The 4th Annual New England Tech Alumni Golf Tournament

It’s that time of year again so mark your calendar for Friday, July 26, 2013, and join your fellow NEIT colleagues, sponsors and alumni for a great day of golf at the Swansea Country Club in Swansea, MA. Tee off time is 11:00 a.m. Proceeds from the tournament will benefit the NEIT Scholarship Fund.

This tournament has sold out each year so guarantee your space by visiting www.NEIT.edu/Golf2013. The cost for an individual golfer is $135; the foursome fee is $500. Fees include 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch, dinner, prizes and awards. Try your luck for great raffle prizes and cast your best bid at the silent auction.

Contact Joan Segerson, Director of Development, 401-739-5000 or by email at jssegerson@neit.edu for further information. We hope to see you there!

“15 Pieces of Advice for College Graduates”

The Rhode Island Convention Center was the setting for New England Institute of Technology’s 72nd Commencement Ceremony held on Sunday, May 6, 2013. The inspiring yet witty commencement address, “15 Pieces of Advice for College Graduates”, was delivered by the NBA’s all-time highest scorer, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar. He was also awarded an honorary doctor of humane letters for his numerous contributions to improving the lives of the less fortunate through various organizations. Abdul-Jabbar is also a strong proponent of educating young people in the STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) disciplines through the international organization, FIRST Robotics.

Speaking to an audience of approximately 5,000 comprised of graduates, family members, friends as well as NEIT’s faculty and staff, Abdul-Jabbar shared his insights with attendees. “All your lives people have been telling you that you are the future. Relax, you’re not. That’s way too heavy a burden to have to carry. What you are is the present. Thanks to what you’ve done in the present, all of us here today are more excited and hopeful about the future.” He advised the graduates to have regrets. “Regrets are good. They tell you two important things about yourself. First, regrets tell you that you have taken risks in your life. The second thing that regrets tell you about yourself is what your values are.”

More than 1,100 New England Tech students were awarded associate, bachelor and master’s degrees. This year’s commencement also marked the awarding of Associate in Science degrees to NEIT’s first cohort of Veterinary Technology students. Also, three students (left to right: Robert Plumer, Jacob Blais and Christopher Nelson) from Electric Boat received an Associate in Science degree in Applied Technical Studies through a customized degree program developed by NEIT’s Center for Technology and Industry.

On a humorous note, Abdul-Jabbar advised the students to take better care of their hair as he rubbed his bald head. He also opined to never eat brussel sprouts because they look like eyeballs and taste like elbows and to play more video games. He explained, “You’ve worked hard to get here today and you have a lot more hard work coming up as you pursue new careers. Make sure that you plan one thing to do every day that is just for you.”
A second honorary doctor of humane letters was awarded to business leader and community activist, Mr. John Hazen White, Jr., President of Taco, Inc. in Cranston, RI. (Photo on left). White was honored for his tireless efforts in serving many Rhode Island non-profit organizations, promoting the arts and education in the state, and his dedication to his employees in bettering their lives.

As Abdul-Jabbar reminded the graduates, “NEIT has taught and trained you to go out into the world and become successful at whatever you choose. Knowledge is power and you now have the power to dramatically improve your lives. That’s a terrific goal. Find a way to use your knowledge and skills to make a difference in the lives of others, and it will make a difference in your life.” Great words of advice for everyone!

COLLEGE UPDATE

Changes in Leadership

New England Tech’s Senior Vice President and Provost, Thomas F. Wylie, will be retiring at the end of June, 2013, to pursue higher education consulting opportunities. Since 2004, Tom has made significant contributions to the college some of which included transition to NEASC Accreditation at the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (CIHE) along with the creation of three, three-year long range plans resulting in many positive changes towards the growth of NEIT. During his tenure, Tom has been at the forefront in the development of new Associate in Science degree programs in Nursing, Veterinary Care, and Respiratory Care as well as the introduction of NEIT’s first-ever Master of Science degree programs in Occupational Therapy and Information Technology.

