NETECH techtalk

New England Tech to Launch a Shipbuilding/Marine, Advanced Manufacturing Institute

The Rhode Island Foundation Provides $50,000 in Support

Through a $2.5 million grant awarded by the US Department of Labor, NEIT is in the final stages of development of a new Shipbuilding/Marine, Advanced Manufacturing Institute (SAMI) to serve 400 unemployed individuals over the three-year life of the grant. In addition, the Rhode Island Foundation, through its "Make It Happen RI" initiative of which NEIT is a partner, also donated $50,000 to New England Tech to assist in marketing the SAMI program.

NEIT has partnered with General Dynamics/Electric Boat Division, Senesco Marine, the Rhode Island Marine Trades Association, the RI Manufacturers Association and other employers in the state in the development of SAMI. This coordination will assist in the recruitment, screening, and training of individuals for these industries.

The overall objective of SAMI is to offer eligible individuals the opportunity to enter SAMI, receive job information and educational services, and participate in career-based, hands-on laboratory experiences. Under the guidance of SAMI's industry-experienced staff, these individuals will be referred to pre-employment training programs, on-the-job training positions, or job opportunities in these industries. For those individuals who wish to further their education down the road, New England Tech will offer Associate in Science and Bachelor of Science degree programs in related fields.

SAMI will be primarily located in the Gouse Building at our Post Road campus. The college will reach out to a variety of agencies and venues that serve the unemployed, such as the RI Department of Labor and Training, the Governor's Workforce Board, the Workforce Partnership of Greater RI, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston, netWORKri, and community based and veterans' organizations.

For further information about SAMI, please contact Fred Santaniello at ext. 3382 or fsantaniello@neit.edu.

NEIT's Game Design Program Ranks On Top

New England Tech made the list of "Top Undergraduate Schools to Study Video Game Design for 2013" by The Princeton Review, one of America's best-known education services companies. The list includes the top 15 undergraduate schools (in rank order) in the U.S. and Canada to study video game design for 2013, and 15 undergraduate schools as honorable mentions. The Princeton Review also reported a companion list of the top 15 graduate schools to study video game design for 2013 in rank order and five as honorable mentions. The report is located at www.princetonreview.com/game-design. It includes profiles of the schools with application information and links to the school sites.

The Princeton Review chose the schools based on a survey it conducted in the 2012-2013 academic year of 150 programs at institutions offering video game design coursework and/or degrees in the United States and Canada. The company's 50-question survey asked schools to report on a range of topics. The criteria used by The Princeton Review included: the school curriculum, faculty, facilities, and infrastructure, plus career services, student scholarships, and financial aid.

Congratulations to the Video Game Design faculty for a job well done!

NEIT Receives Training Grant

On March 21, 2013, Governor Lincoln D. Chafee announced that the Governor's Workforce Board (GWB) RI awarded $1.97 million dollars in Innovative Partnership grants, the purpose of which is to link employers and educational providers to offer occupational skills training, experiential learning, and work-readiness skills leading to career opportunities for students, out-of-school youth, as well as unemployed or underemployed adults.

In total, ten grants, ranging in size from $130,000 to $250,000, were awarded to three community-based organizations, three employers, three GWB industry partners and one educational institution—New England Institute of Technology! The other organizations include Amos House, Connecting for Children and Families, Open Doors, Rhode Island Hospital, RI Marine Trades Association, St. Antoine's Residence, Stepping Up, Tech Collective, and the J. Arthur Trudeau Memorial Center.

New England Tech was awarded $250,000 which will be used for training at the new Shipbuilding/Marine, Advanced Manufacturing Institute (SAMI) to provide entry-level occupational skills to 50 unemployed individuals. Our employer partners include General Dynamics/Electric Boat, Guill Tool and Engineering, Jade Engineered Plastics, Senesco Marine, and Swissline Precision Manufacturing.

The Governor's Workforce Board is the primary policy-making board for Rhode Island workforce development. Since its inception in 2005, the GWB has invested more than $65 million in programs for the purpose of improving the skill base of the current workforce and to anticipate the future needs of growing and emerging industries.

