As the long days and bright skies of summer yield to the crisp mornings and breathtaking hues of autumn here on the Maine seacoast, it is my distinct honor and great pleasure to address you in this space for the first time.

To begin, I wish to extend my heartfelt appreciation to everyone who assembled on our Biddeford Campus in September to participate in the Presidential Inauguration. The day was made all the more special by so many members of our extended family — representing so many different eras of UNE’s evolution — coming together to celebrate. Thanks, as well, to all those who tuned in online to watch the festivities remotely.

Now, after a whirlwind summer, we are settling into the more typical routines of a new academic year — which, for UNE, means pushing ahead at full speed. We are developing new programs and refining existing ones to anticipate the emerging needs of a rapidly changing society. We are engaging in interdisciplinary work that blurs the boundaries isolating academic fields and industries. And we are continuing work with a truly global education, having sent a record number of students to our Tangier Campus this fall.

UNE’s position as a leading innovator is nowhere more apparent than in our College of Pharmacy, and, for that reason, it gives me particular pleasure to introduce this issue of UNE Magazine. As the role of the pharmacist continues to become more encompassing, the work we do to prepare students for careers in this field becomes more important. The days when pharmacists simply filled prescriptions and answered medication-related questions have long passed. Today’s pharmacist is a fully-integrated member of the health care team, responsible for consulting with doctors, administering a range of tests, providing vaccinations, prescribing medications, conducting medication reviews, engaging in research, and teaching others.

As pharmacists have come to play this expanded role in patient care, UNE has staked out an important place on the front lines of pharmacy education. Led by passionate, experienced faculty members like Karen Houseknecht, Ph.D., who is currently serving as interim dean of the College of Pharmacy, we position our budding pharmacists beside other members of the health care team, preparing them for the diverse responsibilities the pharmacist of the 21st century assumes. Our graduates leave the program ready to lead, whether practicing here in Maine or around the globe.

I hope you will enjoy learning more about the work we are doing to prepare students for this essential, dynamic profession. Enjoy the magazine!

Sincerely,

James D. Herbert, Ph.D. | President
We hope you enjoy our College of Pharmacy issue. For more information about UNE, please visit www.une.edu.
Karen Houseknecht, the interim dean of UNE’s College of Pharmacy (COP), doesn’t hesitate when asked to summarize the college in a single word. The question is meant humorously, but the newly appointed dean is clearly up for any challenge.

“We’re a very diverse college in every conceivable way,” says Houseknecht. “In terms of our faculty, our students, and our staff, we come from across the U.S. and around the world, from all different economic, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds. We’re diverse in where we’ve trained, the programs we offer, and where our students go after they graduate. We do clinical work, community service, and groundbreaking research. I’m not going to say we’re perfect, but we work very hard at being inclusive. That’s a big part of what we do.”

The College of Pharmacy is, in fact, UNE’s most diverse college — with a 28 percent non-white student body — but Houseknecht is making the deeper point that diversity is a defining concept across all aspects of the College of Pharmacy and across the rapidly evolving profession of pharmacy, itself.

Long gone are the days when a pharmacist was simply a person in a white coat counting pills into a bottle at the local drug store. As health care in the U.S. moves toward a more holistic approach, pharmacists are becoming integral members of health care teams, in hospitals and other care settings, working alongside doctors, nurses, and other professionals to provide invaluable knowledge about medications and, in many cases, to provide front-line “pharmaceutical care” themselves, depending on the state and the system in which they work.

For example, pharmacists may conduct medication reviews with elderly patients who take as many as 20 pills daily, checking for overlapping or outdated prescriptions and potentially harmful interactions. Medication reviews have been shown to have significant therapeutic value for patients, preventing unnecessary hospitalizations and emergency room visits — and thus, not incidentally, helping lower health care costs. Even at your local pharmacy, the pharmacist...

We’re diverse in where we’ve trained, the programs we offer, and where our students go after they graduate. We do clinical work, community service, and groundbreaking research.

— Karen Houseknecht
may offer basic diagnostics, such as blood pressure screenings, and provide certain immunizations and prescriptions directly to patients.

Houseknecht elaborates, “It’s an expanded scope of care. And one of the ideas behind that, especially in rural communities where there are not enough doctors or nurse-practitioners, is that pharmacists are able to step up as frontline health care providers to administer basic services. It’s a huge change, that is especially important.”

Indeed, the profession has come a long way in a relatively short period of time. Joan Woodcock, the COP associate dean for student affairs and admissions, recalls that when she was in pharmacy school in the 1970s, the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) Code of Ethics stated explicitly that pharmacists should not communicate directly with patients. “There was a concern,” she says, “that the pharmacist might undermine the physician in doing so.”

Not anymore. “Health care is becoming more and more of a team sport,” says Houseknecht. “Philosophically, we believe that’s the best way to care for patients. With these health care professionals all together on one team, they are much more likely to make the best decisions for their patients because they have complementary expertise.”

These changes in the way pharmacy is practiced just happen to dovetail perfectly with UNE’s core strengths. Explains Houseknecht, “Not all pharmacy schools are part of a health care university. But because UNE is a health professions university, with everything from medicine to physical therapy to social work, we have always been ahead of the curve when it comes to offering our students interprofessional educational (IPE) opportunities. Pharmacy students are trained to work with nursing students and P.A. students and social work students, so they are well-prepared when they go into practice and have to work in team settings. That’s a real advantage.”

For UNE’s new president, James D. Herbert, this approach aligns perfectly with the University’s overall strategy of enhancing existing competencies. “As we engage in our strategic planning process, there are a few things that are clear already, and one of those is our strength in IPE,” says Herbert. “We are fully committed to building on that strength going forward to become a national model in team-based, transdisciplinary health profession education and practice. Pharmacy is going to be absolutely critical in that endeavor.”

UNE’s longstanding commitment to providing health care to the rural and underserved populations of Northern New England is another area where Herbert sees leadership opportunities for the University in general and for the College of Pharmacy in particular. “We have the opportunity in Maine to serve as a test bed for programs to better serve the health needs of rural communities — programs that can then be rolled out to the rest of the country,” says Herbert. “Pharmacists, as they’ve evolved more and more into frontline providers, have a central role to play in any effort to address the rural health care crisis.”

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— Karen Houseknecht

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— James D. Herbert

Students are well aware of the unique opportunities afforded them at UNE. Last summer, Neger Clarke, a second-year pharmacy student,
“From Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, by way of Jamaica,”
took up with Ayesa Wyman, a UNE social work
student, to run a week-long summer camp on
the Passamaquoddy Pleasant Point Reservation
in Downeast Maine—a project that combined
the best of UNE’s interprofessional teamwork
and its commitment to helping underserved
populations. Clarke, who spent seven years as a
high school English teacher and wants to work
for the federal Indian Health Service after
getting her Pharm.D., says of the experience,
“Kids were amazing. And I met students
from UNE COM [the College of Osteopathic
Medicine] and social work during that time.
They’re all really open. It’s exactly the type of
environment and team that I want to work on.”

Getting students out into the world and
interacting with different cultures is a big part
of the school’s mission. Many universities have
international programs for undergraduate
students, but UNE is one of the few that offer
international programs designed specifically for
pharmacy students. “Our fourth-year pharmacy
students have an opportunity to go to Thailand
and see how medicine is practiced there, and we
have an exchange program with the University
of Granada in Spain, which is one of the oldest
pharmacy schools in Europe,” says Houseknecht.
“We’re always looking at new opportunities.
Right now we’re talking about India. This isn’t
fully in place yet, but we’re excited about it.
Many aspects of the pharmaceutical industry
now are in India, so we’re hoping that this
new partnership will give our students more
opportunities if they want to go into the
pharmaceutical industry after graduation.”

Houseknecht notes that not every Pharm.D.
becomes a practicing pharmacist and that the
degree can lead to a number of interesting and
fulfilling career paths. She explains, “A person
with a Pharm.D. from UNE could work in drug
development, could teach in COM or COP, could
work in the public sector at the VA, or the FDA,
or the CDC, could go into health policy and
economics, or go into Big Pharma… There are
just so many opportunities that people don’t
necessarily think of when you say just ‘pharmacy’.”

Another differentiating feature of the school may
be harder to quantify but is no less important,
and that is the uniquely supportive community
that has become an integral part of COP culture.
For Negeri Clarke, that culture was a major
factor in her decision to choose UNE over other
pharmacy schools. “I interviewed with Dr.
Dornblaser and Dr. Theberge,” says Clarke,
“and they asked me a lot of ‘why’ questions,
and a lot of ‘how’ questions. It wasn’t just about
test scores or clinical aptitude. They want to
make sure that you’re coming in as a caring
person. There’s an intent here to graduate
the kind of professionals who are empathetic, who
actually carry the torch and don’t just show up to
collect a paycheck. Pass the NAPLEX, sure,
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— Negeri Clarke

Associate Dean Jean Woodward chose UNE for
similar reasons. “It’s a very caring community in
general,” she said. “That’s basically why I came here. The dean was very receptive, very
caring, and it went through all the faculty. The
atmosphere here is very make-friendly. It definitely
unique, a major difference, and I’ve been at a lot
of institutions. The former dean, Gayle Brazeau,
used to give a lot of hugs. I do the same thing.
We hug a lot!”

For all the programmatic strengths and cultural
advantages that the College of Pharmacy offers
to students, Houseknecht acknowledges that
she takes the helm at a time of transition, with
the school facing some interesting challenges.
“We’re going through a leadership search,” she
says, “we’re launching a new integrated curricu-
lum, and we’re putting together a self-study for
accreditation, which is something we have to
do every six years or so.” These would be major
undertakings at any time, but they take on an
added weight amid the changes in the pharmacy education landscape over the past few years and the increasing competition for students. “There are a lot more pharmacy schools today than when we first opened our doors,” says Houseknecht. “It’s much more competitive out there.”

In order to remain competitive and move on to the next step in the maturity of the college, Houseknecht says, “We need to ask, ‘Who are we today, versus who we were seven years ago, when all of this started? What are our strengths now? What do we do really well?’ To help answer those questions, COP has engaged an outside consulting firm to conduct a market analysis of pharmacy education and help identify opportunities and niches that fit the program’s unique strengths and culture. As the college undergoes in-depth strategic planning, this data will be used to validate the vision that emerges at the end of the process. Collaborations are also underway with the UNE Admissions Office to raise the bar on recruitment and with the Office of Communications to reimagine the COP brand and ramp up marketing efforts.

All this activity requires putting in some long days, and, according to Houseknecht, faculty and staff have risen to the occasion, and then some. “This faculty, for the most part, is very young, very idealistic, and they are really committed to this school. They’re willing to go the extra mile. All over the college, people are really pulling together.”

Houseknecht is quick to point out, “This is not about me. I’m just honored to be in this role and to have a chance to help the staff and faculty at this college get where they need to go.” As a member of the original COP faculty in 2009, Houseknecht has a good understanding of the college, and, via past experience working for Big Pharma (as a research scientist, she led drug development teams at Pfizer and others) she also brings to the table experience and training in leading people through times of transition.

Peg Donovan, the COP operations manager, has no doubt the new dean will follow successfully in the formidable footsteps of her predecessors. “This school has been blessed with four outstanding deans in its history, and I’ve had the pleasure of working with all of them: John Cormier, Douglas Kay, Grele Brunos, and now Karen,” she says. “Each has left a distinct leadership mark on the college — structure, wisdom, culture, strategy. I think Karen has the remarkable ability to look at a situation, get to the heart of it quickly, find clarity, and develop a plan. Watching her do this is like watching a chess match played on three levels. She’s very strategic, makes precise movements, and does it all with creativity and a great sense of humor.”

For his part, Herbert is unwavering in his support of COP. Says the UNE President, “There’s a tremendous amount of wisdom among the faculty and professional staff in COP, and they are not hesitant in rolling up their sleeves and jumping in and engaging very deeply in this planning process. What emerges at the end of the process is going to be very strong, indeed, as we capture the wisdom of the faculty and professional staff who are most closely tied to the work: the teaching, the research, and the community service.”

“So I think the future of UNE’s College of Pharmacy is very, very bright,” continues Herbert. “We do not want to be merely a ‘good’ college of pharmacy — we want to be leaders in the space. And I think we have a tremendous opportunity to carve out a niche and truly become a national model of innovation and excellence, setting the standards for other pharmacy programs going forward.”

