

In This Issue

The Distinction of Faculty Promotion

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The Distinction of Faculty Promotion

At the [College of Professional Studies](#), full-time faculty are eligible to be considered for promotion in academic rank after three years of continuous full-time service. Since the promotion process was introduced at the College in 2012, ten faculty members have been promoted either from assistant to associate level, or associate to senior level. The promotion process recognizes the quality of the College's academic endeavors by providing a process for consideration of faculty's growth, accomplishments, and contributions. The promotion criteria are based on the academic context of the College's distinct commitment to the scholar / practitioner and the scholarship of teaching and learning. Faculty members are reviewed by their faculty peers within the College, by external reviewers from their disciplines, by the College of Professional Studies deans, and by the University provost.

"A faculty promotion is a distinction, an honor and a privilege," notes John LaBrie, dean of the College of Professional Studies. "These ten faculty who have been promoted are being recognized for their many accomplishments as well as their standards of excellence in teaching and practice. Their excellence has been demonstrated by their commitment to student success; by their innovative approaches to teaching; by their achievement of excellence in their respective disciplines; and by their commitment to their programs and to Northeastern."

Each promoted faculty member is profiled below with a link, embedded in his or her name, to a full biography on the College's website.



[Polly F Attwood](#), EdD, MDiv, Department of Education, has been promoted from assistant academic specialist to associate academic specialist. At the College since fall 2011 (prior to that in Arts and Sciences since 2009), Dr. Attwood teaches courses in social and multicultural foundations and inclusion, equity and diversity. Dr. Attwood integrates theory and practice as she invites pre- and in-service

teachers to go beyond a limited focus on skills and techniques, as important as they are, in order to think critically about the ethical and political nature of teaching and to articulate personal visions of teaching for democracy and justice. Dr. Attwood also serves as the academic advisor for the undergraduate students in the Education Minor program.

[Hua Dong](#), MA Mass Communication and MA International

Journalism, World Languages Center, has also been promoted from assistant academic specialist to associate academic specialist. Dong has been with the College since 2006, and teaches Chinese language and culture courses, serves as the coordinator of the Chinese Language program, and also takes students to China where she leads the Dialogue of Civilizations program. You can read about this experience at the blog kept by the facilitators and students in this program. Dong has been associate producer and producer of award-winning films on modern and contemporary Chinese history and culture.



[Francesca Grippa](#), PhD, lead faculty in the Bachelor of Science in Management program was promoted from assistant academic specialist to associate academic specialist. At the College since March 2010 as a part-time faculty member, then full-time faculty starting in July 2010, Dr. Grippa teaches courses in Business Strategy, Innovation and Leadership, and has a joint faculty

appointment at the D'Amore-McKim School of Business where she teaches in the online MBA program. Dr. Grippa's research interest is in the application of methods and techniques of Organizational Network Analysis to help organizations assess the structure and evolution of their project teams and communities of practice.



[Shauna Harrington](#), MA, and PhD candidate in History at Northeastern, who teaches in the graduate Education programs, was promoted from assistant academic specialist to associate academic specialist. Harrington has been with the College since 2004 as part-time and then full-time faculty starting in 2007, and teaches courses including race and ethnicity in education, curriculum design

and assessment, inquiry in sciences in humanities, and teaching history and social studies. Harrington's research focuses on the history of education, which informs her perspective on contemporary issues in education.

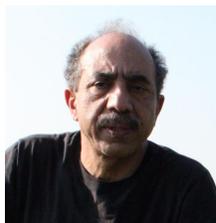


[Amy Lantinga](#), EdD, a faculty member teaching in Foundation Year and undergraduate programs, has been promoted from assistant academic specialist to associate academic specialist. Dr. Lantinga has been with the College since July 2009 as full-time faculty, and teaches courses in English, Communications, and Writing. Dr. Lantinga designs courses where the

academic content and skills are in dynamic relationship with experiential learning and the community. For Foundation Year students, this framework provides the opportunity for them to not only develop the academic thinking, reading, and writing skills needed for college success but provides a meaningful context in which to learn, practice, and grow as a member of a rigorous academic community. Her work involves creating curricula,

instructional practices, and assessment strategies focusing on thematic alignment in areas such as gender, social justice, urban planning, and pop culture. Dr. Lantinga is currently beginning research on the effects of a gender curricula aligned with a women's support group on the academic success of urban female students.

