

Hello NECC Community,

Please enjoy this May 2019 edition of the *ISE News*.

The Buzz: Academic Preparation Department Wins Second Annual ALISE Award



The Award for Leadership in the Integrated Student Experience (ALISE) recognizes particularly significant contributions to the goals of the ISE and the **Academic Preparation Department (see photo above) was recognized as this year's winner in April.** The Department's work on both the Exploratory Program for students who are uncertain about their academic and professional goals and the development of the Mini-Hub at Riverwalk were cited in the multiple nominations it received.

An indicator of just how much we have accomplished this year is that multiple other nominations were made and the ISE Goal Team also presented **certificates of recognition** to **Lance Hidy** for his work on developing icons for the Academic Centers, the Student Success Hub, and all of our academic programs as well as designing our program pathway templates; to **Karen Hruska and Janel D'Agata Lynch** for their multiple contributions to addressing food insecurity on campus; to the **Center for STEM** for its extremely active first year of operations; and to **Kathy Hudson and Dawn Wheaton** for their work developing a **Center for Health Professions** with very limited space this year.

Congratulations to all the winners and to all of you that have contributed so much to the success of the Integrated Student Experience this year!

What Else is Happening with the Integrated Student Experience?



So much has been going on in the **Student Success Hub**! A festive **Open House** on April 24th showcased the **student-centered space on the second floor of the Behrakis Student Center**. Students, staff, and faculty toured the area and enjoyed food, fun, and assorted activities. Student Services Departments and the Student Government Association, which are located around this space, decorated new study cubicles with creative themes. Other attractions included the NECC Knight, mocktails with a focus on alcohol awareness, rock painting presented by the PACE Program, selfie stations, and great food. **Congratulations to Karen Hruska and the team that designed this space!** Plans for the **Hub space in Dimitry** that will open in September continue to be developed by another team.

Meanwhile, the team designing a **new series of mandatory steps for students as they first enter the college** is making significant progress. It created a five-stage framework for this new entry process and is now examining the details of each step. The framework is shown below. The image is blurry but that's a good thing because nothing is settled yet. We wanted you to have a sense of their progress, however.



Finally, within the Student Success Hub, the **New Student Gateway** increased its presence in Lawrence, and visited nearly 70 classes in the first half of the semester. Off campus, **Navigator Tiffany Esmerio** and **Faculty Fellow Jay Fallon** represented the **Gateway** at the annual statewide **Teaching, Learning and Student Development Conference** in April.

The **Academic Centers** have also been buzzing. After several registration drives and career events, the **Center for Liberal Arts** ended the semester with a well-attended Graduation/Transfer party celebrating the success of Liberal Arts Students.

Meanwhile, the **Center for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math** hosted an Accepted Students Night for prospective students considering NECC as their place to study STEM (see below).



The **Academic Advising Council** hopes to meet one more time this semester, to contemplate the work ahead in implementing Advising Reform and in refining the largely successful pilot of Priority Registration we tried this spring. Almost 250 students registered during the four day period in late March. Although there were glitches, that was the purpose of the pilot: to surface problems so we can fix them before we scale up this effort in the future.

EAB Navigate implementation continues to progress. A soft launch of some of the features designed for new students is underway right now with students that have recently been accepted to the college. In June, the academic advisors in the Student Success Hub plan to pilot the appointment making tool in Navigate as they experiment with “appointment only” Friday afternoons. Recent academic division meetings have featured demonstrations of Navigate and more opportunities to learn to use the tool will be coming this fall.

Our thanks to everyone for propelling the Integrated Student Experience forward this year! **If you wish to join the growing number of students, faculty, staff and administrators contributing to the Integrated Student Experience**, please email me at wheineman@necc.mass.edu.

Bill

William A. Heineman, Ed.D.
Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs
Northern Essex Community College
978-556-3327