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Message from the Dean

Dear Jaclyn,



As the spring term wraps up and many of you are preparing for summer and fall courses, I wanted to express my gratitude to all of the faculty for your role in the College of Professional Studies graduation on June 6th.

We welcomed our largest contingent of faculty ever marching in a College of Professional Studies graduation! And, whether you were able to participate in graduation on June 6th or not, that celebration belongs as much to you as it does to our students, because your teaching enabled their accomplishment.

Have a wonderful summer.

Sincerely,



John LaBrie
Dean

Outstanding Faculty Honored for Excellence



Dr. Gail Matthews-
DeNatale



Dr. Arsenio Paez

Each year the College of Professional Studies recognizes two members of the faculty with its highest teaching honor, the Excellence in Teaching Award. This year, Dr. Gail Matthews-DeNatale and Dr. Arsenio Paez are the recipients of this year's award. Faculty members are selected based on student

nominations, one full-time faculty member and one part-time faculty member, and were recognized at this year's Graduation exercises on June 6, 2014. Read the full story [here](#).

Professor Lyrical Speaks at TEDx Event



Faculty member, Peter Plourde, performing at the TEDxPiscataquaRiver event. Photo by Clear Eye Photo.

Foundation Year and Undergraduate programs faculty member Peter Plourde, also known as Professor Lyrical, spoke at the second annual [TEDxPiscataquaRiver](#) event on Friday, May 9, in Portsmouth, NH. The event was part of the independently organized TEDx program, which aims to bring the larger [TED](#) brand to local community

experiences. Plourde shared the stage with sixteen other guest speakers and performers, where he spoke, and rapped, about the transformative power of Hip Hop culture and its potential to be integrated into the academic experience, and the media's misrepresentation of Rap music and Hip Hop.

Plourde's battle rapper persona, Professor Lyrical, is described in his [speaker biography](#) as "an artist and educator known for using the positive aspects of Hip Hop culture to empower citizens to self-advocate for socioeconomic change." Plourde believes the TEDx experience will serve as an opportunity for him to build upon his vision, which he expressed as "to one day open a program or free standing college or university that uses Hip Hop culture as its theoretical lens and cultural backbone while preparing folks in STEM [Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics] or STEAM [Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics] based disciplines."

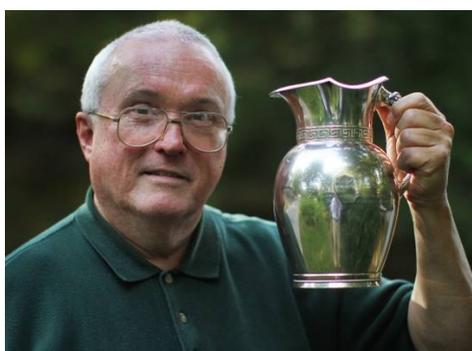
In addition to promoting his vision of utilizing Hip Hop as a scholastic tool, Plourde's involvement with TEDx hits closer to home. "My work as a scholar-practitioner is informed by higher education's inability to recruit and retain a diverse student population," he said. Plourde further explains his goals within the College and, more specifically, Foundation Year, stating "my work here deals with helping an extremely diverse population navigate both mathematics and university life towards the end-goal of earning a college degree."

Plourde's latest album and book combo, which he refers to as an 'Albook,' Put Em All to Shame was released in August 2013, and is available through the Professor Lyrical [website](#). The full Professor Lyrical TEDx performance can be viewed [here](#).

Yahoo! Shares Cynthia Baron's Advice on Parenting with Technology

Cynthia Baron, [Master of Professional Studies in Digital Media](#) faculty member, shared her thoughts on parenting and technology with Yahoo! Tech on Monday, June 2, in the column entitled "[7 Ways to Keep Your Kids' Brains from Turning to Mush This Summer](#)." Baron is quoted in the article, encouraging "Parents [need] to recognize that technological devices are also part of the real world."

After 150 Years, a Family's Silver Pitcher Bring Civil War History to Life



Charles C. Cox III holds the Gorham silver pitcher handed down through his family since the Civil War." - The Providence Journal.

When Union Army Major Henry J. Biddle of Pennsylvania fell wounded at the Battle of Glendale in 1862, he may have been just one more casualty in the bloody Civil War that took an estimated 750,000 soldiers' lives.

But thanks to historical research by Charles C. Cox, III, Senior Lecturer

in History, the story of Major Biddle has recently come to life, involving a fascinating episode from the war, an heirloom silver pitcher crafted in Rhode Island, and Cox's own family history in Virginia.

A gift from Biddle's widow, Mary, the pitcher was inscribed to Cox's great-great-grandfather, Dr. Edwin Harvie Smith of Richmond, "as a mark of gratitude and esteem for his extreme kindness, July, 1862."

