

MMEL Student, Ross Little, Hits Career Milestone

Professor Ross Little, Surgery Technology Instructor at Quincy College, has been honored by the National Board of Surgical Technology & Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA) for a 15-year milestone in his career. Professor Little has maintained the Certified Surgical Technologist (CST) designation for over 15 years, renewing his certification every 4 years by completing 60 continuing education credits.

Little's career began as a traveling surgery technician, gaining practical experience all over the country. In the spring of 2003, Little found himself in Boston at Massachusetts General Hospital and later becoming a full time instructor at Quincy College.

Currently, Little is pursuing his Master's Degree in Medical Education Leadership at University of New England Online. "If it weren't for a love of traveling and seeing the United States, I wouldn't have gained the practical surgical technology experience I've received. For that, I am grateful and look forward to completing my Master's Degree in Medical Education Leadership from University of New England, furthering my own education, and translating this knowledge to the benefit of my Quincy College students."

Recent UNE Online graduate, Jessica Healy, makes strides against underage drinking in Massachusetts

Jessica Healy, Regional Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator for the Health Department in Hudson, MA, is spearheading a five-town substance abuse initiative to fight against underage drinking.

Through a 3-year, \$300,000 grant from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, town coalitions have spent the last several months exploring how underage drinking affects their communities.

Taking action against underage drinking

Working along with the towns of Framingham, Ashland, Northborough, Southborough, and Hudson, the project involves addressing the issue of underage drinking, creating action plans and spreading awareness of this epidemic. “It takes a village to raise a child – and it takes a community to fight substance abuse,” Healy said.

Healy originally attended school to become a nurse practitioner, and was working in a hectic cardiology office as a medical assistant when she became fascinated with the challenges and issues in health. A colleague suggested she pursue a public health degree, since an MPH addresses a wide gamut of health issues.

“I found UNE instructors very knowledgeable in the subjects that they taught. They were very supportive and encouraged thinking outside the box,” says Healy when asked about highlights of University of New England’s online Master’s of Public Health program.

The deciding factors for UNE Online

The willingness and responsiveness of staff, CEPH accreditation, and the fact that the UNE Online Master of Public Health Program is offered completely online, were all factors for Healy in choosing UNE to earn her degree. “I feel that UNE prepared me very well for the job I am doing,” says Healy.

Striving for sustainable change

From the Hudson Health Department website: “Since unhealthy behaviors threaten not just the well-being of youth, but ultimately have negative economic consequences for communities, it makes sense to seek community-wide solutions. The Hudson Youth Substance Abuse Prevention initiative will engage the entire community through a three-pronged approach; a community substance use coalition, environmental modifications, and school-based programs.

By integrating various strategies into existing or new policies and activities throughout the community, the initiative will strive to create sustainable change for the town of Hudson.”

For more information on the substance abuse program in Hudson, go to

www.hudsonhealthdept.org/substance-abuse

UNE Online to exhibit at the 13th Global Health & Innovation Conference

In its 13th year, the [Global Health & Innovation Conference](#) (GHIC), presented by Unite for Sight will take place this weekend at Yale University in New Haven, CT.

GHIC is the world's leading and largest global health conference as well as the largest social entrepreneurship conference, with 2,200 professionals and students from all over the country and globe.

Stop by our booth

UNE Online will once again be exhibiting at the Global Health & Innovation Conference. Stop by our booth and learn more about our Graduate Programs in Public Health. UNE Online offers two fully articulated online graduate programs in Public Health. Working adults and post-baccalaureate students can now earn a Master of Public Health degree (MPH) or a Graduate Certificate in Public Health (GCPH) full or part-time, with all courses offered 100% online.

About the MPH program at UNE Online

The 46-credit hour MPH curriculum is designed to enhance students' skills in a variety of professional areas including analysis, communication, international health, program development and planning, financial management, leadership, policy, ethics and law.

This 18-credit hour program provides students with the core public health concepts they need to either enhance their professional knowledge or to pursue a graduate degree in the field. Get in touch with an enrollment counselor and learn how you can make a difference with a degree in public health.