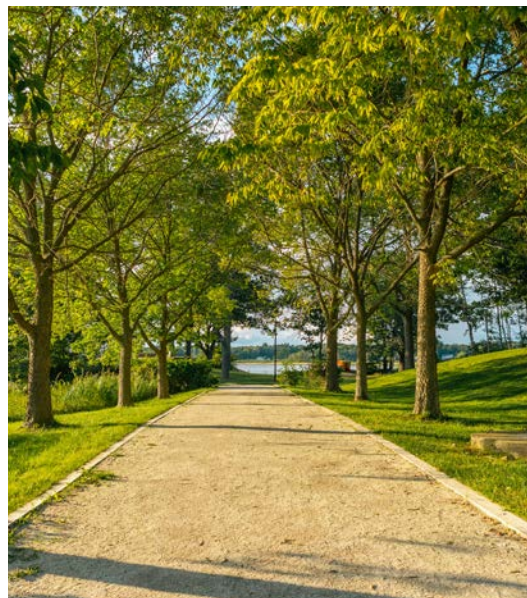




UNIVERSITY OF
NEW ENGLAND

INNOVATION FOR A HEALTHIER PLANET

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND

***Executive Director,
David Evans Shaw
Institute for Public and
Planetary Health***

POSITION	Executive Director, David Evans Shaw Institute for Public and Planetary Health
ORGANIZATION	University of New England
LOCATION	Portland, Maine
COMPENSATION	The salary range is \$150,000 – \$170,000, commensurate with the successful candidate’s background and experience
REPORTING RELATIONSHIP	The Director reports to the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
WEBSITE	www.une.edu



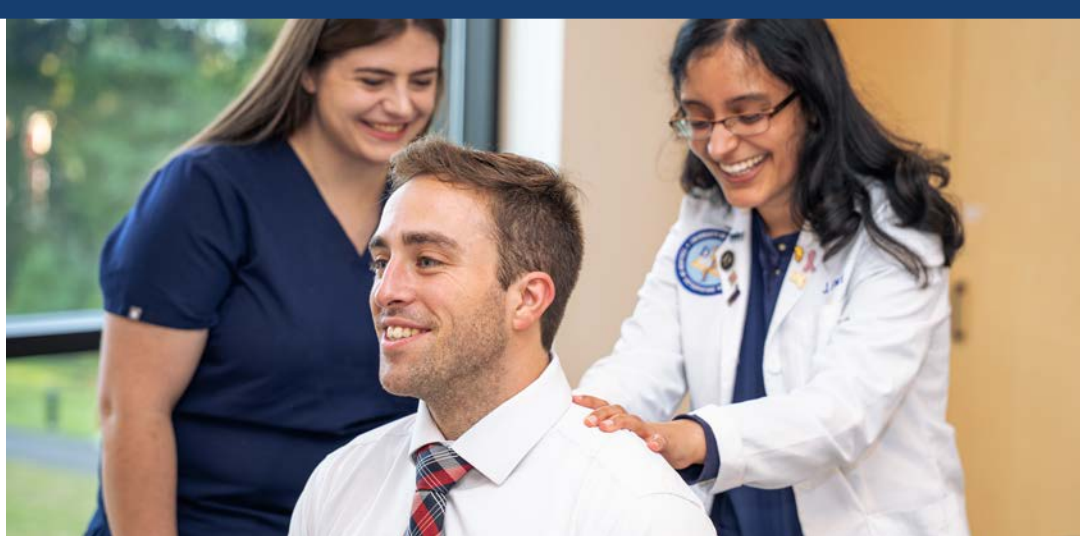
THE OPPORTUNITY

The University of New England invites nominations and applications for the inaugural Executive Director of the David Evans Shaw Institute for Public and Planetary Health, a groundbreaking University-wide institute created to advance interdisciplinary education, research, workforce development, community engagement, and applied innovation at the intersection of human health, environmental sustainability, and societal well-being.

We believe that many of the defining challenges of our time—including climate change, aging populations, access to mental and behavioral healthcare, workforce shortages, disease burden fueled by environmental degradation, and community resilience—cannot be solved within a single discipline or sector. They require collaboration across healthcare, public health, science, policy, education, business, government, and communities themselves.

Established through a transformational gift from entrepreneur, activist, and impact investor David Evans Shaw, the Institute brings those worlds together and reflects UNE’s commitment to preparing graduates and partnering with communities to advance shared, actionable, and practical solutions to address these complex and interconnected so-called “wicked problems.”

