



# CHARGER CONNECTION

A Newsletter for Parents and Counselors of Prospective Students | 2015, ISSUE 1

## IN THIS ISSUE:

Word on the Street: What's Your Favorite Thing about Living in Westside Hall? .....	4
Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts Joins the Charger Family .....	4
Come Visit Us! .....	5
Student Club/Organization Spotlight: USGA .....	6
Student Perspective: Study Abroad .....	7
Guidance Counselor Corner .....	7
We're Here for You .....	8

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### Summer Preview Days

- ▶ **Henry C. Lee College:** Saturday, June 20; Sunday, July 12; Saturday, August 1; Sunday, August 9; Saturday, August 15
- ▶ **College of Arts & Sciences:** Sunday, June 14; Saturday, July 11; Sunday, August 2; Sunday, August 16; Saturday, August 29
- ▶ **College of Business and Tagliatela College of Engineering:** Saturday, June 13; Saturday, July 18; Friday, July 31; Saturday, August 8; Sunday, August 30
- ▶ Register online:  
[www.newhaven.edu/summerpreview](http://www.newhaven.edu/summerpreview)

### Open House

- ▶ Sunday, April 26, 2015  
Register online: [www.newhaven.edu/openhouse](http://www.newhaven.edu/openhouse)

### Transfer Discovery Days

- ▶ Various Dates on Website:  
[www.newhaven.edu/transfer](http://www.newhaven.edu/transfer)

### Enhanced Visits

- ▶ Various Dates on Website:  
[www.newhaven.edu/enhanced](http://www.newhaven.edu/enhanced)

## UNH Welcomes New Paramedicine Major

The University of New Haven is the first college in Connecticut to offer a paramedicine program as a bachelor's degree. The major is housed in the School of Public Service, a part of the University's Henry C. Lee College of Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences, and currently has 15 students enrolled in its first cohort. Like many of UNH's academic programs, paramedicine is deeply rooted in experiential education — it's a hands-on program from the very beginning and provides students with the skills they need to successfully pass the national exam to become licensed paramedics.

The cohort-based program partners with the Yale-New Haven Sponsor Hospital in New Haven for training and also allows students to sit in on lectures by Yale School of Medicine doctors and access the Yale cadaver lab.

The UNH Office of Undergraduate Admissions sat down with the head of the paramedicine program, Peter Struble, to discuss the nuts and bolts of the exciting new major. Struble, a retired Connecticut fire chief and lecturer in the program, provided some insight about potential career paths for students, feedback from the current cohort and his favorite part of the University's new program.



continued on page 2...

Paramedicine continued...



**ADMISSIONS:** What is your message to high school guidance departments and prospective students about the paramedicine program at UNH?

**STRUBLE:** This program takes a bright high school student and provides a clear path after graduating high school to both a bachelor's degree and a nationally-registered certification as a paramedic and allows him or her to basically work as soon as he or she graduates from college.

**ADMISSIONS:** Other than becoming a licensed paramedic, to what other paths or jobs could a degree in paramedicine lead?

**STRUBLE:** The most popular path is the one where they're doing a minor in fire science and going on to one of the firefighter-paramedic positions that might be available out there. Other paths that exist would be going into commercial Emergency Medical Services (EMS) with a large private company and, most likely with a bachelor's degree, probably being in a supervisory position because of the education they would have above most of the other folks that are there. The same thing would apply in a hospital-based setting where the paramedics are working out of a hospital.

The one thing that's been pretty unique here with our first cohort is that we've had several students express an interest in doing the four years with us and doing their paramedic certification and then going on to one of the post-baccalaureate programs. For example, an accelerated [16-month] nursing program — they would take their existing bachelor's degree and turn it into a bachelor's of science in nursing, [and] they'd have this incredible amount of field experience.