— James D. Herbert

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The Walgreens Diversity & Inclusive Excellence Award and Walgreens Diversity Scholarship honor students who demonstrate exemplary leadership, community service, and excellence. Walgreens aims to cultivate a culture of pharmacists with diverse minds who come together to accelerate advances in pharmacy and improve the care of Walgreens’ invaluable patients.

“It is such a great honor to receive the Walgreens Diversity & Inclusive Excellence Award!” said Nora Asamoah Pharm.D. ’17, recipient of the 2017 award. “Growing up in a diverse community has helped me develop tolerance to opinions that differ from mine. My community’s diversity continues to help me along my journey in the pharmacy world.”

— Nora Asamoah Calder

Joelene Nguyen, Pharm.D. ’20, and Idaliz Voorhees, Pharm.D. ’20, were awarded the 2017 Walgreens Diversity Scholarship. When asked what impact receiving the scholarship has had, Joelene replied, “The Walgreens Diversity Scholarship has motivated me to be a better health care provider—one who understands cultural differences to better empathize with how patients feel.” Idaliz added, “This scholarship has inspired me to help others, to strive to continually give back to the community, and to aspire to one day give back by helping students the same way.”

The Student Affairs and Awards Committee of the College of Pharmacy at the University of New England held the Scholarship Awards Reception on Thursday, October 19, 2017, in the Newberry Room of Alumni Hall. In addition to the Diversity Awards, UNE celebrated 34 scholarship awardees who are benefiting from the generosity of loyal donors, including:

- Billy and Gloria Miller
- CVS
- Good for All
- Dr. Douglas H. and Dorothy B. Kay
- New Albertsons
- Hannaford
- Gayle and Daniel Bronson
- Rite Aid
- Walgreens
- The Betterment Fund
- The Women’s Board of Maine General Hospital

Growing up in a diverse community has helped me develop tolerance to opinions that differ from mine. My community’s diversity continues to help me along my journey in the pharmacy world.

— Nora Asamoah Calder

This scholarship has inspired me to help others, to strive to continually give back to the community, and to aspire to one day give back by helping students the same way.

— Idaliz Voorhees

CAPTIONS
Opposite page: Left: Joelene Nguyen and Idaliz Voorhees, recipients of the 2017 Walgreens Diversity Scholarship, are congratulated by President James D. Herbert. Above left: Joelene Nguyen and Idaliz Voorhees, are congratulated by Richard Agbortoko ’13, pharmacist and pharmacy manager, and Josh Moody, pharmacist, of Walgreens in Portland, Maine. Above right: Nora Asamoah, recipient of the 2017 Walgreens Diversity & Inclusive Excellence Award.
INAUGURATION of
James D. Herbert, Ph.D.
As the sixth President of the University of New England
INAUGURATION AND LISTENING TOUR
UNE WELCOMES NEW PRESIDENT JAMES D. HERBERT
On a sun-splashed September morning in Biddeford, the University of New England inaugurated James D. Herbert, Ph.D., as its sixth president. Joining UNE trustees, faculty, professional staff, students, and alumni at the gala affair were delegates from other colleges and universities, Maine civic and political leaders, and other friends and neighbors of the University.

After U.S. Senator Susan Collins spoke about the many contributions UNE makes to Maine communities and points far beyond, and Drexel University President John Fry enumerated the leadership qualities Herbert exhibited during his time at Drexel, UNE Board Chair David Anderson, Ph.D., placed the UNE presidential medallion around Herbert’s neck.

Herbert began his inaugural address by detailing how much UNE has accomplished in recent years and credited the hard work of people across the University community for making those achievements possible. Then, he outlined some of the diverse challenges facing higher education in our rapidly changing world, discussed the opportunities emerging for institutions that are highly strategic, and emphasized the role collaboration must play in the design of UNE’s next strategic plan.

After the formal ceremony, attendees enjoyed a luncheon featuring food stations that served culinary treats from some of the many places around the globe where UNE students study and gain practical experience in their fields — including Maine, Morocco, Spain, and Iceland.

To watch the Inauguration ceremony, visit www.une.edu/president/videos.

I am deeply honored and humbled to stand with you today as, together, we embark on the next chapter in the life of this amazing University.

James D. Herbert, Ph.D.
INAUGURATION ADDRESS
This truly is a moment that belongs to all of us. While we have gathered to celebrate my inauguration as your new president, I submit that today’s festivities are about something greater than that. This is a celebration of us all. This is an occasion for you to give pause, to look around, and to reflect on the special role you play in our thoughtful, compassionate, committed community of women and men.
At a pace never seen before in human history, we have been inventing new technologies and assimilating them into our daily lives. Higher education has been, and is being, disrupted. And why shouldn’t it be? Every other facet of how we live, communicate, and learn has been. Institutions of higher education have been notoriously slow to change. Fortunately, this hasn’t been so much the case at UNE, where we have been far more nimble than most of our peers in the face of these developments. As a result, we have seen our stock and reputation rise in myriad ways.

PRESIDENT HERBERT’S INAUGURATION ADDRESS
The love so many of you have expressed for this special community — through your words and actions — has overwhelmed me. I understand that I am not just assuming the mantle of any university, but of a very special university. I have committed myself to lead not just any university, but your university — our university — a university that is so central to the lives of so many people — here in Maine and on distant shores — people whose lives are touched by the vital roles UNE plays in the world.

PRESIDENT HERBERT’S INAUGURATION ADDRESS
With his installation as UNE’s new president official, Herbert continued the Listening Tour he began in July, meeting with students in residence halls, accompanying UNE researchers on expeditions, meeting with alumni groups throughout the Northeast, and otherwise immersing himself in the life of the University.

To learn more about President Herbert’s Listening Tour, or to register for an upcoming event near you, visit www.une.edu/listeningtour.
Hailey Choi is an assistant clinical professor in the UNE College of Pharmacy who spends half of her time at a clinical practice site, the Mid Coast Medical Group–Bath (MCMG–Bath), an internal medicine office in Bath, Maine. Choi explains, “Carl DeMars, one of the physicians at the Bath clinic, is the senior medical director of the entire MCMG Ambulatory Care Group, and he was a pharmacist before he became a physician. He took a very eager role to bring one of the UNE COP faculty to their practice site because he knew the value of pharmacy, and he wanted to create a truly interdisciplinary health care team within his practice.”

Choi, who did a post-graduate residency in an ambulatory care setting, is the first pharmacist to join the practice group. Because the inclusion of pharmacists on health care teams is a relatively new phenomenon, especially in Maine, Choi had to lay some groundwork to ensure that everybody understood her position. “Even the pharmacists in town didn’t understand my role because they had never heard of a pharmacist in primary care,” says Choi. “They were calling the practice to ask, ‘Hey, are you guys opening a pharmacy in your clinic?’”

But it didn’t take long for Choi to demonstrate the therapeutic value of clinical pharmacy, seeing patients for everything from comprehensive medication reviews to, notably, diabetes management. “There are so many new medications within diabetes care, new insulins, that the physicians may not be aware of because they simply did not exist when they were in school,” says Choi. “So I meet with the patient, go through medications, make recommendations, and then I also follow up closely with them, sometimes twice a week.”

The very first diabetes patient Choi worked with was able to reach her clinical goals within six months. Word spread quickly, and other physicians started sending their patients to Choi. “Now,” says Choi with a bashful smile, “I often see in the doctor’s notes, for diabetes patients: ‘Follow pharmacy team’s instructions.’ One of the doctors even joked in our meeting, ‘Just prescribe Hailey for diabetes.’”

Choi has also found opportunities to perform community service in and around Bath, including regular visits to Bath Housing, a local nonprofit that provides low-income housing to the elderly, disabled, and others in need. “I work with Amy Connors, the resident services coordinator, who organizes different health care projects, and I’m happy to go there to provide basic services like blood pressure screenings and medication reviews.”

For UNE Pharmacy students, the clinic serves as one of the sites for their fourth-year Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) rotations. Students must complete a series of six rotations of six weeks each, and ambulatory care is one of the four required rotations. Choi oversees two students at a time (12 total per year) to work with her at the Bath location. It’s an invaluable learning opportunity.
“Students’ desks are right in the middle of the pod where everybody works together, so they get to go right up and ask questions of the doctors and nurses. And the doctors also go to the students. I’ve been really lucky to have such amazing students, so they trust us, and they trust the pharmacy team, so they will come directly to the students and ask them questions. It’s a lot of responsibility.”

Ashley Calder, a fourth-year student from New Boston, New Hampshire, found her rotation with Choi to be an enlightening experience. “Ambulatory care pharmacy was a whole new world to me,” says Calder. “I have worked in community pharmacy for six years now, and before starting this rotation, I had no idea there were pharmacists who were located in primary care settings.”

Calder, who plans to continue in community pharmacy after graduation, says, “It has been a great eye-opener to see the other side of the nonstop phone calls that go on between a doctor’s office and a pharmacy. I have valued assisting the physicians in making clinical decisions for their patients as well as feeling like a general part of the health care team.”

Parallel to their clinical work, Choi and her students are also gathering data to show that adding pharmacists to health care teams is a win-win that can both save money and improve patient outcomes. “That’s what we’re really working for,” says Choi, “so that we can expand this practice model in the state of Maine.” There’s still a way to go, but she has clearly made a lot of progress in a short time.

As evidence, Choi produces glowing letters of support she has received from the Mid Coast Medical Group–Bath practice manager, Gayle Bragg, and the recently retired director of primary care, Nancy Hasenfus, M.D. Choi points out a passage in Hasenfus’s letter where the doctor admits to being initially skeptical about the benefit of having a pharmacist on the team. “Now,” says Choi, “the doctors at the clinic sometimes joke that they don’t know how they ever functioned without having a pharmacy team!”

TOP MODELS

How do we inspire the next generation of scientists?

For Olgun Guvench, chair of the UNE College of Pharmacy’s (COP) Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, the answer lies not far from his Portland home, at the Reiche Community School, a teacher-led K-5 public school in the city’s West End.

“My son went to Reiche,” Guvench explains, “and he had a really good experience. So we started doing a little bit of outreach about five years ago.”

The outreach program, called “Seeing Atoms and Molecules,” involves Guvench and a team of UNE student researchers teaching fundamental chemistry to fourth and fifth graders in a series of four one-hour sessions. Guvench says, “We start by explaining conceptually what an atom is basically if you chop something in two, and then you chop it in two again, and you keep chopping in two...Can you just keep chopping forever? Or does it eventually get to the point where you can’t chop anything further, and then what do we call that smallest little thing?”

Students get tactile and visual reinforcement from manipulating hand-models of atoms — colored balls and sticks — that they can join together to build increasingly complex molecules,

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Students get tactile and visual reinforcement from manipulating hand-models of atoms — colored balls and sticks — that they can join together to build increasingly complex molecules,
from oxygen to hydrocarbons, carbohydrates, and, eventually, proteins and DNA. In collaboration with UNE’s Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, Guvench and his team have also developed detailed lesson plans for instructors and a workbook that they distribute to students.

As the program evolved, Guvench and his team applied for and received a five-year National Science Foundation (NSF) grant, which funded the purchase of 25 Chromebooks, along with a storage cart that doubles as a charging station and can be easily wheeled between Reiche classrooms. All the Chromebooks are equipped with a special program that allows the students to visualize and build three-dimensional molecular models on their computers, just as they were doing with the hand-models.

Guvench explains, “With the tactile models, if you have, say, up to 10 or 20 atoms, it’s very easy to hand-build these molecular models. So you can construct a small carbohydrate. But once you get any more atoms than that, it’s just too hard. Stuff just gets really floppy and these things can get really big.”

The Chromebooks allow students to move up the scale of visualization and gain a better sense of atomic perspective. “The neat thing with the computers is that instead of 10 or 20 atoms, now you can have thousands of atoms,” says Guvench. “So students can start to look at big proteins or carbohydrates and see that it takes thousands of atoms to make up these molecules.”

Each year a program evaluator surveys the Reiche students to determine which aspects of the program are working and which may be in need of improvement, and the results are fed back into program refinement. NSF funding runs through 2020, but with the major equipment paid for and the class materials fairly well polished, Guvench doesn’t see any reason the program shouldn’t renew itself indefinitely. He doesn’t even see his own involvement as being especially critical.

“The success of the program is not a reflection on me, it’s a reflection on the UNE students because they’re really the face of the program now,” says Guvench. “At this point, I don’t do anything. I give the material to my students, and they’re the ones who do the delivery to the elementary school students. I feel very confident in the materials that we’ve developed — and of course, the students have had a hand in developing them too. So those materials can be passed along to other pharmacy students or other undergrads and, with very little supervision from me, they can take that on and keep doing this program. So, I’m pretty proud of that.”

