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CBCP December 2016 Newsletter

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CENTER FOR BUSINESS &
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

DECEMBER
2016

DECEMBER FEATURE: CONNECTING CLUSTERS TO REGIONAL PROGRAMS

Rachelle Lyons is passionate about partnerships. Her work at the Center involves creating field-based opportunities for students and faculty that directly connect community need to PSU's emerging clusters. She teaches field-based courses across multiple programs, helps faculty develop field trips and other opportunities for field-based learning, coordinates STEM activities, develops and oversees the CBCP's new Community Education programs, mentors and recruits students, and pro-

vides backbone support to community-led initiatives whose leaders are anxious to connect to PSU. For example, Rachelle and her students **Haley Poirior** and **Shelby Chapman** recently created the Food Recovery Network, which works closely with Sodexo to reduce food waste on campus. This year alone, the program has captured 1,200 pounds of perishable food and made it available to community partners serving local people in need.

Rachelle also led the Ammonoosuc River Watershed (ARSCAP) project, a collaboration between New Hampshire Fish & Game, DES, DOT and Trout Unlimited. This grant-funded project created employment for



several PSU students who spent their summer evaluating culverts throughout the North Country to determine their condition and their impact on wildlife.

Rachelle's cross-disciplinary work is an important part of the CBCP's efforts to develop scalable systems for student and faculty engagement. Her other projects include the Acadia Field Program, the CBCP's new partnership with North Country RC&D, and the development of Community Ed programming.



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CBCP MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

The CBCP is excited to release its **two-year strategic operating plan**, an abridged version of which will be available on the web. With it, the CBCP will be able to work towards achieving measurable outcomes focused on economic engagement, innovation management, and community impact. Thanks to **Mary Lou Krambeer** for her expert facilitation.

Effective December 1, the CBCP is proud to be the new home of PSU's Community Education Program, which will continue to include community-based adult programs, non-credit online professional development, and summer youth programs. Special thanks to **Linda Hammond and Kristen Hersom** for their leadership of this strong and growing program and for their help during the transition. Going forward, **Rachelle Lyons** will oversee Community Ed and will lead the development of new programming that directly connects



emerging cluster capacity to the needs and interests of our community.

Jessica Dutille hosted two employment workshops with the **White Mountain National Forest** focusing on connecting PSU students with job openings in the Forest Service.

Jessica Dutille was involved in planning for the Thanksgiving dinner at the Pemi Youth Center this November. The Marketing Association at Plymouth State (MAPS) hosted the dinner and Plymouth State students who engage in high-impact learning at the youth center were also a part of the celebration. MAPS students served the meal and then sat down and enjoyed conversation with youth participants. The meal combined both community partnership and volunteering while also celebrating the holiday and providing valuable connections with local youth.

The CBCP's three inaugural co-op students (**Laura Getts, Samantha Bevier, Carolyn Greenough**)

employed with **Utility Choice Savings** completed their training and are currently working with local businesses to complete energy audits.

Jessica Morel has recently been working with Plymouth State University's first internship abroad. The student, who is a sports management major at Plymouth State, will be interning in Barcelona, Spain for a full semester. He is the very first student from Plymouth State to go abroad for a full semester internship, but hopefully, after his experience, many more students will follow in his footsteps. His internship is a full-time position, meaning he will be in Barcelona for four months, which is an incredible opportunity for a student. This highlights the wide diversity of internship opportunities which Plymouth State has to offer students of all majors.

Jessica Dutille was a featured guest on Dr. Maria Sanders' Philosophy 4 Life Radio Show and discussed the Happiness Quest Research Project.

HAPPENING THIS MONTH

12/8
MAPS/PEMI YOUTH
CENTER GINGER
BREAD HOUSE-
MAKING @ PYC

12/15
COMMUNITY
CONVERSATION
PROGRAM, 4-5:30
@ WHOLE VILLAGE

2/7
CENTER FOR
BUSINESS &
COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIP
PARTNER FAIR

Jessica spoke about the overall goal of the Happiness Quest in bringing community members together to determine how a collective approach impacts an individual's self-reported level of happiness. Jessica made mention of the Life Size Jenga Event that took place on November 14th. The event was created and hosted by the youth participants at the Pemi Youth Center, and PSU students engaging in high impact learning provided support in implementing the event.

Jessica Dutille has also been working on connecting students to job opportunities with the U.S. Forest Service in the White Mountain National Forest. There are several job openings for students to apply for, which include some full-time positions. Working for the forest service is a federal job which has many significant benefits for students.

Casey Krafton has been busy working on the Angel Tree Project with **Jared Sharpe**, the Angel Tree's student Project Coordinator. They are partnering with over 10 schools and community agencies to assist children throughout our region. It is estimated that this year the Angel Tree Project will help almost 300 children, which will have a positive impact on local youth and their families this holiday season. The Angel Tree project, headed under Casey, is supported through many Plymouth State student volunteers who will be working to connect other students, faculty, and staff with a child in need of a gift. The Angel Tree project is a great way to allow Plymouth State to give back during the holiday season, whether it is through volunteering

to help run the Angel Tree's donation table or by buying a gift for a child.

Jessica Morel has also been doing workshops with **Erik Pavesic** who is Plymouth State's career counselor. Together they have been putting on workshops at Plymouth State University which help to teach students about internships and how to build a strong resume. Ten students attended their most recent workshop this November. The workshops focus on site and job development within the greater Plymouth community and the students' hometown communities as well. During these sessions, Jessica and Erik work to provide students with assistance in tackling the overwhelming project of applying for and securing a great job after graduating.

Ben Amsden attended the New Hampshire Leadership Summit organized by the Business and Industry Association and the annual meeting of the Grafton Regional Development Corporation.

The **CBCP** along, with Finance, Admissions, and the Registrar's office held a Halloween Open House for the students of Ms. Morrison's PRHS class. The students walked through the decorated halls of Samuel Read Hall and Russell House to judge the carved pumpkins and collect treats from the staff members. Some of the staff and most of the students were dressed in Halloween attire. This event has been taking place at PSU for over ten years.



December 2016 Newsletter
Reported and written by Kateri Bean

CB&CP BY THE NUMBERS

75 INDUSTRY
INQUIRIES YTD

105 ACTIVE
PARTNERSHIPS

217 STUDENTS
INVOLVED IN
PARTNERSHIPS

22 FACULTY/
STAFF
ENGAGED

26 WORKSHOPS
&
PRESENTATIONS
YTD