The other [path leads to becoming a] physician's assistant. We've seen some students start to express an interest in going on to graduate school for physician's assistant. So we've got some models that are kind of set up to help them academically prepare for those two paths. Those two paths are typically very competitive for students to get into, and schools

are always looking for some assurances that the students will succeed in those programs. Since our students will have been doing medicine for four years, they've passed this national test; they're ready to work as paramedics in the field. The likelihood that they will succeed in those programs would be high.

**ADMISSIONS:** What kind of feedback have you received from the students who are currently in the paramedicine program?

**STRUBLE:** Challenging. They come out of high school, and their freshman semester they're in biology, math and English, which is kind of to be expected. But the thing that really catches their attention and surprises them is how fast-paced and performance-based their first [paramedicine] class is, which is Emergency Medical Technician. Now half of our students are coming to us with that [certification] already, they're getting it in high school, but the other half are taking it with us. And that is the biggest adjustment I'm seeing with them. It's not just memorizing information and getting A's on tests — it's doing well on tests and quizzes and then being able to apply that information. Most of the way that they're evaluated and assessed is [based on] their ability to apply that information, and that is a brand new world for a high school student. It is application from day one. It really does take a shift in their mindset and an adjustment to get there. And that's the way the whole rest of the program is going to be — apply what you've learned — and that's pretty unique. Usually, you don't get to do that until after you graduate.

**ADMISSIONS:** What would you say to students, parents and guidance counselors comparing an associate's with a bachelor's degree in paramedicine? Why get a bachelor's in paramedicine?

**STRUBLE:** The bachelor's allows us to take a student who has virtually no experience in the field and work with them for four years to bring them up to that competency level. If they went with a more traditional associate's degree, there would be an expectation that they've already gained experience in the field. They




may be required to spend two or three years in the field gaining experience before they could get in and be successful in one of the certificate or associate's degree programs.

As these students progress through, the other classes that they're going to take in the UNH bachelor's degree program give them a well-rounded experience, not just the hands-on piece of it. Those other classes that start to give them a well-rounded experience [strengthen their] ability to critically think, manage, supervise and create budgets.

That was one of the frustrations that high school students would come to me with, as a fire chief, and say, "How do I become a paramedic?" It looked like a complicated math problem when I would map it out for them — first, you'd have to go get a part-time job, get an EMT [certification]. You've got to toil in the trenches for a couple of years until somebody thinks you're ready. Then you've got to apply to paramedic schools. By the time most of them were ready to actually be accepted to a certificate or an associate's degree program, they'd been in the field for three or four years in a lot of cases. That's why we designed the program the way we did. We really wanted to provide that clear blueprint — very systematic, step-by-step. We're going to take you through and build your basic competence as an EMT with a lot of field experience, and then we're going to bring you up to that paramedic level.

We've been getting a lot of calls from existing paramedics who are interested in getting their degree. There's a lot of interest in doing that. They recognize that if you want to grow in the industry, if you want to lead the industry, you need the formal education.



*"Paramedics with bachelor's degrees are going to be the leaders in this industry for the next 20 years, because they're going to be the ones out the door at this level."*

**ADMISSIONS:** If you were to meet a high school senior right now, why might you tell them to consider going into paramedicine?

**STRUBLE:** It's a very young profession, as professions go. It is clearly on a path to follow the other allied health professions that came before it, such as nursing, physician's assistant and things like that. There aren't a whole lot of paramedics out there with bachelor's degrees. One of the things that we really feel is that these [graduates] are going to be the leaders. Paramedics with bachelor's degrees are going to be the leaders in this industry for the next 20 years, because they're going to be the ones out the door at this level. They're going to really understand the healthcare system. The healthcare system is rapidly changing. The writing on

the wall is that paramedics are going to have a much larger role in that healthcare system. That's going to require a deeper understanding of medicine, and their educational needs are going to be higher to be able to participate in that healthcare system.

