

UNH Outreach Scholars Academy Projects 2008-2009

<i>Name</i>	<i>Department</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>College/School</i>
El-Hachemi Aliouche	Hospitality Management	Associate Professor	WSBE

International Franchise Expansion Index - The goal of Hache Aliouche's project is to develop a new and unique quantitative model that can be used to generate an index ranking all of the world's countries in terms of potential opportunities and risks for international franchise expansion. International expansion is a central research theme for the Rosenberg International Center of Franchising (of which Hache the associate director), and this project is of great interest to, and requires the participation of, both academic and business practitioners.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Department</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>College/School</i>
Sara Cleaves	Office of Sustainability	Associate Director	

Communicating Sustainability at the University of New Hampshire – Sarah's research asks faculty, staff and students at the University of New Hampshire-Durham campus how effective they think current communications on campus about sustainability are – and what they recommend for improvements – in order to improve UNH University Office of Sustainability communications in ways that motivate and support these stakeholders to get involved with and advance sustainability on and off campus.

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Paula Gregory	4-H Youth & Families	Extension Specialist	UNH Cooperative Extension

A Study of Community-Based Projects for Children, Youth and Families At Risk (CYFAR): defining effective management practices leading to desired outcomes and sustainability - Since 1991, Paula has directed three 5-year community based CYFAR projects (Children, Youth and Families At Risk) funded through USDA/CSREES. The goal of these projects has been to improve outcomes for children and youth from high risk environments that include poverty, limited parent education, abuse and neglect, and other factors involving social services. In addition, practitioners find that effective community-based programs for children, youth and families reduce costs of human services, juvenile justice, and education by equipping those individuals and family units with the skills they need to lead positive, productive and contributing lives. This project will assess how these efforts fared within the sustainability framework developed through the national research, and prepare a guide to help future communities develop and deliver sustainable programs for at risk youth.

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Paul Harvey	Management	Assistant Professor	WSBE

Report is forthcoming.

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Erik Hobbie	Complex Systems Research Center	Research Associate Professor	EOS/COLSA

Sustainable Use of Rural Woodlands in Zimbabwe – Eric is developing a collaborative project to work with a university located in rural Zimbabwe, Midlands State University (MSU), to foster the sustainable use of rural woodlands in the region around Gweru, where MSU is located. This project will address a real need in rural Africa—the need to make rural socioeconomic development relevant to the education experienced by most Zimbabweans. This project will be developed in partnership with several educators at Midlands State University through hosting them at UNH for project development, engaging with the UNH community, and proposal writing. In the project, we will work with a women’s empowerment organization in Zimbabwe and several rural communities to 1) examine the use of indigenous knowledge in food production for rural communities develop, and 2) develop a community-based curriculum for secondary schools for disseminating the rational and scientific basis for indigenous knowledge in food production.

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Brian Krug	Floriculture	Extension Specialist	UNH Cooperative Extension

Vegetable and Ornamental Plant Production Greenhouse Energy Audits and Renewable Energy System Analyses for New Hampshire - A large portion of the over \$78 million dollar ornamental plants and vegetable market in New Hampshire is produced exclusively or temporarily in heated greenhouses. These two sectors of New Hampshire agriculture account for 44% of all agriculture products in the state. Producers are eager to identify ways to be more energy efficient while still producing high quality crops but lack the knowledge to conduct their own energy audits and/or the ability to pay for a professional energy audit. This project will allow the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension, in collaboration with The Sustainable Development and Energy Systems Group to perform energy audits at a low cost to New Hampshire vegetable and/or ornamental plant producers. Producers will receive customized reports with the results of the audit and the recommendations to increase energy efficiencies, along with access to the project web site and educational materials.

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Richard Lammers	Complex Systems Research Center	Research Assistant Professor	EOS/COLSA

Report is forthcoming.

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Anthony (Tuck) Pescosolido	Management	Assistant Professor	WSBE

Developing Leadership Capacity in a Non-Profit Organization - This project involves working hand-in-hand with a local, non-profit organization that is experiencing “growing pains” as it develops from a small, relation, and mission-driven organization into a larger, bureaucratic organization that is attempting to energize members and have an impact on the local community. The organization is at a point where it wants to become more involved with the larger community and begin advocating for its particular demographic group (preschool age children and their families) in terms of recreational needs, educational policy, and community development. The goals of the project is to develop the leadership capacity of the organization’s Board of Directors through 1) increasing the total number of members on the Board, and 2) increasing the leadership performance of individual board members through assessment and coaching. It is hoped that these actions will allow for greater communication to and involvement of the larger membership, resulting in increasing member satisfaction with and participation in the organization and its activities. Ultimately, this should lead to the organization and its membership becoming a more recognized and visible stakeholder group in the local community.

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Doug Simmons	Occupational Therapy	Extension Associate Professor/Specialist	CHHS

Social Interaction as a Focus in Community Health Programs – More and more individuals that experience a brain injury are being saved by new technology in medicine. However, these individuals are finding that many previous skills that they had are either absent or impaired after injury. One issue that is consistent for this population is that of being socially isolated secondary to social skills in social situations. At the same time, most community programs are oriented towards meeting physical and cognitive performance issues but lack a model of addressing social skill performance. This project intends to develop and integrate a model for addressing social skills and social interaction as well as an outcome measurement method into a community-based program providing services for adults with acquired brain injury in which UNH occupational therapy students are involved. The Occupation Social Skill Model will be housed in the occupational therapy department at the UNH and will be available for use by students and

practitioners at SteppingStones, other local community health programs as well as to occupational therapists in the United States and around the globe.

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Mica Stark	Carsey Institute	Outreach & Engagement Director	COLA

Manchester Area Community Indicators Website - Across the country, cities, towns and counties are developing community indicator websites to better understand their communities and provide a central location for important social, civic, and economic data. Community indicator sites are also seen as a way to ‘democratize data’ – to provide access to information to a range of stakeholders, track progress on shared goals and help inform public policy in critical areas. To date, the Manchester, New Hampshire area does not have a comprehensive place for citizens and decision makers to access such data and information. The Carsey Institute currently maintains a handful of indicator sites providing access to socio-economic indicators for various places (like the North Country). The goal of this project is to create an accessible indicator website that allows users to gain a better understanding of important community and socio-economic issues. Informative, interactive, and up-to-date, the indicator sites allow users to search on specific, relevant indicators of well-being, as well as create tables and maps of pre-determined indicators.

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Sterling Tomellini	Chemistry	Professor	CEPS

Establishing a Network of Chemical Professionals in New Hampshire - The goal of this outreach scholarship project is to establish a mechanism to encourage interaction between the students, staff and faculty of the UNH Chemistry Department and scientists and other professionals working in New Hampshire industry, government and education, who encounter chemical problems on a routine or intermittent basis. The specific mechanism used in this project is a workshop to be held at UNH which will provide an opportunity for chemical professionals from outside the university to showcase their scientific interests, concerns, accomplishments, etc. to the students, staff and faculty of the UNH Chemistry Department.

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Stacy VanDeveer	Political Science	Political Science	COLA

Report is forthcoming.