



Mentor 1,200 Students in Fall 2019

The University's ambitious goal for alumni-student mentoring is based on 147 years of individual success stories. Generations of students have long been united with alumni and faculty in a supportive culture that continues to thrive on campus and at alumni gatherings. The challenge is how to take what has worked to scale. How can we connect 1,200 first-year students face-to-face with alumni mentors who live all over the world? One answer is PSUnite.

PSUnite is an online platform that will connect every first-year student with an alumni mentor: like-minded people sharing ideas, collaborating on projects, and passing on knowledge through smart phone apps and user-friendly web design. The vast knowledge base of our alumni community will be paired with students who have questions, are looking for guidance, and will be encouraged by the accomplishments and discoveries of those who have gone before them. The platform works in tandem with users' existing LinkedIn profiles.

PSUnite is now being phased in with a cohort of 50 students and alumni in a test environment that will create an experience tailored for the Plymouth State community. Throughout this academic year, alumni mentors will become familiar with the program and, when classes begin next fall, we expect all first-year students to have mentors.

Join fellow alumni and friends by texting PSUnite to 51555 or visiting go.plymouth.edu/FollowPSUnite. This important initiative promises to transform our mentorship capabilities while further uniting our community.





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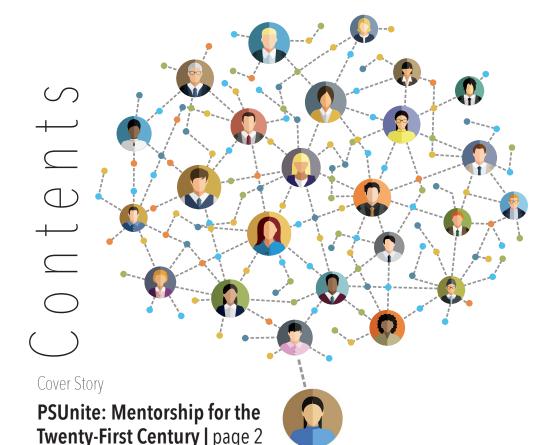


Plymouth State University

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- Of Note | Stadium and Turf Field update, Center for Research and Innovation, Backwoods Brook Trout
- Q & A with President Birx and Provost Dorff 6
- 7 **Cluster Connections | Renovation** Updates: Geneva Smith, Centre Lodge, Strength and Conditioning Lab
- 8 **PSUniters** | Five who are making a difference
- Athletics | A Family Affair, A Coach's Mentorship
- Bringing Education to Life: Utilizing the Standardized Patient | Combining seemingly diverse disciplines in powerful simulations

- **Summer Ascent |** Jump-starting the University experience
- **Evening of Connections Unites Donors,** Students, and Families

Haiti Mentorship Unites Friends, **Cultures**

PSU Panther Pitch

- Women's Leadership Summit | A Bonding, Mentoring Experience
- 18 The Green | Plymouth State Alumni News & Notes | Upcoming Alumni Events | Class Notes | In Memoriam | Exchanging Vows | Arrivals | Donor Honor Roll Update



PLYMOUTH 150 | Sesquicentennial Celebration Planned

Plymouth State's proud, 150-year heritage will be highlighted throughout the 2021–2022 academic year, and the University plans to mark this major milestone with participatory events for all ages and class years. Please watch for Plymouth 150 news and invitations in upcoming editions of Plymouth Magazine! Have a great idea about the anniversary to share? Please e-mail plymouth150@plymouth.edu.



Sunite

Mentorship for the Twenty-First Century

PSUnite is a new, multifaceted initiative that is helping first-year students find their niche and avail themselves of all that Plymouth State has to offer. It capitalizes on what makes the Integrated Clusters model so compelling: the ability to see one's education in action, take learning outside the classroom, share ideas in real time, and leverage the experience of others.

"Wicked Problems"

The current generation is facing some large, seemingly intractable problems: world hunger, gender inequity, technology's increasing influence, inequities in education, and more. Daunting issues, but also precisely the kind that lend themselves to a cross-disciplinary Clusters approach, which is why PSU is inviting students to tackle these "Wicked Problems"-and many more—in their First-Year Seminars.

Each of the approximately 1,200 first-year students were asked to choose one of some 35 "Wicked Problems" to work on. To enrich the learning experience even further, these students were assigned to residence halls with fellow classmates working on the same problem through the 'First Year Residential Experience,' better known as FYRE.

"Although creating a living/ learning community such as this is not unique to Plymouth State, we're employing some of the best practices for this concept," notes Director of Residential Life and Dining Services Amanda Grazioso. "We created communities around the various Wicked Problems so that students working on a specific problem are housed in the same building." Such an approach encourages students to embrace project-based work, Grazioso explains, and also makes it easier for the University to bring resources to students. "Faculty and alumni are making presentations within the residence halls, hosting alumni exploration panels on relevant topics, and the like," Grazioso continues. "In short, we're meeting students where they're at."

Targeting first-year students allows the University to introduce the concept of sharing campus resources early on, while reminding older students of the many



We created communities around the various Wicked Problems so that students working on a specific problem are housed in the same building.

support services available to them, notes Grazioso. "Additionally, bringing classmates together in a shared living environment enables PSU to synchronize learning inside and outside the classroom, providing students with a seamless educational experience."

The FYRE concept also allows the University to reinforce its general education model regarding the four "habits of mind" (Purposeful Communications, Problem Solving, Integrated Perspective, and Self-Regulated Learning). "We hope that by building our programs on language that's shared in and out of the classroom, students will become immersed in these habits of mind and integrate them into every aspect of their learning experience," says Grazioso.



Amanda Grazioso • John Tully photo.



Greek service in action—apple picking and pie baking for Gather and Cross Roads House; two local non-profits benefiting Seacoast food pantries and homeless youth and families. Kappa Delta Phi alumni and active sisters spent the day picking apples and baking pies. Over 60 bushels of apples were picked, and 20 pies baked and delivered for local food shelters and families in need. Photo courtesy of Karen Bownes '85, Kappa Delta Phi NAS.

Greek life reimagined

Starting college can be challenging, no matter your circumstances. New surroundings, new friends, new situations—they're all part of the first-year experience. And the process of finding one's way can be even more intimidating for the 43 percent of Plymouth State firstyears who are first in their family to attend college and the 39 percent who come from economically disadvantaged homes.

In addition to First-Year Seminar and the FYRE initiative. President Donald Birx believes that a vibrant campus Greek life will provide a valuable sense of community for students. "I have witnessed, at other institutions

and with my own daughter, the important role that properly implemented Greek life can play in student life, success, and achievement," he says. "I have also seen it done responsibly and with increased leadership on the part of students to set behavior standards that are conducive to a leading university. I believe this will also provide many students with opportunities like our clubs and athletics, which will help them to 'find their tribe' within the University community. Greek life, with its emphasis on service, community, leadership, and school pride, can be a powerful vehicle for rounding out a student's four years on campus."

Mentoring in the palm of your hand

A strong sense of community is part of the University's DNA. Alumni have always offered encouragement and guidance to successive generations, and the University also has a tradition of facilitating student mentoring opportunities with faculty and staff. As the institution's 150th anniversary draws near, President Birx has challenged the Plymouth State family to a stretch goal: provide every first-year student with an alumni mentor through a new initiative: PSUnite.

"By enabling students to make connections early on and giving them tools to navigate college, we create a unified experience and an environment that supports everyone," notes Director of Alumni Relations Rodney Ekstrom '09G. "In many respects, we're doing this already—PSUnite just encapsulates the process."

The driving force behind PSUnite is the University's new mentoring platform, an online environment with a smart phone app that will enable alumni across the country and around the world to connect with students in Plymouth. The tool allows both students and alumni to create profiles—from existing or new LinkedIn profiles then generates mentoring matches based on interests and expressed needs. "For example, an alumnus can say, 'I can help with mock interviews or résumé reviews,' and he will be matched with a student looking for that type of guidance," explains Paula Lee Hobson, vice president for university advancement. "And what's especially nice is that everything happens within the program environment—people can send e-mails or set up video calls all from our dedicated platform. It's very user-friendly."

The University is building this dynamic ecosystem in phased

Join fellow alumni and friends by texting PSUnite to 51555 or visiting go.plymouth.edu/FollowPSUnite.

cohorts of 50 students to work out the kinks and familiarize users with the tool, Ekstrom explains. "By the spring, we plan to have an active body of alumni mentors with profiles in the system and working familiarity with the program, so that by the fall of 2019 we can connect every incoming first-year with a mentor match."

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Work is already underway to enlist these alumni mentors in beta testing of the program, and early responses are exceedingly positive. "I think this initiative is bold in all the good ways," observes Leslie Blakney '07. Blakney, formerly associate director for advising at the Dartmouth Center for Professional Development, recently "came home" to Plymouth as director of career development. "I'm not aware of another institution that's committed to assigning every first-year student a mentor.



Leslie Blakney '07 • Mackenzie Fullerton '17 photo.

This initiative really demonstrates Plymouth State's commitment to giving students a thoughtful, meaningful college experience."

Mentoring is especially important to first-generation college students such as she was, Blakney continues. "I wouldn't be who I am today if it weren't for those who helped me during my four years at Plymouth State, and I want other students to be able to tell that same story a decade from now."



Kai Fowler '13

Kai Fowler '13, an account executive at Gartner, the global research and advisory firm, is equally enthusiastic. "Mentoring is crucial for students who are just starting out and may need an extra push or someone to hold them accountable," he observes. "There are plenty of resources available, but they're only useful to students who seek them out."