**ADMISSIONS:** And the number of jobs in that field is growing, right?

**STRUBLE:** Very, very much. The demand is going to be with the baby boomer generation, just hitting their 65th birthdays. The healthcare system is going to be swamped for the next 20 years. It gives [our graduates] a lot of options, whether they decide that they're going to go on to a graduate program [or not]. I think they could go on to practicing other types of medicine, whether they want to do PA, nursing or even medical school. If they stay as a paramedic, I think that they're going to be the ones who shape the whole industry of emergency medical services for the next 30 years.

**ADMISSIONS:** Do you have a personal favorite aspect of the program so far — maybe a favorite class or topic to teach your students?

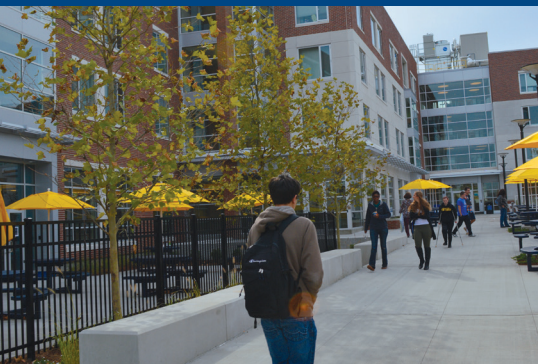
**STRUBLE:** I would say it's the students' reaction when they get to go out to the hospital or into the field and work. And they're doing that as freshmen. I talk to them when they come back from some of the experiences. To give an example, one of the freshmen in the EMT class came back from one of her field rotations in the hospital. I said, "How did it go?" and she said, "I got to do CPR twice in an eight-hour shift, and I got to see a chest tube put into a trauma victim, and assist." Being able to see that is just awesome, so hearing their experiences and how excited they get about those experiences when they come back in is really cool. You can just sense and feel how excited they are. They get pumped up about seeing what it is that they're starting to learn how to do. They can see very quickly that they can make a big difference in somebody's life if they do this well.

**ADMISSIONS:** It sounds like you fit a whole lot into those four years.

**STRUBLE:** They're going to be busier than anybody else on campus. We try to teach that work ethic in the freshman year. It gets harder and harder. In their senior year, they're essentially done with their classroom portions and labs — they're basically doing their internship. They're actually gaining their experience to be able to go and take the national test.

The internship is all field rotations — the students will be assigned to a preceptor and work with that preceptor. There's criteria that they have to meet — it's a competency criteria; it's not hours-based. For example, they may have to start 30 to 40 intravenous lines in the field. They may have to give a certain amount of medication of different categories in the field. It's all about competency.





## Word on the Street: What's Your Favorite Thing about Living in Westside Hall?

Westside Hall is the University of New Haven's newest addition to undergraduate on-campus housing! It offers pod-style housing, making it a perfect space for some of our first-year Living Learning Communities. Westside Hall is currently a freshman residence hall and is also home to the University's newest – and most high-tech – dining facility, Food on Demand.



### ALEXANDER CADAVID

**Major:** Marine Biology  
Class of 2018

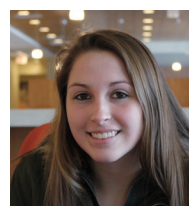
*"My favorite thing about living in Westside Hall is my Living Learning Community!"*



### ALLISON HEAPHY

**Major:** Nutrition and Dietetics  
Class of 2018

*"My favorite thing about living in Westside Hall is the amount of space I have in my room!"*



### JAMIE MCALINDEN

**Major:** Marine Biology  
Class of 2018

*"My favorite thing about living in Westside Hall is Food on Demand dining, because I don't have to go very far for food!"*



### ELECIA PRESTIA

**Major:** Criminal Justice –  
Forensic Psychology  
Class of 2018

*"My favorite thing about living in Westside Hall is having a bathroom in my suite!"*



### RANDY WARREN

**Major:** Engineering  
Class of 2018

*"My favorite thing about living in Westside Hall is that everyone's connected; no one's a stranger in the building!"*



## Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts Joins the Charger Family

**New affiliation brings Bachelor of Fine Arts programs to University of New Haven curriculum.**

During the summer of 2014, the University of New Haven officially announced its new agreement with the Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts. The art school, located in Old Lyme, joined the University of New Haven, adding Bachelor of Fine Arts majors to the UNH curriculum.