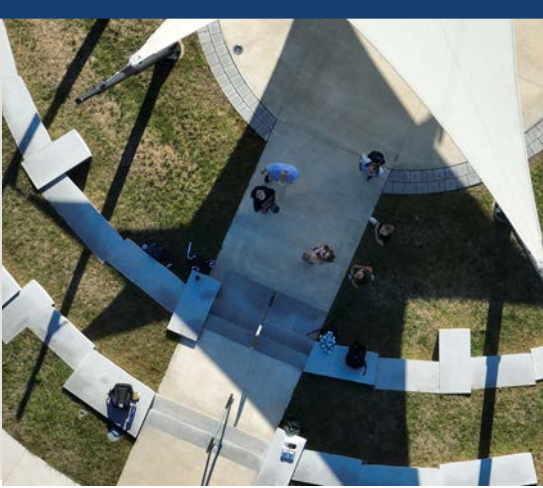
The Executive Director will provide strategic, academic, operational, and external relations leadership for the Institute during a formative period of growth. The successful candidate will be an accomplished, collaborative, entrepreneurial, and visionary leader who can unite faculty, students, professional staff, community partners, government agencies, industry, philanthropic partners, and other stakeholders around a compelling vision for public and planetary health.



ABOUT THE DAVID EVANS SHAW INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC AND PLANETARY HEALTH

The Institute will serve as a catalyst for interdisciplinary academic programs, applied research, sponsored projects, student learning, workforce development, advocacy, policy translation, and public engagement bringing together expertise in public health, health professions and sciences, marine and environmental sciences, business, policy, sustainability, aging, behavioral health, and rural and coastal communities across the Arctic, North Atlantic, and related fields. Intentionally designed as a hub for interdisciplinary collaboration across UNE's colleges, schools, centers, and community partnerships, the Institute is aligned with UNE's mission to improve the health of people, communities, and the natural world.

The Institute is expected to strengthen UNE's visibility and impact in Maine, nationally, and globally while advancing partnerships that translate knowledge into action. This is an opportunity to help define not only a new institute, but a new model for how universities can address the interconnected challenges facing people and the planet.



KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develop and implement a compelling strategic vision for the Institute that advances UNE's mission, academic strengths, research priorities, and commitment to healthier people, healthier communities, and healthier environments.
- Provide effective oversight of the Center for Public Health Practice, Center for Health Aging, and Center for North Atlantic Studies.
- Form and cultivate an effective advisory council to provide strategic guidance, review annual priorities, advise on partnerships, and help connect the Institute to internal and external stakeholders.
- Strengthen and build new partnerships with community organizations, public agencies, health systems, environmental organizations, industry, policymakers, aligned academic institutions, and philanthropic partners.
- Identify, pursue, and support external funding opportunities, including grants, contracts, philanthropic gifts, sponsored projects, and strategic partnerships.
- Promote applied research, scholarship, policy translation, and public-facing engagement that addresses complex public and planetary health challenges.
- Support the development of academic and workforce programs, certificates, experiential learning opportunities, fellowships, internships, and continuing education initiatives aligned with the Institute's priorities.
- Work with faculty and academic leaders to support student engagement, interdisciplinary learning, mentorship, and career pathways in public and planetary health.
- Represent the Institute to internal and external audiences through public speaking, convenings, media engagement, professional networks, and national partnerships.
- Lead Institute planning, budgeting, staffing, assessment, reporting, and operational processes in alignment with University policies and priorities.
- Advance a culture of collaboration, inclusion, scientific rigor, innovation, and accountability.



QUALIFICATIONS

Required

- An earned terminal degree in public health, environmental health, medicine, health sciences, Earth system science, policy, sustainability, social science, business, or a related field; or a record of equivalent distinguished professional achievement appropriate to the role.
- Significant executive or senior leadership experience in higher education, research administration, public health, environmental health, nonprofit leadership, government, industry, philanthropy, or a related setting.
- Demonstrated success in leading growth and change, implementing new initiatives, and delivering measurable institutional and community impact.
- A strong record of interdisciplinary collaboration and the ability to work effectively across academic, scientific, community, governmental, and external stakeholder groups.
- Exceptional communication, relationship-building, and people leadership skills, including experience setting strategy, managing budgets, developing high-performing teams, and translating complex scientific, environmental, public health, and policy issues for diverse audiences.
- Strong emotional intelligence skills.
- Experience securing and stewarding external resources through grants, contracts, philanthropy, strategic partnerships, or other revenue-generating opportunities.
- Evidence of commitment to student success, workforce development, community engagement, and fostering an inclusive, collaborative culture.