As a student, Fowler continues, he didn't start thinking seriously about next steps until his junior year, which was pretty late in the game. And because his parents weren't familiar with corporate America, he needed guidance. "I had no idea how to navigate the corporate scene, so a couple of my professors advised me on dressing the part, interviewing, writing my résumé, etc." After graduating, Fowler was eager to pay it forward

to other PSU students, but found it difficult to connect with those in need. "I took it upon myself to reach out to Rodney Ekstrom and ask how I could get involved, but not everyone will do that. Identifying students early on who might need help and don't know where to find it is really important. It's all about timing, and I think PSUnite is going to be great in that regard."

Ekstrom agrees. "PSUnite is going to allow us to impact not only current students, but also the community and the state. Career development is not just a transactional thing—it's about a relationship. Our alumni have 'street cred' and the same DNA as the students on campus now, so facilitating these relationships is incredibly valuable. I'm looking forward to hearing the stories that students involved in this initiative tell in a few years."

Plymouth State is a community with many wonderful stories of triumph over adversity, observes Hobson, and PSUnite promises to enliven the fabric of experiences even further. "We've long enjoyed a tradition of alumni mentoring, but our former manual process could not be taken to scale the way it will be with PSUnite. We have more than 37,000 living alumni. They have enjoyed successful careers in a wide array of disciplines, and I know they have rich experiences and advice to share.

"Alumni share their personal stories with us—some screamingly funny, many touchingly wonderful. They tell us about the barriers they overcame, and how their Plymouth State experience changed them, forever. Our students need to know that this will be true for them, too," Hobson concludes. "We couldn't be more excited to launch PSUnite."

■ Lori Ferguson



Stadium and Turf Field Project Closes in on Fundraising Goal

As this issue of Plymouth Magazine went to press, the University remained just \$192,299 shy of completing funding for the \$4 million Stadium and Turf Field project.

The lighted Stadium and Turf Field is a strategic component of Plymouth State's Active Living, Learning, and Wellness (ALLWell) Center and an unmatched Open Laboratory for the Health and Human Enrichment Cluster. Between academic programs, intercollegiate athletics teams, intramurals and recreation programs, club sports, and open recreation, it will be used by approximately 90 percent of the student body and will be a resource that benefits the regional community.

Join your fellow PSU alumni and friends in support of this transformative project! For additional information about supporting this initiative through a philanthropic investment or bequest, please contact Vice President for University Advancement Paula Lee Hobson, (603) 535-2901, phobson@plymouth.edu, or Director of Development John Scheinman '20P, (603) 535-2805, jscheinman@plymouth.edu.





Dr. Joseph Boyer • Kaleb Hart '11 photo.

Research and Scholarship at **Plymouth State University**

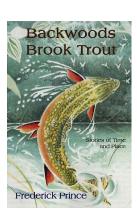
The Center for Research and Innovation (CRI), directed by Dr. Joseph Boyer, is the University's new hub for strategically important, interdisciplinary research and scholarship by students, faculty, and their external partners.

CRI integrates the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP), Center for the Environment (CFE), and components of the Center for Business and Community Partnerships (CBCP) into one center.

CRI develops, supports, and sustains interdisciplinary research and scholarship initiatives by convening individuals across Clusters to develop ideas for collaborative projects; assisting faculty and students in proposal development and submission; providing seed funding to leverage future research and scholarship; and supporting interdisciplinary undergraduate and graduate student projects and programs. For more information, please visit campus.plymouth.edu/research.

Backwoods Brook Trout: Stories of Time and Place

Congratulations to Frederick Prince, professor of anatomy and author of Backwoods Brook Trout: Stories of Time and Place. Dr. Prince has fished New Hampshire's backwoods ponds for more than 30 years, and his new book is a compilation of essays on his explorations and discoveries. Available from Amazon.





Why Mentorship at PSU with President Donald Birx and Provost Robin Dorff

Plymouth Magazine recently sat down with the president and provost to discuss the role of mentorship at Plymouth State.



President Birx: From the standpoint of faculty-student interaction it's among the best I've ever seen. There's really a sense of students getting to know faculty members here, and we don't underestimate staff mentorship either. Many staff interact with students daily and the impact they have and mentoring activities they perform are outstanding.

Provost Dorff: The more I talk with alumni the more I learn how they love PSU and the faculty and staff who changed their lives. They share stories of deep and lasting ties.

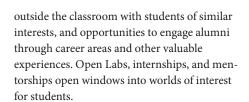
Plymouth: What is PSUnite's charge to our alumni who will provide all first-year students with mentors next year?

Birx: Our generous culture of giving back provides a lot of satisfaction when we pass on what we've learned. We want each student to have someone to talk to about sometimes challenging questions when there's no one else to ask. This is particularly meaningful because we have such a high percentage of first-generation students.

Dorff: PSUnite challenges alumni to share through internships, networking, and mentoring. We can do it and transform our students' experience in the process.

Plymouth: How does mentoring fit into the Integrated Clusters learning model?

Birx: It's important because of the intersection and integration among what's learned in the classroom, with how students engage

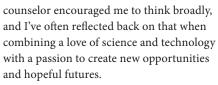


Dorff: One thing that drew me to PSU was the intentionality. Team-based problem solving and other strategies sometimes happen elsewhere, but that's because of efforts by individual students or professors. Here, it's institution-wide. And mentoring is a critical component of that intentionality.

Plymouth: Who were your mentors?

Dorff: I was an undergraduate physics and math major at Colorado College when I wandered into Professor Fred Sondermann's international relations class. He opened my eyes to what would become my major. Then when I was teaching at the U.S. Army War College, Gary Guertner, chairman of the Department of National Security and Strategy, pulled me aside. He asked me to stay on a second year and let me know that he thought I could be an excellent chair of the department one day soon. He believed in me and his confidence helped set me up for what in fact would be my future.

Birx: In high school, Dr. Frank Roberts had faith in me and encouraged my love of science, setting me on a science-oriented career path. When I was about to graduate as a (University of California) Berkeley undergraduate, science was taking a big hit and I was told that there weren't any jobs. A career



Provosts and presidents have also been tremendous sources of inspiration. Jay Gogue, president emeritus of Auburn University, was the source of so many insights, as was Bill Conroy and Renu Khator. (President Birx's earlier postings include both New Mexico State University (NMSU) and the University of Houston. Gogue previously served as president of both institutions; Conroy was NMSU provost and later president; and Khator is currently chancellor, University of Houston System, and president, University of Houston.)

I took a six-month job in industry while pursuing a PhD in physics at University of California, Santa Barbara. But industry mentors encouraged me to stay and it gave me a perspective into the opportunities and needs outside academia that I would never have had otherwise.

Plymouth: Do good mentors share universal aualities?

Birx: Really the most important qualities are active listening and a willingness to share experiences. Beyond that, it is the desire to engage and making the time available to do it meaningfully.

Dorff: Yes, along with the ability to understand others. My mentors probably understood me better than I did myself at the time, and all were outstanding teachers. •

Jack Roberts '18 photo.



Renovations Keeping Pace with Change









Left: Artist's concept of the future transformation of Centre Lodge into the University's new student and alumni gathering place.

Above: The Physical Education Center is undergoing a comprehensive modernization and will serve as a new Open Laboratory.

Top: Newly remodeled Geneva Smith Residence Hall. On left. Move-in Day • Isidro Rodriguez photo. Right, a common area • Billy Lundy '19 photo.

GENEVA SMITH RESIDENCE HALL

Transforming the undergraduate student experience to match the approaches embodied in Integrated Clusters requires fresh perspectives in residential life. Geneva Smith Hall has been renovated for the twenty-first century as one of the locations where the First-Year Residential Experience (FYRE) is taking place. It is one of several halls that have been organized by First-Year Seminar topic, allowing students to gain new and different perspectives that support the skill development required for

future success. Combining studies with other aspects of students' residential experience also increases student-faculty interactions.

CENTRE LODGE

Students develop essential teamwork, leadership, and networking skills through student organizations while gaining lifelong friendships, and Centre Lodge has been re-envisioned as a new social gathering place for both student and alumni groups, including Greek life organizations. The Bradford Room

in Centre Lodge may be reserved in advance to hold group meetings and social gatherings (students use venus.plymouth.edu/25live and alumni use go.plymouth.edu/room-request). More substantial enhancements are under consideration with the goal of positioning the building as the "gateway" to upper-class housing. This fall's Homecoming celebration featured the unveiling of a conceptual rendering (above, bottom left), which illustrates how Centre Lodge may appear in coming years.









PSUniters

Five who are making a difference

LOURDES AVILÉS

Meteorology Professor Lourdes Avilés is a mentor to students, professional colleagues, female counterparts, fellow Latinas, and budding scientific authors, but she doesn't advertise herself as such. "I have never thought of myself as a mentor or in a mentoring role," she says. "I just do what I feel is right. I sense the needs of people interacting with me."

Research is emphasized in her field, and she advises both undergraduate and graduate students. "I have grown in my ability to help students be better scientists, and adjust to their needs," Avilés says. "Some have very strong ideas and intuition about which ways to go. Others are more timid or have never had the opportunity to make their own decisions."

Students seek her out to navigate University matters: young women ask about work-life issues; and junior meteorologists look for professional pointers. The author of Taken by Storm, 1938: A Social and Meteorological History of the Great New England Hurricane, Avilés is currently working on books on atmospheric optics and Caribbean hurricanes, and graciously shares writing and publishing tips. All of this mentoring is unsolicited. "I'm surprised how much I've served in that role without even thinking of it," she says.

Her campus collaborations include co-writing "Stormy Weather," a play/vacation camp for elementary students.

Avilés, the production's science consultant, worked with education, theatre, and meteorology students, and only in retrospect did she recognize the mentorship aspect of her contribution.

Her willingness to help and modesty have made her an excellent fit on PSU's campus, where she noticed "something different" when she came to interview in 2004. "There is a collegiality and a friendliness, and an urge to do interesting and important things and care for our students," she says. "In the back of everything we do we're always thinking: How can we do better for our students? This is a positive place to work, and to work with others."