Pharmacy student Bruno De Maria, B.S. ‘15, Pharm.D. ’19, has spent the past two summers working in the Reiche outreach program and is looking forward to returning next summer. Says De Maria, “We all enjoyed watching the learning process unfold as the students made associations between the concrete principles of everyday life and the abstract concepts of computational chemistry.” In addition, this past summer, De Maria had an opportunity to use his native Portuguese language to connect with two Reiche students who had recently emigrated from Angola. “That cultural connection was very special and allowed me to introduce our material in a comfortable manner,” says De Maria.
For oceanography major Hanna Sihler ’18, having the opportunity to engage elementary school girls was especially fulfilling. Says Sihler, “It is important for these girls to see women in science as role models. I have worked with younger kids before, assessing surveys on ‘What is a Scientist?’ Most of the kids drew pictures and described someone who looked like Albert Einstein. It is vital for young girls to understand that they too can be successful scientists, and I appreciate UNE’s initiative to instill that value in these kids.”

Guvench agrees that awakening youngsters to their own limitless potentials is the true animating force that drives the program. “When Hannah says, ‘Oh I’m doing Marine Science, and I think I’m going to become an engineer later,’” or Bruno says, ‘I came to UNE to become a pharmacist,’” says Guvench, “it makes it tangible to the kids.”

“In a lot of ways,” he continues, “I don’t care that much if the students remember that carbon likes to make four bonds with hydrogen or something like that. That’s not really what’s relevant to me. What’s relevant is the students seeing that this is possible and starting to ask that question, ‘Why not me? Why can’t I do this?’ And then: ‘I can do this.’”

TRANSPORTER ROOM: INSIDE THE HILLS LAB

Ask around to find out what interesting research is currently being conducted at the UNE College of Pharmacy (COP), and inevitably you will be directed to the lab of Ron Hills.

Hills, an associate professor in the COP Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, uses cutting-edge computer technology and molecular modeling techniques to examine the mechanisms by which therapeutic substances get inside living cells.

Specifically, Hills and his team of student researchers are focused on p-glycoprotein (P-gp), which is also referred to as “MDR” (for “multi-drug resistance”). MDR being the name of the corresponding gene. P-gp is a drug efflux transporter, which means it pumps certain substances out of the cell. Sometimes that action is beneficial to the cell, when the substances being pumped out are toxins. But when the substances being pumped out are therapeutic agents, the transporters can inhibit or block the effectiveness of drug treatment.

“Initially, these transporters were found to be involved in multi-drug resistance associated with tumors,” says Hills. “In that case, a tumor cell, after exposure to chemotherapeutic agents, over time will develop a resistance to not only that drug but to other drugs. That’s due to these transporters that are actually pumping the drugs out of the cell.”

The same transporter mechanism has subsequently been found to be involved with a variety of medical conditions — not just tumors. “There’s one study where they see that Alzheimer’s patients have fewer of these pumps,” says Hills. In that case, the transporter action is thought to help in the brain by clearing toxic amnophilic proteins across the blood-brain barrier, and lower pumps mean more likelihood of toxic buildup leading to Alzheimer’s. “And in the GI tract,” Hills continues, “there’s a link with inflammatory bowel disease where the transporters are pumping out what appears to be agents that help keep down the bacteria in your GI tract.”

While other scientists are starting to get some insight regarding the biology of the transporter mechanism, Hills and his lab partners are keen on finding out what makes the pumps work at a molecular level. This is done through modeling the molecular aspects of the transporter to see how it interacts with other molecules and to find out why it bonds with certain specific drugs.

“The tricky part about that,” says Hills, “is that typically when we think of proteins and a drug binding its target, it’s one-to-one interaction,
transport pathways for new molecules, such as endotoxin. Researchers in the Hills Lab use molecular modeling to identify "molecular dynamics simulation" and is a complicating factor is that the transporter cell membrane has effects on how it operates, that is, within the cell membrane, because the cell membrane has effects on how it operates, so we include that. That's part of the strength of our method." For students, the Hills Lab presents a rare opportunity to do pioneering multidisciplinary research, and Hills says his students have a tremendous amount of leeway to design and conduct experiments. Happy to deflect credit, Hills recounts "In terms of bacterial biology, Cody [Cody Black, Pharm.D.] basically proposed a mechanism of transport, which I don't think anyone else has really thought about. And then Rachel [Rachel McDevitt, Pharm.D.] predicted nine sites in the human transporter which I think it binds cholesterol." Hills is quick to emphasize that these student findings represent significant conceptual advances and will spark important future experimental work. McDevitt and Black are equally enthusiastic about their work with Hills, sending a joint email which reads in part, "Obviously, drug resistance is a major concern for pharmacists, and it has been exciting to examine the mechanisms of how human and bacterial proteins play a role in this field of science. We also created our first academic poster and participated in broadly presentations during the research fellowship. This experience has opened new doors for us as student pharmacists and has made us more aware of future paths we can take in pharmacy."

GO TO PHARMACY SCHOOL: SEE THE WORLD?

The Thailand program is focused on teaching students about disease states and drug treatment options in Southeast Asia, while giving them a taste of Thai culture. Krebs elaborates, "We interact with Thai students and Thai faculty. Our students may study, say, dengue fever through a Thai faculty member in the morning, have a Thai lunch, and then in the afternoon, see patients with dengue fever. They go on rounds with medical students and pharmacy students, and they look at lab results and discuss drug treatment options."

Students also learn a great deal about the Thai health care system versus the U.S. health care system — the pros and cons of both — and discuss which aspects of the Thai system might be advantageously incorporated into the U.S. system. "What most students take away — and it's consistent," says Krebs, "is that they're willing to take what they learned in Thailand and apply it to their practices here in the U.S. A lot of people may think, 'Oh, what could I learn from the Thai health care system? Will you really want to be on U.S. soil for rotation purposes, since it is on a student rotation sites. (The Okinawa program is technically considered international because our new interim dean, Karen Houseknecht, says, 'Krebs, and I developed the Thailand program."

Both programs are designed specifically to serve as fourth-year Pharm.D. student rotation sites.

"Our accreditation board allows one international rotation," says Krebs, himself an avid traveler. "The others have to be on U.S. soil to meet our accreditation guidelines because our students are going to practice in the U.S." (The Okinawa program is technically considered international because it is on a U.S. military base. Students may go to Okinawa and still be eligible to visit Thailand or Spain.)

SO WHAT CAN I LEARN FROM A HUMAN EXCHANGE?

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around a lot," explains Krebs. "We’re in Bangkok for about two weeks, then we go up north towards Laos and Myanmar for about two weeks, then we’re back in Bangkok, and then we head to the southern part of the country. So we’re in buses and cars a lot, in traffic. And we usually try to have dinner with the students every night. So we develop these really strong relationships with them."

In the Spanish program, students are more independent. "They live with a host family who only speaks Spanish and cooks them three meals a day. They go to class on their own, they learn a new language, they figure out how to navigate a new city, and their weekends are pretty much free," says Krebs. The Spanish program is a collaborative partnership with the University of Granada, in Granada, Spain, which is over 400 years old and has one of the oldest and most prestigious pharmacy schools in Europe. "The first two weeks they have Spanish language immersion," says Krebs. "They take a test to measure their proficiency, and then they have Spanish class from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Then, every day, from 1:30 to 4 p.m. is siesta. It’s very traditional in Spain, still: go home, have lunch, and take a nap. Then from 4 to 6 p.m., I teach. I do a NAPLEX review [the North American Pharmacy Licensure Exam] on drug therapy, in English, so students are better prepared for the exam."

In weeks 3–6, students dive into the Spanish health care system. As in Thailand, comparisons are made to the U.S. health care system, and students are kept busy visiting Spanish pharmacies, hospitals, biotech companies, and seeing patients. Any free time is filled with cultural activities. "We go to Seville one weekend, we go to Cordoba," says Krebs. "Corpus Christi, the big holiday, is always around the time of our visit, so we get a four-day break in the middle of it to take in all the festivities."

Part of the beauty of the two programs is that they offer students two very distinct experiences. "Some students feel there’s too much structure in Thailand and they want to be in Spain, where they’re a little bit more independent," says Krebs. "And other students say, ‘I want to be shuttled from place to place and have things very structured.’ Either way, for most students, it’s an invaluable experience. "I see the students six months later," says Krebs, "or two years later at a conference, or maybe five years later they’re writing a thesis, and I always ask, ‘Was it worth the extra effort to do one of the international rotations?’ Inevitably, says Krebs, the student replies, ‘It was so worth it. It was one of my favorite experiences at UNE!’"
When the UNE College of Pharmacy (COP) opened its doors in 2009, the presence of the new college brought a renewed sense of energy to the venerable Maine Pharmacy Association (MPA), a state pharmacists’ professional body, which was chartered in the Maine legislature in 1867.

“Let me give you a telling example,” says Kenneth McCall, who, as an associate professor in the COP Department of Pharmacy Practice and a former two-term president of the MPA, knows this terrain intimately. “Back in 2009, one of the taglines on the MPA website said, ‘We are the oldest state pharmacy association in the U.S.’ The newly minted UNE pharmacy students took one look at that and immediately said, ‘You know, we really think you ought to change that to ‘We are the first.’” And I think, symbolically, that subtle shift in perspective affected the entire organization, the entire profession in Maine.”

McCall offers a more concrete example of how, right off the bat, the new energy provided by the college helped move the profession forward. “Maine was the last state to recognize pharmacists as immunizers,” explains McCall. “We were 50th. But in 2009, when the college opened, then-Governor Baldacci signed into law a bill that, for the first time, allowed pharmacists to administer vaccines in Maine. And of course Governor Baldacci was also at the COP building dedication ceremony.” That legislation marked an important milestone for Maine’s pharmacists, who finally gained recognition for their role as health care providers and officially became part of the public health care disease prevention system.

The scope of Maine pharmacists’ roles has expanded steadily since then, due in part to advocacy by the MPA. The law Baldacci passed in 2009 allowed pharmacists to administer four vaccines: influenza, tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis, pneumonia, and zoster. New laws signed by Governor Paul LePage now authorize pharmacists to administer all vaccines recommended for adults by the Centers for Disease Control. Additional legislative progress includes one law that allows pharmacy students, when working as interns, to administer vaccines while supervised by licensed pharmacists and another law that allows pharmacists to engage in “collaborative practice.”

As McCall explains, “Collaborative practice allows a pharmacist to enter into a written agreement with a physician or with a provider that enables the pharmacist to initiate medicines, to monitor those medicines, to modify doses, and to discontinue medicines. So the pharmacist doesn’t diagnose the patient — that’s the physician’s job. But under a written protocol, the pharmacist can help monitor therapy, optimize therapy, and improve patient outcomes.”

Next on the legislative horizon is a bill that would recognize pharmacists in statute and in law as health care providers, just as all the other members of the health care team — including physicians, nurses, physical therapists, social workers, and occupational therapists — are recognized as providers within their scope of practice. Says McCall, “This doesn’t mean we’re saying we want pharmacists to be recognized as diagnosticians or that we want pharmacists to take the place of a nurse practitioner or a physician. We’re saying within the pharmacist’s scope of practice, we want to be formally recognized as health care providers. And that is important because it opens the opportunity to be part of the discussion about services that are provided and compensation for services.”

The provider recognition bill has been a tougher “ask” in Augusta, but McCall remains undaunted. Shaping health care policy is painstaking work that requires persistence, finesse, and a willingness to listen and collaborate. Says McCall, “You try to listen to all the different stakeholders in these conversations, such as, obviously, the other important groups that represent physicians and nurse practitioners and hospitals, and from that you try to gain insights on how to better frame legislation.”

With Maine’s limited budgets, legislators are always looking for a return on investment or evidence that shows a given policy is cost-
Every year, we’ve had students go up to Augusta, where we participate in the legislative process at the committee level or reserve a day on the calendar in the Hall of Flags. We’ve had students involved in conversations with the governor, and with legislators about what can be done to decrease the risk of diversion with controlled substances.

- Kenneth McCall

For Erin Kany, COP ’17, who is now doing a pharmacists and pharmacy stu-

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- Perkins, the coordinator of the first-year experience in the UNE Office of Student Affairs. Goodwin, the coordinator of the first-year experience for some extremely creative thinking around the intersection between your profession and your role as a citizen,” says McCall. “You’re entering into this profession, and you’re entering into a commitment of trust with the public to provide competent, compassionate care. It’s the public that gives you the privilege of practicing pharmacy. Advocacy is a way of giving something back to the public.”

