Vince Wilfork Scores Big at Commencement

This year’s Commencement ceremony held on May 3, 2015, at the Rhode Island Convention Center was nothing short of a great success!

Marking New England Tech’s 75th Anniversary with his inspiring, sincere, and witty commencement address was two-time Super Bowl great, Vince Wilfork. He wore number 75 on his New England Patriots jersey for the past 11 seasons. Now playing for the Houston Texans, Wilfork could easily relate to the challenges facing the new graduates.

“We’re all in the same boat,” said Wilfork. “We are starting a new chapter in our lives together. What are we going to do about it? Are we going to make it the best chapter in our life? Grab the bull by the horns and just ride on to this and let’s make these the best chapters we can.” Wilfork told the graduates to “be deaf” to the doubters they will encounter throughout their lives because then they will begin to doubt themselves. He stated, “You can learn something every day—trust me.”

Vince Wilfork, and his wife Bianca, promote causes near and dear to them. They raised $1.5 million to provide education, care, research and advocacy for people afflicted with diabetes, the disease which took his father’s life when Wilfork was just 19 years old. He has generously donated to organizations that assist disadvantaged children and families and has also raised money to benefit victims of the Boston Marathon bombings.

In recognition of his efforts to improve the lives of others, Vince Wilfork received an honorary doctorate of humane letters degree.
Rhode Island Governor Philip Noel was also honored for his years of service to the people of Rhode Island serving as a Warwick City Councilman for three years, as Mayor of Warwick for three terms, and as Governor of Rhode Island for two terms. The economic development plans and policies he implemented continue to have a positive impact in the state. He developed and introduced legislation that created the Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation, the Rhode Island Port Authority, as well as the Department of Economic Development. Governor Noel brought Electric Boat to Quonset Point. After 16 years of public service, Noel returned to his law practice. Today, he continues to be a successful businessman alongside his son.

Governor Noel was inducted into the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame and the Kent County Courthouse was renamed in his honor. He was presented with an honorary doctorate of humane letters degree in recognition of his achievements.

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**Exciting New Programs at NEIT**

New England Tech will offer two new Associate in Science degree programs in Welding Engineering Technology and Advanced Manufacturing Technology beginning October, 2015. These two new programs address the current employment needs of local industries.

The Welding Engineering Technology program emphasizes the development of real-world, hands-on welding skills. Students will receive intensive hands-on training in oxy-acetylene and air carbon arc cutting, brazing, and several welding processes. Courses in industrial OSHA safety procedures and policy, metallurgy, structural design, blueprint reading, computer-aided design and drafting (CADD), nondestructive testing, and precision measurement are also incorporated into the curriculum. Students also prepare for future certifications through simulated welder qualification tests.

Graduates of the Welding Engineering Technology program are prepared for several types of industry positions including welding engineering technician, production welder, industrial engineering technician, quality control engineering technician, CADD designer, CADD technician, welding industry salesperson, and materials testing technician.

Students enrolled in the Advanced Manufacturing Technology program will focus on the design of products that use innovative manufacturing technologies. The curriculum includes new ways to manufacture existing products by learning design principles, sketching, problem solving, and materials and manufacturing processes and machines. Students gain a wide background of knowledge in such areas as electricity and electronics, metrology and the precision measurements of products, manufacturing processes, machining, tool design, welding and CADD.
Advanced Manufacturing Technology graduates are prepared for several types of design and technologist positions such as manufacturing engineering technologist, industrial engineering technician, quality control engineering technician, research and development machinist, or manufacturing production technician.

Additional information on any of these programs may be obtained through the Admissions office.

**Hit the Links for NEIT Students**

Mark your calendar for Monday, July 13, 2015, when the 6th annual New England Tech Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held at the Alpine Country Club in Cranston. For the third consecutive year, Terry Regan, President of Regan Heating and Air Conditioning, and 1984 NEIT grad Vincent Rossi, President of Rossi Electric, will serve as Honorary Co-Chairs for this year’s tournament. More than $83,000 was raised at the 2014 tournament to benefit NEIT’s Scholarship Fund.