TERRY REDDINGTON '80

After earning his business management degree from Plymouth State, Terrence "Terry" Reddington embarked on a highly successful, ongoing career, progressing from operations management to manufacturing electronics and technology. Through work in sales, presales, product development, artificial intelligence, and more, he's evolved over decades of change by focusing on staying relevant. "I've done my best to remain that way with the technology and the people I interact with as clients," he says.

Reddington's professional mentoring perspective has been finely tuned through experience with corporate mentoring

programs at KPMG and SAP. The latter's sales graduate program led to a connection with Professor Robert Nadeau, who directs the University's Professional Sales Program.

Reddington's extensive background is paired with an abiding interest in PSU and its students. "My experiences at PSU were so great, and I look back on them very fondly," he says. He volunteered for PSU's alumni mentoring programs in 2015 and 2016, helping one student negotiate job offers and another set up her LinkedIn profile. He stays in touch with students via the social media platform and continues to generously share advice.

"Students who are just starting out may not have much experience to rely on but, as they gain confidence, they see that things don't have to be so daunting," he says. He encourages students to get involved in activities, and not just for the networking aspect. "When you learn to do things, you'll have confidence when you encounter them again."

Reddington views building confidence as fundamental to mentoring. "I find myself in corporate America and around the world and I'm sitting right next to people who went to more prestigious schools. You make your own way. Confidence and how you feel about yourself are so important. It doesn't matter where you're from; it just depends on how you apply yourself."

From the top: Lourdes Avilés, John Tully photo; Terry Reddington '80; Bonnie Bechard, John Tully photo; Craig Russell '04, Mackenzie Fullerton '17 photo; Patti May, Ian Halter photo.

BONNIE BECHARD

Superior skills and knowledge are valuable, but Professor Bonnie Bechard believes that great mentors also possess intrinsic qualities. "Learn to lead from the heart and the mind," she counsels. "You need to teach from the heart first, then you can mentor. Students have to first know that you care about them."

Bechard, recipient of the PSU Distinguished Graduate Teaching Award and the Alumni Association Faculty Award of Excellence, has taught for over 35 years. She continually refreshes her pedagogy—and the University's repertoire of business-related opportunities—through new programs, including the entrepreneurial student group, Enactus (now in its fifth year), and the Panther Pitch (beginning its third). (See Panther Pitch story, page 16.)

Both programs represent new mentoring venues for Bechard and regional business leaders, and align with her advocacy for experiential learning through work on real-life projects. "That's the beauty of both mentoring and Cluster projects," she says. "Neither can happen entirely inside the classroom."

Her spring Social Entrepreneurship special topics course demonstrated that Bechard's time-honored mentoring strategy remains on point. The course's "Climb Above Addiction" project was devoted to addressing the opioid crisis, and several students revealed in an early planning meeting that they had lost someone to overdose.

"A cousin, an uncle, and a friend-all of these connections in this little room on campus," Bechard recalls. "Mentoring also has to take into consideration what matters most to students."

The event raised awareness and funds to combat the crisis by allowing participants to experience adventure therapy through rock climbing and hiking, with proceeds benefiting a local recovery retreat center. It also gave students a needed outlet to tackle something as big as addiction.

"They were involved in something that was meaningful and wouldn't be forgotten," says Bechard. "They developed and used skills that they didn't know they had and made a difference."

CRAIG RUSSELL '04

Craig Russell is in his ninth year as Plymouth State University's ice hockey coach after serving as assistant coach for seven years. He also played on the team. The sport has profoundly shaped him, but he downplays its importance in light of life's more lasting lessons.

"A lot of what we do is centered on leadership and giving back, and it's so much less about hockey," he explains. "Hockey is the easiest part of an athlete's day. The more important job for me as a mentor is shaping a culture of contributors. We talk about Ut Prosim and the emphasis on service. We try to give more than we receive, and we receive so much."

PSU hockey players are enthusiastically supported by fans in the community and on campus. "If they get breakfast at Chase Street, someone will grab them and talk their ear off," says Russell. "We are so fortunate to have that about our program, and to have people who want to get to know us. We should get to know them too."

Inviting fans and their kids down to the locker room and celebrating the successes of other athletes are among the many ways that Russell's team reciprocates. The team works with local nonprofit

Voices Against Violence to combat domestic violence, and the "Good Deed Challenge" has players devising community assistance projects. Teammates have unloaded trucks for thrift stores, gathered trash, raked lawns, and delivered food.

The "Team IMPACT" initiative involves a local child recovering from cancer who regularly comes to practices and games. "He puts so much into perspective for our group," says Russell. Children with health concerns are also the focus of the holiday season "Teddy Bear Toss," through which the men's and women's ice hockey programs team up with the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth (CHaD) to collect and distribute stuffed animals for children undergoing treatment.

Coaches sometimes have to redirect athletes, such as when Russell benched a talented player with a poor attitude. "He needed a reality check. Over time, he learned what it was to be part of a team. Because he focused on being a better person, hockey became easier for him."

The student thanked Russell when he graduated and has gone on to career success. Russell can easily list other alumni of his program who have achieved great things in law school, corporate life, public service, and entrepreneurial pursuits. It's their commitment to serving others and giving back, however, that he considers the greater accomplishment.

PATTI MAY

Patti May, director of TRIO, has a professional view of the University's strong mentoring culture. A staff member since 2003, she oversees a peer mentoring program that teaches mentorship skills and fosters mentor relationships for students who are either first-generation, low-income, or have a

disability. These three factors affect more than half of all PSU students.

"We really have a unique situation at Plymouth," says May. "People believe in TRIO, and we have close working relationships with Financial Aid, Information Technology, and other offices that are important to students. It's a seamless operation."

Sixty students paired in the fall with 30 student mentors, and they bonded through a week's worth of "Connection Days" before classes began. "We try to match them up by their areas of study, such as biology to biology," says May. "This gives students an immediate anchor to rely on."

Students, who might not have previously known what the Registrar does, learn about campus programs, offices, and buildings, and mentors are trained in conflict resolution and other useful skills.

May gets special satisfaction from mentor relationships that benefit both parties. She recalls a student who had been very shy and didn't think he belonged in college, and would quickly pass her in hallways without making eye contact. His mentor was also somewhat hesitant in taking on her role, but grew in confidence through work with TRIO's educational coordinators. In turn, the student mentor made a strong connection with the shy student, who stayed in school, flourished, and has become a mentor himself. He now makes eye contact easily and wins smiles in return.

"TRIO is truly a team effort, and we see our role as an umbrella connection to the University, faculty, and campus resources," says May. "We have strong support from the University at the highest level and the resources on campus to make it work." • Peter Lee Miller

ATHLETICS

A Family Affair

Plymouth State plays a huge role in the lives of the Osgood family. Each of the four family members enrolled at Plymouth for different reasons but share similar motives for staying.

For Kathy Landry Osgood '93, everything just seemed to fall into place. "I felt like it was the right size," she says. "Who doesn't love the mountains? It is just the perfect spot."

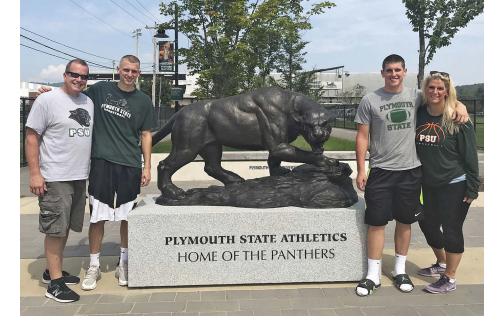
Future husband Jay Osgood '92 was impressed when he came for a day tour of campus. He grew up in Massachusetts a few streets down from Hall of Fame running back Joe Dudek '87, who had brought national attention to Plymouth with his Heisman Trophy run in 1985.

"I knew of Joe Dudek and a few others who'd attended and been successful," remembers Jay. "I loved it the first time I visited, especially the small campus feel."

For Jay, it was the relationships that made him comfortable. "People all said 'hi' to each other and you knew everyone's names," he explains.

Kathy and Jay, both members of their respective Plymouth State basketball teams, met on a shared bus ride to an away game. "I made the first move," confesses Kathy. They naturally connected, becoming friends, study partners, and eventually a couple. They shared a first kiss at the Rail (now the Lucky Dog Tavern) and ultimately earned degrees and married.

Fast forward a few years and they began the college search for their oldest son, Mike '19. Blessed with the athleticism of his parents, Mike was a standout basketball player himself and, not knowing exactly what he wanted to study, his love of the sport helped steer the process.



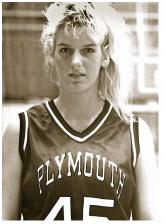
After a number of campus visits and meetings with coaches, Mike had a list of pros and cons. "I felt like Plymouth was the one school where I didn't have any negatives," he recalls. "It felt like the right decision."

"He kept coming back to Plymouth," Jay agrees. "We didn't want to push that on him. That's something we always told him make sure you love the school even without basketball."

Kathy remembers when Mike shared that he had decided on PSU. "We were excited, and I was online the next day buying more Plymouth State gear!"

While Mike was enjoying the start of his college career at PSU, his brother Max '21 began looking at colleges as well. A skilled multisport athlete, Max ultimately settled on playing football at the next level. At 6'5" and 250 pounds, his size drew the attention of a number of Division I schools around New England. He was offered a spot as a walk-on at the University of Rhode Island and pursued his dream of being a DI athlete. But URI didn't feel right.

"He came home in October and wasn't happy," says Jay. "He basically didn't like it there: the football or the school. He finished

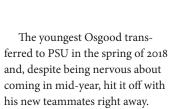




out the season and we got the ball rolling to transfer."

For Max, the choice seemed obvious. He had heard Mike talk of how homey Plymouth was and had visited his brother on campus to experience the close-knit community firsthand. "I had liked the idea of doing my own thing and going to a different school," says Max, "but when I knew I had to leave there was no other option. Plymouth was the only school I could think of that I'd want to come to."

