New England Tech Expansion is Underway

Phase 2 construction has begun at the East Greenwich campus as part of New England Tech’s $120 million expansion program. This phase of the college’s $250,000,000 campus development program will provide additional programs and services to NEIT students.

Phase 2 will include increasing the Information Technology facilities to more than 300,000 square feet and building the college’s first on-campus dormitory. Many academic programs will be expanded as well including information technology, advanced manufacturing, the health sciences, architecture, engineering, and video/audio production. Students will enjoy a new dining area, a fitness center, and a college “green” open space area.

New England Tech is proud to be entering its 75th year of providing its students with the skills and knowledge needed to excel in today’s competitive labor market. These are exciting times at New England Tech, and we should all be proud to be a part of this thriving college community.

SAMI Receives Its Second $2.5 Million Grant

New England Tech has received its second $2.5 million Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) Grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to expand programs currently offered through the college’s Shipbuilding/Marine Advanced Manufacturing Institute (SAMI), located at the college’s Post Road campus. This additional $2.5 million will allow SAMI to offer new programs that will include Shipfitting, Pipe Welding, Sheetmetal, Pipefitting and Robotics.
NEIT’s initial $2.5 million TAACCCT Grant awarded in March, 2013, is slated to train 400 SAMI participants with the technical skills needed in the shipbuilding/marine and advanced manufacturing industries. Now, an additional 200 Rhode Island residents who are either unemployed, underemployed, TAA-eligible, veterans, and/or recent high school graduates will be served through the increased funding. More than 140 individuals are currently enrolled or have completed SAMI’s welding or advanced manufacturing programs, and the majority of program completers have been hired by SAMI employer partners.

The 2014 Employee Campaign Begins

New England Tech kicked off its 2014 Employee Campaign on Wednesday, October 22, in the Regan Lounge at the college’s East Greenwich campus. The Campaign will run from October 22, 2014, through November 21, 2014; however, contributions to the Employee Campaign may be made anytime throughout fiscal year 2014-2015. Contributions to the Employee Campaign may be made through payroll deduction, cash, check or credit card.

An Employee Campaign is an important component of any college or university’s Annual Fund. As we begin to execute our plan to build and expand the college, and before we can ask the public to financially invest in New England Tech, we must first show that we, as part of the NEIT community, are committed to the college, its future goals and the success of our students. Both private and public funding sources look for a high percentage of employee participation in the annual campaign.

During the Campaign Kick-Off, President Gouse thanked everyone for their past campaign support and for attending this year’s Kick-Off. He shared the vision and plan for expanding the campus over the next several years and discussed the construction status of the first dorm and the importance of positioning the college to accommodate more out-of-state, residential students.

Bob Theroux, Vice President of Finance and Business Administration, recognized those employees who previously participated in the Employee Campaign and designated their donation to student scholarships. As a result of this generosity, 10 students facing financial difficulties will receive scholarships at this year’s awards presentation in December. He also noted that Information Technology, Building Construction, and Auxiliary Services, through their collective contributions, each attained the required $500 scholarship amount to provide awards to students designated by these three departments.

The 2013 Employee Campaign achieved a 61% participation rate, "an extraordinary accomplishment", said Steve Kitchin, Vice President, Corporate Education and Training. “In 2015, New England Tech will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary which is another extraordinary accomplishment. And, although 100% participation is always the primary target, in honor of the college’s 75th Anniversary, the goal for the 2014 Employee Campaign is 75% employee participation.”
Many of our team captains have committed to assist employees with their campaign contributions for a second year, and we are happy to welcome a few new captains this year. Heartfelt thanks to our 2014 Employee Campaign Captains: Cheryl Booker; Sherry Clukey, Tim Culhane, Kathy DaSilva, Melissa Hague, Amanda Handfield, Anna Kelly, Bob Kennedy, Cheryl MacDonald, Mike Markarian, Anna Martinelli, Bill Menard, Pierre Morin, Rebecca Renaud, Carole Stiles, Sue Warthman, and Pam Wilkinson.

