Over the past several months, the University has been involved in a Master Planning process that supports strategic growth opportunities. One of these growth opportunities, one suited for the current economic climate, is a strong emphasis on Private/Public partnerships. Several people from the Research Office and elsewhere across campus were invited to participate in discussions focused on the latest plans. Beyond the railroad tracks, toward Route 155A, there are plans for new buildings that would help to bring private industry and business to campus in partnership with colleges, departments, institutes and centers, and the University at large. This current conceptualization supports much of the work that is being conducted by the OSVPR and includes the extraordinary work of the IOL under the leadership of Erica Johnson, the Office of Research Partnerships and the NH Innovation Research Center under the leadership of Marc Sedam, and the Research Computing and Instrumentation Center under the leadership of Patrick Messer.

Imagine more space to partner with entities interested in working closely with faculty, staff and students in ways that can leverage research opportunities, student internships and financial support, employment, and commercialization! As the Master Planning process unfolds, I hope you all have an opportunity to participate in it and think about how to enhance UNH’s private and public partnerships. That said, Happy Spring!

Jan Nisbet
Feedback *(Continued from p. 1)*

- We need to communicate the value of UNH research to the state and other important stakeholders.

CHANGE

Much has changed in the organization of the RO in the last two years, and change at UNH is likely to continue in the near future.

Key Points about change:

- As a group we need to foster a positive attitude toward change and contribute to proactively improving service delivery and all of the functions of the RO; and
- There was a desire for communication tools that would allow submission of ideas for positive change, perhaps along thematic lines, which could be anonymous.

In addition to the themes, there were many other useful ideas expressed at the meeting which were taken down and are being reviewed by the OSVPR Management Team. Not all ideas are actionable by the RO. Those that are have been considered and some already have been implemented:

  > Reports from the various OSVPR Working Groups
  
  > A survey to evaluate the utility of the *OSVPR Insider* electronic newsletter

Outstanding Staff for 2011 Recognized

At the December Division-wide meeting, Jan Nisbet recognized staff who had been named as outstanding in 2011 by their unit managers. Read what she said about each of those staff members.

EHS -- Brian Cournoyer

Our recommendation for the OEHS Outstanding Staff Person for 2011 is Brian Cournoyer. Brian is the Occupational Health and Safety Coordinator for the campus. As part of maintaining a safe and healthful work environment for faculty, staff, students and visitors, he routinely investigates indoor air quality complaints, conducts ergonomic assessments of computer workstations, facilitates regulatory training for employees and manages existing health and safety programs. UNH has certainly benefited from his 19 years of work experience in the safety field.

Since joining OEHS, Brian has demonstrated his ability to work with all members of the UNH community and outside consultants. He balances many programs and commitments effectively and approaches UNH employee requests for assistance with respect and professionalism. Within the Office, he is a valued team member who never hesitates to assist in other program areas when asked. In support of the OEHS mission, Brian is a true advocate for UNH employees to enjoy working in a safe and healthful environment.
RCI: Robert Anderson

From RCI, I [Patrick Messer] would like to recognize the efforts of my associate director, Robert Anderson. Here’s why:

Like many others, Robert has had a full plate over the last couple of years. His work load is a combination of the software programming that he has been doing for over 20 years plus his newer administrative responsibilities as associate director. Robert excels in all of his work. He develops software for space scientists, mentors others in solving problems, participates as a member of SPAM*, handles delicate situations thoughtfully yet without compromise, and serves as a key advisor to the director of RCI. Despite a seemingly endless work load, Robert’s attitude is truly inspiring — he arrives at work each day with a positive attitude and a smile while quietly making significant contributions to the research enterprise.

* SPAM is the Sponsored Programs Administration Management Team.

RIS: Dean Elder

Dean Elder, D.V.M., is an outstanding employee from Research Integrity Services. Dean is Director of the Animal Resources Office (ARO), a unit in Research Integrity Services. In this position, he is responsible for the animal care and use program at UNH, for administration of the ARO, and for UNH’s controlled substance program, as well as being UNH’s Attending Veterinarian and the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Veterinarian. He is also the Station Veterinarian for COLSA.