TechArts is Coming Soon

The artwork has been submitted by NEIT artists and will soon be displayed in the Library for all to enjoy at the 2013 TechArts exhibit. Submissions include all art forms such as, oils, watercolors, pencil, pen and ink, theater costumes, puppets, ceramics, sculpture, manipulated images, acrylics, furniture, and artistic instruments. All art will be showcased from April 1 - June 8, 2013. Admission is free and open to the public as well as to our college community.

A reception for faculty, staff, students, family, and friends will be held on Wednesday, April 10, 2013, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm in the Library. Stop by and enjoy the talents of our New England Tech artists while enjoying refreshments and conversation with fellow colleagues.

TechArts was first introduced in 1995 as an art installation and re-surfaced nine years later in 2004. Let's keep this tradition alive as an annual event to ensure that art will have a permanent place at New England Tech.

STAFF UPDATE

Joan T. Segerson
Director of Development

Joan T. Segerson has joined New England Tech as the college's Director of Development. Joan brings a wealth of philanthropy experience to NEIT having been employed with such well known organizations as VNA of Care New England, Cranston ARC, St. Mary's Home for Children, Roger Williams Medical Center, AIDS Project RI, and the Providence Public Library.

Joan's responsibilities will include establishing and overseeing a development program to include donations from corporations, individuals, and funding agencies. Joan will further develop New England Tech's relationships with alumni, business partners, funding agencies, and the community. She will also oversee the college's annual alumni golf tournament as well as other existing development activities.

Joan holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Bryant College and a Master's degree in Business Administration from Johnson & Wales University. NEIT is proud to have Joan join our college community. She may be reached at ext. 3704 or by email at jsegerson@neit.edu.

Adrienne Phelps-Coco
Senior Instructional Designer

Adrienne comes to NEIT with a rich background in educational technology, teaching and writing. In her career as a freelance writer and editor, her work includes a wide variety of scholarly periodicals and publications. Most recently, she was the editor of *Each Moment a Mountain*, a public history project dedicated to promoting art and thought inspired by freely available digital archives.

As a teaching assistant at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Adrienne designed course materials, worked with Blackboard, and prepared lectures incorporating multimedia materials. As an adjunct instructor at Grand Rapids Community College, she designed instructional materials, and used technology to promote critical thinking and collaborative learning.

Adrienne is enthusiastic about working with faculty to develop web-based multimedia materials that will engage students and assist them in developing critical thinking and analytical skills. She is well-versed in technologies such as social media, e-learning, wikis, discussion boards, bulletin boards, and group blogging. In addition, she is interested in using the power of gaming and mobile learning to deliver content to students.

She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Vassar College, a Master of Arts degree in History from the University of Illinois at Chicago, and a certificate in E-Learning Instructional Design form University of California at Irvine. She is currently completing a Ph.D. in History at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Adrienne's office is in the Faculty Resource Center located in the Library and her extension is 3479.

Robert Palumbo
SAMI Project Coordinator

Robert Palumbo has joined New England Tech as Project Coordinator for the new Shipbuilding/Marine, Advanced Manufacturing Institute (SAMI) which is scheduled to open this summer in the Gouse Building at the Post Road campus. Prior to joining NEIT, Bob has held various positions with the RI Division of Job Development and Training as well as the RI Department of Labor and Training. Bob will be responsible for managing the $2.5 million grant awarded to New England Tech by the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) to establish SAMI. He will oversee the grant's operational activities to ensure they comply with USDOL policy.

Bob has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Rhode Island. Bob's office will be temporarily located in CT 242. He may be reached at ext. 3522 or rpalumbo@neit.edu.

Amanda Handfield
SAMI Administrative Assistant

Amanda will coordinate the many administrative functions pertaining to SAMI. She is temporarily located in the Career Services office. Amanda may be reached at ext. 3660 or by email at ahandfield@neit.edu.

STUDENT EVENTS

Phi Theta Kappa Students Are Honored

The Eighth Annual Phi Theta Kappa Ceremony was held on February 27, 2013, when 65 students were inducted into this international honor society. These outstanding students were recognized for meeting the honor society criteria which includes academic, leadership, service and fellowship achievements. Members of Phi Theta Kappa gain access to scholarships as well as educational and career resources through the society.

The Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society was established in 1918 and is the oldest, largest, and most respected honor society recognizing associate level students with more than 1.6 million members and 1,200 chapters located in the U.S., Canada and Germany. In order to be members of the New England Tech Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (known as Beta Xi Phi), students must complete at least 24 quarter hours of coursework leading to an Associate degree and maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.80 out of a possible 4.0 GPA.

A complete list of Phi Theta Kappa inductees may be found at neit.edu/blog. Congratulations to all for earning this well-deserved recognition.

New England Tech Hosts Ocean State Automotive Contest

The Ocean State Automotive Contest offers high school seniors the opportunity to demonstrate their technical abilities in the automotive field. This annual event, held on

February 8, 2013, was once again hosted by New England Institute of Technology in cooperation with the RI Automobile Dealers Association through the efforts of NEIT's Automotive Technology Assistant Department Chair, Virgilio Tavares.

The competition involves different work stations where students must complete certain tasks or be able to troubleshoot technical "bugs" that have been put into the vehicles. These work stations include braking systems, steering and suspension systems, electrical and electronics systems, heating and air conditioning, engine repair, parts identification, and engine performance.

Ocean State – 1st Place Winners
Virgilio Tavares, Assistant Department Chair of Transportation Technologies, Stephen Thomas, Michael Simonelli, Richard Picard, Automotive Teacher at Chariho Career and Tech, Steve Reynolds from Snap-on Tools.

Ocean State – 2nd Place Winners
Virgilio Tavares, Cody Albernaz, Ben Sanford, Daniel Pontes, Automotive Teacher at Newport Career and Tech, Steve Reynolds

Teams of two high school seniors from various Rhode Island high school and career and tech centers had 15 minutes to complete each station. The winning team received Snap-On tools and scholarships from New England Tech. The first place winners were awarded a one year tuition scholarship, second place winners received a $1,500 tuition scholarship, and the third place winners

were awarded a $1,000 tuition scholarship. The winning teams will represent Rhode Island at the National Automotive Dealers Competition in New York on April 1-3, 2013.
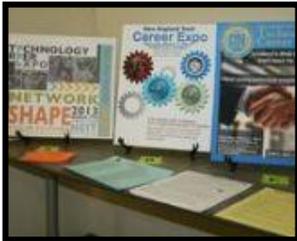

Ocean State – 3rd Place Winners
Virgilio Tavares, Brian Simono, Phil Jacques, Nicholas Rego, Steve Reynolds

Career Expos Are a Hit

The Career Services office recently hosted 67 companies for the annual Technology Career Expo on Thursday, March 7, at the East Greenwich Campus. Despite the snowy morning, students and alumni came to network and speak with on-site recruiters and hiring managers. A variety of technologies were represented with opportunities ranging from internships to part-time and full-time jobs. National Lumber and Schneider Electric were able to select a few potential candidates and conduct interviews that very day. Feedback from many of the participating companies has been positive with some calling students and grads for interviews in the weeks following the expo.

To assist in promoting the Technology Career Expo, Graphic, Multimedia and Web Design Technology students enrolled in Introduction to Typography were asked to design a poster. The judges had a very challenging time determining the winners with so many creative submissions. The winners were:

1st: Christelle Tomasini	2nd: Stephanie D'Angelo
3rd: Taylor Blais	Honorable Mention: Chad Gourd

On February 13, 2013, 16 companies attended the Transportation Technology Fair at the Access Road Campus. Students and graduates from Automotive and Marine technologies connected with companies such as Tradesmen International, Pep Boys, Hinckley Yacht Services, and Balise Auto Sales. Inskip's Warwick Automall conducted general interviews both during and after the fair. A coffee hour and resume review workshops held at the Access Road Campus prior to the event helped prepare students with their resume and basic interviewing skills.

NCIS VISITS NEIT

 On March 11, 2013, the Criminal Justice Technology Club hosted its winter quarter speaker series. Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) Special Agent Nathan O'Connor was on hand to speak to a pack-filled room of criminal justice students about the role of the NCIS agent and the mission of the agency. The purpose of NCIS is to investigate and defeat criminal, terrorist, and foreign intelligence threats to the United States Navy and Marine Corps—ashore, afloat, and in cyberspace. Special Agent O'Connor is a member of the Northeast Field Office and works out of New London, CT. He presented a DVD depicting the responsibilities of NCIS and the types of crimes an agent would investigate. Mr. O'Connor answered a variety of questions from the students and encouraged them to pursue the many opportunities a criminal justice career can offer.