Through the experiences I had with Dr. McCall, I became aware of how pharmacists and pharmacy students are working everyday with their legislators to make changes that will positively impact our patients.

- Erin Kany

UNE’s Pre-Professional Pharmacy program for undergraduates is an ambitious, accelerated program of study that prepares first-year college students, often fresh out of high school, to enter public health care in general, students are working everyday with pharmacists and pharmacy students to live together on the same floor of a designated residence hall (under the auspices of a specially trained resident advisor, or RA), while offering up a rich and diverse slate of resources and activities. The LLC creates a specific environment where students can serve as a cultural locus point for the entire community — of course, many students have jobs or prior housing commitments that preclude full engagement. But Vincent is quite clear that the valuable and unique experiences students show them what it means to be a pharmacist.

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So far, about half of each of these pre-pharmacy classes have taken part in the Rx For Success Living Learning Community — of course, every student is available to all pre-pharmacy students, and that the LLC can serve as a cultural locus point for the entire community.

Vincent elaborates, “Each semester our pre-pharmacy students visit the College of Pharmacy, where they do a pharmacy simulation with the pharmacy students. The pharmacy students show them what they’ve learned, and the undergraduate students get hands-on experience doing some things that a pharmacist might do. They also get to meet the pharmacy students, meet some faculty and staff, tour the facility, and attend a sample class.”

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pre-pharmacy cohort, sending out profound ripple effects that transcend even the pre-pharmacy program itself.

“My goal and my hope is that this helps these students to feel like the university is providing them with support systems,” says Vincent. “Even if they’re not part of the LLC, they’re still benefiting from that LLC being available. I often see pre-pharmacy students who are not technically in the LLC going over to the residence floor because that’s the gathering place. I think that perception does pervade not just the major but throughout the undergraduates. They see what’s going on, and even if they don’t partake of it, that perception is a big deal. They feel cared about.”

Almost like they’re part of an extended family?

“The concept of family is key to the learning community format,” agrees Goodwin. “We have monthly family dinners where we come together to check-in with each other and talk about the college experience thus far. We have community members reflect on what is going well, or maybe not so well, and we identify others in the community that can provide help and support.”

The result is the creation of a community ethos that is seeded in the youngest first-years and passed along from class to class. “You have this community of students who matriculate through the years, up to graduate school,” says Vincent. “And so, another component to the LLC is the establishment of a culture that says: this is an inclusive community; you’re not working against your peers, you’re working with your peers; you’re not competing against them.”

Indeed, as the LLC evolves, second-year students have remained active in the community, often serving as mentors for new students. “Many of the changes that we made, or things that we kept the same, for this year’s group are due in large part to the feedback and involvement of last year’s LLC students,” says Goodwin. “Some of them met with us throughout the spring semester on an advising taskforce. The RA for that year’s community was a member of last year’s LLC, and the second-years are still involved, joining us throughout the year for learning community events and building an even larger network of support.”

It’s still a young program, but preliminary data show that network of support is translating into student success, with an increase in GPA and an increase in retention as the initial LLC cohort moves through the program. And from a qualitative perspective, the student response has been overwhelmingly positive.

“It’s an awesome opportunity,” says MaKayla Nadeau, who is currently a second-year pre-pharmacy student. “Living on a floor that is primarily other pre-professional pharmacy students allows you to meet people who are just like you right away. Also, because you all take most of the same classes and live together, you can work on homework and study for exams together. The community really helps you make connections and form a support system with your future classmates and even teachers.”

For Vincent, the Living Learning Community’s greatest impact on students comes from forming that sense of mutual support. “It’s the bonds they’ve formed with one another,” she says. “They study together, because they’re right there, and they help each other. The ones who have had a lot of experience with, say, Gen Chem help the ones who are struggling with that; or, say, the ones who are really good at math, help the others with their math stuff. Those sorts of relationships, the support systems that are right there, are super, super important for them.”

“And not just in terms of their studies,” she continues. “They can ask their peers things they can’t ask me. I try to be as open as possible to helping them, but I realize that there are only some things they’re going to ask a faculty member. That’s probably the way it should be. But giving them this support system, so they have someone they can ask, no matter what the question is — that’s what this is all about. So they can be successful and work it out, whatever it is.”

UNE Pre-professional Pharmacy students offer support at the annual JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation) Diabetes Walk fundraising event.
On August 15, 2017, the UNE Art Gallery celebrated the legacy of Stephen Halpert and recognized the generosity of Judy and Leonard Lauder with a special photography exhibition and reception in the newly renovated Innovation Hall. A portion of a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Lauder will fund an endowment to preserve and grow the UNE photography collection, which they named the Stephen K. Halpert Photographic Collection at UNE. The remainder of the gift funded the installation of an elevator within the Art Gallery, which is currently under construction.

Friends, family members, supporters, and artists were welcomed by President James D. Herbert, who highlighted Steve’s many scholarly and artistic contributions to UNE and to the Art Gallery as well as Judy’s long relationship with UNE as a photographer. Albert Glickman, Judy’s late husband, who was once a Westbrook Trustee and a close friend of Steve’s, was also recognized.
CAPTIONS:
Page 46 Stephen Halpert and Judith Lauder
Page 47 Selected works from the Stephen K. Halpert Photographic Collection at UNE on display at Innovation Hall
Page 48 Judith Lauder, President James D. Herbert, Anne Zill, and Stephen Halpert
Page 49 Stephen Halpert thanking those who make the Stephen K. Halpert Photographic Collection at UNE possible
BRANDON DIONNE, PHARM.D. ’13

CURRENT PURSUITS: I am an assistant clinical professor in the Department of Pharmacy and Health Systems Sciences within Northeastern University’s School of Pharmacy, Bouvé College of Health Professions. I co-coordinate and teach a course in comprehensive disease management, which primarily focuses on infectious disease therapeutics. I also work with students on research projects as part of their capstone requirement or independent study. Additionally, as clinical faculty, I maintain a practice site at Brigham and Women’s Hospital where I round with the infectious diseases consult teams and work on the antimicrobial stewardship team. As part of this responsibility, I precept both final year pharmacy students and pharmacy residents on their clinical rotations.

THE UNE EXPERIENCE: During my time at the UNE College of Pharmacy, I had the opportunity to complete an elective course, an independent study in benchtop research, and an advanced pharmacy practice experience, all in infectious diseases. The College of Pharmacy’s course in clinical pharmacokinetics really drove home the medication expertise that pharmacists can provide to the medical team, especially with antibiotics. What really interested me about infectious diseases is that when antibiotics are used inappropriately, it not only affects the patient being treated but also society as a whole because it contributes to antimicrobial resistance.

NEXT STEPS: I greatly enjoy my current position because it provides me with a mix of teaching, clinical practice, and research, which always keeps things interesting. The most rewarding part of my job is when a student is recognized by the team for a good catch or finally starts to make connections between what they learned in class and real life clinical practice.

As pharmacists, it is important to pass on the knowledge we have received and be involved in training the next generation; to that end, I hope to establish an accredited PGY2 Pharmacy Residency in Infectious Diseases and serve as the program director. I also plan to continue to give back to the pharmacy profession through service in professional organizations, possibly including an elected office, as well staying involved with the College of Pharmacy.

KAYLA STEWART, PHARM.D. ’14

CURRENT PURSUITS: I am the reproductive health clinical team lead at Apothecary By Design specialty pharmacy. Working with a team of remarkable telepharmacists, technicians, nurses, and patient care coordinators, I provide education and support to patients undergoing fertility treatments. I ensure that our patients have all the supplies and medications they need and the knowledge required to use them safely and appropriately.

UNE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY Alumni Spotlights

by Sarah Wissler
Improving a patient’s experience through education and counseling is by far the most exciting and rewarding part of my job. A typical patient undergoing in-vitro fertilization (IVF) might receive four or five expensive injectable medications at one time, each complex and unique in its preparation. Adding these complex medications to the immense stress that accompanies infertility and the cost associated with the treatment can be incredibly overwhelming for many patients. When I see a patient empowered and confident in her understanding of the medications after I’ve provided counseling, I feel truly rewarded.

THE UNE EXPERIENCE: The UNE College of Pharmacy has provided me with an invaluable set of skills that I utilize every day, one of the most important being the ability to collect and analyze evidence-based information. At UNE, I built an essential knowledge base and learned the skills required to continually add to it. Even more beneficial were the experiences I gained through my Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) rotations. My rotation in Granada, Spain, was transformative, and I provide better health care as a result. During my Wentworth-Douglass rotation, I was able to translate my knowledge into applied clinical skills. And, it was the preceptor during my rotation at UNE who not only inspired me to pursue a career in specialty pharmacy but eventually hired me. I worked with many brilliant preceptors who were instrumental in making me the pharmacist I am proud to be today.

NEXT STEPS: My future goals revolve around expanding my clinical knowledge and improving my ability to provide exceptional patient care. Although I lead the reproductive health team, I work with many other types of patients as well. The specialty pharmacy industry is growing rapidly, and I aim to keep current on the new therapies emerging in a variety of disease states. I also plan to continue working with pharmacy students on their APPE rotations at Apothecary By Design, in hopes that I can pass on some of what was given to me by my preceptors.

LINH TRAN, PHARM.D. ’17

CURRENT PURSUITS: I am completing a two-year Rutgers U.S. Medical Affairs Post-Doctoral Fellowship at Genentech in San Francisco, California. The first year is spent in the area of medical communications within U.S. Medical Affairs. I am responsible for communicating relevant, timely, accurate, and balanced information on Genentech’s products to health care professionals, working to positively influence the safe and effective use of these products.

I owe Dr. Edward Li and Dr. Christian Teter a great deal of gratitude for the start of my career. I was lost during my second year of pharmacy school and I did not know what I wanted to do after graduation. I only knew I wanted to help make a large impact on health care. Professor Li presented the idea of public policy and gave me the opportunity to gain experience with a summer internship at a managed care oncology company. Through Associate Professor Teter’s many office hours and his numerous projects, I learned a lot about the aspects of pharmacy not taught within the classroom. He taught me that it’s important to be curious and realistic about what is possible.

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— Kayla Stewart

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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS
to understand and master soft skills like how to work well with others, or “play well in the sandbox.” He said that although you can be trained for any job after graduation, a positive attitude can’t be taught.

**NEXT STEPS:** After my fellowship, I hope to continue my role here with this great company. I would like to work in a medical setting, creating global documents for health care providers around the world. I also want to become a preceptor, but I will approach this one step at a time!

**OLHA PERKOWSKI, PHARM.D. ’17**

**CURRENT PURSUITS:** I’m a pharmacist at CVS Pharmacy in Peabody, Massachusetts. What I really like about working in community pharmacy is having direct contact with my patients. It is really important to build trusting relationships with patients, getting to know them and their health issues better. When they come to the pharmacy looking for help or advice and I’m able to help, it’s the most rewarding part of my job.

**THE UNE EXPERIENCE:** I applied to four different schools of pharmacy and had interviews at all of them. I made my choice based on my experience during interview day. The UNE College of Pharmacy faculty and administrative staff were very welcoming and friendly. They answered all of my questions about my expectations for the program. Plus, I couldn’t resist the cozy campus and beautiful Portland area. I absolutely enjoyed my time at UNE!

The College of Pharmacy played a huge role in preparing me to be a successful pharmacist. The relationship between students and professors at the College of Pharmacy is collaborative, which resembles my professional health care team. UNE provides opportunities to gain the necessary knowledge, develop interprofessional connections and deliver exceptional health care. Throughout my studies, I always felt a lot of support from professors and administrators. I’m very thankful for that.

**NEXT STEPS:** I plan on growing in my pharmacy career and gaining more experience. I particularly enjoy community outreach, and community pharmacy provides many outlets for this type of work. At CVS, I participate in an outreach program called “One Choice” and have given a couple of presentations on prescription drug abuse to high school students. Knowing that I can help others make decisions about how to lead healthier lives makes me feel fulfilled personally and professionally.

**SHAIL PATEL, PHARM.D. ’13**

**CURRENT PURSUITS:** At the beginning of August 2017, I started my third position at Eli Lilly in four years! In this new market analytics and forecasting role, I will be working on developing forecasts for oncology products in the pipeline as well as marketed oncology products. In the future, I may be involved in business development projects, including in-licensing and external collaborations.

