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### NERCHE Updates, volume 4, issue 2

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

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## NERCHE Updates

March 7, 2008 ♦ Vol. 4, Issue 2

**The New England  
Resource Center for  
Higher Education**

*(NERCHE) is a center  
for inquiry, research,  
and policy.*

*NERCHE supports  
administrators,  
faculty, and staff  
across the region in  
becoming more  
effective practitioners  
and leaders as they  
navigate the  
complexities of  
institutional  
innovation and  
change.*

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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.

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**Call for Nominations: 2008 Ernest A. Lynton Award for the Scholarship of Engagement**

NERCHE is now accepting nominations for the 2008 Ernest A. Lynton Award, an annual award which recognizes a faculty member who connects his or her teaching, research, and service to community engagement. [Read more about the Lynton Award...](#)

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**NERCHE Think Tanks: Call for Nominations**

NERCHE is accepting nominations for membership in its Think Tanks for administrators in New England for the 2008-2009 academic year. Since 1988, NERCHE has convened Think Tanks for administrators and faculty representing the diversity of colleges and universities in New England. The Think Tanks embody the essence of NERCHE's work—collaboration, diversity, and scholarship rooted in practice. Participants are nominated and selected because of their reputations for leadership, creativity, and interest in establishing collegial networks beyond their institutions. The Think Tanks serve not only as a venue for exchanging information and resources, but also as a forum for translating theory into practice as members draw policy implications from their discussions. [Read more about NERCHE's Think Tanks...](#)

To nominate a member for one of the Think Tanks, please [complete an online nomination form](#).

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**NERCHE co-hosts invitational Colloquium on "Democracy and Higher Education: The Future of Engagement"**

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On February 26-27, 2008, NERCHE and the Kettering Foundation co-hosted an invitational Colloquium in Dayton, OH, focused on the theme of "Democracy and Higher Education: The Future of Engagement." The primary purpose of the Colloquium was to provide a forum in which a group of 33 leaders in civic engagement and higher education came together to identify problems and issues associated with reforming higher education for community engagement and democratic citizenship, and to provide intellectual leadership for the next generation of engaged scholars in American higher education. [Read more...](#)

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### **Project Compass hosts Learning Community Meeting in Nashua, NH**

Project Compass is a regional initiative supporting four-year public institutions to develop institutional strategies for increasing retention of underserved students, including students of color, first-generation college students, and those from low-income backgrounds. As the intermediary for the Nellie Mae Education Foundation, NERCHE organized the project's second learning community meeting (February 15-16), an opportunity for the six institutions funded for an initial planning year to convene and develop their retention initiatives. Glenn Gabbard, Project Director, welcomed the six "communities of practice," representing Bridgewater State College, Bridgewater MA; Eastern Connecticut State University, Willimantic, CT; Lyndon State College, Lyndonville, VT; University of Maine at Presque Isle, ME; University of Massachusetts, Boston; and Western Connecticut State University, Danbury CT.

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### **NERCHE's Associate Director participates in national strategy institute**

As a data facilitator for the Achieving the Dream initiative, Glenn Gabbard, NERCHE's Associate Director, participated in a national strategy institute in Atlanta in early February. This national effort supports participating community colleges from over 20 states intending to narrow achievement gaps for students of color and those from low-income backgrounds. For more information on the initiative, [please visit this link...](#)

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### **Recent Publications**

- Jay R. Dee, Associate Professor, Higher Education Administration Doctoral Program, at UMass Boston, reviews ***The American Faculty: The Restructuring of Academic Work and Careers*** by Jack H. Schuster and Martin J. Finkelstein.
- NERCHE's John Saltmarsh, Glenn Gabbard, and Sharon Singleton co-author "**Advancing an Equity Agenda through Institutional Change: the Community College Transfer Initiative Study**," which will appear in a forthcoming issue of AAC&U's *Diversity and Democracy*.
- NERCHE has created an archive of publications by the Futures Project, led by Frank Newman (which closed down on March 31, 2005). [Learn more...](#)

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## NERCHE Notes

- NERCHE, along with Massachusetts Campus Compact, co-sponsored a one day workshop on *Achieving Recognition for Community Engagement: An Institute for Colleges and Universities on the Carnegie Foundation Classification on Community Engagement*, on February 25, 2008 at The College of the Holy Cross. The workshop included a keynote address by Amy Driscoll from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as well as sessions by institutional type. Both **Dwight Giles** and **Cathy Burack**, NERCHE Senior Associates, represented NERCHE at the event.
- At the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary national conference of the Philadelphia Higher Education Network for Neighborhood Development (PHENND), February 28-29, 2008 in Philadelphia, NERCHE Senior Associate **Cathy Burack** represented NERCHE and presented a workshop about "Measuring Progress, Ensuring Sustainability: Using the Carnegie Foundation's Community Engagement Classification."
- NERCHE Senior Associate **Dwight Giles** and Director **John Saltmarsh** made presentations at North Carolina State University February 6-7, 2008, as part of the opening of the University's new Center for Excellence in Curricular Engagement.

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NERCHE at the Graduate College of Education, UMass Boston receives support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Kettering Foundation, the Nellie Mae Education Foundation, the Bernard and Audre Rapoport Foundation, and the Spencer Foundation. Previous sponsors include the Annie E. Casey Foundation, The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, The Atlantic Philanthropies, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, The Education Resources Institute, the Exxon Education Foundation, The Ford Foundation, the Graduate College of Education, UMass Boston, The W. K. Kellogg Foundation, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the Lumina Foundation for Education, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the Pew Charitable Trusts.

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](mailto:nerche@umb.edu).

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