The news caught Mike off guard. "I was completely shocked," he says. "But I think Max saw how much I enjoyed being at Plymouth, and he wanted the same experience."



And now the family is a perfect four-for-four. "I think my being here brings our family closer," says Max. "We are all Panthers now." Kathy echoes his sentiment. "It's completely come full circle," she says. "So many things have changed, but so many have stayed the same. I think that's why Mike and Max love it as much as we loved it. It sounds corny, but we really do bleed green."

• Chris Kilmer '99

A Coach's Mentorship

"A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives." Jackie Robinson's wisdom has been modeled over the generations at Plymouth State, including the life-changing impact that Hall of Fame Coach John C. Foley had on Ernie Beals '53.

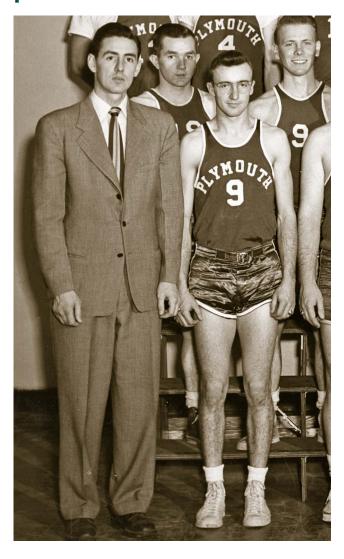
Beals grew up in Hudson, MA. His parents divorced before his first birthday, leaving him without a father figure. In 1946, he moved to Ashland, NH. Beals was a baseball player and dreamed of getting to the big leagues. He was good enough to earn a tryout with the Boston Braves, but he had two strikes against him. "They didn't like that I was wearing glasses at age 18," Beals chuckles. "And I weighed 145 pounds."

Nevertheless, the Braves arranged for Beals to play in the Northern League, similar to the well-known Cape Cod League. Early in the season, while playing in a light rain, a bolt of lightning shot through the sky. "It was an epiphany for me," says Beals. "I realized this wasn't for me, but I thought that if I can't play maybe I'll get into coaching."

Beals had always loved school and decided college was the next step. Because of his limited resources, Plymouth Teachers College was the only option he could afford. A two-sport athlete, he tried out for the basketball team in the fall of his first year and was surprised when Coach Foley selected him for the varsity squad.

"I was very happy with practice, but that didn't last long," Beals remembers. "He was all over me, day after day after day. He was yelling, stamping his foot, and throwing his hands in the air." After two weeks, Beals had had enough. Basketball wasn't fun anymore. He strolled into Foley's office, and he was prepared to quit. After hearing Beals out, Foley firmly told him to take a seat. What Beals had expected to be a short, five-minute conversation turned into an hour-long talk that would have a profound impact on him.

"I think you can become a good point guard," Foley said. "But it's not going to happen if you just stay the same every day. You've got to get better every day." It was that message that shaped Beals' future: striving each day to be better than he was the day before.



"Because of my experience, I was interested in working with the person who didn't have goals in his life, students who didn't know where they were headed. I really worked extra hard with those students to help them have self-esteem, because that's basically what Coach Foley instilled in me. You've got to have pride in yourself." -Ernie Beals '53

"I was stunned," Beals says. "Okay coach, I said, I would like to stay with the team."

Foley's coaching style didn't change after the life-altering conversation. "Not one bit," laughs Beals. "But going into it, I could see the twinkle in his eye and I had a smile on my face. I ended up being a point guard for my last two years."

Beals carried the lesson with him when he was drafted into military service, during his career as a coach and teacher, admissions officer and, most notably, when he served as a guidance director.

"Because of my experience, I was interested in working with the person who didn't have

goals in his life, students who didn't know where they were headed," he says. "I really worked extra hard with those students to help them have self-esteem, because that's basically what Coach Foley instilled in me. You've got to have pride in yourself."

Beals turned 88-years-old in September and still approaches life with that confidence. "I live life one day at a time," he says. "I get up in the morning and say 'I'm going to enjoy today,' and I do." - Chris Kilmer '99

Coach Foley (on left) and Ernie Beals (number 9), together with 1951-52 men's basketball team.

Bringing Education to Life: Utilizing the Standardized Patient at PSU

The value of real-time learning for students in health care professions such as nursing, counseling, and physical therapy is in applying classroom knowledge and refining clinical skills through engagement with real people. "You think you know your stuff, but when you're confronted with a live person, it's a whole new experience," observes Doctor of Physical Therapy student Jessica Quinn '20DPT. "You quickly discover that everything doesn't go by the book-what you've learned in class can be quite different from real life. When the book says that the patient should be showing symptom 'x' and they're not, you suddenly find yourself thinking, 'Now what?'"



It's just these types of teachable moments that educators in PSU's physical therapy, counseling, and nursing programs seek to create using Standardized Patients (SP): individuals trained to act like real patients to simulate a set of symptoms or problems. And to make the experience richer still, Plymouth State is training its own students and faculty members to act as those SPs.

The initiative was set in motion by PSU's Director of Physical Therapy Dr. Sean Collins shortly



 $Professor\ Kelly\ Legacy,\ at\ right,\ and\ physical\ therapy\ students\ examine\ a\ Standardized\ Patient.\ John\ Tully\ photo.$

after he arrived on campus in 2015. Collins approached Paul Mroczka, chair of the University's Department of Music, Theatre, and Dance, about the possibility of theatre students acting as patients for the University's new Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program. The two quickly realized the idea had the potential to foster interdisciplinary initiatives across campus. Indeed, in some respects it presaged President Birx's introduction of the University's new Integrated Clusters model,

says Mroczka. "The fact that we could combine seemingly diverse disciplines in one specific area and see how they related was very exciting," he recalls.

In summer 2017, Mroczka and Dr. Kelly Legacy, a clinical assistant professor and director of clinical education in the Department of Physical Therapy, and ten other PSU faculty members realized the first step in their plan by taking part in a two-week SP training course led by faculty from the University of Illinois

College of Medicine at Chicago. Next, Mroczka offered a fall semester SP course to a dozen PSU theatre majors, then worked with Legacy to deploy the newly trained students as Standardized Patients in a fall DPT Objective Structured Clinical Examination, commonly known as an OSCE.

The experiment was a great success, says Legacy, and the PT department will continue to employ SPs in OSCEs moving forward. "The ability to offer emerging health care professionals the

opportunity to practice their skills in a safe but practical environment is so important." But Legacy doesn't stop there. "We envision a host of potential offshoots for the use of Standardized Patients here at the University that goes beyond the medical field. For example, a Standardized Patient—under a slightly different name of course-could pose as an employer interviewing a student or a business person evaluating a proposal."

Legacy also believes that the Standardized Patient program

offers Plymouth State an important opportunity to differentiate itself in the educational community. "I'm not aware of any other colleges or universities that are drawing individuals from their own student body to train as SPs," she explains. "We're providing theatre students with valuable acting opportunities and giving every student we train a marketable skill. Further, by training and using SPs, we're creating experiential learning opportunities for our students and establishing practices that we could share with other educational institutions via a consulting role."

Members of PSU's nursing faculty are equally enthusiastic about the potential impact of the Standardized Patient program. Dr. Donna Driscoll, one of the lead organizers of the nursing department's May mock disaster drill, was delighted with the authenticity that the Standardized Patients added to the exercise. "Giving students the chance to assess and triage real people, rather than mannequins, increased the

educational impact of the exercise significantly. I think the theatre students who acted as the SPs benefited as well—they had a chance to test their acting skills and had the valuable experience of providing our nursing students with positive as well as negative feedback, something that isn't always easy to do. I'm hopeful that in the future, we can integrate Standardized Patients into every level of our program."

"The nursing department is very excited about creating new interdisciplinary learning opportunities for students, particularly within the campus setting," agrees Clinical Assistant Professor Julie Fagan, who deployed SPs for a mental health lab simulation this summer. "Nursing students told us afterward that they felt like they had learned much more working with SPs than with mannequins, as they felt they could suspend disbelief and fully commit themselves to the experience."

DPT students are enthusiastic about SPs as well. "I'm very

grateful for the opportunity to work with Standardized Patientsit's a fantastic way to bridge the gap between book learning and the clinical setting," says Diego Gatica '20DPT. "While working with mannequins and other students is helpful, the background information identified by the SPs, e.g., their environmental, personal, and social/behavioral factors, simulates a realistic approach with regard to treating patients who have clinical presentations of different musculoskeletal conditions."

The feedback received from Standardized Patients following the simulations is also incredibly valuable, says Kayla Jones '20DPT. "I found it extremely helpful to have the chance to ask the SP questions about my performance, for example, 'How did I do as a therapist and as a person—did you feel like I cared about you as a patient?' We can be helpful to the theatre majors who are serving as the SPs, too, because we can give them feedback on their acting skills. It's a win-win."

Mroczka has been so impressed with the concept's potential that he now serves as director of PSU's Standardized Patient Program; he is spearheading an initiative to offer an SP course in the spring 2019 semester and an interdisciplinary minor in the subject in the fall. "We're presently working primarily with students from our department, but the minor will be open to all disciplines." The training is beneficial for many reasons, he argues, not least of which is that it encourages students to think outside the box. It also equips them with a marketable skill they can use while still in school and after graduating, as medical schools and other programs frequently hire Standardized Patients for use in training scenarios. "We fully expect that once we get our minor established, we will attract PSU students from a variety of disciplines as well as people from outside the University."

Lori Ferguson

Dr. Jean Coffey, Director of Nursing

Dr. Jean Coffey was working as director of nursing research and education at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center when she came across an opening for the director of nursing at Plymouth State. Eager to return to teaching in a smaller program, Coffey investigated. "When I came for a visit, I was hooked-I fell in love with the faculty, the setting, and the campus."

