



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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5th ANNUAL CAMPUS SAFETY SYMPOSIUM HOSTED BY NHCUC, UNH AND CCSNH SET FOR AUGUST

Halias Symposium to Focus on Mental Health of College Campuses

CONCORD – Organizers are keenly aware that there has never been a more important time to focus on the mental health of college students. Therefore, this year the Halias Symposium will be offered virtually, over the course of a week as a series of three webinars on topics that are highly relevant to the current moment and to universal topics of behavioral health and campus safety.

The three webinar topics offered this summer will be: 1) Tele-Health: Meeting students' counseling and mental health needs through remote engagement; 2) Behavioral intervention strategies in the era of the socially distanced campus; and 3) Meeting the mental health needs of Veterans on college campuses.

“Student safety and campus security is the highest basic priority for all of our member institutions in New Hampshire, which is why we are honored to host local, state and regional experts to explore best practices for ensuring our campuses are the safest they can be,” says Chief Paul Dean, UNH Police Chief. “Higher learning can only happen when our schools provide a safe and secure environment for growth and opportunity. I commend our fellow co-hosts, the Community College System of New Hampshire, the New Hampshire College and University Council, and our own University of New Hampshire for helping spearhead this important event and their leadership on these critical issues.”

WHAT: Halias Campus Safety Symposium

WHEN: August 10th, 11th and 12th from 9:00am – 11:00am

WHERE: 3-Part Virtual Series; Register at www.nhcuc.org/halias-safety-symposium

WHO: Campus safety experts, NH lawmakers, NH college and university leaders, first responders, educators, etc.

The symposium will feature speakers from:

Session 1: Mental Health through Telehealth: Remote Student Engagement

Monday, August 10th | 9:00AM - 11:00AM

- Sara Brown, Senior Writer, The Chronicle of Higher Education
- Dr. Sherry Benton, Creator, TAO Connect
- Dr. Elisa Bolton, Ph.D., Associate Director \ Training Director, University of New Hampshire Psychological and Counseling Services (PACS)

Session 2: Behavioral Intervention Teams on Socially Distanced Campus

Tuesday, August 11th | 9:00AM - 11:00AM

- Yvonne Meyer, Associate Director for Public Safety at Swarthmore College, Board of Directors, International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA) and North Atlantic Regional Director
- Paul Dean, Chief of Police and Associate Vice President for Public Safety and Risk Management for the University of New Hampshire

Session 3: Student Soldiers- Supporting Veterans in a Shifting Landscape

Wednesday, August 12th | 9:00AM - 11:00AM

- Amy M. Cook, Administrator, Division of Community Based Military Programs, NH Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services
- Karen Gilbert (USAF Veteran), Director, Military and Veteran Services, University of New Hampshire

“The Halias Safety Symposium since its inception has focused on the mental awareness and health of college campuses throughout the State of New Hampshire. Whether a student, faculty, support staff, or the community as a whole, the symposium has addressed the concerns that many forms of anxiety can create if left unresolved,” says John Stevens, Statewide Interoperability Coordinator at the New Hampshire Department of Safety. “The Symposium is named after an individual who through a lifetime of work and compassion as a law enforcement officer, an educator, and community leader worked tirelessly towards an educational environment that is both safe and secure. The many issues that society must face today are experienced on every college campus throughout the nation. It is with our heartfelt gratitude that we offer the Halias Symposium as a pinnacle of spirit and courage at a time when our determination and resolve is most tested.”

The symposium was named in honor of Nicholas J. Halias, a former University of New Hampshire police chief and trustee of the Community College System of NH, who passed away in 2014 after serving more than 40 years in law enforcement.

For more information and to register, please visit www.nhcuc.org/halias-safety-symposium

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