The New England Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine continues to be a strong regional chapter! The annual fall meeting was attended by over 1,000 participants and provided a diverse program with presentations from distinguished regional and national speakers. Of note were the excellent presentations from four invited speakers who were all former NEACSM Doctoral Student Scholarship recipients: Dr. Marni Boppart, Dr. Cara Ebbeling, Dr. Deborah Riebe, and Dr. Robert Kenefick. The conference also continued to fulfill our strategic plan objective of promoting ACSM national initiatives by hosting an “ACSM Advocacy & Initiatives” session presented by Dr. Walter R. Thompson, President-Elect of ACSM, as well as an Exercise is Medicine Ambassador Certification Training Session. Creating volunteer opportunities for members is another strategic plan objective that was targeted at the fall conference by introducing a “Volunteer Interest Booth.” The booth was visited by approximately 50 participants who expressed interest in numerous volunteer opportunities within the chapter.

NEACSM has a rich tradition of promoting student professional development and we continue to have a record number of student abstract submissions for slide and/or poster presentations at the fall conference. This year we added two student oral poster sessions to provide another venue for highlighting student scholarship. In addition, we developed a student track with sessions such as “Get Certified! Which ACSM Certification is Right for You?” In addition, the Camaione Student Endowment Fund will continue to support student endeavors while a newly formed NEACSM Endowment will allow for support of both academic and clinical professional members.

We anticipate the funding of two new chapter initiatives through the National ACSM Regional Grant Program. Both initiatives support the chapter’s strategic

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >
plan to develop future leaders for organizational sustainability and advancement. The first initiative, led by Member-At-Large Dr. Paul Gallo, is the "NEACSM Young Professional Leadership Development Workshop" planned to take place at the 2017 Fall Annual Meeting. The second initiative, led by Student Representatives Nicole Schultz and Brittany Masteller, is "The Peer Mentoring Program," which is meant to provide an opportunity for professional mentors to facilitate networking and leadership opportunities within NEACSM and ACSM for student mentees. Look for updates and ways to get involved in these initiatives through our social media and webpage!

The growth and success of our Chapter is highly dependent on volunteers, and so I would like to express my gratitude for the diligent work and dedication of those who have rotated off of the executive committee. This includes our Past-President, Dr. Lara Carlson; Members-At-Large Dr. John Hatzenbuehler, Dr. Elizabeth O’Neill, and Dr. William Lunn; Student Representative Dr. Michael Bruneau; and State Representatives Dr. Sarah Camhi and Dr. Paul Gallo. I would also like to welcome our new President-Elect, Dr. Jason Melnyk; Members-At-Large Dr. Giselle Aerni, Dr. Sarah Camhi, and Dr. Paul Gallo; Student Representative Brittany Masteller; and State Representatives Dr. Kyle Coffey (MA) and Nicole Hafner (CT).

I encourage all to get engaged! Please follow us on Twitter @NEACSM and find us on Facebook @NewEnglandACSM or New England Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine to keep up to date on happenings!

Save the date of March 31, 2017 for the Spring 2017 Conference “Multidisciplinary Discourse of Exercise and the Brain” at Westfield State College, Westfield, MA.

See you in 2017!

Janet Whatley-Blum, Sc.D

“The annual fall meeting was attended by over 1,000 participants and provided a diverse program with presentations from distinguished regional and national speakers.”
Please join us for our Spring NEACSM conference, “Multidisciplinary Discourse on Exercise & the Brain.” Westfield State University in Westfield, MA will be the host on Friday, March 31, 2017. This one-day conference will bring together researchers from scientific specialties such as kinesiology, medicine, and psychology to discuss the benefits of exercise on the brain. Brain function and cognition can be improved with physical activity and proper nutrition across the lifespan and in every population, from children to military personal to older adults and clinical populations. This will be a nice preview of the upcoming World Congress on Exercise and the Brain to be held in conjunction with the ACSM Annual Meeting in Denver, CO this June. Learn the latest information on exercise and the brain to stimulate your research or share with colleagues, students, clients, and patients.

Hope to see you there!