Equipment Expansion in Engineering Programs

New England Tech has collaborated with Rockwell Automation, Inc. in the development of a new automation lab for students enrolled in the Bachelor of Science Degree program in Electrical Engineering Technology (ELT) beginning in the 2014 fall quarter. These students will learn high tech skills on the latest equipment found in industry. Rockwell Automation personnel and New England Tech faculty worked together to procure the Programmable Logic Controllers (PLC’s) network and drive hardware needed to create six new work stations. Through hands-on learning, students will acquire the high tech automation and process control skills required in the manufacturing industry.

NEIT has also added the Instron 5982 Advanced Mechanical Testing System to its extensive equipment inventory for students in the Civil Engineering and Mechanical Engineering Technologies. The Instron 5982 provides students the opportunity to evaluate mechanical properties of materials and components used in a variety of industries. Typically found in commercial settings, the Instron 5982 is utilized in many industries such as automotive, aerospace, and major highway/bridge construction, to test materials used in manufacturing various products.

Reminder to all Faculty and Staff

Do you know where your graduates are working? Be sure to let the Career Services Office know about any graduate who is working in his/her field of study! It is important that the Career Services Office has data reflecting the success of our graduates. This information is needed to compile reports about the employment status of our graduates to NEASC as well as program specific accrediting bodies and program reviewers and evaluators.

NEIT’S QUALITY SERVICE STATEMENT - Quality Service, for students, employees, and customers at New England Institute of Technology, is knowledgeable and informed employees working as a team to provide more assistance and information than expected, in a caring and professional manner, in order to empower the students to achieve their goals.
Dedicated Employees Are Recognized

The 23rd Annual Employee Service Awards was held on Friday, October 17, 2014, at the East Greenwich campus. Congratulations and special thanks to the 21 employees who were honored for their many years of service to New England Tech. The following individuals were celebrated, and a commemorative plaque was unveiled in their honor.

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<tr>
<th>30 Years</th>
<th>20 Years</th>
<th>10 Years</th>
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<tr>
<td>Felix Carlone</td>
<td>Paula Cantwell</td>
<td>Benjamin Jay Bradley</td>
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<td>Patrick Collins</td>
<td>Shonna O’Neill</td>
<td>Edwin Egge</td>
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<td>David Cranmer</td>
<td>Janice Pulsifer</td>
<td>Michael Eggeman</td>
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<td>David Loranger</td>
<td>Lisa Reed</td>
<td>Eileen Flaherty</td>
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<td>Joseph Ranone</td>
<td>Maria Riccio</td>
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(Pictured (L-R) Norma Taylor, Amanda Metzger, Eileen Ferry, Michael Eggeman, Judy Zaino, Edwin Egge, Benjamin Jay Bradley, Megan Treloar (Not Pictured: Melissa Hague, Carolyn Piette)
Welcome Steamship Historical Society of America

The Steamship Historical Society of America (SSHSA) has found a new home in New England Tech’s former library located at the Post Road campus. This 79 year old international maritime organization’s mission is to promote maritime history and research and to showcase an extensive collection of artifacts, paintings, movies, photographs, and more than 8,000 volumes and periodicals all relating to steamships.

The ribbon cutting ceremony was held on Thursday, October 16, 2014, with Mayor Scott Avedisian and Congressman Jim Langevin joining SSHSA Board President Erik Ryan; CDR Marc Cruder, USCG (RET); Executive Director Matthew Schulte; and New England Tech officials.

Members of SSHSA thanked President Richard Gouse for affording them the opportunity to house its collections under one roof for the first time in the history of the organization. Located adjacent to New England Tech’s SAMI shipbuilding lab, the SSHSA headquarters further promotes the importance of educating individuals about the importance of the maritime industry. It also plans to offer high school students a program called “From Sail to Steam.” As President Gouse stated, “It is exciting to help this great maritime resource find a new home, and there is not a more appropriate location than the Ocean State and our SAMI facilities at the Post Road campus.”

For more information on the SSHSA, call 401-463-3570, email info@sshsa.org, visit www.sshsa.org, or stop by its new location.

Faculty and Staff Update

Jacques Laflamme
Chief Information Officer

Jacques Laflamme joined New England Tech on October 6th as Chief Information Officer bringing more than 25 years of MIS experience in higher education and business. Prior to his new position at NEIT, Jacques served as the Director of Network Services at Harvard University. Jacques’ business experience included positions with Thompson Financial, State Street Corporation, and Fidelity Investments, all located in Boston, MA.