The financial success of any fundraising event depends greatly on the generosity of sponsors. The 2015 Golf Committee is proud to announce this year’s sponsors to date. Platinum Sponsors: Regan Heating and Air Conditioning and DiFazio Site Corporation; Titanium Sponsor: Rossi Electric; Silver Sponsors: Chartwells, TD Bank, and DiSanto Priest & Co.; and Bronze Sponsors: Ruggieri Brothers, Inc., Synet, Inc., RI Security, Shawmut Metal Products, and Roney & Labinger, LLP.

“The golf tournament is a great way to connect with co-workers, alumni, sponsors, vendors and friends of the college while raising scholarship money for our students,” stated Joan Segerson, NEIT’s Director of Development and Alumni Relations. “Last year’s tournament was a great success on every level, and the 2015 Golf Committee is anxious to keep the momentum going.”

If you are interested in playing in the tournament or donating a tee sign, raffle item or auction prize, email Joan Segerson at jesegerson@neit.edu or call ext. 3704. For more tournament information, visit [www.neit.edu/About-Us/Alumni-Association/Alumni-Golf-Tournament](http://www.neit.edu/About-Us/Alumni-Association/Alumni-Golf-Tournament).
Best of Tech 2015

Congratulations to NEIT’s outstanding 2015 Best of Tech award recipients as they were honored at the 18th Annual Best of Tech ceremony held on April 24th at the college’s East Greenwich campus. NEIT’s Office of Teaching and Learning recognizes students from each technology program for their academic and personal achievements. Criteria include eligibility to graduate in May, 2015, outstanding academic achievements, participation in extracurricular activities, volunteerism, overcoming obstacles, and serving as a positive role model.

Best of Tech award recipients may also apply for one of five prestigious Tech Scholar awards. These recipients are selected by a panel of New England Tech’s administrative staff and faculty who must review and evaluate each application.

### 2015 Best of Tech Award Recipients

**Associate Degrees**

Peter W. Amylon  
Anthony J. Badessa  
Dylan R. Beck  
Sarah L. Boettner  
Raymond L. Brigham  
J.J. Connolly  
Laurel R. Cost  
Jason B. Dargie  
Abigail M. DaSilva  
Timothy E. Enos  
Idilia M. Gomes  
Beau J. Guidry  
Evan A. Hickey  
Tanja A. Higson  
Robert E. Icaza  
Glenn D. Josephides  
Alexander T. Kinn  

Nicholas J. Mancini  
Scott P. May  
Jason C. Moroney  
James R. Paiva  
Dustin W. Pearce  
Anthony B. Pellecione  
Heather L. Pion  
Doug R. Roth  
Tyler J. Teixeira  
Ryan X. Wells  
Mark T. Wieland  

Kenneth L. Johnson  
Jack Kayrouz  
Zick Adam Konte  
Jessica L. Lundquist  
Rory L. Manier  
Ryan P. O’Connell  
Michael A. Paulhus  
Stephen M. Petrarca  
Kelly R. Slater  
Rita A. Smith  
Darrell L. Wengler

**Bachelor’s Degrees**

Michael J. Amaral  
Jessica R. Brightman  
Courtney H. Christiansen  
Laura A. Crowley

**Master’s Degrees**

Ashley L. Goncalves  
Cuong D. Nguyen

Congratulations to the 2015 Tech Scholars pictured with Doug Sherman, NEIT’s Senior Vice President and Provost, (from left): Sarah Boettner, Heather Pion, Idilia Gomes, Laura Crowley and Ryan O’Connell.
In Memoriam

With great sadness, the New England Tech community mourns the loss of Pam Wilkinson who passed away unexpectedly on April 4, 2015. Pam worked as the Administrative Assistant in the Office of Teaching and Learning for seven years. She was a dedicated employee who was always ready to lend a hand to her colleagues and students. The college community extends its deepest sympathy to Pam’s daughter, Katherine, as well as her entire family. Pam’s smiling face and engaging personality will truly be missed.