“Brain function and cognition can be improved with physical activity and proper nutrition across the lifespan”

SPRING MEETING SNEAK PREVIEW

RE-TRAINING THE NERVOUS SYSTEM FOR FAST MOVEMENTS IN PARKINSON’S DISEASE
Christopher Knight, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Kinesiology & Applied Physiology, University of Delaware

EXERCISE GENOMIC & EPIGENOMIC INFLUENCES ON BRAIN AGING
Nicole Spartano, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Associate in Epidemiology, Boston University School of Public Health

MEDITATION & COGNITION
Sara Lazar, M.D., Associate Researcher in Psychiatry, Massachusetts General Hospital; Assistant Professor in Psychology, Harvard Medical School

THE RELATION OF CHILDHOOD HEALTH TO BRAIN, COGNITION, AND ACHIEVEMENT
Charles H. Hillman, Ph.D., Department of Psychology, Department of Health Sciences, Northeastern University

ASSESSING HUMAN COGNITION: LESSONS LEARNED FROM STUDIES OF CAFFEINE, DEHYDRATION AND SIMULATED COMBAT OPERATIONS
Harris Lieberman, Ph.D., Research Psychologist, United States Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine
Mark your calendars! This year’s fall conference, entitled “Bridging the Gap: Translation to Application,” is set for October 19-20, 2017 at the Providence Convention Center in Providence, Rhode Island. The program is designed to present research alongside a practical approach, thereby translating science into direct application.

I am thrilled to introduce our two keynote speakers: Dr. Luc van Loon and Dr. Jaci VanHeest. Dr. van Loon, Professor of Physiology of Exercise from Maastricht University in the Netherlands, will deliver the Knutgen Keynote lecture and present on muscle protein metabolism and the anabolic resistance of aging. Dr. VanHeest, Associate Professor and Director of the Public Health Learning Community from the University of Connecticut, will deliver the Clarkson Keynote lecture with a topic of evaluating biomarkers within elite athletes and their impact on performance.

Looking forward to seeing you in Providence!

Dr. Patty Freedson, NEACSM’s 28th President, recently retired after a 35 year career in the Department of Kinesiology at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. In recognition of all the Dr. Freedson has accomplished, in 2003 she received the NEACSM Honor Award. This is the highest honor our chapter bestows, and it recognizes individuals who have provided significant contributions to both NEACSM and the field of exercise science. Thank you Dr. Freedson for all that you have done for NEACSM throughout the years. We wish you well in retirement! Click here for more information.

As Senior Editor, Dr. Deborah Riebe - along with Wolters Kluwer and the American College of Sports Medicine - will be launching the 10th edition of ACSM’s Guidelines for Exercise Testing and Prescription in February 2017. Dr. Riebe, NEACSM’s 29th President, is currently a Professor in the Department of Kinesiology at the University of Rhode Island. The new edition of the Guidelines - the single most internationally read and referenced text in sports medicine, exercise science, and heath and fitness - includes vital updates and changes, making the title a must-have for students, faculty, fitness professionals and medical personnel. Great work Dr. Riebe!

Dr. Lara Carlson - NEACSM’s 34th AND 42nd President and current Associate Professor in Department of Physical Therapy and the Center for Excellence in the Neurosciences at the University of New England - recently presented as an invited speaker at the 2017 NASCAR Summit in Concord, North Carolina. Her research was titled “Hydration Status & Thermoregulatory Responses in Motorsports Drivers During Competitive Racing.” Click here for more information.
2016 HONOR AWARD RECIPIENT—DR. JACI VANHEEST

The New England Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine is proud to recognize Dr. Jaci VanHeest as the 2016 Honor Award recipient. Dr. VanHeest is an associate professor in the Departments of Educational Psychology and Kinesiology at The University of Connecticut, and is a past-president of NEACSM. She continues to serve as an NEACSM Board of Trustee member and has remained highly engaged on a number of ad hoc committee appointments and special projects. In addition to her extensive service to NEACSM, she has made a significant and sustaining impact on the field of exercise science and sports medicine, specifically in the areas of metabolic disease management and childhood obesity and physical activity. She has over 60 peer reviewed publications and secured nearly one million dollars in research funding. Her recent appointment to the President’s Council Sport, Fitness and Nutrition Science Advisory Board is acknowledgement to the national notoriety she has earned and the credibility she has achieved in our industry. This combined with her ceaseless investment in teaching and mentoring her students exemplifies the character and qualities that epitomize the NEACSM Honor Award recipients. To honor her selfless dedication to her profession and field of exercise science and sports medicine, NEACSM is proud to name Dr. Jaci VanHeest as the recipient of the 2016 Honor Award.

