With fond memories of summer and a touch of winter in the air, we have turned our attention to finalizing the Office of the Senior Vice Provost for Research Strategic Operating Plan for FY 2013.

During a September 17th retreat with the Management Team, I reflected on the current environment in which UNH and other universities are operating. Here are some of those reflections ……

EHS, RCI & RPC Go Afield to Find New UNHCEMS® Users

On the heels of overwhelmingly positive feedback received through a recent survey of UNHCEMS® software users at other institutions, UNH has hit the road to encourage other colleges and universities to implement our system.

UNHCEMS® is UNH’s self-developed barcode-based software system to record and manage information about the quantity, location and properties of chemicals, biological agents, radioactive materials, and hazardous wastes throughout campus.

Tristan Carrier, Licensing Manager (RPC), Andy Glode, Laboratory Safety Officer (EHS), Phil Collins, primary developer (RCI), and Marc Sedam, Executive Director (RPC), recently attended the Annual Meeting of the American Chemical Society in Philadelphia to showcase UNHCEMS® and what it has accomplished at UNH as well as at other institutions.

Future marketing activities include exhibiting at the American Biological Safety Conference in Orlando, October 21-23. Tristan and Ken Brown (EHS) are expected to man the UNH booth. UNH will be one of about 100 exhibitors showcasing the latest in laboratory biosafety and biosecurity products and services. Approximately 600-900 attendees representing a broad spectrum of biological, pharmaceutical, biotechnology research, development and clinical organizations are expected to attend. The conference draws national and international attendees from the academic, commercial, research, and governmental sectors.

Click here to read more about the ACS meeting.
First Quarter Highlights

Environmental Health and Safety

- A subcommittee of the Institutional Biosafety Committee has been reviewing a campus-wide Biohazardous Waste Manual drafted by OEHS. There are plans to roll out this procedural document by the end of calendar year 2012.

- At the request of the State Fire Marshal and Durham Fire Department, OEHS instituted a notification system in the CEMS chemical inventory system to automatically send “alert” e-mails when flammable liquid inventories are approached or exceeded in a lab unit. There are two kinds of “alert” e-mails:

  - Flammable liquid inventory warning sent to PIs and OEHS when the flammable liquid inventory in a lab unit meets or exceeds 90% of the maximum storage limit; and

  - Flammable liquid inventory maximum limit notification sent to PIs, OEHS, and the Durham Fire Department when the flammable liquid inventory in a lab unit exceeds the maximum storage limit.

- OEHS sponsored live fire extinguisher training during the last quarter and will do so again on Thursday, November 1st from 8:00 – 5:00.
  (See Comings/Goings/Goings On, page 8.)

- The 2012 initiative to update the chemical inventories in research labs was completed. New laboratory door signs will be posted as soon as updated emergency contact information has been obtained.

Research Computing and Instrumentation

- With OEHS and ORPC, RCI proactively marketed UNHCMS by attending the American Chemical Society Conference in August in Philadelphia as a registered vendor.
  (See story, page 1.)

- RCI completed the Scientific Instrumentation Inventory (SII), a new database using UNHCMS architecture to provide comprehensive information to the UNH campus about the existence, location, and availability of UNH’s scientific equipment. The SII is expected to be rolled out to the campus in October, and will have a users’ guide and other helpful materials for PIs and other users.

- UIC’s newly renovated NMR facility in Parsons Hall now houses a 400 MHz Wide Bore Solid State NMR spectrometer equipped with a Multi-Nuclear Magic Angle Spinning (MAS) probe. Contact Patricia Wilkinson at 2-1447 for more details or to submit a sample.

- In cooperation with the New Hampshire Institute for Health Policy & Practice, RCI deployed Phase 1 of the NH Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive. This software application enables the State to participate in section 4201 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Pub. L. 111-5). Participation means that NH will receive 100% of the federal funds available to states to furnish incentive payments to eligible Medicaid providers to adopt, implement, upgrade, and meaningfully use certified EHR technology, and 90% of the funds available for State administrative expenses related to the program.