Lyme Academy offers coursework across four majors – drawing, illustration, painting and sculpture – in addition to an art history minor and electives in printmaking.

The town of Old Lyme, located near both the Connecticut River and Long Island Sound on the scenic Connecticut shoreline, is an ideal location for an art school. The Old Lyme area, also home to the Florence Griswold Museum, boasts a long history with the arts and is known as the "Home of American Impressionism."



# Come Visit Us!

We love to have our prospective students and their families visit us on campus! We have several different types of events to take advantage of throughout the year. Be sure to sign up online, or give us a call to let us know you'll be attending! A full schedule of campus visit opportunities is on our website: [www.newhaven.edu/visitUNH](http://www.newhaven.edu/visitUNH).

## ON-CAMPUS VISIT OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Daily Information Sessions and Campus Tours:** This is a great first visit to the University. You'll attend a one-hour information session with a representative from our Admissions office and then take a tour of campus with a student tour guide. We offer these sessions nearly every day, including most weekends!
- **Open Houses:** This is a comprehensive event for the whole family to attend. We offer four of these each year — three in the fall and one in the spring. Here's what you'll be able to do while you're on campus: meet with faculty members from your academic area of interest, hear from current students about their UNH experience, and chat with staff members from offices such as financial aid, residential life, athletics, career development and student success. You will also be able to take a campus tour highlighting classrooms, dining facilities, our recreation center, a residence hall room and more!
- **Enhanced Visits:** For students interested in particular majors, we offer the chance for you to not only attend an Admissions information session and campus tour, but the opportunity to meet with a faculty member and current students from your major! You'll also be able to join us for lunch on campus. These visits are typically held on select Friday mornings during the fall and spring semesters. A list of participating majors is available online.

- **Explore UNH Days:** This type of visit is specific to certain majors, as well. We offer several of these each year and invite our prospective students to hear from prominent speakers and faculty, as well as hearing a presentation by an Admissions representative. Please check our website for a list of participating majors.
- **Summer Preview Days:** Come see campus during your free time in the summer! Summer Preview Days include an information session from an Admissions representative, an overview of one of our academic colleges, a tour of campus and a barbeque lunch.

## SPECIAL EVENTS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF:

- **Interviews:** We'd love to meet you! Interviews are a great chance for us to get to know you and for you to learn more about all of the opportunities available to you at the University of New Haven. You're always welcome to interview with us on campus — interested students can contact the Admissions office to set up an appointment. Be sure to touch base with us in the fall, too! We travel around the country attending college fairs and visiting high schools, and we also hold regional interview sessions.
- **Instant Decision Days:** Meet one-on-one with an Admissions representative to discuss your application and receive an admissions decision! We offer Instant Decision Days in the fall, so be sure to check in with us to set up an appointment.
- **Regional Information Sessions:** We're coming to see you! During the fall, representatives from our Admissions office offer information sessions about the University of New Haven in different locations around the country. This is a great way to learn about UNH without trekking to campus!
- **Virtual Tours:** Check out our campus from the comfort of your home! Take a guided tour of the UNH campus whenever you have the time.



Students interested in Lyme Academy can set up a visit to campus by contacting the Admissions office. While on the Lyme campus, students can speak with an Admissions representative, have their art portfolio reviewed, sit in on a studio class, meet with financial aid and check out the college facilities and housing!

Lyme Academy also hosts a fall Open House event, meets with students at both national and regional portfolio review days and attends college fairs across the country.

Contact Lyme Academy Admissions today by calling (860) 434-5232 or emailing [admissions@lymeacademy.edu](mailto:admissions@lymeacademy.edu).





