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

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NERCHE Bulletin

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NERCHE is committed to collaborative change processes in higher education to address social justice in a diverse democracy.

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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The *NERCHE Bulletin* is an electronic newsletter intended to inform higher education administrators, faculty, and staff across New England about recent NERCHE events and activities.

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Call for Nominations: 2011 Ernest A. Lynton Award

NERCHE is now accepting nominations for the *2011 Ernest A. Lynton Award for the Scholarship of Engagement for Early Career Faculty*. This annual award recognizes a faculty member who is pre-tenure at tenure-granting campuses and early career (i.e., within the first six years) at campuses with long-term contracts and who connects his or her teaching, research, and service to community engagement. Application Deadline: Friday, April 29, 2011.

[View the 2011 Lynton Award Call for Nominations...](#)

Project Compass hosts two Learning Community Meetings

In the 2010-2011 academic year, NERCHE has hosted two Learning Community Meetings for the four campuses participating in Project Compass, a multi-year regional initiative to help more underserved students succeed in and graduate from public four-year institutions of higher education in New England. Learning Community Meetings are opportunities for the participating campuses to update each other on the progress of their interventions aimed at ending disparities in the persistence and success of subpopulations of students, and to explore relevant theories and practices emerging from recent scholarship.

The [first meeting](#) (November 2010) focused on campus efforts to sustain a culture of responsiveness that will develop after current grant funds have ended, while the [second meeting](#) (February 2011) explored transformative pedagogies in response to new populations of students.

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Next Generation Engagement Project participants meet

Participants in NERCHE's Next Generation Engagement Project met January 23-24, 2011, in Providence, RI, to develop a book proposal and conference presentations related to the initiative. The project is a collaboration among NERCHE, the [American Association of State Colleges and Universities \(AASCU\)](#), [Imagining America](#), and a group of recognized scholars and practitioners to develop and implement civic engagement initiatives aimed at the next generation of students, faculty, and scholars in higher education.

[Learn more about the Next Generation Engagement Project...](#)

NERCHE partners with the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching

NERCHE and the [Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching](#) have entered into a long-term partnership for the continuation of the elective Carnegie Community Engagement Classification, which defines community engagement as "the collaboration between institutions of higher education and their larger communities...for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity."

In January 2011, the Carnegie Foundation selected 115 U.S. colleges and universities to receive its 2010 Community Engagement Classification. NERCHE served as Carnegie's "administrative partner" for the purpose of managing and administering the classification process.

[Read more about the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification...](#)

NERCHE Director and Visiting Scholar co-author essay collection

John Saltmarsh, Director of NERCHE, and Edward Zlotkowski, [Visiting Scholar](#) for NERCHE's [Next Generation Engagement Project](#), have co-authored *Higher Education and Democracy*, a collection of essays on how civic engagement in higher education works to achieve the academic and civic purposes of higher education. These purposes include creating new modes of teaching and learning, fostering participation in American democracy, developing and respecting community and civic institutions, and encouraging the constant renewal of all these dimensions of American life. The book was published in January 2011 by Temple University Press.

[Read more about this recent publication...](#)

NERCHE affiliates publish article on the faculty experience of institutional striving

KerryAnn O'Meara, University of Maryland, College Park, and Alan Bloomgarden, Mount Holyoke College, have published an article focusing on how the competition to increase national rankings influences faculty

experience. "The Pursuit of Prestige: The Experience of Institutional Striving from a Faculty Perspective," published in the 2011 issue of the *Journal of the Professoriate*, examines faculty perceptions of institutional striving and its influence on institutional identity and their work lives at a liberal arts college.

[Download a copy of the article...](#)

Registration now open for 2011-2012 NERCHE Think Tanks

Since 1988, NERCHE has hosted Think Tanks for administrators, faculty, and students from colleges and universities across New England to provide opportunities to reflect on their practice, learn from each other and from the literature, and tackle shared problems. Think Tanks embody the essence of NERCHE's work—collaboration, diversity, and scholarship rooted in practice. Members are drawn from a diverse group of regional institutions and represent skilled leaders with a commitment to higher education and a willingness to engage contemporary challenges in higher education with thoughtfulness and creativity. NERCHE convenes Think Tanks for Chief Academic Officers, Academic Deans, Associate Academic Deans, Department Chairs, Chief Student Affairs Officers, and Multicultural Affairs Officers.

[Learn more about NERCHE's Think Tanks...](#)

NERCHE at the College of Education and Human Development, UMass Boston has received support from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, Lumina Foundation, the Nellie Mae Education Foundation, The Institute for College Access and Success, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the Atlantic Philanthropies, the Ford Foundation, the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the Pew Charitable Trusts, the Exxon Education Foundation, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, The Education Resources Institute, and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

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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