

University Roundup

Congresswoman Annie Kuster held a roundtable discussion for women at Franklin Pierce University's Rindge campus last April during her "Women's Economic Agenda" listening tour. The event brought together a diverse group of Franklin Pierce students, staff, and academics. They discussed economic issues facing women today, as well as personal experiences regarding pay equity, family leave time, and healthcare.



Franklin Pierce University students, staff, and faculty with Congresswoman Annie Kuster (circled).

Ronald Kessler, journalist and *New York Times* bestselling author, captivated his audience during a Fry Lecture Series event last March called "Washington Secrets," which highlighted two of his latest books, *The Secrets of the F.B.I.* and *In the President's Secret Service*. Mr. Kessler emphasized how much he enjoys "telling an honest story," as well as "the challenge of revealing secrets." The lecture marked the third event for the 2013-2014 Fry Lecture Series.

Franklin Pierce University graduates appear to be primed for workplace engagement according to the results of an analysis of its students against a recent Gallup study of 30,000 college students nationwide. The Gallup study found that students who had an internship related to their field, worked on a semester-long project, developed a meaningful relationship with a faculty member, or felt that professors cared about them were more likely to be engaged in their jobs after graduation. This data was analyzed against measurements of Franklin Pierce student engagement using the National Survey of Student Engagement. The results indicated that Franklin Pierce students are well positioned to enter the workplace as engaged workers.



Relay for Life.

In March 2014, Franklin Pierce University hosted its annual "**Relay for Life**" event in the Fieldhouse. Each year, the American Cancer Society holds Relay for Life events all over the world to raise awareness and funds for the fight against cancer. During the Relay, cancer survivors, families, and participants celebrate where they have been and what they have overcome, recognize loved ones who are currently battling cancer, and remember those who have been lost. Thank you to all students, staff, faculty, and community members who participated!

The **2014 Academic Showcase** highlighted the exceptional work of its undergraduate students. Presentations took place each day for a week in April and included topics such as "Interning with the FBI," "Anthropology Field Work in Denmark and Peru," "Body Image in the Media," and a mock debate by the Ethics Bowl Team. A faculty poster session that highlighted faculty research projects rounded out the week-long Showcase.

Franklin Pierce University received the **New Hampshire State Merit Award** for its collaborative work on the QUEST program at the New England Board of High Education 12th Annual Excellence Award Ceremony last March. The QUEST program is an educational camping program for middle-school students that takes place on the Rindge campus during the summer. The program is a collaborative effort between the Jaffrey-Rindge Rotary Club, the Jaffrey-Rindge public school district, and Franklin Pierce University.



2014 Commencement

Although the weather forecast threatened rain, Franklin Pierce University's **49th Commencement Exercises** took place on May 17, 2014, in full sun at its outdoor ceremony. President James Birge welcomed 370 graduates prepared to receive their undergraduate and graduate degree diplomas. It was a spectacular day with family, friends, and faculty who celebrated all the hard work of the University's 2014 graduates.



Graduation euphoria taking a final bow.

John K. Castle, a philanthropist and entrepreneur, and Kenneth R. Feinberg who is nationally known for administering victim compensation funds, received Honorary Degrees at the Commencement ceremony. J. Bonnie Newman was presented with The Honorable Walter R. Peterson Citizen Leader Award for her work in higher education and government; the award honors an individual for extraordinary commitment to public service, selfless contributions to higher education, and high moral character. Each of the honorees offered words of advice to the graduates.



Honorary Degree recipient John K. Castle.



Honorary Degree recipient Kenneth R. Feinberg.



President James Birge and J. Bonnie Newman.



Alumni & Students in the news...

Brian Kleinman '99 graduated from Franklin Pierce with a degree in biology; his love of nature and the outdoors prompted him to start "Riverside Reptiles," his own live animal education program.

Brett '04 and Juliana Wilson '07 recently purchased *Cider Magazine*, a monthly digital magazine for "everything you would want in Central New England on music, art, business, and people," (www.cidermag.com). Brett is also the lead singer and guitarist for Roots of Creation, a band that has rocked Franklin Pierce and has been touring New England for the past six years. Brett and Roots of Creation entertained the crowd at the 2014 Alumni Reunion Weekend during Friday's Casino Night!