[Gina \(Luigia\) Maiellaro](#), PhD, World Language Center, has been promoted from associate academic specialist to senior academic specialist. Dr. Maiellaro has been with the College since 2010, she teaches all of the language level courses along with Italian culture classes, and is coordinator of the Italian Language program. Her teaching approach for Italian language is through an "enriched cultural lens" which guides students in meaningful ways toward language acquisition. Dr. Maiellaro has led her peers in development of innovative teaching and assessment methods about which she has widely presented and published as an active scholar in her field. Dr. Maiellaro was elected New England regional representative for the American Association of Teachers of Italian in January 2013. Her research now focuses on Second Language Acquisition with special focus on writing, error treatment and corpora for Italian for Specific Purposes. Dr. Maiellaro has recently created an online language placement test matrix for the World Languages Center and often organizes methodology workshops and seminars in collaboration with the Italian consulate and other local language organizations.



[Shakir Mustafa](#), PhD, World Languages Center, has been promoted from associate academic specialist to senior academic specialist. Dr. Mustafa has been at the College since 2008, and teaches courses in Arabic language, Arabic literature, and Arab culture. Dr. Mustafa notes that teaching difficult, different, or misunderstood subjects such as Arabic, Arabic literature, and Arab culture have set him on a continuous inquiry into more effective communication of material. What is inaccessible to his students, he says, remains of a lesser value. This inquiry has also opened up his research and translations to engaging communities beyond the University. Dr. Mustafa is currently undertaking a project funded by the College of Professional Studies Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Scholarship (CATS) to translate an Arabic novel in to a bilingual book, and to provide extensive narrative commentary on relevant translation issues.

[Karl H. Reynolds](#), MA, PhD, Linguistics, has been promoted from assistant academic specialist to associate academic specialist. At the College since September 2006 as a part-time lecturer, then full-time faculty in September 2007, Dr. Reynolds teaches Capstone Research Project, Culture and Communication, Research Methods, and Accent Modification in the pre-graduate Global Pathways program offered through NU Global. Dr. Reynolds is currently shifting from teaching of writing primarily to the oral-oriented skills of speaking, listening, and presentation skills. He is currently collaborating on establishing a curriculum for the new Global Pathways program at

Northeastern's Seattle campus and working on the Boston-based graduate curriculum.



[Cordula A. Robinson](#), PhD, Geographic Information Technology, has been promoted from assistant academic specialist to associate academic specialist. Dr. Robinson has been a part-time faculty member at the College since 2004 and a full-time faculty member since January 2007, and teaches courses in Master of Science in Professional Studies in Geographic Information Technology program and remote sensing. Dr. Robinson, a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society of London, has an asteroid named after her: number 2942: Cordie. She also has two National Science Foundation grants awarded to her to understand groundwater distribution in the deserts of Southwest Egypt.

[Paul A. Woolridge](#), PhD, NU Global, has been promoted from assistant academic specialist to associate academic specialist. Dr. Woolridge has been a College of Professional Studies faculty member in NU Global since 2010. Dr. Woolridge teaches courses in writing and philosophy, and oversees the undergraduate writing programs for American Classroom and Global Pathways. Dr. Woolridge's research interests include 20th-century intellectual history and transatlantic literary and cultural studies, with a focus on the history of the essay form, particularly as it relates to the larger social role of the public intellectual. Dr. Woolridge's work has been published in a number of academic journals, including *Prose Studies*, *The Cambridge Quarterly*, and *American Periodicals*. He is currently working on a monograph titled, "The Literary Critic as Public Intellectual: Leavis, Trilling, and the Periodical Imagination (1920-1960)," which sketches a cultural history of the critical essay as it took shape in 20th-century letters.

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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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