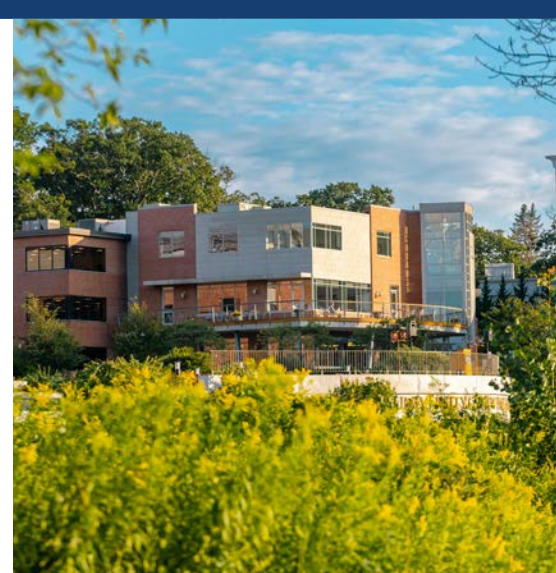
Preferred

- A national or emerging national reputation in public health, planetary health, environmental health, climate and health, sustainability, implementation science, community-engaged research, policy, or a related field.
- Familiarity with Maine, Northern New England, and the health, environmental, economic, and community priorities of rural and coastal regions.



Desired Leadership Attributes

- Strategic, entrepreneurial, and able to build a new institute with clarity, focus, and momentum.
- A leadership style that empowers others to work toward a shared strategic vision balanced with a commitment to execution and implementation.
- Ability to earn trust across disciplines and constituencies.
- Comfortable serving as a visible ambassador for UNE and the Institute.
- Mission-driven and committed to improving health outcomes, environmental stewardship, and community well-being.
- Skilled at convening diverse stakeholders around shared goals and translating ideas into action.



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

About the University of New England

With roots dating to 1831, the University has evolved to become the largest independent university in Maine and one of the fastest-growing private universities in the Northeast. UNE has established itself as a leading comprehensive university with particular strengths in the health sciences and marine sciences and a wide range of academic programs offered both onsite and online to just over 11,000 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students. UNE is guided by the core values of student-centeredness, community and belonging, relentless inquiry, interdisciplinary collaboration, learning everywhere, progressive change, and stewardship of our planet.

UNE's more than 70 undergraduate, graduate, professional, and online degree programs are offered through seven colleges: the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Business, College of Dental Medicine, Westbrook College of Health Professions, College of Osteopathic Medicine, College of Professional Studies, and Honors College. UNE is home to Maine's only medical school, pharmacy school, and physician assistant program and to northern New England's only dental school. UNE's robust research agenda garners more NIH funding in biomedical research than any other college or university in Maine. UNE is located on two beautiful campuses in Maine — the coastal Biddeford Campus and suburban Portland Campus for the Health Sciences — and also has a unique study-abroad campus in Tangier, Morocco. UNE is regionally accredited by the New England Commission on Higher Education.

During a tumultuous time for higher education, UNE has bucked the trends, emerging from a global pandemic with robust enrollment numbers, the transformative relocation of its medical college from Biddeford to Portland, and a host of new academic programs and student support initiatives designed to meet the workplace needs of an ever-changing economy. While many other institutions were content to merely keep their doors open during the pandemic, UNE's dedicated faculty and professional staff were determined to seize every opportunity during a time of much change and realignment for the industry. And, guided by the recently refreshed *Our World, Our Future* strategic plan, UNE has done just that. As a result, the University's credit rating was upgraded in 2023 to A2 by Moody's Investor Services, a designation reaffirmed in 2025. In 2026, Fitch Ratings upgraded UNE's credit rating to AA-, reflecting "very high" credit quality and a stable outlook, while *Forbes* awarded the University an A- financial grade, placing it among the top 20% of institutions nationally for financial strength.



UNE emphasizes welcoming, belonging, and meeting the needs of first-generation students while consciously immersing students in an environment that prioritizes viewpoint diversity. Indeed, one of UNE's distinguishing characteristics is its commitment to fostering a robust marketplace of ideas so that students may develop the respect for opposing viewpoints and intellectual curiosity needed to be productive participants in our increasingly polarized society. The University invites guest speakers to campus whose ideas span various ideological spectra and, through an array of interrelated programs, exposes students to multiple views on important topics, both inside and outside the classroom.

Perennially included on "best colleges" lists by *U.S. News & World Report*, *The Princeton Review*, *Forbes*, and others, UNE prides itself on its excellent student outcomes. It has recently been ranked first in Maine for value added by *Brookings* and first in Maine for job placement by *Zippia*. Meanwhile, UNE students enjoy an exceptionally low student-loan-default-rate of just 0.6% compared to 2.3% nationally. UNE's clinical programs also boast exceptional board pass rates, while the aspiring doctors in UNE's College of Osteopathic Medicine earn a residency choice match rate that is among the best in the country. For more information about these and other accolades, visit www.une.edu/about/glance.

