

PLAN REGARDING GRANITE STATE COLLEGE

Approved by USNH Board of Trustees

(7/29/21)

Our goal is to create purposeful growth of Granite State College and the University of New Hampshire to better serve students by increasing the breadth of offerings, advancing the educational mission, and strengthening the University System of New Hampshire.

Building on the complementary missions of Granite State College and UNH Manchester, we will combine strengths to establish a single college located in the Manchester-Concord corridor. The entity will retain the name Granite State College and will comprise a new college within UNH. UNH Manchester currently houses several graduate programs delivered by other UNH colleges—primarily to traditional students—and will retain its campus name, “UNH, Manchester Campus.” Granite State College will continue to serve its existing student body comprised of both traditional and non-traditional undergraduate and graduate students while applying increased focus on the growing opportunity to provide affordable programs of all types to adult and working professional students.

Separately we will combine the existing GSC and UNH online learning enterprises to establish a single USNH online learning organization led by Scott Stanley (currently GSC provost) that will support and promote online education across the system. This entity will report to the UNH Provost. We will make decisions as we implement this change about how online programs from various institutions are branded. For now, UNH Online will continue as UNH’s externally facing retail portal for marketing and delivery of online certificate, undergraduate, and graduate programs. There is no expectation other USNH institutions will go to market using the UNH brand.

Key components/Messages:

- UNH President James W. Dean, Jr. will be elected by the Board of Trustees to also serve as the president of GSC. UNH Provost Wayne Jones, will be appointed provost of GSC. The current Dean of UNH Manchester, Mike Decelle, will be the Dean of GSC, reporting to Provost Jones. The current GSC Provost, Scott Stanley, will step down from that position and be appointed the Dean of UNH Online, also reporting to Provost Jones.
- No layoffs are anticipated, and a number of opportunities for advancement will result, as the merger will help address existing resource gaps at both GSC and UNH

Manchester. We will be working aggressively to retain talent across the system as we grow both entities.

- Students will be fully supported, and all degree programs will be maintained through this transition. All students at both GSC and UNH Manchester will be able to complete their degree programs as planned.
- By leveraging the strengths and resources of GSC, UNH Manchester and UNH as a whole, the new GSC will enhance the reputation, visibility, and market reach of GSC and UNH Manchester and thus enhance the value of graduates' degrees. Once the new entity is fully integrated, graduates of the new GSC will receive UNH diplomas.
- The new leadership titles (Dean, GSC and Dean, USNH on-line) and roles for Mike and Scott will be effective September 1. They will support one another, and their respective leadership teams as detailed plans are developed through a steering committee and various implementation working groups.
- Establish Steering Committee
 - Scott Stanley (co-chair) - Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, GSC
 - Mike Decelle (co-chair) – Dean of UNH Manchester, UNH
 - Tara Payne – Vice President of Enrollment Management, GSC
 - Ken La Valley – Vice Provost University Outreach and Engagement, UNH
 - Todd Slover – Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Compliance and Planning, GSC
 - Kate Ziemer – Senior Vice Provost of Academic Affairs, UNH
- A Financial, IR, HR, IT and Facilities support team will be established.
- A detailed internal and external communications plan will be implemented immediately following a board decision.

Legal Compliance/Governance matters:

- If elected by the Board of Trustees, UNH President Jim Dean will also be the GSC President and the chief academic and administrative officer of each institution.
- The GSC President will be a member of the Board of Trustees. President Dean will be a trustee by virtue of two ex-officio positions and will have a single vote on the Board.
- President Dean will continue to be Chair of the Administrative Board and will represent both UNH and GSC.
- GSC alumni will elect an alumni trustee to the Board of Trustees as provided for in state law.
- GSC students will elect a student trustee to the Board of Trustees as provided for in state law.
- GSC will continue to award undergraduate and graduate degrees as authorized by state law. On full integration of GSC and UNH-M those degrees will be UNH degrees, just as the degrees from UNH-M and all other UNH schools and colleges are UNH degrees.

- GSC will continue to be a body corporate and politic and a division of USNH, as established in state law.
- The Board of Trustees and UNH will recognize and foster the unique character and education mission of GSC.
- The Board of Trustees will ensure GSC is permitted to operate with the highest measure of autonomy and self-governance, subject to the Board's supervision.

Benefits/Synergies:

- Sharpen focus on a student segment not traditionally served by UNH Durham, Keene, and Plymouth and representing a majority of GSC and UNH Manchester's current student population.
- Expand scope and scale of USNH online programs at undergraduate and graduate levels.
- Expense savings through administrative alignment and shared services on two campuses 17 miles apart.
- Expense savings from facilities lease and space utilization.
- Leveraging of assessment and accreditation strengths of GSC with graduate program growth, support infrastructure, and brand impact of UNH.
- Opportunities for revenue growth through non-credit, degree completion, PLA, and new graduate and undergraduate programs.
- Enhance undergraduate pathways with CCSNH.