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## Message from the Dean



*Dean LaBrie congratulates a graduate at the Fall 2013 Graduation.*

Recently I participated in the annual [State of the University](#) along with hundreds of faculty and staff and I came away from the talks by Northeastern President Joseph Aoun, Provost Stephen Director, and others feeling inspired by Northeastern's progress and excited for us to write the next chapter together.

I feel the same optimism about the College of Professional Studies, even at a time of great change in the professional studies field, because of the deep strengths of our degree programs and students, the demand for our graduates, and the growth and development of the excellent faculty of our college.

I am proud of how CPS has been able to work with our faculty over the last five years to develop professional development opportunities such as the fall workshops and the spring workshops (which are scheduled for spring 2014). As always, we encourage you to participate in these events as you are able, both for the opportunity to absorb new information or skills, but also to meet and talk with your colleagues. Other faculty resources and ways for you to stay engaged with your faculty colleagues and the college include:

- [FACT](#) - Early warning system to identify and support students before they get into academic trouble
- [Faculty Central website](#)
- Webinars on professional development topics
- All-faculty meetings once per term

- Faculty training for Blackboard
- Participation in development of new courses, program assessment plans, and curriculum revisions
- Participation in re-accreditation processes
- Peer review/feedback (upon request)

I'm also proud of the fact that over the last five years we have been able to launch or expand a number of new programs which has resulted in the tripling of the number of part-time and full-time faculty teaching in the college since 2008.

And, we have a stable group of faculty teaching each year with more than 94% of the College of Professional Studies faculty who are part of the annual appointment process being offered an annual renewal of their faculty appointments this year.

While not all of those faculty who are offered re-appointment in any given year will accept it because of other professional or personal commitments, our pattern of re-appointment and faculty retention has been consistently high.

Amid this growth and change, I am aware that another conversation is underway among faculty and administrators regarding the effort of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) to bring a union to Northeastern. I continue to get feedback from members of the faculty, both in favor and opposed. I wish to thank those individuals who have contributed to the dialog since I find the insights and discussions valuable. The University has posted [information regarding the SEIU](#) effort on a website and I encourage you to visit it.

I personally believe that the growth and vitality of the college has a very bright future. My concern would be that a third party intermediary such as the union would slow down this progress. As I've stated before, higher educational institutions are facing unprecedented change in the higher education landscape and our ability to respond to student and employer needs is paramount. Unlike our counterparts, CPS has enjoyed great stability in our ability to retain and attract talent. We look forward to continuing that tradition moving forward.

Sincerely,



John G. LaBrie, EdD  
Dean

## New FAQ on Collective Bargaining Rules

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As discussions are underway regarding the current organizing efforts of SEIU, additional information about collective bargaining

is now available. Learn more about the process by reading [Collective Bargaining Rules: FAQ](#).

On this website, you also can review copies of collective bargaining agreements SEIU negotiated on behalf of faculty it represents at American University and George Washington University.

## Empowerfest - November 15

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*President Joseph Aoun speaks with members of the Northeastern community at the Empower kickoff event.*

President Joseph Aoun invites you to celebrate Northeastern's momentum with your colleagues at a special preview of Empowerfest, the university-wide launch of our \$1 billion *Empower* campaign.

Friday, November 15  
3:00 - 6:00 PM  
Cabot Center

**Connect** with our exceptional students and world-class faculty.

**Discover** how university research is influencing society on a global scale.

**Engage** your senses with more than 30 interactive exhibits and activities:

*Learn the steps to a successful business venture from student entrepreneurs*

*Diagnose* mock patients in a mobile simulation suite

*Play* video games in the Game Design Dome

*Compete* with student athletes and coaches in high-energy sports activities

*Journey* with students who are making their mark across the globe

*Dive* into the world of marine science with ocean life exhibits

*Protect* your online privacy in an increasingly public cyber world

Musical performances - Delicious themed foods  
Special staff and faculty giveaway - and much more!

Please bring your Northeastern ID for entrance.  
For additional information about [Empowerfest](#), contact [events@neu.edu](mailto:events@neu.edu) or 617.373.2810.

Follow [@EmpowerNU](#) and [learn more about the Empower campaign](#).

## Meet Your Colleagues

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### **Public policymaker readies the next generation**

*Former Massachusetts State Senator Marian Walsh teaches in Leadership program and inspires first-timers to run for public office*

What is the best use of decades of hard-earned political savvy and policy-making experience? Answer: share it.

That's what Marian Walsh, a faculty member in the Master of Science in Leadership program and long-time elected officeholder is doing. After 11 terms in the Massachusetts state legislature representing West Roxbury, MA, Walsh is now an author, teacher, and an advocate for interested citizens running for public office.

### **Campaign Guide**

Walsh recently published the book, [Run: Your Personal Guide to Winning Public Office](#). Targeted to aspiring candidates, the book offers them this toolkit: "...RUN inspires, equips, and supports you. It describes the help you'll need, where to find it, and how to ask for it. It empowers candidates for public office to have authentic and relevant political conversations. RUN shows how to be the best candidate you can be, how to make a difference - and how to win."

### **Campaign School**

In addition to teaching and writing, Walsh is a faculty member for the [American Campaign School and Leadership Camp](#), which will be held November 15-16 at the John F Kennedy Library and Museum in Boston.

The two-day campaign school promises to be: "...[a] personal non-partisan training program to winning public office, whether you are running for office for the first time, running for reelection, or are simply thinking you might want to run someday in the future. ...the program will empower voters who want candidates for public office to have authentic leadership and relevant political conversations. The program will show you how to be the best candidate one can be - and how to win." Walsh will present "Fundraising '101': Connecting With Voters."

Presented in conjunction with State House News Service, registration for American Campaign School is open until November 1 and scholarships are available.