Coffey officially joined the PSU faculty in January 2018, taught for a semester, and on July 1 stepped into the role of director of nursing, taking over for Dr. Kathleen Patenaude.

Looking ahead, Coffey's goals include efficiently on-boarding new faculty; forging new relationships with critical access hospitals so that PSU students can train in these settings; and maintaining students' much-improved pass rates on NCLEX, the nationwide examination for the licensing of nurses.

Additionally, having witnessed the benefits of using Standardized Patients (SP) in clinical simulations such as the May 2018 disaster drill and this summer's mental health lab simulation, Coffey is eager to incorporate SPs more broadly into the nursing curriculum. "Every course has a simulation lab component, and moving forward, I would like to expose students to at least one Standardized Patient experience in every lab they take."

"I'm honored to be here and look forward to continuing to guide the program along on the positive trajectory it's been following," says Coffey. "Dr. Patenaude did such good work during her tenure as director-she revised the program's curriculum extensively and implemented changes that have enabled us to reach a pass rate of 100 percent on NCLEX. I want to continue that progress. I like to be the kind of leader who supports my team and acts as a steward for its work. Given the quality of Plymouth State's faculty, I know we will continue to make great strides."



Jack Roberts '18 photo.



Summer Ascent Program Jump-Starts On-Campus Experience

Summer Ascent, a new weeklong, pre-semester program debuted in August, and a select group of students benefited from the intensive introduction to life at Plymouth State. The bridge program reinforced study skills and problem-solving techniques, while also teaching the fundamentals of networking and relationship building. These proficiencies prove critically important to students' successful transition from high school to the University.

The program was offered on a scholarship basis, which covered housing, meals, tuition, and academic materials.

"PSU is committed to helping all students navigate their path to success, and Summer Ascent allowed students to move to campus early and jumpstart their PSU career," explains Dean of Enrollment Management Jason Moran. "A collaborative planning group comprised of faculty and staff created a proactive program emphasizing mentorship, team building, skill training, and fun."

"I found the Summer Ascent Program to be incredibly valuable," says Nolan O'Donnell '22. "Coming from the Baltimore area and knowing next to no one on campus, the small cohorts made it easy for me to quickly establish relationships with other students and faculty members. When regular classes came around, I could tell I was better prepared. I knew where all my buildings were, had experienced critical thinking sessions, and simply felt more comfortable sitting in the classroom."

Highlights included two one-credit courses developed by faculty across disciplines. The Habits of Mind Experience (HOME) introduced the four pillars of PSU's General Education Program—Problem Solving, Integrated Perspective, Purposeful Communication, and Self-Regulated Learning-and in the "toolkit" course, students worked with faculty on specific skill sets such as blogging, digital production, and other in-demand topics. The complete curricular experience aligns with the

ethos of Plymouth State's Integrated Clusters learning model in which students and faculty representing multiple disciplines work to create a pathway to the future.

A week in Plymouth during the summertime wouldn't be complete without outdoor adventures, and participants enjoyed hikes, yoga, and community activities. "Developing friendships and a support network for their time at PSU is a big part of the program," says Moran. "In addition to earning two credits before the fall semester even started, participants bonded with mentors and friends; connected with faculty, staff, and other students; and enjoyed early success. We're confident that this program will pay many dividends for them over the course of their years at the University."

■ Peter Lee Miller

Isidro Rodriguez photo.

PSU is committed to helping all students navigate their path to success, and Summer Ascent allowed students to move to campus early and jumpstart their PSU career.



Evening of Connections Unites Donors, Students, and Families

The generosity and caring of Plymouth State alumni and donors are evident in the numerous scholarship opportunities available to students. Student scholarships give young people the chance to succeed, and scholarship donors receive the deep satisfaction of offering hope to deserving individuals. The Evening of Connections, an annual event that takes place over Homecoming Weekend, celebrates the transformative impact of philanthropy on the lives of students and their families, and honors the donors who generously support the mission of Plymouth State University.

The event featured inspirational remarks by Kayleigh Bennett '18, a scholarship recipient and now a member of PSU's admissions team. The evening also included an induction ceremony for the Holmes Heritage Society, which honors alumni and friends who have made provisions for Plymouth State in their estate plans.

"The opportunity for students to meet those who created and funded their scholarships is truly a magical moment for all attendees," says Vice President for University Advancement Paula Lee Hobson. "Warm and lasting friendships are made, and it's a proud evening to be a Panther."

■ Peter Lee Miller

Above: Reta Presby and Duane Baxter, Holmes Heritage Society inductees and scholarship donors, with student recipients. Gil Talbot '76 photo.

Haiti Mentorship Unites Friends, Cultures

For Eric Wilson '06 and Harold Roy '06, a passion for Plymouth State and helping those in need are commonalities that inspired the longtime friends to make an impact on a global scale.

Roy, a special state police officer at Massachusetts General Hospital and the founder/director of disaster prevention nonprofit EPECARE, was visiting family in Haiti in 2010 when a devastating earthquake shuddered the tiny island nation. Born in the U.S. into a household that embraces the Haitian culture, Roy felt compelled to aid in rebuilding the country and investing in those who call it home.

EPECARE is mostly self-funded and relies on volunteers like Wilson. He previously ran basketball camps in Haiti with POWERforward, an organization dedicated to inspiring underprivileged children to achieve excellence in education and athletics. EPECARE sends small groups of public health and nursing professionals to Haiti to teach valuable skills, including first aid and emergency response. Together with Partners HealthCare, it is currently building a school and a training clinic that will specialize in the care of mothers



Eric Wilson '06 and Harold Roy '06.

"...I hope to be the change I want to see in my country." -Harold Roy '06

and children. The training clinic will also function as a command center in the event of another catastrophic event.

Having made more than 20 trips to Haiti to date, Roy says, "...I hope to be the change I want to see in my country." Roy and EPECARE, through education and empowerment, are working to ensure that the nation of Haiti is a safe haven in the future. EPECARE invites the PSU community to contribute to the cause by donating used computers, backpacks, notepads, pens/pencils, desks, chairs, medical supplies, or self-storage units. For more information, please visit epecare.org.

■ Shannon Griffiths '17

PSU Panther Pitch: What's Your Big Idea?

Competitions encourage budding entrepreneurs

PSU Panther Pitch, a live campus-wide competition, encourages students to propose business innovation or entrepreneurial opportunities that address local, national, or international societal challenges. Students submit proposals for review and screening, and finalists pitch their concepts before panels of expert judges and

a live audience. Cash prizes are given to winners to support the launch of their ventures.

Screening committees of students, faculty, and alumni review student entries and finalists are selected based on four criteria: the extent to which the idea is innovative and creative, addresses an important business or societal

need, clearly identifies consumers and beneficiaries, and to which it solves the problem posed.

The program was an immediate hit on campus when it was launched and its popularity is growing, says faculty coordinator Professor Bonnie Bechard, who teaches Social Entrepreneurship and other business courses. "In

addition to students interested in business careers, the event attracts proposals from a wide range of majors as well as First-Year Seminar students."

This year's Pitch took place Friday, November 9. The event was live-streamed and archived at plymouth.edu/panther-pitch.

■ Peter Lee Miller



Women's Leadership Summit: A Bonding, Mentoring Experience

Plymouth State's leadership is populated by prominent women and its campus is bisected by a Main Street enlivened by businesses run or owned by alumnae and other female entrepreneurs.

The Women's Leadership Summit, which began in 2016 and had its third annual event in August at Merrill Place Conference Center and Residence Hall, is an exceptional example of PSU encouraging women to find the leader within themselves and help friends and family follow the same path.

Active community member Patti Biederman '76 and Assistant Director of Athletics Lauren Lavigne '94, '96G, though separated in their academic experiences by over a decade, are linked by their profound passion for both Plymouth State and empowering women to reconnect with themselves, each other, and the natural beauty of the White Mountains. Recognizing the importance of taking time for oneself and inspiring others to embrace the practice on their own terms, Lavigne and Biederman created an environment for women to do just that.

Vice President for University Advancement Paula Lee Hobson was also instrumental in the summit's formation and the companion Women's Circle of Giving. Inspired by Carrie Morgridge, spouse of John Morgridge '85 and author of *Every Gift Matters*: How Your Passion Can Change the World, Hobson has succeeded in simultaneously furthering Plymouth State University's philanthropic reach and motivating women in the community to realize their potential.

The "Roses of the Wind" steering committee that guides both efforts includes alumnae, faculty, and staff, and is an incubator for mentorship and friendship alike. Participants span four decades, and those with a bit more life experience share their wisdom with younger members whose fresh perspective and enthusiasm augur a positive future for the group.

"I think this group encourages female leadership in a big way. I love that we have created a positive environment for these women."

-Jordan Rosenburg '17

With this year's inclusive event reaching peak attendance at 80 guests, and peak diversity in regard to the range in age of participants, the impact of the Women's Leadership Summit and Circle of Giving is evident and clearly gaining momentum.

The first annual scholarship supported by the Women's Leadership Summit was awarded this year to Kathryn Sellar '19, a nontraditional student who expressed much gratitude for the chance to further her education and work toward her "dream job." As the Women's Leadership Summit expands to encompass more student involvement and plans to host similar events during the upcoming academic year, the experience will continue to link generations of alumnae, friends, and community members.

• Shannon Griffiths '17

THE GREEN | PLYMOUTH STATE ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

Homecoming & Family Celebration and Reunion Weekend Wrap-up

We had a very successful event with around 5,000 attendees over the course of the weekend. Great attendance at tailgating (over 160 cars) and at the athletic events contributed to a celebratory atmosphere, where Panther football and tennis earned wins. The fall colors were beautiful and provided a great backdrop to our harvest festival of activities and food, which included food trucks and a craft beer garden. The Alumni Association honored nine alumni and faculty at its annual award ceremony, and hosted the 2nd Annual Panther Prowl through the Whites motorcycle ride and the 38th Annual PSUAA Barbara Dearborn '60 Golf Classic, both raising funds for student scholarships. Comedian Dave Coulier (of Full House fame) performed to a sold-out crowd on Saturday evening at the Silver Center, and Greek alumni came out in force to celebrate their re-emergence on campus.