NEACSM 2016 NEW INVESTIGATOR AWARD

The goal of this award is to recognize a new investigator who, as a consequence of his or her educational background and quality of initial independent research productivity, has begun and is likely to continue to make a significant contribution to knowledge in applied, basic, or clinical exercise science or sports medicine. NEACSM is investing in the future of our profession by offering a defined research underwriting opportunity to our professional members.

NEACSM is honored to announce Garrett Ash, Ph.D., as the 2016 NIA Recipient. His grant, entitled “Extending the Bright Bodies Weight Management Program to Adolescents with Type 1 Diabetes,” will test a 12-week intensive lifestyle program for adolescents with Type 1 diabetes who are also overweight and sedentary. The program will address problem-solving behaviors that limit participants’ physical activity and weight control by utilizing group exercise classes from Bright Bodies and supplementing with coping skills training and diabetes self-management education.
The Scholarship and Awards Committee congratulates the winners of the following awards, all of which were announced at the NEACSM Fall 2016 annual meeting in Providence, RI:

Robert S. Axtell Undergraduate Scholarship – Stephanie Ostrowski
University of New England
pictured with Scholarship Chair, Dr. John Hatzenbuehler and Dr. Robert Axtell

Lawrence E. Armstrong Minority Scholarship – Brittany Masteller
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
pictured with Scholarship Chair, Dr. John Hatzenbuehler and Dr. Larry Armstrong

Mark Connolly Memorial Masters Scholarship – Corrina Serviente
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
pictured with Scholarship Chair, Dr. John Hatzenbuehler

Donna Murphy Service Scholarship – Jonathan Petrocelli
Central Connecticut State University
pictured with Scholarship Chair, Dr. John Hatzenbuehler

David N. Camaione Doctoral Scholarship – Jocelyn Hafer
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
pictured with Scholarship Chair, Dr. John Hatzenbuehler and Dr. David Camaione

These scholarships are designed to highlight professional and academic excellence in students who are members of the New England Regional Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine. Scholarship winners received awards ranging from $500 to $1,000 each. For students wishing to be considered for these scholarships, the next call for applications will occur in March 2017 with a submission deadline of May 1, 2017.
The NEACSM Free Communications Committee is happy to announce that our Fall 2016 meeting was a huge success! We had a record number of 62 students, faculty, and professionals present their research. The NEACSM Fall 2016 conference also marked the first time that research could be presented as an oral poster (similar to the thematic posters of ACSM’s national conference), in addition to the traditional slide and poster formats. The large number of high-quality abstracts made judging a challenge, but we are thrilled to acknowledge the following winners of the 2016 research awards:

**DOCTORAL LEVEL:**
Andrea Duran  
Columbia University Medical Center  
($750 stipend)  
pictured with Free Communications Chair, Dr. William Lunn

**BACHELOR’S LEVEL:**
Albino Schifino  
Central Connecticut State University level  
($500 stipend)  
pictured with his research mentor, Dr. Chee-Hoi Leong

**MASTER’S LEVEL:**
Erica Casto  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
($750 stipend)  
pictured with Free Communications Chair, Dr. William Lunn

We are also pleased to announce that Katherine Hayes from University of Massachusetts, Amherst was selected to represent the New England chapter in the President’s Cup Competition at the 2017 ACSM conference this summer in Denver. She will receive $1,200 for travel and conference registration support.

Moving forward, we hope that 2017’s abstract will be just as good as that of 2016. Please keep an eye out for our call for abstracts this summer, and mark your calendars for the abstract deadline of September 15, 2017. We look forward to seeing your submissions!
The DNC Student Endowment recognized three student investigators for their research excellence at this year’s annual meeting.