Tom’s vision and commitment to the faculty and students at NEIT will be truly missed. We wish him much luck and happiness in his future endeavors.

Doug Sherman, NEIT’s former Associate Provost and Special Assistant to the President, will now serve as the college’s new Senior Vice President and Provost succeeding Tom Wylie. Doug came to NEIT in the 1990’s serving as an adjunct electronics instructor while working in industry. He later joined NEIT in 2008 working in the Office of Teaching and Learning, assisting President Richard I. Gouse with special projects, and overseeing the design and major renovation of the East Greenwich campus. Doug’s contributions to the college have been many as he served on the Provost’s Council, the Executive Committee, and the Student Success Committee.

Doug’s strong leadership and insight are sure to bring continued growth to NEIT for many years to come. The college community wishes Doug the best of luck in his new position.
Civil War Encampment at NEIT

In collaboration with the East Greenwich Free Library, New England Tech will host a “Living History Encampment”, along with a series of films and lectures, in commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War. This unique and informative program was made available by a $500 grant awarded by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, in conjunction with the Library of America and the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History’s official Civil War website may be found at www.gilderlehrman.org/civilwar150.

On Saturday, June 15, 2013, the men and women of Battery B 1st Regiment Rhode Island Light Artillery, a group of Civil War re-enactors, will be on the grounds of the East Greenwich campus to discuss and demonstrate the life of Union soldiers and supporters during America's Civil War. This regiment was re-activated on May 8, 1986, by former RI Governor Edward DiPrete.

The event is free and opens to the public from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (rain or shine) and will be set up on the grounds of NEIT’s East Greenwich campus. Visitors will have the opportunity to see an authentic Civil War battlefield encampment featuring soldiers, tents, artillery and cannons from Battery B. Other special events include cannon firings scheduled at 11:00am and 1:00pm. Additional information pertaining to Battery B may be found at http://www.batterybri.org/programs.html.

In addition to the encampment, New England Tech has several resources available to staff, faculty and students, as well as the residents of East Greenwich. Stop by NEIT’s library to see the large poster exhibit depicting the many facets of the Civil War each accompanied by audio files provided by the grantor, The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. Also on display is New England Tech’s collection of Civil War books which may be checked out of the library. There is an informational handout listing online digital libraries of collected materials including photographic collection, prints and documents. Visit the library’s website at http://library.neit.edu.

Leading up to the encampment, the East Greenwich Free Library is offering a series of movies and lectures to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War. Visitors should report to the Silverman Community Room at the library which is located at 82 Peirce St., East Greenwich, RI. These programs are free and open to the public. Registration is not required but seating is limited. Program details may be found on the library’s website at www.eastgreenwichlibrary.org The library also has additional films and books showcasing the history of the Civil War.

The East Greenwich Free Library’s schedule of events includes:

**Living History Program – The Gettysburg Gun**
**Wednesday, June 12, 2013 from 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm**

The presentation will feature a short award-winning documentary with commentary and a question and answer session with Captain Phil DiMaria of Battery B.

**Academy Award winning film, “Glory”**
**Thursday, June 13, 2013, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm**

**Oscar winning film, “Lincoln”**
**Friday, June 14, 2013, 1:00 pm - 4:00pm**
Special thanks to Susan Warthman, MLIS, AHIP, Director of the Library & Information Commons at NEIT, and her staff, as well as Diane Hogan, Head of Reference and Electronic Services, East Greenwich Free Library, for their efforts in offering this informative and interactive Civil War presentation to the New England Tech and East Greenwich communities. Details of these events may also be found at http://rhodeislandcivilwar150.org/.

STUDENT AWARDS

The Best of New England Tech!

