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New England Resource Center for Higher Education at the University of Massachusetts Boston

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NERCHE Updates is a bimonthly electronic newsletter for the UMass Boston community to inform you about recent events and activities. We welcome your feedback.

In this issue:

- Leadership Speaker Series
- Boston Globe Op Ed: “Campus Partners for Better Communities”
- Working Paper on Student Debt
- Save the Date: NERCHE Spring Colloquium
- Presentation of NERCHE Lynton Award
- NERCHE Staff and Think Tank Members Present at AAC&U
- Student Leadership Institute
- NERCHE Notes

Leadership Speaker Series
On December 1, Dr. Sherry Penney, Professor of Leadership and founding director of the Center for Collaborative Leadership in the College of Management at UMass Boston, led a presentation and discussion about effective leadership in higher education. This event marked the inauguration of NERCHE's Leadership Speaker Series, an opportunity for students in the doctoral program in higher education administration, alumni, and faculty to meet in an informal environment with state, regional, and national leaders acknowledged for their vision and ability to make substantive change in higher education. The presentation and discussion, held in the Chancellor’s Conference Room, was followed by an informal lunch with a small group of senior administrators, staff, and faculty from the University and its doctoral program.

Boston Globe Op Ed: “Campus Partners for Better Communities”
John Saltmarsh, NERCHE director, and Armand Carriere, executive director of Worcester UniverCity Partnership, published an Op Ed piece in the Boston Globe in November that called for a statewide advisory board to convene education, municipal and state government, business, and non-profit leaders to focus on how colleges and universities can partner with the state in meeting its economic development goals. Visit NERCHE’s website to read this Op Ed piece and other related articles and editorials.

Working Paper on Student Debt
In November, The Institute for College Access and Success (TICAS) published A Research Agenda for the Study of the Effects of Borrowing and the Prospects of Indebtedness on Students’ College-Going Choices, a working paper prepared by NERCHE for the Project on Student Debt. The paper, written by NERCHE Visiting Fellow Alicia Dowd, is one of the outcomes of NERCHE’s grant from TICAS to investigate research and policy implications concerning college student debt. The paper proposes a broad-based, multidisciplinary research agenda to inform financial aid policies and student advising.
Save the Date: NERCHE Spring Colloquium

Presentation of NERCHE Lynton Award
In October, NERCHE presented its 10th Annual Ernest Lynton Award for Faculty Professional Service and Academic Outreach at the 12th annual conference of the Coalition of Urban Metropolitan Universities (CUMU) in Coral Gables, FL. Award recipients Glynda Hull, Professor of Language, Literacy, and Culture in the Graduate School of Education at the University of California, Berkeley. Julia Lupton, Professor of English and Comparative Literature at the University of California, Irvine, and Katherine O’Donnell, Professor of Sociology at Hartwick College, presented their work to an audience of presidents, provosts, and other administrators. Among the highlights of their presentations were reflections on (1) how engaged scholarship can cultivate faculty expertise in working collaboratively across racial, ethnic, and class lines; (2) fostering the development of citizenship skills for undergraduate students and community members through scholarly work; (3) the impacts of civic engagement on student intellectual and personal maturation.

The call for nominations for the 2007 Lynton Award will be posted on nerche.org in January 2007.

NERCHE Staff and Think Tank Members Present at AAC&U
NERCHE Associate Director Glenn Gabbard, NERCHE Multicultural Affairs Think Tank member Ines Maturana Sendoya, and Deans Think Tank member Helena Santos presented “Searching for Faculty of Color and Sustaining their Presence on Campus” at the Association of American Colleges and Universities’ (AAC&U) “Diversity and Learning: A Defining Moment” Conference, on October 19-21. John Hope Franklin, James B. Duke Professor Emeritus of History at Duke University, offered the keynote address, “Defining Moments: A Historical Perspective on Higher Education's Engagement with Diversity.” NERCHE will continue to sponsor AAC&U conference sessions in its role as an “Academic Partner” with the association. For more conference information go to aacu.org

Student Leadership Institute
NERCHE, along with Massachusetts Campus Compact (MACC) co-sponsored a two-day Students as Colleagues Institute at the Bentley College Service-Learning Center, on November 2 and 3. The institute featured representatives from colleges and universities across the country who presented sessions on “Finding and Training Student Leaders,” “Student-Designed Academic Work,” and “Students as Colleagues” to an audience of faculty and administrators. The event celebrated Campus Compact’s publication of *Students as Colleagues: Expanding the Circle of Service-Learning Leadership.*
NERCHE Notes
In September, John Saltmarsh, NERCHE director, was an invited panelist and speaker at North Carolina State University for a Stakeholders Workshop as part of the creation of their “Center for Excellence in Service-Learning.” Along with NERCHE Senior Associate Dwight E. Giles, Jr., professor in the doctoral program in higher education and NERCHE Senior Associate, John also presented a faculty workshop for Daniel Webster College and Rivier College on “Service-Learning and the Scholarship of Engagement.”

John Saltmarsh, Dwight Giles, and Lorilee R. Sandmann, professor in the Department of Lifelong Education, Administration, and Policy at University of Georgia, presented “A New Model for Faculty Preparation and Support for the Scholarship of Engagement” at the Faculty Work and the New Academy: Emerging Challenges and Evolving Roles Network for Academic Renewal Conference, on November 9-11 in Chicago. The session explored how to transform institutions into enabling environments for faculty engagement; the institutional contexts that create supportive environments for engaged scholars; and future faculty needs for becoming engaged scholars.

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For more information about any of the above events or activities, please contact NERCHE at (617) 287-7740 or via email at nerche@umb.edu.

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