## Student Club/Organization Spotlight: USGA

**The Undergraduate Student Government Association (USGA) is the governing body for more than 170 student clubs and organizations at the University of New Haven.**

Sit next to a Criminal Justice major at a basketball game. Share a meal with a Computer Science student in the dining hall. Take a campus tour with an Interior Design major. They'll probably all give you the same advice: get involved.

Making a life for yourself at your new home-away-from-home can be a tough thing to do. The key, however, to making new friends and feeling at home on campus almost always comes down to getting involved. Luckily, at the University of New Haven there are countless ways to do so.

The UNH Office of Undergraduate Admissions caught up with one of the busiest students on campus, Richard Rotella, for some of his best advice for prospective students. Rotella, the current president of the USGA, is a senior majoring in forensic science who is also pursuing minors in both chemistry and mathematics. The South Plainfield, New Jersey, native is also a tour guide with the Admissions Team, a brother of Sigma Chi, a founding member of the American Chemical Society and past Sergeant at Arms. He was also involved with the Charger Marching Band, the American Criminal Justice Association and the Student Committee of Programming Events (SCOPE).

**ADMISSIONS: What does the USGA do for the UNH community?**

**ROTELLA:** USGA is the governing body for all undergraduate students and the 170+ Recognized Student Organizations (RSOs) on the campus. USGA has a budget of approximately \$1.65 million that is used to fund Recognized Student Organizations and their events. USGA also addresses concerns and issues presented by the students and serves as the voice for the undergraduate population.

**ADMISSIONS: Why would you encourage an incoming student to become a member? Share a few highlights of being a part of USGA – tell me about some USGA activities that you find particularly worthwhile or exciting.**

**ROTELLA:** I would encourage incoming students to become an active member because it's easy and you can really make an impact at the University in a short period of time. Every year, the USGA does the homecoming pig roast and chariot races. We host a pig roast at the homecoming tailgate as well as facilitate a chariot race between the RSOs on campus. One amazing opportunity the USGA executive board has is that they meet with President [Steven] Kaplan each semester to discuss the progress of the University and any points of discussion the undergraduates find important.

**ADMISSIONS: How can a student become a member of USGA?**

**ROTELLA:** Every undergraduate student is a member of USGA, so all you have to do is come to one of our meetings. If you want to become a more active part of USGA, just talk to me or any other member of the USGA executive board.

**ADMISSIONS: Why did you join USGA?**

**ROTELLA:** I joined USGA because I have always had an interest in student government, and I became the representative for SCOPE.

**ADMISSIONS: How did you work your way up to becoming president?**

**ROTELLA:** I started as the secondary representative for SCOPE and then became a member of the judicial board. Following that, I became the SCOPE president, and then I ran for the USGA presidency.

**ADMISSIONS: What do you hope to do next year?**

**ROTELLA:** My plans next year are to hopefully continue at the University of New Haven in pursuit of my master's degree in forensic science.

**ADMISSIONS: What advice would you give to an incoming freshman looking to start at UNH this fall?**

**ROTELLA:** To make the most of your college experience, and getting involved is paramount. If you don't know where to start, come to the USGA or email me at [USGAPresident@newhaven.edu](mailto:USGAPresident@newhaven.edu).





# Student Perspective: Study Abroad

*Criminal Justice student Miranda Garcia shares her Italian study abroad experience.*

Studying abroad was a life-changing experience that I believe everyone should have the opportunity to take advantage of at some point. I was able to study abroad in Italy for two weeks over the summer of 2014. Throughout those two weeks I explored Rome, Prato, Florence, Sorrento, the Island of Capri and Milan. All of these cities were different but amazing in their own ways. We were able to visit the Coliseum, the Trevi Fountain, the Vatican, a vineyard and many other beautiful sites. Additionally, being able to enjoy their Italian cuisine was an incredible bonus.