- RCI designed and deployed a new secure network within the Morse Hall data center to comply with the requirements for storing and managing sensitive and restricted data.
First Quarter Highlights

Research Development and Communications

- UNH faculty submitted 11 NSF Career proposals in July, 2012, a record number for UNH. RDC reviewed/polished/edited the narratives, biosketches, and other required documents for 10 of the 11 proposals.
- RDC facilitated conclusion of several major recommendations by the Research Development and Infrastructure Strategic Working Group for infrastructure identification:
  - Directory of UNH faculty and research staff with specialized expertise in and willingness to consult on research project design, management, evaluation/assessment, survey design and methodology, and statistical methods/analyses;
  - Scientific Instrumentation Inventory (SII);
  - Library resources for UNH researchers; and
  - IT software and hardware.
- Major enhancements were made to the Research Office website (under direction of web master Lynnette Hentges):
  - Created pages for the infrastructure identified above; and
  - Completed addition of individual photos to the Staff Directory by unit web editors.
- Education and training workshops and seminars for the AY 2012-2013 were planned and scheduled; 2 programs for new faculty were conducted.
- UP-2-NIH, a program to assist nine UNH faculty to submit highly competitive NIH proposals, was launched with a Fundamentals of NIH webinar by NIH AREA Program Director Erica Brown and a Writing NIH Proposals workshop by Dartmouth College Professor Christopher Dant.

Research Integrity Services

- With the OSVPR, RIS implemented changes to the UNH financial conflict of interest in research program to comply with new Public Health Service regulations (8/24/12 effective date).
- RIS initiated a biannual project to update the status of Exempt IRB files.
- RIS conducted the semiannual vertebrate animal care and use program review and facility inspections using new requirements established by the eighth edition of the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (The Guide).
- RIS conducted a Responsible Conduct of Research and Scholarly Activity training to meet the National Science Foundation’s requirement (35 participants).

T-Hall (SVPR & OSVPR Staff)

- Annual distribution of the PI share of F&A revenue was accomplished, using, for the 2nd year, an automated email and report notifying each PI of the details of their internal research support.
- A policy was finalized that allows Research Faculty to choose between a 9-month and 12-month appointment, whichever is most appropriate for their work.
First Quarter Highlights

Research Partnerships and Commercialization

- Nine disclosures were received during the quarter, which projects to set a UNH annual record should this rate continue.
- Eighteen licenses were completed (versus 22 in all of FY 2012).
- A startup company, Setem Technologies, was launched with Dr. Kevin Short.
- Royalty receipts for the first quarter were just over 50% of receipts in FY 2012.
- In a collaboration with the Music Department, ORPC welcomed Dr. Catherine McGovern and Dr. Peter McGovern, UNH School of Law faculty members and well-known experts on copyright, entertainment, and art law, on September 25. They led a discussion on how those in the music industry can best protect their copyrightable material. The presentation was an overwhelming success and a highly educational opportunity for the 100+ students and faculty attending.

Sponsored Programs Administration

- SPA began processing the first electronic submission of a U.S. State Department Technical Assistance Agreement by UNH.
- Approximately 95% of effort certifications were received on time.
- SPA submitted more than 150 proposals requesting over $72M.
- SPA processed more than 200 award authorizations (new and continuations) representing over $38M.

NH EPSCoR

- In September, the EPSCoR project leadership team presented a report to a reverse site visit panel at NSF detailing the first year's progress of the Ecosystem and Society project. Presenters included Jan Nisbet, Kevin Gardner, Cameron Wake, and Bill McDowell of UNH and Richard Howarth of Dartmouth.
- NH EPSCoR, in partnership with Portsmouth Brewery, launched the NH Seacoast Science Café series (http://www.epscor.unh.edu/sciencecafe). These monthly gatherings will bring the coastal community face-to-face with researchers to engage in dialogue about the latest scientific discoveries on the interactions between ecosystems and society.
- The EPSCoR website was revamped to include a portal with information on the Ecosystems and Society project, allowing interaction with the research team. http://nhepscorg/ecosystems-and-society-0
- A statewide volunteer scientist network (LoVoTECS) was established to assist the Ecosystem and Society research teams by gathering water quality data from sensors in streams. There are approximately 50 LoVoTECS members, including 9 K-12 teachers and 2 non-research college faculty (from Great Bay Community College and New England College). They will receive training and instructional support through collaborative efforts of the UNH Leitzel Center, Plymouth State University's Center for the Environment, and Keene State College. http://www.trunity.net/nhepscorg-ecosystemsandsocticy/topics/view/82070/
First Quarter Highlights

