



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **STATEWIDE SUMMIT TAKES UP CHALLENGES FACING HIGHER EDUCATION IN NEW HAMPSHIRE**

*College + Business Leaders to Focus on Higher Education Value, Career Readiness,  
Mental Health Crisis*

**CONCORD** – Best-selling author and award winning columnist Jeff Selingo will keynote a wide-ranging review of New Hampshire’s Higher Education landscape, featuring the state’s college presidents, policymakers and business leaders. The goal: explore ways to improve enrollment, encourage New Hampshire high school graduates to choose New Hampshire colleges and universities, and to deepen connections with area businesses. One of the most anticipated discussions on the agenda is exploring the issue of mental health on college campuses; discussing what programs colleges should offer and enhance to benefit students who may seek counseling and treatment while they are enrolled. Health care and education experts will take questions and offer advice to collegiate leaders.

**WHAT: 2019 Higher Education Summit**

**WHEN: March 15, 2019 8am-12pm**

**WHERE: Grappone Conference Center, Concord**

*In addition, NHCUC will release its annual economic impact report showing the contributions made by higher education to the state’s bottom line. “New Hampshire’s public and private non-profit colleges and universities are integral to New Hampshire’s economic success and community life. While we continue to broaden our efforts to make college more accessible, we face great challenges as our region ages and federal proposals compound rather than solve our students’ ability to afford college and reduce their already highest in the nation student debt loads,” said Mike Vlacich, President & CEO of New Hampshire College and University Council.*

The morning schedule also includes a conversation with New Hampshire college and university presidents; federal and legislative updates from Senator Jay Kahn, Rep. Mel Myler and U.S. Senator Maggie Hassan; and closing remarks from Dr. Barbara Brittingham, President of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). The Summit is cosponsored by NHCUC, Campus Compact for New Hampshire, and GEAR UP New Hampshire.

**For a full Summit schedule, background and to register for this event, go to [nhcuc.org](http://nhcuc.org).**