Cox's sleuthing revealed that his ancestor Dr. Smith tended to Biddle's wounds - despite his enemy status -- at Richmond's Confederate Army hospital, where he died a month later. The pitcher sent to Dr. Smith remained in Cox's family, but the story was lost along the way. It was eventually handed down to Cox, who brought it back to Rhode Island, where he resides.

You can read Cox's firsthand accounts of the saga in articles published in recent months in the [Providence Journal](#) and on the Johnson C. Smith University (based in Charlotte, North Carolina) [website](#).

Going the Distance

Commuting to teach is not always 'easy' for Rick Arrowood, J.D.,

a Graduate faculty member in [Leadership](#), [Nonprofit Management](#), and [Human Resources Management](#) programs. From May to November, Arrowood is asked to fly more than 10,000 miles to teach in the [Global Leadership Program](#) at Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne, Australia - now his fifth year. Each international assignment leaves Arrowood immediately reaching for his global cultural competencies toolbox just in time to adapt to another culture.

Arriving in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam after a 19-hour flight from Boston is no different. He is immediately surrounded by a feeling of excitement, chaos, and finally, after a long Boston winter, genuinely hot weather; temperature upon his arrival was 106 Fahrenheit heat index. Within a few days, Arrowood adapts to his newest environment and culture. He believes that openness, friendliness, and curiosity are the main ingredients to connecting with others in any global environment.

"Week one of the Global Leadership Vietnam classes met all my expectations," says Arrowood. "There's a magical opportunity to work with the people of Asian countries. I like to approach the Global Leadership classroom in Ho Chi Minh City or Australia just like I do in Boston- beginning with the understanding that I am here first to learn, then second to teach."

In his first week in Ho Chi Minh City, Arrowood met with Global Leadership graduates whom he'd taught in Australia. "It's great to reconnect in person with our graduates and let them know the support doesn't end at graduation. It's not just about identifying relationships, it's about building and maintaining those relationships," he says.

"In the excitement of my first day of class in Ho Chi Minh City, I forgot to arrange a cab ride back to my hotel. One of the class members, Cong Bui, insisted that I ride with him on his motorcycle (in the U.S., we refer to them as mopeds). I willingly found myself on the back of the motorcycle surrounded by a sea of other motorcycles. The best part was when I realized that several of the students were following to the right and to the left to ensure my



Class member, Cong Bui (right), adjusts Rick Arrowood's (left) helmet on his motorcycle in Vietnam.

safety. It was in this moment that I learned just how wonderful the Vietnamese people are here; it reminded me of the awesome opportunity for personal growth as well," Arrowood recalls. While a motorcycle is a fun way to get around and explore the city, it is

important to recognize that, for most, it is the only means of transportation. Thousands can be seen on the roadways and city streets around the clock.

Arrowood, who has taught internationally since 2009, is well known among his colleagues for his work in Australia. He also is a visiting scholar at Beijing Foreign Studies University in Beijing, China, and Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, China. Dee Masiello, Assistant Dean, Graduate Faculty and Academic Affairs noted, "Rick is a key player in advancing the Global Leadership dual degree curriculum. He brings an engaging style to our Swinburne programs, and now Vietnam. His passion for the Global Leadership Program fuels our developing alumni efforts, and through these initiatives, will support his Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Scholarship funded dual degree research."

Readying faculty to teach abroad is a strategic priority for the College of Professional Studies. "But there's only so much help a handbook can provide. You have to immerse yourself in their culture to understand how they form interpersonal relationships and bonds. It's only then can you truly engage, connect and teach," concludes Arrowood.

NU Online Update

Tell us your story! Interested in sharing your online teaching success with your fellow faculty? Have a pedagogical or technology best practice you'd like to pass on? NU Online is looking for instructors to be featured in our new Faculty Spotlight section in the NU Online Instructor Resource Center. Contact your [instructional designer](#) for more details.

Visit the [NU Online IRC training calendar](#) to register for our latest trainings:

July 9 - Creating Lectures with Camtasia Relay: This webinar will introduce you to using Camtasia Relay as a lecture capture tool. For information on downloading Camtasia Relay, visit the NU Online Instructor Resource Center [Camtasia Relay page](#).

July 11 - Captioning with Camtasia Relay: Once you've covered the basics of using Relay, learn how and why adding captions can make your lecture more accessible for all of your students.

July 15 - Getting Started with Video Everywhere: Learn how to personalize your course using Video Everywhere to record video using a webcam and post messages in discussion board forums or as a welcome announcement to students.

We Want to Hear From You!

What information would you like to receive in the next issue? We welcome all suggestions, and will do our best to incorporate your

ideas into future communications. Thanks in advance for your input and support. To submit a note, send an email to cpsnews@neu.edu.

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