- **Doctoral Student Investigator Award ($500)** was awarded to Andrea Duran, Columbia University Medical Center.
- **Masters Student Investigator Award ($500)** was awarded to Erica Castro, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.
- **Undergraduate Student Investigator Award ($500)** was awarded to Albino Schifino, Central Connecticut State University.

The DNC Student Endowment also recognized three undergraduate students for their proposed research projects for the upcoming year. The 2016 Undergraduate Research Experience Grants were awarded to Albino Schifino, Central Connecticut State University; Stephanie Ostrowski, University of New England, and Gabriella Narowska, Quinnipiac University. Furthermore, the Camaione Student Endowment will be supporting the 2016 College Bowl winning team’s travel to the 2017 ACSM Annual Meeting ($2,500). University of Massachusetts, Boston students Sean Derby-Kilfoyle, Tri Vo, and Lindsay Breidel will represent NEACSM in Denver, CO.

The NEACSM Executive Committee continued its ongoing support of the Camaione Student Endowment by making a $12,000 donation to the fund, which will help insure the continued growth of the endowment in coming years.

Lastly, the NEACSM wishes to thank Dr. David N. Camaione for his continued support for both the Fund and the NEACSM, as he attended both days of the conference.

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**MEMBER NEWS & MILESTONES**

President-Elect Dr. Jason Melnyk and his wife Julia and daughter Maddy welcomed the arrival of a new addition to their family, Evelyn Reyah, on December 15th! Congratulations to the Melnyks!

Kaylee LeCavilier, recipient of a NEACSM Undergraduate Research Experience Grant, along with research mentors, Dr. Lara Carlson and Mr. Michael Lawrence published their research titled Salivary Lymphocyte Responses Following Acute Anaerobic Exercise in a Cool Environment in the Journal of Strength and Conditioning. For more information please see [click here](#). Well done Kaylee!

Outgoing NEACSM Student Representative Dr. Michael Bruneau has accepted a faculty position as an Assistant Teaching Professor at Drexel University in the College of Nursing and Health Professions. Congratulations Mike!
The current NEACSM Student Chapter Representatives are Nicole Schultz (Tufts University) and Brittany Masteller (University of Massachusetts, Amherst). Nicole and Brittany have been hard at work to increase student engagement and expand opportunities for student involvement in NEACSM. Such efforts were supported by members of the Student State Representative Committee (SSRC) and aimed to enhance the reach and impact of NEACSM opportunities for students within the New England region.

In 2016, a survey was distributed to NEACSM student members in an effort to better meet their needs and interests. There was widespread interest in both a mentorship program and more opportunities to become involved. Nicole and Brittany have used this feedback to develop a peer-mentorship program that will be starting this year prior to the Spring Meeting in March. The goal of this program is to form a more in-depth and reciprocal relationship between undergraduate NEACSM members and NEACSM professional mentors. The program is designed for mentors to facilitate a relationship with their mentee that guides and supports mentees as they are exposed to networking and leadership opportunities within NEACSM and ACSM. Our primary initiative for 2017 is to implement the peer-mentorship program.

If you are interested in becoming involved with the peer-mentoring program as a mentor or mentee, or you have any questions or suggestions for the SSRC, please contact Nicole Schultz (Nicole.Schultz@tufts.edu) or Brittany Masteller (bmasteller@umass.edu).

STATE REPRESENTATIVE .................................................................

Members of the State Representative Committee were happy to meet student, faculty, and professional members of NEACSM while staffing the volunteer booth at the 2016 Annual Fall Meeting. A number of individuals expressed interest in getting involved at the state level, and the Committee is excited to connect with as many members as possible to promote NEACSM throughout the region. The State Representative Committee is continuing to promote NEACSM throughout the New England region through our Advocacy Project. We hope advocacy visits will continue to support the mission and vision of NEACSM, promote the value of regional chapter membership, and encourage participation by students, faculty and professionals in our annual Fall and Spring conference events. If you would like a state representative to visit your institution to talk to students and faculty about the organization and scholarship, grant, and service opportunities, please contact Dr. Christie Ward-Ritacco (christieward@uri.edu).