PBN Recognizes NEIT

New England Tech was recognized by Providence Business News (PBN) with its Collaboration in Manufacturing Award for the development and implementation of the Shipbuilding/Advanced Manufacturing Institute (SAMI) located at the Post Road campus. In response to Rhode Island’s labor market needs for skilled workers in these industries, SAMI’s goal is to identify and train Rhode Island’s unemployed for high paying jobs as welders and machinists and to serve as a link for these new workers and local employers. Accepting the award at PBN’s recognition dinner held at Bryant University this past April was Steve Kitchin, NEIT’s Vice President for Corporate Education and Training. Congratulations to the dedicated staff of the SAMI program for this well-deserved recognition.

From left: PBN Publisher, Roger Bergenheim; NEIT’s Steve Kitchin; Facilities Manager for Electric Boat at Quonset Point, Sean Davies; and Director of Polaris MEP and event co-sponsor, Christian Cowan.
New Health Sciences Tutors at NEIT

In addition to the walk-in Math/Science tutoring services available in New England Tech’s Academic Skills Center (ASC), several additional tutors now stand ready to assist students in the Nursing, Respiratory Care and Science/Occupational Therapy programs. These services are offered by appointment and/or walk-in with the following experienced tutors.

Jessica McMahon, Nursing. Jessica graduated from NEIT’s Nursing Program in 2014 and is currently a full-time Registered Nurse on the Oncology Unit at Roger Williams Medical Center. Jessica received the "Best of Tech" award for the Nursing Program in 2014, is a member of the Alpha Theta Kappa Honor Society, and will receive her Bachelor’s degree in July, 2015.

Mary Bohannon, Nursing. Mary graduated from NEIT’s Nursing Program in 2014 and is currently a Registered Nurse at Riverview Healthcare. Mary is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and received her Bachelor’s Degree in Health Science from Keene College in 2009.

Peter Butler, Science/Occupational Therapy. Peter graduated from NEIT’s Occupational Therapy Assistant program in 2013 and is currently enrolled in the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy program, where he is a member in good standing of the Alpha Chi Honor Society. Peter will graduate from the MSOT program at NEIT in May, 2016.

Tyler Teixeira, Respiratory Care. Tyler graduated from NEIT’s Respiratory Care Program in September, 2014, and is currently working as a registered Respiratory Therapist at Lawrence & Memorial Hospital in New London, CT. Tyler received the "Best of Tech" award for the Respiratory Care Program, and graduated "With Honors" at the NEIT commencement ceremony in May.

For additional information regarding the valuable services available through the ASC, please call the ASC Front Desk at ext. 3416 or contact Jennifer Gaffney, adjunct faculty member in the Math/Science Department and Assistant Coordinator of the ASC Math/Science Labs, at jgaffney@neit.edu.
Veterinary Technology Students Are Honored

On March 18, 2015, Veterinary Technology students were honored at the Graduate Pinning Ceremony held at the Hall of Fame room on the Post Road campus. Graduates were presented with the Veterinary Technician Pin by Donna Davidson, DVM, in recognition of completing their course of study. The pin is to be worn by Veterinary Technicians as a symbol that they are an educated, credentialed professional. The graduates then recited the Veterinary Technician’s Oath which serves as a reminder of their commitment to the animal kingdom as a pledge to their profession.

Congratulations to the following graduates who earned their Associate in Science Degree in Veterinary Technology on March 18, 2015. (Front row from top) Ashley Cunha, Kyla St. Laurent, Shelly Blanchard, Emily Darling, Abigail Dasilva, Cathleen Donovan. (Back row from top) Kelsey Allen, Sammi Jo Cornicell, Kristianna Dellaposta.

Two Technologies Join Forces

On April 6, 2015, the Criminal Justice Club hosted the Rhode Island Canine Search and Rescue Team (RICSAR) at New England Tech’s Access Road campus. The event is part of the Club’s quarterly speaker series and was attended by many NEIT students and faculty.

