

The Henry C. Lee College of Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences

Two New Ph.D. Programs Highlight UNH Strengths in Criminal Justice, Forensics

With global terrorism and the demand for tighter homeland security increasing, the University has created two new Ph.D. programs, one in Criminal Justice, the other in Forensic Medicine and Sciences, to begin in 2010.

The Criminal Justice Ph.D. program is expected to quickly attract both full-time traditional graduate students and part-time professionals. “The UNH Criminal Justice Ph.D. will provide the nation and state of

Connecticut with doctoral-level education that will benefit other institutions of higher learning and the numerous agencies concerned with criminal justice, homeland security, and public-safety operations,” says Dean Richard Ward, who will coordinate the program.

The Forensic Medicine and Sciences Ph.D. program is a joint effort between UNH and the University of Verona in Italy, and is believed to be the first international program

of its kind. It calls for UNH students to spend at least seven months in Verona, and UNIVR students to spend seven months at UNH. “We are very excited about this,” says Dr. Franco Tagliaro, a professor and director of UNIVR’s Institute of Forensic Medicine. He and fellow faculty member Dr. Federica Bortolotti visited UNH recently, bringing along an electropherograph, an instrument that will be used to teach students forensic analysis.

The program will bridge the gap between forensic medicine and traditional forensic science, says UNH Professor Timothy Palmbach, director and chairman of the Forensic Science Department. “In the United States, with territories and turfs and the separation between the fields, this type of collaboration is unheard of but unbelievably valuable,” Palmbach says. “You are taking everything medicine has to offer and everything forensic science has to offer and putting it together to solve crimes.”

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Professor Franco Tagliaro, M.D., and Professor Federica Bortolotti, M.D., of the University of Verona with the electropherograph they brought from Italy, a forensic analysis tool that determines the composition of a variety of substances.