One of the most rewarding aspects of my job is having the opportunity to meet people across the company. During my fellowship, I was expected to network as much as possible and learn from seasoned experts about their contributions. Eli Lilly is a very large corporation with countless functional groups working on different projects. Yet, we are all united with the single goal of bringing the next major treatment to market.

**THE UNE EXPERIENCE:** Oncology is a very complicated field, with scientific advances each and every single day. Courses such as Dr. John Redwanski’s Drug Information class helped me...
better understand how to locate the correct resources to find the needed answers, which has proved invaluable in my career.

**NEXT STEPS:** I plan to continue working in this industry and look forward to expanding my knowledge in my new position.

Working in the cancer treatment field has been a dynamic, intellectually stimulating, and fulfilling opportunity. I have met people with diverse backgrounds, both educational and cultural, during my four years at Eli Lilly. These experiences continue to shape my outlook and influence the way I approach challenges. I would wholeheartedly recommend any UNE student to consider a career in oncology and pharmaceutical research.

**SYLVIA PARK, PHARM.D. ’14**

**CURRENT PURSUITS:** After growing up on the East Coast and living there my entire life, the thought of moving far from my family was quite scary. However, when I came out of my comfort zone, I found my dream job! I am a U.S. Commissioned Corps Officer and clinical pharmacist at Northern Navajo Medical Center, which is the Indian Health Service located in Shiprock, New Mexico. I serve American Indians, primarily the Navajo tribe.

As a clinical pharmacist, I work closely with providers to improve patient health outcomes and safety by reviewing patient charts and labs, answering drug information questions, and making drug-related recommendations. I also work as a chronic pain management pharmacist, providing recommendations on pain regimens, training pharmacy staff on opioid safety and suicide, and answering pain-related questions. As a Commissioned Corps Officer of the Public Health Service (PHS), I serve in leadership roles such as the Vaccines For Children coordinator and Consolidated Mail Outpatient Pharmacy coordinator. Furthermore, I educate health professionals, make implementations to improve patient quality and safety, and provide training on any health-related or system updates.

The mission of the Indian Health Service (IHS) is “to raise the physical, mental, social, and spiritual health of American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) to the highest level.” Like the mission, the most rewarding aspect of my job is that I serve American Indians to promote their health outcomes by working as part of an interdisciplinary team. A lot of American Indians still experience financial difficulties, lack of water/electricity resources, and transportation issues. Therefore, identifying their needs and barriers to access are key sources of their treatment plan. I am grateful that I can be involved in their health care to raise their physical, mental, social, and spiritual wellbeing.

**THE UNE EXPERIENCE:** UNE provided great opportunities to complete six Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) rotations in a variety of hospital and community settings. The APPEs strengthened my pharmacological and clinical skills in areas such as anticoagulation therapy, sterile and non-sterile compounding, infectious disease, and medication reconciliation. I was also actively involved, either as an officer or as a member, in many professional pharmacy organizations through UNE. I was able to organize events and learned to work more effectively as a team member while educating the public on comprehensive pharmaceutical care. Through these experiences, I gained leadership and communication skills as well as an understanding of best clinical practices and the importance of public health. Lastly, I’m thankful to Dr. Cheryl Baca’s airport through every step of my PHS application.

**NEXT STEPS:** I hope to continue serving as an officer in the U.S. Commissioned Corps of Public Health Service, working on behalf of minorities and vulnerable populations. In the future, I would like to be involved with research or policy to promote public health and improve health awareness.
Former U.S. Senator from Maine George J. Mitchell served as the featured speaker at the eighth Annual George and Barbara Bush Distinguished Lecture on September 12 at 5 p.m. in UNE’s Harold Alfond Forum on the Biddeford Campus. Mitchell’s lecture was titled “Challenges Facing the U.S., at Home and Abroad.” The event was free and open to the public.

Mitchell has had a long and distinguished career, serving for several years as a federal judge before being elected to the U.S. Senate, where he served from 1980 to 1995. From 1989 to 1995, he held the position of Senate Majority Leader. Mitchell received the National Constitution Center’s Liberty Medal as well as the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his role as chairman of peace negotiations in the Northern Ireland peace agreement. Most recently, he has served as U.S. Special Envoy to the Middle East.

Mitchell’s Bush Lecture marked a return to the UNE podium, after speaking as part of the university’s Tangier Global Forum on the UNE Morocco Campus in May.
GEORGE AND BARBARA BUSH DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

CAPTIONS:

Page 58
Former U.S. Senator from Maine George J. Mitchell delivers the eighth Annual George and Barbara Bush Distinguished Lecture.

Page 59
UNE President James Herbert with George Mitchell.

Page 60
James Herbert and George Mitchell welcome UNE’s Mitchell Scholars.

Page 61
George Mitchell addresses a packed audience at the Harold Alfond Forum.
UNE DEDICATES NEW RESEARCH VESSEL ‘SHARKOLOGY’

The University of New England has joined the global ‘You are Welcome Here’ initiative, created to show students around the world that they are supported by colleges and universities in the U.S. This movement—in support of the thousands of U.S. higher education institutions that are safe, diverse, inclusive, and dedicated to students of all backgrounds—arose in response to current events that have sparked in the novel. The book, because of the spontaneous, organic wave of interest it generated, has created a broad and powerful range of discussion, dialogues, and questions. They include the nature of citizenship; the complex and raises a broad and powerful range of society; and what it takes to be a leader, to be a courageous, and to love another human being. These themes are broad, common to the human condition, and cross all national boundaries.

The University of New England and the UNE Center for Global Humanities sponsored a slate of discussions in southern Maine. There were four events held on UNE’s campuses in Biddeford and Portland, and UNE faculty and staff also moderated discussions at off-campus locations.

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McReynolds. “Through the Day of Service, UNE becomes the lives and routines of Biddeford area citizens,” stated lawn mowers and bikes, signing up blood donors for the non-profit organizations, assembling machinery like who may not be ‘nature people,’” he said, “there are many was “something for everyone” at the event. “For those Department of Society, Culture and Languages and Sam McReynolds, Ph.D., professor and chair in the departing for their day of volunteer work.

Michaud, at the Biddeford Campus Center before Biddeford and Saco mayors, Alan Casavant and Ron

greeted by UNE President James Herbert as well as staff, and alumni, dispersed among 32 volunteer sites throughout the Biddeford-Saco area to community members, including students, faculty, staff, and alumni, dispersed among 22 volunteer sites throughout the Biddeford-Saco-Wareham area to volunteer their time and services. Participants were sponsored by UNE President James J. Hurley as well as Biddeford and Saco mayors. Alan Casavant and Ron McReynolds, Ph.D., professor and chair in the Department of Society, Culture and Languages and

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

The University of New England has held continuously for seven years. As it was in 2016, UNE was listed among the nation’s best colleges in the U.S. News & World Report list of America’s Best Colleges in the Best Regional University category for the Northeast, a distinction that UNE has held for seven years. As it was in 2016, UNE was listed among the nation’s best colleges in the U.S. News & World Report list of America’s Best Colleges in the Best Regional University category for the Northeast, a distinction that UNE has held for seven years. As it was in 2016, UNE was listed among the nation’s best colleges in the U.S. News & World Report list of America’s Best Colleges in the Best Regional University category for the Northeast, a distinction that UNE has held for seven years. 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Interview conducted by Curt Smyth

When the University of New England announced in December of 2014 it would be adding football, Mike Lichten was in the midst of building a recruiting class at Becker College that would transform the Hawks’ program from a one-win output in 2014 into a 7-3 mark the following season. Fast-forward to 2017. Now the head coach at UNE, Lichten has a different type of building project — one of starting a program from scratch as the Nor’easters look to make an entrance into NCAA III football in 2018.

Lichten has a roster of more than 70 student-athletes for the Nor’easter’s 2017 pre-varsity season, and he is excited for the challenges that lie ahead. We recently sat down with Coach Lichten to get his thoughts on establishing the foundation for the UNE football program.

What does it mean to you to be the person to lead the UNE football program?

“In a word: honored. There are very few moments in a person’s life where they get an opportunity to shape and create history. The decision made by UNE’s senior administration and athletics leadership to appoint me as the first leader of this program finds me humbled as well as driven to validate their faith in me. I understand the focus of the position, and I will work each day to validate the trust that UNE and its community has in me. I recognize the faith that our players’ families have in us. I am a teacher who educates young men through the sport of football."

What are the characteristics you and your coaching staff are looking for in a UNE football student-athlete?

“Academic integrity, high moral character, and a love for football — in that order. In the recruiting process we look closely into how each prospect demonstrates these qualities. Recruited student-athletes are here to get a great education, immerse themselves in everything UNE has to offer, and to better their own lives through hard work and accountability. Our families members will be selfless, putting the betterment of the group ahead of their own agenda. Our student-athletes will play tough, physical football and will not know the meaning of giving up or quitting.”

What can we expect to see from the UNE football team?

“You can expect the members of this program to represent the University of New England with integrity, determination, and competitiveness no matter what our task is. We will make the University proud every day, not just on game day. Our student-athletes will be leaders in the community.”

UNE head coach Mike Lichtens built the football program at Becker College and will look to do the same for the Nor’easters.

Opposite page: The Nor’easter’s biggest fan shows his appreciation.
classroom, on-campus, in Southern Maine communities, and on the football field. We intend to be the biggest supporters of our other immensely successful athletics teams, as they have set a high standard of winning culture and expectations at UNE. Our student-athletes will be members of clubs and student government.

On the field you can expect a team that functions as one. We are a group of diverse individuals brought together to achieve the goal of a conference championship and regional dominance in New England and beyond. We are a group that recognizes that nothing and no one is more important than the success of the whole, of the family.

What is your long-term plan for the UNE football program?

“This will certainly be a building process — one that will need to be done in a strategic and deliberate manner. From the outset we have been focused on assembling the roster and hiring a coaching staff that will develop these young men in all facets of their lives.

The next phase will be to work with the senior administration and Athletics Department leadership to help develop plans for a first-rate facility that will support not only the football program but our other teams and the campus community.

Once we have accomplished our initial goals, we will look to establish the UNE football program as a power not only within Commonwealth Coast Football but at the regional level as well.

While we strive to achieve each one of our goals, we will never compromise the mission of the UNE football program: to guide young men to become mature, prepared members of a global society; to teach student-athletes — through playing football — the importance of teamwork, accountability, discipline, sacrifice, and determination, and how to overcome adversity in every aspect of their lives.”

Nor’easter Nation was in full force in the pre-varsity season, including a throng of nearly 500 for a September 2 matchup at Curry College. Opposite page: Ronnie Mwai ’21 (center) was one of 63 first-years on the 2017 Nor’easters’ pre-varsity roster.
Three former student-athletes, two current members of the UNE Athletics Department, and one fondly remembered championship team were among those inducted into the University of New England Varsity Club Athletics Hall of Fame in a ceremony held at the Harold Alfond Forum on October 20.

The Class of 2017 is comprised of former student-athletes Richard Herlihy SFC ’78, Lizzie Wareham UNE ’12, and Kelley Paradis UNE ’12; current head cross country coach Ron Ouellette; current interim director of athletics Curt Smyth; and the 1993 UNE women’s volleyball team.

A 1978 graduate of St. Francis College, Herlihy played four years of varsity ice hockey, four years of varsity baseball, and ran cross country for one season. A three-time National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) First Team All-Star in ice hockey, Herlihy totaled 95 goals and 81 assists over his four-year career. He was voted team Most Valuable Player in 1978 and league MVP that same season. Herlihy led the Red Knights in goals (30) his senior season.

Wareham, who graduated in 2012, is the first UNE swimmer enshrined in the Hall of Fame. Seven times during her career she earned All-New England status at the New England Intercollegiate Swimming and Diving Association (NEISDA) Championships, and she was the first UNE swimmer to qualify for the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Championship. Wareham currently holds four individual team records and is part of three record-setting relay entries. UNE posted a dual meet record of 34-11 during her career.

The catalyst for some of the most successful UNE women’s basketball teams in program history, Paradis graduated in 2012. She finished her career with 1,467 points (6th all-time), 278 steals (2nd), and 118 blocked shots (2nd). Paradis was a three-time first team all-conference selection, while being voted Commonwealth Coast Conference (CCC) Defensive Player of the Year her junior season and CCC Player of the Year her senior year. During her career, the Nor’easters had an overall record of 89-27 and made two appearances at the NCAA Division III Championship.

