

Leading the way

NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHAIR FOR PIERCE



Steve Camerino, president and CEO of New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc., is the new chair of Franklin Pierce’s Board of Trustees. Camerino has served on the Board since 2012.

“My goal is to continue the great gains we’ve made as a University,” says Camerino. “In the past, those who doubted Pierce said it was too small, too new, had too small an endowment to be successful. But the truth is, we are successful because we are small, and the core of what we do is making a difference in the lives of the students who come here, helping them find ways to learn who they are and go on to great futures.”

Camerino, who holds a bachelor’s degree from Dartmouth College and a J.D. from Columbia University and practiced law for more than three decades, says that he sees the University on a trajectory for future success. He points to the new strategic plan [see story, page 42], in particular, and its emphasis on engaging multiple resources that will enhance the University’s future as just one example of how the school uses its small size and nurturing atmosphere to its advantage.

“We [the Board] will be asking our community to step up and do more,” he says. “And that’s everyone — our alumni, fellow board members, the entire Pierce community. This isn’t just about donating money, it’s about sharing ideas, sharing time with our students. Franklin Pierce has always been successful because of the commitment everyone on this campus makes to student achievement, in the classroom and in life.”

He says going forward, he hopes to see continued collaboration from faculty regarding the curriculum, as well as from alumni who share their stories to show current students how Pierce transformed them.

“Allowing students to see how our alumni have succeeded helps them envision that kind of future for themselves.” — *Holly Beretto ’93*

ANDREW CUNNINGHAM (INBRE, CAMERINO)

N.H. INBRE

FOSTERING BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

In a fly lab in Marcucella Hall, Dr. Susan Arruda, assistant professor of biology, and her students are examining the eyes of fruit flies to study their photoreceptors. The important research can help doctors understand the causes of human retinal diseases.

“INBRE (New Hampshire IDeA Network of Biological Research Excellence) funds transformed that first lab,” said Arruda. “When I first started, I couldn’t do anything because there was no equipment and no space.”

Over the last six years, the NH-INBRE has supported biomedical science research at Franklin Pierce with the expansion of three other lab spaces across campus.

Today, student researchers work alongside faculty in the discovery of retinal diseases and microbial pathogens. Many have published works in academic journals as secondary authors, presented research at the annual NH-INBRE conference and pursued careers

in biomedical research upon graduation.

“INBRE has been transformative in our ability to help scientists do their work and research, but also to help students have that experience,” says Kerry McKeever, dean of the College at Rindge.

Led by the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth College and the University of New Hampshire, NH-INBRE is a statewide initiative designed to develop a coordinated network of biomedical research and training. The IDeA program builds research capacities in states that historically have had low levels of NIH funding by supporting basic, clinical and translational research; faculty development; and infrastructure improvements.

A new research lab in the Dr. Arthur and Martha Pappas Health Science and Athletic Training Center was dedicated to Mrs. Pappas, a longtime benefactor and friend to the University, at the Academic Showcase in April.

— *Alyssa Borelli ’15*