Marine Program

- **Jonathan Pennock**, Doug Vandemark (OPAL/EOS) and Jim Irish (Ocean Engineering) received an award for $103,892 from the NSF program, Improvements in Facilities, Communications, and Equipment at Biological Field Stations and Marine Laboratories (FSML). The funds will be used to acquire an advanced CTD-Rosette-Winch System for the R/V Gulf Challenger. This new instrumentation will provide high resolution sampling of conductivity (salinity), temperature, oxygen, light transmittance, ambient light, pH, and other parameters from the surface to 400m depth and allow researchers to target and collect water samples at specific depths in the water column.

Coastal and Ocean Technology Programs

- The NERRS Science Collaborative recently completed training sessions in the use of Collaborative Learning for 10 National Estuarine Research Reserves. The training will enhance their capacity to conduct participatory research.
- In September, the NERRS Science Collaborative provided support for nine collaborative research projects aimed at making coastal communities and environments more resilient in a time of rising sea levels and a changing climate. These projects are designed to bring stakeholders who need to use the science to make decisions into the research process, so that their perspectives can inform how problems are defined and addressed and how the results of the research are used. Three of the projects are taking place at the Great Bay Reserve.
SVPR Corner (continued from page 1)

Federal Level
- There is scant information on what programs might be cut or whether there will be new money directed at research and innovation. (For current information from several agencies, register for the Federal webinars occurring on October 29 – November 2 at http://research.missouri.edu/federalupdate/index.)
- The Department of Commerce’s interest in research with commercial potential has increased.
- With the disappearance of “earmarks,” D.C. federal relations firms are employing different methods to help client universities to align research expertise with federal sponsor priorities.

State of NH Level
- President Huddleston is spearheading a UNH movement to mobilize constituents and alumni at the corporate, family, and student levels to advocate for State support for higher education. In particular, there currently are discussions about “taking the pledge” to freeze UNH tuition for a couple of years if the State reverses the recent permanent funding cuts to our budget.
- The USNH Board of Trustees is looking at ways in which its member universities may operate more independently and efficiently outside of current and prior constraints. They are also interested in how we can support one another. UNH already is providing support in the areas of sponsored research, research development, EPSCoR, and environmental health and safety.

UNH Level
- There continues to be a conscious effort to increase electronic/technology solutions and decrease paper and in-person costs.
- UNH has experienced a decrease in tenure track and research faculty, with an increase in lecturers and other contract faculty and staff. This phenomenon, not unlike that at other universities, should be monitored closely to make sure UNH’s research mission is not being affected.
- UNH-Manchester has expanded its computer science and information technology programs, with physical relocation of the programs into the Pandora Mill building. Dean Ali Rafieymehr and UNH-Manchester faculty are creating an Emerging Technology Center that will help train future computer scientists and engineers.
- We continue to support faculty interested in forming Schools in the areas of Marine and Ocean Engineering, Earth Systems Science, and Policy and Public Service.
- Major efforts to increase corporate relations have targeted 10 key corporations for cultivation. I will be visiting each of them over the course of this year.
- Mica Stark and I will be meeting with several NH Commissioners to identify specific collaborative initiatives.

SVPR
- I need to be more externally focused, which requires that the Management Team take more responsibility for internal operations through careful operational planning and teamwork.

With this backdrop and ever mindful of the need to empower faculty and staff to succeed, reduce administrative bottlenecks, and remain accountable, each Research Office service unit has developed its own operating plan, which your manager/director has shared with you. In addition, we have an SVPR plan with four division-wide, cross-cutting initiatives for FY 2013:

(1) Develop a Division-Wide Information Technology Plan
   This plan will be developed in conjunction with UNH IT to identify areas of mutual and individual needs and efforts, priorities, and resources needed.