Jackie Smith '08 went to China in 2008 to work for Education First (EF) in Wenzhou. Jackie dove into the culture and began learning the difficult language of Mandarin in 2011. Jackie moved to Beijing to work for Disney English, which specializes in developing materials for teaching children

foreign languages using the stories and materials that Disney is so famous for developing. Jackie has been contributing materials to Professor Debra Picchi's "Living & Working Abroad" course.

Mary Ann Sullivan D.A. '09 is the author of a new book, *Hermit Day*, containing a collection of poems. The book was launched this past May. Last June, Mary Ann presented a reading of her book at the Westchester Poetry Conference, the largest poetry conference in the country.

Dr. David Ferland D.A. '12, associate professor at Mount Washington College and retired Portsmouth New Hampshire Chief of Police, published *Historic Crimes & Justice in Portsmouth, New Hampshire*. The book traces the history of crime in Portsmouth from the first courts in 1800 to today's award-winning police department.

The **Dunn family** did it! Three Dunn children – Patrick, Sean, and Siobhan – all graduated from Franklin Pierce University last May, just two weeks after their mom Joan finished her master's degree program at Wheelock College in Boston. Congratulations to all! And yes, there's still one child left to go; James is a junior at Franklin Pierce this year.

Ronald (Jay) Hagstrom,

a U.S. veteran and freshman at Franklin Pierce University, is a "Powerful Voice" winner for *Yes! Magazine's* national student writing competition. More than 1,000 students across the country entered the contest, for which there were three winners. The essays were published in the online version of the magazine and in its education newsletter, which is sent to a list of 28,000 educators nationwide.



Jessica Besnoff, a student in the Doctor of Arts in Leadership program and a Massachusetts elementary school teacher, was selected from a national applicant pool to attend a 2014 summer study opportunity supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Jessica participated in the workshop entitled "The Most Southern Place on Earth; the Music, Culture, and History in the Mississippi Delta," held on the Delta State University campus in Cleveland.

Jonathan Walton and **Matt Litchfield**, both doctor of physical therapy students, volunteered in the medical tents set up to provide immediate assistance to runners at the 2014 Boston Marathon. The two D.P.T. students worked from 7 a.m.-7 p.m., arriving early to be cleared through the tight security and to help set up the tent, which was



almost the length of an entire city block. Physical therapists were especially helpful in diagnosing soft tissue injuries and assisting runners with the alleviation of cramps.

Faculty in the news...

Professor Thomas Bennett, M.D. and 12 students traveled to Ghana last spring on a Medical Mission with the Hope for Tomorrow Foundation, which sends doctors and students to developing nations each year to provide surgeries for young people. The group witnessed firsthand the delivery of healthcare in the West African country while volunteering their time and expertise in two hospitals in the city of Elmina.



Dr. Paul Carreiro, Aviation-PA and associate director of clinical education for the Master of Physician Assistant Studies program, was part of the Physician Assistant Education Association's Government Relations Team that went to Capitol Hill last spring to advocate for the profession.



Drs. Josh Cleland and **Olga McSorley**, professors in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program, presented research at the American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting in Las Vegas last February. Dr. McSorley presented about the pro bono student clinic at Concord Hospital. Dr. Cleland was presented with the

Nine students and two staff members, **Scott Ansevin-Allen** and **Derek Scalia**, traveled to Alabama last May



to engage in a week-long service/Civil Rights immersion program, sponsored by the University's Department of Student Involvement. The group volunteered for Habitat for Humanity in Montgomery, participated in the SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) Challenge, did literacy work, and retraced significant events within the Civil Rights Movement, to name just some of their activities.

Rose Award for Excellence in Research for the second year in a row. Attendees included five D.P.T. students from Franklin Pierce at Manchester and 12 from Franklin Pierce at Goodyear.

Dr. Melinda Jette, associate professor in the Humanities department, attended the annual meeting of the National Council on Public History (NCPH) in California last March. She served as co-chair of the session hosted by the NCPH's Public History and Environmental Sustainability Task Force; they presented their white paper on environmental sustainability to the organization's members.

Dr. Mary C. Kelly, professor of History, is the author of *Ireland's Great Famine in Irish-American History: Enshrining a Fateful Memory* (Rowan & Littlefield). Drawing on the insights of contemporary memory studies, as well as on her own deep knowledge of Irish American history, Dr. Kelly provides a roadmap to the complicated process by which the memory of the Famine shaped what it meant to be Irish in the United States.

Dr. Douglas Ley, professor of Humanities, served on a roundtable discussion with fellow New Hampshire state representatives at the World Affairs Council in Concord, N.H., last March.