One Criminal Justice student, **Jeff Willis**, knows what working for NCIS is all about after completing an internship program in the fall of 2012. Jeff also presented his experience while based in Norfolk, Virginia, for ten weeks. There Jeff worked 40 hours per week alongside NCIS special agents while keeping up with his courses, which was no easy task. Jeff explained to his fellow students how well prepared he felt on the job because of the classes offered at NEIT. To sum it all up Jeff stated, "I loved the workweek more than the weekends."

Jeff Willis

Cultural Diversity Students Help Others

The field experiences of Criminal Justice Technology students played an important role during the fall quarter of 2012 as part of their Cultural Diversity class. Students experienced real-life work scenarios at a wide range of non-profit organizations.

Sara Vincent did a field placement at the International House of Rhode Island in Providence, which offers services and social activities for international students, many of whom are attending Brown University. Here she assisted with special holiday events and also assisted a veterinarian from Brazil with speaking, reading and writing English while the doctor was doing research at Brown.

Alicia Caruso completed her field work at Tides Family Services in Providence and Pawtucket. Juveniles are sent here when they are released from the training school. Tides mission statement is: "We never give up on the kid no matter what the situation is". Alicia worked out in the community with Tides case workers tracking juveniles to ensure they are in school as well as working with their families. Tides provides many community projects and outings for these juveniles. Alicia continued her externship this past quarter to continue her good work.

Tara Integlia was assigned to the International Institute of Rhode Island in Providence. She assisted refugees in learning English through various methods. Tara also worked in the Job Readiness class teaching individuals how to answer interview questions, build a resume, and search for job postings on the internet. Her plan was to return this past quarter to continue her work.

Criminal Justice Department Chair and Assistant Professor Ray Angell, along with Assistant Professor Robin Winslow, are extremely proud of their students and encourage all of them to take advantage of the many externship and field placement programs available to build their base of experience as well as their resume.

Gaming Students Collaborate with the U.S. Air Force

Through a partnership between the Independent Game Developers of RI (IGDA) and the United States Air Force (USAF), a presentation was held on February 26, 2013, at the East Greenwich campus, to discuss the steps needed to produce a transitional game project for the Air Force. New England Tech game development students, some acting as independent developers and others as co-op interns, will be working alongside more experienced independent game developers from the IGDA. The best description of the project team is a "distributed agile development team". The result of this work will be a variety of software prototypes that the USAF will use to test transitional games as a training platform for US Airmen worldwide.

Three USAF personnel, Major Michael Bliss, Sargent Chris Kocinski, and Sargent Kyle Stackpole were on-hand to work with the IGDA workshop team.   Future meetings are scheduled given the large role our students are playing in this project. Three Quarter 11 students from NEIT's Game Development and Simulation Programming Technology have registered to complete a co-op on this project for the next two quarters.

Major Michael Bliss (standing); Sargent Kyle Stackpole (seated center); and Assistant Professor David Johnson (right)

Special thanks to Assistant Professor David Johnson, Game Development and Simulation Programming Technology, for his efforts in coordinating this all-important program.

NEIT Hosts Middle School Round Table

On March 14, 2013, approximately 50 middle school educators, along with five representatives from various organizations, attended the R.I. Middle School Association Round Table event.   The representatives included: Mary Sullivan, RI STEM Director at Rhode Island College; Joe Devine, Bridge

Technical Solutions; Mike Vidal, Nordson EFD LLC; Joanne Johnson, The Tech Collective; and Tim Hebert, Atrion Networking. "The goal of the meeting was to get educators and students thinking beyond high school and jumpstart the goal setting of students before they enter high school," stated Bill Fasano, Executive Director, Rhode Island Middle Level Educators.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

NEASC RE-ACCREDITATION VISIT
April 14-17, 2013

16th ANNUAL BEST OFTECH AWARDS CEREMONY
Friday, April 26, 2013, 2:00 pm
MPT, East Greenwich Campus

COMMENCEMENT 2013
Sunday, May 5, 2013, 11:00 am
RI Convention Center

UPCOMING TECH NITES
April 2, 2013
June 4, 2013
August 6, 2013
November 5, 2013