January, 2014

Read stories this month in these UNH research areas:

Agriculture & Biosciences
Business & Technology
Health, Behavioral & Social Sciences
Humanities & the Arts
Marine & Ocean Sciences
Sustainability & the Environment

Agriculture & Biosciences

Grant Awards Will Fund Coastal Programs, Operation: Military Kids, Other Outreach and Education
In 2013, UNH Cooperative Extension secured a total of nearly $775,000 in grant funding from federal sponsors, state agencies, and other sponsors. The grants will support projects in the community, as well as on New Hampshire’s farms, woodlands and seacoast.

http://extension.unh.edu/articles/Grant-Awards-Will-Fund-Coastal-Programs-Operation-Military-Kids-Other-Outreach-and

Winter Greens
Becky Sideman, UNH Cooperative Extension vegetable and berry specialist, and Connor Eaton, master’s student in sustainable agriculture and food systems, research reliable ways to grow spinach and other greens to meet the increasing need and popularity of winter farmer’s markets. Sideman and Eaton are growing and studying the winter greens at UNH’s Woodman Farm using “high tunnels,” greenhouse-like structures with insulating plastic covers. Sideman explains, “Since most of the successes using these methods have been shared anecdotally by farmers, there have not been replicated experiments evaluating the performance and suitability of various crops, varieties within a crop, planting date, and much more for these overwintering methods. Fundamental research is desperately needed for these systems.”

http://www.unh.edu/unhtoday/winter-greens

Business & Technology

Carsey Institute: 39 Percent of Unemployed Americans Are Seeking Work for More Than Six Months
Andrew Schaefer, doctoral candidate in sociology and research assistant at the Carsey Institute at UNH, has found that 39 percent of unemployed Americans have been seeking work for six months or longer. The new research is detailed in the Carsey Institute brief, “The Long-Term Unemployed in the Wake of the Great Recession.” Schaefer explains that insight into these demographics is important so that researchers can “better target strategies for alleviating the negative effects of long-term unemployment.”
IT’s Scott Valcourt Honored by Gov. Maggie Hassan

Scott Valcourt, UNH Information Technology’s director of strategic technology, received an award from New Hampshire governor Maggie Hassan for his leadership of the Network New Hampshire Now program. The project brought 865 miles of fiber optic cable to the state, reaching areas with previously limited access to broadband service. UNH worked with the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development, with guidance from the Governor’s Telecommunications Advisory Board (TAB), and the 2008 New Hampshire Broadband Action Plan to implement the Network New Hampshire Now plan, creating one of the largest fiber networks in the country. The project was made possible by a grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration that was matched by private and in-kind funding.

Network New Hampshire Now

Network New Hampshire Now has brought next-generation communications and broadband access to the state of New Hampshire. The “fiber build,” which provides broadband availability to all of New Hampshire’s 10 counties, was made possible through a unique public-private collaboration throughout the state. The new resource will provide countless opportunities for New England-based businesses, local public safety teams, educational programs, and health care.

UNH Broadband Center of Excellence Completes Trial of White Space Technology

The UNH Broadband Center of Excellence (BCoE) has completed a trial of the new wireless broadband technology known as TV White Space (TVWS). TVWS uses unlicensed, high-performance frequencies reserved for television transmissions to wirelessly conduct Internet traffic. The study was part of the Gigabit Libraries Network’s White Space Project. BCoE Executive Director Rouzbeh Yassini, who is recognized as the father of the cable modem, explained that the greater mission of this project and the new Center is “to empower every citizen of the world to have access to basic broadband.”

UNH Cooperative Extension Included in $750K National Science Foundation Award

Mihaela Sabin, associate professor of computer science at UNH Manchester, is leading a technology-centered pilot project for high school students, titled “The Ecosystem Computing Challenge: Partnership Model to Build Access to Relevant Computing Education for Underrepresented High School Students.” The program will engage underrepresented
students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines through hands-on activities addressing topics pertinent to local ecosystems. UNH Cooperative Extension’s role is to coordinate guest speaker presentations and provide training for teachers. The project is supported by the National Science Foundation-funded NH EPSCoR program.

http://www.unh.edu/unhtoday/2014/01/unh-cooperative-extension-included-750k-national-science-foundation-award

UNH: LESI Increases Despite Flat Future Outlook
The Lodging Executives Sentiment Index (LESI) for the period ending December 2013 indicated a flat future outlook from November to December of 2013. The LESI report, published by the Department of Hospitality Management in UNH’s Peter T. Paul College of Business and Economics, compiles monthly survey responses from lodging executives across the country which then can be used to predict future economic trends. Nelson Barber, associate professor of hospitality management, explained that the findings suggest “concern among executives surrounding consumer confidence and corporate travel business.”

http://www.unh.edu/news/releases/2014/01/lw23lesi.cfm
http://www.unh.edu/campusjournal/2014/01/unh-lesi-increases-despite-flat-future-outlook