Dean has worked in the ARO since 2005 in various positions, including Associate Director and Interim Director. He is a graduate of UNH.

Dean juggles many different and diverse responsibilities, including, but not limited to:

- working with faculty, staff, and students on research design and animal welfare considerations;
- providing veterinary and surgical services for UNH animals;
- conducting inspections of all the animal facilities twice a year;
- conducting herd health checks;
- guest lecturing in classes;
- assisting with animal-related events (e.g., judging for COLSA), and
- ensuring institutional compliance for the controlled substances program.

He is on-call, 24/7.

SPA: Dianne Hall

Dianne is an asset to SPA. Her professionalism and willingness to take on additional tasks in the organization’s hour of need are appreciated and entirely oversubscribed. Besides serving as the principal administrator for UNH’s contractual dealings with the State, Dianne has taken on the task of maintaining and updating SPA’s website. She also creates and maintains all of the forms used by Research Administration and serves as the organization’s notary public. Dianne takes on new responsibilities with an enthusiasm that’s admirable and, for this, we thank her.
**RPC: Maria Emanuel**

ORPC would like to recognize Maria Emanuel, Senior Licensing Manager. Maria has been with ORPC for nearly six years during which she's been a part of nearly every license UNH has signed. Those who know her (and that's pretty much everyone on campus) consistently praise Maria's professionalism, tenacity, and consistent engagement in finding the right solution to a question. And we have her to thank for UNH's continued increase in royalty income during ORPC's recent transitions and growth. Maria is now focusing on the area of Creative Works in an effort to engage the rest of campus in the technology transfer process.

**T-Hall: Diana Couture**

Diana Couture has been in the Research Office as long as I [Jan Nisbet] have been at UNH. When I was Director of the Institute on Disability visiting the VP for Research she always showed me kindness and respect. I remember thinking that she could not always be like that. But she is. She accepts every request with a positive attitude, which must not always be easy; I can be a bit of a handful. She arrives before me almost every day, is always there when I need her, supports others in the Research Office, and represents UNH at its best.

**RDC: Lynnette Hentges**

Lynnette Hentges is one of the most talented research development professionals in our business. Whether she is finding funding opportunities or providing career and proposal writing guidance to faculty, her insight and creativity are unparalleled. She frequently works through the night and weekends to push good proposals into the excellent range, giving those proposals a much greater chance to succeed. Lynnette is also responsible for designing the annual calendar of Research Office workshops and other training programs to bring grant seeking skills and UNH research resources and services to a wide campus audience. She is the primary presenter for many of these programs.

On the communications side of our ledger, Lynnette is the Research Office web site webmaster. She worked with numerous stakeholders inside and outside UNH, including PIXELMedia, to implement the design, which merged the numerous Research Office service unit sites into one, and to launch our website in March, 2011. Since then she has worked on adding content and modifying features to enrich the site. She meets regularly with the web editors for each Research Office service unit, both to help them succeed with their individual responsibilities and to receive their ideas about further improvements to the Research Office web site as a whole.

**EPSCoR: Michelle Gregoire**

Michelle Gregoire has been the Project Manager for the NH EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) program since January 2008. She has held this program together through significant transitions over the last few years and has earned respect and kudos from the National Science Foundation for her consistent effort. Michelle is passionate about the work she does to run this statewide program focused on science and engineering research, education and literacy. She never misses a detail, she supervises other project personnel with aplomb, and is a joy to work with.
Office Profile: Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership (PREP)

The Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership (PREP) has been working to monitor, protect and preserve the Great Bay and Hampton-Seabrook Estuaries since 1995, when the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated the NH coastal watershed and its resources as one of only 28 nationally recognized “Estuaries of Significance.”

PREP is housed within the UNH Marine Program which provides important opportunities for close collaboration. It is associated with the Carsey Institute and the NH Innovation Research Center to develop solutions for public policy problems. Lastly, but most importantly, PREP is involved at the legislative level in Concord, offering peer-reviewed science to law makers as they consider updates to state policy.

As the region’s only watershed-based organization, PREP represents 42 NH communities and 10 neighboring towns in southern Maine from which all water drains into the Great Bay, Hampton Seabrook Estuary or the ocean.