Make plans to join us next year, October 4-6, 2019, and watch for updates at plymouth.edu/homecoming.



Over 115 alumni from the classes of 1974 and older returned to campus in August for two days of celebration. Back row, (I-r): Elizabeth Bridges '70, Linda Maley '70, Carolyn Jalbert '70, Marion Gorrill '70, Pam Witherell '72, and Charley Witherell. Front row, (I-r): Cathy Brown '72, Mary Ann Robinson '73, and Bob Brown '71.

Highlights of Upcoming Events

Colorado Alumni Chapter: Bruins vs. Avalanche Hockey Game and Alumni Gathering | November 14, 2018

Panther Business Club and Northern New England Alumni Chapters: 2nd Annual Panther Business Club Holiday Gala | December 2018

Northern New England Alumni Seacoast Chapter: Ice Skating and Flatbread Pizza Alumni Gathering January 2019

Colorado Alumni Chapter: PSU Ski Retreat Weekend | February

Northern New England Alumni Manchester Chapter: Green Gala | March

Alumni Relations and Women's Leadership Summit: AMC Adventure in Pinkham Notch | March 15-17

Florida Alumni Chapter: Bruins vs. Panthers Hockey Game and Alumni Gathering | March 23

Panther Business Club and Women's Leadership Summit presents: PSU's Ski Hooky Days | March 29-30

Northern New England Alumni Seacoast Chapter: PSU Dance Program at 3S Art Space in Portsmouth | April

Northern New England Alumni Seacoast Chapter: Gathering at the 100 Club in Portsmouth | June

Northern New England Alumni Upper Valley Chapter: **Lebanon Food Truck Festival** | June

Women's Leadership Summit: Women's Leadership Summit Event | August 10-11

From social events to career networking to faculty lectures, there are plenty of opportunities to connect with PSU and other alumni. Explore the many options at plymouth.edu/alumni-connect, and visit the calendar at go.plymouth.edu/AlumniEvents. Check in regularly as new events and updates are added throughout the year.



Share your accomplishments and photos! Got married? Had a baby? Starting a new job? Submit your update today. go.plymouth.edu/infoupdate











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CLASS NOTES ★

Classes ending in 9 and 4, celebrate reunions next year at Homecoming & Family Celebration and Reunion Weekend, October 4–6, 2019! For the Class of '74 and older classes, please also join us at our next Summer Reunion, July 25–26, 2019.

1960s

Elizabeth S. Hunter '67 was ordained to the diaconate in 2001 after studying locally for 3 1/2 years. She is now retired and serves as a deacon at the Episcopal Cathedral Church of St. Mark in Salt Lake City, UT. She writes, "I ended up not teaching after my first year, went to graduate school, but was a state employee for 30 years. I learned skills at Plymouth that I was able to use in my career."

Richard A. Hutchins '69 is teaching Sport in America Since 1865, a class offered though Dartmouth College's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. The course is held weekly inside the Dartmouth Outing Club House on the north end of Occom Pond.

1979 Reunion

1970s

Mark H. DeNies '70 retired in 2016 after working as a physical therapist for 45 years. He writes, "My wife and I just recently traveled to Iceland. Three people stopped me and said they knew Plymouth State because I was wearing a Plymouth State sweatshirt!"

Dr. Bernard J. McCarthy '71, '74G (top right) was awarded the 2018 Honor's College Award for outstanding faculty research at Missouri State University. This award recognizes a faculty member's research excellence and acknowledges those Honors College professors who have made significant contributions to their field of research and helped to expand the growth and development of honors education at MSU. He writes, "Plymouth State gave me a great foundation to pursue my career in higher education. In graduate school, I competed with students from some of the best universities in the country and at no point did I feel that my preparation as an undergraduate would hold me back."

Lynn M. Miller '74 (right) was honored on center court at the International Hall of Fame in Newport, RI, on July 16, 2018, for being inducted into the USPTA New England Hall of Fame. The USPTA is the organization that certifies tennis teaching professionals. She was again honored the following day on Center Court along with several other players from the northeast for being ranked #1 in the women's 60 doubles division.

Marcella H. (Hall) Prachyl '74 has been a registered dietitian for 33 years. She is now looking forward to working part-time and spending more time with her husband of 31 years, Allen Prachyl, a retired teacher and tennis coach.

Leslie G. (Woodman) Parish '76 (right) is a chaplain with Canines for Christ Therapy Dog Ministry, Inc., an AKC Canine Good Citizen Evaluator, and an ambassador for Stronghold Ministries, Inc., a cancer support group. She is the event coordinator between Chick Fil-A restaurants and Canines for Christ around the U.S. When she retires in the next year or two, she plans to train dogs and humans to become therapy dog teams. She writes, "My education at Plymouth State taught me that you never stop learning. My favorite professors (Dr. Manuel Marquez-Sterling and Dr. Richard Chisholm) were great influences on my desire to be flexible and try new ideas/avenues of my career path. I love that I have helped people to develop and follow their passions, to seek and obtain justice, and that I can offer hope and comfort to those who are hurting, depressed, or lonely."

Margaret "Meg" A. Mulbern '77, Dave Homma '76, and Bruce Goslovich '78 were together at Lake Como in Darby, MT. (bottom right) Homma spent most of his career in sales with Wyeth



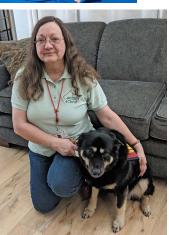
Above: Lynn Miller '74 (on left) with past USPTA New England President Avis Murray.

Top right: Bernard J. McCarthy '71, '74G

Right: Chaplain Leslie Parish '76 and Jessie, a ministry team with Canines for Christ Therapy Dog Ministry, Inc.

Below: Kathi J. (Smith) Monteith '76 and her family enjoy the 2017 Annual Tractor Parade in beautiful downtown Charlotte, VT!







Pharmaceuticals in eastern OR. He has retired to Darby with his wife, Kris. Mulbern spent the later years of her career working in a K–6 special education classroom in Boise, ID. At the end of his career, Goslovich was a self-employed contract CFO. All three are now enjoying working a lot less.

Michael J. Mugits '78 is retiring as principal of Molly Stark Elementary School in Vermont.

Jeffrey V. Myles '79 has retired.



Left to right, Dave Homma, Meg Mulbern, and Bruce Goslovich at Lake Como. MT.

IN MEMORIAM

Remembering Plymouth State alumni, faculty, staff, and friends who have passed away.

Arlene M. (Whittemore) Johnson '42, April 13, 2018, Northwood, NH Elvis L. (Braley) Belser '46, July 31, 2017, Bristol, NH Pauline L. (Belyea) Breck '46, June 17, 2017, Shrewsbury, MA Agnes E. (Harrigan) Andross '47, May 20, 2018, Dalton, NH Harold H. Matava '52, May 18, 2018, Pembroke, NH Esther Crocker '52, April 13, 2018, Kalamazoo, MI Harold E. Fernald '53, May 21, 2018, Hampton, NH Nancy J. (Thompson) Burbank '54, August 11, 2018, Exeter, NH Clarise (Woodbury) Fitch '54, June 26, 2018, Ashland, NH Richard T. McCarthy '58, August 11, 2017, Hinsdale, NH Paul E. Seavey '58, September 24, 2017, Sanford, ME Alice (Brown Conway) Moody '59, April 27, 2018, Keene, NH Roland J. Robichaud '59, July 27, 2018, Tilton, NH John W. MacArthur '62, April 14, 2018, Hooksett, NH Gail (Eagleson) Stevens '62, July 25, 2018, Exeter, NH Charlene M. (Miller) Knight '66, June 6, 2018, Gulfport, MS Ross H. Beattie '67, April 29, 2018, Laconia, NH Eileen A. (Coyle) Varrese '67, July 11, 2018, Bradford, MA Katherine E. (Moore) Wilson '71 '80G, May 3, 2018, New London, NH Susan (Leclair) Bennett '72 '79G, June 29, 2018, Bedford, NH Mary K. (O'Leary) Coltin '72, November 24, 2017, Nottingham, NH Virginia A. Bahan '74, May 7, 2018, Crystal River, FL Tracey A. (Caldwell) Bergeron '74, April 20, 2018, Middleton, NH Patricia W. Heinz '75, May 24, 2018, Concord, NH Michael J. McLaughlin '76, January 16, 2018, Ormond Beach, FL James F. O'Donnell '76, September 18, 2017, Laconia, NH Albert S. Freeman '77, August 6, 2018, Plymouth, NH Jean E. (Sibson) Sangster '78, July 16, 2018, Mansfield, MA Jane A. Foster '79, May 9, 2018, Center Sandwich, NH Judith O. Merriam '82, March 7, 2018, Sanbornton, NH Mark M. Evans '83, October 4, 2017, Amissville, VA Frederick S. Grav III '90, May 14, 2018, Portsmouth, NH Kevin J. Drago '97, September 16, 2017, Pembroke, NH Sean C. Ritchie '98, May 31, 2018, Meredith, NH Jason W. (Jefferson) Hall '99, June 28, 2018, West Deptford, NJ Mark A. Rano '99, July 27, 2018, Rumney, NH Richard E. Inman '83, August 20, 2017, Concord, NH Sarah A. Moore '09, May 29, 2018, Manchester, NH

Faculty, Staff, and Friends

Gertie Buswell, December 5, 2017, Plymouth, NH
Wilbur W. Callender, May 21, 2018, Lisbon, NH
David A. Carlson, May 20, 2018, Holden, MA
Gerard J. "Gary" Corcoran Jr., July 5, 2018, Plymouth, NH
Donald Hall, June 23, 2018, Wilmot, NH
Nancy F. Hogan, September 9, 2018, Dover, NH
Sarah "Sally" Kilfoyle, October 4, 2018, Plymouth, NH
Barbara Y. Newsom, April 4, 2018, Osprey, FL
Kathi A. (Lambert) Patterson, August 10, 2018, Rumney, NH
Stephen M. Weissmann, September 30, 2018, Meredith, NH

1984 & 1989 Reunions

1980s

Joseph E. Goulart '82 has been named vice president for institutional advancement at the Gulliver Schools in Miami, FL.