The State Representative Committee is happy to welcome our new state representatives, Nicole Hafner (Norwalk Community College) and Kyle Coffey (UMASS-Lowell), representing Connecticut and Massachusetts respectively. We’re also thankful to Michael Lawrence (Maine - University of New England), Dr. Melissa Rogers (New Hampshire - University of New Hampshire), Dr. Hans Haverkamp (Vermont - Johnson State College), and Dr. Christie Ward-Ritacco (Rhode Island - University of Rhode Island) for their continued service.

Going forward, the State Representative Committee hopes to continue to connect with members of the academic community and expand our communication with members of the professional community to ensure that everyone working to improve the health and wellness of our region is aware of the educational and networking opportunities available through membership and participation in NEACSM. If you are interested in helping to promote NEACSM in your academic or professional setting, please contact your state representative. We look forward to connecting and learning with you this March at the Spring 2017 Conference.
At the Fall 2016 Meeting, the Membership Committee facilitated the Exercise is Medicine® Ambassador Program training session. This was the Chapter’s second year successfully implementing this training, as its nationwide pilot occurred at the 2015 NEACSM Fall Meeting. Nearly 50 students and professionals attended this year’s training session, and 34 members from that group sat for and passed the training exam. Congratulations to the NEACSM 2016 class of Ambassadors! New England continues to hold the largest number of certified EIM Ambassadors in the nation. EIM Ambassadors are individuals who are trained and knowledgeable in the Exercise is Medicine initiative in order to serve as a foundation for EIM in their local communities and institutions. Further information about the EIM Ambassador Program can be found under “On-going Initiatives” at www.exerciseismedicine.org.

NEACSM is committed to providing a variety of quality services and opportunities for its membership, helping to develop the next generation of scientists and physical activity and health professionals. The Membership Committee continues to offer the unique Professional Development Workshop series where students are connected (in most cases one-on-one) with a well-established professional in their field of interest to review their curriculum vitae and discuss a variety of topics pertaining to professional development. The committee would like to take this opportunity to once again thank the following professionals who donated their time to take part in the 2016 workshop, as its success is in large part due to their participation.

Marc Robertson, DPT
Deborah Riebe, PhD (Past President)
Giselle Aerni, MD
Marni Bopart, PhD (Invited Speaker)

Thanks to the hard work of Dr. Paul Gallo, all NEACSM members who attended the Fall 2016 Meeting were offered the opportunity to volunteer with the many NEACSM committees. Thank you to those who volunteered! The Membership Committee will be taking a large role in ensuring the Volunteer Interest Booth is again offered at the Fall 2017 Conference.

Lastly, the Membership Committee is working to administer a brief poll in order to better support our membership. This poll will be administered in the near future; thank you in advance for providing your feedback.

The EIM Ambassador Program training, Professional Development Workshop and Volunteer Interest Booth will be held again at the Fall 2017 NEACSM Conference. Advertisements containing registration and other information will be distributed via email, social media, and the NEACSM website.
BLAST FROM THE PAST: NEACSM THIRTY YEARS AGO!

From the Spring 1987 MAX! Newsletter:
Dr. Howard “Skip” Knuttgen, whose teaching and research accomplishments are among the most distinguished in the field of exercise physiology, has been named recipient of the 1986 Honor Award for Meritorious Service by the New England Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine. Dr. Knuttgen received his award at the November annual NEACSM meeting in Boxboro, MA, during which he delivered the keynote address on “Exercise Physiology: Roots and Routes.”

Update from the 2016 NEACSM Fall Conference:
Prior to the introduction of the keynote address, which now bears Dr. Knuttgen’s name, NEACSM Chapter members gave Dr. Knuttgen a standing ovation for his continued support of the Chapter.

Dr. Sean Walsh, NEACSM Historian

SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE!

New England ACSM continues to be a vibrant and rich community serving the fitness, research, and education fields of sports medicine and exercise science. We want to highlight your work! Our recent focus on developing our social media presence offers an excellent venue for such highlights. Please tag us (@NEACSM on Twitter and @NewEnglandACSM on Facebook) in your posts sharing your successes, grants, events, ideas, photos, etc. See you at Westfield State on March 30, 2017 for our Spring Conference!
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