(2) Common Training Platform and Plan
   We can be more efficient in delivery of our training programs, from compliance through entrepreneurship, from staff training to proposal preparation. And, using a common platform will make it easier for us to develop new programs and for our customers to receive excellent service.

(3) Establishment of a UNH Research Foundation
   This model will enable the Office for Research Partnerships and Commercialization to be more flexible in
SVPR Corner (continued from page 6)

accommodating both the varied needs of corporate partners and the various needs and constraints of our university entrepreneurs.

4) Pushing Information Out to Campus

This is a communications and information technology effort to provide more user-friendly and timely tools and information useful for decision making, networking, and celebrating accomplishments.

As demonstrated in the Research Office FY 2012 Annual Report, each of our units was able to realize some significant achievements in the last year, despite the budget cuts. For these, I congratulate and thank you. We established solid groundwork for FY 2013.

I encourage you all to consider how you might contribute to any or several of the cross-cutting initiatives, and to work within your own unit to help actualize them. At our annual division-wide meeting in December, where I will provide an update on our progress, I hope to hear your thoughts about the initiatives. Until then, I wish you a productive next six weeks and a very happy and well-deserved Thanksgiving break.

Jan Nisbet

SVPR Participates in Aspen Institute Children’s Forum

In July, more than 300 philanthropists, scientists, policymakers, educators, and healthcare practitioners convened to devise and advance an agenda of research, innovation, and policy priorities that put children first.

Jan Nisbet was one of the cutting-edge thinkers in the various fields affecting children’s health who contributed to panel presentations for the participants in the Aspen Children’s Forum—Investing in Children’s Health and Well-being.

Jan served as moderator for a breakout session related to diagnostics and the delivery of care titled, “Meeting Community Needs—Developmental Delay and Mental Illness.”

Forum participants also engaged in a scenario-planning exercise that imagines a world in which the health and well-being of children is society’s top priority—whether it be in setting research and development priorities, devising public policies, or adopting new approaches to the delivery of care.

The Aspen Institute Program on Philanthropy and Social Innovation partnered with The Woodmark Group of 25 leading pediatric hospitals in the United States and Canada to host the Forum.

Learn More About the Forum

The Aspen Institute is a prestigious educational and policy studies organization based in Washington, DC. Its mission

Participants listen to Tim Shriver, Ph.D., Chairman and CEO, Special Olympics. (Jan Nisbet, moderator, is one of the other 4 people on the stage.)

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Comings, Goings, & Goings-on

OEHS is sponsoring live fire extinguisher training on November 1 in front of the Whittemore Center. Trainers can accommodate up to 20 people every 30 minutes. The training is approximate 20 minutes long and includes a brief lecture on the safe and proper use of portable extinguishers, and actual hands on use.

The training provides valuable information and experience that can not only be used here at UNH, but also at home.

For more information and to sign up, contact Brian Cournoyer, Occupational Health and Safety Coordinator, at 862-4761 or brian.cournoyer@unh.edu.

Visit OEHS’s landing page to see testimonials of the benefits of participating and a video of training conducted last June.

Kathy Cataneo and Lynnette Hentges (both RDC) attended the summer meeting of the NORDP Northeast Region in July. They shared ideas with region research development colleagues from Brown, Harvard, Northeastern and Tufts Universities, U Mass - Amherst, U Mass - Dartmouth, URI, and Grant Writers’ Seminars and Workshops, as well as guests from the Smithsonian Institution and KB Science, LLC.

NH Sea Grant completed searches for a new Administrative Assistant for the Mast Road Office and a new Healthy Coastal Ecosystems Extension Specialist. Michelle Lemos (AA) and Alyson Eberardt (HCE) will start in November.

Read the Fall Newsletter from NH EPSCoR!

A free grant-writing workshop will be offered on November 8th during the NH EPSCoR state conference at the Waterville Valley Resort Conference Center.

Registration closes November 1st.
Details: http://nhepscor.org/stateconference2012

This is the first quarterly issue of the OSVPR Insider. Watch for the next issue in January!