Health, Behavioral & Social Sciences

Map NH Health Brings the State’s Health Future Into Focus
MapNH Health, a new collaboration between the NH Citizens Health Initiative and the Institute for Health Policy and Practice at UNH (IHPP), is developing a map-based interactive web site designed to forecast and address future health issues throughout New Hampshire. Callie Carr, project director for the IHPP, explains, “Users will be able to see graphed projections of future demographics, health behaviors, outcomes and cost.” The project also will include outreach to its stakeholders – consumers, policy makers, business and industry leaders, hospitals and health systems, social service providers, public health professionals and educators throughout the state.

http://www.unh.edu/campusjournal/2014/01/map-nh-health-brings-states-health-future-focus

UNH Experts Discuss Quality of Life on Radio Show
Charlie French, UNH Extension Community and Economic Development Program team leader, and William Maddocks, program director for the Sustainable Microenterprise and Development Program of the Carsey Institute at UNH, were featured on Portsmouth Community Radio in late January. French and Maddocks discussed the Seacoast’s economy in light of contemporary environmental issues that could impact quality of life. Both offered approaches for addressing those issues while fostering sustainable economic development in New Hampshire.

http://extension.unh.edu/articles/UNH-Experts-Discuss-Quality-Life-Radio-Show

UNH Prevention Innovations Inducted into Hall of Fame
UNH Prevention Innovations, a multidisciplinary team of researchers working toward the common goal of ending violence against women, was inducted into the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence Hall of Fame. The team, co-directed by Sharyn Potter, associate professor of sociology, and research associate Jane Stapleton, was recognized for its contributions to the field, including the nationally-recognized Bringing in the Bystander In-Person Prevention Program and the Know Your Power Bystander Social Marketing Campaign. Established in October 2006, UNH Prevention Innovations is a research and training unit that develops, implements, and evaluates programs, policies, and practices to help end violence against women.
UNH Students Partner with N.H. Attorney General’s Office on Jury Polling Project for Adult Sexual Assault Cases

As part of professor of psychology Victoria Banyard’s Applied Research Methods course, a group of UNH Justice Studies graduate students teamed up with the New Hampshire Attorney General’s office to conduct a jury poll aimed at understanding “not guilty” verdicts in adult sexual assault cases. The students found that jurors tend to perpetuate rape myths and victim blaming attitudes during adult sexual assault trials. The findings will help the New Hampshire Sexual Assault Resource Team (SART) in assisting victims of sexual violence. Banyard described the project as “an example of how an academic class that is teaching students new research methods can also be in the service of community engagement.”

Humanities & the Arts

Art Student Explores Freedom of Expression in China

With the support of a UNH International Research Opportunities Program (IROP) grant, Jennifer Lindsay ’14, a studio arts and international affairs major, traveled to China to conduct research on Chinese artists. Under the guidance of her foreign mentor, Professor David Moser, Lindsay conducted interviews with artists living and working in Beijing for her project, titled “Contemporary Art with Chinese Characteristics: Relations Between Beijing Artists and the Chinese Government Post-1989.” Lindsay found that “self-censorship” was more common among the artists than government-mandated censorship.

English Professor to Serve as Editor for Prestigious Pushcart Prize Anthologies

Tom Payne, assistant professor of English, has been asked to serve as an editor on the board of the Pushcart Prize. The Pushcart Prize is an American literary prize that honors the best “poetry, short fiction, or essays” published in the small presses over the previous year. Along with the Best American Short Stories and the O. Henry Award, it is one of the most prestigious award anthologies for short fiction in the U.S.
**Marine & Ocean Sciences**

**The Tales a Lobster Trap Tells**

The lobster research lab team supervised by professor of zoology Win Watson has produced a video detailing their work studying the effectiveness of lobster traps. The video, titled “What do lobster traps tell us about the lobsters on the bottom?”, features underwater footage of the lobsters interacting with the traps. Results of the study could inform New England fishing practices and future marine research approaches. The video was selected as a finalist for the Ocean 180 Video Challenge which aims to engage non-scientists and students in timely and relevant ocean science research. It will be viewed and judged by over 30,000 middle school students internationally.

[http://www.unh.edu/unhtoday/2014/01/tales-lobster-trap-tells](http://www.unh.edu/unhtoday/2014/01/tales-lobster-trap-tells)

**Sustainability & the Environment**

**UNH Stormwater Center Awarded Nearly $1M from EPA for Philadelphia Green Infrastructure Project**

The UNH Stormwater Center, a leader in tackling urban stormwater issues, was awarded nearly $1 million from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to assist the city of Philadelphia in a project called “Green Infrastructure for Sustainable Philadelphia Communities.” The team will work to reduce runoff from overflowing sewer systems and to redirect the water through natural filtration systems. UNH was the only university from outside Pennsylvania to be selected to work on this initiative.

[http://www.unh.edu/campusjournal/2014/01/unh-stormwater-center-awarded-nearly-1m-epa-philadelphia-green-infrastructure-project](http://www.unh.edu/campusjournal/2014/01/unh-stormwater-center-awarded-nearly-1m-epa-philadelphia-green-infrastructure-project)

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