A Biddeford native, Ouellette has guided the Nor’easters’ men’s and women’s cross country teams for 17 seasons. He is an eight-time CCC Coach of the Year (7 women; 1 men) and has led the women’s team to five consecutive conference titles. Between the men’s and women’s programs, the Nor’easters have also finished runners-up at the conference meet a total of nine times. Ouellette is a member of the Maine Sports Legends Hall of Honor.

Smyth, UNE’s sports information director since 1997, served as the head coach of three different sports (women’s basketball, men’s golf, and softball) prior to moving to solely an administrative role in 2007. Under his direction, the women’s basketball program won a total of 142 games over a 10-year period, including the Nor’easters’ first CCC title and NCAA Championship appearance. Smyth has held the position of interim director of Athletics on three occasions.

The 1993 women’s volleyball team posted a 22-2 record on route to the NAIA District 5 championship. After winning no district title, UNE went on to take the NAIA Bi/District 13 title to earn a trip to the NAIA National Championship held in San Diego. The Knights were led by first team all-district selections Joyce Brown and Leslie Collins.
Class Notes Editor: Amy Haile

For length and clarity, submissions may be edited to 75 words or less. Please limit submissions.

Class Notes Editor: Amy Haile

Antoinette Casavola Going writes, “This is my twenty-sixth year at Westbrook Junior College and the 76th year following graduation. I am able to live independently in the area where I grew up. My family members live in the area as well. The Westbrook College campus keeps expanding but they have kept the memorial garden as is. I love to spend my working years as a certified medical assistant in obstetrics, gynecology, entomology from the Maine Center for Medicine but return to work part time until fully retired at age 87.”

Joanne Wildei Shedd writes, “Still hanging in at age 95 this year. We recently celebrated my birthday with daughter and her husband and grand daughter and three great grandchildren at local restaurant. I have remained a U.S. Naval officer for over fifty years. As a family we enjoyed living overseas in Napa, Italy, Japan, the Philippines, Okinawa, and many parts of the U.S. We had two sons and a daughter — one son and daughter are still living. They were both teachers — now retired. I am living with my daughter and her husband in a condo at Lake Talquin in Quincy, Florida. Best wishes to my fellow graduates.”

Leah Katz Cohen writes, “I have fond memories of my two years at Westbrook — one of which was from my home town of Monmouth School in the Monument Square to take the bus from Maples Hill to Stevens Ave in the winter. I am well.”

Charlotte Richards Morse writes, “It is sad for me to report the recent passing of Louise Kerr Miles on June 11, 2017 at Piper Shores in Scarborough where she had been living for several years. Louise and her husband resided in Scarborough for two years, the first year at Bell House, and the next at Houghton Hall both now gone from Westbrook where she had been living for nearly 40 years. Louise and her husband retired from Sears, Avenue and replaced by Park Plaza. We had kept in touch over the years and before I left Scarborough for several years. Louise and I were roommates for two years, the first year at Bell House, and the next at Houghton Hall both now gone from Westbrook. The Westbrook Campus keeps expanding but they have kept the memorial garden as is. I was married to a U.S. Naval officer for over fifty years. We had two sons and a daughter — one daughter and her husband, grand daughter and three great grandchildren are still living. They were both teachers — now retired. We have kept in touch over the years and before I left Scarborough I had several fun lunch visits with her at Piper Shores. I am sorry to know that she is gone along with so many more fellow graduates.”

Priscilla Smith Achter writes, “Believe it or not, I have finally sent my copy of the slides from our 50th Reunion June 31st at the request of President Bill Anderson for the Westbrook Alumni Archives. Also included in my 1995 notebook are some files after a long time.”

Lydia Barlow Laffleur writes, “I recall with fondness my two years at Westbrook Junior College, many years ago. Now that I am 70 years old, I post my favorite blog — still up right.wordpress.com — about my experiences in aging.”

Charlotte Richards Morse writes, “Still hanging in at age 95 this year. We recently celebrated my birthday with daughter and her husband and granddaughter and three great grandchildren at local restaurant. I have remained a U.S. Naval officer for over fifty years. As a family we enjoyed living overseas in Napa, Italy, Japan, the Philippines, Okinawa, and many parts of the U.S. We had two sons and a daughter — one son and daughter are still living. They were both teachers — now retired. I am living with my daughter and her husband in a condo at Lake Talquin in Quincy, Florida. Best wishes to my fellow graduates.”

Rachel Perry Hagerty still lives at her home in Phoenix. We speak about once a month. She has had surgery to have her vision and limitations, but I am looking at some assisted living options as that may come in the future, Maybelle Blake Johnson has just relocated to Artios Crossroads Place in Waterford CT. We will long remember the year you both were here in Maine and we are able to visit campus. Stephanie is happening there these days and I am proofed all that has been taking place and need that co-leader. The College of Dental Medicine would be first on my list to see as my grandfather was an early dentist here. That field is much needed today in Maine. My husband”
when near. Our old school is a remark-
and the restoration of Alumni Hall is 
I were back on campus for Reunion 
and 
come back for our 70th reunion in 
Carolina — she is well and hopes to 
Chapman Hills 
George 
Cleo Nichols 
had a nice long visit from 
Jane Lewis Gleason 
together again.”
were quite younger — our four sons 
that is something at our age to be 
Caspole and I are still doing well and 
work in Indonesia. I’m now active in 
Physical Therapy and our mission 
“Greetings to all from Estes Park, 
Pauline Beck Ingold 
writes, 
Joanne Thomas-Hall 
writing which was at Alumni Hall last 
luncheon this year which was nice. 
Elaine McFarland Johnson 
writes, “On a 
April 15 was a special day. Our oldest son, 
and New Hampshire. I took up golf and 
and two girls. I now have thirteen 
married Daniel Gleason from Wellesley, 
and two girls. I now have thirteen 
grandchildren and seven great grand-
ochans so lots of family visits are always 
friends. Thirty solar panels were 
installed on my roof in July. That is part 
of my helping to save the environment.”
Nancy Packard Vanites 
writes, “It’s good to see WJC/UNE Portland 
campus expanding at a pace with now, or broadcasting programs. My membership at WJC has certainly benefited me in countless ways, and I am appreciative of all my teachers and professors. It’s always a pleasure to get together with classmates whose friendships endure beyond time and distance. Several days, such as the high school end of the school year, She was a delight to all the faculty and a beautiful view of the river and 
Aubrey Whiting 
writes, “Every day is free in here. Essex, CT. I thought you might 
good family reunion. I received a 
a great family reunion. I received a 
Mary Jane Thomas Dougherty 
writes, “July 
and a lovely view of the river and 
We went in to the cafeteria for coffee 
view from any window. I have a son and 
overlooking Casco Bay — a beautiful 
My husband passed away in 2002, 
and college all on the same street — 
now almost ready.” 
and 2 — which we missed, but spent 
space driving through the grounds, 
looking at the new lunch and dining halls. We 
went to the city of Cape Ann for 
and coffee lovely view of the river and 
alone, and Methodist 
the Methodist Church as lay leader, 
work in Indonesia. I’m now active in 
the Methodist Church as lay leader, 
Physical Therapy and our mission 
and the Adriatic Coast. I had a long 
portion at WJC has surely benefited me in countless ways, and I am appreciative of all my teachers and professors. It’s always a pleasure to get together with classmates whose friendships endure beyond time and distance. Several days, such as the high school end of the school year, She was a delight to all the faculty and a beautiful view of the river and
Joan Bagley Della Torre writes, “I have had a busy year with a full job and was able to attend all of the activities of the Walpole VNA and still miss from the Walpole VNA and still miss. Paul and I sold our home of 48 years and move to Smyrna, Delaware. We enjoy our time together.”

Jane Forbush Murphy writes, “Janice Gregory McGonagle, Marjory Meyer Soil, and Andrea Stevens Anderson for Las Vegas in December and to enjoy the friendly, bustling, breathing, bright, and sun-watching.”

Attagirl to the classmate who contributed to the column, “Barbara Trudell Stephens: ‘I was so happy if you sent me some news, even one line. On a recent trip I was able to cross off one of the items that I have been wanting to do for many years in the Directors Office and some of the Activities Committee of the Women’s Club. We also have Adaptive clients on the slopes. I had a wonderful country. I’m still living in Connecticut and moved to Smyrna, Delaware. I can enjoy the friendly, bustling, breathing, bright, and sun-watching.”

Joan Merrill Kennedy writes, “Hello to all the Houghton Hall girls and the Berkshires where we enjoyed the foliage. We enjoy our time together.”

A big thank you to the classmates who have attended together a few years ago and it was as remembered with such fondness and all the love that they have received. ‘Westbrook will always be remembered with such fondness and all the love that they have received. It’s quite a challenge to say the least — could never give up on the honor system. It’s quite a challenge to say the least — could never give up on the honor system.”

Marion Brown LeFever and husband Gary came to enjoy the slopes in the Berkshires where we enjoyed the foliage. We enjoy our time together.”

Phyllis Cramer Nixon writes, “I spent three weeks in Budapest, Hungary with three friends. I had no trouble getting around the beautiful city because our friend was born there. It was a fabulous trip through a wonderful country. I’m still living in Connecticut and moved to Smyrna, Delaware. I can enjoy the friendly, bustling, breathing, bright, and sun-watching.”

Barbara Parnin Klyzeiko writes, “Marjory Meyer Soil is single and healthy. We enjoy our time together.”
I have been married for 55 years, Joanne Berest Markley writes, in the field of physical therapy. I have a grandson who works for Wayfair. My granddaughter graduated Magna Cum Laude from University of Maine in Brunswick in the sales department. Together we had three children. I reside in Kingfield where I taught at Mt. Desert Island High School. Life is great with tennis, golf, kayaking, traveling and writing which I have always adored. It’s a short life style with tennis, golf, kayaking, traveling and writing which I have always adored. It’s a short life style with tennis, golf, kayaking, traveling and writing which I have always adored. It’s a short life style...

Diane G. Beaupre ’81, daughter of Social Work program this year and Laraine Carson Derrig writes, “I retired from Paoli Hospital Auxiliary Hershey’s Mill.”

Estdaith Deb Schils writes, “The past year is one for the records. My husband and my four children have been very busy. I have a daughter in law and a grandson, so I get to have all the fun and then send them home.”

Linda Lawn Walsh writes, “We enjoy sailing our 37 foot Island Packet (Quaich) out of Monmouth, Maine.”

Barbara Morris Zelinka writes, “I retired from my college presidency at the wonder of retirement. Everyone was happy until the day I marched to Paris and to Caesar this past May. The love and memories we will always have.”

Linda Kenny Sherman writes, “Our family is now back in the states and we will be spending the next few weeks in the sand and surf of Cape Cod.”

John A. Deering writes, “I retired from the U.S. Government in 2012 — I am looking forward to being a full time grandpa!”

Barbara Walsh Pennington writes, “Our son-in-law Todd has now turned his life upside down. Karen Murphy Vucich has been my wife of 43 years, and I am the proud father of four. I’m the president of the Dual Careers; Educator/Administrator.”

Joan Slade Desgroseilliers writes, “I retired from Johnson & John 50th reunion in June was great! I went to Turks and Caicos this January in Biddeford!”

Clifford A. Faille writes, “My daughter Kate was married in July 1971. “The past year is one for the records. My husband and my four children have been very busy. I have a daughter in law and a grandson, so I get to have all the fun and then send them home.”

Mariana de los Reyes writes, “We have been traveling a few places which were quite interesting. We spent over a month revisiting areas we had seen four years ago and this summer my husband and I are now back in the states so we will see them in 2018. We have now turned our life upside down.”

Linda Amaru Smythe writes, “Hello everyone. I am the one on the far right and Michael is the one on the left. I organized for our 50th! In the picture, I am at the local bridge center and Julie was the one who organized the tournament. It’s an eye opening experience! It is still living in Hawaii. This is how you have a family over for dinner!”

Joan H. Quest, unusual experience! It is still working. It is still living in Hawaii. This is how you have a family over for dinner!”

Linda3.06x1.75-3x5.jpg

Linda3.06x1.75-3x5.jpg
Shelley Weinstock-Auster is busy caring for her aging parents and working. Her dad has been in declining health, and she is now living in a facility near her mother. She is busy helping her sister, laughing with her nieces and nephews, and taking care of her dog, Sam. Shelley spends several days a week in Westbrook, helping her sister with her business and running her own. She is looking forward to spending more time with her parents.

Sheri Higgins is busy with her consulting firm, She works at a local community. It ended up being 600 pages but she had a ball writing and researching. She is busy with her consulting firm and working as a substitute crossing guard which turned into a full-time job. She also volunteers at the children's museum and the local historical society.