PREP has invested more than $5.5 million in projects that have improved the health of our region’s watershed. Collectively, these PREP initiatives, have protected 7,183 acres of land, restored 96 acres of wetlands and preserved 7.75 acres of estuarine habitat, and engaged countless Seacoast residents with the newest scientific data.

Every three years, PREP issues a report, State of the Estuaries, which summarizes the data from a series of environmental indicators that detail the health of the Seacoast’s estuaries and its ecosystems. The next report will be released at the State of Our Estuaries Conference on December 7, 2012. In addition, PREP develops, implements, and tracks a 10-year Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan for the Seacoast’s 1000+ square mile watershed.

Through water testing, monitoring, restoration and reporting efforts, PREP is able to keep federal, state and municipal leaders informed on the ever-changing conditions of our community’s water sources, and provide grant opportunities to those working to improve the health of our natural resources in the 52 Seacoast communities.

PREP is able to be successful and move initiatives forward through its close cooperation with communities, municipal officials, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and citizen stakeholders, providing technical support and grants to improve water quality. Among PREP’s partners are private, state and federal representatives, including the USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service, NH Department of Environmental Services (NH DES), Maine Department of Environmental Protection, The Conservation Law Foundation, Trust for Public Land and Clean Air-Cool Planet.

Recently, PREP launched the Community for Clean Water Campaign to begin a citizen-based grassroots movement focused on the value of clean water and to encourage a widespread shift in community values. This effort employs volunteers and outreach methodologies in a variety of settings to provide an inviting and inclusive space for citizens to engage with the science and data about their Seacoast home and learn to take simple steps to help address the growing pollution problem.

As a part of this campaign, with support from the NH Charitable Foundation, PREP began a watershed-wide Great Bay Dialogue Initiative that is bringing together UNH researchers, private sector engineers, US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), NH DES, concerned citizens, NGO partners, Congressional delegates, and state and municipal officials to collaborate to solve the Great Bay water quality crisis.

At UNH, PREP works closely with a number of researchers to gather data and to learn more about water quality, ecosystem health, social science methodologies, and community engagement. It convenes and manages a Technical Advisory Committee and a Social Science Advisory Board made up of a number of researchers from UNH, Plymouth State University, the NH DES, NH Fish and Game, and regional and municipal planners.

(Cont. on p. 6)
These groups keep us abreast of the newest research and methodologies, conduct much of the data collection and analysis used in tracking the health of our estuaries, and measure the human and community dimensions and impacts of the issues. Significant help has been provided by faculty members Rob Roseen (at the Stormwater Center), Fred Short, Richard Langan, Bill McDowell, Jon Pennock, Steve Jones and Mimi Becker.

For University students, PREP offers plenty of opportunities for tomorrow’s leaders to unite and take action to ensure that the places we love to live work and play will be around for future generations to enjoy. Whether they’re looking to volunteer at an estuary clean up or outreach event, further their study through an internship, or become a member of PREP’s Citizen Action Coalition, there’s no shortage of ways students can get involved and help PREP care for clean water. To find out more about what you can do for clean water, and to get involved with PREP’s efforts, please contact Community Impact Program Manager Jill Farrell at 603.862.0724 or Jill.Farrell@unh.edu.

On January 26th, Research Computing and Instrumentation (RCI) hosted an open house to showcase the newly renovated Instrumentation, labs, and administrative offices in Parsons Hall. The event was a great success, drawing about 40 visitors from both on and off campus. If you missed the open house and would like to schedule a tour of the new facilities, contact John Wilderman at 862-1092 or jsw@cisunix.unh.edu.

On February 23-24, Kathy Cataneo, Janet Campbell, and Julie Williams “hosted” a group of 8 UNH faculty at the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) Dialogues 2012 meeting in Washington, D.C. The CUR meeting presented great opportunities to interact with program officers from NSF, NIH, NEH, U.S. Dept. of Education, CDC, the American Psychological Foundation, Research Corporation for Scientific Advancement, Smithsonian Institution, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, and the American Educational Research Association. Kathy also participated in a mock panel review of proposals for the NSF TUES (Transforming Undergraduate Education in Science) program.

Do you have news to share? Send it to lynnette.hentges@unh.edu.