Jacques has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Operations Technology/MIS and an Associate in Science Degree in Telecommunications both from Northeastern University in Boston. He has participated in Harvard Business School Executive Education Program and has earned several IT certifications.
Annie Unger
Instructor, Mechanical Engineering Technology

In March, 2014, Annie Unger was hired as a Physics instructor and has transitioned to teaching in the Mechanical Engineering Technology Department.

Annie has spent most of her professional life as a tutor or instructor. She has held several positions at NEIT, beginning as a Math tutor, then serving as an adjunct instructor to the Coordinator of Mathematics Services in the Academic Skills Center. As an adjunct instructor, Annie taught Math, Physics, and Mechanical Engineering courses before teaching full-time in the Mathematics and Sciences Department. Annie has also worked as a Mathematics Learning Specialist at Bryant University’s Academic Center for Excellence and as an Upward Bound Math Instructor and a Math Tutor/Teacher’s Assistant at the UMass Dartmouth Math and Business Center.

Annie is pursuing her Master of Arts Degree in Mathematics Teaching from Providence College. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics from the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. Annie also recently earned an Associate in Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology from New England Tech along with the college’s “Best of Tech” award for her technology program.

Adam Breckenridge
Assistant Professor, Humanities and Social Sciences

Adam Breckenridge joins the Humanities and Social Sciences Department, teaching a variety of courses. Prior to this position, he taught First Year Composition, Professional Writing, and Communication for Engineers at the University of Tampa and the University of South Florida.

Adam has been exploring how emerging technologies have changed workplace communication. Incorporating social media, blogs, websites, and Twitter into course content, his students explore ethical questions relating to privacy and the dangers of misinterpretation when writing in a public space. Adam was also involved in creating the program, contributing to the textbook, and creating projects for the standardized curriculum for First Year Composition at the University of South Florida. In addition to teaching, Adam is an accomplished writer, contributing to professional journals and textbooks, and writing fiction.

Adam holds a Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Composition from the University of South Florida, a Master of Fine Arts Degree in Creative Writing from Antioch University, and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English Literature from the University of Hawaii.
Susan Shim Gorelick  
Assistant Professor, Mathematics and Sciences

Susan Shim Gorelick began teaching in the Mathematics and Sciences Department as an adjunct instructor in January, 2014, and now joins the department full-time. Susan has taught a variety of math and science courses at the Community College of Rhode Island, the University of Rhode Island, Portsmouth Abbey, and Damascus High School (MD). She served as a teaching assistant in Chemistry for the Nursing programs at American University (DC) and Adelphi University (NY).

As a researcher, Susan has studied wind energy for the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources; consumer preferences valuation on aquaculture and eco-labeling, and on seafood sustainability and eco-labeling at URI; Cisplatin therapy for ovarian cancer at the University of California at San Diego; and high performance liquid and gas chromatography and mass spectroscopy for the FDA. Susan has authored papers and presented at conferences on a variety of topics relating to wind energy, water quality, and sustainability.

Susan holds a Ph.D. in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics from the University of Rhode Island and a Master of Science Degree in Chemistry from the American University. She has completed some graduate courses in Chemistry and Education at Adelphi University. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry from Stony Brook University (formerly State University of New York at Stony Brook).

Sheila Palmer  
Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering Technology

Sheila Palmer has joined the Mechanical Engineering Technology Department. She comes to NEIT from Barrington Christian Academy, where she was a Science and Math teacher and lead teacher. Sheila taught courses in Physics, Chemistry, Algebra 2, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus and AP Calculus. In addition to her teaching duties, she was a student and faculty mentor as well as the founder and advisor for the school’s National Honor Society Chapter and the Student Council.

For several years, Sheila was an Assistant Professor in the Mechanical Engineering Department at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. She mentored students, developed laboratory applications for undergraduate courses, reviewed papers for inclusion in technical publications, and edited the division newsletter for the American Society of Engineering Education. Sheila has published many articles and presented papers in her field and has received numerous grants, awards, and fellowships.

Sheila holds both a Ph.D. and a Master of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology, and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Catholic University of America, Washington, DC.

UPCOMING TECH NITES
November 5, 2014
February 3, 2015
April 14, 2015