For this event, the Criminal Justice Club extended an invitation to NEIT’s Veterinary Technology students. This workshop was a great opportunity for students from two very different technologies to interact and perhaps pave the way for future collaborations.

Carrie Barna (pictured above), a recent NEIT Criminal Justice Technology graduate, is an active volunteer with RICSAR and was instrumental in bringing the dogs and their handlers to campus. She began her work with RICSAR as a result of her New England Tech Criminal Justice Technology internship. For more information on RICSAR, please visit their Facebook page or link http://www.ricsar.org/.
PTA Students Share Their Knowledge

Students from several Rhode Island high schools recently visited New England Tech to explore the wide range of technology programs available at the college. During their visit, Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA) Technology students set up six stations to demonstrate some of the modalities or types of treatments offered in Physical Therapy that included Electrical Stimulation, Balance/Coordination, Traction, Range of Motion, Paraffin Wax, and Gait Training. The high school visitors rotated through the stations and engaged in each activity demonstrated by Quarter Three PTA students.

Surgical Technology Program Earns a “Star”

The Association of Surgical Technologists (AST) Galaxy Program recognizes surgical technology program directors who promote their students’ future success in the field by encouraging membership in this national professional organization. To qualify, more than 75 percent of Surgical Technology students must become members of AST.

Congratulations to Lisa Reed, Department Chair of Surgical Technology, as well as the other faculty members in the Surgical Technology program, for earning the 2014 Galaxy Stars Award. Membership in AST plays an important role in student success both in the classroom and eventually in the workplace. As a Galaxy Stars recipient, NEIT will receive special recognition at AST’s annual national conference, in the June edition of The Surgical Technologist and in the association’s newsletter.
Cyber Security Events Come to NEIT

In collaboration with the Rhode Island SANS Cyber Aces State Competition, New England Tech will host the awards presentation for the winners of SANS Cyber Aces Online, a national cyber security contest for high school students as well as adults interested in exploring the skills needed to be successful in the cyber security field. The SANS Institute is a global leader in cyber security training.

The course covers the three foundation areas of information security that include networking, operating systems, and systems administration. Top performers of the competition will be invited to an online State Championship on June 27, 2015, to compete for honors and scholarships. The competition is free to participants and is now open for registration. To qualify for the national championship, competitors must complete the three required program areas by June 4, 2015. New England Tech will offer scholarships to the top three winners. Visit http://www.cyberaces.org/ for more information.

The CyberPatriot competition is a national contest involving middle and high school teams. The CyberPatriot program is sponsored by the National Air Force Association program. The Rhode Island Chapter of CyberPatriot is organized by the Rhode Island State Police, Rhode Island Air Force Association, and the University of Rhode Island. Dean Plowman, NEIT’s department chair of Electronics and Mechanical Engineering Technologies, serves as President of the Rhode Island Air Force Association.

At the recent 2014-2015 CyberPatriot awards ceremony held on May 6th at New England Tech, Dean Plowman and Erik Van Renselaar, department chair for Information Technology, spoke to the high school students about cyber security opportunities offered at NEIT. Several Rhode Island high schools offer CyberPatriot programs such as Warwick Area Career and Tech, LaSalle Academy, The MET School (East Bay), Middletown High School, Portsmouth High School, Rogers High School, Tiverton High School and The Wheeler School.

NEIT will be hosting the Rhode Island CyberPatriot Open House on Wednesday, June 3, 2015, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in Room S330 at the East Greenwich campus. This CyberPatriot recruitment event is open to Rhode Island educators, students and their families to learn more about the program. For more information visit http://www.uscyberpatriot.org/.

Mark Your Calendar

UPCOMING TECH NITES

Tuesday, June 2, 2015
Tuesday, August 4, 2015
Tuesday, November 3, 2015
NEIT’S QUALITY SERVICE STATEMENT - Quality Service, for students, employees, and customers at New England Institute of Technology, is knowledgeable and informed employees working as a team to provide more assistance and information than expected, in a caring and professional manner, in order to empower the students to achieve their goals.