Tina Segalla Grant was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2013. She is busy with her consulting firm and working as a substitute crossing guard which turned into a full-time job. She also volunteers at the children's museum and the local historical society.

Fenway Health as a Nurse Practitioner. She has been a personal interest, having spent several decades volunteering in the community. It ended up being 600 pages but she had a ball writing and researching. She is busy with her consulting firm and working as a substitute crossing guard which turned into a full-time job. She also volunteers at the children's museum and the local historical society.

Sharmon Avery Toner is busy with her consulting firm and working as a substitute crossing guard which turned into a full-time job. She also volunteers at the children's museum and the local historical society.

Carol E. Williams retired from the University of Albany in May 2013. She has been a personal interest, having spent several decades volunteering in the community. It ended up being 600 pages but she had a ball writing and researching. She is busy with her consulting firm and working as a substitute crossing guard which turned into a full-time job. She also volunteers at the children's museum and the local historical society.

Lana Hines-Neveu writes, “My husband and I both retired from the University of Albany in May 2013. We have almost 30 years and my husband and I both retired from the University of Albany in May 2013. We have almost 30 years and my husband has returned to USM, where we plan to retire may come a bit sooner.”

Carol E. Williams retired from the University of Albany in May 2013. She has been a personal interest, having spent several decades volunteering in the community. It ended up being 600 pages but she had a ball writing and researching. She is busy with her consulting firm and working as a substitute crossing guard which turned into a full-time job. She also volunteers at the children's museum and the local historical society.
have been married for 10 years until my oldest son leaves for college. My husband and I have enjoyed our time together in our rented home in the town on the West Coast of Florida. Englewood, Florida — a lovely, quaint town that is both charming and charming — is within driving distance of our home about 40 miles north. We have enjoyed long walks along the beach, the home is a forecloser and needs lots of work, and our daughter hopes to move into the house in the fall. After their daughter moves out, Kim and John will begin their official retirement plans. As for me, I am grateful to be at home and loving it after all these years. We all plan to meet up once or twice a year from now on. If anyone in the area wants to join us please contact me at jmwidberg624@verizon.net. The Olympic team would love to expand the group."

Claire Laceria Murray writes, "It’s hard to believe that it’s been 35 years since Westbrook College Class Notes to me updates you wish included in the next issue. Please stay in touch and send any information or photos you would like to share with classmates and tour the beautiful campus and see how amazing it looks."
that I made there continue to enrich my life. I am proud to be a sculptor and to work with a group of 2007 graduates that are in the process of building a public art piece in the way of representing "the mixed group in American history." In my free time I enjoy bird watching, hiking, and doing yard work. My twin 15 year old daughter and son are the love of my life. They are a joy every day.

1983

John Martin Diskey, D.O. has been appointed by Georgia Governor Nathan Deal to serve on the Georgia Osteopathic Medical Association’s policy committee.

1987

Mark Bigda, D.O. is our social worker. He is a retired social worker from the State of Georgia.

1992

Robert J. Courtney ’78, ’80 writes, “I’m working as a hospitalist at the VA and am RN certified. I’m serving in the Indianapolis area.”

1994

Joseph M. Gendek, D.O. has been selected as one of the American Medical News’ ‘100 Best Doctors in America.”

1995

Wayne J. Reynolds, D.O.

Wayne J. Reynolds, D.O. writes, “I’m happy to announce my recent engagement to Pamela Anne Schwartz and my wedding date is planned for Dubai, Bhutan, and India to follow.”

1997

Jean Pourch Wright, D.O. "In February we moved to a new home in Gorham, closer to Darryl’s parents and with more space. I’m in my 15th year at VA Home Health and Hospice. Our agency is a new statewide. I’ve made many trips up to the County. I know many neighbors from area that it is beautiful especially in the summer!”

1999

Mark Alan Dery, D.O. writes, “I moved to Orem, UT for about 6 months before Hurricane Katrina and for my infection to recover. It worked out fairly well and I am still doing medical missions to villages in India — this will be my 15th year. I am also proud to be a grandfather.”

1999

Heidi Marie Gannas, M.S.W. writes, “We are doing great things at the New Hampshire state prison. Providing social services will be a challenge for social workers with clients that are in the criminal justice system. Finding the balance of treating this population and still paying homage to the victims of crime is a very stressful challenge for even the most skilled social worker. Thankfully UNE prepares professionals to tackle this challenge and make and implement amazing therapeutic interventions. What better gift can I give a victim that provide them with meaning of what happened is no longer allowed to harm, or our community. This is what we strive to do and perhaps give those offenders a chance to become great citizens.”

2000

Kerry Collin, D.O. has been elected to the inventory board of the Maine Health Care Association, a statewide professional association of physicians with more than 25,000 members.

2001

Michelle Elizabeth Bost, P.A., writes, “I am working as a physician assistant in Winthrop Douglas Hospital’s Emergency Department. I am married to John Bost, and we have two children, Lynx, 20, is entering her junior year at Husson University in Bangor. Maine and Colby, 13, is entering his junior year at Orono. I’m a nurse practitioner, and Colby, 13, is entering his junior year at Orono.”

2016

Michelle Fournier, M.S.W. writes, “I’ve been working at UNE in October 2016 as the Program Manager for the Maine Substance Use Prevention Services Program in the Center for Excellence in Health Innovation.”

2018

Corey Collins, D.O. has been elected to the inventory board of the Maine Health Care Association, a statewide professional association of physicians with more than 25,000 members.

2019

Randy L. Liker, D.O. writes, “I moved to Dallas the summer of 2014 to be near family. I’m still working at ’The new ER Medical Director and Chief Medical Officer at Presbyterian Regional Hospital in Orem UT.’

2020

Toni H. Picerno, D.O. writes, “My husband and I are very excited announce that we have welcomed a daughter to our family. Amy Virginia was born February 2, 2021. She is full of joy and her new name is Toni Victoria H. Picerno. We are very thrilled to have her in our lives. Amy was named after her grandmother, and will be a great challenge and is very rewarding.”

2020

Doreen Fournier, M.S.W. writes, “I began working at UNE in October 2016 as the Program Manager for the Maine Substance Use Prevention Services Program in the Center for Excellence in Health Innovation.”

2020

R. Randle L. Likes, D.O. writes, “I’m happy to announce my recent engagement to Pamela Anne Schwartz and my wedding date is planned for Dubai, Bhutan, and India to follow.”

2020

Doreen Fournier, M.S.W. writes, “I’ve been working at UNE in October 2016 as the Program Manager for the Maine Substance Use Prevention Services Program in the Center for Excellence in Health Innovation.”

A recent publication by Dr. Deanna M. St. Germain, D.O. the healing arts in the State of Georgia.

2020

last year, the first 2016 issue.”

2020

Heidi Marie Gannas, M.S.W. writes, “We are doing great things at the New Hampshire state prison. Providing social services will be a challenge for social workers with clients that are in the criminal justice system. Finding the balance of treating this population and still paying homage to the victims of crime is a very stressful challenge for even the most skilled social worker. Thankfully UNE prepares professionals to tackle this challenge and make and implement amazing therapeutic interventions. What better gift can I give a victim that provide them with meaning of what happened is no longer allowed to harm, or our community. This is what we strive to do and perhaps give those offenders a chance to become great citizens.”

2023

Corey Collins, D.O. has been elected to the inventory board of the Maine Health Care Association, a statewide professional association of physicians with more than 25,000 members.
2003

Kevin T.C. Goff, D.O., writes, “I’m enjoying raising my two boys, Quin and Carter, now 12 and 10. Continues to grow my private practice in the field of trauma surgery, advanced general surgery, and surgical critical care. I have recently named one of Delaware’s ‘Top 40 Under 40’ -- forty most influential people under 40 making a difference in Delaware. I have also made several international humanitarian medical trips to Nepal, India, and Trinidad doing over 2000 surgeries.”


2004

Jessica J. Bolduc ‘04, M.S.O.T. ‘05, D.O., “I received elected as President Elect for the Maine Occupational Therapy Association — my term starts in July.”

2007

Mark Montgomery, M.S.Ed. series. “I finished my Ph.D in Education in 2007. I was directly accepted into my doctorate program and career path. I am proud to say that I got my start at UNE.”

2009

Martha Gilman, D.O., writes, “I am FINALLY graduating from medical school and I do not feel like I won the lottery! I feel like I spent a decade at the University of New England Dental School, but then took instead of four years off and was true hiney graduate in anatomy and physiology and other science classes. The St. Vincent Family Medical Residency Program in Erie, PA took me under their wings and now I’m ready to fly! I will be joining Kathy Rush D.O. and her Direct Primary Care practice in Falmouth. We will be looking for a practice in Maine. I cannot wait to marry him in 2018.”

2010

Kevin T.C. Goff, D.O., writes, “I’m enjoying raising my two boys, Quin and Carter, now 12 and 10. Continues to grow my private practice in the field of trauma surgery, advanced general surgery, and surgical critical care. I have recently named one of Delaware’s ‘Top 40 Under 40’ -- forty most influential people under 40 making a difference in Delaware. I have also made several international humanitarian medical trips to Nepal, India, and Trinidad doing over 2000 surgeries.”


2011

Martin Gillson, D.O., writes, “I am FINALLY graduating from medical school! I did an internship initially after medical school, but then took instead of four years off and was true hiney graduate in anatomy and physiology and other science classes. The St. Vincent Family Medical Residency Program in Erie, PA took me under their wings and now I’m ready to fly! I will be joining Kathy Rush D.O. at her Direct Primary Care Practice in Falmouth. We will be looking for a practice in Maine. I cannot wait to marry him in 2018.”

Katherine A. Kemp, M.S.W. has joined the Strong-Howe Health Center as a clinical social worker. She will be offering behavioral health services to health and dental patients.

2012

Brian J. Edlen was named as the Saint Thomas Academyupper school director for grades 9-12. Before becoming upper school director, Edlen served as dean of students for five years.

2013

Lauren M. Kowalczyk, M.S.W. writes, “I’m currently working as a clinician at Community Health and Counseling Services in Skowhegan, ME and Ryan is currently working as an assistant in Tri-County Mental Health in Farmington, ME.”

2014

Tiffany R. Terrio and Brittany D. Dunn: “We participated in the 13th annual Four Square World Championships at Bridgton Academy. Tiffany won the Women’s Division title — her second championship win in a row!”

Ryan A. Connolly, writes, “I wanted to drop a note in that Ryan T. Gallagher ‘10 and I got married on June 23, 2017.”

Matthew B. Libby, D.O. with Outer Cape Health Services has been named one of four 2017-2018 primary care leadership fellows in the United States; Hamden Betty Ford Foundation Cancer Treatment Centers. I am currently the staff Psychologist for the adolescent and young adult female units at Cancer in Pennsylvania. My education in UNE’s Psychology department made me a competitive candidate when applying for my doctorate and I am thankful for the rigor of a challenging doctorate program and career path. I am proud to say that I got my start at UNE.”

Alexandria M. Betz, D.O. writes, “I’m excited to announce that I am engaged to be married July 6, 2014. We are currently in Iowa where I am completing my material. I will continue to work at Caron Treatment Centers. I am currently the Staff Psychologist for the adolescent and young adult female units at Cancer in Pennsylvania. My education in UNE’s Psychology department made me a competitive candidate when applying for my doctorate and I am thankful for the rigor of a challenging doctorate program and career path. I am proud to say that I got my start at UNE.”

Amanda J. Smith, D.O., writes, “I got my start at UNE. I was named as the Saint Thomas Academyupper school director for grades 9-12. Before becoming upper school director, Smith served as dean of students for five years.

Matthew B. Libby, D.O. with Outer Cape Health Services has been named one of four 2017-2018 primary care leadership fellows in the United States; Hamden Betty Ford Foundation Cancer Treatment Centers. I am currently the staff Psychologist for the adolescent and young adult female units at Cancer in Pennsylvania. My education in UNE’s Psychology department made me a competitive candidate when applying for my doctorate and I am thankful for the rigor of a challenging doctorate program and career path. I am proud to say that I got my start at UNE.”

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2015

Lauren M. Kowalczyk, M.S.W. writes, “I’m currently working as a clinician at Community Health and Counseling Services in Skowhegan, ME and Ryan is currently working as an assistant in Tri-County Mental Health in Farmington, ME.”

2016

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4th, and Brittany finished second after traveling from Washington DC to participate and has won the event in the past.