Best of Tech Award recipients were honored at the 16th annual Best of Tech ceremony held April 26, 2013, at the East Greenwich campus. Each year New England Tech’s Office of Teaching and Learning recognizes exceptional students for their academic and personal achievements. Students are nominated by the department chair of their technology program of study. Best of Tech nominees must be eligible to participate in the New England Tech’s annual commencement ceremony as well as maintain outstanding academic achievement and GPA. These students must also participate in extracurricular activities, volunteer in the community and serve as role models to past, present and future NEIT students.

We salute the following students:

David A. Cruz  Advanced Automotive, AS
Rachel C. Jackson  Architectural Building Engineering, BS
Victor M. Santiago  Architectural Building Engineering, AS
Jonathan J. Calgiore  Automotive Collision Repair, AS
Christopher T. Keefe  Automotive/High Performance, AS
Stephen G. Morrison  Building Construction, AS
Tecie E. Smith  Business Management, BS
Carole A. Sherman  Business Management, AS
Scott M. Masterson  Criminal Justice, BS
Hayle C. Silva  Criminal Justice, AS
Michelle J. Pietrzyk  Clinical Medical Assistant, AS
Tristan M. Case  Digital Recording Arts, BS
Corey M. Clark  Electronics Engineering, BS
Daniel D. Sopel  Game Development and Simulation Programming, BS
Jeanna C. Greene  Graphics, Multimedia and Web Design (Graphic), AS
Alexis D. Quinones  Graphics, Multimedia and Web Design (Multimedia), AS
Deborah A. Burbank  Health Care Management, BS
Lauren Tinkle  Interior Design, BS
Toby Zheng  Information Technology (Network Engineering), BS
Justin R. Marvill  Information Technology (Network Engineering), AS
Kathleen Bennett  Information Technology (Software Engineering), BS
Rafael Arroyo  Information Technology (Software Engineering), AS
Joshua R. Brock  Marine Technology, AS
Derek E. Jervis  Mechanical Engineering, BS
Brian T. Young  Mechanical Engineering, AS
Matthew P. Kiely  Nursing, AS
Mark A. Hallett  Occupational Therapy Assistant, AS
Sarah K. Gray  Plumbing, Heating, and Gas, AS
David R. Pignone  Refrigeration, Air Conditioning, and Heating, AS
In addition to the Best of Tech Award, five students were presented with the prestigious Tech Scholar Award. These outstanding recipients were chosen by a panel of faculty and administrative staff who evaluate each of the award applications. Congratulations to all.

Pictured from left: Thomas F. Wylie, Senior Vice President and Provost, Sarah K. Gray, Michelle J. Pietrzyk, Hayle C. Silva, and Deborah A. Burbank. (Not pictured: Lauren N. Tankle.)

Faculty Awards for Excellence in Design

On March 13, 2013, the Architectural Building Engineering (ABT) Technology department held the Faculty Awards for Excellence in Design for the Fall Quarter 2012.

The award is in recognition of students who have excelled in design studio work for that quarter. At the end of each quarter, the faculty nominates students whose work demonstrates superior creativity, imagination, sensitivity and technical competency.

The nominees for the Fall Quarter were Rita Ebanks--ABT Senior High Rise, and Jake Whittaker--ABT Senior High Rise. The winner of the Faculty Award for Excellence in Design was Jake Whittaker. His project was the “Ten23 High Rise Tower” located in Chelsea, New York City.

SkillsUSA Winners Off to Missouri

Good luck to the five NEIT SkillsUSA first place winners and Amanda Metzger, New England Tech’s Special Events Coordinator, who will be traveling to Kansas City, Missouri, for the national competition scheduled for June 23-29, 2013. SkillsUSA is national organization serving more than 264,500 high school and college students and professional members enrolled in training programs in technical, skilled, and service occupations, including health occupations. During the annual national level SkillsUSA Championships, more than 4,500 students will compete in 77 occupational and leadership skill areas.