This study abroad opportunity was a great learning experience as well. We got to meet with the Department of Justice Attorney at the US Embassy, students at the University of Naples, a professor that spoke on the Italian Mafia and an Italian domestic violence victim advocate.

My favorite part of the trip was being able to experience their culture first hand. I completed an ethnographical study that compared Italian citizens' views on illegal drug use to the views of American citizens. In order to complete this study, I had to interview Italians of all different backgrounds that I came across while traveling. Learning while abroad helped me to experience a new level of independence while still having the support of my university.

Studying abroad brought me out of my comfort zone and introduced me to new things and people that I would have never otherwise experienced. The students and I that traveled abroad together came back with a special bond and still enjoy having "family" dinners. Studying abroad was one of the best decisions I made in my college career, and I wouldn't trade that experience for anything.



**INTERESTED IN STUDYING ABROAD  
AS A FIRST-SEMESTER FRESHMAN?**

Visit [www.newhaven.edu/freshmenabroad](http://www.newhaven.edu/freshmenabroad)  
for more information!

## Guidance Counselor Corner

Stay up to date with all University of New Haven news with one of our specialized guidance counselor programs! Each spring and fall, the UNH Office of Undergraduate Admissions hosts a group of high school guidance counselors and college advisers for an on-campus event.

Our next guidance counselor program will be held on Friday, May 1, 2015, and we hope you'll be able to join us! Here's what we have in store for you: a welcome-to-campus breakfast, an overview of the University, a meet-and-greet session with our faculty and staff, a student-led tour of campus and a luncheon.

If you'd like to come to campus but can't make it to our program, let us know! We would be happy to set up your personalized visit to campus on a date that works better for you.

*High school guidance counselors joined us in Prato for a trip during July of 2015! They had a great time checking out our Tuscany campus. We hope to invite more guidance counselors to visit the UNH campus in Italy soon!*

To register for our guidance counselor event, please visit [www.newhaven.edu/guidance](http://www.newhaven.edu/guidance) or contact Jason Riendeau, Senior Assistant Director of Admissions, at [jriendeau@newhaven.edu](mailto:jriendeau@newhaven.edu).

We look forward to welcoming you to campus soon!





# University of New Haven

OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS

300 Boston Post Road  
West Haven, CT 06516  
[www.newhaven.edu](http://www.newhaven.edu)



*A leader in Experiential Education, the University of New Haven has been recognized as a top-tier regional University by U.S. News and World Report.*



*With a dedication to great teaching of engaged students in a vibrant community with successful outcomes, the University of New Haven has been recognized as a College of Distinction.*

Produced by Department of Marketing and Enrollment Communications 78221-0315

## We're Here for You

*Freshman students at the University of New Haven have a one-stop-shop at the First-Year Success Center.*

The First-Year Success Center's goal is to familiarize incoming first-year students with the many resources available on campus and to help students make progress toward fulfilling their educational, social and personal goals. The Success Coaches are here to help provide support to students and their families to ensure that first-year students have a successful transition into college.

## 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR | SUCCESS CENTER

**Location:** Maxcy Hall, Suite 106

**Phone:** (203) 479-4584

**Text Message:** (203) 533-9721

**Email:** [StudentSuccess@newhaven.edu](mailto:StudentSuccess@newhaven.edu)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/UNHStudentSuccess](http://www.facebook.com/UNHStudentSuccess)

### TOP SERVICES THE FIRST-YEAR SUCCESS CENTER PROVIDES TO STUDENTS:

- ▶ One-on-one and group coaching
- ▶ Student-to-student mentoring
- ▶ Programs and workshops focusing on study habits, time management, setting personal & academic goals and much more!
- ▶ Activities and resources for commuter and transfer students
- ▶ References to campus resources
- ▶ Assistance with course registration/scheduling
- ▶ Keeping students up-to-date on first-year information and campus events
- ▶ A study lounge where students can access computers and meet with friends