UNE is a great place to work. The University boasts both a tight-knit community and access to a wide array of degree programs, research opportunities, and cultural events. UNE offers a generous, comprehensive benefits package to eligible employees and their dependents. The package includes varied health and dental plans; a retirement plan that includes up to an 8% match; extensive paid leave, including holidays, vacation, sick, and personal time; and educational benefits for both employees and dependent children. Please visit the Human Resources Benefits site — www.une.edu/hr/benefits — for additional information regarding UNE's fantastic benefits package.



About UNE President James D. Herbert

James D. Herbert is the sixth president of the University of New England, serving since July 2017.

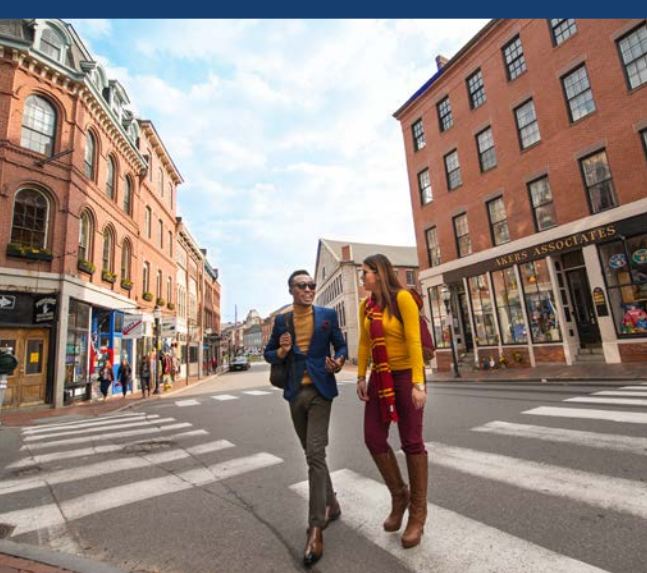
Under President Herbert's leadership, UNE has redoubled its commitment to collaborative, team-based clinical education; launched a slate of new undergraduate and graduate academic programs (both on-campus and online); expanded marine and health professions programs; and launched a business college.

During his tenure as president, UNE has also reorganized student support services to be more student-centric and expanded physical facilities on the Biddeford and Portland campuses, including new athletic facilities and a new home for Maine's only medical school. He has expanded UNE's connections with the regional business community and was recognized as a 2025 Business Leader of the Year by MaineBiz.

President Herbert has helped UNE to greatly improve its financial footing, as reflected by significant credit upgrades and the growth of the University's endowment. He has also significantly increased fundraising, including securing the largest gift in the University's history. These achievements are reflected in UNE's strategic plan, *Our World, Our Future*, which President Herbert implemented in 2018 and renewed in 2023.

As a champion of the academy as the ultimate marketplace of ideas, President Herbert founded a number of programs to encourage viewpoint diversity and civil, robust discourse on campus, including "The President's Forum," a moderated discussion series that facilitates discussion of timely topics to promote a deeper understanding of critical issues facing society.

Herbert arrived at UNE via Drexel University in Philadelphia, where he held several senior administrative positions, including interim provost and executive vice provost and dean of the Graduate College. He completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Texas at Austin and his M.A. and Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. His research interests include cognitive behavior therapy — including newer mindfulness and psychological acceptance-based models of behavior therapy, anxiety, mood, and eating disorders, remote internet-based treatment, and the promotion of evidence-based practice in mental health. He resides on UNE's Biddeford Campus with his wife, Lynn Brandsma, Ph.D., both of whom are highly engaged in campus life.



About Life in Maine

The University of New England is located on two beautiful campuses in Maine — an oceanfront coastal campus in Biddeford and a vibrant health sciences campus in Portland, a city of great appeal and historic significance. With breathtaking scenery, a rich cultural environment, world-class dining, low crime rates, and classic New England charm, southern Maine provides an unparalleled quality of life. The quality of life is exemplified by safe towns and cities, top school systems, and a variety of highly accessible outdoor activities, from beaches to mountains. Whether one enjoys local shopping in Portland's Old Port, sampling unique breweries and distilleries in Biddeford, strolling the harbor-side trail on the Eastern Promenade, or hiking, sailing, skiing, or the arts, the area offers something for everyone. The Greater Portland region combines city living with small-town charm, frequently cited as one of the best cities in America to live and work.



NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

Consistent with federal and state law and University policy, the University of New England is committed to the fundamental concept of equal opportunity for all of the members of the University community. The University prohibits and will not tolerate discrimination in employment, the provision of academic services, or in any other area of University life based on race, color, sex, physical or mental disability, religion, age, ancestry, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, ethnicity, genetic information, HIV status, or status as a veteran. Prohibited bias factors will not be permitted to have an adverse influence upon decisions regarding students, employees, applicants for admission, applicants for employment, contractors, volunteers, or participants in and/or users of institutional programs, services, and activities.

HOW TO APPLY

University of New England Career Opportunities | Executive Director, David Evans Shaw Institute for Public and Planetary Health



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