Walsh's career transformation has earned notice in the Boston Sunday Globe; a column on the op-ed page entitled, "[Running a Farm Team for Politics](#)" appeared on October 20, 2013.

Would you like to get to know your faculty colleagues? The newsletter will help you do that, introducing faculty members from across the wide range of degree programs in the College of Professional Studies. Would you like to recommend a faculty colleague for a story or be the subject of one yourself? Email us at [cpsnews@neu.edu](mailto:cpsnews@neu.edu).

## What Makes a Student Literary Magazine Great?

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Julie Baker, MEd, MFA, lead faculty member in the College of Professional Studies undergraduate English program will be the judge of student literary writing. Baker has been invited by the National Council of Teachers of English to judge submissions in their annual program to recognize Excellence in Student Literary Magazines. The competition seeks to encourage the development and production of literary magazines and promote excellence in writing schoolwide.

Baker is not new to judging literary work, having previously [served as a judge for the writing achievement awards program](#) for the association, and service on the Editorial Board of Directors of *Amoskeag*, a national literary journal. In addition to teaching and mentoring students Baker is the author of three young adult nonfiction books on subjects including [The Bread and Roses Strike of 1912](#) in the mills in Lawrence, MA.

## Additional Strength Added in Academic Advising

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While faculty are well aware of the critical role that academic advising plays in student success, you may not know the newest resources in the Office of Academic and Student Support Services, two new staff members



erving at the associate director level reporting to Siu Ming Luie, Senior Assistant Dean, Academic and Student Affairs.

Welcome, **Autumn Grant**, Associate Director, Undergraduate Academic and Student Affairs, and **Phil Robakiewicz**, Associate Director, Graduate Academic and Student Affairs.

Grant and Robakiewicz are responsible for providing leadership in shaping academic and student support and ensuring quality service to undergraduate and graduate students respectively.

Before joining the College, both Grant and Robakiewicz worked in education. Grant provided group advising to first year students and transfer students at Bridgewater State University, and Robakiewicz delivered professional development to Massachusetts educators in assessment and accountability at the Massachusetts Department of Education.

Grant earned a Master of Arts in Higher Education Administration from Boston College Lynch School of Education, and Robakiewicz earned a Doctor of Philosophy in Zoology from the University of Connecticut and is working toward a Graduate Certificate in Academic Advising from Kansas State University.

## The Constitutional Case for Military Tribunals

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*Military trials end in acquittals more often than those of the civilian variety, according to Brigadier General Mark Martins, the chief prosecutor of military commissions.*

Today's U.S. military tribunals are fair and balanced, according to Brigadier General Mark Martins, the chief prosecutor of military commissions. "These are not the exclusive terror courts that some may have thought about 10 years ago," he explained. "What you have now is an accountable institution that is commensurate with our highest values of justice under the law."

Martins addressed the role of the reformed military commissions and the constant tension between public opinion and national security last Thursday evening in the Raytheon Amphitheater. The event-sponsored by the Doctor of Law and Policy program at Northeastern's College of Professional Studies-drew a score of students as well as members of the military's Judge Advocate

General corps (known as JAG), Green Berets, and staff from the office of Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick.

To learn more, read [The constitutional case for military tribunals](#).

## NU Online Update: Increasing Student Engagement with Blackboard Collaborate

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This month, we'll be focusing on the updated Blackboard Collaborate as well as three additional features: the new Avatar feature, EvalKit, and the Respondus LockDown Browser.

### **Use Blackboard Collaborate to:**

- Conduct class meetings
- Hold virtual office hours
- Create a virtual presentation space for students

### **New Avatar feature**

- Personalize your Blackboard course experience
- Upload an image to represent you within Blackboard

### **EvalKit**

- EvalKit is now available through NU Online Campus tab
- Students will no longer need to log into EvalKit in a separate browser window

### **Respondus LockDown Browser**

- Lock down your browser in the Blackboard test environment
- Students cannot close the test until it is submitted for grading

**Click the image below to read more about each of these features.**

**Update**



Northeastern University  
Online

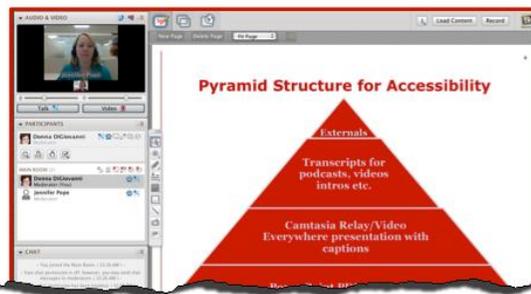
### Strategies for successful teaching using NU Online Blackboard SP11

This is a series of updates that promote successful teaching and learning using NU Online Blackboard. Through regular updates and through our comprehensive [NU Online Instructor Resource Center](#), NU Online presents numerous strategies/approaches to help you and your students to get the most out of the latest features from NU Online Blackboard.

This month, we'll be focusing on the updated Blackboard Collaborate as well as three additional Blackboard features: the new Avatar feature, EvalKit, and the Respondus LockDown Browser.

### Blackboard Collaborate

Blackboard Collaborate is a web conferencing tool that allows students and instructors to hold synchronous discussions, share presentations, and record meetings. Use Blackboard Collaborate to hold a real-time class meeting with students, host virtual "office hours," and offer a space for students to present their own multimedia presentations.



NU Online promotes successful teaching and learning using NU Online Blackboard through our comprehensive [NU Online Instructor Resource Center](#).

[Register for one of our upcoming webinars or classroom trainings](#) taking place this month.

## 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](mailto:cpsnews@neu.edu).

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Northeastern University, College of Professional Studies | 360 Huntington Ave. | Boston | MA | 02115