

Message from President Hagerty

Welcome to the new issue of *Pierce Radius*, the alumni magazine of Franklin Pierce University. This magazine represents a new design aligned with our institutional identity as a forward-looking university that is confidently embracing



the future while maintaining the traditions that laid the foundation for success.

I have received a few questions about the name "Radius." I admit that I questioned the idea at first. The title was proposed by a

firm that worked with us to help clarify and communicate the distinct value of a Franklin Pierce education. It was suggested that the impact of our work was spreading out into the world, much like a stone tossed into a pond sends ripples outward with an increasing radius.

I believe this image accurately describes our achievements and plans for the future as we endeavor to make significant contributions to global higher education. I am energized by the boldness of our vision and I want to assure you that Franklin Pierce students will continue to gain the best of both worlds – a university quality education with all the advantages and personal attention of a small college. Our alumni, as well, will benefit from their relationship with an institution that is growing in reputation at home and abroad.

Let me share briefly how our radius of influence is increasing. The Franklin Pierce University / WBZ-TV political poll continues to be widely quoted in the national media. Our students at the Marlin Fitzwater Center help design the polls, call voters across the state and analyze the data. We have completed three sets of polls since March and more are planned as the New Hampshire Presidential Primary approaches.

In July, we received full accreditation from the Arizona State Board of Postsecondary Education to begin offering degrees there. Last year, the mayor of Goodyear, Arizona invited higher education institutions around the country to consider establishing a campus in one of the nation's fastest growing regions. Franklin Pierce was selected as a finalist and we are one of three institutions that will be offering classes in Goodyear in January. These classes will be run by our College of Graduate and Professional Studies, which is known for delivering high quality programs to adult students.

While we are extending opportunities to parts of the country beyond New Hampshire, Franklin Pierce is also making an impact in the Ukraine. In March, I traveled to Luhansk National Pedagogical University to help launch our new MBA program for international students there. An American MBA is a prized degree in Eastern Europe and Franklin Pierce is the only institution offering an MBA in partnership with a Ukrainian university.

At the same time, we continue to explore adding other European locations to our *Pierce in Vienna* and *Walk* programs. We want to create more opportunities for our students to have cross-cultural experiences so they are prepared to make contributions to a global society.

These are exciting times. Though we are moving ahead on multiple projects, I can assure you that we are proceeding carefully, strategically and in concert with our mission. Our tradition of student-centered education remains central to all we do. As our radius of influence creates more opportunities for more students, you can be assured that the College at Rindge and investing in its success will remain a priority. An example is the construction of a new academic building that you can read about in this issue.

I am proud of Franklin Pierce's continuing legacy of excellence and influence. This legacy is expressed most visibly today through our alumni who are making significant contributions in their professions and their communities. I trust that you share my enthusiasm for our legacy and vision. Enjoy the inaugural issue of *Pierce Radius*.