2015

Courtney Larson Cernohous, Pharm.D. writes, “I married Brandon Cernohous at a vineyard in Pepin, WI.”

William L. Cowen, Ed.D. was recently inducted into the PRSA Hall of Fame, as well as won the PRSA Community Service Award for his work in animal rescue.

Barbara A. Fortier, M.S. ’15 writes, “I had the amazing opportunity to visit UNE’s Tangier campus!”

Robin Watts, M.S. writes, “I am so very happy to announce my engagement to my fiancé, Michael Bedell. I am currently the UNECOM Director of Clinical Simulation on our Biddeford Campus and Michael is an architect in Wells, ME. Michael and I will be getting married on August 18, 2018 in Freeport, ME.”

2016

Rebecca A. Frowine, M.S. writes, “For the last three summers I have been in the field conducting the stellar sea lion census for NOAA. Fall on Marmot then Ugamak islands in the Alaskan-Aleutian Islands. Autumn and spring I have taught at the Blue Ridge Outdoor Education Center in the Smoky Mountains of NE Georgia. In January 2017 I spent 10 days in Israel on a Birthright trip.”

Rebecca A. Frowine, M.S. writes, “I am so very happy to announce my engagement to my fiancé, Michael Bedell. I am currently the UNECOM Director of Clinical Simulation on our Biddeford Campus and Michael is an architect in Wells, ME. Michael and I will be getting married on August 18, 2018 in Freeport, ME.”

From Maine to Morocco at www.une.edu/news and follow UNE on
IN MEMORIAM

1937
Nancy Philipse Noyes Olds-Coady
Westbrook Junior College
July 28, 2017

1939
Wilma Addison Bradford
Westbrook Junior College
July 18, 2017

1940
Barbara Lenardo Zulaf
Westbrook Junior College
June 27, 2017

1941
Joanne Lowell Haftner
Westbrook Junior College
August 3, 2017

1942
Mayme Cate Gimson
Westbrook Junior College
February 8, 2017

1943
Marcia Alden Clark Charest
Westbrook Junior College
June 11, 2017

1944
Elizabeth Bouls Wilson
Westbrook Junior College
November 17, 2016

1945
Joan Fryer Ogden
Westbrook Junior College
March 23, 2017

1946
Barbara Cusack O’Dell
Westbrook Junior College
March 11, 2017

1947
Norma MacAfee Bair
Westbrook Junior College
November 17, 2016

1948
Louis Jacobson Barr
Westbrook Junior College
February 3, 2017

1949
Josephine A. Robbins
Westbrook Junior College
June 2, 2017

1950
Margaret Lenti Cousins
Westbrook Junior College
April 6, 2017

1951
Beatrice Cram Webster
Westbrook Junior College
January 11, 2016

1952
Dorothy Louise Oakes
Westbrook Junior College
March 11, 2017

1953
Eliza Rice Stone
Westbrook Junior College
July 25, 2015

1954
Carolyn Larrow Cooper
Westbrook Junior College
July 22, 2017

1955
Mary Jane Thomas Doughtery
Westbrook Junior College
June 20, 2016

1956
June Carter Marceau
Westbrook Junior College
March 16, 2017

1957
Suzanne Sarra Newhall
Westbrook Junior College
June 24, 2017

1958
Beverly Jebb Muntzing
Westbrook Junior College
March 16, 2017
IN MEMORIAM

1957
Ruth Fredriksen
Westbrook Junior College
April 6, 2017

Caroline MacQueen Johnston
Westbrook Junior College
January 19, 2017

Charlotte Lynne Lynch
Westbrook Junior College
April 30, 2017

1958
Margaret Philippe Larnmore
Westbrook Junior College
March 17, 2017

1959
Carol Oldenbrook Twyon
Westbrook Junior College
February 16, 2017

1960
Judith Randal Whitney
Westbrook Junior College
June 8, 2017

1961
Judith Pfranner Nossens
Westbrook Junior College
August 11, 2017

1962
Amanda Anne Alvar
Westbrook Junior College
March 6, 2017

Robert Lord
St. Francis College
August 1, 2017

1966
Beverly Pierce Cox
Westbrook Junior College
July 26, 2017

1967
Ernest A. Digiorgio
St. Francis College
April 24, 2017

Margaret Alice Dunn
Westbrook Junior College
April 24, 2017

Rebecca Scott Hanson
Westbrook Junior College
April 13, 2017

1968
Lindsay Stocker Josephin
Westbrook College
June 13, 2017

1970
Ronald R. Posternak
St. Francis College
August 15, 2017

1971
John Joseph Kaloska
St. Francis College
March 12, 2017

1973
Margaret Pain/Patricia Curley
St. Francis College
February 17, 2017

Stuart G. Sigmond
St. Francis College
May 6, 2017

1974
Martha A. Foster
Westbrook Junior College
August 21, 2017

1975
Katherine Burton Pee
Westbrook Junior College
March 23, 2017

1976
Louis F. Greene III
St. Francis College
August 11, 2017

1977
Robert Ernest Reed
St. Francis College
March 20, 2017

1979
Bruce Arthur Barlow
College of Arts and Sciences
October 3, 2016

Betsy Shaw Hines
Westbrook College
August 9, 2017

1980
Richard Milhous
Westbrook College
November 1, 2016

Colleen Pratt Reed
Westbrook College
May 31, 2017

1985
Stephen A. Fanning III
College of Osteopathic Medicine
August 15, 2017

1987
Mary Morrissey Reed
Westbrook Junior College
June 11, 2017

Terri L. Albert
Westbrook College
June 21, 2017

1988
The Honorable Neil R. Rolde, HON ’07
University of New England
May 15, 2017

Rachel Armstrong
Westbrook College
August 9, 2017

Raquel Behnner
University of New England
July 16, 2017

Joyce Elaine Coley
University of New England
August 6, 2017

Dr. Thelma “Kit” Jaruszeczko
College of Arts and Sciences
May 5, 2017

Betsy Jorgenson
University of New England
June 8, 2017

Dorothy “Dottie” Kay
College of Pharmacy
March 20, 2017

FRIENDS

Rachel Armstrong
Westbrook College
August 9, 2017

Raquel Behnner
University of New England
July 16, 2017

Joyce Elaine Coley
University of New England
August 6, 2017

Dr. Thelma “Kit” Jaruszeczko
College of Arts and Sciences
May 5, 2017

Betsy Jorgenson
University of New England
June 8, 2017

Dorothy “Dottie” Kay
College of Pharmacy
March 20, 2017

The Honorable Neil R. Rolde, HON ’07
University of New England
May 15, 2017

IN MEMORIAM
Wilma Additon Bradford ’39 passed away on Tuesday, July 18, 2017. Willie, as she was called by those who knew her, was an energetic “do-er,” someone who brought light, excitement, and enthusiasm to every project and committee in which she was involved.

As a 1939 graduate of Westbrook Junior College, Willie was actively involved in the college and then the University of New England throughout her life. She served as trustee of Westbrook College from 1963 to 1986 and was named trustee emerita in 1986. She was recognized as the Westbrook College Alumna of the Year (now named the Heloise Withee ’41 Alumni Service Award) in 1973 and was awarded the Westbrook College Tower Award of Alumni Achievement in 1977. In addition to being inducted into the Deborah Morton Society in 1981, Willie also served on the Society’s steering committee twice and always made sure the Bangor, Maine region was well represented. Willie supported UNE as a longtime donor of several initiatives and volunteer in a variety of capacities.

In addition to her Westbrook trusteeship, Willie’s educational leadership extended to sitting on the University of Maine President’s Advisory Council and to Husson University, where she received an honorary Doctor of Laws in 1985.

As part of her “do-er” philosophy, Willie was an active leader or supporter of countless organizations throughout her life, including the Girl Scouts, the Maine and American Lung Associations, John League of Bangor, Chapter B-AME, PEO, Statehood, Regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Maine Center for the Arts, International Women’s Forum of Maine, and Quipus.

She played an active role in the creation of the Acadia Hospital in Bangor, where she served as a trustee, a role she also assumed for the Eastern Maine Medical Center for many years. In 1977, Willie became the first woman to be appointed to Maine’s Department of Environmental Protection.

Willie remained an active and beloved member of the extended Westbrook College family well into her 90s, attending her 75th class reunion in 2014.

She will be missed.
Over 400 alumni, family, and friends came together for Alumni Weekend 2017 and enjoyed a beautiful fall weekend on the banks of the Saco River. Celebrations of 50 years of both nursing and co-education at UNE as well as milestone Reunions, the Golden Knights reception, athletic games, and trolley rides were some of the highlights! In addition to the award winners in the photos, Arthur Girard was recognized as an honorary alumnus and Kenneth Cormier ’59 was honored posthumously with the Alumni Achievement Award.
ALUMNI WEEKEND

CAPTIONS:

Page 98
Alumni Achievement Award recipient Senator Sue Deschambault ’71, Honorary Alumna Paulette St. Ours HA ’17, Eva Downs HA ’09, and Martha Massie represent some of the first women students, faculty, and staff on campus.

Page 99
Background image: The Friends of UNE Men’s Hockey received the Alumni Service Award. Bottom images from left: Alumni tour the inside of the Danielle N. Ripich Commons; Tim Duffy ’79 and Alumni Council President Gregg Paulhus ’79 at the Donor Reception; Chris Hosford joins interim Dean Karen Pardue, interim Provost Mike Sheldon and current nursing students Susan Dolan ’18, Allison Coburn ’18 to celebrate 50 years of nursing education at UNE.

Page 100
Background image: Haylie Genoa ’17, Alexis Mores ’17, and Melissa Brassard ’17 enjoy their first Alumni Weekend! Bottom images from left: Women’s lacrosse alumni take the field; Chris Ryan ’07 and his family enjoy the 10th Reunion brunch; Professor Rick LaRue, Barbara Hazard HA ’10, Linsey Pilon HA ’13 and Tim St. John ’07 with 2017 Young Alumni Award recipient Kayleigh McCauley ’07.

Page 101
Professor Emeritus Norm Beaupre ’67, P ’81 celebrates his 50th Reunion by receiving a St. Francis College and University of New England Alumni Association certificate.
JESSE B. HALL, WC ’19

Jesse is studying applied exercise science at UNE’s Westbrook College of Health Professions and hopes to pursue military physical therapy after graduation, following an internship at Kelllll Army Commutnity Hospital at West Point. He was elected to serve a one-year term as the student trustee representative of the Biddeford Campus from June 2017 to May 2018. Before his appointment as student trustee, Jesse was vice president of the Undergraduate Student Government and a resident advisor at UNE. He is from North Waterboro, Maine.

CAROLINE MOORE, CDM ’19

Caroline is studying dental medicine and is the student trustee representative of UNE’s Portland Campus. She will serve as student trustee from June 2017 to May 2018; she previously served as the College of Dental Medicine (CDM) senator to the Graduate and Professional Student Association. Caroline is a native of Atlanta, Georgia, and attended Emory University for her undergraduate studies. She is a distance runner and lives with her husband in Portland.

KATHERINE HEER ’90, D.M.D.

Katherine owns and operates KH Smiles, a dental practice in Farmington, Maine. KH Smiles is one of 36 community-based externship sites for UNE CDM, housing three 12-week rotations of dental students and giving them real-world experience before graduating. While at Westbrook College, she studied dental hygiene and was a recipient of the Deborah Morton Endowed Scholarship. After graduating from Westbrook, she pursued and completed her dental degree from Tufts University Dental School. In 2014, she made a generous gift to establish a named endowed scholarship to benefit the College of Dental Medicine and dental hygiene students. She lives with her family in Phillips, Maine.
On September 19, 2017, members of the University of New England Deborah Morton Society gathered on the Portland Campus for the society’s 56th annual convocation. Established in 1961 to honor and recognize outstanding women with strong roots to Maine who have demonstrated high distinction in their careers, public service, or volunteer leadership, the Society welcomed three new members at this year’s event: Mary L. Bonauto, civil rights project director, GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD); Dr. Betsy M. Webb, superintendent of the Bangor School Department; and Kristen Miale, president of Good Shepherd Food Bank.

**CAPTIONS:**

Page 104: Kristen Miale listens to President Herbert’s remarks at the 56th Deborah Morton Society Convocation ceremony.

Page 105: Bagpiper Sue Mack leads the 56th Deborah Morton Society Convocation procession.


Page 107: The 2017 Deborah Morton Society Award recipients stand with President James Herbert beside the annual Alumni Hall L.L. Hardy, Board of Trustees, President, Kristen Miale, and President James Herbert.