Going Online: CONNECTION’S Campus Newslink

WEST HAVEN, CT.—The University of New Haven was awarded $2 million by the U.S. Department of Justice to establish the nation’s only academic center for crime scene training. …

NORTH ANDOVER, MASS.—Merrimack College and five community partners launched an initiative to strengthen math and science skills among middle-school students in nearby Lawrence, Mass. …

ORONO, MAINE—University of Maine food scientists received a $71,762 grant from the National Marine Fisheries Service to develop nutritious snack foods from the byproducts of shellfish processing. …

RINDGE, N.H.—Researchers at Franklin Pierce College’s Monadnock Institute of Nature, Place and Culture began a major “Anthology” project to collect and record local New Hampshire stories and make them available to future generations. …

WARWICK, R.I.—New England Institute of Technology introduced a bachelor’s degree program in digital recording arts technology to prepare students for work in the electronic media industry. …

BURLINGTON, VT.—The University of Vermont College of Medicine received a $250,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation to test technology designed to increase the survival rate of patients transported via ambulance in rural areas. …

For more than a dozen years, CONNECTION presented those types of newsy items in a rather understated news “department” at the back of the journal called “Campus.” Whether a $25,000 grant to study the commercial potential of sea cucumbers or a half-million gift to support women and minorities in engineering, the quarterly collection of campus bulletins adorned simply with wire service-style city lines captured the richness of New England’s diverse higher education enterprise and provided a nuts-and-bolts foil for the big ideas advanced by our distinguished CONNECTION commentators.

But delivering “quarterly news” is increasingly oxymoronic. Things just happen too fast on our campuses, like everywhere else. So with this issue, the stuff of Campus—grants, new programs, novel collaborations—moves to the Internet, where it can be continuously updated and where access to more indepth coverage will be just a click away.

The new online news source called CONNECTION’S Campus Newslink will feature not only news and developments from New England’s 270 colleges and universities, but also notice of special campus events open to the public. Like the old printed Campus department, CONNECTION’S Campus Newslink will be an egalitarian place. A new associate degree program in computer security at Springfield Technical Community College gets the same play as a multimillion-dollar Defense Department grant to Yale. And we save some trees in the process.

There is just one catch. In order to access CONNECTION’S Campus Newslink, you must be a Friend of NEBHE. So please visit www.nebhe.org/friends.html and become a Friend soon.

John O. Harney is executive editor of CONNECTION.