Darryll White '82 was hired as the new chief administrator at Lake George Regional Park.

Kent W. Hemingway '83G, '03CAGS has agreed to step in as part-time superintendent of SAU 13, including schools in Tamworth, Freedom, and Madison, NH. Since retiring as Gilford superintendent, Hemingway has served as a consultant in two superintendent searches for the New Hampshire School Boards Association. He will help SAU 13 with its search, beginning this fall, with the goal of having a long-term superintendent in place by July 1, 2019.

Dennis J. Keglovits '84 (opposite page) has been named chief client officer of Lockpath, a technology company founded in 2010 in Overland Park, KS, which provides governance, risk and compliance services. Keglovits joined the company in 2014 as vice president of services. He's a 26-year veteran of the accounting and consulting industry, with experience at PricewaterhouseCoopers, RSM McGladrey, and Deloitte & Touche.

Michael P. Couture '85 is head coach of the men's lacrosse team at Southern New Hampshire University and district manager for NH at Clearent Processing and Financial Services. He is also owner of MACK C Services & Contracting Property Management & Preservation.

Daniel French '85, '97G was appointed as Vermont's new secretary of education. The appointment of French, who for nine years was superintendent of the Bennington-Rutland Supervisory Union, was announced by Gov. Phil Scott at the Statehouse in Montpelier.

Carl D. Nelson '86 has been selected as the 2017–2018 Massachusetts Secondary School Administrators' Association Middle School Principal of the Year. He is principal of John F. Kennedy Middle School in Woburn, MA.

Nancy D. Libby '88 is a volunteer at the Somersworth Public Library doing detailed tech services projects.

Daniel Root has been named regional senior vice president of a new office in Estero, FL, for full-service construction firm Kaufman Lynn Construction. Root began working with Kaufman Lynn five years ago as a project executive and took on roles of increasing responsibility since then. In his new role, Root will be responsible for the overall management and strategic planning of the company's construction projects throughout the region.

1994 & 1999 Reunions

1990s

Michele M. Kaiser '90 has been a member of Chi Alpha Zeta Sorority since 1987. She was on the PSC swim team. She writes, "My years at Plymouth State have given me more than an education and fond memories; they have given me a sisterhood and lifelong friendships."

Debbie L. (Manus) Love '90 (oppostite page) and her family business, Dive Task LLC, filmed with NH Chronicle, July 16, at Granite Lake in Nelson, NH, demonstrating how to dive in vintage dive gear. She writes, "I dove in the gear to show the host, Sean McDonald, how it's done. Then the Dive Task Team suited up Sean, and he got to try it out. Move over, Cuba Gooding. You have some competition! Great day, so much fun!"

David M. Levesque '92, '95G, '12CAGS (opposite page) was named the 2018 New Hampshire Elementary Principal of the Year. He is heading to Washington, DC, in October to be recognized by the National Association





Mary (Torosian) Graves '48 has had a lifelong love of colonial architecture and has designed and renovated many old houses. She is an active artist, painting cards and displaying pen and ink work, and remains in close contact with Virginia "Ginny" (Brown) Doherty '48.

of Elementary School Principals. He is currently the principal of Pleasant Street School in Laconia, NH. In addition, Pleasant Street School was awarded the NH Elementary School of Excellence in Education in 2017.

Daniel Cherry '93G was chosen to fill the role of principal/teacher at John D. Perkins Sr. Academy of Marlow, NH.

Mark Pribbernow '93, '01G was chosen to be the assistant principal at Lancaster Elementary School.

Jason Boucher '94 was appointed vice president and chief financial officer of American Renal Associates Holdings.

Michael Downs'96 was selected as the new principal at Andrews Middle School in Medford, MA.

Jared Fulgoni '96 was named interim superintendent of Amesbury, MA.

Laurel L. (Kupillas) Ostiguy '97 was featured in Lasting Impressions: A Juried Alumni Arts Exhibition, for her The Onondoga State series of novels. The exhibit took place at the Museum of the White Mountains during Homecoming 2017. She writes, "... it was such an incredible feeling to have my books, which are based loosely on Plymouth State and some of the experiences my friends and I had in college, in the

museum. I brought my family to New Hampshire to see my novels on display and to check out all the other wonderful art and live shows the event had to offer."

Jack K. Finley '98, '15G has been appointed principal at Hanover Street School in Lebanon, NH. Finley has worked in Franklin schools for 19 years, starting as a high school English teacher in 1999, and became an associate principal at the city's middle school in 2013. He also serves as the district's emergency operations manager and volunteers with the Franklin Fire Department.

Jennifer Baus-Fleming '98 has joined the Circle Program as its new associate program manager. She is a former Circle mentor.

Karen Pelletier '98 has been named vice president of operations for The Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce, and will retain her responsibilities as director of education and workforce development. Ms. Pelletier began her career with the chamber in 2014 in a newly created position, established to support chamber members by creating more conduits to colleges and universities that helped fill positions in member companies.

Jason D. Veno '98 has opened Veno's Specialty Foods and Meats Butcher



No Excuses Weekend, Saco, Maine

Front row, (I-r): Jenny Blakeman Barlow '84, Sue Guptill Moccia '84, Beth Chase Sargent '84, Karen Anderson Hall '84, Michelle Fournier Leever '85, Gary Kelley '81, and Al Chabot '84.

Back row, (I–r): Ted Moccia '84, Laurie Lund Chandler '84, Pat McKinnell Eskeland '84, Alan Hall '84, Laurie Brodeur Perreault '84, and Gerald Perreault '84.





Dennis J. Keglovits '84

The Dive Task Team with WMUR's Sean McDonald and cameraman, Chris Shepherd, at Granite Lake in Nelson, NH, filming a segment for NH Chronicle. Front (L-R): Chris Shepherd, Tessa Love, Debbie (Manus) Love '90, Thomas Love, Sean McDonald, Mike Hemenway. Back (L-R): Rob Love, Mary Lackie Hemenway, Ethan Hemenway



David M. Levesque '92, '95G, '12CAGS

A family of Panthers: Jennifer (Cuff) Remington '92, Dave Remington '20, and Matt Remington '18.



Shop and Gourmet Food to Go on Rte. 16 in Conway, NH. Veno is also a regional representative for Amoskeag Beverages Inc.

Sara Morandi'99 was hired as assistant manager of ReStore, South Shore Habitat for Humanity's community donation store.

2004 & 2009 Reunions

2000s

Christopher McNevich 'oo was hired by the Mt. Washington Valley Chamber of Commerce to focus on creating, maintaining, and expanding local and regional revenue streams for the chamber.

Jocelyn Roby 'o1 has joined the Hadley office of Bacon Wilson, P.C. as an associate attorney. Roby is a member of Bacon Wilson's real estate department, where her practice is focused largely on residential real estate, including closings and title work.

Kevin M. Bell '02 has been promoted to vice president of marketing for Loon Mountain Resort.

Darcy E. (Bagley) Sylvestre '02

received her grief counselor certification from the American Institute of Health Care Professionals (AIHCP) in July 2018. She completed a required 100 hours of continuous education on grief counseling through The American Academy of Grief Counseling. Sylvestre has been the bereavement coordinator at BAYADA Hospice in Norwich, VT, since 2017, providing grief support to patients, families, and the community.

Jennifer L. Cyr'o3 spent spent two weeks in the spring of 2018 doing environmental volunteer work on a biological reserve in the Galapagos Islands.

Jacqueline "Linny" A. Kenney '03 is an internationally renowned leather maker and designer. Kenney started doing leather work in her stepfather's garage in San Francisco before taking an almost nine-month cross-country journey on horseback from Los Angeles to her childhood home in Bath, NH. She recently toured Europe with celebrity chef Gianfranco Chiarini and became partners with Rochini Finest Tabletop in Austria. Kenney has a studio overlooking the Ammonoosuc River in Littleton, NH. linnykenney.com

David J. Feeley '04 has been inducted into the Brick Township High School Wall of Fame for his athletic and coaching accomplishments. Feeley has been a graduate assistant at UNLV, working with the football, softball, baseball, and track and field teams; and the assistant strength and conditioning coach at Florida International University. He was the director of football strength and conditioning for Ball State (where he was featured on ESPN's College Gameday to open the 2015 football season), and head strength and conditioning football coach for the University of South Carolina, before taking his current job as head strength and conditioning coach at Temple University.

Douglas W. Martin '04 has been named the New Hampshire Commercial Board of Realtor's 2018 Realtor of the Year. Martin is vice president of the New Hampshire office of Colliers International, a global leader in real estate services. He covers the sale, leasing, and valuation of office, industrial, and retail properties, as well as commercial land tracts in the Greater Manchester and Concord areas. Martin is a proud fundraiser and supporter of many great charities and causes, including multiple youth athletic organizations, The Boys and Girls Clubs of America, The Make-A-Wish Foundation, Manchester PAC, and the Alzheimer's Association. He also serves as a member of the New Boston Zoning Board and the NBT Bank of New England Advisory Board.