NEIT has a postsecondary Chapter of SkillsUSA and on March 27, 2013, the Rhode Island SkillsUSA chapter held its annual awards ceremony at Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Providence. The five gold medalists competing at the national competition are: Architectural Drafting: Rachael Calder; Crime Scene Investigation – 3 person team: Sara Vincent, Alicia Caruso, Tamena Amini; and Automotive Service Technology: Robert Perillo.
Surgical Technology Reaches for the Stars

Congratulations to Lisa Reed, CST, RN, MS, CNOR, CPEHR, Professor and Department Chair for Health Care Management, Surgical Technology, and Technical Sciences, along with faculty members of the Surgical Technology program for once again achieving the Galaxy Award from the Association of Surgical Technologists. This award recognizes New England Tech for its commitment to the education and professional development of those students dedicated to the surgical technology profession.

PROGRAM NEWS

DRA Students Put Their Skills to Work

On Friday, May 2, 2013, Quarter 11 Digital Recording Arts (DRA) students in the Remote Production class produced a video of the Providence Public Schools City Wide Concert performance. The concert was the culmination of the hard work from the Providence Public Schools music students in grades 4 to 12.

A total of 16 bands performed on four different stages during the two-hour concert. Under the direction of DRA Technology Associate Professor, Mike Davis, the 12 person crew used five cameras with a multi-camera switcher and monitored the audio for the entire concert. “The team was looking forward to the opportunity to record a live concert. Parents of students expressed how many of the students feel their accomplishments get overlooked,” said DRA student and executive producer of the project, Mike Salois. “We wanted to come in and challenge ourselves as well as produce a quality product for them.”

Thanks to John DeTora, Michael Salois, and Ryan Gavin for a job well done!

NEIT Makes National TV

Cardi’s Furniture and Channel 12’s “The Rhode Show” host a battle of the bands competition each year called the Big Break contest. This year’s winning band, Fly Kite Canvas, received a 60 second commercial (music video) that aired on the American Idol finale on May 16, 2013. Cardi’s produced the commercial and purchased the air time.

For the past several years, the video has been shot in various locations, but this year New England Tech was approached to produce the video in our recording studio at the East Greenwich campus. Check out the link below to see the behind the scenes production at http://www.wpri.com/dpp/rhode_show/homelife/making-the-video-fly-kite-canvas. You may also visit https://vimeo.com/66395058 to view the final product. Special thanks to Tom Strolla, Professor/Department Chair, Video and Audio Production/Digital Recording Arts, for coordinating this project giving New England Tech valuable TV exposure!
The Quadricycle Club on the Move

Members of NEIT’s Quadricycle Club visited the Palmer Spring Company in Providence on Tuesday, May 7, 2013. Palmer Spring will be manufacturing the leaf springs for the quadricycle that the club’s members are building. Owner, Douglas Palmer, gave the students a tour of the facility. Ironically, Mr. Palmer has a son who is a New England Tech graduate from the Mechanical Engineering Technology program.

NEIT instructor and Quadricycle Club Advisor, Chris Vasconcelos is also working with the social media manager at The Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan, to provide a guest post for its blog promoting the club’s work. Chris was invited to submit a posting as the museum commemorates what would have been Henry Ford’s 150th birthday this summer. Great work Chris and members of the Quadricycle Club!

A Fond Farewell

Congratulations to Anthony Castellone on his retirement from New England Tech as an adjunct faculty member. He began his service to the college in 1979 in the Heating Technology program. Tony was also a member of the Heating Technical Advisory Committee for over 20 years and was the former owner of Mount Pleasant Oil Company. He also taught classes at the New England Fuel Institute/Oil Heat Institute. The college community wishes to thank Tony for his many years of dedication to NEIT students and faculty.

Front row: Julie Gill, Director of OHI, Bob Plante, Anthony Castellone, Ron Como,
Back row: Cheryl Booker, Steve Kitchin, Anthony DiCicco and Fred Santaniello.

UPCOMING TECH NITES
June 4, 2013
August 6, 2013
November 5, 2013