partnerships, the African American Collection of Maine at the University of Southern Maine, and the Harriet Wilson Project. Next year’s conference will be held in the UNH MUB the third weekend in June. For more information, please refer to the web site at http://neculture.org/bnec_summary.html.

We have inherited a large house, a great “world house” in which we have to live together—black and white, Easterner and Westerner, Gentile and Jew, Catholic and Protestant, Moslem and Hindu—a family unduly separated in ideas, culture and interest, who, because we can never again live apart, must learn somehow to live with each other in peace.

—Martin Luther King, Jr., from “The World House” Essay

COMMISSION MEMBERS

2006 - 2007

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF GLBT ISSUES

Heather Barber, *Department of Kinesiology*
Larry Brickner-Wood, *Adjunct Member, Campus Ministry*
Carole Conaway, *Department of Communications, Women’s Studies Program*
Heather Fauteux, *Graduate Student*
Co-Chair, Robin Hackett, *Department of English*
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Benjamin Justice, *Undergraduate Student*
Jessica Knapp, *Undergraduate Student*
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Cari Moorhead, *Office of the Graduate School*
Michael Phillips, *Office of Admissions*
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Vice Chair, Chanda Corbett, *Counseling Center*
Dovev Levine-Leung, *Office of the Graduate School*
Chair, Robert Macieski, *Department of History, UNH Manchester*
Keller Magenau, *Center for Academic Resources*
Myra Khan, *Undergraduate Student*
Shannon Marthouse, *Hitchcock Hall*
Robert McGann, *Office of Admissions*
Sean McGhee, *Office of Multicultural Student Affairs*
Leila Paje-Manalo, *Ex-Officio, Office of International Students and Scholars*
Loan Phan, *Department of Education*
Sandhya Shetty, *Department of English*

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Linda Auker, *Ex-Officio, Graduate Student*
Mary Banach, *Department of Social Work*
Debra Bergeron, *Counseling Center*
Amy Culp, *Sexual Harassment and Rape Prevention Program (SHARPP)*
Kalinda Ferguson, *Undergraduate Student*
Carly Hellen, *Adjunct Member, Alumni Chair*
Eleanor Hight, *Department of Art and Art History*
Jamila Hussain, *Undergraduate Student*
Kristen Kelso, *Undergraduate Student*
Dolores Leonard, *Institute for Coastal & Estuarine Environmental Technology*
Pamela Lehman, *Dimond Library*
Karen Van Gundy, *Department of Sociology*
Carli Stevenson, *Undergraduate Student*
May-Win Thein, *Department of Mechanical Engineering*
Dawn Zitney, *Ex-Officio, Health Education and Promotion, Health Center*

EX-OFFICIO COMMISSION MEMBERS

Sylvia Foster, *President’s Commissions Office*
Wanda Mitchell, *Ex-Officio, Vice Provost for Diversity, Office of the Provost*
Donna Marie Sorrentino, *Office of Affirmative Action and Equity*



James O. Horton, Professor of American Studies and History at George Washington University, presented the keynote address.



UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE

President's Commissions Office

Thompson Hall, G14
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Women Making a Difference in Higher Education

The members of the New Hampshire Women in Higher Education Leadership (NHWHEL) Network Planning Council hosted receptions across the state last spring. They called for re-establishing the New England Women in Higher Education League Network.

Historically, the Network has identified, encouraged and supported women for advancement to positions of administrative, faculty and staff leadership.

Last fall, Dr. Mitchell coordinated the leadership of the Planning Council to re-introduce the Network to the state. Approximately 150 women leaders met statewide to share their commitment to supporting their talented leaders. "We're fulfilling our commitment to mentor women and to prepare them to be change agents," said Mitchell. The organization has helped build women leaders to become college presidents, proof that the network works.

In 1995 the national program renewed its commitment to crafting an educational, social and political climate in which the worldwide voices and values of women, in all their

diversity and richness, are heard and included in efforts to shape public agenda and work equally with men in setting those agendas. The groups, now operating in all 50 states, also strive to foster strategic alliances and facilitate effective partnerships between women and men in the workplace.



Former President Hart, Associate Professor Chris Shea, Associate Professor Mimi Becker, and Associate Professor Lynnette Ament

In response to the question of what would motivate participants to continue to be involved in the Network, the women expressed wanting to better understand how the system

works and how women's participation may help build the university community. Many indicated that they would like to give back through mentoring women to advance in the academy and to become advocates.

In her 10 years in the aerospace manufacturing industry, Chris Shea, Associate Professor of Technology and Operations Management, noted that women who have made it to senior management ranks often have done so by striving to be one of the guys. "Women do not have to mold themselves as guys to be successful. After all, today's business world is not perfect, and what women can contribute by being themselves might be just what is needed to improve business climate and social responsibility." Shea expressed that women need the choice to have the power of leadership positions and the opportunities to lead in their own styles.

Past informal networking has allowed members to be reflective and critical about what women do and how they do it.

For information on how you can join NHWHEL, or participate in future activities, contact bjp2@cisunix.unh.edu