Daniel W. O'Halloran '04 will be installed as 2019 president of the New Hampshire Association of Realtors (NHAR), the state's largest trade association, in a ceremony at the Grappone Conference Center in Concord on Nov. 15. O'Halloran has been a realtor since 2005, and in March he opened O'Halloran Group of Keller Williams Lakes & Mountains Realty in New London, where he is the lead broker. He has been an NHAR director since 2015 and served as the chair of the organization's

Little East Conference Hall of Fame Inducts Nick Pelotte '05

Nick Pelotte is one of the most decorated players in the history of the Plymouth State men's basketball program, having been named a First-Team All LEC and an All-District/Region selection his sophomore through senior seasons. The 2002-03 LEC Co-Player of the Year was named a Third-Team NABC All-American, Fourth-Team D3hoops.com All-American, and the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) New England Player of the Year as a senior, during which he finished third in the nation in scoring at 28.1 points per game. He led the Panthers to a program-record 24 wins and their second-ever NCAA Division III Championship Tournament appearance in 2003-04, and their first-ever NCAA tournament win. Pelotte's 2,111 career points placed him second on PSU's alltime scoring list, and one of only three players to score 2,000 or more career points for Plymouth State.



Communications Committee from 2013 to 2017. Locally, he was president of the Sunapee Region Board of Realtors in 2016 and was its Realtor of the Year in 2014. Dan and his wife **Christina (Paradis) O'Halloran '04** met when they were Plymouth State seniors and members of the Marketing Association, where Dan was president and Christina vice president.

Angela J. (Dill) Bragdon '07 (right) studied desert and marine landscapes through ecological and social field methods in Baja this past summer. Bragdon, a science teacher at Prospect Mountain High School, lives in Alton, NH, and is a graduate student in Miami University's Global Field Program.

Samantha L. Maltais '08 is vice president of digital marketing and strategy at Bottomline Technologies in Portsmouth, NH.

Jamie F. (Brown) Sharrow'08 received her master of arts in mathematics education from Western Governors University in 2014.

Karen E. Sullivan 'o8G retired after 22 years of teaching at the Holy Trinity School in Laconia, NH. Sullivan grew up in Revere, MA, and earned her undergraduate degree in education from Boston College. Her roommate was from Laconia, which is how she met her husband, Kevin Sullivan, a Laconia native who was studying at PSC.



Angela Bragdon '07

EXCHANGING VOWS

- 1 Matteo T. Filippi '90 married Audrey Figueiredo on August 11, 2018, at Marsh Chapel at Boston University, where he did his graduate work in music. He composed the fanfare for Audrey to walk down the aisle and the song for the first dance. Matteo wore a blue Kurta for the ceremony and a gold Kurta for the reception. Audrey wore an American wedding dress for the ceremony and a gold Lehenga-Sari for the reception.
- 2 Guy A. Pronesti '04G and Danielle Pronesti were married in Bermuda on September 3, 2016.
 - Chris Wilkinson '08 was married to Mary Dank on July 27, 2018.
- 3 Gregory M. Goujon '10 was married to Sarah Rotella on June 30, 2018. (l-r): Patti May, director of academic support services, Megan Houle '12, Cedric Chevalier '10, Greg Goujon '10, Sarah (Rotella) Goujon, Chris Soule '10, and Dr. Patrick May, associate professor of geography.
- 4 Meghan Sweeney '13 and Alex Cottle '13 were married on August 18, 2018. Numerous PSU alumni were present including 23 men's hockey alums!

Meaghan R. Colligan '14 and Thor W. Johnson '14 were married on June 2, 2018. They met at PSU during their undergrad education.









ARRIVALS

Ryan McGonagle '07 and Erin (Blanchard) McGonagle '08 welcomed their daughter, Lucy, on February 20, 2018.

Alyssa M. (Buckley) Couture '10 and Dave Couture welcomed their daughter, Hattie Meagan Couture, on August 19, 2018.

Joshua T. Houghton '11 and Jennifer (Frappier) Houghton '12 welcomed their daughter, Juliana, on April 25, 2018.

Kaitlynn M. (Cottone) Cann '15 and Billy Cann '15 welcomed their daughter, Ava Marie Cann, on July 7, 2018.







As the season of giving approaches, please consider a holiday gift donation that supports Plymouth State students in honor of a loved one of your choosing. For example, you could make a gift to a PSU scholarship in the name of a friend or sibling, and that individual could be informed that you have made this generous donation on their behalf.

Gifts in any amount can be made to established scholarships or University programs or to support The Fund for Plymouth State, which provides critical student scholarship funds, strengthens the educational experience, expands opportunities for service and engagement, and supports the day-to-day operations that allow the University to fulfill its mission.

In addition, a beautiful Plymouth State holiday donation card indicating that a gift has been made in honor or memory of your chosen individual will be available for purchase. The card will be suitable for presenting to that person or another family member if you so choose.

Please visit plymouth.edu/HolidayGift for complete details and to make your donation online, or contact Ava Tyler '14, '17MBA, director of annual giving, at (603) 535-2566.



2014 Reunion

2010s

Elaine L. Doell '10G has joined the University of North Carolina Wilmington as assistant vice chancellor for human resources. Doell came to UNCW from East Carolina University, where she was an advanced classification and compensation consultant. Prior to that, she served as chief human resources officer for Cape Fear Community College and served as assistant director and then director of HR at PSU.

Melissa A. Silverberg '10 recently graduated from Salem State University with a master's degree in social work. Silverberg has been employed by Massachusetts General Hospital for the past five years, working with youth and families in need.

Katherine T. Lozano '12 is the quality assurance coordinator at Gift of Life Donor Program, the region's nonprofit organ donation program serving Philadelphia, New Jersey, and Delaware.

Samuel D. Wisel '12, '16G (top right) is a development officer for Habitat for Humanity at the Global HQ in Atlanta, GA. He serves on a team of 12 frontline fund-raisers responsible for securing resources to support the Habitat for Humanity operation/mission in more than 70 countries. Wisel writes, "In August 2017, I led a team of 11 donors and business executives on a 10-day mission trip to Malawi, Africa. We completed construction on two homes in a remote village with no electricity or running water."

Jessica W. Marker '13 has received a master of public health degree from the University of New England.

Megan A. O'Gara '14 has joined the newly developed Transfer Resource Center at the College of Charleston in Charleston, SC. She writes, "I am excited to be working with students who are interested in transferring to the college, and thrilled to be guiding them through the decision process."

Jeremy Normington-Slay '14G has been named the new president and CEO of Firelands Regional Medical Center in Sandusky, OH. Normington-Slay has been a health care executive for 15 years; previously, he has served as president of Mercy Medical Center in Oshkosh, WI, CEO of Moundview Memorial Hospitals and Clinics in Friendship, WI, and vice president of ancillary services at Cherokee Regional Medical Center in Cherokee, IA.

Alex R. Herbst '15 (right) has graduated from Mississippi State University with a master of science degree in geosciences with a focus in broadcast meteorology. While at MSU, he was inducted into Gamma Theta Upsilon, the international geography honors society. He has signed as a weekend meteorologist and weekday reporter at CBS Valley 4 News in Harlingen, TX. He writes, "I am excited to move to south Texas and share my love for the weather with my viewers."

Alexander J. Boudreau '16 was named PSU's admissions counselor of the semester in spring 2018. He writes, "My education taught me to think critically, see things from different perspectives, and appreciate all that higher education has to offer. What I love most about my job is helping other students see their potential and helping them find the college that works best for them."

Linda Peck '15G is a transformation education instructor at Cotton Mill Hill in Brattleboro, VT. She teaches tai chi, puppetry, and mime. She has been practicing for 25 years, ever since her career as a ballerina ended from injury.

Taylore J. Aussiker '17G (*above*) is beginning a full-time teaching position at White Mountains Regional High School in Whitefield, NH, after three years as a teaching lecturer in English

at PSU. She writes, "I'm teaching 9th-grade humanities, 11th-grade U.S. history, and 12th-grade AP language and composition! Although I'll miss Plymouth State, I'm so looking forward to this new chapter!"



Dr. Sean I. Bogle '18 received his doctorate of education in learning, leadership, and community on May 17, 2018. He is believed to be the first African American to receive a doctorate degree from PSU.









Clockwise from top left: Alex R. Herbst '15; Samuel D. Wisel '12, '16G with Habitat for Humanity and the family they assisted in Malawi, Africa; Dr. Sean Bogle '18EdD, Breanna M. Barksdale '17 with Pemi the Panther; Taylore J. Aussiker '17G



Plymouth State's Donor Honor Roll lists the name of each donor who has invested in the educational mission of the University by supporting PSU during the last fiscal year (July 1, 2017, to June 30, 2018). These alumni and friends have brought positive change to our campus and community and are now listed online.

The generosity of donors makes it possible to award financial aid to deserving students, provide professional development opportunities for faculty, and obtain new resources and equipment that strengthen the Plymouth State experience, both in the classroom and on the field.

Please visit plymouth.edu/donor-honor-roll to view the Honor Roll, and thank you to all donors for your commitment to our students.



PLYMOUTH STATE

DAY @F GIVING

GIVING TUESDAY | NOVEMBER 27

Giving Tuesday, an annual global day of philanthropy, is a great way to get into the spirit of the season while supporting the PSU teams and clubs that add so much to the student experience.

Current students will be reaching out to you for your support. Let's show the world that #PanthersGive!

The event will involve the entire campus. Funds raised now will address many priorities throughout the academic year, enabling students to travel to conferences, purchase necessary equipment, and have greater access to enriching programs. If you played a sport, took part in extracurricular activities, or benefited from a field trip, you know how valuable these experiences can be, and your giving can be directed toward the specific sport or club you were involved in when you were a student.

Please put Giving Tuesday, November 27, on your calendar! Please visit plymouth.edu/support-students to donate online and to view a complete list of participating student organizations and teams, or text PSUPANTHERS to 71777. Thank you for including PSU students in your holiday plans.



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

HOMECOMING & FAMILY CELEBRATION AND REUNION WEEKEND 2018





